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Ceremonial Opening of Ceylon's 2nd Parliament

The Speech From The Throne

COLOMBO-PLAN REACHES ACTION STAGE

THE ceremonial opening of the first session of the Second Parliament of Ceylon by His Excellency the Governor-General took place with the usual pomp and show which was most impressive. The members of the House of Representatives and the Senators were assembled in the Assembly Hall where the Proclamation summoning the meeting was read by the Secretary to the Governor-General after which His Excellency delivered the Speech from the Throne, in prefacing which reference was made to the result of the General Election which was described to be an "emphatic indication by the people that they stand for law and order and the continuance of democratic Government in this country." It was the intention of the Government to continue its policy of supporting the democratic way of life.

The assurance was given that the Colombo Plan has emerged from the stage of planning to that of action and that great benefits have already been realized by way of technical aid and capital contributions. In view of the deterioration in the over-all world rice situation which is causing some anxiety, Government will give careful consideration to the question of maintaining an adequate reserve of rice. Satisfactory progress has been made under the Six-Year Plan of agricultural development.

The following is the full text of the Speech from the Throne:—

Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.—My Government considers the result of the general election to be an emphatic indication by the people that they stand for law and order and the continuance of democratic government in this country. My Government's relations with all peace-loving nations continue to be cordial. Recent developments in international affairs have caused grave concern to the democratic nations of the world. The people ask for peace and the betterment of their social and economic conditions, but the nations are in conflict over ideologies. My Government will continue its policy of supporting the democratic way of life. Agreement has been reached in principle to the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan. It is hoped that the existing cordial relations between Ceylon and Japan will thereby be further strengthened. Negotiations have been initiated with the Government of India for the removal of the hardships resulting from the double taxation of income. It is expected that an agreement to achieve this object will

be concluded early. Whole-hearted support will be given to the work of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, whose contribution to the promotion of economic and social development throughout the world has been most far-reaching.

THE COLOMBO PLAN

The Colombo Plan has emerged from the stage of planning to that of action, and great benefits have already been realized by way of technical aid and capital contributions. There is just cause to be proud of the outstanding success of the Colombo Exhibition, which symbolized the unity and common desire of the participating countries to cooperate for the common good.

In the sphere of internal finance, My Government intends to take special measures to increase the supply and availability of credit by the banking system to productive enterprises. With a view to making provision for mortgage and investment finance, it is hoped to place before you a Bill to establish a Development

(Continued on page 2)

Mr. ALBERT PERIES SPEAKER AGAIN.



The Speaker

MR. Albert F. Peries was unanimously re-elected Speaker of the House of Representatives. Immediately after the House adjourned and the Speaker proceeded to Queen's House to present himself to the Governor-General. On his return, the House re-assembled and took the oath.

Sir John Kotelawala, Leader of the House, proposed the election and Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara, Minister of Local Government, seconded.

No other name was proposed.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike was chosen by the Opposition as its Leader.



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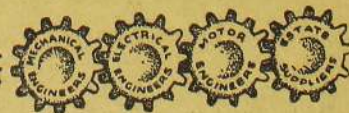
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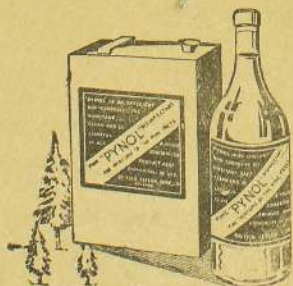


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Ceremonial Opening of Ceylon's 2nd Parliament

(Continued from page 1)

Finance Corporation. Certain legislative measures, relating to general banking and insurance to facilitate loan operations of commercial banks and other lending agencies, which could not be moved in the last Parliament will be placed before you in the course of this Session.

Steps will be taken to strengthen the Defence Forces of the Island.

The Police Force will soon be taking over the preventive and detective duties of the Excise Department. There has been a steady decline in crime in the country, the figures for 1951 being the lowest on record for the post-war years. Determined efforts will be made to stop the entry of persons into this country in defiance of its immigration laws.

THE RICE SITUATION

This year has been marked by a steady decline in the prices of Ceylon's principal agricultural exports and a steady rise in the price of rice, her principal agricultural import. The abnormal increase in the price of rice has been principally due to the pressure of demand on the limited exportable surpluses of producing countries. The deterioration in the overall world rice situation is causing some concern to My Government. Careful consideration will, however, be given to the question of maintaining an adequate reserve of rice. In order to enable My Government to be responsible for the supply and distribution of rice, flour and sugar, a Bill to extend the duration of the Food Supplies Ordinance, No. 30 of 1947, will be introduced.

The question of the renewal of the International Wheat Agreement will soon have to be considered. My Government intends to support its extension for a further period on reasonable terms.

THE SIX YEAR PLAN

Every endeavour will be made to increase the production of home-grown foods. The Six-Year Plan of agricultural development under major irrigation schemes is progressing satisfactorily. Nearly five thousand peasant families will be settled in the Gal Oya Valley by the end of the next financial year, and the first batch of colonists will be commencing work shortly under the Allai and Huruluwewa schemes. It is hoped that the preliminary work connected with the Walawe project will be completed during this Session, and that actual construction operations will be started in 1953.

In addition to these major irrigation schemes for bringing large extents of irrigable land under cultivation, My Government will proceed with its programme for the development of dry-farming in Ceylon. The attempts which are being made to improve and popularize dry-farming will receive a considerable fillip when the research station to be built at Maha Illuppalam is completed. The construction of this research station has been assisted by a generous grant of £250,000 made by the Government of New Zealand under the Colombo Plan.

Measures will be taken to increase the yield of lands already under cultivation by the demonstration of improved agricultural techniques. Proposals for the establishment of a Food Research Institute are under consideration.

HOME-GROWN FOOD

In order to help producers of home-grown food, attractive prices will be offered under the guaranteed price scheme, for paddy and other food crops. As regards their internal marketing, adequate provision will be made for their collection from producing areas and for their sale to consumers at fixed points or in mobile vans.

The Paddy Lands Bill which lapsed on the dissolution of the last Parliament will be submitted again for your consideration. The regulations necessary for bringing the Soil Conservation Act into operation will be placed before you.

Considerable progress has been

made in the co-operative development of the fishing industry. Assistance by way of loans has been given to fishing societies. Successful experiments have been carried out in newer methods of fishing and the mechanisation of local fishing craft.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

Trade Agreements have been entered into with several countries. These agreements, while facilitating the import of foreign goods and the export of Ceylon products, have assured to the people of this country a regular supply of most of their essential goods. It is proposed to examine the possibility of expanding direct trade with Europe.

Considerable progress has been made in the planning and setting up of large-scale State factories for the manufacture of essential goods. Production at the cement factory will be increased by the installation of additional plant and equipment.

Protection under the Industrial Products Regulation Act has been afforded in respect of handloom textiles, hosiery, glassware, rubber footwear and the steel rolling industry. The necessary machinery under the Industrial Disputes Act has been set up to assist in securing peaceful relations between employers and workers. Problems relating to the safety, health and welfare of workers are receiving attention.

Legislation is being drafted to give effect to certain recommendations contained in the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the terms and conditions of employment of mercantile employees. The Bill will be laid before you in due course.

With the co-operation of employers further progress has been made in regard to Ceylonization in private employment. The policy of aiding and encouraging Ceylonese to participate in trade will be continued.

Members of the House of Representatives.—The Estimates of revenue and expenditure for the forthcoming financial year will be laid before you shortly.

Senators and Members of the House of Representatives.—During the last Session, the Children and Young Persons Ordinance was brought into operation, and a new chapter opened in our legal system in regard to the treatment of juvenile delinquents. The Criminal Courts Commission, in its interim report, has recommended further amendments to this Ordinance as well as to the law relating to Youthful Offenders. You will be invited to give legislative sanction to these amendments. The recommendations of the Fiscals Commission will also be implemented during this Session, and the measures necessary for that purpose will be submitted to you.

Many changes have been made in regard to penal administration and the treatment of offenders. Individual attention will be paid to the needs and capacity of the prisoner in the sphere of industrial and agricultural training and to the necessity for educating him to become a law-abiding and useful citizen. It is proposed to have more institutions where agriculture can be taught on a scientific basis and where prisoners can be trained in surroundings, like those at Pallakelle, which are in keeping with the rural economy of the State.

The excise policy has been reviewed and further changes decided upon. The necessary amendments will be made in the statutory rules relating to local option polls.

The provisions of the new Education Act are being steadily put into effect. It is proposed at a very early date to set up a large school of technical education in the outskirts of Colombo. A School of Oriental Music and Dancing will be started shortly. In the field of agricultural education the numerous farm schools already established provide for children above the age of seventeen years. Plans are being prepared for the extension of this scheme to children above the age of fourteen years.

(Continued on page 5)

SIR JOHN APPEALS FOR UNITY

Warning Against Disruptive Tactics

By A. S. Morrison

LAST Friday Sir John Kotelawala, welcoming the members of the Government Parliamentary Party, appealed for unity to carry out the tasks ahead of the new government. He warned the Party against the disruptive tactics of certain elements.

Who can deny that Sir John's words were timely? But apart from being timely, they constituted a noble gesture on the part of a man who was an aspirant for premiership only three months ago and who has bowed to a democratic decision with a magnanimity and good spirit which sets an example to democratic countries in Asia all of which stand sorely in need of traditions of this kind. In fact, Sir John's magnificent loyalty to the Party which he helped to found and which, after its foundation, owes so much to his organising powers and drive, has raised him enormously in the estimation of both friend and foe. No small minded man would have done what Sir John has done. Therefore, his clarion call to the members of the victorious UNP to unite and work for "the greater good of the country" has the moral force behind it of one who has made a great sacrifice for the party and country. Plain, blunt and brusque—qualities which have won him many enemies and (paradoxically) also gained him numerous and staunch friends—Sir John has scorned to intrigue against the decision of his Party and the victory of the Party at the polls is enhanced by the circumstance that he remains at his post at the right hand of the young Prime Minister of Ceylon to organise the Party to carry out its election pledges to the people.

Altogether, therefore, the United National Party returns to power under very good auspices. And the party needs all the strength it can muster since difficult times are ahead. On the one hand, dark clouds are looming on the economic horizon. And on the other hand, there are signs that the more unscrupulous elements among the Leftist supporters are on the war-path. Post election violence is assuming epidemic proportions in certain areas and unless this lawlessness is put down with a firm hand it is certain to spread, since the appetite of these gangster elements grows on what it feeds.

As regards the economic outlook, there need be no cause for panic since the economic future of the free world depends on the U.S.A., who are strong enough to put things right if the situation shows further signs of deterioration. As a matter of fact there is no doubt that at present the U.S.A. is compelled to let things drift until the Presidential Elections are over in November. But once this vital matter is settled, the free world can look forward to a new and dynamic approach on the part of the U.S.A. Government towards all the economic and political crises that now hamper the free world in its progress to a better order.

Already, according to a report in the Sunday Observer (Ceylon), there are prospects of the U.S.A. and Ceylon Governments reaching an understanding on the rubber problem which will be equitable to Ceylon. There are also signs that the tea industry is recovering from the recent recession in prices and demand. And the Commonwealth Economic Conference is due shortly and something effective will be done to stem the rot. In any case, it is extremely unlikely that the U.S.A. will help to fulfil the Kremlin's oft-repeated prophecy of a catastrophic trade depression in the free world.

Meanwhile, economic worries apart, the new Government of Ceylon finds itself confronted with threats to law and order. Grave acts of post-election violence are alleged to have taken place in certain areas while some Leftists have openly hinted at revolutionary action. This is in keeping with their creed, which does not recognise the legitimacy of Parliamentary procedures. In their chagrin at their defeat at the polls they have even set flying wild rumours about false ballot papers. As a matter of fact, some fanatic supporters of the Leftists who before the elections predicted a sweeping Leftist victory at the polls because (they boldly averred) the public servants who were being put in charge of the elections were pro-Leftist and anti-UNP—these same Leftist supporters now accuse these public servants of being pro-government and of having tampered with ballot boxes to help UNP candidates. This is the kind of stupid slander being bandied about to explain away the disaster that overtook the Opposition parties at the elections. Can anyone except a lunatic be credited with the belief that the Government would enter into a pact with a large number of public servants in order to cheat the electorate and election candidates by inserting false ballot papers into ballot boxes. Would any democratic government dare to create against itself a large body of witnesses to its own corruption? Would any government (except a despotic totalitarian government) run the terrible risk of exposure by such a vast crowd of witnesses?

However, these wild slanders and rumours are having their effect in areas where the Opposition parties count large bodies of supporters. Violence is rife and more violence is threatened. Already a few prominent Leftist members and a defeated SLFP candidate have uttered dark threats. Nothing could be more foolish, since these words of ill omen only heat the blood of the more irresponsible elements among the supporters of these parties and blood is shed to no purpose whatever.

To no purpose, because the Government is very strong—a stronger government cannot have been predicted before the elections—and lawlessness can have no prospect of success since the strength of the government arises from the fact that the great majority of the people have put this government in power. And the people who put this government in power will support it in any measures it sees fit to take to maintain law and order.

After all, the Opposition parties must admit that it is the duty of a Government to govern. And if they were in power it is a duty which they would ruthlessly carry out. Force therefore, will be met with force. There can be no weak-kneed surrender to violence, blackmail and sabotage by any Government worthy of the name.

If acts of revolutionary violence were to continue and to spread, the Government will have no alternative but to raise a Home Guard composed of the most loyal elements of the population not merely to preserve law and order, but also to protect members of the Opposition Parties against attacks by an incensed population. In fact, if the present trend to violence were allowed to spread, it is certain that the more irresponsible elements among the U.N.P. supporters will start counter-violence. The only means of preventing such a situation arising is for the Government to set up an organisation (island-wide, if necessary) to support the Police and to protect the constituents of all political parties against political gangsterism. Such a step may become

(Continued on page 5)

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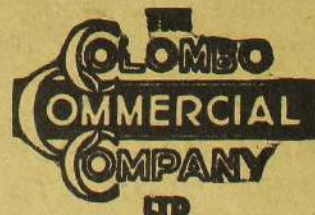
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Marxist Parties and Elections

DEMOCRACY is a system of Government under which the citizens exercise the privilege of governing power through representatives periodically elected by themselves. Thus periodical elections and the equal rights of all normal adults to vote and to stand for elections are essential elements for a democracy to function.

As democracy advanced and popular elections became more and more frequent "the party system" came into existence. Professor Robert M. Mac Iver in his book—"The Web of Government" defines a political party as "an association organized to support a line of policy to enlist public opinions on its side and to fight by constitutional means for its victory at the polls." The party system is an essential mechanism of democracy.

Thus in a democracy, a political party should never have the aim of destroying the party system altogether. Moreover, every political party must have the greater faith in periodical elections at which the citizens will be able to elect their representatives.

The policy of the Marxist Parties in Ceylon, such as the Communist Party and the Nava Lanka Sama-gist Party quite clearly shows that these parties aim at destroying the party system altogether and that they do not believe in periodical elections. These Marxist Parties which believe not in a democratic form of government but in a dictatorship of the Proletariat aim at destroying the existing government either by constitutional or revolutionary tactics. The Marxists in Ceylon are quite conscious of the fact the revolutionary methods can never be employed to overthrow the existing government because the majority of citizens of Ceylon believe in non-violent constitutional methods. Thus the only alternative left to the Marxist Parties in Ceylon is to adopt constitutional methods to capture the governing power and set up "a dictatorship of the Proletariat."

Hence the Marxist Parties put forward candidates at Parliamentary elections and adopt the most unscrupulous modes of appeal in their endeavours to win the public to their side.

The fact that these parties put forward candidates at Parliamentary elections does not mean that these parties believe either in periodical elections or in democracy. According to a Press report Dr. Colvin R. de Silva after his defeat at the Welwatte-Galkissa election has said that "elections are a capitalist fraud and we have no faith in them". This statement of the defeated Marxist leader illustrates the fact that if a Marxist Party captures the governing power, the citizens will never have the right to vote and to stand for election. No election will be held under their regime because "elections are a Capitalist fraud". Therefore it obviously follows that under a Marxist Government that not only the party system which is an essential mechanism of democracy will be completely destroyed but also periodical elections which are an essential element of democracy will be totally abolished.

History shows us that Democracy as it advanced began to face new dangers and the chief among them was the rise of left-wing political parties. The left-wing parties in Ceylon made the most unreasonable and ridiculous promises to the uneducated voters in this country but at the first general election held since Ceylon became an independent nation, democracy gained a decisive victory over totalitarianism. The Marxist Parties, although they do not have faith in elections which according to them are a capitalist fraud, nominated their party candidates for election to set up a totalitarian regime, but fortunately they were thoroughly routed at the polls. At this juncture of the country's political development the fact that these Marxist Parties continue to exist in Ceylon should not be forgotten. Every citizen must be fully aware of the destructive and revolutionary tactics of the Marxists, which they may adopt after their failure to capture the governing power at the General Election.

STEPHEN DE SILVA.

RUBBER FOR RED CHINA Govt. to Review the Situation

THE New York "Times" service has published an article on the subject of rubber sold to Red China and the possibility of the United States purchasing Ceylon's whole output of rubber, 100,000 tons a year at the market price. It is stated that the Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, proposes that the new Government will re-examine Ceylon's controversial policy on rubber, which has permitted the shipment of nearly 15,000 tons of this commodity to Communist China since last October, over protests from the United States.

Discussions on rubber have been going on for some time but a decision on proposals to stop shipments to China had been postponed until after the elections.

The article continues that Communist Chinese buying raised the price of Ceylon rubber as much as ten cents above the world market figure with consequent profit of about 3,000,000 dollars to Colombo shippers.

It is generally agreed here that a halt in this lucrative trade would have raised a serious local political issue and greatly strengthened the hand of the leftists in campaigning.

However, the Chinese are paying in sterling, of which Ceylon has an awkward surplus, while dollars are keenly desired.

The Government has under consideration a United States proposal to buy the complete output of Ceylonese rubber—about 100,000 tons a year—at the market price.

TWO INCENTIVES

The dollar incentive is one factor. Another is that the Ceylonese wish to resume the purchase of United States sulphur. Shipments of this material, which is used to spray rubber trees against dangerous pests, were stopped by Washington shortly after the Chinese Communists began buying Ceylonese rubber.

It is gathered that the Ceylonese Government was never in favour of selling rubber to Communist China, as it is feared that the advance of communism in Southeast Asia might imperil the vital rice supply to this country. Ceylon imports about two-thirds of her requirements of this staple food, principally from Burma.

However, with Washington restricting the use of natural rubber and United States purchases here in the second and third quarters of 1951 having fallen 80 per cent below the volume for the third and fourth quarters of 1950, the Government felt it would be politically disastrous to deny the island's second largest industry an opportunity to sustain itself through sales to Red China.

POLICY NOT POPULAR

But the Ceylonese Government never entered directly into trade

(Continued on page 5)

Ceremonial Opening of Ceylon's 2nd Parliament

(Continued from page 2)

Several new centres for training the rural population in cottage industries have been opened in various parts of the Island. It is proposed to establish a Central Cottage Industries Institute at Ragama to serve as a research and training centre.

The Rural Development Movement has gained such wide acceptance that it has become necessary to give special training to Government officers engaged in rural work. A scheme for such training has been formulated.

My Government continues to provide work for a large number of unemployed persons. Proposals are being considered for the reclamation and development of certain swampy areas in Colombo North which will provide additional employment for such persons.

Censuses of Agriculture, Industry and Distribution are scheduled to take place this year, and will be followed by a complete Census of Population. These will provide the necessary data for future analyses of the social and economic development of the Island.

Satisfactory progress has been made with the scheme for the development of the Port of Colombo. The preliminary steps connected with Stage II of the Hydro-electric scheme have been completed, and the work of construction will commence shortly. Tenders have been called for the new Kelani Bridge. A detailed scheme is being prepared for the supply of water to the towns south of Colombo.

A Bill for the development of satellite towns in the environs of Colombo is under consideration. In the sphere of town and country planning, the policy of getting local authorities to undertake housing and slum clearance, with technical and financial assistance from the Government, has yielded some results. More assistance will be given to local authorities to enable them to proceed with their housing schemes. Other avenues for the promotion of housing generally will also be explored.

In the sphere of social services, marked progress has been made during the lifetime of the last Parliament, and every effort will be made during this Session to extend and improve those services. Two State Homes for the aged and the infirm have already been opened, and two others are under construction. Sites have been selected for the erection of such a Home in each of the nine provinces. The establishment of creches for the children of working mothers has been recognized as an urgent necessity and adequate financial assistance will be given to voluntary agencies who are willing to undertake this service. Early steps will be taken to erect a sheltered workshop at Seeduwa with residential accommodation for deaf and blind adults.

Assistance by way of building grants will be given to private bodies for the construction of orphanages. My Government has decided that there should, in addition, be a State Orphanage in each of the provincial capitals of the Island. Steps have been taken to establish the first of such orphanages in Colombo.

A Bill for the establishment of a National Provident Fund and a scheme of social insurance will be laid before you.

The Health Services will be re-organised and expanded during this Session. My Government has accepted many of the recommendations contained in the Barlow Report on the Thoracic Services of the Island with special reference to tuberculosis. You will be asked to approve the measures that are necessary to implement those recommendations. A chest hospital has been established in Puttalam, and a model thoracic unit has been set up in Colombo. The programme of new buildings and extensions to relieve

the overcrowding in hospitals will be continued. It is the object of My Government to place the most up-to-date medical facilities within the reach of every person, and steps are being taken to that end. Assistance and advice are being obtained from several international agencies.

A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to Indigenous Medicine is under consideration. The College and Hospital of Indigenous Medicine will be developed further and adequate grants will be given to dispensaries maintained by local authorities in order that free ayurvedic treatment may be available to anyone seeking such treatment.

The recommendations of the National Languages Commission are being implemented. Proposals for implementing the recommendations of the Kandyan Peasantry Commission will be placed before you shortly. A Salaries Commission is examining the question of the salaries of Public Officers and its report will receive due attention.

You will be asked to consider a Bill relating to the registration of title to land in Ceylon.

Some of the Bills which lapsed on the dissolution of the last Parliament will be re-submitted for your consideration.

I commend all these matters to you for your deliberation and I trust that they will receive your most careful consideration.

RUBBER FOR RED CHINA

(Continued on page 4)

relations with Peiping, and visas were refused to Red Chinese rubber agents who wished to come here.

The shippers were told, however, that the Government would exercise no destination control and that they might sell to whom they wished.

Through this period there have been no American purchasers making offers.

Washington's policy towards Ceylon on rubber has shown up poorly in the Ceylonese eye through the whole affair. Ceylon would have been glad to sell her rubber to the United States.

It is gathered that officials were morally uneasy about dealing with Red China, but they were on sound technical grounds, since Ceylon was not a member of the United Nations—having been barred by the Soviet Union—was not directly concerned in the Korean war and like other South Asian countries, had officially recognized the Peiping Government.

SIR JOHN APPEALS FOR UNITY

(Continued from page 3)

necessary since the supporters of the ruling party far outnumber the supporters of the Opposition parties, and in a free-for-all or all-in fight the adherents of the Opposition will be in for a terrible time.

But the present Government is a democratic government and, as such, it will maintain the fair name of Ceylon by preventing the spread of internecine strife and protecting the members of the Opposition Parties against the consequences of their own folly.

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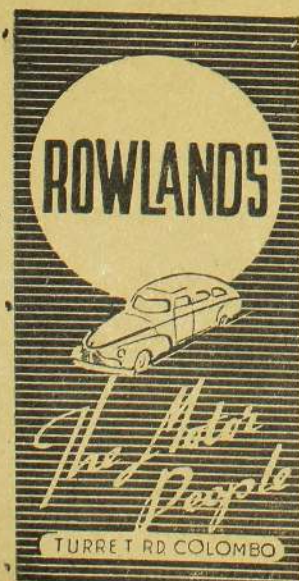
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u.n.p.

Friday, June 13, 1952

THE PRESSING NEEDS OF THE COUNTRY

THE elections are over. The new Prime Minister has got his team together and his new Ministers are already at their desks. As Mr. Dudley Senanayake said in his message to the nation after the United National Party had been returned to power with an absolute majority, the Government in its first term of office had embarked on a great many schemes designed to improve the condition of the people. Owing to lack of time very few of these schemes had been completed when Mr. Senanayake decided to ask for a fresh mandate from the country.

That mandate he has now received and he can face the problems that lie ahead with the added confidence that springs from the fact that the huge majority which he commands in Parliament indicates that virtually the whole country has endorsed the policy of the Government.

Of the many tasks that confront the Government none is more pressing than the building of more houses and the easing of the congestion in hospitals. With the division of the old Ministry of Health and Local Government into two separate Ministries, the subject of Housing has been assigned to the new Minister of Local Government. Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara, is a parliamentarian of very great experience who is no stranger to the heavy responsibilities that attach to the high office of a Minister. He has already declared that it is his intention to cut out all red tape and to do everything in his power to facilitate the building of houses. While the assistance which the individual will get by way of loans will contribute, in very fair measure, to easing the housing shortage, the problem will not be completely solved unless large-scale housing schemes are undertaken. These schemes need not necessarily be sponsored by Government. What is needed is that financial support should be made readily available by the Gov-

ernment to all societies or institutions that are interested in building houses for their members or employees. The regulations framed under the Housing Loans Act need to be drastically amended to permit of a more liberal interpretation of the provisions of the Act. It is only when Government and private enterprise work hand-in-hand that an effective solution of the problem of housing will be found.

In the matter of hospitals, no time should be lost in enlarging existing institutions and building new ones. Wherever possible light construction wards should be erected to syphon off the excess patients and to ease the overcrowding that exists in every hospital. The ultimate aim should be to give every patient a bed for in the treatment of disease the well-being of the patient is almost as important as the medicines that a doctor may prescribe.

Side by side with the construction of more hospitals steps must be taken to provide more doctors and nurses. It is of course, most inadvisable to lower the standard of the medical profession by interfering with the normal course of study that has to be undergone before a doctor is qualified to practice. But the most attractive terms should be offered so that every doctor who wishes to serve his country will be encouraged to do so. There are, at present, a large number of doctors, some of them specialists, who would gladly join Government service if the remuneration offered is adequate. It is, indeed, a tragedy that their services cannot be utilised merely because of some antiquated Treasury ruling regarding salary scales. We hope the new Minister of Health will give this problem his immediate attention.

U. N. P. JOURNAL

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THE NEW HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Over Two-Thirds Majority For Govt. Party

THE Government Parliamentary Group in the House of Representatives now total seventy. All the Eastern Province members who contested their seats as Independents have now joined the United National Party who formed the largest group securing fifty-four seats, thus bringing the Parliamentary strength of the Party to 58. They are Messrs. A. M. Merza (Kalmunai), S. M. Rasamanickam (Padiruppu), M. E. H. Mohamad Ali (Muttur), and R. B. Kadramar (Batticaloa).

With the addition of the six appointed members, four Tamil Congress members, and two others, Labour and Independent, the total reaches seventy. This position was established at the first meeting of the group on Friday.

NEW MINISTERS AT THEIR DESKS

The four new Ministers, Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara (Local Government and Chief Government Whip), Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel (Labour and Social Services), Mr. R. G. Senanayake (Commerce and Trade), and Mr. V. Nalliah (Posts and Information), were at their Ministerial desks on the day after taking their oaths. As a preliminary to settling down to their tasks they conferred with Ministry officials to acquaint themselves with the problems requiring immediate attention.

At the first meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 5th instant, the outlines of the speech from the Throne, giving the indications of Government's main new proposals and legislation to be brought up during the sessions of the Parliament were discussed.

Houses for the middle-classes will be one of the subjects to be taken up for consideration early by the new Minister of Local Government. Closer relation between the trade and the Ministry of Commerce is one of the aims of the new Minister, while the new Minister of Labour and Social Services proposes to push through the Mercantile Bill to set up Salaries tribunal. The Government plans to introduce for the mercantile service the following provisions in the Bill:—

(1) a tribunal to fix salaries if negotiations between employer and unions of employees fail on this question.

(2) the observance of all Public Holidays as holidays for the mercantile employees too.

(3) the granting of 14 days ordinary leave, 7 days casual leave and 14 days sick leave unless employers and employees arrive at some other mutual understanding regarding leave.

(4) appointment of inspectors to visit mercantile establishments to see that agreements in respect of recreational facilities and other welfare amenities, etc., for the employees are implemented.

The proposed tribunal will only intervene when employer and employee fail to reach agreement on questions affecting conditions of employment, such as hours of work, salaries, holiday and leave facilities and welfare amenities.

The new Cabinet is conspicuous by the fact that it is a team of young men, which means a team of men with a fresh view and minds more closely attuned to the spirit of the times—in this age of youth.

SIR JOHN ADDRESSES GOVERNMENT PARTY

"The country has sent us back to power because it wants good and

orderly government. Disruptive elements will try to throw apples of discord into our ranks, but we must stand together and work unitedly for the greater progress and good of our country."

So remarked Sir John Kotelawala, Leader of the House and Minister of Transport and Works, welcoming the members of the Government Parliamentary Party at its first meeting since the General Election on Friday.

Sir John, who presided at the meeting, said that they should not forget those who were with them some time ago, but who had fallen by the wayside.

They had rendered loyal service to the Party and had fought the good fight.

Their Party had been returned by the country in considerable strength and they should see to it that the power vested in them was not misdirected or misused but wisely exercised for the greater good of the country.

MAINTAINING DISCIPLINE

They should always uphold the democratic principles for which they stood and also see that Party discipline was always maintained.

Whatever their problems were they could be thrashed out in the Party discussions and the decisions arrived at scrupulously observed.

Sir John also said that they wanted the Members to speak this time and to put all their proposals and requirements forward for consideration by the Party as a whole.

He also suggested that Advisory Committees or groups should be formed of Members so that the Members and Ministers may know one another's point of view.

A proposal was put forward at the meeting, it is gathered, that the name of the Party should be altered to the United National Parliamentary Party. This is to be considered at a later meeting.

CEYLON'S POLITICAL "MATURITY" PRAISED

Model Dominion

LONDON, JUNE 5

The Conservative weekly review "The Spectator", today praised the "maturity" of Ceylon in solving the political crisis into which the death of Mr. Don Stephen Senanayake and a general election plunged the country.

"There could be no better testimony to the maturity of her citizens and, above all, to the character of Mr. Senanayake's son and successor than the way in which these twin political crises have been overcome," "The Spectator" said.

The result of the election in which Mr. Dudley Senanayake was given a working majority at least as large as that of his father was satisfactory.

"There was in fact at no time much likelihood of a defeat for Mr. Senanayake", "The Spectator" said. "But had the Opposition parties succeeded in gaining a few seats instead of losing them, they might have been able to make themselves a nuisance."

"Ceylon has shown herself to be in almost all respects a model Dominion, and both conduct and the result of the election will substantially confirm the good impression created."

MESSAGE OF HOPE

LONDON, JUNE 6

Lord Beaverbrook's independent Conservative "Daily Express", said today that Prime Minister Dudley Senanayake's "fine victory" in Ceylon's recent General Election was good news for Britain. It gave these reasons:

(Continued on page 9)



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Communism Completely Out of Date

WASHINGTON, JUNE 2

PRIME Minister Nehru of India, last week attacked one of the most persistent myths in history. Although all evidence is to the contrary, there are people who still believe that Communism, despite its demonstrated ruthlessness, and its scorn for the dignity of man, is the key to national improvement and economic progress.

Speaking before the lower house of the Indian Parliament, Nehru did not mince words. Describing the activities of the Communist Party as "counter-revolutionary" and "completely out of date", he said: "India will never pay the price the Soviet Union and China have paid to achieve progress"

What is the terrible price that Nehru speaks of?

Part of the price is human lives.—25 to 30 million human lives—according to very conservative estimates. There are the millions of peasants who were "liquidated" by the Soviets in their mass collectivization drive of the early 1930's. There are the millions of innocent victims who have died in the forced labour camps. Even today, at this moment, ten to 15 million unhappy prisoners are being held in those camps.

There are the millions of Moslems, Lithuanians, Hungarians, Rumanians and others who perished in the mass deportations within the Soviet Union and its satellites. There are the millions of innocent Chinese murdered in mass executions, and all the other purge victims of Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania, and East Germany. Altogether, 25 to 30 million prisoners, or an equivalent of the entire population of Mexico or Poland or Spain, have paid with their lives for the Red "progress"

WHAT PRICE FREEDOM ! !

Part of the price is freedom. With secret police everywhere, Soviet and satellite citizens carry with them the constant fear of arrest. It may be for reading a forbidden book, listening to a foreign radio broadcast, attending religious services, speaking in a jesting way

about the government to one's neighbour who may be a spy for the secret police, being closely related to a landowner or a businessman or for any one of a hundred similar reasons. Often there is no trial—the accused is simply whisked off to a forced labour camp and is never again heard from by his relatives.

And what do the Soviet people receive in return for this terrible price? A somewhat nebulous progress, existing primarily in the exalted phrases of the propaganda writers; a "progress" that still leaves the Communist countries with standards of living substantially lower than their counter-parts in the free world.

As Prime Minister Nehru pointed out in his speech, India, in the few years of its existence as an independent nation has made proportionally much greater progress than the Soviet Union or Red China made during similar periods in their histories. Great hydroelectric and irrigation projects have been started which will make the highly propagandized Dneiper Dam of the Soviets look small in comparison. Extensive land reforms have been accomplished in many provinces—reforms which have destroyed the privileges of the hereditary landlords. In one stroke the stigma of untouchability has been removed from millions of Indians. Great new industries—textile factories, iron and steel plants, chemical plants—are being built.

And all this is being accomplished not by restricting the freedom of the people of India but rather by extending it. The rights of all Indians are now protected by a democratic constitution which guarantees universal suffrage. This new democracy also has taken root at the village level with the revival of the ancient system of village councils of Panchayath.

Nor is India alone among the countries of Asia to achieve such spectacular progress without sacrificing the basic freedoms. Pakistan, The Philippines, Thailand, Ceylon, are all new democratic nations who are making similar progress. The rise of the progressive, modern Republic of Turkey from the ashes of the old Ottoman empire is a story familiar to all.

Contrary to the myth, fostered by the Communists, freedom is not a hindrance to the economic progress of a country, but a very necessary part of that progress.—(USIS).

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FIGHT AGAINST COMMUNIST EVIL

Cannot Be Stopped

By Quintus Delilkhan

DEMOCRACY flourishes in this country in spite of the noxious weeds of communism which seek to choke its growth, but we must also take account of the fact that there is an effort on every side to poison the public mind against the very principles of democracy and also to hold up the Government and everything connected with it to the utmost measure of misrepresentation, vilification and brutally unfair criticism.

The public ought to be able to see that a system which requires to be sustained, not on its own positive merits, but on such a basis of unconscionable misrepresentation must indeed be a system which cannot commend itself, unaided by these mischievous designs to the rational sense of the people. There is obviously something very weak and rotten in a system which is compelled to adopt such devious methods in order to gain a hearing in the country.

Communism has done this country a great injury. It has lowered our moral standards by practically abolishing the distinctions which all honourable minds maintain between right and wrong and truth and falsehood. The revolutionary partisan believes that whatever aids the party to attain to power is right, and that whatever weakens the party must be diligently suppressed. There are no standards by which it is possible to judge any statement which a communist makes about himself, his creed or the facts he produces for the masses to take in. This kind of attitude to public questions and to public figures amounts to a gross perversion of justice in dealings with our fellowmen. It is bad for the state in which activities of this kind are carried on. There must be some common and agreed standards of judgment which are equally applicable to all cases. There cannot be one law of truth for some men and another law of truth for others. If communism has anything to say for itself, the democratic constitution of this country allows him to say it. He can say it in the street corner, in his home, from the rooftops or from the Galle Face Green.

But it is a different position when this democratic right is roundly abused day after day in using words to shriek lies and half-truths and corrupt the standards of right and wrong in the country. Every Govern-

ment in the world expects some kind of loyalty from the people who live under its laws and who are protected under such laws from the infliction of injustice on them from others. If one lives in a country one should at least be a normally good citizen of that country. It is not proper to enjoy the benefits of citizenship in this country, and to try to destroy its wellbeing by every means in a bad citizen's power. Communism is the essence of bad citizenship. It means a denial of everything that good citizenship stands for. The public ought to be able to realise that communism does not mean any good to the country but on the contrary, is desirous of employing every means in its power to bring upon this land all the ills which it has perversely inflicted upon the people of other countries in which it has been able to attain to power.

There should be no apathy on the part of the public in Ceylon in regard to this matter. Just as communism seeks to develop a mass consciousness of the evils of capitalism and of democratic government, so should people who believe in democracy band themselves together in various centres and institutions all over the country to spread a consciousness of the evils of communism and make men aware of the insidious action of this force which respects nothing but its own will to success.

Communism goes on eating into the vitals of some areas in Ceylon and into the constitution of many minds. It causes losses of good citizens to democracy. This is a matter which does not seem to have sufficiently stirred the public to action in its own protection. The slogans of democracy are shouted loudly at election time. There are a few organisations which exist in the country and which in their programmes are in some measure an education for democracy. But this does not appear to be enough. It is not possible to combat the insidious attempts of communism to gain power by anything but an overwhelming organisation of the powers of democracy to deal with this menace in an adequate manner.

We cannot forget that communism and all revolutionary bodies are working night and day for the triumph of their cause. Most of this work is underground and there are channels of communication with the various bodies working for this purpose and strengthening each unit throughout the country with deliberate design to erupt into power any day this becomes possible. We cannot deny that communism has not lost heart after its great and crushing defeat. It will work on patiently. We must rouse ourselves to the sense of a great and continuous danger in our midst, and take all the steps necessary to combat so great and daring an evil with weapons which would legitimately enable us to free this country from such corrupting influences.

THE NEW HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(Continued from page 7)

"Like his father, Mr. Senanayake is a staunch supporter of the Empire

"This is not all. The Ceylon elections have proved that Communism has little attraction for the contented Asian. Economically and politically, Ceylon is sound.

"Mr. Senanayake's victory was a great personal achievement.

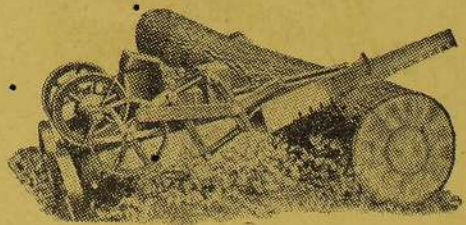
"It was also a message of hope for all those Britons who are fighting Communism in the East. For it showed how surely a free people may develop within the Empire."—(PTC-Reuter).



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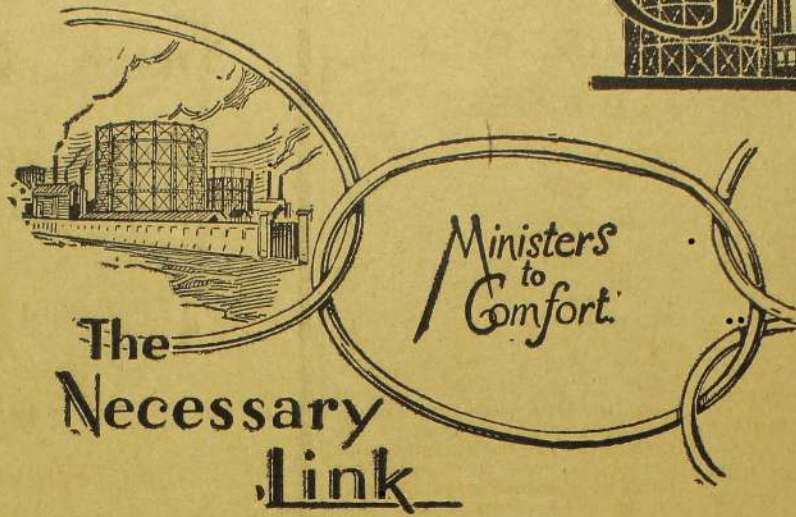
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By Shirley J. Payoe

"LET there be houses for all", said the Builder, but there were no houses—no, not even pre-fabs of course! You can't blame him. The reason for his failure is not far to seek—miracles just don't happen these days.

You can't rub a lamp and say (to Sir Oliver when he materializes from the ether), "Get me a palace, or at least a small house by next month."

What I am trying to drive at is that it is practically impossible for any Government to provide each and everyone with a house. The housing shortage is not peculiar to Ceylon, as some appear to believe. It's common—in the Eastern and Western countries alike.

Now, I don't have too much respect for gigantic flats (built, for the most part on paper), and I don't place too much value in any schemes that spread out through a number of years. I am sure, we would all like to see the housing problem tackled once and for all during this generation itself! Truly, the problem is an urgent one and merits immediate attention, but it has been enormously exaggerated. The word Housing-Problem is a misnomer. What is meant is Accommodation-Problem.

Take the Government servants and the students. They do not want houses, but those of them who are now living in miserable hovels, and garages and miniature Belsen Camps would like to have decent accommodation.

In congested Colombo, the majority of the floating population of workers—and students—live in unsuitable surroundings, bearing up great hardships and paying exorbitant rates well beyond their means. Instances can be shown where unfortunates have had to contend with sharing garages—two to each garage! Let's face facts squarely—a considerable number of unregistered boarding houses are known to be small-scale brothels. Even in so-called high-class joints—where they take in 'paying guests' instead of 'boarders' and 'lodgers'—a portion of the guest's salary has to be set apart for buying presents for the daughters—if not for the mistress herself. Invariably, the boarding-mistress is young enough (in mind and body) to solicit such attention herself and to reciprocate with little little favours! The worse part of living in such establishments is that everytime there is a family quarrel, everytime the old man comes home dead drunk, everytime the ayah runs away with the breadman, everytime the baby gets a 'flu, it becomes the bounden duty of the paying guest not to jump in the sea in disgust. You can have my word for it, these boardings are not quiet havens where the tired Government servant and the persevering student can enjoy a moment's peace or put in a

few hours of serious study. As regards the food and the home comforts—the least said about them the better.

An unpardonable mistake we make is to localize our thinking. We feel that the housing shortage is nowhere acute as in Colombo and the major cities. But the acuteness is spread evenly throughout the country, and is felt equally in lesser known towns like Kurunegala. Despite diligent efforts it is impossible to find decent accommodation in the small towns areas. The Government servants are squeezed dry by exploiters. The bachelors can therefore make no saving, while the married men have no alternative but to run two separate establishments, one at their place of work and the other at their normal place of residence.

Why therefore cannot we have in every town—where necessary—a co-operative colony, planned and run in such a manner as to help the Government servants (and students)? This question was first mooted by a group of public servants from Kurunegala in a communication addressed to the authorities.

The gist of their suggestions was that suitable spacious buildings be acquired or semi-permanent buildings be constructed after the manner of the military camps, so that chummeries can be run on non-profit, co-operative basis. The need for immediate action along these lines was stressed in view of the acuteness of the problem, and the necessity to relieve the Government from incurring heavy expenditure.

To my mind, the value of the suggestion has not been sufficiently appreciated, nor reckoned in the proper way.

If the Government servants are localized and grouped as suggested, the furtherance of their welfare and the promotion of their religious, cultural and recreational interests will be greatly facilitated. It will become an easy matter then to look into their needs, promote goodwill, cut down living costs and relieve avoidable suffering and discomfort. The average Government servant will, very rightly, take a dim view of the scheme if it entails making him needlessly disciplined, but such a question will not arise, for he will only be managing his own affairs himself—as we not infrequently find him doing at present in chummeries.

It is being said that the scheme will come up against certain rigid rules which do not allow for the registering of chummeries among Government servants as co-operative ventures. If any such rules exist, it is to be hoped that they will be bulldozed without delay. Rules never made men. Men made them for their own convenience and for practical reasons—to be scraped away when necessary. Right now we should not let anything stand in the way of progress and utility, and if we can work in our shirtsleeves and live like the American with scant respect for rigidity, so much the better!



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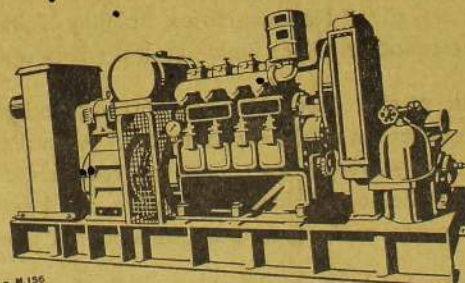
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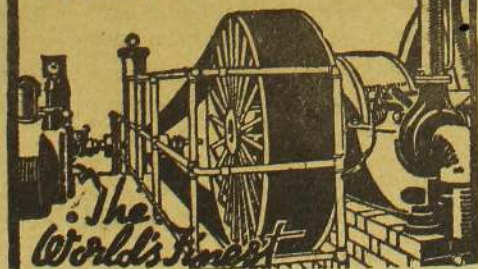
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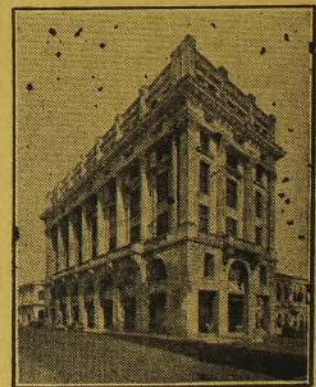
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THIS well-known Office commenced operations in Ceylon in the year 1906 and it can truly be said that the Association has pioneered Life Assurance in the Island. The very large volume of business that is now written by it is ample testimony of the goodwill 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.



COLOMBO BUILDING

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:

F. R. CONNOLLY,
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