

U.M.D



Organ of the United National Party Rgd, Office: No. 238, Galle Rd., Colombo 5. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1951

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Party Rally Resolutions Religion: Language: Ceylonization "Namo Namo Matha" as National Song"

THE following resolutions willbe moved at the Fourth Annual Conference of the United National Party Kandy on the 29th and 30th

This Year's Budget:

This conference, while congratulating the Government on its record of work during the last four years, welcomes the initiative and courage shown in the preparation of this year's budget and pledges its loyal support to the Government in its plans to solve the social, economic and other problems and improve the conditions of the people country.

Religion:

This conference (a) emphasises the need for spiritual values for the well-being of society and re-affirms its desire to protect and assist all religions in their struggle against the forces of irreligion; (b) approves the grant by the Prime Minister of a request for the appointment of a Commission to investigate and make recommendations on all matters re-lating to the well-being and progress of Buddhism, Buddhist culture and Buddhist education with special re-ference to Pirivena Education; and (c) also recommends to Government that due attention be given to simi-lar requests by other religious bodies.

Language:

(a) This conference approves the appointment by Government of the

National Languages Commission to National Languages Commission to implement its decision to make Sinhalese and Tamil the official languages of the country; and (b) is further of the opinion that steps should be taken by the Government

- (i) enforce the requirement that the mother tongue should be the medium of instruction beyond the fifth standard and up to the highest standards in Secondary Schools as books and teachers are available and that finally the mother tongue should be the medium of in-struction in all stages of education including the University and
- (ii) to extend rapidly the use the National Languages the National Languages media of administration.

4. Ceylonization:

This conference requests the Government to take early steps to ensure that nationals of Ceylon do take their rightful place trade, commerce and industry

Proposer: Senator Gate Mudaliyar S. T. P. Rodrigo, J.P.

Seconder: Senator Justin Kotelawala.

Salaries Commission:

This conference calls upon Government to appoint at the earliest date possible a Salarles Commission to examine the salaries Salaries and conditions of service of all per-sons paid from public funds.

This conference is of the opinion that greater publicity should be that greater publicity should be given to the various social and other activities of the Government so as to enable the masses of this country to take greater advantage of such activities than they do now."

7. Nursery Schools:

This conference requests the Gov-ernment to establish Nursery Schools and Creches throughout Ceylon.

8. National Anthem:

This conference is of the opinion that the National Anthem "Namo Namo..." should be played in shortened form at the end of all meetings, cinema shows and public functions.

That all other resolutions be referred to the Working Committee for necessary action.



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U. N. P. Youth Camp



E. A. Nugawela

THE annual Camp and Rally of the U.N.P. Youth League will be held at Nugawela, five miles off Kandy. The organisation of the Camp is in the hands of the Hon. Mr. E. A Nugawela, Minister for Education. Two thousand youths are expected to camp out. Special arrangements have been made by the Hon. Minister to provide bus transport from the Camp to Kandy and back for the convenience of the

Three special talks have arranged for the Youth Leaguers on "Educational Policy and Educational Achievements" by the Hon. the Minister for Education; "Achievement in Irrigation and Agriculture" by the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Lands; and the "Youth League and Political Future of Ceylon" by Mr. Ananda Tissa de Alwis.

One of the most instructive items in the programme will be a visit by the Youth Leaguers to the Pera-deniya University Scheme. A visit to the Dalada Maligawa for the exposition of the Tooth Relic is an-other highlight in the Camp pro-gramme, when the Youth Leaguers will have the privilege of worship-ang the sacred Tooth Relic.

Film shows, concerts and oratori-cal contests will be other items on the programme to enliven the camp proceedings.

HE PROBLEMS OF THE MIDDLE CLASS-II

WE were discussing general problems of the Middle-Class in the two previous articles. Firstly, I pointed out the main problem of insecurity of tenure, the lack of uniformity in terms and conditions of service, the lack of a definite pension scheme and allied subjects. Next I pointed out that we may be guilty of the general charge that statisticians and philosophers make that as a class we are living beyond our means when ought and can change our mode of life, but that there are things like the cost of goods and the generally chaotic condition of co-operative management both of which generalship from the Government.

Today I would like to take a look at the other problem of housing. It is only necessary to say "Housing" is only necessary to say housing and the nature of the difficulties we of the middle-class have become immediately apparent to every mind. Unfortunately the problem has really gone out of hand. It is the biggest mess in Ceylon. When a biggest mess in Ceylon. When a problem like this gets out of hand it is almost impossible to handle For fifteen years there was no planning, no action, no foresight, only a great deal of talk.

By Ananda Tissa de Alwis

And the man who put us in this mess is no other than that great talker, Mr. Solomon West Ridge-way Dias Bandaranaike. We can way Dias Bandaranaike. We can never find a greater sitter over problems. He was the cat's pyja-mas. Now, thank God, he is out, and we must get some action into this business. .

Most of us are not troubled divine discontent. We are not restless with high ambitions and desires to conquer the world or ourselves. We have simple needs and we work to satisfy those needs. We want FOOD for our dependents and our-selves. We want clothing (not brocades or French chiffon but Jap textiles at least).

We want a roof over heads. then want to educate our children and give them a fear chance of sur-viving in a highly competitive world. Those of us who are bachelors naturally wish to marry girls of our choice, have simple homes and have babies.

We want to be unafraid of losing our jobs. That is the primary mean-ing of the phrase "Freedom from Fear," as we see it. That is, we

want to be free in our minds that we will not suddenly be booted out of our jobs, for our jobs are vital to ensure all the other things our earnings will buy

And then we want Homes. are not asking them at special rates but where oh where are these homes. Government statisticians and that bungler Bandarana. and that bungler Bandarana talked a great deal of the number of houses the country requires. We don't want figures and speeches, we want houses.

There are several grand plans on paper. Bandaranaike talked for six years about satellite towns. He left with his satellites but still there are no towns. That is why we look for-ward with some eagerness to the plans of the Mayor of Colombo and the Prime Minister. Both these gen-tlemen we can trust for they mean what they say, and they say they will build. We already see that houses have been put up for workers and more are to come. Houses have been put up for those in the have been put up for those police. These are wonderful achievements, but those in the mercantile services and elsewhere in are semi-government employment homeless and are sharing houses with "in-laws" and "in-laws" at the best of times, are sweetest when seen at regular intervals!

I have been using the word "We" because it comes naturally to me. I know the conditions of the middle-class because I belong to it. One of One of the fundamental difficulties of the Government is that its top level ad visers don't know at first hand the conditions of the people for whom they prescribe. Heads of Departments and other executives live in Government bungalows, get toplevel salaries or are living in the big houses their wives brought them as dowries. So, naturally, their approach to the problem is academic, remote and leisurely. visers don't know at first hand the

FLATS FOR CLERKS

One of the most satisfying memories I personally shall have is that my boss, Sir John Kotela-wala, immediately sanctioned my fifteen-line memorandum to him three years ago about building

flats for clerical servants at Thim-birigasyaya. He saw the point I made at once, and with charac-teristic promptness directed his executive staff to get going with the plans.

But it took two years before that piece of paper was translated into buildings, and in the meantime the file had grown fatter than the proverbial fatted calf.

That is in the nature of things, with an administration working with old colonial time machinery. I have yet to hear that anyone else has thought of continuing with the good work. The clerks flats at Thimbirigasyaya are a solid achievement. ment. Something was attempted and something was done.

We need more of such schemes, with necessary variations of the method of picking tenants. It would be a ghastly thing to have the staff of each firm housed in one It would be a boring and nerve-wrecking experience to see the same faces for sixteen hours a Such segregation would be socially unhealthy. I say this merely in passing. There will be time enough to discuss tenancy when houses have been built.

There is not much land left Colombo for building schemes, but one must remember that we shall have to use the land to maximum advantage. We must build up-at least four-storeyed flats. Of course, there is land available in the urban areas outside Colombo, but the further the middle-class dweller is from his place of work the greater his problem of transport to from work

At the same time we have to watch the problem of health, and dispersal of population is the greatest guarantee of good health. To achieve such dispersal we must plan ahead to tie-in attendant developments to reach completion at the same time-water, lights, sewage, transport, food stores, schools, hospitals, etc. Such a Master Plan of development is essential, but that Plan is not ready. Meanwhile, the urgent short-term problem of the thousands who are homeless must be met with short-term solutions.

(To be continued)







Inside Sovie

M. Sivaram, an Indian journalist, records his eye-witness observations from inside the Soviet's biggest satellite.

Foreign bankers in China, negotiate exchange transactions through the Bank of China (which through the Bank of China (which transactions is the only institution handling foreign exchange business) consider that the present exchange value of the JMP, the new Chinese currency, is artificially fixed by the Government at a rate higher than its real worth because of the sweller worth because of the surplus foreign exchange at the command of the Government. They think that a new spiral of inflation is bound to follow any dislocation of the present trend of China's foreign trade.

China's import trade, despite restrictions imposed by some countries, is expected to hit the record total of 300,000,000 U.S. dollars in 1950.

This estimate was given by leading This estimate was given by leading business firms which handle the bulk of China's foreign trade. No up-to-date data on the nation's trade was available to the Press at the headquarters of the Chinese People's Republic at Peking.

With exports estimated "slightly above the value of imports," the People's Republic of China has a favourable balance of trade and a "substantial amount" of sterling and dollar exchange at its disposal. The Chinese Government has been using this foreign exchange of stabilizing the event of war and of stabilizing the exchange value of the new currency, "Jing Ming Pao," which is now quoted at about 72,000 to the sterling.

The new regime in China has not nationalized the country's foreign trade but has imposed severe control over imports and exports. Government trade corporations handle much of the import requirements, while foreign firms with shipping and insurance facilities act as agents of the Government in important export and import deals, the basis of a small commission.

In Hong Kong, through which a large share of China's foreign trade passes normally, the Chinese Government trade corporations' offices have been extremely busy in recent months. British firms which have reached "working arrangements" with the Chinese Government include Butterfield and Swire Ltd., and Jardine Matheson and Co., Ltd., premier business and industrial establishments associated with China for nearly two centuries. These firms, however, consider their present role in China as "purely transitory." in China as "purely transitory."

GOVERNMENT CONTROLS

While many smaller foreign business and industrial concerns have changed nands in the last twelve months, Chinese businessmen and industrialists who acquired them are bestant to invest more capital. In hesitant to invest more capital their new acquisitions, partly because of the Government controls and partly due to the uncertain international outlook.

Imports of essential commodities and requirements for stockpiling have steadily come into the country. Luxury items are officially banned, but the resourceful Chinese smugglers have flooded the market with cosmetics, nylon stockings and plastic goods, mainly from Hong Kong.

Tientsin, on the Yellow Sea, is China's major port today, handling import and export cargoes for north, central and east China. An average of six ships, most of them British or Norwegian, call at Tientsin daily.

Norwegian, call at Tientsin daily.

With the Government in control of industrial production, raw material supply and labour organizations, the factories in Shanghai, Tientsin, Hankow and other centres are concentrating on orders placed by the administration—mainly to fill the needs of the armed forces, Factories manufacturing consumer goods, though forced to function in accordance with Government regulations, are still in a state of indecision, pending the "final readjustment of capital Government-labour relations" now under review by the authorities in Peking.

During 1950, China's major ex-

by the authorities in Peking.

During 1950, China's major exports to non-Communist countries were coal, iron ore, soya beans, peanuts, tung oil, hog bristles and textiles. They went, for the most part, to Japan, the United States and South-East Asian countries. China's wolfram ore, which formerly went to Hong Kong and Britain, has lately been diverted to Soviet Russia.

By M. Sivaram

One important feature of China's foreign trade since the advent of the Communist regime is the diversion of Manchuria's industrial products to Soviet Russia. No details are advisable, but it is understood that almost everything produced in Manchuria's industrial factories has found its way to Soviet Russia in the last two years.

China has also exported to the U.S.S.R. about two million tons of wheat and wheat flour. This, according to an official announcement, was in return for Soviet foodgrains supplied to the Chinese frontier province of Sinkiang.

Imports into China from the U.S.S.R. include military equipment, oil, newsprint—and advisers.

Topping the list of imports into China from the sterling and dollar areas were metals, raw cotton, industrial chemicals, petroleum and dye-stuff. These came mainly from the United States and Britain.

Chinese and foreign businessmen believe that this year's import-export trade was stimulated by the brisk buying of Chinese produce by Japan and the United States and the new Chinese Government's policy of stock-piling. Whether or not this trend will continue next year will depend on international developments and the final decision of the non-Communist power bloc to enforce a blockade of the Chinese coastline.



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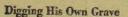
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Newcomers Trade Valued

IN February, 1949, the Minister for Commerce and Trade decided that the time was now ripe for the Ceylonization of the import trade of the Island by diverting into the hands of the Ceylonese the trade hither-to chiefly held by non-Ceylonese who had entrenched themselves in the most lucrative trades. The effects of Import Control policy in the Ceylonization of the Import Trade has resulted in 1,208 importers being registered under the Ceylonese Importers Registration Scheme at the end of 1950. This included 220 Ceylonese established importers, the rest being newcomers. Certain food items which were not included in the budget of the poorer classes, were retained under license in order to give a large share of such imports to Ceylonese exporters both established as well as newcomers. Trade with Japan and countries such as Germany, Switzerland, Belgium and Portugal, which were previously considered "hard" currency, was reserved chiefly for Ceylonese Registered Importers.

Suppliers abroad had now begun selves in the most lucrative

tered Importers.

Suppliers abroad had now begun to realize that the Ceylonisation of the Island's was an accepted policy of this Government and had begun to offer all new sole agencies of many commodities such as German cars, pens, pencils, stationery, lamps and lanterns. tyres and tubes, wireless goods, etc., to Ceylonese Registered Importers. An indication of the volume of trade that was diverted into the hands of the Ceylonese importers both established as well as newcomers, will be realized from the following:

The value of trade licensed for Ceylonese established and newcomer was approximately Rs. 145.000,000 and the total annual value of such trade amounted to Rs 244,000,000 approximately. The measures taken

Senex

for Ceylonising the trade were follows:-

- (a) establishing trade corpora-tions in partnership with Gov-ernment;
- (b) encouraging Ceylonese business houses by Government participating in their share capital:
- (c) inducing non-Ceylonese busi-ness houses to take Ceylonese as co-partners in their busi-
- ness:

 (d) using import control machinery as an instrument to direct trade deliberately to the Ceylonese newcomers as well as Ceylonese established importers by reserving a specific quota for various lines of import trade and fostering established Ceylonese importers or protecting them from over-all reductions, if any, in import quotas affecting the scale of their business.

The extension of this policy was to be a contributory factor to the economic emancipation of Ceylon, so very essential for the enjoyment in full measure of the political independence which she had recently achieved. These measures had the full support of the Government and it was decided to implement these proposals gradually.

proposals gradually.

The above information is culled from the Administration Report of the Controller of Imports and Exports for the year 1950, and is the first report of the department which gives a brief summary of the policy since 1939, when control was introduced under the Emergency Powers Defence (Act) in agreement with the Allied countries at the outbreak of World War II.

Heirlooms History-9

Kataragama - Home Skanda

ONE of the oldest and most celebrated temples in Ceylon is at Kataragama, situated in its lovely forest setting in the jungles of south-east Ceylon dedicated to God Skanda. It is one of the principal places of Hindu worship. It is called Kachcharagama in the Mahavansa and is the place where King Tissa planted one of the eight shoots of the sacred Bo-Tree, privileged to receive the sapling brought by the sainted daughter of Emperor Asoka of India, which still stands in the temple court. At present there are two temples, one Hindu and one Buddhist, but the former is much more celebrated and pilgrims from every part of India resort to worship it frequently bringing with them brass pots containing water from the Ganges. It is situated in the extreme south-cast corner of the Badulla district of the Uva Province, but it is easier to reach from the Hambantota side going by the coast road as far as Palatupana, where a bridal path trails off to Katagamuwa. The only inscription discovered by Dr. E. Muller, the Archaeologist, among the ruins is one of "five lines in the script of the 4th century, but very much defaced." He is said to have deciphered in the second line the word "wahana" and this, he concludes, may possibly be an allusion to Skanda, the God of War to whom the temple is dedicated.

Kataragama, in the heart of the forest haunted by bears, elephants one of the principal places of Hindu worship. It is called

Kataragama, in the heart of the forest haunted by bears, elephants and leopards and deadly malaria, 29 miles from Hambantota, 87 miles

from Badulla, 10½ miles from the nearest post town, Tissamaharama, is situated on the left bank of the Menik Ganga which rises in Mousa-galla Estate, 13 miles from Badulla. Twice a year pilgrimages are arrang-ed to this sacred fane.

By B. R. J. O.

BRITISH GOVERNOR'S VISITS

BRITISH GOVERNOR'S VISITS

General Browning, the Governor, visited the desolate spot in 1819 at the close of the military operations in the Uva country. Seven decades later (1889), Sir Arthur Gordon (afterwards Lord Stammore) attended the July festival. The country round is famed for the sport obtainable and many sportsmen visit the region but Kataragama itself which does not come within the ambit of their sporting activities is outside the pale of their curiosity. The spot has venerable history and associations. It was held in high esteem in the 3rd century B.C. as one of the sixteen places said to have been sanctified by Gautama Buddha sitting in each in meditation. It is on record that among those who welcomed the arrival of the sacred Bodhi Tree from Buddha Gaya in charge of Sanghamitta, the daughter of the Indian Emperor Asoka, the first was the King of Ceylon. Devanamolya Tissa, after whom were the nobles of Kajaragama as Kataragama was then known, About a mile off is the Buddhist Kiri Vihare said to have been founded by King Mahanaga of Mahagama (Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 5)

HOGD FE NOBD .JURIDICAL

In this changing universe a factor that remains static is the requisite that conflicts in human society could only be appeased by the establishment of a well-defined juridicial order. The greatest living beings have acknowledged this fact.

On a clear analysis of the world's condition today it could be seen that law and order are what every nation is fighting for. But the present social order has given this ingredient another connotation—Freedom. In the opinion of many it embedies the ideals of a completely perfect society. Centuries have taught us that liberty with its full import could only thrive on the established system of law. For even Cicero said: "We are the servants of the law in order that we may be free." It is only when we act according to the system of the law could we hope to

Asks Eardley Gunesekera

and at the same time helps to preserve it. It assists to bind society and keeps out the onslaught of nihilism. Society is a sacred institution which could only be kept sacred by the strong vice of the juridical order. dical order.

dical order.

Liberty is of vital importance, specially to us Ceylonese who have catered for so long a time to the avidity of British colonial policy. We all acknowledge that freedom is ours by birthright, that to be free, to be true, to follow a bird in the woods or an impulse with the pencil • are the riches when all else is destitution. We must now be in a position to restrain and curb our insatiable yearning, for freedom is best felt, is best tasted, its institution best absorbed only in the presence of an effective juridical order.

It gives all of us a form of government not shapen by frail human tendencies but by a true understanding of the law. That modern society has degenerated to the deplorable condition it is could only be attributed to only one factor—that all those who foster treaties, contended to the promotion of a more stable social order indulge in mere Utopian schemes pregnant with sentiment. What we need is not verbosity and rhetoric but concrete practical ideas built upon a reliable foundation of the law. We need it most at this crucial moment especially when all our actions are tampered with cries of religion, nationalism and fanciful tapestries of individual feeling. We have seen it in the past and we see it in the present but none have attempted to evolve a scheme consonant with the dictates of a juridical order in reletivative.

Unless we realise the value of a juridical order in reletivative.

ORDER?

Unless we realise the value of a juridical order in relation to the world and all its component parts irrespective of political integration our approach to the goal of peace and security becomes a mirage.

Heirlooms of History-9

(Continued from page 4)

SACRED TO GOD KARTTIKEYA

Kataragama is sacred to God
Karttikeya from whom it is called
Karttikeyagama (shortened to Kataragama). The Tamils who are the
chief worshippers at the shrine have
given a Tamil form, Kathirgamam,
a city of divine glory and love derived from "Katir," glory of lights,
and "Kaman," love (Sanskrit
kama). The Sinhalese call the
God Kandakumara, while the Tamils
and Sinhalese alike call God Kartikeya Kandaswamy and also Kumaraswamy "youthful God." More
often the Tamils call him by the
general Tamil name "Murukan," the
tender child. He is represented as
a beautiful child or youth. In a
paper on the subject by the late Sir
Ponnambalam Arunchalam read before the Royal Asiatic Society (Ceylon Branch) he describes the worship thus:— SACRED TO GOD KARTTIKEYA

"The priests worship him with elaborate rites and ceremonies, the rustic with meal and blood offerings, the aboriginal Vedda invoke him also with dances in the primitive manner of the jungle dweller. The phosophe meditates on him in sitence, adoring him as the Supreme God Subramaniya, the all-pervading spirit of the Universe, the essence from which all things are evolved by which they are sustained and into which they are involved."

Skanda appears to be the God of skanda appears to be the God of the Tamiis and to have passed with them to the south from their early settlements in North India. He is known as the God of War and of youthful wisdom. The scene of his birth is the land of the Himalayas. His birth and exploits are described with poetic embellishments in the Skanda Purana, an epic noem in with poetic embellishments in the Skanda Purana, an epic poem in Sanskrit, dating from about the 5th cenetury. Tamils regard him as the guardian of their race, language and literature and are bound to him by special ties. He is reputed to have arrived in Lanka in a remote age when it was a vast continent—the Lemuria, perhaps of the zoologist stretching from Madagascar to near Australia and was ruled by a Titan, the terror of the celestials.

VICTORY OVER THE TITAN

VICTORY OVER THE TITAN

The annual Vel Festival is in celebration of the victory of the Asuras and the "Vel" shortened from "velayudam" or weapon is carried in procession as the symbol. It is said that in answer to the prayers of the long-suffering people at the hands of the Titan, the god Skanda was incarnated as the son of the Supreme God. Having wedded the daughter of Indra he led the hosts to Lanka and destroyed the Titan of the Asuras, after mighty battles, his lance seeking the foe in his hiding place in the ocean. After the defeat, the Titan was granted forgiveness and was changed into a cock and a peacock, the former becoming the God's banner and the latter hy charger (Myilvaganam). Those events are yearly celebrated by estivals and fasts in Tamil lands in

the month of Aippasi (Oct.-Nov.) In some temples Skanda is represented with six faces or aspects of his activities, riding a peacock, with his consorts Teyvayanai and Valli. The former, the daughter of Indra King of the celestials and the latter is the Vedda princess who, according to Ceylon tradition he wooed and won at Kataragama. She shares in the worship of millions from Kashmir and Nepal to Dondra Head and the priests (Kapuralas) of Kataragama proudly claim kinship with her. He deigned according to theologians "to set the world a pattern of married life, for due discharge of its duties leads to God no less surely than a life of renunciation."

DUTUGEMUNU'S VOW RECALLED

its duties leads to God no less surely than a life of renunciation."

DUTUGEMUNU'S VOW RECALLED

The worship of Skanda has suffered no decline in Ceylon from the introduction of Buddhism twenty-four centuries ago. The Kataragama Deviyo has a shrine in every Buddhist place of worship and plays a prominent part in its ceremonials and processions. King Dutugemunu in the first century B.C. rebuilt and richly endowed the temple at Kataragama as a thanks-offering for the favour of the gods which enabled him to march against the Tamil king Elara and after killing him in battle, recovered the ancestral throne of Anuradhapura. The incidents associating the Kataragama God with Dutugemunu naturally find no place in the Buddhist chronicles. Like most Ceylon kings he was though a Buddhist tolerant towards Hinduism. An ancient manuscript gives an account of Ridi Vihare which he built and endowed. It states that on the occasion of its consecration he was accompanied by 500 Bhikkus and 1,500 Brahamins versed in the Vedas. Dutugemunu's great-grandfather Mahanaga, the younger brother of Devanamplya Tissa, had taken refuge in Mahagama in the Southern Province, and founded a dynasty here and Anuradhapura was for 78 years with short breaks, ruled by Tamil kings of whom Elara was the greatest. Dutugemunu conceived the idea of liberating the country from Elara. In a dream he was told to secure the aid of the Kataragama God before he embarked on the enterprise. He therefore made a pilgrimage thither and underwent severe penances on the banks of the river. While engaged in prayer and meditation, an ascetic suddenly appeared before him, inspiring such awe that the prince fainted. On regaining consciousness he saw before him the great God of War who presented him with weapons and assured him of victory. The prince made a vow that he would rebuild and endow the temple on his return from his expedition, which ended in the defeat and death of Elara and the recovery of the throne.

Such is the story of Kataragama and its associations with the early history of the Island. The trek to Kataragama is a popular event in the lives of the devotees of Skanda who combine childlike love of an

(Continued on page 7)

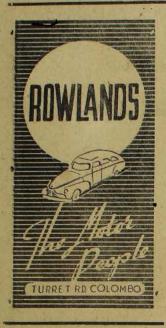
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September 28, 1951

ANOTHER MILESTONE IN LANKA'S HISTORY

Another milestone in the road to economic freedom in Ceylon was passed . last week when the House of Representatives approved in principle the 176-million-rupee Walawe Irrigation Scheme. The second major development project that has been undertaken since we became free again, this scheme will bring under cultivation as many as 60,000 acres of land and will restore to Ruhuna her pristine preeminence as the granary of Lanka

Unlike Gal Oya where water is a limiting factor, there is an abundance of water at Walawe and it is only the land that is limited. Even so, 60,000 acres is by no means a negligible area and the native richness of its soil will yield bountiful harvests. In course of time neighbouring areas will be linked to this reservoir and the benefits of irrigation will be made available to thousands of other farmers.

In addition, the Walawe project is a multi-purpose scheme in the sense that about 5,000 kilowatts of electric power. will be generated which will serve to supply current to towns as far removed from one another

as Polonnaruwa is from Tissamaharama. One of the essentials of industrial development is the availability of cheap power and the harnessing of our waterways will provide this power in ample measure.

It is symptomatic of the careful preparation that always precedes every scheme undertaken by the Minister of Agriculture and Lands that, although plans for the Walawe project had been in the blueprint stage at the same time as Gal Oya, a start was not made till a complete hydrological and topographical survey had been made of the terrain. Even now the world's most eminent consultants will vet the original plans and the construction will be in the hands of engineers of international repute. The cost plus fee basis on which the work will be giver out on contract ensures that the expenditure on this project will not be subject to world fluctuations in the price of materials while the incentive bonus makes for the expeditious completion of the scheme. This method has already proved successful at Gal Oya where work is proceeding so rapidly that it is even now a year ahead of schedule.

The phenomenal increase in our population and the world scarcity of food makes it imperative that our dependence on imports of essential foodstuffs is reduced to the barest minimum. Lanka in the days of her ancient glory was the granary of the East. Schemes like Gal Oya and Walawe will bring back to Lanka in the brave new days that are to come that happiness and prosperity which she once enjoyed.



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P. M. to Visit Matale

The following are notes on the items of the programme:—

10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m.: Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Home for the Aged to be donated by Mr. J. E. Guna-

11.05 a.m. to 11.20 a.m.; Formal reception by the Chairman and Members, Urban Council, Matale, by presenting an Address Paper.

11.25 a.m. to 12 noon: Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Assembly Hall, Zahira College, Matale.

12.05 p.m. to 12.30 p.m.: Declare open the Science Laboratory and the Workshop, St. Tho-mas' College, Matale.

INFORMAL LUNCH

2.30 p.m.: (a) Leave for Yata-watte: (b) Laying of the Foundation Stone of the ex-tensions to the Junior School, Yatawatte.

4 p.m.: Procession from the northern end of the town to the site of the Housing Scheme. Declare open the completed group and inaugurate the new scheme and public meeting.

7.30 p.m.: Public Dinner 9 p.m.: Leave Matale.

p.m.: A play in Sinhalese "Bebaddo Kawuda" (depicting the evils of drink) under the patronage of Hon. Mr. A. Ratnayake, Minister for Food and Co-operative Develop-ment.

and Co-operative Develop-ment.

p.m.: The same play under the patronage of Hon. Mr. M. D. Banda, Minister for Labour and Social Services.

NOTES ON THE ITEMS

(a) Home for the Aged:

(a) Home for the Aged:

The P.W.D. estimates for this Home for the Aged are more or less Rupees Two Lakhs. Mr. J. E. Gunasena has undertaken the full cost of the building. In 1943, the Gunasena Hall donated to Vujaya College at a cost of over Rs. 80,000 was declared open by the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister. He has been helpful to a large number of villagers during the periods of distress, particularly the malaria epidemic of 1934. He also has donated good portion of the money for the Workshop of St. Thomas' College, Matale, that the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister will declare open this day. He is one who does not want honours.

(b) Zahira College, Matale:

(b) Zahira College, Matale:

Zahira College, Matale:
Zahira College of Matale, has on roll over 700. The present buildings, in the heart of the town, are congested and unsuited. I (V. T. Nanayakkara) have been able to get, on lease from the Government, ten acres where the new buildings will come up starting with the Assembly Hall, the foundation of which is fixed to be laid by the Rt. Hon, the Prime Minister.

(c) St. Thomas' College, Matale:

This College has about 900 on roll and is rendering good educational service. The only school in Matale which is about to start science for classes above the S.S.C. and with a Workshop will give the pupils a technical education.

(d) Junior School, Yatawatte:

There are four Junior Schools to the Matale Electorate and this is the only one that is going to get a new building which is roughly about Rs. 60,000. This school will serve a

(Continued on page 7)

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KURUNEGALA HAS ITS WATER PROBLEM

Shirley J. Payoe

KURUNEGALA in common with other Municipal Towns has its own water problem. Unfortunately, it has not been tackled so far with any enthusiasm.

when interviewed the Mayor, Mr. A. G. Plyadasa, admitted that the water problem is acute "when looking at the future, as we are rapidly expanding." He reckons that, comparatively, Kurunegala suffers much less than other towns faced with similar problems created by lack of adequate supplies of water to meet ever increasing demands which come ever increasing demands which come in the wake of progression. But, one technical officer directly connected with the supervisory and the maintenance side of the town's water system feels, "The water problem of the town is already acute and warrants immediate action".

J. Emmerson Tennent, describing severe drought which caused untold suffering to the people of this area, has this to say in his A NATURAL HISTORY OF CEYLON," ... crocodiles and bears made their way into the town to drink at the wells". That the people of Kurunegala to-day are much better served than the unfortunates to whom reference made in the book, is insufficient reason for the complacency and the indifference that is so noticeable. Besides, such a view reveals a lack of foresight; we must plan for Tomorrow, not just for To-day!

1946 Census Reports give the population of Kurunegala as 13,372, but it is believed that the figure has risen to around 14,000 to-day. We may not be far wrong if we arrive at the round figure of 20,000—adding liberally for the "floating" population:

I give below in detail the normal requirements of water per person per twenty-four hours for a Western

Particulars of Supply	Per	Head
Domestic purposes		12 gals.
General baths	1000	4
Water closets	1000	6
Unavoidable waste	1000	3
Municipal purposes		5
Trade purposes	***	5
	-	
Total .		28

For a country in the tropics the figure is placed as high as 50 gallons per head per twenty-four hours, but let us take 40 gallons to be the normal requirement. If we assume that the population is 20,000, Kurunegala stands in need of 800,000 gallons of water per day.

But the present supply amounts to just over one-fourth of that amount! The Reservoir at Tampane releases 160,000 gallons per day, while the chlorination plant instal-

led at the legendary Kurunegala Lake gives up 9,000 gallons per hour and is worked from six to eight hours each day. That means a total of only 232,000 gallons!

When I visited the Tampane Reservoir recently—24.8.51 to be exact—the water level had gone down by some ten feet and I noticed the first draw-off showing well above—the water.

draw-off showing well above the water.

This reservoir, which is 32 feet deep and has a capacity of 22,000,000 gallons F.S.L. (Full Supply Level), was established at Handrokanda in 1930, when Proctor P. Tambyrajah was the Chairman of the then Kurunegala Urban District Council. Apart from the Tains and the natural springs, an estimated 27,000 gallons flow through a ravine per 24 hours. To this is added the 64,000 gallons from the Walpolakanda Augmentation Scheme. The water is chlorinated at the head of the Reservoir before being released to it. I was told that the catchment area of the Reservoir is only 150 acres—re-afforested, acquired land!

Water from the Kurunegala Lake is chlorinated at the North Bund Approach where, incidentally, one Appuhamy from Boyagana village is said to have burled himself alive as appeasement (Billa) of malevolent gods who had repeatedly come in the way of engineers effecting repairs to a breach in the tank bund. From the chlorination shed, the water is pumped to a service reservoir at Maligawa Road and mixed with water from Tampane before being released for consumption.

The catchment area of the Lake is, roughly, 1.5 square miles. Henry

being released for consumption.

The catchment area of the Lake is, roughly, 1.5 square miles. Henry W. Cave in his A BOOK OF CEY-LON, refers to it as "an ornamental lake of about 100 acres." The water surface area is less than that now—due to years of neglect and the accumulation of silt, Residents successfully agitated to get washing of dirty linen banned. But, although washing is banned today, bathing is permitted. The Eighth Wonder of the World is this twist of Reason! Is there a whale of a difference between a dirty body and a dirty cloth?

cloth?

I have presented above the water problem of Kurunegala and showed that the supply is very much below the normal requirements of the growing town. To suggest ways and means to overcome this shortage is a task far too great for me to tackle, as I am, admittedly, no water expert. I can, however, say with conviction that the Municipality lacks the financial backing and the technical skill to foster methods that will better the situation.

I feel also that the problem of

I feel also that the problem of this town is not a problem of this locality alone. It is a vital problem that can contribute—for better or for worse—to the many gigantic general development schemes already under way. The Central Government would do well to look into this matter!

Heirlooms of History-9

(Continued from page 5)

outing with true religious fervour. During the pilgrimage season many thousands foregather "living in hope, praying for the attainment of their heart's desire and inspired by fatth, rejoice to see their wishes granted or who in fulfilment of a vow undergo self-inflicted tortures." Gruesome scenes are yearly enacted at this shrine. Kavadi bearers with aliver skewers pierced through tongue and cheeks, held in leash by hooks and spikes going through the shoulders or mendicants rolling on the burning sands are common sights while the fire-walking in trenches of flaming coals ablaze 's most awe-inspiring to those who watch in speechless wonder!

P. M. to Visit Matale

(Continued from page 6)

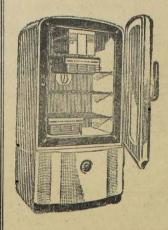
very large area. Necessary action is being taken regarding extensions to the other three Junior Schools as well.

(e) Matale Housing Scheme:

Already 20 houses are occupied. wenty-two are completed and Twenty-two are ready to be completed by the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister. The scheme to be inaugurated consists of 66 houses. Matale housing is a big problem and I (V. T. Nanayakkara) have appealed to the Government for at least 50 more houses from the estimates, 1951-52. It's TIME you owned a new

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WHAT VOITH THENKS

SLOW AND STEADY WINS THE RACE

"SLOW and steady wins the race. This has become a common proverb and a true one indeed, which our ex-Minister seems to have for-gotten. In History we have read that people like Napoleon who be lieved in a sort of extremely quick progress, did not remain masters of the world for long.

"Rome was not bufit in a day. period of five years is not a very long time for any Government, whe-ther U.N.P. or otherwise to make Ceylon an ideal place to live in. First a Government must tackle the problems relating to food, clothing, and shelter, which are the needs of a human community.

needs of a human community.

To solve the problem of food, in which we are not self-sufficient, the Government has started many schemes, which are in progress now. But it is really impracticable for the Government to bring whole of Ceylon under cultivation at once. Clothing and shelter are also satisfactorily tackled by the Government. Of course to a certain extent. If our ex-Minister expects the Government to have completed everything within five years of independence, he may as well expect his next son or daughter to walk before crawling. Today England stands as one of the daughter to walk before crawling. Today England stands as one of the most powerful countries in the world. She achieved her greatness and within five or ten years, but hundred years of steady progress has resulted in her greatness.

"Thorns you find even in the rose. In the same way in any Government there may be weak points. In any individual there may be weak points. Therefore I would not say that U.N.P. Government is a perfect one. But I would say that it has done its job well.

Modern trend of events clearly show that man is the enemy of man. Now he prepares for an 'atomic war' which would certainly result in the extermination of humanity from this world. Each nation thinks that it should gain supremacy over the world by war.

Brutal are the people of the present day, Gain supremacy by war they say.

It is this notion that has led man to act as a wild animal, killing his own people, and also for the inven-tion of such horrible war ments as the Atom Bomb.

ments as the Atom Bomb.

The invention of this bomb can be described as digging our own grave. Today we stand on its edge. Till the next world war wakes up our son the Atom Bomb who will shoot us down. Therefore now it is left for us, not to abuse a Government on public platforms, but to raise an outcry throughout the world, that even at least the use of Atom Bombs in war should be abolished. If not war altogether.

Edward Arambewala

WORLD DAY FOR ANIMALS

Sir.-

OCTOBER 4th is the World Day for Animals inaugurated by the World League against Vivisection and for the Protection of Animals, London, in 1928 in honour of St. Francis of Assist, Patron Saint of Animals. Animals.

At our request on this day meat-stalls were closed at 8, 15 and 18 places in Ceylon in 1948, 1949 and 1950 respectively. According to a resolution passed in 1948 by the President of the Union of Burma last two years all the meat-stalls in Burma were closed on this day.

We kindly appeal to all to put into practice whatever they can of the following:—

- To appeal to the Chairmen and members of Municipalities, Urban Councils, Town Councils and Village Committes to stop slaughtering animals and close the meatstalls on October 4.
- To feed hungry animals.
- To abstain from killing and eating flesh-food.

- To illuminate your homes with lanterns bearing texts Ahimsa and other lights.
- To set free animals passed for slaughter and animals that are caged.
- To give rest to animals at least half a day and to abs-tain from travelling in vehicles drawn by animals on that day.
- To lecture on Ahim churches and temples. Ahimsa
- To have Pahan Pinkamas Buddhist temples and preach on Ahimsa.
- To offer vegetarian Sangika
- To conduct Ahimsa processions.

W. S. FERNANDO.

Universal College,

Panadura, 4.9.51.

MUSHROOM POLITICAL PARTIES

RECENTLY, two new political par-RECENTLY, two new political parties have sprung in the political arena of Ceylon. Most of the members of these parties are known to the voters, as some have been defeated at the polls during the last General Election, while others have made it a practice of leaving one party and joining the other.

The polities of these two parties

party and joining the other.

The policies of these two parties are almost similar, for example, severing connections with the Commonwealth, the adoption of Sinhalese and Tamil as the official languages and the abolition of imperial and local honours, etc. Thus, most of the alms of these two parties are similar and why do not these leaders join together? How can they deny that it is not for the sake of leadership?

There is a marked centreet he

There is a marked contrast between the resolutions of the Madampe Conference of Sinhala Maha Sabha and the aims of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party.

The Madampe Conference wanted to make Buddhism the State religion and to have a Buddha Sasana Department. But the Sri Lanka Freedom Party only wants to "revive the religion." It does not want to have a Buddha Sasana Department or to make Buddhism the State religion.

Sinhala Maha Sabha wanted to make Sinhalese the official language. But now, the new party in order to attract more supporters, says that it is for "the adoption of Sinhalese and Tamil as the official languages without delay."

Sinhalese and Tamil as the official languages without delay."

Sinhala Maha Sabha wanted to ban racing and to enforce prohibition. But, it is surprising to note that the new party does not refer to any of them. Formerly, Mr. Bandaranaike loudly proclaimed that he was for those resolutions. How can he ban racing when he himself offers a cup at the Colombo races?

Mr. Sri Nissanka proclaimed that his party is not against Leftists. But, Mr. Bandaranaike says that his party is a middle party. Whose words are we to believe? It is high time for Mr. Bandaranaike to proclaim the policy of his party, whether they are opposed to the Leftists or not, without deceiving the voters. It is a common sight to note the formation of new parties, before the elections in the other countries too. There is not the least doubt, that the party which has worked for the country will succeed defeating these mushroom opportunist political parties.

E. G. V. DE SILVA,

E. G. V. DE SILVA,

Dharmasoka College. ...

A BRIGHT LIGHT TO MORATUWA

WHILE contemplating on the precarious state of Moratuwa, about a month back, I decided to form a U.N.P. Youth League at my home town. When I conveyed my suggestion to Sir Ukwatte Jayasundera, he assured me of his whole-hearted support and promised to introduce me to Sir John Kotelawala. The senior members of the U.N.P. at Moratuwa helped me to achieve my end. A meeting was held at "Sulvanhurst." the residence of Dr. K. J. de Silva, presided over by Mr. Lucian Silva. A pro-tem committee was elected to work up

(Continued on page 9)

WHAT YOUTH THINKS

(Continued from page 1)

for the inauguration with the following as office-bearers:

Mr. Blasius Ferdi-

Joint Hony. Secretaries: Mr. Neil de Silva and Mr. Langston Perera.

Mr. Herbert Wijese-

kera.

The inauguration took place on the 1st of this month at the Moratuwa Town Hall premises. Mr. Thomas Amarasuriya, President of the U.N.P.. Moratuwa Branch, presided. Five hundred youth leaguers turned up for the meeting. Mr. Thomas Amarasuriya commenced the proceedings by unfurling the Lion Flag amidst the strains of the National Anthem. Mr. Neil de Silva proposed that a U.N.P. Youth League be formed at Moratuwa. Mr. Langston Perera seconded the motion. In his presidential address Mr. Thomas Amarasuriya appealed to the public to rally under the banner of the U.N.P. and work for the progress

of the town. He expressed his confidence of the U.N.P. securing a greater number of seats in the forthcomling parliamentary elections. Senators S. T. P. Rodrigo admiring the work done by the youths, expressed his ardent support for the youths. It was encouraging to observe that Senator Dharmapala too addressed the gathering. He stayed there till late in the evening. He came from Matara. He too promised his support to the youths.

The following were the other

The following were the other speakers: Mr. Blasius Ferdinando, Mr. Arnold Ratnayake, Mr. S. O. Stembo, Hony, Secretary of the U.N.P. Moratuwa Branch, Mr. Lucian Silva, Mr. Duston Fernando and Mr. Kingsley Silva.

I should thank Mr. Herbert Wije-sekera, Mr. K. D. J. V. Peiris, Mr. Lucian Silva. Mr. H. E. P. de Mel. Mr. Oriel de Mel and Mr. Denis Fernando for contributing to make the inauguration a success.

Blasius Ferdinando

Long Prosper the U.N.P.!

BUCKINGHAM PALACE'S CEYLON LINK

CEYLON'S link with the Royal household-Marion Crawford, Governess to the Princess Margaret and Princess Elizabeth for 17 years, came she married a former resident of the Island, G. M. Buthlay, some time after the war.

A well-known figure in Colombo business circles of the late 1920s. George M. Buthlay was among the best known tennis players at the Garden and Lawn Club meets in those years not to mention the CLT.A. Meets at Nuwara Ellya. This interesting union had as in the case of many ordinary men and women a call from duty on account of the war. "The King and Queen relied on me." writes Marion, "I was entirely in charge of the two princesses, one of whom was the Heir Apparent to the Throne and it gave their parents who themselves carried such crushing responsibilities, considerable peace, of mind so long as I remained with the Princesses. So duty won the battle and I waited until after the war before getting married."

Popular Ceylon sportsman, Mr. Buthlay doubtless picked a winner in Marion Crawford—or Crawfie, a nickname given to her by Princess Elizabeth—but having had the privilege of regularly meeting Mr. Buthlay in business those days, I can say Marion Crawford has also picked a winner in her husband.

Before Marion arrived at Rayal Lodge, Windsor, a rather scoured Scottish girl who had never been out of Scotland, she had studied at Moray Training College, Edinburgh. She had also run a small school for the four children of Lady Elgin whom the King and Queen (them as Duke and Duchess of York) had visited.

Visited.

It is not as the four-year-old girl whom Marion Crawford took charge at the Royal Lodge that Ceylon will see Princess Margaret when the Island plays host to the world with Their Majesties and their daughter as honoured guests; but as the vivacious, chic, always laughing blue eyes Princess whose spirits according to credible reports cause an occasional parental headache. Diehards have gone so far as to label the Princess as "the child delinquent of Buckingham Palace."

Princess Margaret had her share of duties owing to the illness of the King. She carried them with charm and aplomb so that observers who expected that the bubbling galety and tomboyishness of Princess Margaret's middle' teens would weigh against her being able to carry out these formal duties which must be undertaken by every member of the royal family, were mistaken. Princess Margaret had her share By T. M. G. Samat

One legend about Princess Margaret is that even wearing her best dress she likes to go down on her knees and hands and play with Prince Charles. It is hard to believe she does not, but not in her best dress for she must be having too much of dress sense for that.

will there be an "arranged" marriage? Today the Princess Margaret is the most eligible girl in the world—Princes, Peers and Commoners may seek her hand but even though she has personal freedom undreamed of by those who preceded her she is nevertheless aclosely bound by certain rules in the matter of marriage as any medieval princess, which the King's marry is obviously limited. But first and last it will be princess Margaret's choice like beth.

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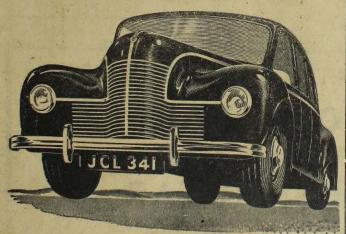
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The Development at A True Social Consciousness

Today in Lanka as in all other parts of the civilised world social service has become a household word. It is so because the general advancement of social services from its inception during the epochmaking days of the Industrial Revolution in Britain and American Civil War has been so tremendous. Though this general progress in the world is very striking, our own Island has not emerged from the general Asiatic backwardness to keep pace with the West. It is not that our citizens are totally unconscious of the social service ideal, but relatively our awareness is exceedingly superficial. Everyone talks, and many are those who claim themselves active social workers, but that appears to be the furthest limit. There is more frivolous talk than a genuine inclination to solve the many problems that beset us.

A general survey of the Island's social services will indicate how intense and profound this lack is. Prior to the attainment of political independence the care and the destiny of the poor was the sole responsibility of a few philanthrop'sts. The greater majority of these rich gave for fear of public opinion and not through any heartfelt desire for their fellow-humans. They gave not for the sake of giving, but to avoid public ill-feeling and to maintain their cordial relationships with the fellow community. Further it was meant to promote self-publicity and prestige, and this very ideal of theirs reduced the so-called benevolence to malevolent hypocrisy. The State began playing any significant part only within the last few years, yet we cannot be dissatisfied with its performance. But the State however much it may try, the sum total of its efforts should never be estimated very high. All external aids provided, the people's social well-being is essentially their own affair, and therefore the highest responsibility lies not in the State, but with the individual. So what is essential to remedy this deplorable state of affairs is the state, but with the individual. So what is essential to remedy this deportance of t

By Upali Samaranayake

all charitable and other social acti-vities, which should bring a general betterment in the conditions of the social underdog.

betterment in the conditions of the social underdog.

The U.S.A. provides us a remarkable lesson in this respect of advanced social services. Numerous philanthrophic institutions, such as the Andrew Carnegle, the Rockefeller and the mighty Ford foundations have all been dedicated to the social welfare and moral advancement of America's down trodden masses. They embrace the educational, the scientific, and charitable sphere among its varied activities. These vast charitable institutions do not profess to grant periodical charity and make the lives of these destitutes burdens on the community. Rather their fundamental object is to show the people the means of helping themselves. Its essential principle is self-help and not to make man dependent throughout life on external circumstances.

For as Andrew Carnegie, the famous 19th century steel magnate, said:

"The best means of benefiting the community is to place within its reach the ladders upon which the aspiring can rise."

It is exceedingly evident that what the poor and the needy yet lack most is opportunity and the basic aim of all social services is to furnish them such opportunities. Once this preliminary bout is fought, the rest follows according to their measure of enthusiasm. It is again evidenced in these lines of Poet Grey:

"Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire; Hands, that the rod of empire

Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands, that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living Mighty American

Mighty America has set a bold and challenging example to the rest of the world. Shall we not follow it, just because our Society is relatively poorer? Surely not, for the financial issue is of secondary importance.

financial issue is of secondary importance.

Though it is no big task to decide, we must not postpone our decision indefinitely. Ultimately whatever course we may choose, that alone shall determine the glory or the fall of our future civilisation.

THE VAGARIES OF MONUMENT · WATCHERS

THE provision of uniforms to the guards employed by the Archaeological Department to look after the reserves in Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa has, it would appear, given the village humorists of Anuradhapura an opportunity to exercise that humorous wit which is not a rare characteristic of the Sinhalese peasant. The want of a uniform has been responsible in the past for many an unpleasant incident whenever a guard in his ordinary work-a-day attire had occasion to exercise his authority on the self-conscious among the visitors to ancient monuments.

The sight for the first time of the uniformed guards has tickled the folk out there that they are called Koreans by some who sharply disagreeing nick-named them Abyssinians. A third party who do not believe in going abroad for nick-names has found a local parallel and the unfortunate guards are called "goyam messo" or paddy pests.

Many people would think that the Archaeological Department to

pests.

Many people would think that the lot of the guards is a happy one with or without the uniforms, as one might argue, what have they to do but to stand all day long by the side of the ancient buildings? But this occupation or lack of occupation appears to unhinge a certain type of mind. So says the Archaeological Commiss'oner in his Administration Report for last year. "One of the

guards at Polonnaruwa committed suicide a few years ago and another nearly did so. A third one at the same place all of a sudden discovered that he was in some way or other related to Parakrama Bahu and started acting so as to conform with his newly-found dignity. The fourth casualty in the ranks of the guards—this one at Anuradhapura was so weighed down with the hardships of humanity, particularly the lack of a suitable house for himself to live in that he thought of a novel solution of the housing problem. He refused to shave. It is reported on one occasion the demands of the toilet were sufficiently pressing to pay the barber a visit which he did. But just after the barber had covered with lather the growth of several months, the guard apparently had such an overpowering vision of the ills of the world advancing towards him like a troop of ill-formed monsters, that he rushed out of the barber. It must not be inferred that all these strange incidents are the unfortunate outcome of the unform for the casualties occurred before it was obligatory for them to wear a distinctive costume." No one wearing the uniform of the Department has yet lost his head, assures the Head of the Department.

Prof. Julian Huxley

PROFESSOR JULIAN HEXfamous British biologist and writer, was Direc-Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation from 1946-48. He is a Fellow of the British Royal Society. and was Secretary of the Zoo-logical Society of London from 1935-42. Professor Huxley has held many important academic posts and has served on edu-cational and scientific commissions. Professor Huxley's most recent publication is "Soviet Genetics and World Science"; he has written on a wide variety of subjects, including biology, ethics, zoology, Academic establishments in many parts of the world have conferred degrees and other honours upon him. In the following article he writes on Science in Russia.

THERE is probably more scientific work done in Russia than in any other country and nowhere else do scientists receive such honours and rewards or the newspapers print so much news about science, or the discoveries and applications of science receive so much appreciation.

Yet Russian scientists have, in general, to do what they are told, and the problems and jobs they are to tackle: at any moment they may be hauled over the coals for their scientific ideas, and an official doctrine may even be imposed on their branch of science.

Many branches of science have

ON SCIENCE IN RUSSI

cleaning. Sometimes the scientific truth or falsity of an entire subject is officially laid down. Thus the Central Committee of the Communist Party has proclaimed that Mendelism—in other words everything that, outside Russia, is simply called genetics—is thirue, and that the peculiar brand of Lamarckism called Michurin genetics, in which no competent biologist outside Russia believes, is true. No research in Mendelian genetics is now being done in Russia. All the Mendelian geneticists have either been disgraced, have disappeared, have lost their jobs or have been transferred to other work; and only Michurinism may be taught in schools and universities.

In other cases, some trend within a science is denounced, and its adherents are publicly rebuked, or actually demoted or purged. This has happened, for instance, in physics, physiology, astronomy and relativity.

Russian Communists, including

sics, physiology, astronomy and reactivity.

Russian Communists, including men of science have come to use increasingly violent and abusive language about its opponents until now terms like "Fascist beast," "hyena" or "capitalist lackey" mean little more than people whose views differ from those of the Communist Party. They do not hesitate to distort facts and to make offensive and untrue statements without a shred of evidence.

facts and to make offensive and untrue statements without a shred of evidence.

Thus when Sir Henry Dale, expresident of the Royal Society, and H. J. Muller, the great geneticist and Nobel Prizeman, resigned from the U.S.R. Academy of Sciences, the Academy itself called them "tools in the hand of reactionaries" and "partisans of the theories in vogue in Hitlerite Germany!"

They push to ridiculous extremes the idea that both the theories of science and the discoveries which it makes, depend on the social and economic system. Professor Bernal, the well-known British Communist man of science, after a visit to the U.S.S.R., stated that the Russians do not permit Freudian psychology, because it was developed in a "competitive bourgeois society" and there-

fore has no proper application in a socialist society—as if Russian in-fants had no parents and suffered from no repressions!

from no repressions!

Again the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences itself, in its pronouncement on the genetics controversy called ordinary genetics "idealitist teaching" and "pseudo-scientific" and categorically stated that "Michurin's materialist direction in biology is the only acceptable form of science, because it is based on dialectical materialism and on the revolutionary principle of changing Nature for the benefit of the people." This certainly is a revolutionary principle—in another sense! Western scientists prefer to base their science on the facts of nature.

But the most alarming fact is that

on the facts of nature.

But the most alarming fact is that Russia is now denying the universality and unity of science and the scientific method; with this the international character of science has disappeared, and we are confronted with two rival and hostile kinds of science—so-called "progressive" Russian and Communist science, and so-called "reactionary" Western and capitalist science. Thus Professor Nuzhdin, a prominent Russian biologist. recently stated in the British scientific periodical "Nature" that "Capitalist science, which serves the reactionary class of contemporary society, cannot be objective. Capitalism demands that science distorts the truth and creates reactionary theories serving capitalism as ideological tools."

"Soviet Science" on the other hand, because it serves "the most progressive class of contemporary society..... is a people's science..... That is why it is the most correct science, since it has no other interests than to reveal the objective laws governing the development of Nature and of society." Now we know!

Nature and of society." Now we know!

And since foreign science is "bourgeois" and distorts the truth and is merely an ideological tool of capitalism, it and its ideas can be attacked just because they are foreign. Prezent, one of Lysenko's chief backers, said to the conference on gene-

tics in 1949, "it is high time to demand from you your participation in the struggle against the theories of foreign biologists," "a pernicious and ideologically allen trend. brought to our country from foreign shores."

As the converse of this attitude, the Russians are making exaggerated claims to priority for all sorts of scientific discoveries and inventions: and they are also becoming increasingly isolationist. Soviet men of science rarely attend international scientific congress, and are warned not to tell too much about recent Russian scientific work. Russian scientific yournals have almost entirely given up the practice of publishing summaries of papers in English or any other Western European language.

This paradoxical position.

This paradoxical position of Russian science, it seems, is due to several different causes. First Marxist Communism is built on a philosophical basis, which is materialist and claims to be scientific. This naturally leads it to attach high importance to science, because science provides society with the means for controlling and changing material nature.

According to dialectical material-ism, ideas are only by-products of the more basic realities of material structure and material conditions; and from this it is only a step to denying the independent validity of scientific ideas and knowledge.

Secondly, Marxist philosophy lays down that the economic and class system is the primary determining basis of human life, and that law, religion, art, science, philosophy and the like are the secondary super-structure.

(To be continued).

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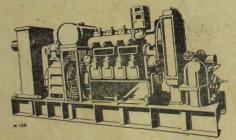




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