



VOL V. No. 40

Organ of the United National Party Rgd. Office: No. 238, Galle Rd., Colombo 3.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1952

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

PRICE 5 CENTS

Youth League Classes Continue

FINANCE MINISTER EXPLAINS POLICY ON MONEY

Achievement of Economic Freedom

SIR John Kotelawala, Minister of Transport and Works presided at the second of the series of group discussions the members of the U.N.P. Youth League held at the held at the Headquarters Kollupitiya, the subject discussed being the Mone-tary Policy of Government. Explain-ing the nature of the task Sir John said that the subject was a difficult one to be expounded in Sinhalese or one to be expounded in Sinnaiese or Tamil owing to the want of the appropriate terms to describe the Eng-lish words exactly. The difficulty of translating foreign words into one's own mother tongue was considerable, particularly technical terms. Recently this difficultly ex-perienced by the Indonesians was illustrated. A party of Indonesians called at his office and they explan-ed that they had found it very diffied that they had found it very difficult to convey into Indonesian the Dutch language (Dutch having been the official language there during the occupation of the country by the Hollanders) and that they were now studying English as they had found it a suitable medium for communicating with other countries as a world language. and nearly everybody understood English, Anyway the Minister of Finance who had already addressed the group, he said would explain the present subject to them in clear and simple terms. He hoped that the members would not hesitate to ask questions on any point which may not be quite clear and they would receive the necessary answers.

THE CENTRAL BANK

Mr. J. R. Jayewardene Minister of Finance began his address by explaining the difference in the method of dealing with Government finance during the colonial regime and the policy adopted by the present Government after the achievement of independence. Formerly it was a colonial policy when the British Government administered the finances more to the benefit of the Government than to the benefit of the people of the country. There was no elected Finance Minister but a Colonial Treasurer. The last of the Colonial Treasurers was Sir Oliver Goonetilleke. After the attainment of independence the first move by the present Government was the establishment of the Central Bank which was opened in August 1950. Mr. J. R. Jayewardene Minister of was the establishment of the Central Bank which was opened in August 1950. All the banks in operation then were owned by Europen schareholders who favoured the European element preferably. There was the Bank of Ceylon established four or five years ago which competed with the European owned banks. The Central Bank today which is vested with wide powers now issued new currency notes and controlled the other banks as regards the amount of capital they could hold and the terms under which loans could be made and how much balance could be retained by the banks, determine the purpose for which overdrafts and loans could be made and in fact ex-

ercise full control of all business in the country and advice the Minister of Finance on all finan-cial matters. The Central bank held gold bullion etc. in stock and auth-orised the quotas for disposal. All these operations were under Parlia-mentary control.

SOURCES OF REVENUE

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In the matter of investment for agricultural and industrial purposes Government has decided on an expenditure of Rs. 550 million from revenue obtained from taxes, duties levied and loan funds for the construction and completion of projects for the benefit of the people, such as the Gal Oya scheme, the Hydro Electric scheme etc. During the colonial regime taxes were levied on the import of rice, flour and other necessaries which effected the poor. But today the Income Tax was the largest source of income and the rich had to pay. As much as 80 per cent of the revenue was today derived from Income Tax. Formerly the lowest taxable stage was an income of Rs. 200 per mensem. This has now been raised to incomes of Rs. 400 which was a great relief to the middleclass wage earners. Immediately 30,000 tax payers were freed from the tax and the rich were taxed on a higherscale. There were concessions made to married men and liberal allowances were granted according to the number of dependents for their maintenance education in the case of children etc. In the case of the wealthy folk investing capital on industrial or agricultural projects, resulting in the employment of large labour forces, concessions and allowances were made. In the case of new cultivation of lands with rubber tea or coconut exemptions from payment of income tax were made for a period of five years.

PURPOSES OF TAXATION

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Taxation was imposed for two purposes, to obtain revenue for the administration of Government and to meet the expenditure on national

purposes.

There was the Income Tax. Customs duty, on imports. There was no tax or duty on the people's food like rice, flour and medicinal drugs. In regard to the export of tea rubber and coconut the three major products of Ceylon the method of taxation from a fixed rate has been changed to a sliding scale. When the prices of these commodities rise, the tax is increased and when they declined a reasonable reduction is made. This had been enforced in the case of rubber for when the price was seventy cents a pound the duty payable was ten cents and this rate was continued even when the price rose to Rs.3 a pound. The Treasury got busy and introduced the sliding scale which by no means was a loss to the producer.

As regards agricultural products

As regards agricultural products such as rice, wheat or gingelly locally produced generous treatment was meted to the producers. A guaranteed price was fixed by Government and the producers received Rs, 8 per bushel. If the producer could sell it

outside at a higher price he was welcome to it, but if he could not Government was prepared to welcome to it, but if he could not Government was prepared to buy the produce at the guaranteed price. The result of this system was illustrated on one occasion when he and the Minister of Agriculture and Lands, Mr. Dudley Senanayake visited a colonisation area, where they noticed a number of young farmers come riding on bicycles. There were as many as hundred of them. When asked how they came to possess bicycles, their ready reply was "Why asked now they came to possess bicycles, their ready reply was "Why Sir. we sell our produce to the Government store and obtain a fixed price and we are able to enjoy a bicycle ride to and from work".

REDUCING COST OF LIVING
With a view to reducing the cost
of living Government has gone to
the extent of subsidising rice, flour
and sugar. Government paid 65 cents
for a measure of imported rice and
sold it to the people at twentyfive
cents. Similar subsidy was given in
the case of flour and sugar.
As much as 20 per cent
of the revenue of Government has been spent on the subsidy
and so far the subsidy has totalled
Rs. 200 million, Another important
feature of the monetary policy of
the Government was the retention
of the sterling balances lying to the
credit of Ceylon in London. There
(Continued on page 2)

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Parliamentary Democracy

CABINET SYSTEM

Eardley Gunesekera

DEMOCRACY and mentary democracy are two different things. But the latter is dependant on the former. It is with the growth of Parliamentary democracy do we see the development of the Cabinet System. A very special authority and dignity is attached to

System. A very special authority and dignity is attached to it because its members combine in themselves three kinds of status. It is the Executive because laws are carried out as a result of the passage of laws by the sanction of the general will. It is also a steering committee of the legislature because its members for the most part are members of Parliament. Last but not least it constitutes a committee of the majority party in Parliament. The Cabinet, then is a committee of the legislature enacting laws or codes by general consent. It must also be remembered that by virtue of the exalted position it holds it leads and directs the legislature.

The Cabinet is not merely a collection of Ministers with certain departments of public administration allotted to them. It has the property of cohesion and corporate unity. This is due to two factors—collective responsibility and homogeneous party support. Every Minister is responsible on his part to the legislature he is compelled by constitutional practice to resign. This situation was experienced by Sir Samuel Hoare in England while in Ceylon there have been quite a few. Though however Ministers may come and go at various times the intrinsic nature of the Cabinet remains unchanged. It is a feature of Parliamentary democracy and Cabinet government that no Minister may have any sort of committee to advise or control ministerial direction. The Minister and the Minister alone is responsible to the legislature for all his actions. Ceylon under the Donoughmore Con-

stitution tasted this defect to a large extent when the Executive Committee system and divided responsibility sounded synonymous.

Each Minister is responsible for the conduct of affairs under his aegis and care, but in the matter of polcy the Cabinet is collectively responsible. A line of demarcation must then be drawn between what is administration and what is policy. On superficial examination there seems to be little or no difference, but in actual fact there is a big contrast. It is best to illustrate this feature by a practical example. Minister A may be excluded from the Cabinet for the mismanagement of say, petrol control: that petrol should be controlled is a matter of policy. Taking all in all the Cabinet tells the legislature, "You take us and our policy as a whole. You may not pick and choose your policy, approving this and rejecting that. You must take the good with what you think is the bad." The Cabinet refuses to cater for individual whims and fancies. It, therefore embarks on a course of general policy which it earnestly hopes would satisfy the "hunger" of everyone at large.

It is this distinction between administration and policy that we must endeavour to understand. On comprehending policy and administration together with their respective implications, it is possible to view the relationship between Cabinet and legislature in a different light. If the Cabinet is beaten on the second reading of a Bill it is compelled to resign but if the Cabinet is beaten in the Committee stage it does not do so. This is due to the fact that during the Committee stage administrative problems are dealt with. A defeat in financial estimates warrants the resignation of the entire Cabinet because this is a matter of policy. If, however.

the Cabinet is defeated in the Budget it does not do so as it is a mode of raising finance. The House may not approve of a particular budget but the Cabinet has always the option of submitting another budget for consideration.

Cabinet policy must always be upheld by wholehearted party support. This is conspicuous in Britain unlike in France where the Cabinet is at the mercy of the fluctuating nature of Parliamentary support. If parliamentary support and backing flickered then the Cabinet would be dangerously unstable for the legislature in effect could reject and frame a policy. Parliamentary democracy would be stripped of its efficiency if this were to happen, and we would be confronted by legislative initiative rather than executive leadership. A good Cabinet must always be in a position to lead the legislature rather than have the legislature dominating the Cabinet as a result of wavering Parliamentary party support.

The Cabinet also "controls" the

ing the Cabinet as a result of wavering Parliamentary party support.

The Cabinet also "controls" the party. This is evident because the Cabinet does not tolerate within its ranks members who would rather be a hindrance and an obstacle in the execution of its programme and policy. Thus dissentient elements are "excommunicated" from the party, and are further faced with the grim prospect of not having the support of the party organisation at the next elections. Besides this, however, the Prime Minister's power to dissolve Parliament and force a general election has a tremendous effect on members of the Cabinet, for seldom do we see a member anxious to experience the rigours and rough and tumble of a general election over again. This power to dissolve keeps the party together.

The unanimity of the Cabinet and majority is dialectical. This is of vital importance and unanimity and cohesion are maintained by regular meetings of the party. Seldom de we see Cabinet Ministers disagreeing or expressing displeasure on a particular issue on the floor of the House, for to show cleavages within the Cabinet is to strengthen and encourage the Opposition. Thus all controversial issues are thoroughly hammered out and settlements

arrived at "behind the scenes." The party majority in Parliament usually takes a Minister into his confidence and trust without heistation. There is one very important reason which we can attribute to this fact, the Cabinet and party are what we may call "bone of the bone and flesh of the flesh." They are elected by the people because they have made a pledge to do certain things when in power. They are elected on the same programme, believe in things of common interest, and are nourished by the same umbilical cord of a common conviction.

A Cabinet enjoying majority support in Parliament does not mean that it must behave in an arbitrary fashion. It wields all executive power and if it does so satisfactorily it is bound to survive the full five years with minimum difficulty. A Cabinet may have full party support but that does not mean that it must impose its will on others or behave dictatorially. The strength it derives from the House must enable the Cabinet to meet oppositional criticism and healthy debate. This is one way by which a Government is judged and the Cabinet must always be conscious of the fact that the "people of the country control the reins of government not by the way they will vote "next time."

A Cabinet has four important characteristics. Firstly it is informed since the executive authority of the country is always in an advantageous position of being able to formulate legislation. Secondly it is responsible and I have already indicated this earlier, A Cabinet cannot dust off the responsibility for its shortcomings as a result of its clear working majority. Thirdly it is integrated because the power and authority attached to a Minister is the result of co-operation and compromise. In the discharge of their duties they are compelled to make their policies more harmoniously. This integrated because the power and in remembering them it is best always to be conscious that it "sleeps and lives" on the armchalr of policy

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Youth League Classes Continue

(Continued from page 1)

was as much as £90 million. There was also a favourable dollar balance too. As most of our exports were to sterling and dollar countries Ceylon stood to gain. Besides Ceylon's exports during the war years were larger in quantity than the imports and large balances were lying in England to her credit. After Independence was attained it was considered that it was not good enough to have them retained in England and that they must seek dollar resources too and started trading with dollar countries as well. Today they had the power to use up the balances. In those countries the pound sterling and the dollar had a high value and all payments were made on that basis. Most of the trade in tea and rubber was with those countries. Today the world Bank fixed the value of the rupee according to the wealth and economic conditions of the countries.

SOME QUESTIONS

A youth leaguer enquired why the new currency notes issued by the Central Bank still bore the King's

Mr. Jayewardene explained that he King of England was King of Ceylon a constitutional monarch and the constitution of Ceylon was on similar lines as the British a democratic institution the head of which was the King.

Sir John in further explanation said that one of the reasons for the

retention of the King's likeness on the currency notes was to prevent forged notes being circulated. It will be remembered, he said, that during the last war the Germans forged English pound notes and scattered them from aeroplanes all over the countryside of Britain the main object of which was to tempt workers away from work and create an impasse for when these poor men find their pockets full they might be disinclined to work. But the Germans were disappointed for these honest workers were patriots who handed over the forged notes they picked to the nearest Post Office and thus frustrated the enemy's tactics. In Ceylon they had a Governor-General who was advised by the Prime Minister who actually administered the Government. If they wanted they might elect a King but who was prepared to meet the Civil List of a Royal Sovereign? They might elect a President as in India which is a Republic. Ceylon is not so extensive a country like that sub-continent and its constitution is different from that of India. As a democratic country under a constitutional monarch Ceylon acknowledged the King of England as the King of Ceylon and as such His Majecty's likeness appears in the Ceylon currency notes.

At this stage Sir John and Mr. Jayewardene left the hall to attend a meeting at Temple Trees and Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis occupied the chair.

(Continued on page 3)

HISTORY OF TRANSPORT RERVICES CEYLON

IN pre-historic, ancient and medieval periods, there was not generally speaking an advanced civilization spread through out the world, except through out the world, except in a few countries at intermittent periods of Ceylon Egypt, Indus Valley Greece, Rome, Assyria, Babylon etc. In such a state of society economy consisted of barter exchange, which meant that the various tribes or communities were self-supporting, according to the modern views on economics. But as society expanded, new trends in human development took place. There was evinced a gradual transformation in the field of agriculture and Industry, which is generally referred to as the 'Industrial Revolution.' The appropriateness of the term Revolution is questioned by many economists. This change in situation from the original status quo, altered every momentum of human environment.

The most striking of which is the Geographical Momentum'. A pre-requisite to this new condition gradually came to be the need for better transport. Therefore this necessity arose from a change from barter exchange to a definite medium of exchange which is called economy.

exchange which is called economy.

From the general description it automatically follows that our country has also to keep pace with the advanced countries. There is ample historical proof to show that our country was well provided with a good system of communication even in the absence of modern modes of transport. It is true tha such a system was not extended to all parts of the Island. It was only the other day that the excellent and intricate system of roads at Sigiriya was discovered by a chance excavation.

Then under partial foreign domination, especially under European occupation, firstly under the Portuguese and secondly under the Dutch, sporadic attempts were made to improve the modes of transport especially for military and commercial purposes.

But under the British, Ceylon ra-pidly witnessed progress in this line. The industrial and agricultural re-volutions of the 19th Century neses-sitated that the colonies must pri-marily be for their exploitation to

maintain the industries at 'Home' and provide a market for the mancefactures. The raw materials produced especially in the system of plantation agriculture demanded a system of cheap transport mainly for economic reasons. Thus gradually a system suited only in the interests of the 'Mother Country' was put into operation, Far more vital needs of the coutry were ignored. Therefore the very existence of the peasantry, the backbone of a country's wealth was threatened, if I be permitted to state with extinction, they were subjected to great humiliations by the employment of Indian Labour, allenation of ancestral properties etc., for purposes of plantation development.

But to their credit the only monu-

But to their credit the only monu-ment that stands is the economic development of the courry in the matter of plantation agriculture. Other aspects of agriculture and in-dustry were deliberately ignored and neglected.

of the country. It is not necessary in this short article to enter into discussion of the pros and cons of that assertion. During the Second World War, our railway services suffered much damage in depreciation. It is not by a revolution but by a gradual process that progress can be made. For this, new coaches have been imported and orders placed for more. It is also proposed for the electrification of rail suburban services, to minimise the costs to make it a paying concern, the profits of which could be expended in providing more amenities to the partons A policy of Ceylonization is strongly advocated.

A new feature is the developments in the matter of Air Transport. Today there is the Ceylon Airways and the Royal Ceylon Air Force. Pilots are been gradually trained to take full responsibility. Bilateral agreements have been signed with many countries to secure reciprocal advantages to benefit our infant.

various individual enterprises were compelled by law to amalgamate. This has resulted in an officient system. These companies are resulted in an officient system. These companies are resulted in an officient system. These companies are resulted in the system of the shareholders, employees and patrons. Similarly to bring about a uniformity in the matter of transport services and to make it as efficient as possible the New Motor Traffic Act was recently passed by the Parliament. This aims at achieving drastic changes, ranging from the manner of granting certificates of competence to drive motor vehicles to control all road transport in the country.

It is very difficult to discuss the merits of this Act here. Certainly, it has infinite advantages, e.g. Formerly there was not so much difference between private and hiring lorries with the result that severe competition brought untold damage to the transport entrepreneur, Now the distinction is clearly seen. Private carriers licence is granted for private work only and Public Carriers Permit for hiring purpose only with the proviso that a radius of only 70 miles is covered by that route.

14 massive concrete deep water quays will mark the development of

miles is covered by that route.

14 massive concrete deep water quays will mark the development of the Colombo harbour which work is scheduled to be completed by the Schneider establishment, a French Construction Company within three and half years of its inauguration. The completion of this plan will make Colombo one of the best Ports in the World, It is proposed to make imporvements to Trincomalee and Galle, Minor harbours will also bene fit from this scheme. A Ceylom Navy has already been established. The suggestion to form a mercantile Shipping company failed to materialise in the face of competition from other countries.

By Mrs. Clodagh Jayasuriya

This legacy was suddenly left to our citizens, when our country attained the status of a 'Dominion', It is a creditable achievement that the former Ministry of Communication and works, under the able guidance of the then Minister of Transport and Works, Sir John Kotelawala did so much for improvement of transport services, even though we were a Crown Colony. Ws are grateful that the voters once again placed the same confidence in him. Now it remains to review very briefly some of the striking activities of this Ministry in this direction.

There is not a very good system if inland waterways in Ceylon. It was important in the past. The Dutch paid much importance towards this development. There is roughly about 120 miles of inland waterways in Ceylon. This excludes the ordinary river transport.

Regarding the railway system, at present, there is nearly 900 miles of this, covering the principal towns. The extension of this mode of transport is uneconomic due to severe competition from road transport. But critics assert that extension is urgent for the economic development

Air Transport system. The present government is of opinion that Ratmalana should be made one of the best aerodromes of the East. Steps have already been taken to implement this decision. A series of others will also be undertaken at the Kankesanturai aerodrome. Thus our country has gained world recognition, in the matter of airways.

The most important is the road transport. Public Works Department, District Road Committees and local bodies are responsible for their construction and maintenance. Today there is over. 6,350 miles of good motorable roads. Many new roads are being planned especially in the less developed areas as in the Eastern Province. The Colombo-Galle road widening scheme is in full swing of progress. It may fairly be said that we have a good system of road transport in Aisa.

A few years ago, there was no proper system of omnibus services in Ceylon. Any individual was entitled to operate a service on any line. This involved grave disadvantages of which we were then familiar. To prevent cut-throat competition those

" THE CHALLENGE OF OUR TIMES "

Under the auspices of the Nuge. goda Lyceum a public lecture on the above subject will be delivered by Mr. Ananda Tissa de Alwis on Saturday 1st March at 5-45 p.m. at the Nalanda College Hall, Nugegoda.

Mr. N. J. V. Cooray Proctor S.C. will preside.

Youth League Classes Continue

(Continued from page 2)

OFFENSIVE JOURNALISM

OFFENSIVE JOURNALISM

A member asked why the editor of the U. N. P. Journal did not take any action against a certain Sinhalese Journal which villified him almost in every issue.

Mr. de Alwis replied that to take any action against such a journal was the best advertisment for that offending journal, for once the Court proceedings are published the world would knows of the existence of the mush-room publication which had been so obscure as to be ignored. Besides the name of the publisher registered as a rule was that of a nobody who had neither the capacity or the wealth to stand a public trial. The actual, editor might be someone else but the man charged would be the man whose name has been registered in the Registrar-Generals' Department records. Damages if demanded and conceded by the Courts could never be recovered from such a person and the cost of engaging lawyers would have to be met by the party instituting the action. It would be a useless undertaking. These obscure mushroom publications are well-known to publish the most absurd stories and falsehoods unashamed. The lies are repeated so often that there might be some who perhaps belive them but is not always so. Once he remembered some Statements about himself (the speaker) in which he was reported to have been assaul-

ted at a meeting at which Mr. Bandaranaike was the chief speaker. It was stated in one page of the journal that he had been bundled out of the hall and on another page of the same journal that he had been seen sneaking through the backdoor. That was the sort of statement made in those journals and in time the readers soon discover for themselves the deceit practised on them by these unscrupulous publicists.

LOCAL OPTION

Another question was in regard to the closing of traverns and the esta-blishment of a Government Dis-

tillery.

The explanation was that the U.N.P.. Government was a democratic from of Government elected by the people. Liberty of action was permitted. By local option a tavern could be closed in response to the will of the people who were opposed to the retention of one in a particular area. There was also people who wanted drink whose demand also had to be met for by legislation one cannot make people righteous or to give 'up drinking. There was a deman for liquor but the supply was insufficient hence the establishment of the distillery to provide the supply. The government could not be expected to use compulsion on any one but has to act according to the will of the people and maintain freedom.

At the close those present sang the National Anthem Namo Namo Matha and dispersed.

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TAKES ON A RURAL CEYLON "NEW LOOK" Progress of Local Government

RURAL Ceylon is taking on a "new look" as a result of the intensification of the development of rural areas. The Village Committees, Town Councils and Urban Councils Councils and Urban councils and Urban Councils are quick to make use of the resources, being keenly alive to the needs of their particular areas. For village works this year a sum of Rs. 4½ milion has been allocated for villages wells and a like sum for community Centres which teach the people through the medium of play-grounds, reading rooms. libraries, the creative use of leisure. There are now nearly 2000 centres already recognised by Government. Water supplies form another field of Cen-tral Government assistance. A sum of Rs. 7½ million was provided under the 1937 Loan Scheme. Under the existing financial relations, the Central Government meets the en-tire cost of new schemes excluding the cost of the internal distribution system. The cost of drainage schemes approved after engineering of playple through the medium

surveys are also subsidised by the Central Government to the extent of two-thirds of the total cost.

DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS

There has been considerable intensification of the development of years Village Committees have received in grannts from the Central Government Rs. 9,000,000 for village wells and together with other local authorities Rs. 14 million for Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. With progress amenities of past generations become essentials of the present, and problems which were local before have a tendency to become national ones, requiring more than parochial efforts at solution. Considerable assistance, therefore, is required from the Central Government. This has been recognised and the Government is giving much assistance by way of grants for the development activities of the local authorities. For housing, for instance, since Independence grants amounting to Rs. 7,000,000 have been made for slum clearance schemes for the erection of 1,528 houses and almost Rs. 16,000,000 for the construction of 2,500 working class houses.

POWERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

AUTHORITIES

The Local Government Ordinances of Ceylon confer on the Local Authorities powers and dutles mainly in regard to public health and sanitation public thoroughfares and public utility services. The protection and promotion of the comfort convenience and welfare of the people and the development of amenities of local authorities are their responsibility. The Local Self-Govering units are (1) Village Committees in the rural areas (2) Town Councils in the urban areas and (4) Municipalities in the highly developed urban towns. Every village and town in Ceylon (with the exception of the undeveloped area falling within the Gal Oya Development Board) is covered by some local self-governing units. ing units

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT

For the carrying out of the functions of the local self-governing units, whether it be keeping the town clean, maintaing a conservancy and scavenging service building Roads, bridges culverts or reauseways improving water supply, putting up housing schemes or markets or electrifying the area etc. the finances required are found through several sources; by the levy of rates on immovable property on assessment, rates and fees for services, by licence duties on trade premises and by the collection of rates and fees for the use of Council property e.g. Markets and Fairs. These alone are not sufficient and grants from the Central Government are sought through the Local Government are sought through the Local Government personal control of the stamp duties, fees, fines and grants in lieu of abolished revenue. There are besides grants for specific purposes like housing, drainage, water supply child welfare clinics, village works, community centres, improvement, of Rest Houses, provision of libraries etc, Applications for all such financial aids have to be made through the Local Government Department.

DO YOU KNOW.

DO YOU KNOW.

That there are 7 Municipal Councils, 36 Urban Councils, 36 Town Councils and 400 Vil-lage Committees covering the developed areas of the whole Island.

That in 1939 the assistance rendered by the Central Government for Village works was Rs. 250,000 which was increased in 1951 to Rs. 2,500,000 and there is provision of Rs. 4,500,000, for 1952.

(Continued on page 5)

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IN STONE **PROPHECY**

Hindus as Mount Kailas the South, and to the British Fort Frederick of Trincomalee is well known in the island. Visitors will happily recall the lovable tame deer that offered a timid welcome to the Fort.

This Konesar Hill, unlike other hills of Ceylon is not an indigenous element of the land. It traces its element of the land. It traces has origin back to the Kailas group of mountains of the Himalayas of which it was one of the peaks. The Konesar Hill in the East Coast is entirely seprated from the local Konesar Hill in the East Coast is entirely seprated from the local mountain system. It is not a continuation of either the Central mountain system of Ceylon or of the South Indian Rangers. Geologists are of opinion, it is being said, that it has a closer affinity to the mountains of North India than to the mountains of Ceylon.

On the summit of the Hill stood once the Temple of Siva. This the Great King Ravana of old Lanka-puri used to visit daily for purposes of warphin. But according to the of worship. But according to the old legends and the Hindu Puranas, Ravana grew weary of such daily trips and before long he conceived he conceived the idea of removing it to his own place. On one auspices day he pulled it out of the earth, carried it, Hill, Temple and all, on his strong broad back and deposited it at a spot a few miles away from his Fort. There it flourished in all its former grandeur and sanctity.

Today visitors to Konesar Hill will see numerous inscriptions on

will see numerous inscriptions on the walls and battlements in strange scripts — some clear and others on the verge of obliteration. None of these has been clearly identified by archeologists. Several other inscriptions are said to be lying buried, under the debris of rocks and in the bed of the sea. Some may even be in Chola country or in Portugal or in Holland having been taken there by the invaders. What matters most, however, is

that one such inscription known as the Konesar-Kalvettu, or the Trin-comalee Inscription, is believed to have some connection with Konesar, the legendary God of Trincomalee. It is also stated to have foretold the fate of Ceylon.

The genuineness and accuracy of this prophecy are matters the average Ceylon Tamil will not allow to be doubted or disputed because they are supported by a wealth of ancient books and ola manuscripts together with an abundance of By Shirley J. Payoe & S. V. Ratnam

legends and lore carefully preserved by the elderly people of East Ce lon. To them it—the validity a fact introvertible, and a trunassailable by any arguments.

That many of these inscriptions remain undeciphered, and that the particular one with the prophecy has not been identified, need not cause undue doubts as to the exist-ence of the prophecy itself. There is evidence enough to is evidence enough to show that at a remote age in the now dead past some seer or saint had compiled a sort of compendium of all the inscriptions with copious commenta-ries on each. It is recorded that a book called the Kalvettu Pathathi was used on great occasions as a guide or a book of reference to get various information on matters connected with the management of the temple, and on the customary rights and duties of those entrusted with the control of the temple pro-

The Kalvettu Pathathi available now. It is alleged that it was in the custody of one Kanagasundra Perumal, a petty ruler of Thinnevely Gilla in South whose descendants are not India. traceable now. But fortunately men-tion of it is made in another reli-able authority, which gives a clear and definite version of the prophecy and presents a graphic account of the time, place and person connected with the interpretation of the prophecy.

It is clear that the meeting the Konesar Hill is very old because the Puranas say that long before the hill was brought to Sri Lanka it lay in the bosom of earth waiting for the time when it should be made known to the world. But the interpretation of the in-scription took place, it is said, on the full moon day, the 25th of Vaikasi (May) of the year 512 of the Kaliyuga—which corresponds to May-June, B.C. 2589. That part of the story is as follows:—

After the time of Ravana sea encroached on the land merging his Fort and the road eading to his temple. The shrine leading to his temple. itself was seriously damaged. Bass rocks off Hambantota and the Barrier reef along the treacherous East Coast are still pointed out as relics of this disaster. It is the belief of all devout Hindus that the original temple of Konesar lies unscathed in the ocean bed, and that the one demolished later by the Portuguese was built by Kulakko-

King Kulakkotan came to Ceylon with a band of followers and devoted with a band of followers and devoted all his wealth and time to restoring the ancient splendour of Trincomalee. The new temple on Swami Rock was restored and the surrounding areas were developed. The Minnerlya and the Kanthalai tanks were repaired. Many other works too are ascribed to his deep religious fervour. After satisfying himself that he had done everything for the maintenance of the temple, he summoned the various councils, officials and dignitaries. He enjoined them and dignitaries. He enjoined them to carry on his good work, and it was on this memorable occasion that King Kulakkotan came to explain the famous Kalvettu.

- (a) Anyone who misappropriates the temple funds or properties will become a leper and his ill-gotten gains will be stolen or looted by thieves.

 (b) A time will come when the temple will be neglected by the people so much so that the daily Poojas will stop.

- dally Poojas will stop.

 (c) During his time a king (Gaja Bahu) will come from Anuradhapura to make necessary provision for the smooth working of the temple.

 (d) Then Ceylon will come under the rule of Malabar Kings, during whose time the Portuguese (cat-eyed race) will conquer and destroy the temple and sack the town.

 (e) After that the Dutch (tigereyed race) will follow.

 The Konesar-Kalvettu then fore-

eyed race) will follow.

The Konesar-Kalvettu then foretells the conquest of Ceylon by the
English tiger-eyed race) "The
people will live happily and, free
from want and disease, Ceylon at
last will be a self-supporting and
independent nation for ever" concludes the relevant part of the
verses which embody the great prophecy in stone.

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New U. C. Chairman Feted

MR. T. AHAMBARAM, Chairman.
U.C., Trincomalee, was given a grand social on Sunday, 17th February, 1952, by the Committee of Management of the St. Anthony's Sports Club in the Trincomalee Rest House. The Rest House was gally decorated and illuminated. The Presidents and Hony, Secretaries of all Sports Clubs in Trincomalee along with the members of the St. Anthony's Sports Club were present for the social.

the social.

Mr. T. Ahambaram, J.P., and Capt.
A. C. Kanagasingam, M.B.E., Crown
Proctor, Trincomalee, were garlanded on arrival by Mr. B. C. Johnpillai, Hony. Secretary of the St.
Anthony's Sports Club. After the
social Messrs. A. R. A. M. Aboobucker, M.P. for Mutur, and Capt. A. C.
Kanagasingam, Crown Proctor, Trincomalee, spoke at length about the
sterling qualities of Mr. T. Ahambaram which contributed towards
his present elevated position as the
first citizen of Trincomalee.

Mr. T. Ahambaram in renly ex-

Mr. T. Ahambaram in reply expressed his gratitude to the member of the St. Anthony's Sports Club for having got up such a grand social and remarked that he did not

deserve all the good things that have been spoken about him. He also thanked all those who parti-cipated in the function.

V. A. RATNASINGHAM. 28/3, Div. No. 10, Trincomalee.

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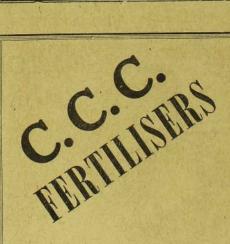
(Continued from page 4)

That Government has granted Rs. 100,000 in 1939 •towards Maternity and Child Welfare and provision made for 1952 is five times as much.

That the financial assistance given for slum clearance in 1939 was Rs. 100,000 and this year provision has been made to grant Rs. 2,000,000.

That block grants paid to Local
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year 1951 was Rs. 2.120,000 and
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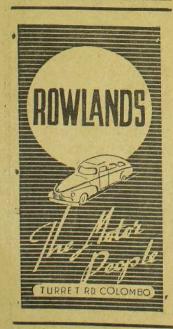
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Friday, February 29, 1952

A MARXIST TRAP FOR THE UNWARY

The realisation that the General Elections are now fast approaching has made our Marxist friends do a typical somersault in the hope of carrying away the masses with their gymnastic contortions. Till quite recently, the Red leaders, like all good Marxists, believed in and preached the gospel of the annihilation of religion. Regarding it as the opium by which the masses were kept under subjection by the capitalist class, they steadfastly set their face against religion and it was an open secret that, if they were re-turned to power, the same ruthless drive which their Russian masters tried out in the Soviet Union, would operate in Ceylon with the aim of destroying religion. But now it appears that the Marxist strategists have come to the tardy realisation that their policy of anti-religion will not be endorsed by an electorate composed, in the main, of men and women who believe in some form of religion—be Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity or the Islamic faith. Consequently, with an unscrupulousness that is typical of their political methods, they are now, seemingly, recanting. One after another of the Marxist leaders are publicly declaring that, although Marxism does not believe in religion, the individual Marxist is free have faith in whatever religion he chooses. It may, quite conceivably, happen, before long, that some of the revolutionary

capitalists. balances are steadily increasing as a result of shrewd business deals or professional fees, may even go to the extent of subsidising religion by munificent contributions towards the maintenance or construction of places of worship. But even the most gullible voter will not be caught by this blatant move which is so obviously inspired by a desire to hoodwink the public into believing that Marxism is no longer the enemy of religion. So long as the revolutionary parties subscribe to the Gospel of Marx, they are firmly and irrevocably committed to the policy of annihilating all religions. they now pretend that they have turned over a new leaf, it is solely for the nefarious purpose of ensnaring the public and trapping it into giving them its support. This change of front also appears to directed towards closing the net round those misguided 'rebels" who have rallied to the banner of Mr. Bandaranaike whose overweening political ambitions led to his fall. If this group of disgruntled rebels who now go about the country posing as the champions of Buddhism, allow themselves to be caught by the specious promises of their wily Marxist allies, they can rest assured that they will be driving the first nail into the coffin of religion in Ceylon. For sins much less heinous than theirs, Congress "rebels" in India like Acharya Kripalani forfeited the confidence of the people and now find themselves in the political wilderness. Unless Mr. Bandaranaike's followers are anxious to commit "hara-kiri" they will be well advised break off their unholy alliance with men, who regard the annihilation of religion as the first commandment of their

If

whose

bank

DANGER ZONE-ROAD TO

MANDALAY

ANXIOUSLY eying Southeast Asia's vulnerable frontiers, the Pentagon has begun to fear that the next trouble spot may be not Indo-China, but Burma. A rich price and weakly held, Burma, which declar-ed its independence from the British Empire in 1947, has a common frontier with Red China which its ill-brained ill-equipped 50,000-man army shows no capacity to defend. Last week at the Paris meeting of U. N., Burma, and the Paris meeting of U. N., as well as Indo-China. was in mind when representatives of the U.S.. Britain and France, one by one, got up to warn that any "Communist aggression in Southeast Asia would require the most urgent and earnest consideration of the U.N."

consideration of the U. N."

Burma's ineffectual government, unable to control rebel Karen tribes and armed bands of local Communists was also disturbed last week by the presence in Burma of remnants of Chiang Kai-shek's troops led by General Li Mi. Defeated by the Communists in 1949, the Nationalist soldiers fled into Burma, last year made an unsuccessful foray into China's Yunnan Province. They now number about 10,000 men, Said Burma's U.N. Delegate U. Myint Thein: "We are

doing all we can to get them out of the country, but every, time our troops go into action they disappear over friendly borders or into the thick jungle and mountains....The People's Republic of China is alive to thecontinued presence of what might be imagined to be the nucleus of an army for World War III."

Russia's U.N. Delegate Jacob Malik

Russia's U.N. Delegate Jacob Malik was quick to see and seize an oppor-tunity. He charged that the Chinese Nationalist army in Burma is com-posed of six fully equipped divisions, "with an air supply line from Chengmai in Thalland, where a U.S. Staff Headquarters comprising two major generals, seven colonels at 27 majors, is in charge of training."

27 majors, is in charge of training."

The State Department denounced the charge for the nonsence that it is. The U.S. has no soldiers with Li Mi's army, has twice asked Formosa to quit supplying it with arms. Chiang Kai-Sheik's government insists that Li Mi is independent of them, and "we have no intention of making Burma a military base of any kind." Yet last week Li Mi himself was reported in Formosa, where he had flown on Christmas Eve. — TIME.

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BRITAIN'S FOREIGN SECRETARY Anthony Mr.

EDEN and the Foreign Office are like a mirror and its reflection. In its 170 years (for the Foreign Office as such goes back only to the days of the American Revolution) the "Office" has been a way of ingrond of a particular kind of British character.

From the greying top of his head down to his polished boot tips—a straight drop of six elegant feet—Robert Anthony Eden is the epitome of that character. Now a suave but grey and furrowed 54, the diplomatic "Boy Wonder" of the '3os sits in the red and gilt office of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs as if it had been fitted to him by a Savile Row tailor.

tailor.

His working day stretched sometimes to 16 and 17 hours, beginning usually with breakfast and a quick skim of the London Times in bed at 8 followed by a stroll to take the air in nearby St. James's Park. At his Foreign Office desk, his back to a glowing coal fire and a gleaming portrait of George III, he opened and closed a steady stream of red leather dispatch boxes in which the Office has traditionally handed about the cables, reports and memoranda that link Whitehall with the rest of the world. Twirling his horn-rimmed glasses, massaging his eyebrows with fingertips he studied dispatches, scribbled notes and conferred with assistants in groups of two or three at a time.

Occasionally Eden telephoned to

ferred with assistants in groups of two or three at a time.

Occasionally Eden telephoned to No. 10 Dowing Street, or bounded across the street to consult. Winston Churchill and other Cabinet members personally. One morning he flew over to Paris for urgent talks about. French-German quarrels over European rearmament, and hopped back next afternoon. There was business also in the House of Commons, where Eden, the ablest Tory parliamentarian, is also in his element. There he sat languidly, stretching his legs, hands deep in pockets, his head on the back of the bench, and looking for all the world like a Hollywood casting director's conception of a brilliant, handsome, urbane Tory Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden has spent much of his life grooming himself to preside with Etonian perfection over the technical machinary of Britain's foreign affairs. The process began technical machinary of Britain's foreign affairs. The process began before his birth. Windlestone Hall a handsome, porticoed house in the

northern county of Durham, where Eden was born, has been the family seat for four centuries In the 19th century one Eden was in Parlia-ment, two of his brothers were am-bassadors and a fourth governed Maryland

century one Eden was in Parliament, two of his brothers were ambassadors and a fourth governed Maryland,
Anthony's father, Sir William, 7th baronet of West Auckland and 5th of Maryland, was an eccentric who loved art, painted well, and despised politic red flowers, the smell of whisky or tobacco, and the high-pitched voices of young children, in cluding those of his four sons (Anthony was the third) and one daughter. It was Eden's mother, a Sargent portrait come to life who nutured her son's interest in politics.

At Eton, Eden was a competent but not brilliant scholar, with a fleeting interest in theology. When World War I came, 28 members of Eden's Middle Fourth went, like him, into combat; nine were killed. Two of nis brothers also were killed in that "slaughter of the finest," which robbed England of the flower of a generation. Eden went into the King's Royal Rifle Corps as a lieutenant at 18, came out of France a captian with the Military Cross.

At postwar Oxford he "took a first" (highest honors) in languages (Persian and Arabic), founded an art society began collecting French art (his favourite: Cezanne), and fixed on politics as his career. He was assigned the "safe" Tory seat of Warwick and Leamington, in England's dead centre in 1923, and has held on to it handily in every election since. To the voters there Socialist and Old Guard alike, ne is still "Captain Eden." Good looks a good brain and an influential father-in-law (he had married Miss Beatrice Beckett, daughter of an owner of the Yorkshire Post) caught the practiced eye of Stanley Baldwin.

FAMED FOREIGN SECRETARIES

Baldwin.

FAMED FOREIGN SECRETARIES
Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh (1769-1822) was an unstable U's
ter aristocrat whose favourite costume (pink hunting coat and riding
boots) made him a figure in Parliament. Foreign Secretary from '912
to 1822, he stiffened the Grand Alliance that defeated Napoleon. At
the Congress of Vienna, which laid
the foundations for a hundreds years
of Pax Britannica, he put on a
classic display of balance-of-power
diplomacy: to counter the threat of
Russo-Prussian hegemony in Europe
Castlereagh threw Britain's weight
on the side of the former enemy

nesia. The new born island repubie was hoping for an economic wizard to re-invigorate its lagging export trade and sickly home econo-my. Schacht and his prim wife put

France. Britons blamed Castlereagh for the economic distress following the Napoleonic wars, the neglected veterans of Waterloo and the martyrs of Peterloo (hundreds of hungry English weavers shot down by the militia for protesting their working conditions—Shelley wrote: "I Met Murder on the way. He had a Mask like Castlereagh." In 1822, in a fit of depression, Castlereagh slit his throat with a penknife.

George Cannng (1770-1827) was

Eden

a fit of depression. Castlereagh slit his throat with a penknife.

George Cannng (1770-1827) was perhaps the most brilliant of Anthony Eden's predecessors. John Quincy Atlams called him the "implacable and rancorous enemy of the U.S." Canning was rich, a brilliant orator, wrote poetry, and was trusted by almost no one. First named Secretary at 37, he was unable to work in harmony with Castlereagh then Secretary for War Castlereagh challenged him to a duel in which Canning was shot in the thigh; both then resigned. He did not return to office until Castlereagh's suicide. 13 years later Canning encouraged liberal movements in Europe used British naval power to keep France and Spain out of Latin America. He proposed a vact with the U.S. President James Monroe Instead unilaterally proclaimed a Monroe Doctrine. Later Canning made a famous boast: "I called the New World into existance to redress the balance of the Old".

Henry John Temple, Viscount Palmerston (1748-1865) great process.

Henry John Temple, Viscount Palmerston (1748-1865) great practitioner of cruiser diplomacy, bull-dozed British prestige to its highest level since Waterloo. Three times in office (for a total of 16 years), he was disliked by underlings, whom he bullied, but was popular with the public, to whom he was "Old Pam".

Under Old Pam a belligerent Britain invaded the Crimea to keep the Russians, out of Turkey annexed Hong Kong, elbowed the French away from Egypt, He disliked everything un-British the Americans were "swaggering builles."

Robert Arthur Talbot Gascoyne-Ceell, Marquess of Sallsbury (1830-1903) was first named by Disraell, headed the Foreign Office four time (15 years). He shrewdly played Russia, Turkey and the Balkan countries off against one another, kept peace in Europe. After Bismarck's retirement (1890) Salisbury was the most influential statesman in Europe He made the French drop their claim to Egypt, and (as Parime Minister) brought the Boer War to an end. Salisbury was an intellectual, a wit a student of theology and science, and a tolerant Conservative: "There is much," he said, "which it is highly undesirable to conserve".

Viscount Grey of Fallodon (1862-1933) preferred birdwatching to diplomacy; his friendship with Theo dore Roosevelt began in their mutual interest in birds A Liberal, Grey work ed desperately to maintain peace in Europe. Once convinced of Germany's warlike ambitions, he promoted the Anglo-French-Russian In tente, fought for a British declaration of war (the invasion of Belgium swung British sentiment to his side) He made the secret treaty which brought Italy in with the Allies, it was Grey who looked out of his Foreign Office window at lighting-up time on Aug. 4, 1914, and said with melancholy prescience: "The lamps are going out all over Europe we shall not see them Ilt again in our lifetime." Two years later he retired to his birds—which he could no longer see, Overwork had ruihed his eyes, TIME.

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HJALMAR SCHACHT AND MODNESIA

BACK in 1931, satirical little German magazine Simplicissimus published a prophetic bit of verse. It went:

It went:

And when we go to war at last,
Just fight and die, you duffer.

But win or lose, the war once past,
Be sure Herr Schacht won't suffer.

Purse-lipped, Stiff-necked Dr. (of
economics) Hajlmar Horace Greeley
Schacht, the seeming epitome of
bankerly rectitude, has always
known how to land right side up.
Under Kaiser Wilhelm II he was an
ardent nationalist; when the Weimar Republic was popular, he was an
ardent Domocrat and president of
the Reichsbank; when Hitler's
strength grew, he became and ardent
Nazi: "I met Hitler and told him I
was for him."

Schacht, as Germany's economic

was for him."

Schacht, as Germany's economic czar from 1933 to 1939, provided the money and raw materials for the Mazis' war machine. But when Hitler crashed, Sshacht stood in the war criminals' dock at Nurnberg and vowed: "I would have kileed Hitler personally if given the chance." Commented Von Ribbentrop, no lily himself: "He sold himself to many people before, now he is selling himself to the Allies also..."

Schacht, the adroit, was acquitted at British insistence. He even turned his experiences to profit, sold more than 300,000 copies of his book Settlement with Hitler, the biggest German bestseller since Mein Kampf.

Kampf.
Last year Herr Schacht, little the
worse for wear and ever on the lookout for money, journeyed to Indo-

my, schacht and his prim wife put up at the rambling Hotel des Indes in hot, grubby Jakarta (with the Government paying all his expenses, about §20,000) For three months he laboured,

Government paying all his expenses, about \$20.000) For three months he laboured.

His newly published 30-pages report (not yet translated into English) contained none of the expected wlzardry. It urged: welcome foreign capital; cut down controls which discourage foreign trade shun elaborate social welfare schemes; decentralize factories, to avoid building a cltified, slum-dwelling proletarait. Said a Western businessman: "Did they have to send Schacht here to find all this out?" Indonesia's Finance Minister snapped that he agreed with none of the Schacht report except that "Indonesia has a great future."

Last week Indonesia abolished foreign exchange certificates, but made it clear that it had planned to do this anyway, with or without Schacht. It also devalued Indonesia's rupiah by two-thirds, against Schacht's advice.

Back home in Hamburg, undaunted, the Herr Doktor celebrated his 75th birthday and announced that he was considering an invitation from Egypt's government to survey that country's economy. When a newspaperman asked about his Indodonesia report, he offered to show it to him —for a fee, "Tve got to build a new existence," he haid, beaming confidently. TIME.



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Books & Authors

By Quintus Delilkhan

TAMIL CULTURE

cation, "Tamil Culture," which is the first number of a Quarterly Review which is dedicated to the study and diffusion of Tamiliana. The Editor of this publication is Fr. Xavier S. Thani Nayagam, M.A., M.Litt., Director of the Tamil Literature Society, 52, New Colony, Tuticorin. This is a publication which should be redeemed. should be welcomed everywhere, as it maintains a really consistent standard of distinctive and various scholarships upon themes which are in themselves fascinating because they reveal for the first time to the readers who have no knowledge of Tamil, and have hitherto taken no interest in this language, the richness, variety and power of one of the most perfect and copious instruments of expression in the family of human languages. To those who have consistently studied Western languages it must come with a shock of surprise that competent scholars, who have a knowledge of Western languages in addition to their knowledge of Tamil, have declared ledge of Tamil, have declared the superiority of Tamil in many res-pects to the Greek and Latin which pects to the Greek and Latin which we think of almost automatically when we speak of the perfection of languages. Dr. Winslow, for example, says that Tamil is "more polished and exact than the Greek and, in both dialects, with its borrowed treasures, more copious than the Latin. In its fulness and power it more resembles English and German than any other living language."

man than any other living language."

Nor is this all. It is declared to be a language which is completely suited to the subtlest expressions of philosophic thought. It has been declared to be also finer than all European languages. It has been credited with a completely logical structure. Its precision is said to be remarkable in the highest possible degree. Charles E. Gover declared that the "Dravidian peoples possess one of the noblest literatures from a moral point of view, that the world has seen." "The Tamil poets," said Fr. Beschi, "use the genuine language of poetry on the subject of the divine attributes and the nature of virtue." "I have sometimes felt," said Dr. Pope, "as if there must be a blessing in store for a people that delight so utterly in compositions thus remarkably expressive of a hunger and thirst after righteousness". There can be no doubt that there is urgent reason for the existence of a quarterly which will enable people in this country and in Europe. America and other places to realise the beauty and value of the Tamil language, which has been so well spoken of by competent scholars whose judgment is worthy of credence.

The Quarterly is a ploneer work which bears an impress of distinc-

The Quarterly is a ploneer work which bears an impress of distinction in that the articles deal collectively with subjects that are sure to be considered of inestimable value to all those who love the discovery of new sources of interest in literature. The Dravidians are a people with a long and honourable history of intel-

vilege to be able to understand true nature of their heritage to the modern mind. There is in the world today a great deal of intellectual today a great deal of interectual curiosity and a desire to understand the minds of other peoples and other nations. The literature of a people is a key which enables one to enter readily into their minds, their ways of thought, their hearts' secrets and their springs of action which would their springs of action which would otherwise remain obscure to our apprehension. It is pleasant to know that there is so much to learn of the true life of the Tamil people, and of astounding intellectual nent from a publication achievement from which will deal continuously with the hoarded treasures of centuries and which promises an almost inexhaustible source of supply to our curiosity and which can so copiously and abundantly cater to our delight.

Fr. Thani Nayagan when he toured Ameirca and other places recently, and lectured on Tamil literature, found a most responsive and alert audience, eager for more information about Tamil literature. It was only natural therefore to satisfy this wide curiousity by bringing out a journal in English which would stimulate interest, and sustain it, and Ameirca and other places recently, mulate interest, and sustain it, and lead to a study of this great and inspiring language. Individual scholars in America and many American Universities are interested already in Tamil, and once this journal becomes popular there is every likelihood that Tamil will be studied in many centres of European and American learning. It is good that the West should make every possible effort to understand the Oriental mind, as far as opportunities are afforded them to do so. Hitherto all the emphasis has been placed upon Sanskrit, and its treasures have been made available to the peoples of the West. Dravidian is an almost unknown literature, but it will not long remain so. The interest it evokes will no doubt lead to very substantial results. mulate interest, and sustain it, and

terest it evokes will no doubt lead to very substantial results.

The Editor writes on the reason for the issue of this Quarterly and makes out a very strong case for the value of the spread of a knowledge of Tamil in the Western world. Mr.M. Rutnaswamy writes of "Western Knowledge of Tamil," Mr. S. Vaiyapuri Pillai on "Recent Progress in Research Studies," Swami Gnana Prakasar on "Ceylon Originally a Land of Dravidians," Mr. T. Meenakshisundaram on "The Theory of Cankam Poetry," Mr. C. S. Raghavan on "Bharathi-Poet of the Tamil Renaissance" Rev. Arul Thangiah on "Dr. G. U. Pope, Tamil's Ambassador," and there are other articles of interest. Altogether this is a journal which serves a very great need in the world of letters, and which is sure to find a wide and abundantly welcome reception in every country in which the achievement of the spirit of man in literature is reverenced and appreciated. ("Tamil Culture," a Quarterly edited by Fr. Xavier Thani Nayagam

("Tamil Culture," a Quarterly edited by Fr. Xavier Thani Nayagam
—Annual subscription Rs. 5. Each copy Rs. 1-50).

Totalitarian State and Islam

TOTALITARIANISM is a certain which only one political party is permitted and that consists only of the supporters of the leader, e.g., Stalin and Russia.

Islam is a religion which constitutes a relation between man and god

tutes a relation between man and god

The totalitarian state today makes its own laws to suit its own ideas of right or wrong and enforces them ruthlessly by means of violence and terrorism to ensure the disappearance of any rival, social, economic or political thought.

A Communist as in a totalitarian state who carries his religious belief with him has nothing to do with Communism. A follower of Islamic religion can never be a Communist.

Communism is a very living and ferocious destructive force and the enemy number one of Islam.

enemy number one of Islam.

Communism is threatening the existence of religions and the ancient traditions and there is a real danger, unless the leaders and youths realize this dangerous ideology the spreading of destructive communism can't be suppressed. The Holy Quran says help one another in goodness and piety and do not help one another in sin and aggression. The Islamic followers should help a political party which is democratic and suitable to all religions and must not help political parties of destructive belief and disasters.

M. E. H. MOHAMED ALL.

Paradise In Peril PROFESSOR ALSO THINKS

Morrison

WHEN I started this series of articles on December 21, 1951, the provocation for the title was an extract from the book "The Hard Way to India" by Mr. John Seymour, the B.B.C commentator. The extract was

"Of all the lands I trekked through on my Hard Way to India, Ceylon was the only one which was not being eaten up with barren fanaticism of one sort or another: religious or racial or ideological, and it was the only one in which men can still discuss their differences with a smile over a friendly bottle of seven-year arrack."

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What changes have taken place in
the political landscape since Mr Seymour penned those lines and even
since I started this series! Gone is
the ideal picture of this country
which Mr. Seymour carried away
with him and which he reproduced
in his book. Today only the strength
of will and sanity of Mr. D. S. Senanayake and the party he leads stand
between this country and chaos.
Today tidal waves of barren religious
and ideological fanaticism beat
against the dikes which that man
of the people, Mr, Senanayake, has
erected during the past four years to
save Ceylon from being overwhelmed
by the very dangers which now arise
on every hand. Religious fanaticism
has been let loose from the political
platforms of a party strangely calling itself the Freedom Party, while
the ideological fanaticism of the two
Marxist parties would be a grave
threat to the country's security but
for the fact that they are more likely
to annihilate each other than undermine the strength of the ruling
party.

Nevertheless, evil forces are at
work to sabotage the efforts of Mr.

mine the strength of the ruling party.

Nevertheless, evil forces are at work to sabotage the efforts of Mr. Senanayake to make democracy in this little Island a live and effective instrument of government. During the four years he has enjoyed unchallenged power not a single newspaper or publication of any kind has been suppressed or suspended from publication, despite the virulent and unscrupulous campaign some of these journals have carried out against his government, and not a single member of the Opposition parties has been victimised. There are members of the United National Party, the ruling party, who, in private, have criticised Mr. Senanayake for his tolerance. But having, for most of his life, fought against the British Colonial system of government, he knows the value of tolerance. But he also knows when to put his foot down. In fact, it would be a good thing for his opponents, particularly the unscrupulous ones amongst them, to know that his patience and tolerance are born of strength and not weakness. If upto-date there has been no serious outbreak of violence in this country, the reason is that the evil men who would like to let such forces loose know that they have to deal with a STRONG MAN who is utterly fearless.

However, it would be idle to deny that the political attition attailing the little of the stable and the reason is that the evil men who would the particular at the particular and the such forces loose know that they have to deal with a STRONG MAN who is utterly fearless.

less.

However, it would be idle to deny that the political stability of this land is now threatened by anti-democratic movements, and that this is no longer a country where men can "discuss their differences with a smile and over a friendly bottle of seven-year old arrack." Those halcyon days are over, and politics is here too a grim game in which the stakes are the freedom or slavery of a people.

a people.

And unfortunately the threat is not only from the left. Since Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranalke abandoned the ruling party after it had ceased to serve his ambitions, a new and a very reactionary force has emerged in the political arena. For Mr. Senanayake to be faced merely with the opposition of the Marxists is a challenge for which he has always been prepared. But Mr. Bandaranalke has posed an entirely new problem for the Government in that while Mr. Senanayake has, by his wise statesmanship, inspired the

minorities to trust the majority community, the Sinhalese, Mr. Bandaranalke has set out to split the country into warring factions by creating suspicion and distrust in the minds of the minorities towards the Sinhalese majority by his repeated demand that the religion of the majority should be granted a privileged position by the State. And by this demand he has succeeded in creating grave fears among 600,000 Sinhalese Christians, when, in a recent speech, he dubbed a minority community. Thus, this reactionary (who has founded a party which he actually designates the Freedom Party) is endeavouring to split his own Sinhalese community in two in his insane pursuit of power for its own sake. In other words, the stupidity of this clever, educated man seeks to swell the ranks of the minorities (who at present number 2.500,000) by the addition of 600,000 Sinhalese Christians.

This is the tangle with which Mr. Senanayake is faced—to prevent an outbreak of racial and religious strife or discord. An unbiassed student of the political scene, Professor T. L. Green. Professor of Education in the University of Ceylon, sees the danger. In an article in "The Journal of Education" (England) he writes: "There is, despite every effort to make it appear otherwise, a deeply antagonistic split between the major ethnic groups of Ceylon." He adds that there is a need in Ceylon for a determined and conscious attempt to foster communal understanding. He states, however, that "for reasons of expediency, the politicians whose policy is responsible for the situation, are only too anxious to avoid any action which might implicate them in charges of going back on their word." Nobody can gainsay that Professor Green knows what he is talking about. And who are the politicians whose policy is responsible for the situation, are only too anxious to avoid any action which might implicate them in charges of going back on their word." Nobody can gainsay that Professor Green knows what he is talking about. And who are the politician and the heart o

(Continued on page 10)

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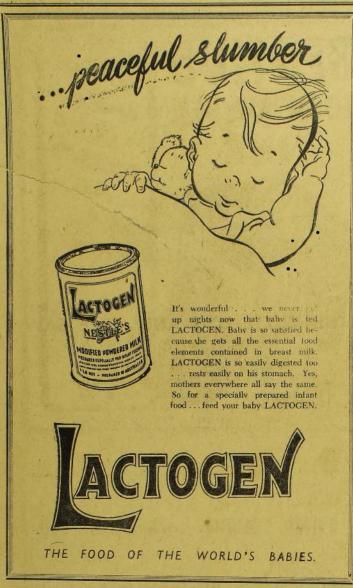
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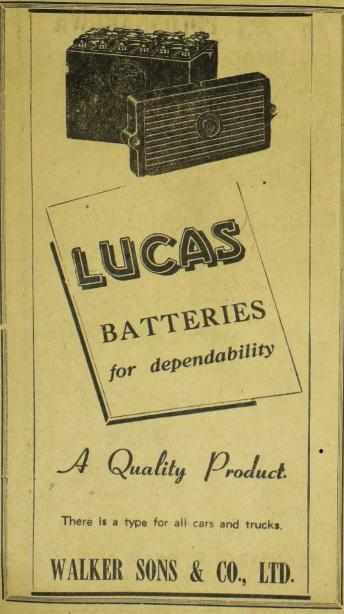
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Colombo Exhibition Why?

By Hamilton Abeywickrama

THERE is a misconception created by some elements of the Left Wing Section that the proposed Colombo Exhibition is meaningless, economic venture and inopportune. The arguments find no promise except for the effusive slogans to deceive the masses for political ends. The means resorted are unethical and unheard of.

That it is foreign introduction is to contradict history of Ceylon itself. In Buddhism, temple ceremonies sometimes assumed the character of 'Saipila', which is more or less a Fair, to argument the meagre resources of the institution. History also affords glimpses of fairs. Although they were not organized on a grand scale, yet they assumed the character of a miniature exhibition. At these fairs, articles of a varied nature were exhibited for sale, which gave an impetus to the field of agriculture and industry. In the absence of a proper system of communication or the modern modes of travel, it is an admitted fact that fairs were a boon to trade.

Then, in the modern era, carnivals are nothing but exhibitions for a particular cause. Similarly the present exhibition is for the advancement of Ceylon in every sphere of activity. Therefore, the only difference is that the character of the present exhibition is varied, whereas others had been of a limited nature for a limited purpose. Is this the indictment that is being brought against it, in the most unselfish manner that human nature permits? Do they forget the fact that even U.S.S.R. apparently following Marxist principles, is of the opinion that exhibitions are valuable for the country which organizes them primarily and for others also who participate in their activities?

Are the ardent critics opposed to it on a matter of principle which normal human nature cannot explain or on other grounds? It is clear that there is no cut and clear tenet for opposition. Perhaps, opposition might be due to the magnificent scale in which it will be held. This appears to be waste to the non economist. Anyone interested in economist will understand that something never gains from nothing. An advantageous venture has to be started to gain something for this country, hence money has to be spent. More, as it is not confined to Ceylon only but to all countries of the World. It must of necessity be held on a grand scale for the sake of advertisement of Ceylon's Trade.

Ceylon is on



Mr. Hamilton Abeywickrama

hibition can be considered the first International exhibition to be held in Ceylon. The organizers, far from been scandalously criticised on political platforms need appraisal for this bold stop.

The neighbouring country India held an exhibition—the International Industries Fair at Bombay. Although the pupils of Russian Masters oppose our venture, yet Russla participated in that big fair and it is reported that she occupied nearly 60,000 square feet out of a total space of about 60,000 square yards. Other countries under Communist control who were interested in that fair and did take part were Hungary. Czechoslovakia and China. Therefore the attitude of leftists in Ceylon is very strange and unexplainable.

The following is an extract from the Times of India. The organizer of the Bombay Fair says "Many misconceptions are prevalent about conditions obtaining in this country. Foreign delegations coming to this country and exchanging views with us have an opportunity of learning all about our problems at first hand. When they return to their countries they will naturally present a more accurate picture of India than was available to their countries they will naturally present a more accurate picture of India than was available to our fair with even more emphasis.

Further he states that it is ideal for diplomatic relations. He says "Delegations from foreign countries visit us and close relations are naturally established". Reason for publicity is stressed when he says "It is an unfortunate fact that intimate knowledge of Indian problems is lacking in foreign countries". We know of certain, that Pundit Nehru, Prime Minister of India is opposed to Communism as found in India. Yet U.S.S.R. did not Boycott the Fair. Let the readers, please, bear this fact in mind, for an estimation of the integrity of our so called Lettists, especially at the coming General Elections.

PARADISE IN PERIL (Continued from page 9)

PARADISE IN PERIL

(Continued from page 9)

paradise in page 9)
government has functioned. Even the Utopian governments of the revolutionary countries have failed to do so in a much longer period.

But it cannot too often be repeated that to abolish poverty capital is needed, and capital will not come here unless favourable conditions are created for it. This Mr. Senanayake's government is endeavouring to do. However, it is certain that capital will not enter a country where there is religious and racial strife and where there is wild talk of confiscation.

Thus, capital is vital to the future progress of this country, and without fresh infusions of capital into Ceylon's economy poverty cannot be abolished. The only government which can inspire foreign capital to enter Ceylon and which can encourage international organisations to succour her people with technical aid and liberal grants of capital is a U.N.P. Government. A reactionary Bandaranaike Government or a revolutionary Marxist government can only spell ruin to this country and its people because other nations will not have trust in Governments of this type.

NATIONAL LANGUAGE

By B. A. W.

Now there is much talk and fuss to make Sinhalese the State Language of Ceylon. as a Sinhalese, do wish to have everything done in the mother tongue. But we have plenty of other important matters to consider before making Sinhalese the State Language.

lese the State Language.

Some people say, that during the reign of our Sinhalese Kings everything was conducted in Sinhalese. I quite agree with them. We must not forget the fact, that times have changed world affairs completely. I wish to point out that before the Tamils, Portuguese, Dutch and the British invaded and occupied Ceylon, our country was governed and inhabited by the Sinhalese only. As such, the Government was carried out in Sinhalese.

Today, our country is not entirely

inhabited by the Sinhalese only. As such, the Government was carried out in Sinhalese.

Today, our country is not entirely composed of Sinhalese people only. There are so many other different races, who have settled down and made this Island their permanent home. These different races gradually introduced their customs, Language and Religion into the country.

The British rule started in 1815 and ever since we gained our Independence we were a subject race. Naturally the British made English the State Language. So for over one hundred and odd years we were administered by them in their own tongue. During this period the Sinhalese and other races took to English as the common language of the country. So now, almost all communities are well versed in the language of the Government.

Now that we have become an Independent Nation why not make Sinhalese the State Language. As pointed out earlier, our country is not entirely composed of Sinhalese alone. The Government has to see to the welfare of the other communities and religions as well, Although, we Sinhalese, form the majority, we must not be harsh on the minor communities, who have lived with us, from a very long period. They too must be given fair and just treatment.

First of all we must be grateful to our Honourable Prime Ministers, who

First of all we must be grateful to our Honourable Prime Minister and the other Cabinet Ministers, who have sacrificed so mush to make us an Independent Nation. We all know that the present U. N. P. Government consist of men with brains

capable of governing the country well and to make this tiny Island a place worth to live. The U. N. P. represent all communities and religions and as such, everyone, both young and old, rich and poor have full confidence in the present Government, that it will work for the welfare of all communities and Religions alike.

Since the U. N. P. government started four years ago, they have given us ample proof, by the actions already taken to have English replaced by a vernacular language. Now a great percentage of work in Government Departments is carried out in the three languages. The forms needed are printed in the three languages. Members of Pariament are given the opportunity to make speeches in their mother tingue, Therefore, everything must be changed gradually and carefully so as not to interrupt the Administration of Government Service. Therefore, if the Government Makes Sinhalese the State Language suddenly what will be the position of the nonsinhalese Government Servants.

To my belief this question of National Language is purely a political enterprice. The various Leftist groups who have now almost completely lost the goodwill of the masses, are trying to regain lost ground by this hue and cry of a National Language. The people are fully aware of their ambitions. The Communists and other Leftist parties come out with all sorts of promises merely to bluff the innocent masses and place us at the foot of Communist Russia. The true and loyal sons and daughters of Mother Lanka are determined not to lie at the foot of a foreign nation again.

The U. N. P. government are quite worth and the people.

Mother Lanks are determined not be lie at the foot of a foreign nation again.

The U. N. P. government are quite aware of the needs of the people. Gradually the necessary work is being carried out according to plan. As such, it is the duty of every loyal citizen to help and give the government party time and opportunity to enable them to complete the valuable work and schemes already started.

Ours is a domocratic government where everyone has freedom of speech and thought and the like, I am sure, my countrymen will support the U. N. P. and help to oust the Communist and other Leftist Parties, who are a real menace to the safety and welfare of our beloved country and citizens.

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FREEDOM

Stanley Weerasinghe By

PREEDOM is the power of choice between alternatives a choice which is real not merely nominal, between alternatives which exist in fact not merely on paper. It means in short the ability to do or re-frain from doing definite things in definite circumstances.

Every individual possesses certain requirements ranging from the material necessities of existence to the need to express himself in speech and writing, to share in the conduct of affairs of common interest and to worship God in his own way or to refrain from worshipping Him—the satisfiction of which is necessary to his welfare. This reduced to its barest essentials, his freedom consists in the opportunity secured for him, within the limits set by nature and the enjoyment of similar opportunities by his fellows to take action needed in order to ensure that these requirements are satisfied,

If the rights of freedom are to be an effective guarantee they must be such that whenever the occasion arises to exercise them, they can in fact be exercised. The right to vote and combine, the right to the free choice of an occupation, the right to justice, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, freedom of

speech and writing. The conception of freedom is tolerance, a respect for personal liberty a belief in the virtues of representative government, an obstinate determination to hold on your own course and not to be bullied into changing the acquired way.

The economic power characteristic of the present phase of social history threatens the liberties of men as producers and consumers, they threaten their liberties as citizens as well. Of all strange creeds the most strange is that of those thinkers—a diminishing but not uninfluential band—who combine an enthusiasm for political and civil freedom with a complacent indifference to the facts, which they ignore of economic servitude.

The most degrading factor and the ast compatible with freedom is

what men desire is, not paragraphs in constitutions but results which ensure them the essentials of a civilised existence and show a proper respect for their dignity as human beings. If they do not get them in one way they will try to get them in another way. If freedom interpreted is given a formal phrase, men will not fight for it against an alternative which pretends at least to offer them substance, not a shadow. We are not ignorant what that alternative is. It is communism in the garb of peoples, democracy.



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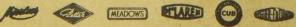
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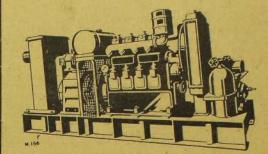




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