VOL. I. No. 15.

FRIDAY, 20th JUNE 1947

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Nominated



The Hon Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike
Vice - President, U. N. P. and Chairman Finance Committee.
(Attanagalla Seat)



Mr. E. W. Mathew (Proctor S. C.) (Balangoda Seat) with Mr. Francis Molamure

WE shall publish, from time to time, photographs of Party candidates. We have written to all candidates asking for black and white photographs. Those who have not sent them yet are kindly requested to do so without further delay. As space is not available to publish more than a few at a time, we shall print the pictures as and when they are received.

EDITOR.

HOT WORDS IN SAMA SAMAJ CAMP DR. N. M. PERERA Called A "FASCIST" print. It was stated that the lea were printed by various sections of

This was followed next day by a series of leaflets printed in red ink designed to break up the strike. The "Fascist" charge was made in cold

STRIKE propaganda by the Sama Samajists and tactics during the strike were the subject of heated discussions at a meeting of the High Command of the Sama Samajists. One of the members brought to the notice of the Committee that it was being said generally by strikers as well as by some of the Party members that Dr. N. M. Perera had adopted "Fascist methods" in handling the strike situation. The member also wanted to discuss the procedure adopted by Dr. Perera during the clerical servants' strike.

Dr. Perera overruled this request and said that notice had not been given. The same member then wanted an explanation of Dr. Perera's "association" with Million Picter Keuneman of the Communist Party. It was pointed out that the Communist Party had rejected the advances made by the Sama Samajist Party several months ago for the formation of a "Left Wing Party."

Dr. Perera is reported to have flown into a rage at this stage and accused the member of trying to obstruct. The other members intervened at this stage $i_{\rm n}$ an effort to restore calm, but Dr. Perera turned on some of them in a fury.

This resulted in sound and fury all round.

"You are a Fascist!" shouted one of them.

The meeting became disorderly at this stage and cries of "order," "shut up" and "sit down" resounded through the Headquarters building.

A few minutes later three of the members walked out. And that was the end of the discussions for that day.



Mr. Jayaweera Kuruppu M.S.C. (Nivitigala Seat)

print. It was stated that the leaflets were printed by various sections of the workers themselves, but there was a strange absence of a printer's imprint. The leaflets accused Dr. Perera of having brought nothing but starvation and misery to thousands of workers.

The chief domplaint was that the workers had been 'hoodwinked' into striking for demands they had not approved. The inclusion of demands for the 'removal of the Governor' and the 'dismissal of the Board of Ministers' were ridiculed by these leaflets.

The latest information is that the rank and file members are being actively canvassed for support by two groups: (1) the pro-N. M. Perera set and the anti-Fascist, anti-N. M. Perera set within the Sama Samajist Party.



SAMA SAMAJISTS LAUNCH ATTACK ON

Buddhism Is In DANGER

cepted the Buddha Dhamma, we the people of Lanka have followed and safeguarded it with the greatest care and at the cost of thousands of lives. Throughout the 24 centuries of its existence in Lanka, foes from the East and West have sought to destroy the Dhamma and the hold it has over the Sinhalese—without success. The Tamil kings tried their utmost to destroy the Dhamma and failed. The Portuguese converted thousands to their faith by force. I The English did so by subtler methods. The Dhamma still survived and with it the Sinhalese.

Today, however, a more sinister and dangerous movement than the movements in the past assail it. It is the Marxist movement, supported in this country by the Samasamajists, both of the Colvin and N.M. variety and the Communists. They do not directly attack religion. They ignore it. They seek to gain political power by promising food, clothing, houses and jobs for all. They are so unscrupulous in their methods that their campaign of lies and libels is gaining some measure of success.

What if they succeed and secure poli-

of success.

What if they succeed and secure political power in this country, We know very well that it is the ruling power that dictates the religion of the people. The Roman Empire did not become Christian in spite of the efforts and sacrifice of the early Christian martyrs until the Emperor Constantine became a Christian. Buddhism did not spread in India and the world until Asoka the

J. R. Jayawardene

Great became a convert and used his vast influence to convert his subjects and neighbours. The Sinhalese themselves did not embrace Buddhism, though the Buddha himself visited Lanka three times, until King Devanampiyatissa became a Buddhist.

Then again when political power was in the hands of the Christian British and the Catholic Portuguese, Buddhism began to fade away.

If, therefore, the Marxists come into power, with their opposition to Buddhism, then the end of the Dhamma in Lanka will begin and with it will fall all other religions.

WHY MARXISM IS OPPOSED TO

(1) Marxism is a materialistic philosophy. It preaches that matter is supreme and mind is only a product of matter. Buddhism is not materialistic and denies the supremacy of matter.

(2) Being materalistic, Marxism says there is no re-birth. Buddhism emphasises re-birth, birth and death being parts of a process going on in Sansara until the attainment of Nibbana.

Communist and Labour Parties

"THE Sama Samajist," the journal of the Sama Sama-jist Party, has launched an attack on the Communist Party and the Ceylon LabourParty.

"The Trade Union movement fathered by the Ceylon Communist Party, was infected congenitally bythe reactionary political theory

(3) Marxism denies the operation of Karma and says that man is condi-tioned only by his economic environ-ment and has no individual conscious-

Marxism denies the moral code. The clue to the Buddha's teaching is the ethical way he preached.

(5) Marxism does not hesitate to adopt any means to gain its ends, even using murder, robbery, lies or libels. The Buddha's way is a moral way and based on the doctrine of Maitriya (love) and alobha (non-greed).

A Buddhist therefore cannot be a Marxist, and vice versa.

A Budhist can, however, be a socialist and seek to achieve a socialist state, where poverty and exploitation of man by man are removed. A socialist also need not necessarily be a Marxist. Socialism was born before Karl Marx and will outlive his teaching.

will outlive his teaching.

We see therefore that Marxists will destroy Buddhism. They have already surreptitiously tried to do so. Did they not try to prevent Buddhist pilgrims from seeing the Sanchi Relics and attending the Poson Perahera by organising a petrol strike? Did they not break up Buddhist meetings to be addressed by the English Buddhist Christmas Humphreys and at the Vidyalankara Pirivena? Did they not put their men into the yellow robe, and as imposters in the yellow robe do they not do propaganda for the Marxists?

Stalinism. During the period of wartime reaction the C.P. (Communist Party) was the bawdy agent between the toiling masses and the imperialist masters. To carry out its purpose effectively it put forward a retrograde policy of compromise, collaboration and capi-It wormed its way into the confidence of the indigenous bourgeoise and under its patronage commenced to build a reactionary trade union move-

"But the working-class of this country was not prepared to be led sheep-like by the Stalinist renegates." The deepening social crisis deepened the problems of the working class; the high cost of living and the low rates of wages was driving the workers into desperate straits and away from the sordid clutches of the

"The C.P. camouflage of wearing pale pink rouge and adventuring as militant trade unionists was exposed and their crimes were nailed."

Referring to the Labour Party, the "Sama Samajist" states: "The twisted debris of the Ceylon Labour Party is a monumental warning against reformism; the leader of the historic tramway strike, now sprawling at the feet of the company managers, is a ludicrous symtrine of reformism begets.



CONTROL OF ABUSE

THOSE who live in Colombo or who visited Colombo recently would have noticed a new pheno-menon. Vulgar abuse of leading politicians through loud-speakers politicians through loud-speakers and by those going in processions. The usual cry is to call a man a rogue or murderer. These words, if used in normal conversation, would constitute a libel and penalise the user to serve a sentence in jail or pay heavy damages. When used by large numbers going in procession or through loud-speakers in a travelling car the users escape punishment. Some steps had to be taken to prevent this abuse of free speech without restraining decent and ordered free speech itself.

The State Council therefore decided that:

- (1) No processions could be taken out in towns without 6 hours' notice to the Police;
 (2) The Police can prohibit a procession if it fears a breach of the peace;
- (3) No loud-speakers or megaphones can be used in public places, processions or meetings without Police permission:
- permission;

 (4) If the above rule is violated the instrument can be confiscated;

 (5) Abusive words used in processions or meetings constitute an offence.

PRESS REPORT IN " CEYLON OBSERVER "

So, this is the kind of thing that the Sama Samajist comrades do! This is how Rahula and other political Bikkhus bring "monks" to public meetings! There are two items omitted from this Press report:

- name of this man is Muthaliph.

 He is a re-convicted criminal who had recently returned from gaol.

had recently returned from gaol.

There are "rupee" monks like this being bred by the Sama Samajists. They are paid a rupee a day for spending a few hours in the evenings in the guise of Buddhist monks, or leading processions where they shout slogans inciting people to commit acts of violence. This is the method by which the Sama Samajists intend to destroy religion from within. They know that once the Sangha is brought low enough to be held up to contempt and ridicule the people will cease to respect of worship Blikkhus. The Bikkhus are the custodians of the Dhamma, and once they are destroyed. Then it will be a simple matter to offer the paste substitute of Marxism!

Sama Samajists may imagine they are

Sama Samajists may imagine they are clever. We know they are sinister, but they are storing up sufficient public antagonism which will destroy them and their noxious creed, root and branch.

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AN Indian artist who paid an unofficial visit to Ceylon recently, told me that he has found lively imagination manifest in the art of our children. Though some are still taught object drawing, a good many are being allowed to draw freely from imagination. Yokels, village fairs and street scenes are popular subjects.

street scenes are popular subjects.

He wants to know why we don't have exhibitions of children't art of the latter kind in Ceylon, as they have it in Austria, Czechoslovakia, England and India. He is not impressed by the school's exhibitions organised by the Ceylon Society of Arts.

An exhibition of Indian children's art at India House, London, showed the unaided work of artists between the ages of seven and thirteen. Some of the subjects chosen were.* "Rocks and Trees," "Sunset Glow," "Milking Time" and "Peacock Dancing in Moon-Trees," 'Sunset Glow," 'Milking Time' and "Peacock Dancing in Moon-

Time" and "Peacock Dancing in Moon-light."

Janet Dumbar, an English art critic, thought the children's work showed a high degree of imagination within the discipline of the subject matter each had chosen.

"One thing is clear," she affirms, "children can express themselves naturally in form and colour if they are given the opportunity, and are encouraged to develop their facilities in this way."



MR. CHURCHILL

Churchill and India

★ IT was heartening to see die-hard Churchill acquiescing with the Mountbatten plan for India, though it might have been a big effort for the man who refused to preside over the dissolution of the Empire during the war, to stomach that.

When the Ramsay MacDonald Government introduced repressive measures in India ("a disgrace to humanity"), Churchili congratulated him on "the re-establishment of law and order in

India."

Then Churchill recalled with glee the words he had spoken in 1930:

"Sooner or later you will have to crush Gandhi and the Indian Congress and all they stand for."

But Churchill is no more in power: Gandhi and the Indian Congress are: It was Churchill again who hated the sight of "this naked fakir on the steps of Buckingham Palace" when Gandhi visited England.

Will Gandhi bear the sight of this bull-dog imperialist on the floor of Wardha Ashram now? Gandhi is of a different sort.



Just Red

★ WITH everything that is going wrong being red, nowadays, this colour has so many malignant associations: Communists, Sama Samajists, blood, danger, etc. But I learn from J. G. Crowther in his "Outline of the Universe" a different story. He reveals with what veneration the colour red was held by men of the earlier civilisation.

Animals and men died when they lost blood. Blood therefore was life: "a brilliant observation so far as it

went." Transfusions of blood became one of the methods of trying to revive the dead, and blood-offerings were sup-posed to vivify other persons, tribes; and later, kings......

and later, kings......

Perceiving that blood was red, the primitive speculators advanced to further abstraction and deduced that life depended on redness. The mere painting of the body with red materials was sufficient to ensure it more life.

Red ochre becomes important as a body-stain, and large quantities of it are often found in primitive burial-places of surviving primitive peoples such as the Tasmanians and Bushmen in recent times. recent times



Rock Shrine

THE ingenuity of the ardent devotee is admirable. Round any woodland sapling or any way-side rock, he will make a shrine. At the foot of the rock that holds the Railway offices at the junction of Railway Road-Maradana Road, there was till recently a small recess carved into the rock.

A miniature statue of the Buddha was safely reposed within. The outer fringes of the recess had been whitewashed, with a replica of a dagoba on top. A columnist in the local Press commented on this improvised shrine. The authorities promptly cemented the recess.

But not to be beaten, the ardent devotee has opened a similar recess shrine in the wall on the opposite side of the roads. But that wall does not seem to be anybody's. So the shrine may have a longer life, provided of course the wall stands up to the weather. It has already worn off a lot.



SO the Great Conspiracy has failed.

The "Reds" have been beaten to a frazzle, and everything is over bar the shouting. The "Reds" were in their element when the embers were plying out. Despite their appeals the disillusioned clerks were fast returning to sanity and their jobs. It was in this last-ditch struggle for confusion and more confusion that the "Reds" betrayed their frenzied nervousness. One of their handbills read:

"The R.A.S.C. has mutinied! The

"The R.A.S.C. has mutinied! The C.G.R. workmen are on strike. The Government workers are staying out. The tea and rubber workers' strike goes on. The Harbour workers are more resolutely in action. The white-collar workers by a majority decision decided not to call off the strike today. Do not go back to work! Meet in your thousands at De Mel Park at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning."

Park at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning."

It was dated 9.6.47. But on 9.6.47 hundred per cent "white-collar" workers were back in their seats. The railway was running smoothly and the harbour was not paralysed. An ordinary army camp incident (those who know the military know toughness is quite the thing) was magnified into a mutiny!

And those who attended the De Mel Park meeting the next day were only stragglers who were still on the fence. Even they returned after the meeting.

Even they returned after the meeting. But they still say the struggle is on.



Next Poet Laureate

A FRIEND, writing from England, tells me that there is a move in the British literary world to instal Miss Edith Sitwell as the next Poet Laureate in succession to John Masefield. Bloomsbury folk, I hear, are all for Miss Sitwell.

hear, are all for Miss Sitwell.

A Brighton magazine has commented: "Mr. John Masefield, who has held the honour of the 'Chief Singer of Britain' since 1930 may be the last Poet Laureate for the next few generations."

The Hulton magazine, "Leader," advocates Miss Sitwell's claims for the honour: "It is time we had a woman poet—Miss Edith Sitwell, whose work, if capricious, was always enchanting, but who recently has found a deeper note revealing a marvellous mellow beauty... She seems to approach more nearly to greatness than any of her contemporaries."

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Friday, 20th June, 1947

LUST FOR POWER

We have never before seen in this country such a sense; less manoeuvring for power as the tactics adopted by the Sama Samajists. They sorted to deceptions, in-trigues, lies, thuggery and all the minor and attendant concomitants as go to make their brand of revolutionary politics. They proceed on the lines set out for them in the Doctrine of Leninism. Their paper of 15th June quotes authority from Lenin for the tactics adopted by the Party in recent times: "It is necessary if need be," states Lenin, according to the quotation, "to resort to all sorts devices, manoeuvres and illegal methods, to evasion and subterfuge, in order to penetrate into the trade unions, to remain in them and carry on Communist work in them at all costs."

It is apparent that the Sama Samajist Party, whose intellec-tual powers are limited to the quotation of Leninist texts, has followed the prescription contained in the excerpt published above. We have seen their pro-gramme of "illegal methods" in their attempt to rush a police barricade and use innocent Government clerks as "cover" for their own destructive purposes; in their planning of a wave of mass terror by the throwing of home-made grenades; in their organisation of thugs to intimidate groups of workers into striking in the first instance, and later to prevent them from returning to work.

Their technique of manoeuvres has been equally sinister. They smashed the trade union strength of the Ceylon Trade Union Federation which had organised the workers throughout the years in which the Sama Samajists were amusing themselves kowtowing to Indians in Madras and Bombay. They duped the clerical servants into coming out on strike and led them up

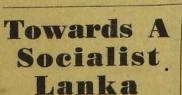
the garden path.
They spread false stories among the strikers. They called out the Rowlands Garage workers, for instance, promising to obtain salary increases, and in the actual list of demands submitted they included such ridiculous and anti-social demands like the rejection of the Soulbury Constitution. The workers themselves remained ignorant of these demands made over their

Their "penetration • into Unions," therefore, is not for the purpose of protecting the interests of the workers . concerned or for the purpose of winning privileges for them. The only purpose is to make the Special to the "U. N. P. Journal"

(By Our Special Correspondent in Calcutta)

Now that the first flush, or shock (call it what you may), of the British plan hand over power to a Divided India is over, it is fitting that the morning-after-the-nightbefore reactions consequent on the pronouncement of Lord Mountbatten, the last of the Viceroys, be assessed and

The outstanding reaction of everyone, with the one possible exception of the Pakistan fanatics, is extreme regret that the unity of India could not be pre-served. This feeling is shared by



THE United National Party programme published in this paper two months ago and issued even before that as the 'Manifesto' of the Party, envisages the creation of a Socialist Ceylon.

The leaders of the Party, as well as many of its members, have not paid mere lip service to this idea they have pursued and implemented Socialist policies.

Socialist policies.

On the question of the national ownership of Land, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike declared at a U.N.P. meeting in Galle recently that "two-thirds of the land in Ceylon is already owned by the State."

One of the first things that the Ceylon State Council did was to introduce legislation to control the alienation of Crown Land. The settled policy of the Government today is that such land shall not be made available to any capitalist organisations whatsoever. This policy is not a new one. It has been laid down by the Land Settlement Ordinance (1939) and the Land Development Ordinance (1935) which the State Council passed.

What happened to land before the

What happened to land before the

What happened to land before the State Council came into existence?

Between 1835 and 1638 the average annual sale of land was 6,412 acres.

In 1841 the sales reached the figure of 78,685 acres.

What was the use or the result of the two Ordinances quoted above?

Nearly 12,000,000 acres of land were saved from being sold to capitalists for the purpose of opening up estates. They enabled the Government to give 86,955 acres to peasant and middle class people.

people.

Does the United National Party propose to hasten this process?

Definitely, yes. Mr. D. S. Senanayake, in his article entitled "Our Land Policy" published in this paper on March 12, this year, stated: "Firstly we hold it as a fundamental tenet that all available Crown Land in this country—that is, land not vested in any private person—must be regarded as belonging to the people of Lanka, for whose benefit alone the Government must reserve or alienate it."

unions part of their programme gramme of revolutionary action. Thus were the clerical servants used and betrayed. Thus will the workers be used and betrayed and made tools of for these power hungry Sama Samajists to achieve the objectives towards which their lust for power drives them.



PANDIT NEHRU

English people in India too and when the Viceroy, in a radio broadwhen the viceroy, in a radio broad-cast, expressed pain that all the fforts made in the last 150 years to preserve the unity of India had proved abortive at the eleventh hour, he was voicing the sentiments not only of his country-men in India, but also of all the cul-tured, progressive and intellectual circles in this vast land.

Pandit Nehru went to the "mike" later and, in a voice chokd with emotion, besought his unseen audience not to be swept away completely by the virus of religious and communal fanaticism, and expressed the hope that it would not be long before the split which now appeared to be inevitable would vanish, that today's dissentients and protestants would realise the tragedy underlying a dissected India and would, in their own interests, work for renewed uni-fication of the country.

> 0 樂

THERE can be no doubt that the division of India, however necessary it may have appeared at the present time to the British Cabinet and their advisers and to Lord Mountbatten, their advisers and to Lord Mountbatten, is nevertheless a retrograde step. Profound impoverishment and weakness in this populous sub-continent will, it is to be feared, be its consequences, initially at least. Everywhere, except perhaps in India today, humanity is moving towards larger integration, more comprehensive unities. The division of India and the creation of Pakistan really affront world tendencies and are disintegrating factors, undoing one of the greatest achievements of the British in India—whatever their faults—the establishment of cohesion from diversity. lishment of cohesion from diversity

CONSIDERED in itself, the British plan is the result of coercion—not of Governments or statesmen, but of events. Whereas India, after obtaining her freedom, would have devoted all her efforts to translating the benefits of independence into terms of the dally lives of millions, the country is now to be bisected into un is now to be bisected into un natural, water-tight compartments, and will have to spend years licking its wounds and trying to collate its re-sources into some semblance of order.

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MALIBAN STREET

COLOMBO

HIGH PRIORITY TASKS

THE people of this country have looked to the Government for firmness in a crisis. But once the crisis is over we must get to grips with the problem so that we shall remove the causes which led to the feeling of discontent before the strike was called.

The Sama Samajists thrive on the

distress and hardships of the workers. The Marxists hold the theory that "houses should not be built for slum dwellers because they will not

then fight for the revolution."

That is why they attack all reformist unions. When they offer "houses" for all it is part of their technique of deception.

We must, however, adopt progressive policies. There are two urgent things that must receive High Priority in the programme of Government. And we must abandon the "laissez-faire" attitude. We must short-circuit the redtape that binds Government action in tape that binds Government action in knots. We must by-pass the convenient argument that the "New Parliament" can do everything that needs to be done. Are we to wait for the New Parliament to uproot the poisonous weeds that threaten to choke the very foundations of that Parliament?

foundations of that Parliament?

The first thing to be done is to provide, housing for workers. The Minister for Communications and Works has already made a start with 700 houses. That is only a beginning. These housing schemes were planned by the Government; why do we allow the Sama Samajist jackals to steal the fruit of its labours? The old story about high costs of material will have to be jettisoned. We must consider housing schemes on a level with public utility measures like the building of Hospitals and Central Schools.

There is no doubt that the need for

There is no doubt that the need for housing schemes in Colombo and the suburbs and in most other towns in the Island is very acute. Clerical servants and mercantile clerks undergo great

___ By _ Maha Amerasingha

hardships and inconveniences owing to this shortage. We must meet these needs.

needs.

The second item in our Priority Programme is to arrest the inflationery trend. Increase of wages and salaries alone will never make the lot of the worker any better than it is. We already have subsidised rice to a great extent and made it available to the people at a fixed price. We shall have to extend this method more widely to cover more and more items. Without misery in the land the Sama Samajists will have no power, no followers and no political band-wagon. The country will then be saved from ruin.

The Board of Ministers' proposals for

will then be saved from ruin.

The Board of Ministers' proposals for post-war development included ambitious and extensive plans for island-wide home building. The Minister for Local Administration, the Hon. Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, had a scheme for One Hundred Million Rupees which included Central Government subsidies for local bodies for the building of a vast number of brick and tile houses to replace the wattle and daub huts which go for houses in the villages of the Island.

I urge the paramount importance of

nouses in the villages of the Island.

I urge the paramount importance of taking up these schemes now. I would suggest that the subject of housing should be treated in the same manner as any other "emergency measure" that the Government might implement at various times. From the point of view of the Government in power an "emergency" might be interpreted to mean an occasion when the normal machinery of the State is paralysed by strikes. But it is conceivable that from the people's point of view the nightmare conditions of living today forced upon them by the total absence of living space is a national emergency of far greater moment than an occasional disturbance which might at the most last a fortnight or a month.

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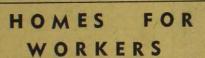
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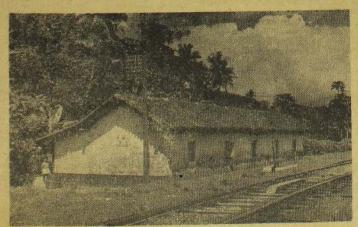
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MORE vital issues than what misanthrope once described as the capers of "flanelled fools and mudied oafs," have contrived to put into the background all sports activities in the island, with the exception of some rugger matches in the outstations.

England, however, has come to our rescue again with a bill of fare, which includes the first Test, the final curtain on League Soccer and the Royal Ascot Meeting.

Leading off with the Test, confess that, last Tuesday night, I was planning out an epitaph on English cricket. The last nail in England's cricket coffin seemed about to be driven in by the South Africans and I had come to the stage when my only hope was that the obsequies would not be leng drawn out. But cricket is ever a game as unpredictable as the weather in which it was first nurtured.

And so, just when the most that England's supporters hoped for was that the ignominy of an innings defeat would be averted, England, or rather COMPTON and his captain YARDLEY, decided to call it a day and proceeded, by way of a record partnership,, not only to save an outright defeat but actually to rattle up a total, in their follow-on, which was higher than that of South Africa's record score in the first innings.



COMPTON

If ever a batsman deserved his cen-tury, it was Norman Yardley, on whom the cares of captaincy do not lie so heavily as they did on HAMMOND.

heavily as they did on HAMMOND.

If this defiant stand gave artificial respiration to England's team, the adrenalin needed to save it from a relapse came in the person of wicket-keeper EVANS, who took command, as he had done before in Test cricket in Australia, and showed that the mantle of LESLIE AMES has fallen on worthy shoulders. Indeed young Evans is the only bright spot in the forebodingly gloomy horizon of English cricket.

South Africa, on the other hand, can

gloomy horizon of English cricket.

South Africa, on the other hand, can look back on the match with a great deal of satisfaction. If their captain, MELVILLE, had Cambridge and Sussex to thank for the flowering of his genius, it is a son of South African soil and, what is more a distinguished son of an even more distinguished father, in DUDLEY NOURSE, son of Dave Nourse, who helped Melville to that record third wicket partnership, which proved England's undoing. And then in LINDSAY TUCKETT, the Union has a fast bowler of more than ordinary distinction. Had PLIMSOLL been also in the team, I shudder to think what might have been England's fate.



MELVILLE

Post-mortems are always a messy affair at the best of times and I hate to indulge in them, but I cannot refrain from remarking that DOUGLAS WRIGHT would have been much more useful to England than as "Drink carrier," to which his position as 12th man made him heir. Truly, the wisdom of the selectors is inscrutable! The only conclusion that I would draw from the match is that England is plumbing the depths so far as bowling talent is concerned and the selectors must cast their net far and wide to catch some one of the younger brigade—I emphasise the word younger—if she is to cease to become the whipping boy of the cricket world.

world.

In keeping with the run of outsiders in the principal races in England so far, Royal Ascot turned up a 25—1 winner in the Royal Hunt Cup last Wednesday. As in the Lincolnshire, earlier this year, it was an apprentice jockey who rode MASTER VOTE to victory. Billy Nevett on WHITEHALL nearly made a match of it, but the five pounds allowance claimed by apprentice SIDEBOTTOM gave Master Vote two lengths to spare at the all-important end.

France was expected to make a brave show in the race, but the top weight PATCHOULY and the bottom weight OURAGAN were never in the hunt.

The Gold Cup is still to be run although when these notes appear the result will be past history. France's challenge in this race will be hard to deny, represented as she is by CHANTEUR II and SOUVERAN, who have already made the best English stayers look small fry indeed.

AS for English Soccer, the honour of the First Division championship which I claimed for Liverpool two weeks back, has not been denied them, though I must admit it was a near thing. When Stoke City went across to Sheffield they had every chance of robbing Liverpool of the title. Sheffield were without three of their stars while Stoke were at the crest of their form, but they came a cropper and Liverpool took the prize.

As for the three inter-district Rugger matches last week, they were all outstation affairs and, consequently, I saw nothing of the exchanges.

changes.

Kandy's sweeping victory over Dimbulla confirms the good impression they had already created, while the C.H. and F.C.'s equally convincing win over K.V at Taldua emphasises the wealth of rugger talent, on which the Racecourse club has a call these days.

The merrie men of Uva played hsts to Dickoya, but could not quite cope with the visitors, whose "three" gaves a grand account of themselves.

THE SHAVIAN CAESAR WAS NOT THE GHOST OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAY

TODAY I am going to write about a book that was published in 1901, which no doubt makes me sound quite oldfashioned, 45 years behind the times, a kind of decrepit Methuselah among the critical fraternity.

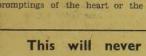
Methuselah among the critical fraternity.

This book which is called "Three Plays" for Puritans", contains the "Devil's Disciple," "Caesar and Cleopatra," and "Captain Brassbound's Conversion" complete with prefaces and notes. It would be a mistake not to read the prefaces with the closest attention even though Shaw is inclined to waltz away recklessly on his favourite topics—the inferiority of Shakespeare as an intellectual dramatist, the imbecillity of London managers, the craving for cheap romantic thrills on the part of the London playgoers, the virtues of vegetarianism, and the perfect propriety of the dramatist stealing scene, incident and atmosphere from a Cunningham Grahame book of travels for his play, "Captain Brassbound." To ignore the prefaces is to miss Shaw's most serious intentions as a dramatist. For instance the "Devil's Disciple" is apparently and as Shaw himself states quite unblushingly a hackneyed melodrama of the American Civil War. It is full of dramatic cliches—the reading of a will, an orphan, a court martial, a heroic sacrifice and a dramatic rescue. But all this does not obscure the fact that every lineident is so manipulated, and every line shot through with Shaw's theory which was Blake's and Bunyan's, that Dick Dudgeon, an appalling scoundrel, so completely a devotee of Satanism can still be capable of an heroic matyrdom, for the sake of a man whom he despised and the man's wife to whose charms he was indifferent.

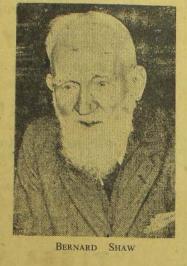
Which brings me to my point. In reading or re-reading this volume of

he was indifferent.

Which brings me to my point. In reading or re-reading this volume of plays one is struck by three things. One, the repetition of similar themes and the re-currence of certain types of characters in Shaw's important work; second, his extraordinary preoccupation with intellectual greatness, as he represents it in Caesar. "Having virtue he has no need of goodness. He is neither forgiving, frank nor generous because a man who is too great to resent has nothing to forgive. This is perhaps the only sense in which a man can be called naturally great." says Shaw. His preoccupation with goodness which has nothing to do either with the warm promptings of the heart or the calcu-



happen



lated demands of the intellect but an instinct stronger than both. When Dick Dudgeon is asked why he wanted to save the man he says—"I had no motive, and no interest; I have been brought up standing by my own nature." And finally with Shaw's superb sense of the theatre; a sense he abundantly possesses. Let us take these points one by one.

antly possesses. Let us take these points one by one.

IT is easy enough to see that in "Caesar and Cleopatra" Shaw is about to detonate another of those bombs with which he blew up the romantic notions of love and War in "Arms and The Man" in 1894. In it too he had stripped war of its glamour and romance of its illusions in the most irrepressibly amusing terms. Glory on the battlefield was the result of a military mistake, and the dashing hero was mocked at as a cheap seducer. The hopelessly prosaic Blunschli who wins the girl reappears as the hopelessly prosaic Caesar, fighting a rear guard action against his middle age and bald head. Moreover in "Caesar and Cleopatra" we find the same theme that was later to captivate him in "Pygmalion." If Professor Higgins taught a cockney guttersnipe to improve her gutturals and pass off as a Duchess, Caesar teaches a silly little girl how to improve her mind and rule Egypt as a Queen. Lady Cecily in Captain Brassbound not only anticipates St. Joan but refers back to Candia who quite apart from solving the eternal triangle between infatuated poet lover, adoring husband and herself by a process of algebra, remains Shaw's most uncompromising study in greatness as

Caesar is primarily Shaw's most uncompromising study in greatness as he himself understands greatness. "Whoever then expects to find Caesar a hog in these pages had better lay



Strike at "Booruwa" Club

down my book and be spared a disappointment" warns the preface. Whoever read these lines before a visit to the film version would have been spared a great deal of baffled outrage. Why?, asked filmgoers, had Shaw exploded this beautiful legend of Caesar's love for Cleopatra? Where was the story of tumultuous passion set against a backdrop of a depraved barbaric Egypt? And they went on to criticize a play Shaw had refused to write. Shakespeare's Caesar is a ghost and an epileptic to boot and that would never do—And so you have the Shavian Caesar, his notion of real nobility of mind and character. It is of course a one sided portrait.

Caesar is a vivid copperplate, a profile on a newly minted coin. There were aspects of Caesar Shaw completely understood and he confined himself to them. his clemency, his humour, his capacity for hard work, his quick shrewd wisdom, the austerity of his habits, and above all his iron will. Indeed Caesar would have qualified admirably as a member of the Fabian Society. Quite apart from Shaw's ideas as to what greatness really consists in, his remarkable achievement in the play is to have portrayed a Caesar who is greater off the battlefied than on it. It is undeniably an amazing candid camera study a deliciously amusing reportage of Caesar's minor Skirmishes with petty things and petty people, with taxes, intrigues, superstitions, quislings and fools, and in and out he waks right through the play wise, noble amused, urbane and infinitely forgiving.

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