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U. N. P. MAY HAVE OFFICE IN FORT Need for Regular Conferences

By A Special Correspondent

IT is understood that certain active U.N.P. workers are looking for suitable office accommodation in the Fort to enable Party men to meet each other more frequently than they can at the moment so that frequent interchange of views and discussions of day to day events will help to crystallise Party policy on various matters. This suggestion was made at a meeting of about 10 M.P.s and Senators last Friday after Parliament adjourned. A further stage was reached in the discussions and I understand on good authority that the following points emerged:—

(1) It was felt that a statement on Party policy which was at once comprehensive and detailed was a prime necessity. It was also stated that individual M.P.s and Senators might send their suggestions in the shape of memoranda to the Leader of the Party so that they may be available for discussion by a Committee or Committees that might possibly be set up to produce a draft for discussion by the Party executive.

(2) A suggestion was made that once the Party had a definite policy

non Party men on the Government benches could be asked to make up their minds whether they were prepared to subscribe to it or not. Back Bench M.P.s were of the opinion that it was unsatisfactory to continue in the present way when it was not quite clear what the non-Government Party supporters desired should be the policy of Government.

(3) A long discussion took place with regard to finances of the Party and it was suggested that the statement of the Chairman, Finance Committee, the Hon. Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, that a million rupee fund was necessary should be supported by all who were interested in the U.N.P.

It was the general opinion that a million rupees was not difficult to collect if a campaign for funds was launched immediately. Several M.P.s said that the Party should have the resources with which to finance the candidates who could not spend for themselves. It was necessary to discover young talent and build them up for future elections. This could not be done without adequate financial resources.

(4) One of the Party leaders who was present said that he considered it important to have a full time Secretary of the Party who could be expected to devote all his time to Party work so that electoral areas could have their own branch offices regardless of whether they were re-

presented by U.N.P. candidates or not. This meant nearly 100 branch offices directed from the centre and responsible to the centre and the organisation of such offices and their supervision could not adequately be handled except by a full time officer with long experience in politics and with the necessary drive and energy. It might be necessary, it was stated to pay such a man a salary of about Rs. 1,000 per month.

There was popular support for this suggestion and it was felt that there was little time to lose before getting down to the details of these proposals.



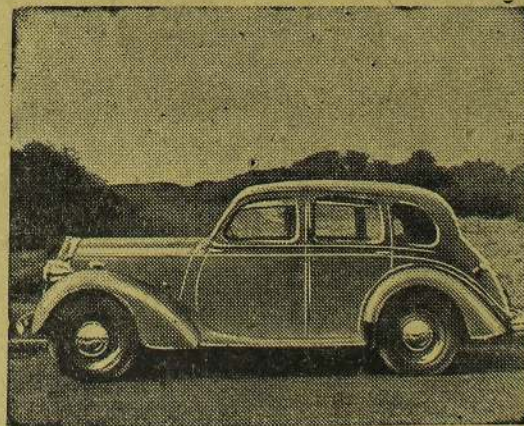
Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike



•Mr. M. D. Banda

JUNIOR MINISTER

THE appointment of Mr. M.D. Banda, M.P. for Maturata, to the post of Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Labour & Social Services is most welcome. Mr. Banda has that same "sense" for the "people" as his more celebrated namesake, Mr. Bandaranaike. He has also a becoming and winning modesty and graciousness. He commands respect by his sincerity and patience and by the thoroughness with which he studies a problem before he speaks of it. He is on the road to higher responsibility. Young politicians like Mr. Banda deserve the support and encouragement of all.



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MODERN PUBLICITY-2

By Ananda Tissa

IN last wee's article I dealt with the necessity for organised publicity and with the danger of allowing it to be maltreated by those who are not particularly fitted for that kind of work. I also pointed out the reason for the hostility that grew up in the early stages of the last war to the British Ministry of Information. There is another fear, however, that must be explained before we discuss the media of publicity and the methods of using them. That is the fear that a Department of Information or an Information Officer will not always observe the line of demarcation between information and propaganda.

It is necessary to keep the public informed of the policy of Government with regard to a particular matter, giving the official reasons that lie behind that policy. It is quite a different thing to campaign for a particular point of view and to make an attempt to persuade the public that all other points of view are wrong. A rough and ready illustration of this difference might be attempted. Let us assume the case of the Department of Civil Aviation which is under the direction of the Minister for Transport

and Works. It would be perfectly legitimate for an Information Officer to begin a campaign intended to give the following information:—

(1) What has this Department achieved with regard to the development of Civil Aviation in Ceylon?

(2) How far successful has been the airline organised by it?

(3) In relation to the amount of money spent what success can be reported.

(4) Can the expenditure be justified by the results achieved or to be achieved?

These items of information could be made available to the public who have a right to know the answers to any questions on the subject that anyone might wish to raise. On the other hand the Information Officer can begin a campaign of a character intended to gloss over any shortcomings of such a Department and of such an airline

In the first instance the Information Officer would be performing a legitimate duty and the cost of his campaign would be a legitimate charge on the exchequer. In the second instance he would have strayed from the path into the battle ground of political propaganda calculated to justify a policy without supporting such justification with facts and figures.

In this connection, Francis Williams has written an authoritative book on Public Relations after long experience in journalism as editor of the "Daily Herald", the official organ of the Labour Party, and as the first Public Relations Officer to the Prime Minister, a post which was created by the Attlee Government as soon as it was returned to power.

Williams says that from his personal knowledge he could testify to the fact that "without exception the Public Relations Officers who functioned with success during the war concerned themselves only with the honest and objective information about the Department's activities. Most of them were wartime Civil Servants drawn from journalism, publishing and advertising."

"It is true" he continues "that it was not always easy to discriminate between explanation and persuasion. . . . A system which finds its justification in the need to explain agreed departmental policy ceases to be justifiable in their view if it is used to canvass support for policies which are still a matter of public controversy."

"It is by no means follows that a Director of Information should be regarded as a subservient official whose duty it is to publicise Departmental decisions, good or bad, without question. On the contrary if information services are to be properly run and if the risks which critics foresee are to be avoided, the Directors of these Information Divisions should be of sufficient status and authority to have some voice in the making of a Departmental policy. They should certainly be in a position to point out that there are many instances where difficulties are due to bad administration and cannot be overcome by publicity."

In other words an Information Officer either of the Government as a whole or of a particular Ministry is

not to be confused with an apologist or an advertising agent whose job it is either to explain away the shortcomings of the administration or to produce pretty frills in the form of booklets and folders. Long before what is to be published arrives at the stage when it could be printed, the Information Officer has to know all sides of the particular campaign. If he is the right kind of man and not a retired surgeon or somebody as removed from the science of publicity, he would be in a position to assess public reactions to the proposed policy.

This idea of public reaction can be explained in simple terms. How does one become qualified to understand and assess the public mind? Why is it that journalism and the advertising profession produce the best publicity men? Because in the news-paper business you do not survive unless you know what the public wants and what particular view the average reader is likely to have on a matter of public importance. It is an indefinable 6th sense that becomes attuned to mass responses. It is that which is described in the profession as "news sense." It is impossible to tell a Civil Servant or a Doctor or a Lawyer what "News Sense" is. It makes all the difference between a hack writer and a top journalist. It makes all the difference between a man who gets to the top and the man who sticks where he began, between the lad who gets a by-line and the lad who continues to cover funerals and weddings and never gets beyond that stage. To teach someone who has not been trained in a newspaper office or in the advertising business what this "news sense" is would be as tough a proposition as it would be for someone to teach me surgery in a week!

(To be Continued)

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Books & Authors

By Quintus Delilkhan

MARXISM IN RUSSIA

THERE was always in Russia a number of intellectuals who were in favour of gigantic experiments with a view to changing the whole current of Russian history. The opinions were Babel, and no centre of opinion was strong enough to impose unity upon the whole and, giving it a degree of coherence, lead the Russian masses on the right lines of immense constructive action. Russia unfortunately had no formed tradition of an intellectually developing consciousness, such as was possible in France by centuries of definite and purposive thinking along the lines of the humanistic tradition which is the cultural heritage of Europe and in which France was a creation and participator. The Russians showed spasmodic talent, genius breaking out occasionally and seeking its ideals according to its own needs, and owning no allegiance to anything but the isolated and inward light of its own mind. Hence the immense range of erratic though powerful thinking in its literature. Into this welter of opinion Marxism entered, and endeavoured to contest the ground against all idealist

philosophies. The followers of Marx in Russia, tired of and hostile to idealism, stressed as much as was possible in the circumstances, the determinist and evolutionary elements in the teaching of their new master. The very name of idealism was anathema to them. They wanted to concentrate on the immediate purpose of building the State and on purely material ends. They treated with the utmost scorn anything which had high and noble aims as utterly remote and utopian, and had no patience with the intellectuals who did not belong to their school of thinking. They claimed to have at last arrived at the one solution to their problems and the problems of the Russian peoples. They were confident of a total victory as they claimed that they had brought to the service of their country the scientific socialism which ensured the control by law of the masses, with plain and objective social processes as against the dreams and theories of the idealists. In this reaction, it was inevitable therefore

(Continued on page 5)

ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS

By **Cyril Attygalle**

(M.P. FOR RATNAPURA)

A SOCIALISED system of road transport that I suggest is the formation of corporations, when the State, the Public and the workers become shareholders. This system aims on the one hand, at the prevention of capitalists exploiting the employees and the travelling public, and on the other at making it well-nigh impossible for pseudo-trade unions to disturb the efficiency and economic equilibrium of the undertaking.

This system is suggested as a via media between complete nationalisation and private capitalist monopoly. Consensus of public opinion is against capitalist monopoly, therefore, it is the duty of the Government to introduce an alternative system.

The Marxist groups on the other hand are making every effort to muster support in favour of socialisation of all essential services. Although the idea of socialisation is advanced by the Leftists, it is still the duty of the Government to explore the possibilities and advisability of taking such a step.

Complete nationalisation can be successful only under a Socialist Government like the Soviet Union. But every right thinking politician will admit that the Soviet System of Government in a country like Ceylon can only result in utter disaster. In Ceylon even the poorest worker cannot easily shed the inborn spirit of independence, which is a national heritage.

Therefore, the socialisation of a country like ours on the Soviet lines must always remain a more hallucination of Leftist propaganda. On the other hand piecemeal nationalisation under our present system of government would be utterly foolish in industry and business.

Under State control business is wrapped up in bureaucracy and red tape, two things utterly out of place in successful business. Bureaucracy is at its worst when the bureaucrat is set up to exercise control without responsibility for the actual doing of the job he controls, for this divorce breeds a sense of frustration on the side of those who are controlled, and at the same time a purely negative attitude on the part of the controllers.

The problem, therefore, before us is to so organise the Transport Services as to secure the effective presence in them, at all levels, of the incentive and attitudes that make for efficient and profitable service.

My answer to this problem is the establishment of Public Corporations where the workers too are admitted as shareholders. This is my suggestion not only for the Transport Services but also for all State Agricultural and Industrial undertakings.

To take the immediate matter of Road Transport, the first step to be taken is the setting up of a Central Board of Transport. This Board should be appointed in consultation with any groups or interests particularly concerned, but definitely not solely on their advice. What is essential is that the members of the Board shall not be torn by conflicting loyalties as they are bound to be if they are expected to act as representatives of the public and of the groups from which they

come. Therefore, I would suggest a Board of ten or twelve members with the State having a larger percentage of representation than the interested groups.

The Central Board will then proceed to form Regional Corporations on an approved share basis, defining the region of operation of each Corporation.

The Board of Directors of each such Corporation shall be fully responsible for its management. Until such time as the Central Board of Transport shall establish a Regional Corporation in any given area, the present transport companies will function enjoying the monopoly of the routes given them. However, when once a Regional Transport Corporation has been planned in a specified region, all route monopolies in this particular region granted to the present companies shall be withdrawn without compensation, on three months notice. The stock in trade of Companies thus affected shall, as far as possible, form the nucleus of the proposed Corporation.

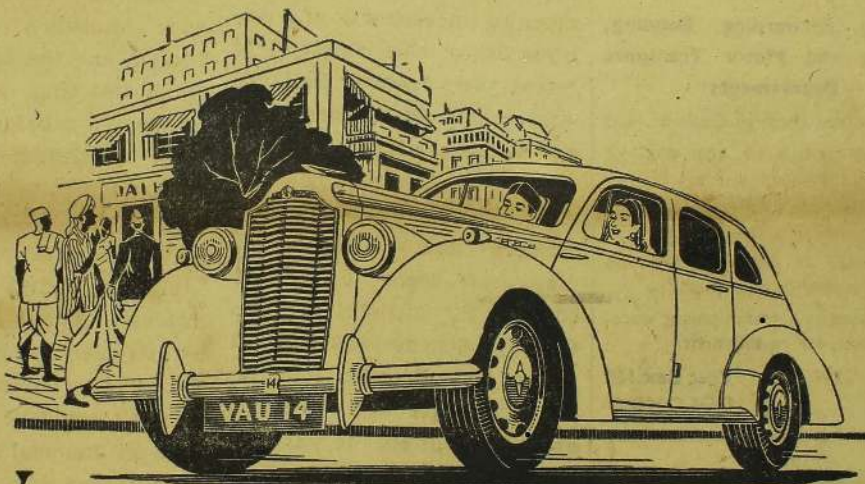


Mr. Cyril Attygalle

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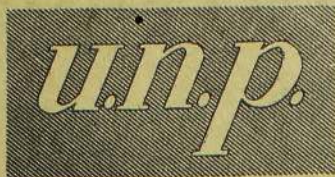
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Friday, May 28, 1948

GAL OYA SCHEME

THE Minister for Agriculture and Lands, Mr. DUDLEY SENANAYAKE got through Parliament last week one of the most important provisions made in recent months when he obtained money to begin the Gal Oya Scheme. The Eastern Province as its spokesman Mr. NALLIAH said, can look forward to a period of abundance and prosperity when the waters of Gal Oya will enrich its soil and bring the joy of life once again to its people. It is recorded that this Province was an important part of the prosperity of Ceylon in ancient times. Its people are a hardy race who have contributed much to the economic and cultural life of this country. In recent years however its lands were conquered by the jungle and means of access were difficult to find. The lack of water made it impossible for its farmers, however hardy they may have been, to produce enough for themselves. The Gal Oya Scheme was planned under the direction of the Prime Minister who saw in it great possibilities. It was fortunate that the advice of so celebrated an expert as Dr. SAVAGE was obtained before the final scheme was accepted. It says much for the imaginative character of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands that it has decided to strike boldly in this Province. All the blue prints are now ready and we can rely on the phenomenal capacity for work for which Mr. DUDLEY SENANAYAKE is reputed to see this scheme pushed through with the utmost despatch.

Irrigation work does not possess the glamour and showmanship which is normally associated with other industrial and development schemes. In Ceylon, however, they mean more than most other plans for developing the country. It would be useful if the newly established Department of Information would step in and help the Ministry of Agriculture to produce a

lakh of illustrated booklets explaining to the people what this scheme hopes to achieve and what it will mean to the nation.

STERLING BALANCES

THE Finance Minister's statement in Parliament on the position of Ceylon's sterling balances in London was masterly and illuminating. As was indicated in the first budget moved by Mr. JAYEWARDENE we have in him a most competent and thorough Minister whose grasp and study of the financial implications of budgetary proposals has won for him the respect of both sections of the House. Although there was a great deal of loose talk on the position of the sterling balances Mr. JAYEWARDENE'S statement proves that we have little cause to be disappointed about their ultimate fate. We are in a position to add that it was considerably due to the Finance Minister's presence in London and the fighting spirit he showed that we were able to have a satisfactory statement in Parliament. We understand that when the sterling balance talks began the British Treasury was not entirely unmindful of Britain's interest! Great Britain can be extremely generous in all things other than money and no talks could be more tough than on financial matters. Mr. JAYEWARDENE who was assisted by that master diplomat, Sir OLIVER GOONETILLEKE, was able to carry his point and we have today the assurance that sterling will be available for this year in sufficient value to enable us to pay for those urgent requirements that have been under discussion for some time by Government. We might suggest to the Government, however, that it would be helpful if an early declaration is made with regard to the policy to be followed in the future use of sterling. There is no doubt that everyone agrees that it is foolish to fritter away our resources on subsidising food. At the same time we must not forget the fact that under present circumstances the alternative would be to put up the prices of food, and that is a proposition that cannot be considered even for a moment by the Government and the

U.N.P. It has to be realised that food prices are not determined by us but by the countries of origin of the food supplies that we import. Australia, for instance, trebled her price for wheat and consequently our Food Minister was compelled to urge that the price of bread should be increased. Fortunately he also decided to give an increased rice ration, and the hardship that the Sama Samajists proclaimed had been inflicted on the people did not materially affect the population. This goes to show that we have to face the problem of subsidising our food supplies for some time yet. In the meantime, however, we are sure the Finance Minister will take into account the factor of time and that we have only a few months left between now and the next budget in which it is presumed he will give a clearer indication to the country of the financial position of the Island than it was possible for him to give in his budget last year. We are looking forward to hearing a thorough and finely analytical examination of national finance when he moves his next budget and we trust that it will be printed for distribution throughout the country in the national languages so that our people can be kept authoritatively and intimately informed of the position of the country's money. We can depend on Mr. JAYEWARDENE to give exactly that lucidity to the exposition that he has always been noted to give.

BOOKS RECEIVED

BOSAT (VESAK NUMBER)

"The Bosat" is a little quarterly magazine which deserves a world-wide circulation. It is the best produced journal in Ceylon and should find a place in every Buddhist home. The 1948 Vesak Number is beautifully got-up and maintains the high standard of exposition which we have come to expect of its contributors.

GUNASENA VESAK KALAPAYA

Messrs. M. D. Gunasena and Co's 1948 Vesak Number in Sinhalese is thoughtfully arranged and expensively produced. Much care has been lavished on the production. The Nandalal Bose painting in colour is worth several times the price paid for the journal itself. With each year Gunasenas are improving on their past work. The Buddhist public has cause to be grateful for such splendid service.

A. DE A.

THE WAY TO NATIONAL UNITY

By Nandalal

WHEN peoples rise in arms against an alien oppressor, when the heroes of a nation perish gloriously in rebellion and revolt against a foreign ruler, when relentless toil and sacrifice have gone before men are able to inherit the little earth which is their native land, a single purpose, a single ambition holds their diverse elements together. This inspiring heritage sways them even when their purpose achieved, they turn to the quieter tasks of nation-building. On the other hand, when a people have peacefully progressed to their inheritance of independence, when they have moved to their goal without disturbance and distraction their own trivial bickerings tend to keep them apart, one section from another. The latter is the distressing situation in Ceylon, where the exertions of a few, rather than the travail of the many have given the people their freedom. We are now lost in clash and controversy over the little advantages that one group may exact from another and all the while the mighty tasks of developing our country await our attention. When we most desperately need an overwhelming sense of a common united effort harnessed to the purpose of national regeneration, we are, for the most part, merely cynical critics.

Yet last week's sessions of the Parliament resoundingly proved that national unity and a single inspiring purpose are possible with our people. The experience which indicated this was the unanimous approval and acclama-

tion offered Mr. Dudley Senanayake's Gal Oya project.

From all quarters of the House, from the hostile Sama Samajists, the hypercritical Communists and from even the B.L.P.I. stalwarts—from all those groups who habitually see nothing good in any proposal that comes from the Government—there was a salutation to Mr. Senanayake's scheme.

The moral of the Parliament incident is this—if the people are offered a positive policy of action—if they are offered not promises wrapped in pompous phrases but tangible projects which will raise the standard of living among the people, then even carping critic and sneaking calumniator must give way. Mr. Dudley Senanayake has offered the answer to those who think that the present divisions and differences in the country can be settled only by a bloody revolution.

An opposition thrives on the circumstances that the Government lacks a clear-cut plan and policy for rehabilitating the nation. However intensely one may disagree with the methods of the revolutionaries one must be prepared to concede that these men can themselves be driven by an honest purpose to fashion our land according to their heart's desire. We feel that their means and methods can only be attended by disaster. But it is necessary to recognise that they too are as eager and impatient to improve the conditions of our people as we are who have committed ourselves to constitutional ways.

There is hence no need to believe that the peoples of this country must live always in warring factions.

If we can offer the people constructive projects—plans which can convince even the purblind of their merits we shall have achieved that singleness of purpose which is sorely needed if every man's hand is to be lifted to the tasks of rebuilding our country.

Mere moral exhortation is not enough; nor will picturesque phrases do which thrill as they are uttered. These linger in the memory of men, indeed, but they linger as bitter reminders of unfulfilled pledges and promises.

The opportunity for inspiring action is with us. What we want are more men with the drive and determination which Mr. Dudley Senanayake has shown. In action lies the way to national unity.

We have in the post-war proposals of the last Board of Ministers a comprehensive programme. The Cabinet should determine now how much of that programme can be immediately implemented. Let a selection of those proposals be offered the people for discussion. Let that scheme be our own



Mr. Dudley Senanayake
(He shows the way)

plan for a People's State. Let opinion be widely canvassed on the merits of that scheme; let us admit modifications to that scheme in the basis of informed, intelligent argument; let the people feel that these proposals through democratic debate, have become their own plan for plenty, on the basis of those schemes we can go forward in the task of developing our country.

MARXISM IN RUSSIA

(Continued from page 2)

that a new dream should enter Russia, and this was the greedy desire for material power by virtue of highly developed mechanical processes as a preliminary to possessing the means of a complete revolution. Having decided on this tangible line of policy, the Russian revolutionaries felt that they had a good foundation upon which to build definite hopes and expectations. At first the Marxists showed in rather mild colours. There was no talk of red terrorism to come into power. They appeared to be less inclined to violence than any of the older socialist bodies in Russia. The event alone proved that they could go to any extent of sheer terrorism in gaining their ends. Once they tasted of power, no scruple would keep them from obtaining it at any cost in human suffering, in trampling upon existing institutions, and establishing their regime by every weapon of offence or defence necessary to carry out their theories into practice. At the time, this deceptive mildness had a disarming effect upon the other socialist intellectual groups who had their own solutions which appeared to be more violent and dangerous than the new force which had entered a country of so many conflicting social theories.

The Russian police, anxious on all occasions to detect new tendencies and keep a watch on developments, were completely deceived as regards the nature and potentialities of this new force in the Russian socialist field, but actually this was a centre from which the most far-reaching effects on the outlook of the Russian intelligentsia was to arise. Various new tendencies soon began to manifest themselves. Marxism being a whole complex of unpredictable tendencies which run out to activity with comparative rapidity as compared with other forms of the

socialistic creed. Some antecedent facts must be realised in this connection to understand the nature of Marxism. Marx had himself been under the influence of Fichte in his early days, and the idealism he derived from this source could not be easily shaken off when he swung far out from its orbit, ostensibly leaving Fichte, and his other earlier master, Hegel, far behind. Marx took up the materialist philosophy of Feuerbach, but it must be remembered that Feuerbach himself could not entirely shake off the influence of Hegel. Marxism is therefore inevitably coloured to a great extent by the very idealism it has been at such pains to openly disown. But yet sociological determinism is the ruling idea of the Marxist system. "Economics", says Berdayev, summing up this side of Marxism, "determine all human life; upon it depends not only the whole structure of society but also all ideology, all spiritual culture, religion, philosophy, ethics, art. Economics is the basis, ideology the superstructure. There exists an inevitable general economic process by which everything is determined. The methods of production and exchange are necessary starting points upon which everything else depends. In an individual human being it is not he himself who thinks and acts but the social class to which he belongs; he thinks and acts only as a nobleman, as a merchant—petit bourgeois, or a member of the proletariat. A man cannot free himself from the economic position which makes him what he is; he only reflects it." This is a side of Marxism which has been most in vogue. Marx thought he detected this tendency in capitalism, and he studied it and finally built it into a theory which he put into circulation. His thinking was not large on this issue. Marx took the structure of the capitalistic society of

(Continued on page 7)

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ROYAL SILVER WEDDING.

By Sheila Clark

(LONDON CORRESPONDENT OF THE U.N.P. JOURNAL)

IN the crisp early morning of April 26th, from all corners of our island home there gathered thousand upon thousand of excited exhilarated people, before the great gates of Buckingham Palace. United in the dark days of trouble so were they united for this joyous occasion of the Silver Wedding of the King and Queen.

For hours they had waited patiently. From the courtyard the band of the Coldstream Guards had whipped the emotions into a pitch of high expectancy. Then at eleven o'clock the last strains of martial music were silenced as forty-one guns raised their voices in a booming Royal Salute. With one accord the crowd competed with their cheers. A trumpeter's fan-

fare wove sweet and clear from the Palace and the merry jingle of the mounted parade heralded the King and Queen. The show was on!

In to view then came the Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry. For many mornings past we had seen the soldiers practising in London's parks and thoroughfares, but drab in their austere khaki. Now on this eventful April morning we saw them in all their colourful finery. Uniform glowed in rich against the grey facade of Buckingham Palace. The Life Guard in blue; the Royal Horse Guards in crimson jackets and the magnificent horses black and shining in the sun's gay brilliance—they came prancing in fine order resplendent in their full dress. Red and white plumes fought bravely, banners fluttered frantically in the sharp breeze and, as the Cavalry turned in the sunshine, breastplates flared gold flame and swords flashed in defiance.

Sweeping round the Victoria Memorial came the procession, the horses clapping on the sanded street, and the harness ringing like a hundred silver bells to the great delight of the clamouring crowd. Then came six Windsor Grey horses proudly trotting through the gates, bringing the King and Queen in their open state landau out to their people. A crescendo of acclamation greeted their Majesties. The brief moments as the carriage swung past were a rich reward for those long waiting hours.

The King and Queen, smiling and delighted by the welcome, waved an especial personal greeting to a crowd of crippled children seated on the steps of the Memorial. Princess Margaret, sitting opposite her parents beamed happily on the wildly cheering, close-packed crowd.

Then, with its mounted escort, came the second landau, bringing Princess Elizabeth and her husband to receive their share of the riotous welcome. Down the sunfilled Mall, with its spring trees on either side, the Royal cavalcade ogged in stately flurry, with the enthusiastic crowds lining the route. Through Admiralty Arch, Trafalgar Square, the Strand and then Fleet Street to St. Paul's the noisy cheers followed them.

★ ● ★

THEY went through the city to the cathedral where the bells pealed and the trumpets heralding fanfares welcomed them. Sunshine cascaded the wide grey steps like some fair omen. Sunshine warmed the cool dark interior of the church where the organ thundered and a million candles gleamed their independence of the sun's rays. Sombre service dress and monotonous civilian clothes faded into the dull stone background as the glorious preliminary procession poured into the church. Stately in rich jewel bright colours, the pageant of the King's Gentlemen-at-Arms paced in slow march the length of the nave. White plumes swayed astop gold gleaming helmets; swords and spurs chinked on the stone floor as the Royal family filled the vastness of St. Paul's and echoed in the mighty dome.

Then distinguished visitors to England took their seats in the congregation. Important members of the Royal family and Cabinet Ministers found their places to wait for the King and Queen. The clergy, in procession, took up position at the Great West Door. Then with their embroidered banners swinging the heralds sent out a clear fanfare, high above the thunder of the organ.

Up the sun-drenched steps and into the central aisle came the Royal Family to

give thanksgiving for twenty-five years of married happiness.

The Archbishop's gold cross was raised high to glitter in the myriad candle lights. Slowly, with tremendous dignity yet simplicity the King and Queen, followed by their daughters and the Duke of Edinburgh walked to their seats.

The King was in the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet. The Queen, glorious in a pale blue-grey dress wore several rows of pearls. Over her shoulders the swaying mass of ostrich fronds of her feather boa framed her face. Her hat was a halo of gathered tulle and velvet in the same gentle shade of aquamarine.

★ ● ★

PRINCESS ELIZABETH wore blue with a fur cape, and wearing for the first time the 'New Look' fashion was Princess Margaret. Queen Mary, as stately and noble as ever was splendid in green and gold lace. Completing the family party the young boy Princes of Gloucester and Kent were dressed in ruffled shirts and frills, left over from Princess Elizabeth's wedding. Like any other family party at a similar occasion, family remarks and family jokes were shared and exchanged as they all sat together.

The service commenced; a service simple yet moving, full of well loved hymns and prayers which stirred the soul and brought old memories to mind—memories of weddings, of jubilees, troubles and joys. The Dean's address, to his 'Good People', simply yet sincerely delivered, commended Queen Mary's continued good influence upon the Royal Family and spoke of Their Majesties example to all people in their excellent way of life. There were no extravagances of speech, no flowery praises, but just the moving simple truth, bringing home to that congregation, and indeed to all the people of Britain, praise and thanks that we owe.

Following the thanksgiving the Royal Family repeated their triumphal back to their home, along the Thames Embankment. They had given thanks and they left the singing and the music, the cool darkness of St. Paul's for the bright spring sunshine and the waiting crowds. The peals of the organ rolled out into the cheering as the mighty doors were opened. The King and Queen, radiant once more at the incredible popular welcome descended the steps to their carriage. Home through the rejoicing crowds to Buckingham Palace they had hoped for rest and meditation. But the eager masses cheering outside the Palace were to call them to the balcony many times before the morning was over. Then in the evening when Their Majesties drove through the capital another personal victory was theirs.

Mobbed by their loving people once again there was no mistaking the genuine affection, esteem and thankfulness we all feel in our hearts on such a joyous occasion. God bless them both.

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SPORTS

Commentary

COVER-POINT

IT has been rather a dull week on the local sports field and I would have been hard put to it to find a suitable lead to this week's review, but for the recent departure of Ceylon's first Olympic team for London.

The team, which is led by Duncan White, who has been in the forefront of Ceylon athletics for the past 10 years, consists of three athletes and four boxers. They left Ceylon carrying with them the good wishes of everyone in the Islands. Whatever the outcome of their challenge at the 14th Olympiad, which will be staged next July, nothing is more certain than that, as they take part in loyal competition in the games, they will be ever mindful of the solemn oath they took last Monday when they swore to compete in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the honour of our country and the glory of sport.

Duncan White will take part in the 100 metres as well as the 200 and 400 metres flat and hurdles. He has already unfor his country, having taken part in the British Empire games in Australia where he unfortunately pulled a muscle before he could compete in the 220 final. G. D. Pieris is Ceylon's representative in the field events and will compete in the Hop, Step and Jump and probably in the Long Jump. Holder of the Hop, Step and Jump record, Pieris has shown considerable improvement in recent

months and the chance he will now get to meet the best in the world should help him to maintain that improvement. The baby of the team is John de Saram who is still in his teens and is, therefore, the one she should not only benefit most from the trip but whose olympic experience could be put to the greatest use on his return. He is due to take part in the 100, 200 and 400 metres.

Even if the three athletes in the team eventually find world standard a little too exacting for them, the four boxers should be well in the limelight. Albert Perera is, of course, the star turn. A few weeks ago he had the mortification of being disqualified when he had the English Bantam weight title in his grasp. All accounts of that fight that I have read agree that there is class in Perera's boxing and I have no doubt whatsoever that he will easily make the Olympic grade.

Edward Gray, the Light-weight champion of Ceylon, and L. D. P. Handunge should also give a good account of themselves. The fourth place in the boxing team will be filled after an eliminating contest between C. S. de Saram, the Oxford Captain of Boxing, and A. I. Obeysekera, who has been boxing with much success for the last 12 or 13 years.

The Manager of the team is W. H. D. Perera, who has been intimately associated with athletics for over 25 years. The team will be coached by Brant Little, to whose infectious enthusiasm and skill athletics in Ceylon owes so much.

In wishing the team individually and collectively, every possible success, His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir Henry Monck Masson Moore, urged them:—

"To set the cause above renown
"To love the game beyond the prize
"To honour, while you strike him down
"The foe that comes with fearless eyes
"To count the life of battle good
"And dear the land that gave you birth
"And dearer yet the brotherhood
"That binds the brave of all the Earth."

I feel sure that readers will all agree that these lines of Newbolt, so aptly chosen by His Excellency, are a fitting farewell message to our Olympic pioneers.

Between the C.T.C. May Meet, which ended Saturday before last and the opening of the June Meet on Saturday week, there is a hiatus of three weeks.

The principal race at the June Meet is the Herbert Stanley Cup, which commemorates the regime, as Governor of Sir Herbert Stanley, whose interest in racing was not only academic but also practical in the sense that he owned some horses. The Stanley Cup is a race for Class I horses over 10 furlongs and features the programme arranged for the last day of the Meet. With August Week in the offing this race serves as a second rehearsal for the Cup, the dress rehearsal for which is the Black Buck Stakes in July. I expect a much bigger field than the 4 who contested the Dundee Stakes over 11 furlongs last month, to join issue in this valuable Cup race and some light will, I think, be shed on the August classic by the result of this race.

As usual, the first day of the June Meet caters in the main for sprinters, the only long distance race on the card being reserved for Arabs in Class II who will run over 10 furlongs. The second day has a more varied programme, while on the last day there are two 1½ miles races, one over 9 furlongs and three over a mile. One

of these mile races is for Arabs in Class I and this should serve as a rehearsal for the Robert's Cup.

Derby day is fast approaching and will coincide with the opening of the C.T.C. June Meet.

Winner of 2,000 Guineas, Hy Babu still holds the market call for the Epsom classic but rumours of a temporary setback after an anti-tetanus injection have caused him to drift to three in the betting. Much as I would like to see the Gaekwar of Baroda win the Derby with this unbeaten colt, I have grave doubts as to whether he will be able to see the Derby distance out. Being a son of Djebel, I don't think that he is too strongly endowed with a stamina and I am afraid the Gaekwar is in for another disappointment this year too. The Derby prize may, however, yet come to India through the medium of the Aga Khan, who has already won three Derbys. This Indian prince has just purchased a half share in M. Volterra's excellent stayer My Love, who has already won over the Derby distance in France. Another colt whom I would recommend to be kept on the right side, is Valognes, who won the Chester Vase over 1½ miles beating, among others, the St. Leger winner of last year, Sayajirao. Valognes, I am told, is a compact little colt who may turn out to be another Hyperion, who won at Chester before claiming the Epsom classic.

The plea for brighter cricket in England seems to have received such a ready response that even in the very first month of the season we have had almost festival cricket. It was the Australians that set the tempo to this general speed-up of the game, thus fulfilling the assurance of their captain, Bradman, who, in an interview before the Australian tour started, declared that it would be the aim of the tourists to provide entertaining cricket whenever they were in action.

MARXISM IN RUSSIA

(Continued from page 5)

his day to be the one foundation of all society and on this fact he built his theories. He did not realise that capitalism itself was in a state of flux and that it was being transformed from decade to decade under the zeal of many reformers, the growing consciousness of the workers of their rights, and the action of the States and Governments of practically every country in the world. Marx generalized much too widely. Marx had his own obsessions. He thought that he had detected the illusions in the consciousness of the people around him and that he was capable of substituting the reality. Feuerbach had sought for materialism in the sphere of religious consciousness, Freud thought that he had discovered sex as the dominant idea in human consciousness, and Marx believed that everything in the human consciousness was illusory, and that in reality the dominant factor in the mind of all men was an economic one. This is very poor, outmoded and faulty psychology. This false assumption constitutes a devastating flaw in Marxism.

In this country, there is need for a determined effort to use drama as a means of criticism of life, its foibles, its weaknesses and its deficiencies, to give it purpose, meaning and nobility of aspiration, and to perform all the other kindred functions which the drama of various countries has achieved for its peoples. There must be a considerable integrity of mind and a consciousness of definite artistic aims, in approaching this subject of the drama which is so potent a source of public reformation. It is necessary to know what the drama can achieve, and also what it cannot. There are sources of power and also limitations which must be recognised, if disastrous results by holding out false aims are to be avoided. It might be difficult for the unaided mind to avoid possible pitfalls, but in "THE FRONTIERS OF

THE DRAMA" by UNA ELLIS-FER-MOR (COLOMBO BOOK CENTRE), a very scholarly treatment of this difficult and novel subject is provided. The drama grows according to its own laws, as distinct from other literary forms. The organism keeps to its own form and characteristics, and whatever slightly varying shapes it takes, strongly retains its own individual character. Evidently, there is a distinct art of the drama, and in developing this sense of what constitutes drama and dramatic action the writer of plays will raise his work to a much higher standard than if he trusts to his own unaided sense of what is fit and proper. The great dramatists who have treated of the passions of love, hate, ambition, jealousy and other passions have shown the way to draw the maximum dramatic values out of the texture of human life. Apart from these passions, the linking of action, and selection of themes, there is also the dominant need or a grand simplicity of structure and outlines. Many of the greatest dramatists have achieved this, and they must be the models or all time. "Therefore", says the author, "the passions of Clytemnestra, Electra, Oedipus, Othello, Macbeth and Brand, powerfully entangled in the world they move in, find artistic expression in the drama; the life of Faust draws one dramatist after another to express it; Aeschylus's belief in the suffering that trilogy to a harmony still unsurpassed. In material such as this, we should all agree, are the essentials of drama, in mood, in form, and in thought." Great skill has to be used in handling the raw material of life and changing it into the immortal stuff of drama. The author draws sustenance for her reflections from a very wide range of sources, and this book embodies ideas which are of vital interest to those who would understand the manner in which the great dramatists of the world have employed, with the highest effects, the materials of common life for their deathless creations.

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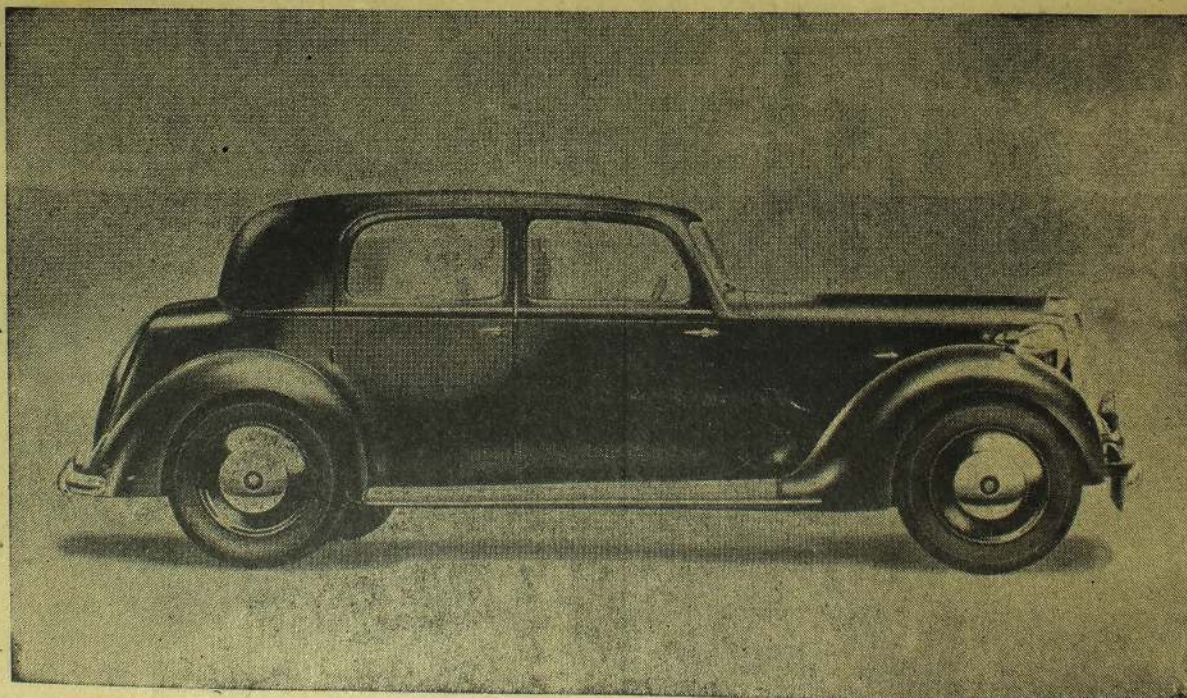
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