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What the General Elections Revealed TRIUMPH DEMOCRACY

"IF the Marxists in their attempt to destroy Democracy give one blow, the United National Party will in return give two blows, and for one kick, two kicks and for one slap, slaps", said Mr. J. R. Jayewardene in the course of his address at the mammoth meeting held on Galle Face Green on Sunday afternoon in connection with the celebration of "The triumph of Democracy". It was the largest open-air gathering ever assembled, on that esplanade, an unmistakable indication that Democracy was secure in this country. ings are essential for the proper working of Democracy. It is not only the Opposition that should have the right to hold meetings on Galle Face but also the Government Party.

The Prime Minister, the members of the Cabinet and a number of prominent citizens were accommodated on a special platform. Speeches were made in Sinhalese, Tamil and English.

FATE OF THE CZECHS RE-CALLED

Mr. A. Ratnayake was the first speaker who declared that if the Marxists of this country had come into power, the fate that had befallen Czechoslovakia, when the Communists wrested power from the democratically established Government, would also have been the fate of Ceylon and in the same way as Prime Minister Mazaryk had committed suicide by leaping from the window of a building, Mr. Bandaranaike also would have had no alternative but to follow his example.

Continuing, he said that twenty-

native but to follow his example.

Continuing, he said that twenty-five Communist members of the Parliament in that country had forced prime Minister Masaryk to hand over to them the Ministry in charge of the Police department, and within 6 weeks they secured 6 ministries by calling a strike and the Prime Minister who was weak, had to give in and ultimately he himself committed suicide. The local Marxists are adopting the same tactics and Mr. Bandaranaike is being used by them to gain power when he would be cast aside as his period of usefulness was over, aded Mr. Ratnayake.

The Marxists are carrying on a

aside as his period of useruiness was over, aded Mr. Ratnayake.

The Marxists are carrying on a campaign to destory the faith the people have in the ballot, and the Parilamentary form of goverment by ridiculing and making all kinds of false allegations as to the way in which the recent election was conducted. They can only come into power by completely destroying the faith the people have in the elections and to gain this end they were making use of all opportunities available to them. Parliament the highest institution in the country is also used as a propaganda forum to conduct this campaign of theirs and had even begun to ridicule the Courts of Law. All that the Government has done for the people is represented as insignificant and unimportant, in order to deceive the public.

If unfair means were adopted in running the elections the remedy lay in the Supreme Court, he said. They could file a petition and institute an inquiry into the manner in which the election was conducted.

MARXIST TACTICS

Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel said that the people have in unmistakable terms expressed that they stand for

Democracy and are against totalitarianism. In order to disrupt and bring discredit on the work that the present Government is carrying out the Marxists are now conducting a campaign of false propaganda.

Mr. C. W. Kannangara said that the victory of the United National Party at the polls was an occasion for rejoicing. He said the fate that had befallen Mr. Bandaranaike was sad indeed, His impatience to become the Prime Minister had made him sever all connections with the United National Party and now he is flirting with the Marxists.

Mr. S. Natesan addressed the states of the sathesize.

with the Marxists.

Mr. S. Natesan addressed the gathering in Tamil. He said that the United National Party stood for progress and advancement of the people and had achieved a victory for democracy against the evil forces of totalitarianism that was menacing the country and misleading the masses. That vast gathering of all races and classes indicated that the country was behind the Government and that the people stood for law and order and the continuance of democratic Government in this country.

OPPOSITION ALLEGATIONS REFUTED

Mr. J. R. Jayewardene said that if the Marxists in their attempt to destroy Democracy give one blow, the United National Party will in return give two blows, and for one kick, two kicks and for one slap two slaps. Meetings are essential for the proper working of Democracy. It is not only the Opposition that should have the right to hold meetings at Galle Face but also the Government. At the last election the United National Party secured the largest number of seats, because the 25 lakhs who voted for them wished to entrust the Government into their hands. It was not a surprise that the Leftists were now angry and were engaged in a campaign aimed at the destruction of the faith the people have in the Parliamentary form of Government.

THE COUNTRY'S GRATITUDE

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The four reasons that actuated the electors to send them into power were that they were quite conscious of their gratitude for the work done by the late Prime Minister. The second was that his successor, Mr. Dudley Senanayake has won the confidence of the people. The third reason was that the work done by the United National Party had convinced them that it was the best Party. Fourthly they had to choose between the Democratic form of Government and Totalitarianism,

and the people had voted for Demo-

and the people had voted for Democracy.

The Government Party too would be very happy to see a Democratic Opposition, and it would give all the help that is necessary to form one. Mr. Jayewardene asked why Mr. Bandaranaike could not form such a Party, independent of the Marxists, opposed to them and also to the Government. If he had not a backbone the United National Party was ready to give him one, Mr. Jayewardene said.

NO LEAKAGE OF BALLOT PAPERS

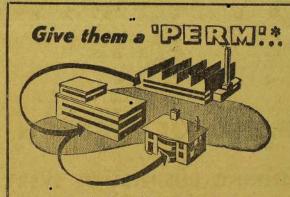
Answering the allegation that ballot papers had leaked out from the Government Press, Mr. Jayewardene said that the precautions taken were

enough to prevent any leakage of ballot papers. If it had happened all employees at the Press from the Senior Officers down to the ordinary workers will have to be considered liars and rogues, and although 20 election petitions have been filed in none of them has any allegation been made regarding the conduct of

been made regarding the conduct of the elections.

The Opposition boasted that the entire public service was against the U.N.P. and now in the same breath they turn round and allege that the entire public service had been dis-honest at the elections to put the U.N.P. into power. The theory of the Marxist is that the bigger the lie the better it will go down with the people. people.

(Continued on page 2)



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What the General Elections

(Continued from page 1)

DEMOCRACY SECURE

"When I saw not a multitude but an ocean of heads here, I knew that Democracy was secure in this country", said Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Minister of Industries and Fisheries, speaking in English.

Continuing, he said that throughout the four years since 1948 when Geylon obtained independence the Geylon obtained independence the representatives of the Opposition Parties had ample opportunity of suggesting reforms with regard to the conduct of elections, but they had not done so. In fact the Opposition was more ready to face the polls than the Government, and they had made no complaint about the had made no complaint about the preparations for the forthcoming

However, when the elections took place and when they found that the people of this country had faith in the Government and Democracy, they began to spread false propaganda about the way the General Election was conducted.

Their purpose was to shake the falth of the masses in the democratic method of voting and bring about their own dictatorship and regimentation, by erasing Parliamentary Democracy. Czechoslovakia, Poland and Bulgaria among others were independent democracies like Ceylon once. What are they today?

Mr Ponnambalam next spoke in

Mr. Ponnambalam next spoke in Tamil for the benefit of members of his community who were present.

VICTORY FOR THE PEOPLE

Mr. Dudley Senanayake said that that was the largest meeting ever held in this country, showing clearly beyond all doubt, that the victory of the U.N.P. was not a victory either for him personally or for those accommodated on the platform, but a victory for democracy and a victory for the people.

Revealed

22nd March, that the late Prime Minister had fallen off his horse. That same evening it was clear to him that his father would not live much longer, and when he died sub-sequently. Mr. Dudley Senanayake said that at that stage it was never his intention to become Prime Min-

In spite of whatever the Opposition might say, he knew, and the country knew, that all sections of the community brought pressure to bear on him to accept the Prime Ministership in the interests of democracy and to carry on the good work that had been done by his believed father. loved father.

"When I did accept the Prime Ministership, the Opposition, led by Dr. N. M. Perera and Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, criticised me at every turn, alleging that I had crept into that office by the back door. I accepted the challenge at the earliest opportunity and advised the dissolution of Parliament at that stage, even though I could have continued in office without a General Election for at least 6 months.

THE PEOPLE'S MANDATE

"The country has replied by opening the front door to me. You are well aware that during the short interval between nomination and election, I toured the entire country with the exclusion of the Northern and Eastern Provinces. I addressed meetings from dawn till almost midnight. I addressed well over 300 meetings at much personal inconvenience and I, together with the members of my Party, explained what democracy was.

"If we could have worked any fraud at the Polls, why need I and my Party have gone through all this

agony. I am proud to say that the country has understood the difference between democracy and totalitarianism and has voted us into power. There was another factor which helped our victory. Dr. N. M. Perera successfully sabotaged Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike. Mr. Bandaranaike's defeat was in no small measure due to Dr. Perera.

Speaking further, Mr. Senanayake Speaking further, Mr. Senanayake said that what surprised him most was that leaders made—statements from public platforms which they themselves did not believe—in. It was only the day before the debate in Parliament on this subject that one of the leaders of the Opposition had admitted to him that he did not take those allegations seriously.

"ALL MOONSHINE"

"ALL MOONSHINE"

That speaker had told Mr. Senanayake, "Dudley, you and I know that this is all moonshine. There is not a bit of truth in it." But the very next day in Parliament, this same speaker looking straight into his face had the hardthood to say that he had with him facts and figures to bear out the allegations. These are the type of Opposition leaders we have in this country.

In conclusion, Mr. Senanayake said that if at any stage he and his Party felt that they had forfeited the confidence of the country, they would resign immediately without waiting for the end of their 5-year period. "The country has faith in us and we will try to come up to their expectations", he concluded.

When the meeting was over, the crowd—easily the largest at any political meeting in recent times—sang the National Anthem.

REFINING BEACH MINERAL SANDS

AN Ore-dressing plant for the refining of beach mineral sands will in the near future be installed by Government, and provision has been made in order to get work done immediately. A sum of Rs. 3,000,000 under Loan Fund expenditure has been set apart to the Ministry of Industries, Industrial Research and Fisheries, payable by way of advance.

able by way of advance.

This provision for the installation of a plant for the electro-magnetic separation of beach sands at Pulmoddal. There are natural resources available in probably one of its richest forms on the seabeach precisely 30 miles north of Trincomalle stretching over a distance of about thirty miles and running to a depth of ten feet. On a rough estimate made of the total quantity, it is believed there is enough sand to be used for a period of nearly a hundred years. Titanium, a comparatively rare metal occurring as a gray heavy iron-like powder is coming to its own for white pigment and is probably going to play a very important part as an article in aviation.

Investigations had been carried

Investigations had been carried out by Mr. Hughes, the Consultant, in this matter but owing to his demise there has been some delay in completing the scheme. Further investigations on the project were carried out recently by the Ministry with the advice and assistance of the Consultant obtained under the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme. The scheme has now been finalised and a detailed revised estimate has been prepared. The revised capital cost for the establishment of the ore-dressing plant is estimated at Rs. 6,307,840. This sum represents the cost of the plant and machinery, freight, insurance and erection charges, buildings, housing scheme for essential staff and labour and the construction of a pier for shipment of the refined sands direct from the ore-dressing plant. This plant is designed to handle 125,000 tons of raw sand per year, and the annual output will be (Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 3)



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. REVOLUTION OR **EVOLUTION?**

Asks Eardley Gunasekera

DISSATISFACTION grasps life at some stage or other. This can never be disputed more because human life has had its imperfections and it is during this stage of imper-fection that we stumble into grief and sorrow. The moment we experience sorrow and grief then do we feel dissatisfied. It has been a tremendous defection in life. But it is an innate feature of all human activity which we cannot hope activity which we cannot hope to be done with. Despite the fact that man as a rational being is expected to live without faltering is a utopian aspiration. One's powers of reason and judgment have on many occasions caused us to err. If judgment and reason are infallible then our response to that judgment becomes infallible. It is this difficulty that has to be encountered for our mental speculation, critical analysis and more often than never our individuality precludes us from leading an unblemished human life. In the matter of our speech we indulge in crude base talk, in the matter of thought when many of our minds become nothing but cesspools of filthy ideas devoid of morality and finally our actions which reveal nothing but banality. All these things have come to be as a result of centuries and centuries of slow gradual growth. Could we then expect to change and remedy these ills overnight?

pect to change and remedy these ills overnight?

The unsatisfactory nature of the present social order has been topic of frequent discussion. A social order is created because man is a complex human unit and it warrants the right regulation of the various relations existing between the different classes of men in the domestic, economic and political life. Three levels of activity are therefore set up giving rise to practical questions regarding the manipulations of the connections in a social order. These practical questions arise because the growth and development of human relations and the progress of human society continually create different problems, according to which social relations must be readjusted in order that strife between various strata of society may be side-tracked. The most striking social problem of the present day is the economic problem which in reality means the distribution of wealth among the various social classes. This ultimately gives rise to class warfare and hatred because the rapid expansion of industry and new economic methods necessitates the division of humanity approximately into two classes having a direct contrariness of thought and interests.

The expansion of industry, introduction of new economic methods

having a direct contrariness of thought and interests.

The expansion of industry, introduction of new economic methods and the progress of society in general have all been the result of slow accretion. It is this very slowness of growth that has rendered to the present social order the very nature that makes it indestructible by drastic overnight solutions. The opposition and division of the population into two classes is made possible by the numerical smallness of one privileged class which partook in the advantages that accrued from modern invention, and the other comprising of vast multitudes of workers who were subjugated by the chains of poverty, squalor and bad sanitation. The workers realise and are conscious of the very pitiable position they are placed in, in spite of the valuable services they render to society and its welfare. This the Marxists exploit for under the resplendent garb of democracy—the very peculiar creed they advocate they seek to mislead the starving masses by the guile and tactics peculiar to Marxism alone.

Many theories have been propounded with the idea of offering a

Many theories have been pro-pounded with the idea of offering a remedy to this Social or Labour pro-blem. They have all failed in the attempt merely because they are too extremist and radical in their attempts. Economic Liberalism for instance permits complete liberty for everyone in the economic field and it goes a step further by saying that opposing classes if not interfered with the course of activity they would normally take, will be driven by self-interest to arrive at a solution acceptable to all. To the unwary observer this might seem quite sensible but the flaw lies in the fact that the two opposing classes will never be able to arrive at some reasonable solution if they are allowed to take the normal course. This is attributed to the fact that the two classes live in bitter hatred and the nett result would turn out to be oppression of the weak by the strong. We, on the other hand, cannot accept Communism as a panacea to our social evils. It allows the complete abolition of private property and to achieve this end it would not hesitate to resort to warfare. The reason for its very peculiar intellectual attraction is that it explodes liberal fallacies which really are fallacies. Parading under the resplendent garb of a democracy its intention is to sponsor the cause of the working-classes. The advocates of this odious creed claim to work on an altruistic motive, but is in fact very debatable and suspicious. A Communist regime is such that it has to take directions from Moscow. To them a complete revolution is the only solution for the evil social order, and any means employed to achieve their end is justifiable. They resort to warfare, violence and bloodshed in their enthusiasm to remedy the defects in the social system. This approach towards the matter can never be successful because such methods will destroy for good the latitude and liberty we enjoy even in the unsatisfactory nature of our social order.

The more intense the desire to bring about revolution becomes the

liberty we enjoy even in the unsatisfactory nature of our social order.

The more intense the desire to bring about revolution becomes the more hostile will society turn, more because it is a natural tendency for mankind to recoil from all that involves difficulty, ruthlessness and irrationalism. The only prescription that will have effect on one present unhealthy social order is something that believes whole-heartedly in gradual slow process of evolution. Human nature is not something metallic which is ductile and malleable but is rather flesh and blood endowed with the property of consciousness that will respond only to a process of persuasion and evolution which indeed takes time. We cannot resort to mechanical means of violence when a rich thing like human nature is concerned. With the passage of time could it be hoped to mould and bend gradually the social order towards a path of less defection specially because we are expected to deal with a phenomena where human nature plays a vital role. Evolution and evolution alone could help us to cure whatever defect that is inherent in a system where human nature responds more readily to persuasion rather than coercion.

Refining Beach Mineral Sands

(Continued from page 2)

at least 75,000 tons of ilmenite, 4,000 tons of rutile and 4,000 tons of rutile and 4,000 tons of zircon. The plant will be a self-contained unit with its own power plant, maintenance and repair services, water supply, housing scheme and ancillary services. The plant will be fully mechanised and will, it is stated, give employment to about 150 skilled and unskilled labour.

Parliament has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 6,307,840 to meet the expenditure for the establishment of the project. Of this amount a sum of Rs. 3,000,000 is made available for the current financial year which is necessary to place orders immediately for machinery for site development and the erection of buildings.

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THE VINDICATION OF. DEMOCRATIC ACTION .

By Quintus Delilkhan

NOTHING is more certain than that there are vast numbers of people in the country who have not come under the evil spell of communism or leftist ideologies, and who are accordingly quite willing to accept as the greatest gift which the present Government can offer them the democratic way of life. It is a great tribute to the good sense of the people that they understand what is overwhelmingly to their benefit, and are therefore prepared to stand by the Prime Minister and the Government in the work that lies ahead in building the new and free Ceylon on the strongest and most unylelding democratic foundations.

The people who listened on Sunday in such vast numbers, composed of every strata of the people in Cey-lon, received very convincing proof of the desire of the Government to serve the interests of the country. It is absurd to imagine that the revolutionary elements in this country, and their vociferous leaders, could possibly be so blind to the gigantic effort which has been going on in this country in recent times to make better the conditions of the working-classes and of all descrip-tions of people in this country. But it is the nature of these revolutionary bodies not to admit any thing which would tend to the advantage of an existing parliamentary gov-ernment.

This is not an irresponsible perversity, but a calculated propaganda. is ungenerous in its conception. but it is the settled method of re-volutionary action. In practically every department of the life of the nation, action is being speeded up to bring about results that would be beneficial to the common man, to the educated classes and to business and trade interests. The Budgets which have been presented to the country are documents which all who run can read. There are available to the public a large mass of statistics which are not ingenious concoctions but a setting down, according to approved methods, of facts beyond any possibility of sober or responsible denial. There is no need for the Government, on the face of its open-ly known achievements, to invent. A bare recital of what it has done for the people is enough to convince any honest citizen in this country that in pursuance of its democratic ideals, the Government has a solid body of achievement to its credit.

It is not therefore for the Government to set up an elaborate machin-ery of proof that it has done some substantial service for the country. It is not possible for the Government It is not possible for the Government to undertake to convince every man of what it has done. Once a work has been honestly and satisfactorily achieved, it would be absurd for the Government to be placed under the necessity of going round all places and to all possible persons who are willing to listen that it has not approximately approximately the same transfer of the convergence of the c willing to listen that it has per-formed its duties in a manner equal to its responsibilities and its under-takings. It must of course use every means of honest and legitimate pro-paganda so that its work might be known to all sections of the public. Beyond this, it is not expected to go. The public should benefit means of propaganda available to it and used by the Government in a perfectly honest and decent way. The public should take an interest in the work of the Government be-cause it is work done on its own be-

half. If the Government had not done work of this recognisable value, it would have been madness on the part of the people to have returned it to power by such a large and im-pressive majority. There is no doubt that the Government enjoys the confidence of the people in spite of the denials and disdirection and lying propaganda of the revolutionary leaders

There is no doubt that the people There is no doubt that the people have a stake in the continuance of the present Government in power. No other Government would do for the people what this Government proposes to do, and one cannot help but realise that it is inspired not by personal but by large patriotic mo-tives judged on a broad field of action. It is not impossible for any citizen to realise the great obliga-tion the people owe to a Government which has spent millions freely on the public good.

The very elections of which complaint is being made by the revolutionaries have been a great and honourable gesture on the part of the Hon. Mr. Dudley Senanayake, the Prime Minister, who is in a position to now carry through schemes which will have the effect of creating in due course a happier and a better in due course a happier and a better Ceylon, and this is what the revolu-tionaries do not want to happen. They know that the time is becoming shorter and shorter when it would be possible for them to create mischief in this country by their lying and their misrepresentation. They realise that the game is up. They the They cannot, in the face of the growing popularity of the Government and the growing evidence of its good work, afford to wait. If this country growing into the growing the growing country growing the growing t try grows into a country in which the evidences of poverty are diminishing and the people are having their standards of living raised up to a higher and higher levels, then the a migner and nigner levels, then the case which the Communist makes out for himself decreases in value and he becomes more and more a man who is losing his foothold in the country. Hence the eagerness to blind the public to its own good, and then score one of those victories which will mean that the eagerness. which will mean that this country is isolated from the rest of the democratic world, and made subservient to the wishes of Russia and of every revolutionary centre in the world.

to the wishes of Russia and of every revolutionary centre in the world.

The people do not want such a fate to overcome this country which is at heart truly democratic and which desires to continue in alliance with every other democratic power. The Comunist and revolutionary parties have tried in the past by all means they can use to reduce the Government to a condition of utter immobility by the spread of strikes without having any consideration for the workers but by merely using them to gain their own political ends at the expense of the very men whom they claim to look 'after better than a democratic Government can. This ruse did not succeed. Then there was the attempt to drive the Government out of power by creating disloyalty among the public servants and getting them to strike. In every possible way, the revolutionary parties have proclaimed themselves the enemies of the country's good, and they have now in the last resorttried to create confusion by their attack on the Government over the elections. They have diligently fed the public with a fiction.

The last move has been the sign of sheer desperation. Under

The last move has been the sign of sheer desperation. Under Mr. Dudley Senanayake the foundations of democracy will however be strengthened in Ceylon, and we have every prospect of this country being one of the most peaceful, happy and contented democracies in the whole of the freedom-loving and freedom-preserving world.

The Nation Must Save on Its Food Bill

By A. S. Morrison

WHEN the Prime Minister put on to the Food Front one of the ablest brains in Asia he made one of the most masterly moves of his career, because in the near future the food problem is going to be more acute than it has ever been in the history of this country since those desperate days when invasions from India ruined the great granaries of the N.C.P.

With the prices of our staple products falling and with the economic future uncertain, can this country go on spending enormous sums on food subsidies when the vast sums of money so spent can be diverted to the economic development of the country? Every patriotic citizen of Ceylon should seriously ask himself this question and in finding the answer to it he should be prepared to make some sacrifice of his own food preferences in order to enable the Government to cut down our rice imports, which are proving a heavy drain on the public purse. After all, the Government cannot be expected to do everything to please the palate of every Tom, Dick and Harry and at the same time find the money to develop the resources of this country so as to provide employment for its increasing population and to raise the general standard of living.

In this respect, Ceylon cannot do better than take a leaf from the post-war diary of the British people, who have bravely borne seven years of terrible austerity on top of the appalling hardships and perils they underwent during the last war. The people of Ceylon have never had to suffer anything like this. But it is to be feared that in the next few years we shall all have to tighten our belts and 'make do' with a lot of food substitutes for rice if this country is to improve its general standards of living and see the great schemes the Government has mooted for new industries and for a great advance on the agricultural front. It is a fact beyond dispute that the country cannot go on spending some Rs. 240 millions on food subsidies and at the same time provide the money for large housing schemes, irrigation projects, water supply schemes, and agricultural and industrial enterprises. If the people want the country's resources developed on a large scale, then the food bill has to be cut down. In fact, more urgent than tickling the palates of the people with the imported rice they crave for is the need to diversify the economy of the country by developing new industries to supplement the three staple industries which are now proving inadequate to meet the demands of a rapidly increasing population.

Therefore, the task of the new Food Minister, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, will be not only to do all he could to increase the output of locally grown rice, but also to find suitable substitutes for rice. In the future it may become necessary for the people of this country to be satisfied with only one meal of rice a day and to fail back on substitutes for the second main meal. It will, therefore, be a patriotic necessity for the people to adjust themselves to this situation if they wish to see the Government proceed with its schemes for the creation of a Welfare State and for setting up new enterprises which will ultimately increase the national wealth and raise the standard of living of every man, woman and child in this country.

What are the food substitutes that are likely to be available? Apart from imported wheat (which

is cheaper than imported rice), it is possible to grow in this country in tairly appreciable quantities the following products which, if properly prepared, make quite attractive dishes:—maize or Indian corn, bajirt, sorghum, dhall, kurakkan and gingelly. Provided people have one meal of rice a day, they should be able to get used to any one of these substitutes for their second main meal. And until such time as Ceylon is able to grow enough rice to provide her population with two daily meals of rice it is becoming an imperative necessity for her people to accustom themselves to these substitutes.

If Ceylonese really cherish their independence, they cannot do better than give a demonstration of it by becoming independent of foreign supplies of food. The maintenance of a people's freedom involves the enduring of hardships.

of a people's freedom involves the enduring of hardships.

Besides, it must be remembered that the new Food Minister it was who, during the war, organised the food rationing scheme which still operates throughout the country. This rationing scheme when originally introduced was the envy of the whole of South-East Asia, because it was said to be the most perfect scheme devised in the exigencies of the war. The new Food Minister then deserves the co-operation of the people in the difficult task that faces him. The nation will not be asked to bear greater hardships than are really necessary. But if rice supplies become more difficult to obtain from abroad, it is the duty of the people to stand by the Government and not to listen to the mischief-makers who will try to make political capital out of an inexorable situation. However, the issue is a simple one. Is the Government to go on spending Rs, 300 millions on food subsidies (it will come to that), or is it to cut down food imports and spend a part of that money on badly-needed housing, on improving the hospital services, on developing the natural resources of the country so that the people may be happier, healthier and more prosperous than they are at present.

healthier and more prosperous than they are at present.

But apart from the question of food substitutes, the average citizen could do a great deal to support the Government by going in for home garden cultivation of vegetables, particularly onions, spinach, kankun, and other leafy vegetables. If everyone with a little garden space to spare were to grow some kind of food on it, the total quantity of such foodstuffs thus produced would amount to quite an appreciable addition to the national food table. At present a vast extent of land in the city of Colombo and its environs is at present lying fallow in this way. This is one of the best ways of bringing down the price of vegetables in the city and the suburbs where the ever-recurring complaint is the rising price of vegetables and substidiary foodstuffs. A widespread system of home garden cultivation will make the city less dependent on outside supplies of these food articles and help in keeping prices down.

In conclusion, one, cannot emphasise strongly enough the

cles and help in keeping prices down. In conclusion, one, cannot emphasise strongly enough the necessity for self-help if this country is to face its increasing food difficulties with confidence. The Government cannot do everything; the citizen must be prepared to bear his fair share of the burden if the country is to be less dependent on supplies of food from abroad and if the Government is to find the money for enterprises calculated to raise the national income and the general standard of living.







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Friday, July 4, 1952

THE TECHNIQUE THAT FAILED

baseless allegations made against the Government by the Marxists in this country were refuted definitely by the Government speakers at the mammoth meeting held on Sunday on the Galle Face Esplanade. The Marxist tactics were exposed and the reasons which actuated the electors to entrust the United National Party with the Government of the country were detailed.

Meetings such as the one held on Sunday are essential for the proper working of Democracy. It is not only the Opposition that should have the right to hold open-air meetings, but the Government Party also should exercise that right in order to expound to the masses the dangers that lie ahead of those who are taken in by the blandishments of the Marxists.

Though the Opposition members had ample opportunity of suggesting reforms and improvements with regard to the conduct of the polls, they did nothing for over four Complaints years. Complaints against the preparations for polling began only after the General Elections which resulted in the most ignominious defeat of the

Marxists. Their purpose was to shake the faith of the people in the method of voting and the ballot box.

The result of the General Elections when the United National Party secured the largest number of seats, no doubt made the Leftists furious and they started a campaign of villification against the Government, about the alleged leakage of ballot papers, and wholesale condemnation of the officers who conducted the elections. Curiously enough, the spate of election petitions, nearly a score of them which have been presented, contained no mention of these allegations.

That this is only an imitation of the technique followed by the Communists is pretty clear. Soon after the elections in India, the Communists there who are more closely knit than in this country, started a campaign of villification against the Nehru Government. This was followed in this country too, where the Leftists are so divided among themselves into splinters that their base attempts to mislead the people and destroy Democracy utterly failed. They found They found that the people in this country had faith in the Government and wished its continuation. In spite of whatever the Opposition might say, the country is fully aware of the good work that had been done and that there is every hope of its continuation and that Democracy was secure in this country. Marxist technique has failed.

Democracy has triumphed.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN POLICE AND PUBLIC

THE Police cannot render efficient service in the detection and investigation of crime without the co-operation and goodwill of the law-ablding public. It is gratifying to learn from the Administration Report of the Inspector-General of Police that he had received both and that it will be the endeavour of the Police to foster and still further strengthen the friendly relations that now exist. It is stated that the Rural Development Societies and Rural Volunteer Patrol Movement have made a valuable contribution to the reduction of crime in rural areas. THE Police cannot render efficient

areas.

There were 2,512 Societies in the Island in 1951 as against 2,381 in 1950. Since 1947 volunteer patrols have been organised under the auspices of these Societies in groups. The Societies have co-operated with the Police actively to organise National Day celebrations during the

Sinhalese and Tamil New Year period with the result that violent crime, drunkenness, gaming and rowdylsm which used to be a feature not long ago have now been eradicated almost completely. In a number of cases these volunteers have arrested criminals or have given information to the Police regarding the activities of local criminals or the movements of suspicious strangers. Volunteers and Societies have rendered a very useful service by settling civil complaints and family feuds which would otherwise have resulted in litigation, enmity and acts of crime. Apart from the assistance given to the Police in the prevention and detection of crime, members of these Societies have often helped the Police in the control of traffic and crowds and in keeping order at religious festivals and other important occasions.

WORLD PEACE DAY

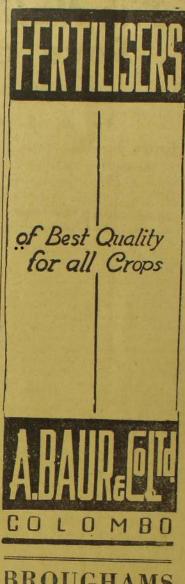
THE problem of Peace is complicated and varied as life itself, but in the end Peace emanates from the individual human heart. Therefore the consecration to Peace, the will not to sin any more—even without any visible sign to the outside world—would be enough of a celebration of the individual before his own conscience. Repentance and dedication to Peace not only in the religious sense but in terms of a philosophy of life. But the atmosphere of World Peace Day, one day dedicated completely to Peace, has produced an excellent sounding board for all constructive peace plans, ideas and suggestions, which are much and promoted by individuals and organisations, as World Government, united nations reform, vegetarian, face ironing, and many others. The World Peace Day Com-

mittee did not restrict its activities for the promotion of this one day, but made its contacts and influence in world-wide activities for peace throughout the year, supporting also the idea to build a World Peace Centre in Hiroshima.

Why celebrate Hiroshima Day as World Peace Day? Because bygone times and space, Hiroshima is the symbol of what war means in the atomic age. No other day gives a better resonance for thoughts and sentiments of peace all over the world. All nations are guilty that war still prevails, and that atomic bombs are used. All nations face the most horrible destruction, if we do not do all we can to bring nearer the fulfilment of the dreams of the best of all nations and ages. Peace forever.

Dr. Alfred W. Parker

Dr. Alfred W. Parker



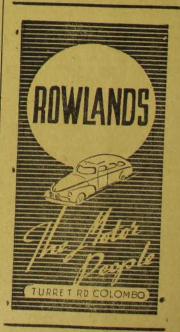
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CEYLON'S TRADE POLICY FREE OF MOST RESTRICTIONS

ACCORDING to the Administration Report of the Director of Commerce for 1951, the international trade of Ceylon was freed from most of the restrictions which were imposed during the war and which were continued in the immediately succeeding years. Import controls except on certain classes of goods were removed in July, 1951, these exceptions being goods the exports of which were restricted in the country of origin, certain goods from hard currency areas and a few imports which might adversely affect local indus-try. In November a new policy was introduced which restricted imports from Japan and Germany to Ceylonese nationals only. Ceylon-ese nationals could import from Germany and Japan freely without

limit.

In addition to relaxation of import restrictions, import duties on a number of non-luxury goods were scaled down to the levels ruling in December, 1947. This step further encouraged the freer flow of imports. Likewise exports of Ceylon goods continued to be free except for the limitation on the exports of tea for London auctions on estate account, the export of coir fibre which continued to be subject to a "Fair Price Scheme", and restrictions on the export of food items. Re-export on a commercial scale of raw materials and finished goods required in Ceylon were not permitted.

RELAXATION OF RESTRICTION

RELAXATION OF RESTRICTION RESULTS

Two major changes in export duties were made in 1951, one in March when existing duties were all raised and three commodities namely, cocoa, cardamoms and citronella oil, were subjected to export duties, and the other in the latter part of the year when sliding scales of duties were introduced for the important products, which duties were incidentally lower than those established in March.

The general relayation on rectrice.

blished in March.

The general relaxation on restriction of imports was made possible by the highly favourable balance of trade position which in the first part of 1951 was running at a higher rate than in the previous year, the most favourable year since the war from this point of view.

Exports of Ceylon merchandise and re-exports in 1951 were valued at Rs. 1,904,389 while the imports that year totalled Rs. 1,558,670 balance in favour being Rs. 345,719.

Practically every export commod-

Practically every export commodity except desiccated coconut fetched higher prices than in 1950 and for some export commodities, 1951 yielded the highest prices ever ex-

perienced. The export earnings on Tea, Rubber and Coconut Oil were Rs. 800.0 million, Rs. 572.4 million and Rs. 227.1 million respectively. The higher export incomes were generally due to higher prices and receded further to 387,000 cwt. in 1951 from 422,000 cwt. in 1950. This decline in the export of copra is due to the increased milling capacity available in Ceylon and the policy adopted by Government of encoura-

ging the export of processed coconut products at the expense of copra. The average price of Estate No. 1 copra advanced by 17 per cent. to Rs. 245 per candy of 5 cwt. in 1951 and was the highest on record.



the Ceylonization of the export and the Ceylonization of the export and import trade of the country and wherever possible Ceylonese business firms and individuals received preference in the trade introductions given by the Department of Commerce, whose Director records that the confidence placed by the Department on Ceylonese business interests has rarely been found to be misplaced.



SHY

MISSED

not to bigger quantities exported. While the volume of exports in 1951 as compared with 1950 showed only a rise of 1.4 per cent., the volume of imports increased by 12 per cent. This increase in volume was largely confined to manufactured imports usually considered as luxury or semi-essential goods.

When showed increase it for the contraction of the co

When incomes increase, it is usual when incomes increase, it is usual for the consumers to devote an increasing proportion of their incomes to the purchase of goods which under conditions of lower incomes are regarded as luxury goods or semi-essentials.

COCONUT PRODUCTS

The combined value of all coconut products exported in 1951 aggregated over Rs. 322½ million as against Rs. 281 million the previous year. There has also been an increase in the volume of coconut products exported, which in terms of nuts rose to 1,210 million in 1951 from 988 million in the previous year and was inciin the previous year and was inci-dentally the highest recorded since

Coconut products accounted for over 20 per cent. of the total value of Ceylon exports. Coconut oil was the most outstanding product and exports rose by 45 per cent. over 1950 to 2.2 million cwt. in 1951 and were the largest on record. The value realized improved by over Rs. 100 million to Rs. 227 million in 1951. Coconut products were exported to the United Kingdom, India, Sweden, Holland and Egypt. The average price of white coconut oil advanced by 15 per cent. to Rs. 1,624 per ton in 1951 and was the highest on record. Exports of copra



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ROUSING RECEPTION TO KALUTARA M. P.

PITIGALA

PITIGALA

MR. P. A. COORAY, the new M.P.
for Kalutara, was accorded a
rousing reception when he visited
Meeripenna in the company of
Messrs. J. de S. Kellapotha, VicePresident, U.N.P. Branch Pitigala,
Ranasingha, Member, U.C., Kalutara, and K. W. de Silva,
On arrival, Mr. Cooray was garlanded by Mr. Eheyan, Mr. Cooray
in the course of his address to the
large gathering present, thanked all
his supporters for sending him to
the Parliament to represent Kalutara. He said that his victory was a
victory for his Party, (the U.N.P.).
"Kalutara was a Red Fortress and
its fall to the U.N.P. shook the entire Red political machine which at
the close of the General Election was
left a mere fraction of what it was
during the last Parliament". He appealed to all the voters irrespective

of the candidate whom they supported, to treat him as one of their friends and asked them not to be afraid to come to him for help on any public matter. His ambition was to better the conditions of his constituents who were very badly neglected by his predecessor, a Leftist. It may of course be not possible to please everyone of the 52 odd thousand voters in the constituency, but he could see that the Kalutara Electorate as a whole would see a lot of improvements during the coming five years. Before concluding, Mr. Cooray appealed to his supporters not to have any ill-feeling towards their opponents as they (the Leftist supporters) were an unfortunate lot who were misled by their Leaders.

Later, Mr. Cooray and party were

Later, Mr. Cooray and party were taken in procession at Meeripenna and Warapitiya.

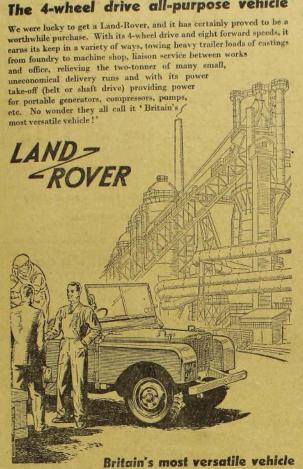


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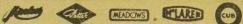
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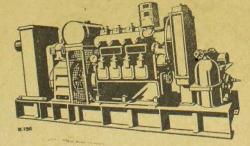




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FOOD OF THE PEOPLE Substitutes For Rice

THE basic food of a large part of the world's population is rice-for millions in Asia it is almost their only food. In the lands of the rice-eaters plentiful and cheap rice spells tranquillity, while scarce and dear rice can and does often lead quickly to famine and misery. The Commissioner of Food Supplies is reported to have stated the difficulties experienced in obtaining adequate supplies from abroad. Unhappily, rice is both scarce and dear and world production is said to be declining. Prices are fantastically high and with populations increas ing everywhere the general outlook is, bleak indeed.

Merely increasing the local supply which is bound to be a long-term policy will not be sufficient, nor can the subsidizing of rice which cost the Government nearly three million rupees a year can be continued indefinitely. There are 7,500,000 people in this Island and the Government is spending nearly Rs. 45 per person by way of subsidy.

As a matter of fact, said the Min-ister of Food, most of the countries have stopped subsidizing but Ceylon is still carrying on, spending about 40 per cent, of the total revenue on food subsidies.

SUBSTITUTES FOR RICE

It is understood that an islandwide nutrition survey is to be conducted early next year by the Medical Department and the Department of Census and Statistics with the object of propagandizing the nutri-tion value of foodstuffs that can re-place rice and provide the necessary data regarding the daily diet of people in various strata of life. It is hoped the findings as a result of the survey will bring about a change the survey will bring about a change in the diet of the people. Once they are instructed on the adoption of suitable substitutes for rice, and provide a balanced diet, will, it is hoped, help to relieve the acute shortage of rice which is being experienced during the past ten years or more. It is well-known that dur-ing World War II when outside supplies of rice were disorganized and the internal purchase scheme falled to satisfy even a fraction of the demand, most people got accustomed to food made of wheat flour and other substitutes. That practice still remains mainly among the middle-class folks who are satisfied with one meal of rice a der with the with one meal of rice a day with the quantity available on rations—supplemented by preparations of other cereals like green gram or dahl, sorghum or bread or preparations like string hoppers, pittu, roti, pan-cakes etc. of wheat flour.

WHEN RICE WAS MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE

It is interesting to learn that the common man in ancient Ceylon did not have a full diet of rice. So not have a full diet of rice. So states a contributor to the "Ceylon Economist" with reference to the Gal Oya multi-purpose scheme detailing some facts and exposing some fallacies about the project, which is the largest engineering work undertaken by a Government or by any private enterprise in Ceylon. The following exerct from the The following excerpt from the article is revealing:-

"We all believe that ancient Ceylon was the most powerful and the most prosperous; that it ex-ported its surplus rice, whereas the 20th century Ceylon imports two-

thirds of its requirement. It is a good story to believe, but the fact remains that the common man in remains that the common man in ancient Ceylon did not have a full dlet of rice. He ate more nutfitious food, the produce of his highland cultivation. Whatever rice he cultivated was marketed, because rice was the only money crop in ancient Ceylon. The army was paid in rice, the artisans who worked on the stupendays towards. worked on the stupendous temples and gigantic irrigation works were paid in rice, taxes were collected in rice, in the market-place goods changed hands with rice as the medium of exchange and imports were paid for in rice.

By B. R. J. O.

Hence the legend that there was a surplus. There was a surplus, not after feeding the common man on rice, but after allowing for internal exchange. As time went on rice was replaced by a currency as we understand it today; so instead of exchanging the rice. people began to eat it, and that is how the modern problem came by. Rice which was the money crop. was replaced by others which fact has by no means impoverished the country, but changed the mode of living of the people. It is a symbol of the change-over from subsistance to economic agricul-

DIET AND EFFICIENT MANHOOD

In the course of the debate on the Address of Thanks in the House of Representatives last week, a member of the Opposition Party referring to the food of the people, stressed the need for a "manhood in this country that is capable of comparison with the manhood of the rest of the world. What type of manhood are we building in this country?" he asked. Are we physically capable of taking our place as equals with other nations of the world? In every progressive country in the world, he said, one of the prime considerations was to see that the individual got the nourishment necessary for him. the nourishment necessary for him to be an efficient member of society. He remembered when there was a conference with some of the military officers who were here during the war, one of them saying that in the calculations of labour they always made an allowance for the lower physical efficiency of the workmen in this country. According to Dr. Nicholls' book on diets in tropical countries the requirements of a male over 14 was 3,200 calories, but the normal diet of a citizen of this country was only 2,500 calories.

"These are really subjects for specialists and for people who do not understand them, to offer criticism on these subjects is to make confusion worse confounded", retorted Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel, Minister of Labour and Social Services, from the Government benches.

"There are certain over-nourished people", he added, "who make themseives ill. There are others who are undernourished. It is not quantity that is concerned but the quality of the material that has to be sumed. People who talk of rice and still more rice do not know what they are talking about. What is happening in this country is that people are eating too much rice, and they suffer from diabetes!"

THE FORGOTTEN CONSTITUENCY

Word Picture of Colombo North

"THE constituency of Colombo North which I represent may well be described as the forgotten constituency of this great city of Colombo", said Mr. Cyril E. S. Perera, Member of Parliament, elected at the recent General Election, in his maiden speech, moving the.. Address of Thanks to His Excellency the Governor-General in reply to his Speech from the Throne, delivered at the ceremonial opening of the first sessions of the Second Parliament of Ceylon.

"I have referred to my constituency as the forgotten part of the city", he continued. "So it is. On one side of this renowned city, we have the most beautiful bungalows with large windows airy balconies, every sanitary convenience and well-laid gardens; large, broad, clean, metalled streets, excellent lighting arrangements, parks and pleasure gardens, clubs and houses of entertainment, playing fields galore, swimming pools and a marine parade.

On another side we have large commercial houses, engineering and motor firms, agency houses, shipping concerns, big banks, shops large and small, traders—Europeans and Indians—vieing with one another and with the few Ceylonese firms that are now springing up to make as much money as quickly and as easily as possible, in the quickist possible time and to keep all the convenienes of life that money can command.

THE FORGOTTEN PART

The third part stands in the geographical north. And it is the forgotten part, as I have already stated of whose hapless existence I have the honour to remind the House. Most of my constituents live in illventilated hovels, which are grandiloquently called tenements. Light and air which can be had without fee or payment—even these are denied to them by reason of their existence in alleys and by-ianes. So they struggle in the mud and marsh lands and the swamps. What is beautifully called in Sinhalese watte, is in this constituency, a crowded locality teeming with a multitude of small huts into which daylight does not penetrate, occupied not only by the working-classes but even by the middle-classes who have to put up with the most disgusting sanitary arrangements with no provision whatever for bathing or the washing of clothes.

Most of my voters live in these wattes which are spread all over my electorate. The approaches to the living quarters in these wattes are through slush and mud, ankle-deep in the rainy season as I experienced myself and through dust and garbage and household refuse at other times. The adjoining streets are narrow, the lighting arrangements are poor, and parks as such are not to be found in my constituency. The only marine parade which once existed has been devoured by the hungry sea which is now eating into the hamlet where scores of fishermen and women are huddled together waiting resignedly for their time to leave.

By Senex

OUTSIDE MUNICIPAL LIMITS

That part of my constituency which lies outside the Municipal limits of Colombo has even a sorrier tale to tell. Every year the residents are inundated out of their quarters and have to live in the most primeval conditions on public or private charity. How many of us like to find ourselves ankle-deep in water in our own houses once or twice a year, sometimes even wade to safety with our belongings on our backs or elect to remain in our own houses risking our lives in the shelters of the rafters? I am not overdrawing the picture. I shall not refer to the sickness which invariably follows in the wake of the floods, nor will I refer to the real struggle for existence which the fishing population, which forms a large part of my electorate, have to put up with during three or four months of the year when seafaring is impossible. I shall merely state that even relief which a generous Government has provided has often been a matter of dispute between conflicting authorities to whom humanity is of less consequence than rules, regulations and red tape.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

What I have said of my constituency is mutatis mutandis true of almost many other constituencies in the Island. No reasonable person can expect this Government to put right in four and a half years, what has, gone wrong for centuries, but judging from the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General, which clearly contains a continuation programme, I am amazed that so much work could, amidst such a diversity of opinion and political strife, have been accomplished in so short a time by a Government still unused to the burdens of office. That accomplishment gives me hope for the future."

RECEPTION TO MAJOR C. A. DHARMAPALA M. P.

A RECEPTION to Major C. A. Dharmapala, M.P. for Hakmana, who defeated the Communist Leader, Dr. S. A. Wickremasinghe, was accorded by the Matara Muslim League at their premises on the 24th ultimo. On arrival of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Dharmapala they were garlanded by the President and the members of the League. Mr. A. M. Buhary, Proctor S.C., J.P.U.M., Kathi made

a welcome speech and Mr. S. Y. Issadeen, Proctor S.C., proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of the League. Speaking next, Mr. C. A. Dharmapla commented on the good work done by the League for the uplittment of the younger generation and he assured that he will try to do everything possible for the betterment of the Muslim Community. A tea party followed, a large gathering was present.

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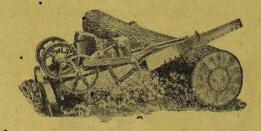
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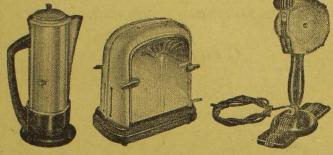
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Expansion of Statistical Organization

ACCORDING to a directive issued by Government with effect from the financial year 1951-52, the Department of Census and Statistics is to be responsible to provide all the statistical information required by all Government depart-ments. This Department thus functions today as the Central Statistical Organization of the Government. In addition to being responsible for the statistics collected by the departments which had provided for sta-tistical branches of their own, sta-tistical units have been set up in all the provincial kachcheries with a view to the more efficient collection and co-ordination of kachcheri statistics.

START OF CO-ORDINATION

START OF CO-ORDINATION

It is interesting to review the steps by which the present co-ordination of statistics has been achieved. Ceylon has had regular decennial censuses from 1871 to 1921. The series was interrupted in 1931 when only a partial census of the Island was taken owing to the financial stringency prevailing at the time. In 1941 also no census could be held owing to war-time conditions and it was not till 1946 that the next census was taken.

Until 1931 it had been the prestice.

Until 1931 it had been the practice to set up ad hoc census organizations generally under the responsibility of the Registrar-General. These organizations were disbanded as soon as the census was over. At the end of the 1921 census, however Mr. J. L. B. Turner recommended the creation of a Department of Statistics which would continue the collection of national statistics during the intercensal period. However, this was one of the first departments to be closed down as a retrenchment measure during the 1930 depression. Until 1931 it had been the practice

The work of this department was carried on by a small nucleus in the Registrar-General's Department. The work was subsequently taken over by the Department of Commerce and Industries. The activities of the statistical section of the Department of Commerce and Industries were progressively enlarged until in 1948 the Department of Census and Statistics was created by the amalgamation of this section with the residual staff of the 1946 census.

By Biyar Jayo

CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION

The new Department till last year served largely as a collecting agency for the various governmental statistics which had hitherto been collected mainly as an administrative byproduct. The published statistics of these departments were selected chiefly as a record of administrative activities. It was thus unavoidable that much available statistics which were of economic value were not published even where it was available. Before the actual co-ordination scheme was put into force, a directive was given by Government that in statistical matters all departments should work in close cooperation and consultation with the Director of Census and Statistics. The present scheme of co-ordination goes a step further and has enabled this department to review the current scheme of statistics in various governmental departments and to organize them in such a manner as to meet national needs as well as to enable it to integrate a co-ordinated scheme of information on a wide range of subjects on which the Government would be able to base all policy decisions. The new Department till last year

CEYLON SAVINGS BANK

FOR a period of 120 years the Ceylon Savings Bank has done valuable work in the encouragement of thrift in all classes of the community. It is gratifying to note the stability of the Bank as disclosed in the annual report which was presented at the 120th meeting held on Saturday last, and ing held on Saturday last, and the confidence it commands. Both the amount of deposits and the number of depositors had increased when compared with previous years. It was a good feature no doubt to see such an institution showing increases in spite of the high cost of living today. The bulk of the savers were the fixed salary earners and the increases in the deposits and the increases in the deposits and depositors was evidence of the growing habit of thrift. The Bank growing habit of thrift. The Bank is now lending money to build houses as well and that is being done mostly to solve the housing difficulty.

Ample testimony to the popularity of the Bank is furnished by the following statement:-

By Omega

Number of Depositors on December 31st, 126,205 Amount of Deposits during 1951 ... Rs. 18,006,051

Amount of Withdrawals during 1951 ... 14,641,884

Total Amount at credit of Depositors on 31st December, 1951 63,234,212 1951 Rate of Interest now allowed 2½% per Annum Invested Funds at Cost:— English, Dominion, Colonial, and Cey-lon Securities ... Rs. 63,645,474 Loans on House Pro-3,255,019 Revenue 2.034.914 Working Costs 275,121 Interest Paid to De-positors ...

1,466,327

THE LATE Mr. A. J. PEIRIS U. N. P. Worker's Tragic End

Reserve Fund

(Suburban Correspondent)

A VERDICT of suicide was return-A VERDICT of suicide was returned by the City Coroner into the circumstances leading to the death of Mr. A. J. Peiris, who was run over by a train on Friday. Mr. Peiris was a land-owner who had considerable interests in Wellawatte, besides being a Merchant in Colombo. He was a popular figure who devoted his time mostly on social and religious activities. During the election campaign of the United National Party in the Wellawatte-Galkissa Electorate, the late Mr. Peiris worked whole-heartedly for Mr. S. de S. Jayasinghe, commanding influence and respect from all communities. His loss will be keenly felt by his numerous admirers who always found in him a father of wisdom of a kindly nature. He leaves behind eleven children.

WORLD SECURITY AND ECONOMIC STABILITY

By Stanley Weerasinghe

AMERICA embarked upon
World War I with high
hopes for the future. They
were fighting a war to make
the world safe for democracy
on the basis of Wilson's Fourteen-Point programme and the
proposed League of Nations,
the future peace of the world
they thought would be assured.

But the treaty of Versailles ended in a worldwide disillusionment, Cy-onicism supplemented Optimism and hope. And in the interwar periods the course of events moved with ups and downs in a direction that reinforced this cynicism.

America embarked upon World War II in an atmosphere wholly different from that of World War I. The young men who were drafted undertook the business at hand with a firm purpose to carry through to the end but free from unrealistic and superficial illusions. At first we were disillusioned but as the war moved to a close we emerged in a revival of hope and growing spirit of confidence.

I believe that there are deep and fundamental reasons which lead to the fact that the settlement following World War 2 rest on a better foundation than World War 1.

The settlement after World War I was doomed to fail for several reasons. World opinion had not yet advanced to a point that made possible even the minimum conditions necessary for the functioning of an international political organisation. The United States were not prepared to join the League of Nations. Large liberal elements in the western democracies had never been convinced that the war was not the product of capitalist and imperialistic blundering or worse yet contrived with malicious intent, Equally important is the fact that the international political situation in Europe after World War I was in an unstable equilibrium. The peace of Versailles was built around France. So built it failed to take cognizance of stark realities.

France was the cornerstone of the peace settlement. The cornerstone of new world security was a secondrate power in terms of industrial strength, population and resources. Internally France suffered from deed social and economical cleavages. There was no internal cohesion. There was intense and bitter conflicts. Old and outworn patterns of thinking controlled its political and economical policies. The internal problem of France was unsolved. Externally France still faced the German giant in the centre and heart of Europe. The peace of the world had been built on too narrow a foundation. Russia on the other side of the great European giant was an unknown quantity. All the world was sceptical and indeed cynical with respect to her political and economical future, Russia remained an outcast in a great or lesser degree in the family of nations. As such she did not become a pillar to support the structure of world peace.

England attempted her traditional rule of acting as a balance wheel in the constellation of European political forces. But she was bewildered and confused to act. On one side she wanted to build up a strong Germany to promote economic prosperity of Europe and on the other side she was one of the pillars of the peace structure built upon the foundation France. She did not

know what to make of Russia. As the interwar period wore on her policies ended in futility and frustration. America reverted to an age-long isolation.

World security failed no less because the great industrial nations did not understand and were wholly unprepared to face the economic problem of the post-war world. Everywhere there was an effort to revert to prewar policies and to restore the prewar economy. This effort failed. Price fluctuations in all countries, inflation in Germany and France, a persistent core of unemployment in England, a boom and depression in the United States. These were the manifestations of economic unbalance all over the world.

All hopes for the restoration of the prewar economy were dashed in the great depression. International economic co-operation was cast aside. Each nation struggled by whatever means it could grasp to stay above water. Economic warfare became the rule. Tariff increased, import quotas, exchange control, competitive exchange, depreclation and multiple currencies destroyed multilateral trade and the international co-operation thus failed after World War 1. First because of the unstable political equilibrium in Europe and second because of the uncontrollable economic disaster which engulfed the world in the decade of the thirties.

What now are the prospects after World War II? A great new fact emerges from World War II. It has changed the face of Europe. It will dominate world history in the generations that lies before us.

This great new fact is the rise of Russia on one side of the globe and the economic and military power of the U.S. on the other. Two great powers occupying vast continents and controlling vast resources in areas that are non-competitive. We are confronted here with a completely new constellation of forces. Within this frame-work the role of France, Germany and England is something different from what they used to be for past generations.

This new constellation of forces.

This new constellation of forces presents one may believe a realistic hope for a new basis for world security and world peace. It does not mainly rest upon the frailities of human good will and intentions but on a rock-bottom geographical fact. Here is a frame-work within which international co-operation has a chance to succeed. World security and world peace rest basically upon the U.S. and Russia. The two great powers must co-operate with other countries large and small to secure world peace.

There is a new outlook abroad in the world today. Now everywhere the note is sounded that development, diversification and industrialization must be undertaken in the backward areas. Large-scale developmental projects, industrialization to an extent that is economically feasible and the diversion of agriculture, the development and improvement of human resources through improved health nutrition and education. The promotion of a higher standard of living, rising productivity and increased purchasing power. These are the new economical goals. A beginning has already been made by the United Nations Organisation, W.H.O., etc. Other international conferences dealing with commercial policy, air routes, oil and commodity arrangements are under way.

Thus there is I believe a realistic basis for a hopeful view of the future, in terms of both of the new international political equilibrium and of the guiding principles of economic policy which increasingly dominates the thinking throughout the world.

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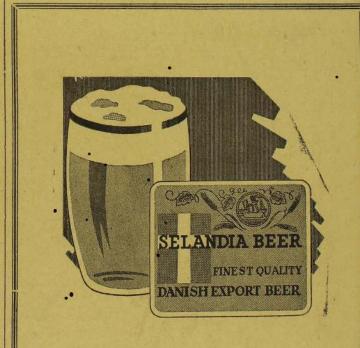
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