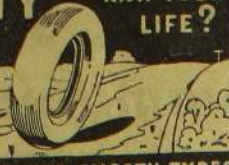


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Bid For Election Probe Rejected

GLARING MARXIST TECHNIQUE EXPOSED

AFTER a debate which lasted over seven hours—the longest debate on a non-Government motion—the bid for the appointment of a Commission “to inquire into, report on and make recommendations” for the conduct of General Elections was rejected by the House of Representatives on Wednesday last. When the House divided it was 20 Ayes and 64 Noes.

The Leader of the Opposition sponsored the motion which was seconded by the Member for Galle. The allegations made by the Opposition were controverted by the Minister of Finance whose party he said, was prepared to meet the challenge of the Opposition in the House, at Galle Face and in the Courts if need be. He said he could quite appreciate the indignation of the Marxist group in the Parliament over their losses. Similar demonstrations of their indignation were witnessed in India after the recent General Elections and also in Burma where the Marxists lost heavily. And now in Ceylon the Communists and their stooges are doing the same thing. It was the technique of the Communists to undermine the faith of the people in the ballot-box, an attempt to subvert the democratic system.

He referred to a recent incident in Germany when a professional boxer found that the referee had given a verdict against him and the boxer immediately proceeded to knock out the referee. His boxing career was stopped for the rest of his life. In this election, too, having failed to win the hearts and the votes of the people, hon. Members of the Opposition were proceeding to knock out the referee.

He analysed the Opposition motion asking for a Commission on the conduct of the Elections as an effort by the Opposition to save its face after its ignominious and shattering defeat at the polls. The Opposition alleged that there existed in the minds of the people certain doubts as to the correctness of the manner in which the last Elections were conducted, and for that reason the mass mind should be set at ease; and that the existing machinery for the conduct of Elections was obsolete and furthermore the present Election laws were full of loopholes, hence necessitating a Commission which could bring to light these shortcomings and recommend to the House ways and means of improving the system.

There was no necessity for the proposed Commission on the light of the fact that the public as well as members of the Opposition had ample means of redressing their grievances through normal channels—the provisions of the Order-in-Council and the right of requesting the Supreme Court to look into any irregularity.

He said that the S.L.F.P. which he characterised as the Judas of democracy was doing the greatest harm to democracy.

Speaking as a democrat the Minister of Finance appealed to the Leader of the Opposition to leave the fold of the Communists and to form a truly democratic Opposition to fight both the Government and the Marxists.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Leader of the Opposition, moved the motion sponsored by him and four other members of the Opposition. He said that the motion was one of some considerable importance, a motion which did not merely concern any one particular political party or any particular section of the people but, if he might say so, to the entire public of the country. It was one, no doubt, in which it was possible to engender heat in debate, to indulge in special pleading or in the adducement of arguments that are not based upon verified facts. He hoped the motion would be dealt with and discussed in an entirely impartial and dispassionate manner. He said that there was a widespread feeling that the last parliamentary elections were not conducted in a free, fair or impartial manner. It was, however, very easy for people to be led away by their own personal feelings rather than bringing to bear on the matters in question a certain cool, impartial mind. It was easy for a defeated candidate to say he was defeated not because he did not receive the acceptance of a majority of the voters, but to attribute such defeat to other causes.

It was human nature to make such charges and set afloat rumours that gain some publicity throughout the country which perhaps are not based upon carefully checked evidence, data and facts. They had to make allowances for allegations which were made with a certain amount of exaggerations and distortions. While making allowance for all such considerations, there still remained a great deal that was most disquieting. He repeated that in the interests of all concerned there should be an investigation. It was with a view to re-establishing the faith of the voters that he proposed to bring the motion before the House. He had had experience of elections not only from 1931 during the Donoughmore Constitution when he personally participated in the general elections but even earlier, in the time of the Legislative Council.

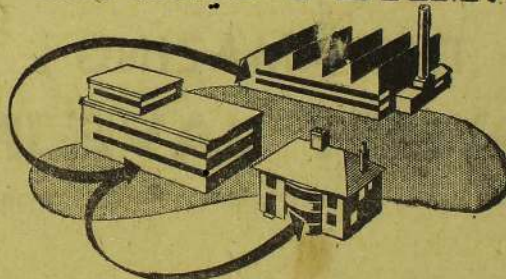
Never on any one such occasion

had there been this strong feeling that existed today that a large number of irregularities had occurred. The irregularities to which he referred flowed from the very source of the entire election machinery, the Government in whose hands was vested the sole, complete, control of all election arrangements and election procedure. He asked the House to consider the question and make various recommendations which might be effective in the administrative set-up so that there might be improvements in the conduct of elections in the future. This would, he added, remove all possible misdeeds, fears and suspicions and the people of the country, reassured that in pursuing the democratic way and depending solely, as they do, upon

the ballot box and on the free vote, they were not really being led up the garden path.

Mr. W. Dahanayake in seconding the motion said that the present irregularities were largely due to the procedure in vogue now which was twenty years old and it should have been improved in the light of experience in the past. The Government should evolve a fool-proof method whereby ballot papers could be printed and distributed without any room for suspicion. Finally, he appealed to the Prime Minister. He said: “I still have faith in the Hon. Prime Minister and the Members of the Cabinet. After all the facts adduced, I have not the slightest doubt that the Prime Minister will accede to the request.”

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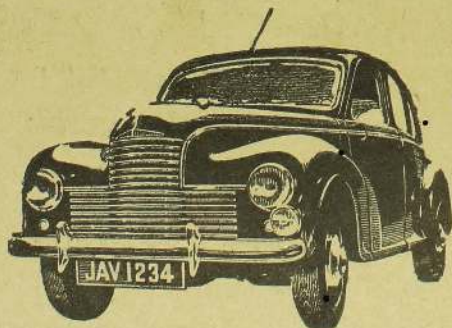
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Will the U. S. A. Save Asia from Communism?

AS a result of the General Election this country today possesses the strongest government it has had since the days of its greatest kings. The strength of the present government rests on the foundation of the people's will. It is the kind of government which the people openly prefer to any of the alternatives offered to them by the Opposition parties. No government, therefore, could hope to start on the five-year term offered it under more auspicious circumstances.

There is not the slightest doubt that the next five years will be the most fateful years in the history of Asia, and Ceylon, despite the insignificance of its size, is destined to play an important part in deciding the path that Asia will follow. What is at stake is nothing less than the fate of Democracy not only in Asia, but throughout the world, because what happens in Asia in the next five years will decide the fate of Democracy throughout the whole civilised globe.

In my article in this journal last week I expressed the view that "the supreme struggle in Asia will be the struggle between Communism as represented by China and Democracy as represented by India". A few days later (in a Reuter message from New York dated June 19) Mr. Chester Bowles, American Ambassador to India, told the press in New York: "Time is running out in Asia. We have seen China go down the Communist drain. We have in India a democratic nation struggling to make democracy work. . . . I think she is going to win, but she needs help, and that help can come only from us."

No truer words were uttered. But helping India is not enough. If Ceylon goes Red, she can be the Achilles heel of India. Ceylon holds a vital position in the Indian Ocean. She possesses the greatest naval base in the whole Indian Ocean area. The only considerable naval base India possesses is the port of Cochin in South India and in that part of South India which is a stronghold of the Indian Communists. It would be folly, therefore, for the U.S.A. to ignore Ceylon and to concentrate exclusively on India.

Besides, Ceylon has strong claims on the Democratic world for really worthwhile economic and technical aid. Already, no doubt, considerable technical assistance is generously forthcoming. But with the falling prices her staple products are fetching in the world markets, financial assistance will be needed in the immediate future if the newly-elected progressive Government is to carry out its schemes for raising the standard of living of the masses and for an extension of the various social welfare schemes already started by the old regime. A retrogression in all these respects will not only be fatal to the Government, but will also bring the masses to a pitch of disappointment with the democratic way of life such as would result in a violent swing to the Left.

What assistance can the Western nations provide Ceylon and the other countries of South-East Asia? These Eastern countries do not want charity. What they need is stable prices for their staple products—tin, rubber, tea and coconuts. What is required, in other words, is a series of economic agreements, modelled on the International Wheat Board pattern for regulating the prices of wheat, to guarantee stable and economic prices for tea, tin, rubber and the coconut products. Above all, it must be emphasised that the key to the economy of South-East Asia is rubber. Collapsing rubber prices rock their whole economy to its foundations. And the synthetic rubber policy of the U.S.A. plays ducks and drakes with the budgets of these Eastern countries.

Is it, therefore, beyond the wit of the statesmen of Britain and the U.S.A. to devise machinery whereby the prices of the primary products of the non-Communist countries of Asia are put on a guaranteed basis in order that the governments of these countries may know just what revenues they can count on and so that they can plan well ahead for schemes for lifting their peoples out of the morass of poverty and despair in which most of them are now living? For the free world to continue to drift as it is doing, from one crisis to another, would be disastrous. **THE BATTLE AGAINST COMMUNISM CAN BE WON ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT ALONE.** To treat the economic front as a matter of second importance and to continue to expand vast sums on rearmament would be fatal in the long

By **A. S. Morrison**

run. If India were lost, the whole of Asia would be lost, as Mr. Chester Bowles, the American Ambassador, rightly surmises. Of what use would all the colossal armaments of the U.S.A. and the Atlantic powers be if India and South-East Asia went the way of China? If wars are won by mere weight of armaments, then Hitler should have won the last war. The "imponderables" such as the will of a people, their faith in a political system, their hope or their despair—these are far more important than armaments. And the Western world cannot hope to defeat Communism if the whole of Asia were to be dragged into the vortex that is Red China. Will the West learn this lesson too late? Are far-seeing men of the type of Mr. Chester Bowles crying in the wilderness?

When one thinks of the amazing organising genius of the great captains of industry of the West, particularly the U.S.A., one is appalled at their left-handedness in dealing with the East. Does it mean that these great business leaders have not yet given their minds to the problem of organising the Free World into a vast co-operative enterprise in which the strong will help rather than exploit the weak, in which every economic activity of the Free World will be dovetailed into a central plan devised with only purpose—to raise the economic well-being of all the states and nations which belong to the Free World? Think of the extraordinary and phenomenal success with which the whole world was organised to win the last war. Think of the terrific problems with which the statesmen, the generals, and the businessmen were confronted and the triumphant manner in which these problems were solved. It is impossible to believe, therefore, that these same men now stand baffled by the difficulties and the problems which the challenge of Communism has thrown up all over the world.

It would be stupid to deny that the Business Depression which now threatens the Free World, if it gathers momentum, will load the dice heavily against the Democracies in their struggle with Communism. But the depression can be checked. The U.S.A. holds the key to the solution to this problem in her hands. Will she have the courage to use it even if, for the time being, the solution hurts her somewhat?

There is no dispute that the most generous people the world has ever seen are those Americans when their hearts are moved. In the history of the world can one point to a single nation which has gone on giving away thousands of millions of its hard-earned money to other nations to set them on their feet? Russia today boasts that she has a surplus of 100 million tons of wheat. But last year when India was faced with famine, where was this Russian wheat and why was she not willing to give some of it to India. To the shame of Russia the U.S.A. generously gave India two million tons of food, half of it as a gift. Deeds speak louder than words. Russia missed the chance of a life-time.

(Continued on page 3)

Alleged Subservience to Anglo-American Bloc

DURING the debate on the Address of Thanks to the Governor-General's Speech from the Throne as many as six amendments were moved by the Opposition. Among these one was the old story of "this country's dependence upon and subservience to the Anglo-American bloc", moved by the Leader of the Opposition and seconded by the Member for Vavuniya, which paved the way for the First Member for Colombo Central, the Communist, the exponent of the Soviet way of life to dwell on his specialised theme.

The mover referred to a recent Press Report appearing in the "Washington Post" where a statement had been published to the effect that the United States was to ask the United Kingdom for military bases in Ceylon. He wanted to know whether this country was participating in any joint scheme of defence in the Indian Ocean zone by the Western powers. If this was so, it would cause an alarming situation, and as such Ceylon too would be involved in the event of war.

The seconder stated that he was aware there were agreements between this country and the United Kingdom. He had occasion to attend a meeting at Trincomalee. He had been informed by the convenors of that meeting that the venue of the meeting—the Trincomalee Esplanade—was the property of the Royal Navy, East Indies Squadron and the Royal Navy authorities had refused to grant them permission to hold the meeting. At Katunayake too he had been refused admission to the airport by the Royal Air Force personnel.

COMPLETE FREEDOM OF ACTION

The Prime Minister replying, said that the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for Vavuniya who were now speaking in derogatory terms of the defence agreements of the Government, were themselves

members of the Government which entered into these agreements. If both of them were sincere in their statements now, they should have resigned from the Government then. If however, they permitted the Government to come into these agreements they had committed an act of

By Omega

treachery. He wished to disabuse the minds of the Opposition by nailing to the counter the canard about a defence agreement which surrendered the bases which this country should have. The agreements made were on a definite mutual understanding. There was complete freedom of action for the country at all times. The agreements reached by this Government over defence with the United Kingdom were not derogatory to this country, merely because they were made simultaneously with the grant of Dominion Status. This Government could take any action it desired. The agreements were the same in respect of all countries in the Commonwealth.

TAKING OVER DEFENCE

The presence of the R.A.F. and the R.N. in the country, he said, was because this country had delegated certain powers to these forces made under mutual agreement. The terms are as follows:—

"The Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Ceylon will give to each other such military assistance for the security of their territories for defence against external aggression and for the protection of essential communications as it may be in their mutual interest."

An infant nation like Ceylon could not afford to take over the defence of the country overnight, as it did not have the requisite Army, Navy and Air Force personnel needed for this work. Now, however, the Ceylon Army has been able to take over full command of the activities in Ceylon. The Ceylon Navy as well as the Ceylon Air Force were in the process of being built up. At present the Ceylon Navy had taken over the seaward defence of the Colombo Harbour and ultimately they hoped

(Continued on page 9)

Will the U. S. A. Save Asia from Communism?

(Continued from page 2)

But having made such a magnificent start in helping Asia, the U.S.A. has not followed it up with what the rest of what remains of non-Communist Asia badly needs, namely, an economic policy similar to the Marshall Plan for Europe. In India, no doubt, one sees the beginnings of a magnetic enterprise in the Mutual Aid schemes for the agricultural and industrial advancement of that country. But Ceylon and South-East Asia still languish for lack of American aid. And the best form of aid for them can take is a guaranteed price for their staple products. For instance, if Ceylon could continue to receive the prices she received last year for her teas, rubber, and coconut products, she would be able to proceed with her various welfare schemes "on her own steam." Supplemented by loans from the International Bank and grants from the various U.N.O. agencies, the revenue of the Ceylon Government would be adequate for most of the things it has in hand.

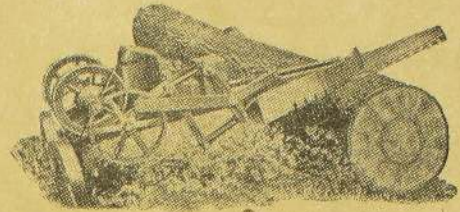
Non-Communist Asia, therefore, looks to the U.S.A. to produce a plan for the Economic Stability of this vast region. She alone can do it. She has the men, she has

the brains, she has the vision. Will she use them? What is needed is nothing less than the calling of a great Economic Conference embracing every country in non-Communist Asia together with the Commonwealth and the U.S.A. to hammer out a plan for organising an Economic Democracy throughout the Free World. The purpose of the plan will be to harmonise all the economic activities of the Free World so that the recurring ailment of "booms and depressions" will be either cured or palliated and to ensure that the vast resources of the Free World will be developed for the benefit of all the peoples who belong to this free association.

No doubt this is a gigantic enterprise and one faced with difficulties which will frighten all but the boldest minds. But the task has to be faced since the Communist world is facing its own difficulties on something like these lines. THE FREE WORLD, THEREFORE, CANNOT AFFORD NOT TO ORGANISE. To create such an organisation will take time. It may take years, but it has got to be done in order that the impoverished masses of Asia may be given new hope and in order that their imaginations may be fired with a new faith in the democratic way of life.

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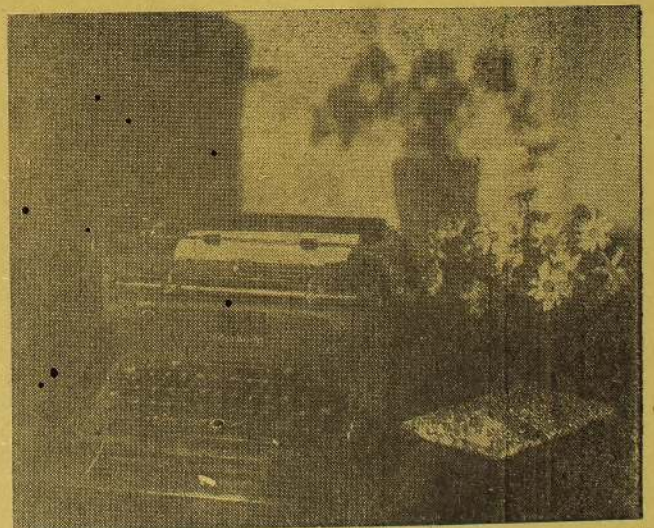
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ALLEGED SATYAGRAHIS' SUFFERINGS

Prime Minister's Vigorous Denial

AFTER the adjournment motion in Parliament on Tuesday, Mr. Pieter Keuneman was permitted to bring to the notice of the House, a matter which he declared was "one which concerned the rights and liberties of the people who live in this country and the sort of treatment which they have a right to expect from those agencies of the Government which are charged with upholding the law of this country."

His complaint was one which referred to the action of the Police on June 9th this year, when a number of Indians, eleven persons, came in procession towards Parliament to present a petition to the Prime Minister. They were stopped at the junction of Main Street and Lotus Road by two Police officers. He narrated harrowing tales of indignities alleged to have been inflicted by the Police on these persons who were the Ceylon Indian Congress satyagrahis, struck with batons and crowded into a Police van and kept in confinement for several hours. Among those who were struck with batons was Mr. Rajalingam, a former Member of the House.

VIGOROUS DENIAL BY P.M.

The Prime Minister vigorously denied the allegations. He said that it seemed to have become customary with some Members particularly of the Opposition to build up a most harrowing story, on their own facts, regardless of the truth of those facts, and bring before the House, a telling indictment against the Government.

"Listening to the tale related by the hon. First Member for Colombo Central, one may have for a moment thought that we had joined the Soviet Union bloc", asserted Mr. Dudley Senanayake, who continuing said:

"But what are the facts of the case? Hon. Members of this House are well aware of the incidents subsequent to the elections. I think some of them must have read reports of some of the speeches made by certain candidates and supporters of these candidates. I refer in particular to a speech made by the husband of the fair Member for Avissawella. What was the tenor of that speech? That they wished to see that the

House was not meeting on the 9th or 10th.

In addition to this speech which may or may not have been denied, certain information was available to the Police. Can hon. members deny that endeavours were made to bring the harbour workers out here in procession and create an upset? There was sufficient information available to the Police to realize that an endeavour will be made to see that the opening Session of Parliament does not take place. In the context of that, in those circumstances the Head of the Police quite rightly refused to give any permission for a procession to proceed on the 9th or on the 10th. In the light of those circumstances no hon. Member of this House will deny that the Head of the Police Force acted in a wrong or indiscreet manner in taking that course of action.

POLICE ACTION CORRECT

When these gentlemen of the Ceylon Indian Congress made application for a permit to start a procession on the 9th, permission was refused and I say the Police acted correctly in refusing that permit. Might I tell those very innocent members that for the procession of the 9th as much as 2,000 people from the outstations—Indian labourers—came from various stations in Ceylon in the up-country areas? Might I produce the telegrams informing the people in Colombo of the numbers arriving? It is now contended that ten or eleven people or whatever the number may be, wanted to present a petition to me. Who were these ten people? It has been admitted that four of them were ex-Members of the House of Representatives. If Mr. Thondaman and Mr. Aziz wanted to present any petition to me, they need not have adopted that mode of travel. They need not have walked from Pettah followed by thousands of labourers.

DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL

If Mr. Thondaman and Mr. Aziz genuinely wanted to present a petition to me there was the normal mode of travel they adopted when they were Members of this Parliament. They could have come in their own cars without starting a march from Pettah. Naturally the Police thought the purpose of this march from Pettah in view of the fact that well-nigh two thousand labourers had come from the outstations had already assembled on

(Continued on page 10)

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WORKERS MUST UNITE

By Eardley Gunasekera

INDUSTRY is spreading.

There seems to be a great tendency to attach to industry more importance than for agriculture. The reasons for this are many but it is not the aim of this effort to discuss them. Nevertheless as a result of this unimpaired growth of industry one factor stands out conspicuously. It has given rise to a number of problems both political and social. This is attributed to the fact that large scale industry necessitates the employment of a great amount of labour. The worker, then, taken collectively and his problems as a consequence becomes a matter that cannot go unheeded. In feudal times however his position was one of subjugation and slavery, when lord-serf relations were never cordial and when the lord by virtue of his immense social and financial power was able to emerge triumphant. Today history has taken a different course and the lord is no longer able to hold the privileged dictatorial attitude he once had. The labour power has increased and grown from strength to strength thus convincing the world of both their potentiality and their necessity.

The worker is a human entity and must be given due recognition and consideration, and it should be remembered that this should be done without fear or prejudice because few of us realise that they contribute in no small measure towards the sound economy of a land. But if we depend or rely too much on the good faith of unsuspecting employers alone to do their duty we may not be able to expect the same measure of good harmony that exists between employer and employee when all employees are united. This the workers must take careful note for a single diapason of demand would mean much more than individual dis-integrated requests. This must not indicate that the worker must adopt an arrogant attitude backed by the preponderance of its numbers. Demands must be reasonable.

The basic need of a worker is a living wage, much depends on this as he has to feed and clothe himself and his family not forgetting the house rent he has to pay. If this proves to be inadequate and

nothing more than a paltry pittance then his life becomes a misery leading to hatred and discontent. The wage is the main source of income to him and should this be insufficient then we see continuous tension between worker and employer, leading probably to the disruption of industry. The wage is the main motive for an united front and all other considerations become subsidiary. The employer on the other hand must not exploit the worker and as a matter of fact that stage has long passed. The employer and employee are now on more or less level terms. Besides the living wage he is entitled to provision must be made for social amenities and for his general welfare. Everything possible must be attended to in order that the worker may feel contented and have the satisfaction that the welfare of his wife, children and finally himself is assured.

In sufficiently large industrial projects the workers must be housed in proximity to their work. But it is not always that this need is attended to and more often than never a combined demand becomes imperative. Educational and recreational facilities must be provided for the children of these workers. The employer's duty towards the worker is not complete after the settlement of wages alone, it extends much more and he has certain social obligations to perform. Housing, educational and technical facilities are of vital importance since the health of the worker and his family depends largely on these conditions and if attention to these problems is not given the worker would be adversely affected. We must not forget the fact that once the worker is old and decrepit he must be looked after and even though his utility may be done it becomes a moral obligation for the employer to see to his welfare. For this purpose, however the establishment of schemes of pensions, gratuities or endowment funds becomes an urgent necessity.

These are some of the more important basic requirements of the worker and they cannot be ignored. Their social and political condition must improve and in the interests of the workers themselves the best and most effective way of achieving their object is by collective bargaining. An appreciable percentage of the population of any country comprise of workers we cannot therefore be indifferent to their problems because their is a powerful voice and its call must be answered.

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Friday, June 27, 1952

THEIR LAST LIE

ONE of the characteristics of Left-Wing propaganda is that of making the people swallow ever-increasing doses of untruths. During the last five years the Leftist Parties' based their propaganda on clever lies. The purpose was to create a feeling of disgust and hatred against the U.N.P. which was in charge of the Government. To achieve that purpose it was necessary to constantly tell the people that the Government was inefficient, unreliable, deceitful and crooked. Any self-respecting nation will naturally begin to hate such a Government and the only way of creating that condition of hatred was to invent a continuous stream of stories to support Leftist charges. As we often predicted would happen the campaign of lying and slander boomeranged on the Leftists during the last General Election and the people began to realise that they had been taken for a ride. That is one of the major causes of the general rout of the Left Wing candidates throughout the country.

The Leftists based their propaganda on the axiom laid down by Dr. Goebbels that if you tell a lie that is big enough, and keep repeating it, the masses of the people will readily believe it. The ballot-paper story is the offspring of the earlier monsters of untruth and scandal created by Leftists for their own purposes. When the Leftist leaders found to their horror that they were being routed all along the line, for tactical purposes they found it necessary to rally their supporters whose morale was at a very low ebb.

In a desperate attempt to save the Wellawatte-Galkissa seat the fantastic story of the bogus ballot papers was invented to confuse the undecided vote into a stampede in favour of the Gogia Pasha of Left-Wing propaganda who saw defeat and humiliation staring him in the face. Having made such a statement it was necessary, according to the Leftist

Book, to keep repeating it often enough. That is why it was not dropped after the elections were over. The original story printed in a "rag" produced for the occasion was that extra bundles of blank ballot papers were available to the U.N.P. candidates. This was said to account for the victories against the Leftists. When people are taken by storm they generally do not reflect, but when little time lapses the absurdity of the story is bound to get plainer each day. It became obvious to anyone studying the figures of the polling, that even conceding this lie to the Opposition there was no way of explaining why the Left vote was not more considerable than it was. For example, Mrs. Antony Pillai, alias Caroline Goonewardena, contested the Dambadeniya seat polled a bare 2,000 votes and lost her deposit. The public began to see that obviously the vote in favour of the Red candidate was negligible. This was not only noticeable in Dambadeniya but in a large number of other constituencies where Leftists were roundly beaten. Then if the U.N.P. candidates achieved the miracle of inserting bogus ballot papers what happened to the Leftist votes in those constituencies? Why was the poll so low? To answer this legitimate query was a difficult thing. Even Left sympathisers began to get rather fed up when this graceless attempt was made to explain defeat. That is why the Galle Face meeting was organised. So, after a week of reflection and furious thinking many other new charges were invented. Elections were inefficiently run, said some speakers. The ballot boxes might have been changed, said some others, and so on and so forth. It was altogether a childish but desperate attempt to save face. Mr. Bandaranaike, who has now descended to the same level as that of the company he now keeps, temporarily forgot that his own poll of 32,000 was obviously without the aid of the "tricks" he alleged against the U.N.P. where the Leftists or S.L.F.P. won what happened to the "fake" ballot papers and the "fake" ballot boxes? How did Pieter Keuneman head the Colombo Central Poll? These are questions Mr. Bandaranaike avoided. The people, however, will never forget this last lie. It is the last nail in the Leftist coffin in Ceylon.

To Make the World Safer and Better

SPEAKING at a suburban New York school of nursing graduation program, U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie, reminded his listeners that the resistance free nations of the world are making against Communist aggression in Korea continues to offer the best hope of preventing a third world war. He also called attention to the efforts of U.N. agencies "all over the world" to help

countries "raise more food... create local industries... fight malaria and plague and tuberculosis... develop public health services... train doctors and nurses... build hospitals, and in a hundred other ways to raise living standards." Lie described this program as "one phase of the effort by the United Nations to make the world a better and safer place to live in."—(USIS).

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Truth, Totalitarianism and Democracy

By Quintus Delilkhan

THE rage of baffled desire to introduce a totalitarian tyranny, under the guise of good government to this country, has induced the revolutionary leaders to mouth and mutter and mumble the usual revolutionary platitudes on the Galle Face Green which has witnessed so many times before the same hysterical appeals to the public to overthrow democratic government and give the revolutionary ranters and ravers a chance.

Anybody likes a show of this kind. It provides a break in the monotony of living for thousands of people who go there just to listen. Just as there are people who believe in democracy and who visit a public place where oratory flourishes, there are communists also who attend democratic meetings. There is no need to be particularly excited by the mere fact of large crowds. A big difference however exists between a democratic meeting and a revolutionary meeting, and this difference is fundamental.

At a revolutionary meeting, people with a democratic bias go there not to be informed of the truth, for they know that any kind of sober fact cannot be extricated from the froth and foam of communist oratory, which is disgusting in the monotony of repetition and abuse, but merely to be amused, to relax, to enjoy the excitement of hearing people work themselves up to a pitch of savage frenzy over nothing, or something very approximate to nothing. The attacks on the government of this country have gone on so long, that one might almost anticipate every word and phrase of the communist or revolutionary line of attack.

Some new fact may be exploited to draw attention to the need for the country to throw in its lot with the communists; but such fact generally proves to be fiction in the end, and the public has now become aware of the fact that revolutionary propaganda has to be taken, not with the proverbial pinch of salt, but with huge handfuls of saline substance. There is a great deal of detached curiosity in the human mind. People are just curious to know what other people are thinking, even though the other people are revolutionists and capable fabricators of sensation on a slender basis of fact, or even on a non-existent basis of fact.

There is of course the rank and file of the misguided revolutionaries, the people who have an interest in disorder and civil commotion, if ever it comes, and who hope that the unbelievable words of their leaders will come true because they have so often been told so, and they have not given up hopes that something would happen which would enable the mob to come into power. These are the people, simple in their minds, or filled with hatred and venom, who can be roused to acts of insensate violence because they are told that nothing stands between them and final prosperity and happiness but the existence of democratic government and the petite bourgeoisie. Of course, the real democratic government of this country is described as the rule of capitalists. According to the leaders of revolution, the only democratic form of government is one in which

all rights accruing to the individual are abolished. This is the form of democracy which they extol and which they mean when they use the word democracy of their system.

Genuine democratic meetings are, however, meant to mislead nobody, to tell people the true facts of the case, and to create public confidence in a form of government which genuinely strives for the attainment of the public good. There is no need for dressing up fiction as fact. A truly democratic government can have some measure of defects, but it cannot stand for any length of time if it is suspected of misleading the public. The Government realises, and the public also fully realises, that there must be mutual co-operation between the Government and the people. Such co-operation cannot continue unless there is openness on both sides. The Government cannot afford to fool the public, and the public will be resentful if it has been fooled. The people have the right of free speech under democracy, and they will use it to the detriment of the Government unless they are sure that they are being told the truth. It is very safe to assume, both in theory and in practice, that the public attending a democratic meeting will be instructed in the truth of things as they are, and hence there is no need for excitement. Being present at such a meeting is an opportunity to know the realities of the contemporary political scene.

The totalitarians cannot afford to tell the truth about themselves or the kind of government which they hope to introduce. If they said that they would be rulers who would not allow the right of free speech or criticism or free action to their followers, what sort of following would they have? They are compelled, by the circumstances of their case, to promise freedom and power to the people, and thus mislead them by such monstrously false promises until the people are caught in the toils set for them.

Actually a revolutionary form of government means that all law, all rights and all power of choice are wrested from the people. The will of a few people in power is the only law of the land. This is a strange view of democracy, but it is the only kind of democracy which the revolutionary leaders can offer their misguided followers. This country has been saved from subjection to the intolerable conditions of totalitarian rule. We have now time to build the future of this country upon the genuine foundations of liberty. In this work, the government and the people should be happy to co-operate. Such voluntary co-operation, understanding and goodwill will further strengthen and expand the broad democratic foundations of the national life.

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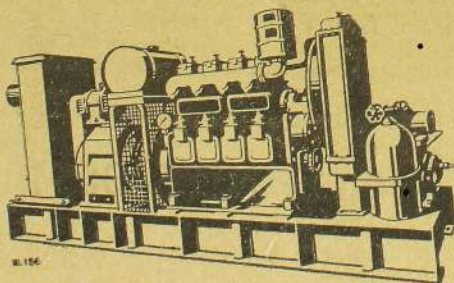
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WHY IMPORT CONTROL IS MAINTAINED

"DUE to Ceylon's favourable balance of payments position at the end of 1950, an official Committee was appointed to review current restrictions on imports", states the acting Controller of Imports and Exports in his Administration Report for 1951. Certain recommendations on the basis of the Report of the Central Bank were made with regard to future Import Control, he adds and enumerates the following purposes for which control is maintained:—

- (1) To facilitate the procurement of certain goods on account of Government control in the country of origin for scarce commodities and allocation of such goods by inter-Governmental arrangement.
 - (2) For internal distribution of certain goods in short supply to essential users.
- B. For protection of local industry.
 - C. Restriction of non-essential imports from dollar sources.

D Ceylonization of the import trade of the Island.

In a country like Ceylon, import control is a most effective weapon whereby Government can exercise selecting of imports in the interests of economic development. It is also a means by which citizens of Ceylon can be assisted in securing a share of the foreign trade.

Ceylon's economy depending as it does on the fortunes of the Tea, Rubber and Coconut industries, is very vulnerable and her balance of payments position remains fluid. Controls have to be exercised to a greater or lesser degree, having regard to her ability to balance her trading accounts.

Other countries similarly placed have already resorted to the well-tried device of import control to arrest adverse balances and Ceylon may have to follow suit.

In the present trend of world economic affairs, import and export controls form an integral part of world trade. This factor combined with the policy of Ceylonization have made it necessary that the department should be organized as a permanent Government Department and not as a temporary emergency measure as it is now.

SENEX.

GOVT. FILM UNIT'S LATEST PRODUCTION

"FISHERMEN of Negombo" a film produced by Ralph Keene and directed by George Wickremesinghe of the Government Film Unit, is the latest production which was screened at a special pre-view at the Regal Theatre last Wednesday morning. Those responsible are to be congratulated on this excellent documentary. It is simply and well-planned, and executed. The scene is laid along the Negombo Coast and lagoon. The narrator, Devar Surya Sena, while describing the daily routine of the fishermen's day-to-

day life the women at work at home, the children setting out for school in the morning after the menfolk have launched their boats out to sea, gives snatches of songs which stir the imagination. A statue of the Madonna prominently placed in a decorated hut gives an indication of the faith of the simple folk; and the women praying before the statue after the menfolk have gone to sea is unmistakable evidence of their religious fervour. The standard of photography is very good and the sound effects excellent. This film will be shown at the Edinburgh Film Festival this year whether it will be sent, after local cinema fans have seen it featured throughout the current week at the Regal Theatre.

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Free Import of Books and Educational Materials

WORLD agreement for free flow of information materials has come into force. The UNESCO-sponsored international agreement abolishing import duties on a wide range of educational, scientific and cultural materials came into force on May 21, when the formal acceptance of Sweden, the tenth country to ratify, was received at the United Nations Headquarters, New York.

The other countries participating in the agreement, among which there are five Asian nations, are: Cambodia, Ceylon, Egypt, Israel, Laos, Monaco, Pakistan, Thailand and Yugoslavia. Twenty additional States have signed and have yet to ratify the agreement.

This broad agreement, the first to come into operation under Unesco's sponsorship eliminates customs duties on books, newspapers, magazines, paintings and sculpture. Also exempt are travel literature, musical scores, manuscripts and articles for the blind.

Free import is likewise granted to educational films and filmstrips, newsreels, sound recordings and other audio-visual and scientific equipment. These materials, however, are exempt only if consigned to recognized institutions such as libraries, schools, universities, research laboratories, museums and broadcasting organizations.

Under a further provision, internal taxes on imported information materials must not exceed those levied on domestic products. Governments also undertake to grant import licences and foreign exchange for books or other publications required by public libraries.

The contracting States agree to "continue their common efforts to promote, by every means, the free flow of educational, scientific and cultural materials". They will seek to grant these materials, safe,

simplified and expeditious clearance through customs.

The agreement was opened for signature at the United Nations on November 22, 1950. All Member States of Unesco and of the United Nations may adhere to it.—USIS.

BUDGET SPEECH ON JULY 10

THE annual Appropriation Bill will be presented in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, July 9th, by Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, Minister of Finance, who will deliver his Budget speech on July 10, when he moves the second reading of the Bill.

The House will debate the Budget speech on the seven allotted days from July 22 to 30, including Mondays and excluding Saturdays.

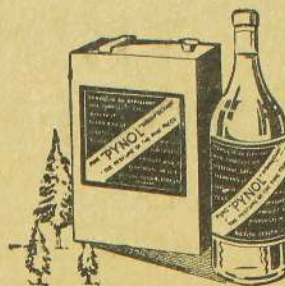
ALLEGED SUBSERVIENT TO ANGLO-AMERICAN BLOC

(Continued from page 3)

to take over the entire seaward defence of the whole country. Similarly the Ceylon Air Force would be able to take over the air bases. Anyhow the tempo with which this programme of work was forged ahead had to be guided by the finances available for diversion to such work. Without such arrangements the country could not afford to create a vacuum which would ultimately enable the Communists and their allies across the seas to come and wrest power in this country. In England, he said, the United States had been granted leases to set up bases. That did not mean that England had no freedom. In the case of Ceylon, however, even this could not be said. Since whatever bases given over to the U.K. were given on a mutual basis. There was no such freedom in any one of the so-called countries behind the Iron Curtain.

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NEW IMMIGRANTS IN 1951

A TOTAL number of 2,455 new immigrants who have come into the Island last year for the first time, have been permitted to reside here on temporary residence permits. A very large proportion have been wives and minors and dependent children of permit-holders.

Next to Indians and Pakistanis, Europeans form the largest body of immigrants. Under this category fall British subjects and aliens, the numbers being 226 and 190 respectively. Of the 190 aliens issued permits no less than 65 were French nationals. Nearly all these nationals were technically qualified, a good number being employed by the Gal Oya Development Board, the Port Development Scheme &c. The rest were employed by French firms in Ceylon who find some difficulty in recruiting nationals who are able to write and speak in French, which is necessary in certain cases where the headquarters of the companies are in France.

Among other Asians are Chinese and Burmans. The detailed statistics are as follows:—Indians and Pakistanis 2,039; other British subjects 226; Aliens 190. Of the 2,039 Indians (new immigrants) no less than 1,865 were wives and children of permit-holders. Missionaries and spiritual leaders formed the next largest category. Indian nationals constitute the greatest percentage of immigration into Ceylon, both legal and illegal. These can be divided into estate labour, non-estate personnel and illegal immigrants. The tendency among non-estate Indians to bring their wives and families to Ceylon has been during the year (1951) a noticeable feature. 1,865 wives and children were issued temporary residence permits to be with permit-holders.

It is safe to assume that of the 35,000 Indians who left Ceylon in 1950 and 1951, a good proportion have tried to, and in many cases have succeeded in entering the Island by illicit means. The majority escapes detection.

BIYAR JAYO.

ALLEGED SATYAGRAHIS' SUFFERINGS

(Continued from page 4)

the street near the Ceylon Indian Congress office, would result in an unlawful procession. Hon. Members will agree with me that the Police had every right to presume that a breach of the law, an unlawful procession would take place as a permit had been asked for and had been refused.

CROWD DISPERSED

The Police were quite correct in presuming that a procession for which a permit had not been granted. The first step that was taken was that they tried to disperse the crowd, to prevent it becoming a procession.

Then the mounted police appeared but there was no baton charging.

What happened was that these labourers from the estates who had been brought down for a demonstration on the opening day of Parliament were bewildered when they saw the mounted police and they fled. They actually fled and there may have been one or two of them who incurred minor injuries. If a thousand people get together to flee, some must get injured in the act. These are the facts. I have questioned the Head of the Police Force and gone very carefully into the facts. I had discussions with him on this matter and he had my complete approval for banning processions and preventing people from coming here to upset the proceedings of this House. We were told of the respect for law and order. Yes, it shall be the duty of every Police officer to respect the law and keep order; it shall equally be the duty of the Police Force to see that law and order is respected by every citizen.

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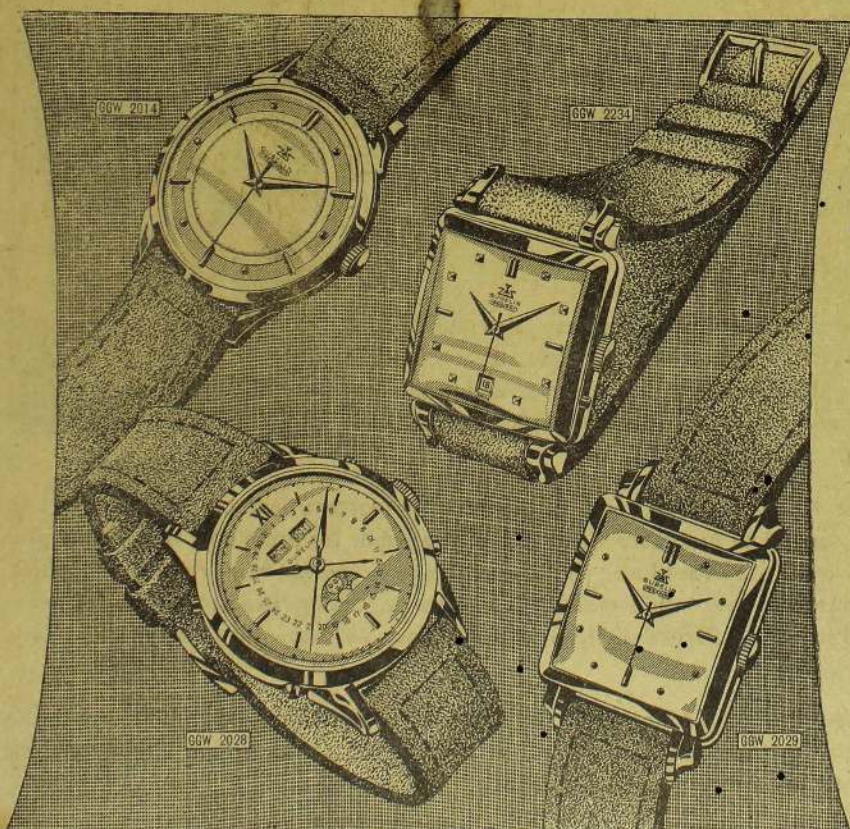
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The operations of this Association are spread throughout the Commonwealth and, besides having Branch Offices in all the capital cities of Australia and New Zealand, it has District Offices in practically every town of note in Great Britain and in South 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.

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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."

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