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# CEYLON'S ENTRY INTO UNITED NATIONS

## Unanimous Approval 27 Votes for None Against

The successful termination of an eight-year deadlock is the entry of Ceylon into the United Nations Organisation. Cabinet the Prime Minister said.

"I am sure everybody in Ceylon must have been very happy to note from the Press reports that have been coming in during the last few months how effectively Ceylon was the spearhead of the effort to place the case of all the applicants for membership before the United Nations," said Sir John.

Here is the text of Sir John's statement to the Cabinet which was later released to the Press by the Government Information Office:

"It gives me great pleasure to announce that the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations have admitted Ceylon along with 15 other countries to membership of the United Nations."

"This successful termination of an 8-year-old deadlock was due primarily to the efforts of Ceylon since the Bandung Conference.

"I have already announced in the House the substantial assistance I received in this connection from Mr. C. E. L. Wickremesinghe, who acted as my honorary adviser at the Asian-African Conference too."

### MISSION TO U.N.

"In August this year, I sent a mission to the U.N. consisting of Mr. R. S. S. Gunewardene, our Ambassador in the United States, and Mr. C. E. L. Wickremesinghe, who was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in an honorary capacity by Her Majesty the Queen for this purpose. The mission was mainly responsible for the present success.

"Every single delegation was personally contacted, and subsequently Foreign Ministers and heads of delegations were interviewed on several occasions and concrete proposals made to them."

"I am sure everybody in Ceylon must have been very happy to note from Press reports that have been coming in during the last few months how effectively Ceylon was the spearhead of the effort to

### THE SPONSORS

A group of 30 nations introduced a resolution in the United Nations General Assembly, on Wednesday calling for admission of 16 new members.

Sponsors of the resolutions were Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

### THE RESOLUTION

The resolution, which was the form in which the assembly confirms the council recommendation, reads:

"The General Assembly, Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of December 14, 1955, that the following sixteen countries should be admitted to membership in the United Nations Organisation: Albania, Jordan, Ireland, Portugal, Hungary, Italy, Austria, Rumania, Bulgaria, Finland, Ceylon, Libya, Cambodia, Laos and Spain.

"Having considered the application for membership of these countries the Assembly decided to admit the above-mentioned sixteen countries to membership in the United Nations."

President Jose Maza of Chile opened the session by seeking the opinion of the assembly for an immediate decision on the council's recommendation that 16 new members and a 30-power resolution to accept them as members.

### THE PROCESS

Ceylon's admission was secured along with 15 other states in a 'smaller package' deal proposed by the Soviet Union in a dramatic last minute bid to admit as many countries as possible before the 10th session of the UNO were concluded.

The Soviet delegate announced the U.S.S.R.'s decision to withdraw the vetoes they had cast against these countries was a retaliation for Nationalist China's vetoing of Outer Mongolia.

Mr. A. Sobolev, the Russian delegate, moved that 16 of the 18 countries in the bigger package—excluding Japan and Outer Mongolia—should be admitted. This was accepted, Japan will be considered for admission at the 11th plenary sessions of the U.N.O.

### URGENT REQUEST

The 16 countries accepted by the Council are:—Albania, Jordan, Ireland, Portugal, Hun-

gary, Italy, Austria, Rumania, Bulgaria, Finland, Ceylon, Nepal, Libya, Cambodia, Laos and Spain.

Active among Ceylon's supporters was India's roving Ambassador, Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon.

The Security Council met at the "urgent" request of Mr. Trakady Sobolev, the permanent Soviet delegate at 7.30 p.m. Ceylon time (Wednesday).

After Mr. Sobolev's announcement, Mr. Henry Gabot Lodge, the United States delegate proposed that Japan should be added to the Soviet

list but the Soviet delegate promptly vetoed this move.

The Council then began to vote separately on the remaining 16 applicants.

The four Communist states admitted were Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania. The non-Communist countries accepted were Austria, Ceylon, Cambodia, Finland, Italy, Ireland, Jordan, Laos, Libya, Nepal, Portugal and Spain.

Mr. Sobolev also excepted to co-operate, the Soviet Union withdraws its negative vote with regard to a series of countries and votes in favour of their admission with the

(Continued on Page 5)



THE PRIME MINISTER

"On my return to Ceylon from Bandung I drew attention to the resolution passed at the conference and made certain proposals to various powers in regard to a plan to be followed in order to solve the problem of new membership."

"In the months preceding the meeting of the General Assembly I also kept up continuous discussions with the Asian-African powers, members of the United Nations.

place the case of all the applicants for membership before the United Nations.

"On behalf of Ceylon, I should like to thank all who assisted in the settlement of this important issue, particularly the member countries of the Assembly and their delegations."

"With this decision giving wider representation in the U.N. I am certain that world peace has been brought nearer."

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# REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS

## Governor-General's Address to Welfare Workers

"The purpose and justification of a sentence of imprisonment, or detention or probation, is ultimately to protest society from crime. This can only be achieved if the period of imprisonment or detention or probation is used to ensure as far as possible that, upon his return to society the offender is enabled with the assistance of organizations like the Prisoners' Welfare Association, to lead a law abiding and self-supporting life" said the Governor-General Sir Oliver Gunatilleke at the annual farm meeting of the Prisoners' Welfare Association last week.

Continuing Sir Oliver said:—  
The work of the Association is of the greatest value in the rehabilitation of offenders whether prisoners or probationers. The nature and volume of its work has become more complex, and has increased considerably, since the association was started in 1927. The Committee consists of Government representatives as well as other distinguished public men including, I am glad to say, a number of very enthusiastic social workers in Mrs. Thomas Amarasuriya, wife of the Chairman, Mrs. Rajapatirana, Mrs. Gunaratne, Mrs. Jayasekera and Mrs. Jayawardene. There are fourteen Sub-Committees of the Association throughout the Island, and the constant participation of Chairmen of the Association, particularly the present Chairman, has been responsible for the increase of the Government Grant, which was only Rs. 6,000 in the year 1947, to Rs. 27,250 in the year 1954-55.

No one who is aware of the activities of your Association can fail to appreciate the useful work it has done in recent years. Though you have chosen anonymity as your badge of honour, you have succeeded in demonstrating to all of us that the problem of the prisoner is a social one and that its solution can be achieved only by the combined and intelligent efforts of all classes of society.

**PRIMARY STATE CONCERN**  
The welfare of the prisoner is, therefore of primary concern to the State, and everything possible should be done within the resources of Government to ensure that every prisoner is given an opportunity of re-establishing himself in society, and of becoming a useful citizen of the State. In this sense, the work of the Prisoners' Welfare Association supplements the work of Government. It represents the voice of public opinion, and it expresses, in a tangible manner the willingness of public-spirited persons to assist in this very essential form of social service work. Without such assistance from members of the Prisoners' Welfare Association, the basic work that is being done for the rehabilitation of prisoners by Government cannot be said to be complete.

At a crucial stage in the formulation of Government policy on these matters we were fortunate in having for our guidance the Report of the Gratiaen Committee. The basic principle underlying this report is the welfare of the offender. The recommendations of this report are being implemented. Among the more important of these welfare measures adopted is the organisation of Open Institutions, the first of which has been in existence for some time at Dullakolla in Kandy. More Open Institutions have been planned under the "Six Year Programme of Development". An open Institution has been called a halfway

house between imprisonment and rehabilitation. It enables offenders to become physically and mentally adjusted to a normal life in society. In addition, it gives an agricultural bias to their training. In our lay a firm foundation for successful rehabilitation by Open Institutions we hope to inaugurate like the Prisoners' Welfare Association.

**FACILITIES**  
Prison farms have also been opened at Anuradhapura and Batticaloa in addition to the prison farm at the Borstal Institution at Wathuottiwela. These institutions provide facilities for agricultural training. It is hoped to transfer the emphasis gradually from industrial to agricultural training so that opportunities for rehabilitation are increased.

Religious and moral training by Voluntary workers has been intensified. All institutions have secured the voluntary services of priests of every denomination to look after the religious and moral side of welfare work.

Educational facilities for all offenders have been provided by means of adult educational classes and by encouraging leisure time activities, hobbies, and cultural pursuits. Newspapers, periodicals and books are provided at Government expense. Every institution has facilities for listening in to broadcasts and radio programmes. Most institutions are able to produce their own plays, concerts and similar forms of entertainment.

It was only a few weeks ago that some of the products of prisoners' leisure time activities were sold to the public at a sale. This sale was under the auspices of the Prisoners' Welfare Association. I hope it will be an annual event.

**PROBATION SERVICE**  
The Probation Service has taken its due share of welfare work. Every judicial district has now one or more Probation Officers, and the assistance of these officers in the work of the Welfare Association is invaluable. They not only make investigations into each case that requires assistance, but sees to it that the assistance given is used properly and effectively.

As an example of the extent to which the authorities are prepared to go to maintain improved family relations between an offender and his family may be cited the numerous cases of prisoners who are permitted to visit their wives or children or parents who are seriously ill.

It is a significant fact that of the 9914 convicted persons admitted to our Prisons during 1954, 4,687 were re-convicted offenders. This is an indication that many of those who come out of prisons are compelled, probably by force of circumstances, to revert to a career of crime. There is no doubt that with more intensive work a number of these persons could be prevented from going back to the prisons. The task of the Prisoners' Welfare Association is, therefore, one of grave responsibility.

The most important need of the Prisoners' Welfare Association at present is funds and the service of voluntary workers. Voluntary workers who can act as 'friends, guides and philosophers' to those persons who, having paid the price, make an effort to start afresh constitute one of the greatest needs of the Association.

As far as the Government is concerned, I have no doubt that the Minister for Home Affairs has already assured you that everything possible is being done, and will continue to be done, in regard to the welfare of prisoners and probationers. There has, during the past decade, been a considerable increase in the expenditure on the Prison and Probation Services. Ten years ago the annual expenditure on these Services was Rs 2,360,000. Today it is Rs. 8,400,000.

**GOOD RESULTS**  
I am glad to hear that this Association has rendered assistance in various ways to 599 discharged prisoners during the last twelve months, representing an increase of 150 cases over the previous year. It is also gratifying to note that the Association is playing a more important role in the social rehabilitation of the prisoner than ever before. It is my fervent hope that in the not too distant future, the regional (Continued on Page 8)

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# NATIONAL HOUSING SCHEME

## 3000 Houses Completed This Year

"Forty million rupees will have been advanced before the end of this year and some 3,000 houses will be completed before the end of 1955," said the Minister of Finance when moving a Supplementary vote for a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,40-80 for expenditure in the financial year 1st October, 1954, to 30th September, 1955 of the National Housing Department. There is provision in this year's estimates for Engineers and Deputy Commissioners, he said, but the appointments were made last year and money had to be given from the Contingencies Fund, and his was to replace the money.

The Opposition in the House of Representatives complains that houses for the rural population were not built fast enough, that individual applicants promptly obtained large sums of money while there were other applicants who had to wait a considerable period for the money and the examination of title deeds was too rigorous and often ended in their non acceptance and subsequent refusal of the loan.

### POSITION CLARIFIED

The Minister of Finance said that the Housing Department set up by the Government just a year and a half ago and none could expect for the Department to build on the houses required by the people of Ceylon within that period.

With regard to rural housing he declared that last year under L.D.O. allotment Government built 13,000 houses for the rural population. In this year's Budget provision has been made for Rs. 8 million and the Minister of Lands has been promised another Rs. 2 million, while instructions have been issued to Government Agents that every house will have to be built before the close of the financial year one of the things that had to be borne in mind was that the National Housing Department has entirely financed the Schemes at Ragana, Gintota, Kelaniya and so on. Flats come up under the Bambalapitiya Scheme. A large number of Government servants have taken advances of money from Government. A sum of Rs. 50 millions was being advanced by this Department for the purpose of housing. As regards the statement that a particular individual had obtained a large sum of money Mr. Jayawardene explains the purpose. That individual obtained money, in order to put up a housing scheme for his employees. "When a director of a firm makes an application for a loan to put up houses for his employees, we are certain that that money will be utilised properly because he has all the resources skill and workmen to carry out the task. It is for that purpose that money has been given," he added.

### DELAYS EXPLAINED

Referring to the charge made that some people were being favoured in the matter of loans while others were being ignored, Mr. Jayawardene said:—

"People interview me and ask: 'How is it that two leading Members of the Opposition have got their loans in two or three weeks while we have to wait for three months?' I do not wish to mention names. I therefore called for the papers and discovered that the deeds in question were in perfect order. They were intelligent persons who knew how to make application in the prescribed manner. It is not proper that government money should be

lent to any person without examination of title and so on. Another instance. The other day a retired official complained that although he had made application for a loan there was too much delay. I quickly got at the Department on the telephone and discovered that although he had been written to supply certain other deeds, he had not done so. I asked him whether he had been written to about certain other deeds. There was no answer from him.

There were other charges that no loans are being given. In many instances I found that the applicants had only just one deed. The village people think that if they hold just one deed they have a good title. But it is necessary to go back many years to trace the deed to a Crown grant or partition decree. When the applicants are asked to produce a copy of the testamentary proceedings, they want to know why. They do not seem to understand that the lawyers examining the title must satisfy themselves whether the estate has been administered, whether a estate duty has been paid, and so on.

The applicant himself must take the trouble to see that his deeds are perfect. He must have the deeds examined by his lawyers, and then he could expect to get the loan before the end of three months. Forty million rupees will have been advanced before the end of this year for dealing with the housing problem, and some 3,000 houses will be completed before the end of 1955.

## Commissions Here And Abroad

THE Prime Minister made the following statement in the House of Representatives in reply to a question by the Member for Maskeliya regarding Commissions of Inquiry during the last two years, here and abroad:

The Commissions of Inquiry appointed during 1954-55 were as follows: (i) Commission on Omnibus Services; (ii) Commission of the Tobacco Manufacturing Industry in Ceylon; (iii) Commission to inquire into and report on the affairs and general conduct of Mr. N. U. Jayawardena, Governor of the Central Bank and his wife; (iv) Commission to inquire into and report on the system of taxation in Ceylon; (v) A Commission to inquire into the working and administration of the Department of Irrigation and incidents of frauds and corruption therein; (vi) A Commission on drinking, racing and gambling; (vii) A Commission to review Government policy regarding the alienation of Crown land; (viii) A Commission to inquire into and report on the proposal to grant free legal aid to poor persons.

The members of three Commissions, have so far gone abroad to conduct inquiries. Two have concluded their work, while the other is still sitting; all the members of this Commission are abroad at present. It is not possible to say how many Commissions are due to go abroad as it is left to the discretion of the Commissioners. It is not for me to say whether their journey abroad was really necessary. They are the best persons to decide this and will no doubt give reasons for their journey in their reports.

# Psychiatric First-Aid

## A PROCESS OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE

The following extract is from an article by Prof. A. Querido, M.D., Director of Public Health, City of Amsterdam, Holland; Professor of Social Medicine, Amsterdam University.

It is routine for any trouble with a mental patient in the city (of Amsterdam) to be referred to a centre, which has a psychiatrist on duty day and night. "Trouble with a mental patient" must be taken in the widest sense; it may be reported by a general practitioner or a specialist who judges it impossible to keep a patient at home any longer; it also may be reported by a factory where somebody has "thrown a fit"; and, in many cases, the police may call for help for a patient somewhere in the city or at a police station. Except in those cases in which the call originates from a mental specialist (a telephone consultation is in those cases usually sufficient) the psychiatrist on duty visits the patient immediately.

Therefore he sees the patient in his own surroundings, and is able to note the attitude of family, neighbours, etc. He gets a much more complete and vivid picture of the patient's background than is possible by taking a case-history in the hospital. The practice, as followed elsewhere, to take the patient to the hospital and have him investigated there in the first instance has been abolished in Amsterdam for many years. He is first seen at the place and in the circumstances in which he became unmanageable.

In a number of cases the visiting psychiatrist will decide to send the patient to the hospital; this will happen, for instance, when one of the major psychoses is suspected in an unknown patient; in cases of grave suicidal tendencies; when there is a combination with organic disturbance, etc. But, as experience increased, it became more and more possible to keep the patient at home by giving adequate social psychiatric advice. The simple fact of handling the excited patient and demonstrating to the other members of the household how the patient could be quieted and dealt with in a reasonable way was of great educational value.

Special attention must be given to those cases — a very large percentage of all calls — in which the situation is the

result of emotional reactions to outer circumstances. We see a number of reactions of a hysterical and psychopathic nature as the result of sudden difficulties which all have the implication for the patient of threatening his security; financial troubles, quarrels at home, arrest by the police, loss of job, etc. The shape the reaction may take depends on the background, education, cultural level, age and sex of the patient. It may be a suicidal attempt, motor excitement, mutism, drunkenness, etc.

When such a patient is taken to hospital, even for a short time, it is certainly not to his benefit. By the hospital admission a new chain of reactions is set up, the hospital is the way out of his troubles, magic protection is obtained in this way, and when, after discharge, other difficulties arise, the same pseudo-solution is sought, resulting in another admission.

I think it of the highest importance, not only in terms of hospital beds and expenses saved, but most important for the mental health of the patient and his surroundings to keep this outlet firmly closed, to break through the emotional state at the very first contact, to make the patient face up to his difficulties, and, if possible, to offer him help, but in any case to offer him sympathy and understanding.

Obviously the practice incurs a certain risk. The possibility of suicide or violence must be considered carefully. The offer of help must be given judiciously; the psychiatrist does not only need enough experience to consider the psychiatric aspects, but also a certain knowledge of the world in extending help and determining the limits to which he can go with his promises.

### SWEET REASON

To give an instance: on a Saturday evening help is required by the police for an excited patient; there has been fighting at the patient's home. We find a house in a working-class quarter, a knot of neighbours around the door. In the living room the furniture has been thrown about; two massive policemen guard a man, tied round with rope, who is lying on the floor. An elderly man sits sullenly in a chair; two boys, large-eyed, hang around in the room; in the

kitchen the women are crying.

We suggest that the police go outside and disperse the crowd. The patient is asked whether he will behave when we loosen the ropes. He nods. The ropes are loosened, a chair is set up, we sit face to face. Conversation is started, first haltingly, but gradually the case takes shape. The patient is a boy of 26, living with his parents. He is working spasmodically, often loses his job; that leads to hard words at home, where he is regarded as a nuisance. It turns out that he is an ex-pupil of a school for higher mental defectives. When he came home this evening with his pay it appears that a considerable part was docked; a quarrel started which became quite violent; he first attacked his father, then a neighbour who was called in to help; they finally tied him up.

Gradually the elder man, the father of the patient, turns from being sullen to being more and more ashamed now that he sees his son sitting so quietly after the violent scene in which he had an active part.

The mother sidles in and places a timid hand on her son's shoulder. The boy is still full of resentment. He feels

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December 23, 1955

**CEYLON IN THE U.N.**

Ceylon's entry into the U.N. has had full comment in the national dailies, but this event is so important that we cannot let it pass without recording the Party's feeling of elation and joy. We are, at long last, an equal in the Assembly of Nations. This is an event which will be recorded in history as an even higher achievement than that of Independence. The whole country will accept the fact that one of the main factors that helped to achieve this was our Prime Minister's own contribution. It is the fate of Sir John to be born in a generation which is accustomed to merely criticize other people's achievements. Even against such a background there is already respectful regard for him at all hands as a world figure who has won for Ceylon and the Ceylonese a definite place in Asian history. The creation of the Colombo Powers and the forthrightness he brought to play in international affairs has compelled the attention of the world. It is no more than a fact to say that he was the "hero of Bandung."

These events as well as the impact of his personality on diplomatic circles in the Commonwealth, the U.S.A. and Asian-African countries made the case

for Ceylon presentable and worth presenting.

Sir John, with customary generosity and frankness, has admitted his debt to others in this achievement. Foremost of those who helped Ceylon to enter the U.N. was Mr. C. E. L. Wickremasinghe, Managing Director of the Lake House group of newspapers. It should be noted with gratitude that Mr. Wickremasinghe travelled to the United States at his own expense as Ceylon's Minister Plenipotentiary. To him the entry of Ceylon into the U.N. was a cause rightly above all else and it is not generally known that he worked round the clock for days together in the lobbies at the U.N. Assembly Hall.

In this task Mr. Wickremasinghe was aided by his useful and influential contacts on some of the world's biggest newspapers. Ceylon is in the debt of this patriot. Our Ambassador, Mr. R. S. S. Gunewardene, is another who urged Ceylon's case with such fervour that it soon became one of the most important issues before the great nations of the world. Ceylon can be proud of such able and patriotic representation abroad as Mr. Gunewardene has given.

Only a handful of dehydrated people will remain unmoved by this event. Nothing, however, can detract from this glorious achievement. We of this generation are privileged that our country was raised to its rightful place among the nations of the world in our time.

**A WORD TO MR. R. G. SENANAYAKE**

Members of the United National Party are naturally perturbed at the frequency with which Mr. R. G. Senanayake criticises the U.N.P. These criticisms have in recent times turned to open attack on the Party as was evidenced by Mr. Senanayake's speech at a meeting in Kelaniya. It would appear that even Mr. Bandaranaike whose blandishments obviously are calculated to persuade the M.P. for Dambadeniya to quit the U.N.P., has himself expressed at a recent S.L.F.P. Rally that it is quite wrong for Mr. Senanayake to continue what he is doing.

Mr. Senanayake will agree that we cannot run a Parliamentary democracy without a party system. Such a party system must naturally have parties of some kind. Nobody in the world ever pretends that any party has achieved

perfection in any part of the world. There will always be mistakes made and the critic will never be at a loss. It is too easy to criticise the work that others are doing. It is quite another matter as Mr. Senanayake himself ought to know to be able to carry on a party organisation. It is not everyone who can successfully do so and not all the fine principles in the world can keep a party together or make it an effective instrument in politics unless it is strongly organized and carefully nursed.

It is wrong therefore to allow one's own personal feelings of antipathy towards any particular individuals in the party to vitiate one's judgment and thus give utterance to opinions that will injure the party as a whole. A party is not composed entirely of leaders. The leaders themselves cease to be leaders the moment they have no followers. It is therefore in the strength of the party rank and file that leadership rests. Mr. Bandaranaike who now behaves like the fox who lost his tail will himself remember the fate that overtook him. When he resigned. The rank and file of the U.N.P. stood firmly with the party despite the admiration they had for the oratorical skill and polemical brilliance of their one time vice president.

The rank and file of the U.N.P. are grieved that Mr. Senanayake should speak

in the way he is doing. It is wrong that a person who has held Cabinet office under the U.N.P. Government and still continues to be a member of the U.N.P. should show such disregard for the feelings of thousands of members of the party in all walks of life. Mr. Senanayake has been surrounded by people who are anxious to use him as a cover behind which they can carry on their own personal campaigns against the party in power.

It is not too much to expect Mr. Senanayake to realize that these people will drop their masks as soon as they achieve their purpose of forcing him to leave the Party. Where are the hundreds who invaded the residence of Mr. Bandaranaike until he resigned?

The Party rank and file do not support Mr. Senanayake's attitude. They passively deplore it for the moment. Daily, however, their forbearance is being worn down. They love their Party above this or that big name. They know that names are nothing without them. We earnestly hope Mr. Senanayake will avoid the ignominy of becoming a mere camp follower of a man whose every waking moment is poisoned by envy and frustration. Surely, Mr. Senanayake does not wish to be a second Bandaranaike. There is no worse fate that can overtake a politician in Ceylon.

**United National Party Eighth Annual**

The Hon'y. General Secretary Sir Ukwatte Jayasundera, who has circulated the following letter to all members of the party:

At a meeting of the Working Committee held on the 1st instant at "Temple Trees," presided over by the Rt. Hon. presided over by the Rt. Hon'ble it was unanimously decided that the 8th Annual Conference of the Party and the connected events should take place at Kelaniya on the 17th, 18th, and 19th, February, 1956.

Please be good enough therefore to attend immediately to such of the following matters as apply to you, namely.

(1) Forwarding of (a) resolutions, if any, to be placed before the Conference, and (b) the names and address of your delegates.

(2) Payment of (a) Branch Association Affiliation fee (Rs. 10 per annum), (b) Delegates fees (Rs. 2 per head) and (c) membership fees.

I enclose herewith a folder giving fuller particulars regarding the above matters. Unlike on previous occasions it is imperative that this year you comply strictly with the provisions of the Constitution; having regard to the paramount importance of the Language Question which will be on the Agenda, questions

may be raised as regards the right of particular delegates to vote.

I would earnestly appeal to you not to wait till the last moment, but take steps today and enable me to have everything ready long before the time limits indicated in the folder.

In due course I shall send you the detailed Agenda of the Conference.

I also propose to print for your information, a full list of delegates. This list will include the names and addresses of all categories contemplated in Article 6 of the Constitution, provided that the same are sent to me in time.

Who can vote?

At the Conference the following categories of persons are entitled to vote, to wit.

(a) Delegates from Branch Associations — One delegate for every 50 members or part thereof — total number of delegates, however, not to exceed 25.

(b) Delegates from Affiliated Political Organisations — One delegate for every 250 members or part thereof — total number of delegates, however, not to exceed 25.

(c) Office-bearers of the Party.

(d) Members of the Executive Committee.

(e) Members of the Party in (Continued on Page 6)

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# DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY GROWS

**Production Rapidly Out-Paced**

THE demand for electricity is far in excess of the production today. The demand is growing so rapidly that it is outpacing the production. The only means of keeping pace with the demand is by the early completion of Stage II A. of the Hydrel Scheme," said the Minister of Transport and Works, when the Member for Third Colombo Central brought in a motion to the effect that the Department of Electrical Undertakings should give electricity connections free of cost to tenants or land-owners of premises whose annual assessment does not exceed a thousand rupees.

With reference to this suggestion the Minister said that that matter was gone into very carefully and a minute was submitted to the Permanent Secretary by the Manager and Chief Engineer which reads as follows:

"The question of providing service connections free of charge was previously considered, but I was not prepared to recommend such a step. Instead a proposal for a general reduction of service mains charges was approved by you in principle, and the matter is now under consideration by the Treasury."

The Minute was dated 17th February 1955, so it was not something that was said in anticipation of the present motion. A recommendation was made to the Treasury that a general reduction of service mains charges was desirable, and the Treasury was asked to approve of such a reduction. He hoped that the Treasury would agree to the proposal. "I am in full agreement with the principle of the motion and in accordance with the recommendations of the Department chief that some reduction must be made" he added.

Continuing, the Minister said that as things are at present, even when the three generators at Laxapana worked at full capacity and also the thermal generator sets in Colombo the position was difficult, and free supplies cannot be allowed.

**A Good Sign**  
"It is a good sign that in Ceylon there is such a keen demand for electricity; it shows that our people realize the importance and the value of electricity," observed the Minister, who made the interesting announcement that in a country like New Zealand the kilowattage available was something like 2½ million, which is higher than the figure for United States and may be a thousand times higher than that for the United Kingdom. That gave an indication of the demand for electricity that exists in New Zealand.

**Bottle Lamp Menace**  
While urging on the Government the desirability of giving free service connection to the deserving poor tenants the mover of the motion drew attention to the bottle lamp menace in poor homes. He said:

"We are all aware of the number of accidents which take place, particularly among children, in these poor homes, as a result of the use of bottle lamps. In many cases such accidents have proved fatal. I am sure there will be no such accidents once electricity is installed in these homes. In fact these poor young children who meet with accidents now and sustain severe injuries from burns will not even be able to reach the switches of electric lights. These poor homes could be lit up by means of one light and it will not cost the poor tenants even Re. 1 whereas today the cost of lighting two

or three bottle-lamp works out to more than Rs. 5 per month on kerosene oil. If free connections are given, landowners who own houses in gardens where 100 to 200 families live can be made to supply electricity to small tenements. If this is done these landowners will be of very great benefit to the poor citizens of Ceylon, thanks to our Government.

## CEYLON'S ENTRY INTO U.N.

(Continued from Page 1)  
exception of Japan bearing in mind that the question of Japan and the Mongolian People's Republic, who did not receive a positive recommendation from the Council be postponed for consideration by the next session of the Assembly."

Mr. Sobolev said: "Wishing Outer Mongolia saying that it, too, should be put back to the next session.

### P.M.'s MESSAGE TO CEYLON AMBASSADOR

The Prime Minister has sent the following special message to Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardene, Ambassador of Ceylon, to the U.S.A. and Ceylon's first Representative to the U.N. to be included in his speech at the General Assembly.

Today is a memorable day in the history of my country. A representative of Ceylon is to be seen for the first time in this distinguished assembly, which now comprises 76 Nations. It is also, if I may say so, memorable in the history of the United Nations, in that a problem that defied settlement for some eight years has at last been approached in a spirit of understanding and compromise.

I do not wish to recount the events of these past years. I wish only to say how glad we are to be able to take our place here and to have the opportunity of working together with you all in your efforts to preserve world peace and the dignity and worth of mankind.

Ceylon is a small country, but I think we have demonstrated to the world our ability to fulfill our international responsibilities and our determination to work for the promotion of world understanding. We desire to be friends with all nations alike, even though they may differ from us or disagree with us. We have quite definite views on the ultimate values of basic human concepts, and we are quite clear on how we wish to direct our own lives. We believe, however, that every other nation is similarly entitled to have its own views on these matters. We therefore see no cause for conflict between nations as long as there is mutual respect for one another's views and a recognition that every nation has a right to do things in its own way without interference from outside.

There are many issues still before the United Nations which are vital to the future progress of mankind. We have studied the debates on these issues from the outside, and we have often been disturbed by the complexities of the doubts and misunderstandings that appear to exist between great nations assembled here. I am not without hope, however, that these issues will soon be settled in a spirit of compromise and goodwill; for I am a firm believer in the intrinsic good sense of the human race, and, after all, our strongest instinct is that of self-preservation and progress. (Press Communique.

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ACETIC ACID AND SUICIDE

The matter is being looked into. In view of the fact that acetic acid is being widely used in the rubber industry, it is doubtful whether the control of acetic acid sales will have the effect intended.

U. N. P. Eighth Annual

Parliament (The House of Representatives and Senate). Direct Members can vote only if they fall within one of the above categories.

Affiliation fee Payment of the following charges is a condition precedent to the exercise of the right to vote, to wit (a) Every affiliated Branch Association and Political Organisation should pay its affiliation fee of Rs. 10/- and every member his membership fee the latest before 31st January, 1956.

(b) Over and above the aforesaid Affiliation fees and membership fees all those taking part in the Conference should pay a delegates fee of Rs. 2 per head. This payment should be made the latest before the 3rd February, 1956.

Names and addresses of all delegates should be sent up 14 days before the Conference commences, i.e., the latest by 3rd February, 1956.

A list of Delegates is expected to be printed and issued immediately after the 3rd February, 1956. Therefore the above particulars should be sent in as early as possible.

According to Article 12 of the Constitution resolutions intended to be placed on the Agenda for the Conference should be sent in one month before the Conference commences, i.e., the latest by 17th January, 1956, and amendments to resolutions appearing on the Agenda ten days before the Conference commences, i.e. the latest by the 7th February 1956.

PSYCHIATRIC FIRST-AID

(Continued from Page 3) support from the doctor and turns sharply on his father; the quarrel threatens to flare up again; but things quieten down; the furniture is rearranged. It becomes possible to discuss the situation reasonably. It seems his job is too heavy and too difficult. He agrees. But, we suggest, it may be possible to find something which suits him better. Will he come to the office on Monday? He is still unwashed as he came in from work and further dishevelled from his fight. That is no way to be on a Saturday night. What was he planning to do tonight? Go to the mandoline club? Why should he not go now? Too late? If he hurries with his tidying, the doctor will take him in the car. But let him first get a wash and change. And so, half an hour later, our dangerous lunatic, hair slicked face washed and clad in neat blue, walks quietly out of the house, a mandoline under his arm. Next week he is tested, a job is found for him at one of the factories which cooperate with the department and during the follow-up no serious trouble is reported.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

By T. M. G. Samat

"CAROLS by Candlelight," a high-spot in Colombo's Christmas festivities of recent origin is an old annual hardy in Cape Town. The event is so arranged in Cape Town that Muslims, Jews, Christians and members of other denominations can all participate with equal facility.

Even in Colombo the ceremony has no religious bias but here it has still to attain the tremendous proportions of popularity as in Cape Town where as a means of raising funds for Charities "Carols by Candlelight" is an institution.

"Die Kerbode," the official organ of the Dutch Reformed Church has come out in an attack against "Carols by Candlelight" on racial grounds. This is a pity since the event dominated by the spirit of Christmas could always be anywhere, as it has been for decades in Cape Town a formula for communal amity.

Instituted by burly policeman C. C. Dissanayake this event in Colombo in its third year has had Malays as participants both in the band and in the gathering. In Cape Town Malays with their Malay choirs are among the foremost participants. They are a sharply defined section of the community adhering strictly to Islam and concentrated in the Cape and number about 30,000. They are classified under "Coloured and Asiatic" for census purposes and are synonymous in South Africa with everything Muslim. When pilgrims to Mecca depart and return a wharf in Table Bay Docks is transformed into a scene of Oriental splendour.

Malay choirs have made a notable contribution to music in South Africa. These choirs meet more or less regularly during the year, when the younger members are taught the traditional renderings supported by guitars, ghommas and rabannas. They also

sing at weddings and picnics; but the climax is reached during carnival time, between Christmas and New Year when performances given throughout the night and "Carols by Candlelight" are made unforgettable.

Malay choirs occasionally take part in competitive singing and dancing contests but the general procedure is to visit the houses of friends and serenade them at New Year.

Groups of these Malays still live in India, Burma and Ceylon while the 27 islands comprising the Cocos transferred only in November from the control of Singapore to Australia are entirely populated by Malays. The Malays were introduced to the Cape at the same time and through the same processes of Colonialism as the Malays were introduced to Ceylon by the Hollanders. Many exiles to Cape Town were of noble birth like the Javanese political exiles to Ceylon. There is a "Karamat" (memorial) at Faure, 25 miles from Cape Town to the memory of Sech Pussu, the last champion of independence in Bantam before the Dutch were allowed to rule in Indonesia.

Automatically the Malays were the chosen servants of the old Dutch colonists and even after the opening of the Suez Canal Malay fishermen were in contact with Dutch vessels calling at the Cape. In this way the folk songs of Holland became widely spread among the Malay community in Cape Town and the numerous Malay choirs in Cape Town carried on the traditional renderings with enthusiasm for which South Africa should be grateful. Through it a large number of folk songs have been preserved some it is true, in a form which is hardly recognizable but this often serves to make

(Continued on Page 8)

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# INDO-CEYLON RELATIONS

There have been very close bonds between India and Ceylon from earliest times. These bonds have been evidenced in all spheres of activity, religious, political and economic. Buddhism which is religion of the majority is of Indian origin. It is therefore unfortunate that the Indo-Ceylon citizenship "problem" has sown the seeds of discord between the two states. Every patriotic Ceylonese would wish his vexed "problem" to be solved by co-operation between the two countries. But it must be made abundantly clear that the Government of Ceylon is not prepared to betray the fundamental rights of the in-

By Bertil Ranasinghe

dependent foreign policy. But of course the present Government of Ceylon has scrupulously refused to flirt with Soviet Russia and unambiguously condemned the Communist bloc for its naked imperialism and tyrannical colonialism.

In the economic sphere too there is much in common between India and Ceylon. India has at least for the present rejected the economic theories propounded by orthodox communists. She is making a heroic effort to solve her colossal economic problems through democratic-socialist methods. In Ceylon too the present tendency is to adopt similar methods. Both countries have adopted a sane attitude towards foreign capital. Foreign capital is welcome to both India and Ceylon so long as the same does not oust local capitalists and is not attached to political "strings." It is very significant to note that the crying need of the hour for both India and Ceylon is rapid industrial development, as this alone could relieve the very acute unemployment prevalent at present in both countries.

Though partition into India and Pakistan was neither fortunate nor desirable communalism is deplored in democratic India. Even the Muslims living in India are assured of their rights. In Ceylon too the post-independence democratic Governments have accorded all democratic rights and freedoms to all communities and groups, especially the minorities. Disgruntled politicians and other sinister elements have so far vainly attempted to create communal discord. Though the "problem of state language" has created heated controversies in both India and Ceylon, with adequate statesmanship and patience these problems can also be solved satisfactorily. It is the fervent hope of all advocates of Free Asian unity that the present citizenship dispute will not permanently destroy good relations between India and Ceylon. India and Ceylon have the common historic mission of striving to preserve World Peace as well as to maintain the democratic way of life in their respective countries. Co-operation and friendship between India and Ceylon is essential if this mission is to be successfully fulfilled.

igenous Ceylonese population as the price for retaining the friendship of India. The Ceylonese are not prepared to connive at Indian infiltration into Ceylon as the same would have very grave implications in the economic, political, cultural and racial spheres. It is to be earnestly hoped that the Indian Government would adopt a reasonable attitude and thus facilitate a satisfactory solution of this citizenship problem.

In most other spheres India and Ceylon have very much in common. This is only natural as we recently received political independence from the identical colonial master and have been left to face similar economic and social problems. Just as in India the main task facing post-Independence Ceylon is to provide a higher standard of living for the masses through economic development. As a consequence of being faced by such important internal problems, the foreign policy of both nations has as their common objective the preservation of world peace. Though it may not be possible to endorse all Mr. Nehru's policies it is indisputable that he has played a noteworthy role in easing international tension. His "neutrallism" has been a very dynamic role and has received the support of the Free Asian states to a certain extent. Ceylon's present regime also favours the policy of "non-involvement" and advocates the desirability of Free Asia adopting an inde-

## COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO HOUSES

A token vote of Rs. 10 on a Supplementary vote was passed by the House of Representatives on a motion of the Minister of Lands and Land Development for an ex-gratia payment for certain houses that got damaged by reason of the seepage of water running through a new Channel that had been constructed by the Irrigation Department at Wellipatanwila in the Hambantota District.

### THE PROPOSAL EXPLAINED

The Wellipatanwila Extension Scheme in the Hambantota District was designed in 1948-49, at the request of several proprietors of land in the Wellipatanwila area, to provide irrigation facilities for nearly 700 acres of land of which 287 acres were Crown and 413 acres private. The scheme was unanimously approved at a meeting of all proprietors of land to be benefited by it and was completed in 1951-52. When water was issued for the first time in Maha 1951-52 complaints were received that the scheme was not functioning satisfactorily. Of the 700 acres for which irrigation facilities had been provided, nearly 200 acres of land at the tail end of the channel could not be irrigated as, owing to the very porous nature of the soil in the area, water was rapidly absorbed in the upper section of the channel. The seepage of water through the soil had also resulted in tracts of paddy fields in Tawaluwila and Medawinna becoming extremely saline and in several houses in the area being damaged.

### DEFECTS STUDIED

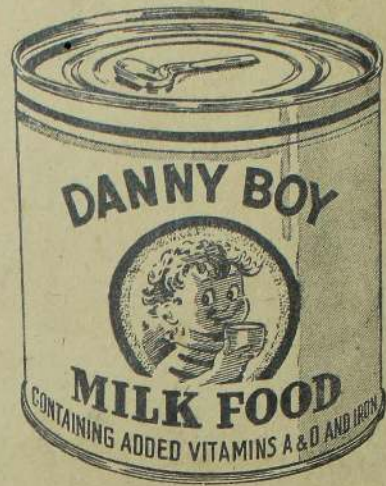
The defects of the scheme have been studied and remedial measures are being taken to reduce the salinity of the affected paddy tracts and to render them cultivable. A certain amount of hardship has been caused both to the owners of the paddy fields and the owners of the damaged houses. The Attorney-General has been consulted as to whether Government is liable to compensate the owners of property which has been damaged and he has expressed the opinion that Government is under no legal liability to pay them compensation. It is however considered desirable that at least the owners of houses which have been damaged by the seepage of water through the channel should be paid reasonable sums as ex-gratia compensation for the damage.

### 35 HOUSES DAMAGED

A supplementary estimate for a token vote of Rs. 10 was sanctioned for this purpose by the Cabinet at the meeting held on 8.9.55. Action on this supplementary estimate was, however, not proceeded with as there was no time to obtain the release of funds and make the payments before the close of the last financial year in respect of which this supplementary estimate was sanctioned. As no financial provision for this service has been made in the estimate of the current financial year it is necessary to obtain the funds required by a supplementary vote of the persons who have suffered loss without further delay.

The total number of houses damaged by the seepage water is 35. A sum of Rs. 18,875 is required in the current financial year for the payment of compensation to the owners of these 35 houses. As sufficient under-expenditure is anticipated under sub-head 60 - Provision of irrigation facilities for 450 acres under Kalnadu Tank, Jaffna District, of the same vote to meet the amount required, a token provision of Rs. 10 is requested.

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## Play Ground For Maligawatte

"I wish to mention on behalf of the Government that, as far as Maligakanda is concerned a playground has been earmarked for that area for a number of years now. Unfortunately the Maligawatte area is largely composed of swampy land and a scheme was prepared to fill up the swampy portions. Unemployed labour are at work on the job," said the Minister of Labour, Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel, commenting on a motion introduced in the House of Representatives by the Third Member for Colombo Central that Government should consider the desirability of establishing a playground at Maligawatta for the benefit of the residents there.

This was followed by requests from several members who desired similar amenities in their statements as well as where local bodies do not have sufficient funds at their disposal. Not only playgrounds but swimming pools as well were mentioned as urgently needed and that such provision was an obligation on the part of the Central Government and not necessarily an obliga-

tion on the part of the local bodies.

### A definite promise

Dr. Kaleel said that the late Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake, had set up a sub-committee to investigate the development of Colombo North where a large extent of marshy land existed. The American firm Messrs. Morrison-Knudsen, who had built up Gal Oya, have drawn up a very comprehensive scheme to develop the entire region. The scheme consisted of various smaller projects to develop the whole area and a playground for Maligawatta has already been earmarked. Steps have been taken to see that no buildings come up in the area earmarked for a playground. Squatters may sanction to put up little huts here and there, but that is another problem. I would like to assure the mover that a playground for Maligawatta will definitely be provided. But as I said, it will take time because the swamps there have to be filled," added the Minister.

## MALCONTENTED CAN OPT TO RETIRE

The Government has had under consideration the '35 Demands' made by a section of the Public Service. Whilst

### Other areas

With regard to the other areas where playgrounds are needed Dr. Kaleel said that government was certainly more keener than Members of the Opposition to see that the children in various areas, particularly in congested areas, were provided with playgrounds, parks so that they enjoyed fresh air and good health. It was a monopoly of the opposition to provide such facilities for government was even more concerned, but they must see how the amenities could be provided, what developments were taking place, how much money was available for these purposes and various other requirements. It was only after all these facts have been taken into consideration that the facilities could be provided. "Government is certainly anxious, provided the wherewithal is available to provide all the necessary playgrounds for the children not only of Colombo but other areas as well."

a few of these demands cover matters on which the Government has already taken action or proposes to take action in accordance with its general policy relating to the welfare of the Public Service, the large majority of these demands are not acceptable as their adoption will affect the financial stability of the country or are inconsistent with Government policy. In fact, the acceptance of some of them would be inconsistent with the principles of democratic Government.

In these circumstances, it has been decided that Public Servants holding permanent and pensionable office who are dissatisfied with their conditions of service should be given an opportunity of retirement, though they may be below the normal age of retirement and be physically fit to continue in service. It is realised that the consequent expenditure to Government may be heavy, but Government considers that contentment in its service will be worth the cost.

A regulation under the Minute on Pensions is being promulgated immediately pro-

viding that any Public Servant holding a permanent and pensionable office in the service of the Government of Ceylon on 1st January, 1956, may, if he elects to retire, be granted a pension or gratuity equal to such award as might have been granted to him under the Minute on Pensions if he had been retired from service on the ground of ill-health. This election to retire would have to be exercised by the officer between 1st January and 31st January, 1956, and would be irrevocable. The actual date of retirement will, in the case of each officer, be fixed by the Minister of Finance, as it may not be possible to permit some officers to retire before adequate arrangements can be made for the performance of their work by others.

Officers who retire under this special provision will not be eligible for re-employment under Government or for employment under Corporations or other organisations financed to any extent by Government as well as under other Institutions sponsored by Government. Colombo, 16th Decembe, 1955.

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## Rehabilitation Of Offenders

(Continued from Page 2)

branches of this Association will embrace the whole Island and with the assistance of voluntary workers and Rural Development Societies and Social Welfare Workers, it will grow into an efficient and large organisation, functioning as the main support of our prison administration.

Your responsibilities as trained social workers dedicated to the task of reforming and re-ordering the lives of those who have transgressed the law are certainly complex and varied. It is a hopeful sign that much of the effort of your Association is diverted to the social rehabilitation of the prisoner through his family. This indeed is an excellent concept of penal administration. The protection of the family interests of the prisoner naturally brings a large measure of comfort to him; it removes from his mind bitterness owing to the knowledge that his family has not been rendered destitute. The punishment which a prisoner's wife and children undergo can often be more poignant than what the prisoner himself will experience in prison.

### NEW APPROACH

It is also very reassuring to note that this Association is rendering a helping hand to the prison administration in preparing the prisoners in captivity for their ultimate return to freedom. For surely your task of restoring the offender to society will be very difficult; if not impossible, if the rehabilitation treatment of the prisoner must await his discharge from the prison. Your Association is doing signal service in helping in the scheme of adult education for prisoners as well as conducting classes in commercial studies.

There can be little doubt that this new approach in the treatment of offenders is capable of producing good results without detriment to the interests of society. We must realise that ninety-eight per cent of those who go into prison ultimately return to their communities and to society. Should we permit them to come out of such places worse than when they went in, filled with bitterness and even hatred against society? Prisoners are people. The man who breaks the law is a human being. He must be

reclaimed from his past and brought back to society; taught the dignity of work and given an opportunity of acquiring new skills by which he may make an honest living. Our prisons must, therefore, be dedicated to the welfare of the prisoner and the protection of the community. I must not be misunderstood to mean that corrective discipline and the penal character of the imprisonment should be sacrificed for the ostensible purpose of reforming the prisoner.

Members of the Prisoners' Welfare Association, you must continue, extend and intensify your labour of love. The State has no substitute if you fail to do so.

## CAROLS BY CANDLE LIGHT

(Continued from Page 6)

them all the more interesting. The main thing is that these songs are alive.

The Malay sings for the sheer joy of song and their contribution to the music of the Cape and the Cape's heritage cannot be overlooked.

At night when the choirs have assembled they lose themselves in the glamour of song which has been handed down from father to son for generations. Almost any evening songs accompanied by guitars or the compelling rhythm of the ghommans and players beating "rabannas" can be heard in the Malay quarter of Cape Town.

Cape Town "Carols by Candlelight" has been one of the means by which these Malay choirs have been preserved. If Malay participation in these carols are to go it is of some consolation that there are places like Ceylon where "Carols by Candlelight" in the true Christmas spirit will still have Malays with their natural talent for song. And who knows there might be Malay choirs in Colombo too?