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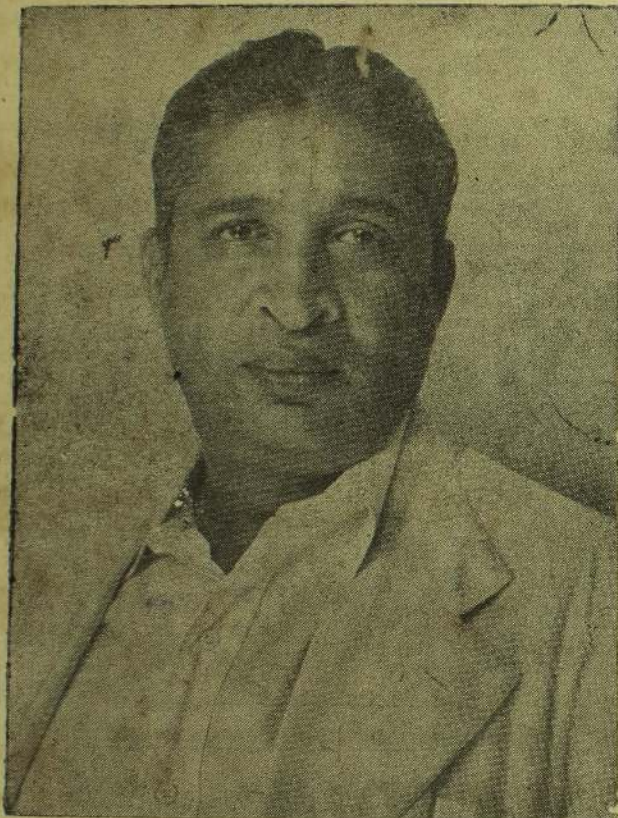
FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1952

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Ceylon's First Parliament Dissolved

PREMIER SEEKS COUNTRY'S MANDATE



Mr. Dudley Senanayake, Prime Minister.

PARLIAMENT was dissolved with effect from Tuesday, the 8th instant, by the Governor-General, Lord Soulbury. In a Proclamation issued, the new House of Representatives has been summoned to meet on June 10, this year at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

The General Election for the new Parliament will take place in the period commencing on April 28, 1952, and ending on May 31, 1952. Nomination Day of candidates has been fixed for April 28 this year. Eighty-nine places of nomination of candidates have been specified in the Proclamation.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, who advised the Governor-General to dissolve Parliament says in a statement to the Press that though he had the promise of co-operation from a majority of Members of Parliament as well as the good wishes of the country, he felt it his duty to obtain a mandate from the people at the earliest opportunity to work for the ideals for which his father has worked during his lifetime.

The present Cabinet will not meet in future unless there is a national emergency or a problem of great importance warranting the urgent consideration of the Ministers.

Premier's Appeal

The following statement has been issued by the Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, on the dissolution of Parliament.

"Barely a week has passed since I accepted the invitation of His Excellency the Governor-General to form a Government on the death of my revered father.

"The promises of co-operation which I received from my colleagues in Parliament, as well as from representatives of all sections of the community, gave me strength to undertake this task.

"To my fellow-citizens throughout the Island I give my heartfelt thanks for the assurance of help and co-operation which I have received.

"When I undertook the important responsibilities that my late father bore so well, in my message to the Nation I pledge myself to tread the path he wished us to follow.

"We know very well that my father bent all his energies to achieve the ideal of a Free Lanka. Once that freedom was attained, he spent himself, in spite of ill-health, without any thought of his own comfort or of his personal interests, to preserve that freedom; to realise the concept of a united nation; and to establish a stable Government.

Symbol of the new Lanka

"The striking demonstrations of national feeling shown at his death made it clear to me that my father

had become a symbol not only of the ideals I have mentioned, but of the new Lanka which he hoped to build upon these foundations; the new Lanka whose people, free from want, from sickness and ignorance, through the functioning of democratic institutions, could take their place once again in the comity of the free and happy peoples of the world.

"I have thought very deeply during the last few days of the duty I owe to the people of Lanka. Only some of the ideals for which my father worked have been achieved. In the achievement of these I have no doubt he gave his life.

(Continued on page 2)



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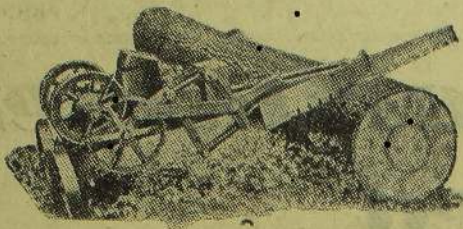
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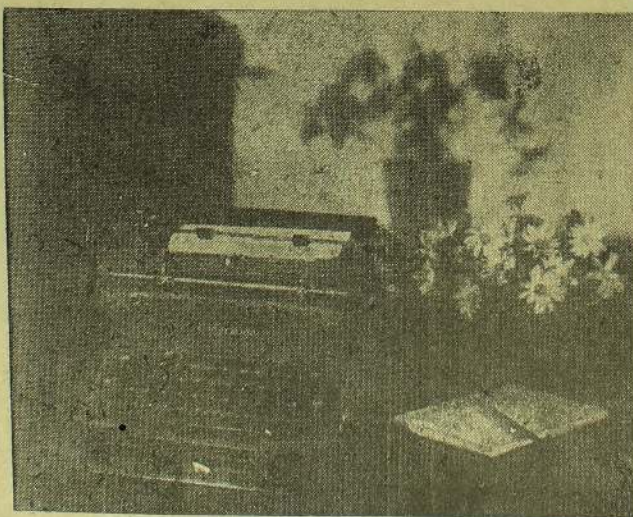
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Ceylon's First Parliament Dissolved

(Continued from page 1)

"I have been invited to carry on the work interrupted by his death. If I am to be finally chosen to do so. I feel that I should give the people an opportunity, at this most important moment in Lanka's history, of expressing their own wish through the exercise of the right which belongs to every citizen, of electing those who will administer the affairs of the country on their behalf.

"As you are all aware, Parliament need not be dissolved until the end of this year. Though I have the promise of co-operation from a majority of Members of Parliament, as well as the good wishes of the country, I feel it my duty to obtain a mandate from the people at the earliest opportunity.

"I have therefore advised His Excellency the Governor-General to dissolve Parliament and to announce a day for the nomination of candidates for election to a new Parliament.

"If it be your wish that I should act as the first servant of the people, I pledge myself to honour, to the best of my ability, just as my father did when he was entrusted with similar duties, the trust reposed in me."

U.N.P. LISTS ITS NOMINEES

All political parties in the country are busy choosing their nominees for the respective constituencies in the coming election.

The United National Party was the first party to issue a list of their nominees in the coming elections.

The first list of nominations of the party show that seven members who contested the last elections as Independents will contest this time as U.N.P. candidates.

They are: Mr. K. V. Nadarajah (Bandarawela), Mr. V. T. Nanayakkara (Matale), Mr. V. Nalliah (Kalkudah), Mr. M. M. Ibrahim (Pottuvil), Mr. S. U. Ethirmanasingham (Padiruppu), Mr. K. Herat (Nikeveratiya), and Mr. K. D. V. Sugathadasa (Welimada).

Mr. H. de Z. Siriwardene, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Industries who contested Negombo last time as a U.N.P. candidate, has been replaced by Mr. A. N. d'Abeyesinghe, Mayor of Negombo, as the U.N.P. candidate.

The U.N.P. Nomination Board will meet again to decide on the rest of the nominations.

SIXTY-TWO U. N. P. CANDIDATES

The following is the list of 62 candidates already decided upon by the U.N.P. as the party's nominees in the coming elections:

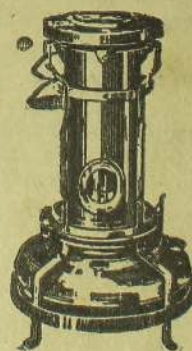
Alutnuwara: Mr. J. A. Rambukpota.
Anufadhapura: Dissawe Bulankulame.
Baddegama: Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya.
Buttala: Mr. W. Leo Fernando.
Colombo Central: Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel.
Balangoda 1st: Mr. E. W. Mathew.
Balangoda 2nd: Mr. A. F. Mola-mure.
Colombo South: Major T. F. Jayewardene.
Dambadehiya: Mr. R. G. Senanayake.
Dedigama: Mr. Dudley Senanayake.
Dodangaslande: Sir John Kotelawala.
Deniyaya: Mr. V. G. W. Ratnayake.
Galaha: Mr. T. B. Panabokke.
Horowupotana: Dissawe Poholiyadde.
Ja-Ela: Mudliyar D. P. Jayasuriya.
Kalawewa: Mr. S. H. Mahadiulwewa.
Kadugannawa 1st: Major E. A. Nugawela.
Kadugannawa 2nd: Mr. H. R. U. Premachandra.
Kegalle: Mr. N. H. Keerthiratne.
Kelaniya: Mr. J. R. Jayewardene.
Maturata: Mr. M. D. Banda.
Matale: Mr. V. T. Nanayakkara.
Mawanella: Mr. H. L. Ratwatte.
Medawachchiya: Mr. M. Senanayake.
Muttur: Mr. A. R. M. Aboobucker.
Negombo: Mr. A. N. d' A. Abeyesinghe.
Panadura: Mr. A. C. Gooneratne.
Ratnapura: M. C. E. Attygalle.
Puttalam: Mr. H. S. M. Ismail.
Polonnaruwa: Mr. P. L. Baudhasara.
Wariyapola: Mr. Ivan Dassanaike

(Continued on page 7)

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Tributes From All Sections



Late Mr. D. S. Senanayake.

TRIBUTES to the memory of the late Prime Minister were paid by all sections of the House of Representatives held on the 2nd instant.

Sir John Kotelawala, Leader of the House, moved the motion paying Government's tribute to the memory of the late Prime Minister and requested that the message of sympathy be conveyed to the bereaved family.

Dr. N. M. Perera, Leader of the Opposition, associating himself with the request made by the Leader of the House, in asking the Clerk of the Parliament to convey their deep sense of loss to the members of the bereaved family, said:—

Death has laid a heavy hand on the House of Representatives. In the short space of barely five years quite a few who played an important political part in this country have been laid low, and now we are gathered today to pay our last tribute to the most distinguished of them all, the late Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake. He was in the great tradition of the stalwarts of old—Sir James Peiris, Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan, Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, and the others of that ilk. It was his good fortune that, nurtured in the old tradition, he lived to bridge the new, and it is to his credit that he fitted into the new with as much aplomb and freshness as he displayed in the old.

Harboured no Grudge

I first came to know him in the second State Council. My first clash with him goes back to the begin-

nings of that second State Council when Sir Baron Jayatilaka and he formed a powerful duo that dominated the elections of that year. The then Member for Avissawella (Mr. D. P. R. Gunawardena) and myself, freshers to the Legislature, collected a group round us to thwart the Ministerial plan of Sir Don Baron Jayatilaka and the late Mr. D. S. Senanayake. They triumphed and we were defeated, but Mr. Senanayake never harboured a grudge; never did he let those anxious moments cloud his sense of fairplay. His attitude to his political opponents was always cordial and gentlemanly.

It is hard to think of this Assembly without his overwhelming personality. I think it would be no exaggeration to say that there would not be a single Member of this House who would not miss his presence in this Chamber. In a sense he filled the Chamber by his very presence. I have never known a man more devoted to his duty than the late Prime Minister. If the records of this Parliament are collected, they will testify to the assiduity of the late Prime Minister. I know of no Member of this House who has been more consistent in his attendance than the late Mr. D. S. Senanayake. He followed every Debate closely.

Astute And Shrewd

He never missed a good point, however humble the quarter from which it emanated. This was a remarkable performance for one so overburdened with the innumerable cares of a Government. His astuteness and shrewdness as a Parliamentarian—I use those words in no disrespectful sense—were almost uncanny. When one recollects his early life, this is indeed a remarkable achievement. He was quick to sense and grasp a situation while others were still hesitant and groping. Others may have been more learned, but he was more knowledgeable. As a debater he was the equal of the best in the land. He may not have indulged in sonorous language, his phraseology may not have been perfect, but his quick-wittedness was remarkable. Quick to pounce upon his opponents' weak points, he knew the art of getting at the heart of a Debate.

There was no Department of this Government about which he did not know intimately. One may ask a question of the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications or of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice; Mr. Senanayake was always ready with an answer, and, almost always, the correct answer. He had a remarkable capacity to understand all the things that went on his own Government. I am sorry for this Government, Sir, because they can never find his peer.

(Continued on page 4)



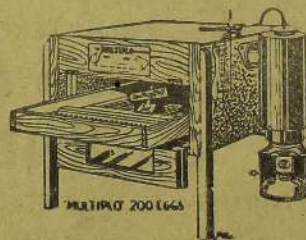
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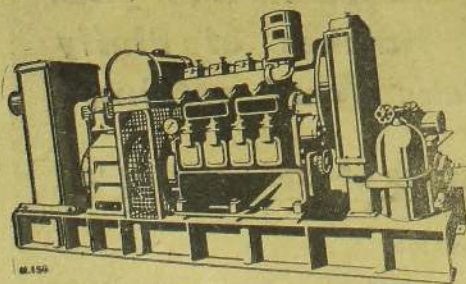
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(Continued from page 3)

Poles Apart Ideologically

We were poles apart ideologically. There was no important subject on which we did not hold widely divergent views. Our approaches were so dissimilar. He was the undisputed and acknowledged leader of the capitalist class of Ceylon while we fought tenaciously and bitterly for socialism; but never in the bitterest moments of our struggle did he harbour a bitterness of feeling. Our esteem and regard grew, rather than waned by very dogged sincerity of his opposition.

Cabinet Government always difficult for him who is at the helm, was doubly difficult for the late Prime Minister by its very incipency and novelty. It is a tribute to his personal character that he held together with such adroitness a team for so long and in such trying circumstances. Only his unrivalled knowledge of men and matters could have enabled him to steer so calmly and so steadily and maintain such an even keel.

"Voilà un Homme"

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike spoke in Sinhalese as he thought it fit and proper when paying the last respects to the heroic leader of Lanka to use the medium of the mother-tongue. During the past week there flowed a large volume of tributes from various parts of the Globe which was ample testimony to the greatness of the late Prime Minister. He had many great qualities, both in his private and public life. Having been intimately associated with Mr. Senanayake for many years he could unhesitatingly say that the late Prime Minister was a just and good man, qualities which raised him to the high position he held. This was the occasion when all sections of the House could join in paying their last respects to their late leader. If he were to sum up in two or three words the greatness of Mr. Senanayake he would recall the words used by Napoleon Bonaparte to his officers referring to the German philosopher Goethe, "Voilà un homme", there goes a real hero, which aptly describe Mr. Senanayake.

Selfless Service

Mr. Wilmot A. Perera, speaking in Sinhalese, said that future his-

torians would record the good work done by their late Prime Minister as the architect of free Ceylon. Mr. Senanayake was one who despite various difficulties and even without paying attention to his health he had conscientiously performed his duty. His sacrifice of leisure and his whole-hearted devotion, had probably hastened his death. He never missed a meeting of the House of Representatives, especially during the Budget debate remaining from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. which was an example to the members for emulation. While the late Premier was an inmate of the hospital which he had entered for a check-up, he was informed of a meeting of the Raigam Korale Samaja Sevaka Sangama in connection with the establishment of a Home for the Aged. Despite the advice of his doctors, he attended the function and returned to the hospital. That action showed the deep sympathy Mr. Senanayake had towards the people and his desire to serve his country.

No Personal Animus

Mr. P. G. B. Keuneman expressed the regret of his party that the late Mr. Senanayake should have died in such sudden and tragic circumstances. Mr. Senanayake had a large record of public activity and at the time of his death, occupied the highest political position in the country. Continuing, he said, "My opposition to the policies and administration of the late Prime Minister were not confined to differences over detail. It was certainly not inspired by any personal animus against him. Our political differences were deep rooted and fundamental. The movement I represent has opposed the political policies of the late Mr. Senanayake. It has been said that he had believed sincerely in what he was doing. It was well-known that he worked diligently, consistently and vigorously to put into practice the policies for which he stood.

I feel that it would be rank hypocrisy if, merely because its author is no more, I should now pay tribute to policies which I have earlier condemned. I would not have expected the late Mr. Senanayake, who was as vigorously opposed to my views as I am to his, to have paid such tributes to my political activities if I had predeceased him. I know that there would have been many who would have thought less of him if he had done so.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to place on record my regret at the death of the most prominent Member of this House.

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DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

The General Elections

By C. E. Mackenzie Pereira

THE sudden passing away of our beloved Leader, the Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake, P.C., first Prime Minister of independent Ceylon and President of the United National Party, has contributed to a dissolution of Parliament and an earlier General Election. Although Mr. Dudley Senanayake, on whom the mantle of his father has fallen, had the popular support of his Party and the country, he decided to seek the mandate of the people and advised the Governor General to dissolve Parliament. It is interesting to recount the incidents which lead up to this event.

Lord Soulbury was in England on a well earned holiday when the sad news of the Prime Minister's death reached him. Within four days he was back in Ceylon to perform the very responsible task of appointing a Prime Minister. Being convinced that Mr. Dudley Senanayake commanded the confidence and support of the Parliamentary group in power he invited him to form the new administration. We all know that Mr. Dudley Senanayake was greatly hesitant to undertake this grave responsibility; nevertheless he bowed his head to the popular cry and accepted this high office in a spirit of piety, decorum and religious awe. We are proud to record that our country has the good fortune to find a new leader of this calibre. By his own utterances he dedicated himself to the people and guaranteed to the nation to uphold the aspirations and ideals of his great father, who was loved by all and acknowledged as the liberator and father of the new Ceylonese Nation.

A Leader in a democracy achieves most for a nation when he seeks to consolidate his position by being assured of the nation's backing. Our constitution has devised a most convincing method by which this can be ascertained and that is by a General Election. It is helpful at this stage to get a correct perspective of the setting in which our new Prime Minister advised a dissolution of Parliament. He was constitutionally appointed Prime Minister. He had proof of support not only from his party but from all sections of the community, which was made

manifest by the messages of goodwill and co-operation he received from many quarters. Instead of carrying through the administration to its full term, resting on these advantages, the new Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, proved himself a true champion of democracy when he sought General Election. A General Election is in fact the election of a Prime Minister, for the reason that the leader of the party which counts the majority in Parliament, as a rule is invited to form the Government. We hope that all voters, in the various constituencies to which the U.N.P. nominates candidates, will remember the implication, which appears to have been lost sight of in the past, and act towards the attainment of a hundred per cent U.N.P. Government thus avoiding a coalition. Coalition Governments in modern democracies have never proved satisfactory in peace times; it would be most unfortunate if we are compelled to accept such a condition in our second Dominion Parliament, when we must consider ourselves sufficiently mature in parliamentary practice to bring ourselves into line with older and experienced democracies.

The U.N.P. stands for and has endeavoured to give effect to policies which are very fundamental, if our present heterogeneous society is to stand, and mould itself to the common good. These are (1) Elimination of communal and racial discrimination in public life. (2) Universal education to promote the cultural and economic advantages of all people by affording to each equal opportunities to pursue his individual bent (3) Religious toleration and sympathy towards the moral aspirations of all (4) Assurance of personal freedom, liberty of speech and the development of individuality without let or hindrance (5) Encouragement and support of private enterprise in professions, industries, agricultural and commercial undertakings.

(6) Encouragement of the advancement of the Arts and Sciences (7) Securing pride of place as a free nation in the family of free nations. These were the ideals which inspired our great leader Mr. D. S. Senanayake. He inculcated them into the U.N.P. when it was first formed and its activities were directed

(Continued on page 7)

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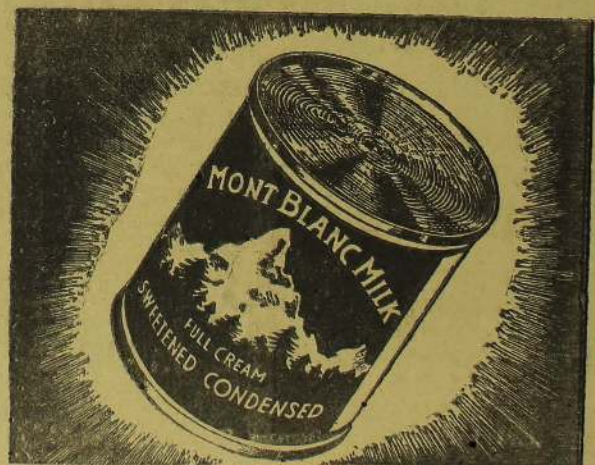
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THE DUTY OF THE VOTERS

DEMOCRACY has been defined as Government of the people, by the people and for the people. It is from the people that there springs the authority that Government wields. It is, therefore, only fitting that within a week of succeeding his father as Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake should have decided to go to the county for a fresh mandate from the people. Armed with this mandate, as he no doubt will be, he can bend his great energies the better to the accomplishment of those tasks for which his revered father lived and died.

The development of our country and the upliftment of her people calls for the greatest possible effort on the part of those to whom is entrusted the responsibility of administering the Government. To maintain this effort it is necessary that the Government should have the full weight of public opinion solidly behind it. The only way of ensuring this is to ask the country to indicate by the exercise of their franchise the measure of support they are prepared to give the Government.

Our party has lost no time in nominating those in whom we repose the utmost confidence to present the various electorates. Our nominees are men

Premier Elected President of U. N. P.

THE Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, was unanimously elected President of the United National Party, in place of the late Premier, Mr. D. S. Senanayake, at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Party.

The election of the Prime Minister as the President of the Party was proposed by Sir John Kotelawala, Minister of Transport and Works and Leader of the House of Representatives.

Sir John said that it was best for the Party to have the Prime Minister of the country, as far as possible, as the President of the Party. Mr. Dudley Senanayake was the Prime Minister of the country today. He was also now the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Party and President of the Youth League and the President of the Women's Section of the U.N.P.

Mr. Dudley Senanayake thanked them for electing him as President and said that in accepting the office of the Prime Minister, he bowed to the will of the nation: if he did not bow to the will of the nation he would have been a traitor to the country. He was at the same time aware of his own shortcomings, but he felt strengthened to feel that the nation was behind him. He also had the assurance of the loyal co-operation of all his colleagues.

of substance and character. They know the needs of their constituencies. They believe in the democratic way of life. They seek election not for the honour of membership in the supreme legislature of the land but for the opportunity of service it provides.

It is an inflexible rule in our party that everyone of the candidates it sponsors should dedicate himself to selfless service just as our Prime Minister has done and as his father did. We carry no place-seekers: we take into our fold no sycophants.

It is now the duty of the voters of Lanka to weigh the merits of the various ideologies which are represented and decide on which form of Government they prefer. If it is their desire that stability, order and steady progress should prevail, then they really have no choice. It is only the United National Party that can provide these features. If, on the other hand, the county fails to give our Party a clear mandate, let it be warned of the peril that lie ahead. The freedoms which we all cherish will be lost for ever. In the place of peace and tranquillity, there shall emerge in our beloved motherland chaos, anarchy and regimentation. We are confident, however, that the native good sense of our people will prevail and that the harmony that has existed for so many centuries will not be jeopardised by any surrender to totalitarianism or its satellites.

A vote for the Party Candidate is a vote for the Father of our Nation, for the Party and its candidates are pledged to honour his memory and carry out his policy.

NEED TO SINK DIFFERENCES

Mr. Senanayake then uttered a warning to the Party whose leadership he had just assumed. He said that before the end of this year they would be called upon to fight a big battle, the battle of the general elections. It was, therefore, very important for them to sink all party differences and to stand as one man during the time of trial.

During that battle they must take the message of "our dead hero" to the four corners of the Island. His memory must inspire them to make any sacrifice for the welfare of the nation to make this a better Lanka.

Prolonged cheers greeted the Premier as he occupied the Presidential chair.

Earlier, the meeting observed two minutes silence in memory of the late Prime Minister.

Senator Sir Ukwatte Jayasundera, General Secretary of the Party, who proposed a vote of condolence, said that from time to time great leaders were born to this world. They felt proud to feel that the late Prime Minister was one such leader. He was a man who did not seek greatness or glory but to whom greatness and glory came.

Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Minister of Home Affairs and Rural Development, said that the late Prime Minister had served the country without any personal considerations.

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A BOLD AND WISE DECISION

THE bold decision of the Prime Minister to advise the Governor-General to dissolve Parliament barely a week after his accepting the invitation to form a Government though surprising in its suddenness, is nevertheless, the result of a "very deep thought" on his part about the duty which he owed to the people, the full realization of the fundamental basis of rule by the people and the desirability of seeking a fresh mandate from the country. He is aware of the fact that only a few ideals for which his revered father had worked had been achieved. On him has fallen the burden and responsibility to carry on the work interrupted by his father's death and he has dedicated himself to their full and complete realization.

He has stated frankly, in his explanation why he advised dissolution: "Though I have the promise of co-operation from a majority of Members of Parliament, as well as the good wishes of the country. I feel it is my duty to obtain a mandate from the people at the earliest opportunity". It requires great personal courage and integrity to arrive at such a decision. Every right-thinking person will be in full accord with the Prime Minister in his wise resolve. He is well aware that the best interests of the country can be rightly served by consultation with the people, even if he has to face the inevitable general election. He has chosen the correct moment to go to the country, which will now be faced with the vital issue namely the preservation of the democratic way of life.

The party of which he is the head, the United National Party has the country's support. The Party has long been ready for an election at any time. Its election machinery which has been well tested is in full trim for the fray throughout the length and breadth of the country. The U.N.P. has shouldered the responsibility of a free democratic Government without any "previous schooling" and has during the four years a record of achievements that has won the admiration of other ex-

perienced democracies elsewhere, as the most peaceful dominion in the Commonwealth of free nations. Ample testimony to the preparedness of the Party is clearly shown by the fact that within twenty-four hours of the publication of the Proclamation the Nominations Board of the Party finalised the list of nominees for fifty-eight electorates.

It is interesting to note that this list shows that seven members who contested the elections in 1947 as Independents will contest this time as U.N.P. candidates. At present in the complicated situation that has arisen as the result of the emergence of a number of democratic parties

By Biyar Jayo

of mushroom growth impelled mostly by selfish motives, the intrusion of candidates under the label of "independents" will certainly be tragic. It would be suicidal to divide the democratic vote, a process which is a sure method of creating an opening for totalitarian candidates. The peoples' choice must therefore be from the actual honest democratic party which had been in power for the past four years and produced tangible results for the betterment of the people.

The country is still sound, sane and sensible. The people rich in tradition recognize the brave and bold and know how to honour dead heroes and be loyal to living leaders who journey on the democratic way of life. In making their choice it is hoped the people would not be influenced by the blandishments of anti-democratic elements who are guilty of betraying the country at the risk of sacrificing the freedoms the people now enjoy. It is indeed a wise resolve on the part of the new Prime Minister to seek the mandate of the people, which gives him the opportunity to test the confidence the country has in his leadership.

It is the confident expectation of the people that the new Prime Minister will prove equal to the task to which he has been called and continue the era of peaceful prosperity that the late Prime Minister inaugurated in this country.

Ceylon's First Parliament Dissolved

(Continued from page 2)

Wattegama: Mr. A. Ratnayake.
Weligama: Mr. Montague Jayawickreme.
Nikaweratiya: Mr. K. Herat.
Welimada: Mr. K. Don Sugathadasa.
Ambalangoda-Balapitiya: Mr. Ian de Zoysa.
Avissawella: Mrs. Clodagh Jayasuriya.
Galle: Mr. Sumitra Dahanayake.
Hakmana: M. C. A. Dharmapala.
Hambantota: Mr. C. F. H. Edirisuriya.
Kiriella: Mr. A. E. B. Kiriella.
Nivitigala: Mr. Harold Weragama.
Kotte: Mr. Ananda Tissa de Alwis.
Akuressa: M. J. S. de Silva.
Bellatta: Mr. Peter Atapattu.
Horana: Mr. M. D. H. Jayawardene.

Udugama: Mr. E. D. Nagahawatte.
Kandy: Mr. E. L. Senanayake.
Bandarawela: Mr. K. V. Nadarajah.
Minipe: Dissawe H. B. Rambukwelle.
Attanagalla: Mr. A. W. G. Seneviratne.
Talawakelle: Mr. H. E. P. de Mel.
Kalkudah: Mr. V. Nalliah.
Kalmunai: Mudaliyar: M. S. Kariapper.
Pottuvil: Mudaliyar M. M. Ibrahim.
Batticaloa: Mr. A. Sinnelebbe.
Paddirippu: Mr. S. U. Ethirmanasingham.
Trincomalee: Mr. S. Sivapalan.
Gampaha: Capt. B. L. Seneviratne.
Ruwanwella: Mr. P. C. Imbulane.
Miriigama: Mr. J. E. Amaratunga.
Kankasanturai: Mr. S. Natesan.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT

(Continued from page 5)

towards their realization. But unfortunately death intervened before he could achieve them in full measure. Now the U.N.P. stands pledged to these ideals and hopes to achieve them by the unqualified and unstinting co-operation of the nation. It is relevant at this stage to ask which other Party offers to our countrymen these or similar ideals which are the accepted hallmark of all progressive peoples. If the answer to this vital question is in the negative we have no alternative but to support the U.N.P.

The Leftists groups although sponsoring a variety of ideologies may generally be regarded as parties opposed to the fundamental idea of personal liberty and individual en-

terprise. They are opposed to the democratic way of life which our great leader pledged himself to maintain. These groups envisage for mankind a cultural level prescribed by the State, an idea entirely at variance with the dignity of man's psychic stature. The leaders of these groups seem to forget that democracy is still a militant force and is leading mankind towards the realization of the summum bonum of his spiritual being which raises him above the limits of materialism.

It is not possible within the limited space of the present article to examine in detail the ideologies of the different parties operating in our midst, but in general, it is possible to state, that there is no major

(Continued on page 11)

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THE Grand Old Man of Ceylon's politics is now no more. His son has succeeded him to the most coveted and responsible position in parliamentary administration. And with the passing away of one and the emergence of another Ceylon was placed in the unique predicament of both grieving and rejoicing simultaneously. At first it seemed paradoxical but the nation got used to it. However beneath the surface of this simple situation there is yet another incident which deserves our praise. On the tragic death of the Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake many began to speculate as to who will succeed him. There was one quarter of the general public who believed that Mr. Dudley Senanayake was an automatic choice while others believed that Sir John may fill in the vacancy. There may have been still others who were charged with their own solitary ideas. But whatever sagacious speculation that may have taken place Mr. Dudley Senanayake emerged triumphant. It is not the purpose of this effort to take stock of the merits of these two candidates but nevertheless the sporting gesture of Sir John cannot go unnoticed.

You will well remember that with the appointment of the new Premier, Sir John immediately pledged his support to the party and made it known to the public through the local newspapers. In it, he stated, "I have been associated with the late Prime Minister for over 22 years in the task of building a free nation and should be the last man to wish the freedom we have gained to be overcome by the destructive forces which threaten to overrun the land. I congratulate the new Prime Minister on his appointment. Every right-thinking man will wish him well in the tasks that lie ahead of him. I am steadfastly of the opinion that the United National Party is the only political party that can save the country and I call upon all my countrymen to rally round the new Prime Minister with the same measure of support they gave his father. My own support will always be available to serve the cause of democracy in my motherland."

The last section of this statement is particularly noteworthy. For at a time when we have just emancipated ourselves after 150 years of British rule and having released ourselves from the yoke of British political prescriptions and British sophistry it is the duty of all freedom-loving individuals to preserve this newly-gained political haven. Sir John evidently realised this and giving priority to service to the nation rather than to personal requirements he issued this statement. It was obviously an altruistic motive and seldom do we get the opportunity of witnessing chivalrous acts of this nature. It is not my intention to make you believe that his willingness to give his services under the circumstances to the nation and to the party is characteristic and peculiar only to him. On the contrary, this gesture may have been displayed by anyone of the party, but what should be emphasised is that such sublime and noble behaviour could be expected from members of the United National Party. I do not say that others outside the pale of this party are incapable of producing such results for there is every possibility of individuals reacting in a similar way in similar circumstances. The spectacular position of the entire story is that such an instance should have been displayed first by a member of the U.N.P. The Opposition groups had for instance, ample opportunities of creating this precedent especially when they were called upon to present an united front and choose for themselves a common leader. However, instead of our expecting to see at least some measure of unanimity we were confronted with the disgusting spectacle when the hierarchy of the Opposition members were vying with each other for the position of Leader of the Opposition.

It is very encouraging to observe that the U.N.P. advocates external and internal solidarity instead of dissension on trivial issues. What is important is that whether Sir John was Premier or whether Mr. Dudley Senanayake was Premier, the U.N.P. stood for democracy and freedom. The incident occurred not because it was a political manoeuvre as some reactionaries make it out to be, but because circumstances warranted it in view of the fact that misapprehension and fanciful rumours were beginning to circulate and would ultimately tend to blemish the body-politic of the party. If however, Sir John left the party on this issue the Marxists would have made capital of it by saying that the U.N.P. was a type of 'nursery' where ambitious politicians aimed at perfecting their motives. But the very fact that he chose to stay within its ranks even though he did not become Premier is something that calls for our approval. To be ready to serve for the sake of the country under any circumstance is a good basis to work on, and is applicable to politicians who have the genuine interests of the country at heart. We cannot however expect this from professional politicians who make politics a source of livelihood. This is understandable!

(Continued on page 11)

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Need For Ayurvedic Medical Research

THE need for the establishment of a Medical Research Institute for Ayurveda and the building up of a library of medical literature equipped with the valuable old manuscripts available at present at the Museum Library was emphasised by the Librarian of the Museum in the course of an address delivered at the annual session of the Ayurvedic Students' Association held recently at the College of Indigenous Medicine, Colombo, under the presidency of Sir Lalitha Rajapakse. There was, he said, in the Museum Library the largest collection of medical works numbering over four hundred gathered from various parts of the Island, which deal with the preparation of medicines, ancient prescriptions for various ailments, besides treatises on surgery, bone setting, extracting medicinal oils and unguents, ophthalmology, treatment of fractures, sprains, also works on veterinary science, cures for snake-bite mad-dog bite and treatment of elephants. While the originals are in the possession of the Museum it will be possible to obtain photostat copies for reference at a library when established.

NATIONAL MUSEUM SERIES

The Director of the Museum, Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala, who is keenly interested in restoring the ancient eastern medical science to its time-honoured place, has launched a scheme to publish at Government expense the precious old manuscripts now in the Museum Library. About twenty-five manuscripts dealing with indigenous medicines, surgery, midwifery, ophthalmology, extraction of medicated oils, preparation of unguents, cures for snake-bites, mad-dog bites, veterinary science, and scientific works on elephants have been copied; to be printed and published in a National Museum series. It is interesting to note that the first volume of the series compiled and edited by Mr. Deraniyagala has been now released from the press. This volume consists of three medical works in Sinhalese, treatment of fevers, children's diseases and a miscellany of medicines.

EARLY INDIAN TREATISES

The medical literature produced in Ceylon was based on the early Indian treatises written in Sanskrit and Pali. One of the earliest physicians who lived in ancient India about 600 B.C. was Atreya, Chief Physician attached to the great seat

of learning, Taxila. His writings on medicine have been compiled into book form by Caraka who is said to have been the royal physician at the Court of King Kaniska who reigned about the first or second century A.D. Caraka's work is chiefly confined to the study of medicine, independent of surgery. It is a great work which has influenced medical practitioners for centuries in India

By Jurgen

and Ceylon. The opinion expressed on Caraka's work by a Western practitioner, Dr. George Clarke, M.D. of Philadelphia, who happened to read a partly completed translation is worth recording: "As I go over each sloka of Caraka, I come to the conclusion that if the present day physicians drop all modern drugs and chemicals from their Pharmacopoeia and adopt methods of Caraka in treating diseases, there will be less work for undertakers and fewer chronic invalids in the world."

Although practitioners of Western medicine in Ceylon have not paid much attention to the Eastern system as practised in Ceylon, considerable interest has been taken by them in India. Since the publication of Sir William Jones' "Select Plants of India" and Fleming's "Catalogue of Medical Plants" (1812-1818) and Ainslie's "Materia Medica of India" (1826), Western practitioners have from time to time produced several treatises on indigenous Indian drugs.

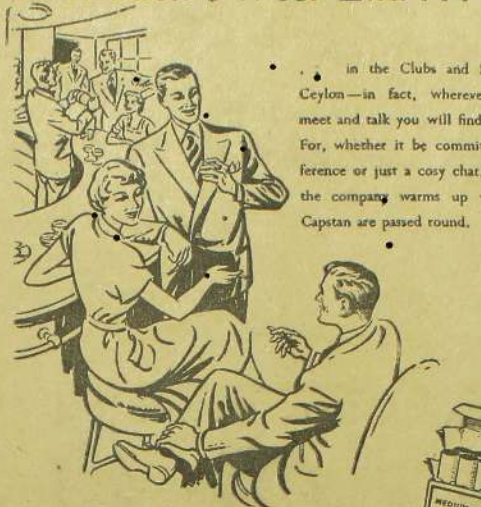
ROYAL PATRONAGE

History records that a very high degree of efficiency was attained in both branches of medicine and surgery by Sinhalese physicians of old and that Sinhalese kings patronized and encouraged in every possible way the art of healing and some of them even practised as surgeons and physicians. Among the most renowned and celebrated are Buddhadasa who reigned at Anuradhapura (330-440 A.D.), and Parakrama Bahu the Great at Polonnaruwa. According to the Mahavamsa and the Dipawansa, King Buddhadasa was a marvellous surgeon who once opened the skull of a Buddhist monk and removed a brood of toads found therein, the result of drinking water

(Continued on page 11)



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TROLLOPE—

THERE will always be readers of Anthony Trollope. He does not belong to the really great tradition of the English novel, but is of the second class, in the first being the Brontes, Dickens and just a few others. Trollope is however always readable, is capable of generating enthusiasm and will always find readers who like a quiet and equable realism. Zola made naturalism popular in France, but he had a hard and gritty type of mind to which a photographic reproduction of life was easily possible. He studied human beings, just as one studies the habits of animals, but perhaps with less sympathy. There is no note of genuine enthusiasm in his work. He is far too objective. He seems to be saying to himself that he should get on with the work of dissecting reality, there being no time for lingering over mere emotion. His attitude was one of protest against romanticism. He travelled to the opposite extreme and gave us pictures which do not have any element of beauty or idealisation of life. The result is an unfair picture of life. It is all sordidness and repulsive reportage. The popularity of Zola is explained by the reaction of the public which itself had had a surfeit of the purely romantic novel. But this kind of naturalism is more a caricature than an explanation of the beauty and power of life.

On the other hand, we have Dickens who put into any one of his chapters more humour and more of reality than Zola into all his long and wearisome work. Dickens had a power of imagination which Zola lacked. He was thus able to make his characters live. One feels even in what some critics regard as

his caricatures merely an exaggerated truth. The characters somehow keep a foothold in the mind of the reader. He is glad to meet them. They are characters which can be seen in the round. They are not like pictures stuck into an album of diligently collected portraits. There can be people who are unsympathetic towards Dickens, but these would be very few with some unsympathetic twist in their natures, or some fastidiousness which is jarred by the coarseness and hilarity of some of the characters.

Amongst those who did not like Dickens was Anthony Trollope. This cannot be by any means attributed to the jealousy of one literary artist against another. Trollope was capable of great admiration for George Eliot and for Thackeray. He was a man who could be unstinted in his praise, and he could be severe in his blame. But perhaps there was something in his own mind which was oppugnant to the genius of Dickens.

This is no doubt stimulating, and such letters are of the very stuff of good reading. Contemporaries are sometimes unkind to each other. But it is interesting to know their opinions on the work which is different from their own. Trollope could be as uncompromising as any man when his dislikes were roused, and it will surprise many admirers of Dickens, that Trollope could be so blind to the real nature of Dickens, who had much of the arrogant confidence of the self-made man. The splenetic humours of good writers make good reading, and Trollope could express himself vitriolically on occasion. But usually Trollope was not a fire-eater. He was mostly a modest man who was content to do his work in his own way, and get a good return from the booksellers for what he gave them. And it cannot be denied that he was a good novelist too.

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Dissolution of Parliament

(Continued from page 7)

democratic party which offers a reasonable alternative to the U.N.P. Some of these parties while claiming a democratic ideology are so closely identified with anti-democratic movements that they beg the question of their democratic setup. They bear the stamp of racial and denominational creeds which are utterly at variance with modern democracies.

The U.N.P. enters the Election arena with a record of past services and achievements for the betterment of the living standards of the children of Lanka unprecedented in its modern history. It stands pledged to the ideals which the writer has set out in no uncertain terms. Now it solicits all patriotic Ceylonese towards the attainment of the goal which the late Father of the Nation put before its people—"A Greater Lanka with a Greater People."

That's Cricket in the Party

(Continued from page 8)

To show fissures within the party and face the country on a divided issue is to ensure defeat. So that this entire incident goes well to prove that the party is everready to work as a team whoever its leader may be. It is a great thing to work under any leader when the programme and the policy of the party is at stake. At this juncture some may point out that a certain section of the party members themselves were unwilling to support Sir John if he became Premier. That is not the point we have to consider, it is the willingness of one rival candidate who was not made Premier, pledging his support to the other who was made so. It was a clear

Need for Ayurvedic Medical Research

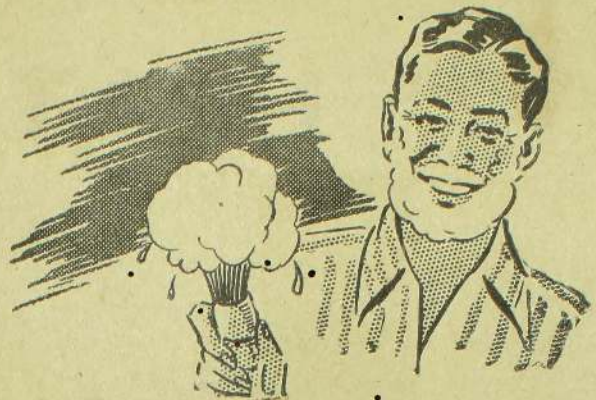
(Continued from page 9)

from a stagnant pool! In modern times this operation will be regarded as oriental imagination and legendary. The late Dr. John Attigalle, Colonial Surgeon, referring to this case, remarks "closer and careful scrutiny shows that the operation is recognizable as very similar to cephalotomy for the removal of a hydrated tumour occasionally met within the cranium..... It is likely that the cluster of the growths when seen under the microscope, is not unlike a group of young half-grown toads after they have shed their tails."

THE NEED FOR RESEARCH

Among the priceless collection of palm leaf manuscripts in the Museum there are about 250 medical olas. This collection includes a class of books known as Beheth Vattoru Poth with descriptions regarding the preparation of drugs and prescriptions as have been found efficacious in the curing of many diseases, and have been handed down from generation to generation. These require further research by the modern successors of the ancient medical men. There is also a very large and comprehensive compendium of medicines compiled by Don Simon Tillekeratna Mudaliyar of Matara (1760 A.D.) which gives an account of all the known diseases and their treatment which should be studied and tried, for which purpose the establishment of a Research Institute is essential.

example of the faculty for compromise so essential in the working of a democracy. Whatever that has finally taken place Minister of Transport and Works has played cricket!



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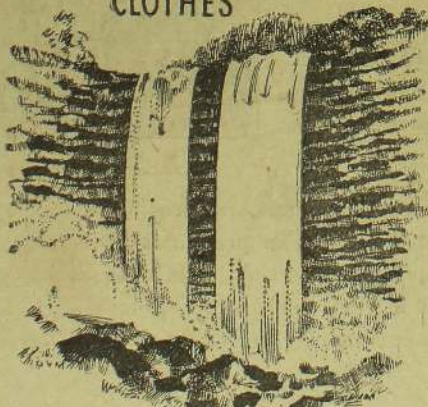
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THIS well-known Office commenced operations in Ceylon in the year 1906 and it can truly be said that the Association has pioneered Life Assurance in the Island. The very large volume of business that is now written by it is ample testimony of the goodwill shown to it by the insuring public. In the very early years it was apparent that Life Assurance on a very substantial scale had come to stay in Ceylon, and in 1913 the Head Office Board agreed to the erection in Ceylon of a building worthy of housing its activities. In 1915 the well-known land-mark the "National Mutual Building" was completed, and it remains today one of the finest modern Office Buildings in the City of Colombo.

The operations of this Association are spread throughout the Commonwealth and, besides having Branch Offices in all the capital cities of Australia and New Zealand, it has District Offices in practically every town of note in Great Britain and in South Africa, and in the East is represented at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, and Hongkong. Ceylon Branch is the central office for the control of the four establishments last mentioned.

The Association has been responsible for the introduction of some of the most important features of modern Life Assurance, and for many years has offered sound Life Assurance Contracts to the public for premiums well below the average, with full bonus rights, the figures of which have proved well above the average. This has been rendered possible by the careful selection of lives which has resulted in a favourable mortality experience, the marked economy of Management expenses and the cautious investment of funds. A Perusal of Financial Statements, will show that the security of the Association's policy contracts is above question.

One well-known British Journal writes of the Association as follows: "The contracts of the Association are liberal to the Assured. Its premiums are low and its financial resources second to none. In a word the National Mutual of Australasia is an Office which can with confidence be recommended to intending assurers."

FOR PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

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COLOMBO BUILDING