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"Political Elders Will Hand Over Responsibility to Youth"—Sir John

"YOU MUST PRESERVE THE FREEDOM WE HAVE WON"

PRESERVATION of the freedom this country has won was the keynote of the address given by Sir John Kotelawala at a reception accorded on Sunday at the Sri Dharmarama College Hall, Ratmalana, to him and to Mr. S. de S. Jayasinghe, M.P. for Galkissa-Wellawatte, by the U.N.P. Ratmalana Branch, in celebration of the capture of the Leftist stronghold and the victory of the United National Party at the recent General Election.

He said that the present leaders have accepted the responsibility of self-government. Freedom connotes responsibility. Now that they have concentrated their attention on producing a united demand and had obtained political independence, the elder members of the United National Party were prepared to

and trials that the other countries had gone through and still suffer from. The world today was in a perilous state. The menace is the totalitarian rule that has enslaved millions of people in other parts of the world which have come under the influence of Communism. If this country had come under the power of the Leftists, chaos would follow. He asked them to work for the United National Party, the Party that has an avowed policy of equality for all races and for all religions. He was happy to see that the electors of the Wellawatte-Galkissa constituency acted rightly in the selection of their representative in Parliament. It was their duty and responsibility to support Mr. Jayasinghe in the many urgent tasks and problems that need hard work and enthusiasm. They were now a free people in a free world, capable of exercising their precious rights of freedom. "I appeal to the youth particularly to value, guard, protect and fight to preserve that freedom we have won."

to see that they have rejected the Leftist whose political philosophy was based on Marxist principles.

Mr. M. P. Wijeyesinghe referred to the excuse given by the former member who represented the Wellawatte-Galkissa constituency, for his defeat, namely "a dirty Press and priestcraft" which was a gross libel on the public Press and on the priests of every religion of this country. That showed the nature of the Communist-minded folk, unpatriotic and regardless of the welfare of the country and the people. He was glad that the people now realize that the United National Party is the only party which should be supported and he congratulated the electors on their wisdom.

A number of other speakers followed and the proceedings terminated with a cinema show.

(Continued on page 2)

237,034 APPLICATIONS FOR CEYLON CITIZENSHIP

The Prime Minister replying to a question by the Member for Matale stated that there were 237,034 applications for Ceylon Citizenship received from Indians and Pakistanis up to date. Of these 2690 were granted 2687 were refused and 224,830 applications are yet not disposed of. However 10,117 of these have been partly examined. Certain proposals to expedite enquiries are now under examination.



Sir John Kotelawala

hand over the responsibility of preserving the freedom they had won to their successors, the youth of the country. They must not remain complacent, but realise their responsibility to preserve this freedom. Even greater efforts will be necessary. The efforts must come from the youths of the country.

The victory they had won was a notable one. They had rejected the Leftists and returned a candidate nominated by the United National Party—the only Party that would give freedom of speech, of writing and of worship, because it is the Party that has a tradition of patriotism behind it. The youths of the country must work for it because it is a party of the future more than of the present. They had been, hitherto, misled by the Communists whose aim is to destroy individual freedom as laid down in the Marxists' principles and the decided policy of their leaders. The United National Party stands for democracy and the Government they have formed derives its powers from the consent of the governed. Democracy meant the principle that Government derived its authority from the people.

Ceylon attained freedom almost at the same time as India, Pakistan, Burma and Indonesia. Among all these dominions Ceylon was the only country that achieved this great prize without shedding a drop of blood and continues to be peaceful. They must have heard of the conflicts the loss of life and tribulations



Mr. S. de S. Jayasinghe

TRIBUTE TO SIR JOHN.

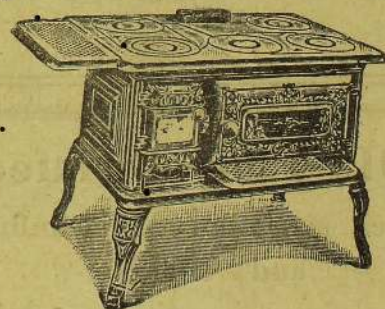
Mr. S. de S. Jayasinghe thanked the electors for the kind and generous reception accorded to him. In Sir John Kotelawala they had a great leader who was a tower of strength to the United National Party. They were happy that the so-called stronghold of the Reds had been captured and Leftist influence had been scotched. He must congratulate the electors in their good sense and spirit of patriotism shown by supporting the right party. It was he who should hold a reception and thank the electors. He appealed to them to continue to support the United National Party. He was glad

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SOVIET ATTITUDE TO WAR & PEACE

A BOOKLET has been published which gives a short survey of the official attitude in the Soviet Union to the problems of war and peace. It also gives a general picture of the Marxist-Leninist principles which guide the present Soviet leaders. It consists mainly of quotations from Marxist-Leninist writings and from the speeches and books of those in authority in the Soviet Union. The following are extracts from the booklet:—

MARXIST-LENINIST THEORY

Marxist-Leninist theory does not accept pacifism. It preaches the desirability of war as a means of spreading the revolution and, in fact, the necessity of war as an unavoidable means to this end.

The following passages from the works of Lenin and Stalin deal with the general Soviet attitude to the question of war and peace. It should be pointed out that the passage from Stalin was reprinted in the official edition of Stalin's *Collected Works* in 1949 and was quoted as an authoritative text by the Soviet *Literary Gazette* as recently as June, 1951; while all the passages from Lenin appear in the fourth Moscow edition of Lenin's works, which was completed in 1951.

(a) "CLASS" STRUGGLE

"The Social Democrats may even find themselves in the position of having to demand aggressive wars.

"In 1848 Marx and Engels considered a war on the part of Germany against Russia to be necessary. Later on they attempted to influence public opinion in England in order to induce England to go to war on Russia.....

"Obviously in this question (as also in views on patriotism) it is not the offensive or defensive character of the war, but the interests of the class struggle of the proletariat, or rather the interests of the international movements of the proletariat, that represents the only possible point of view from which the question of the attitude of Social Democracy towards a given phenomenon in international relations can be considered and solved."

(Lenin: "Militant Militarism and anti-militarist tactics of Social Democracy," August, 1908. Reprinted in the fourth edition of Lenin's *Works*, completed in Moscow in 1951, vol. 15, pp. 175-176).

(Note: The Russian Communist Party was known as the Russian Social-Democratic Workers' Party until 1918).

"Socialism is opposed to violence against nations. That is indisputable. But Socialism is opposed to violence against men in general. Apart from Christian-anarchists and Tolstoyans, however, no one has yet drawn the conclusion from this that Socialism is opposed to revolutionary violence. Hence, to talk about 'violence' in general, without examining the conditions which distinguish reactionary from revolutionary violence, means being a petty bourgeois who renounces revolution, or else it means simply deceiving oneself and others by sophistry.

"The same holds true of violence against nations. Every war implies violence against nations, but that does not prevent Socialists from being in favour of a revolutionary war. The class character of the war—that is the fundamental question which confronts a Socialist (if he is not a renegade).....

"The Frenchman, German or Italian who says: 'Socialism is opposed to violence against nations, therefore I defend myself when my

country is invaded,' betrays Socialism and internationalism, because he only thinks of his own 'country' he puts 'his own'.....'bourgeoisie' above everything else and does not give a thought to the international connections which make the war an imperialist war and his bourgeoisie a link in the chain of imperialist plunder.

"All philistines and all stupid and ignorant yokels argue in the same way as the renegade Kautskyans, Longuetites, Turatis and Co.: 'The enemy has invaded my country. I don't care about anything else.'

"The Socialist, the revolutionary proletarian, the internationalist, argues differently. He says: 'The character of the war (whether reactionary or revolutionary) is not determined by who the aggressor was, or whose territory is occupied by the "enemy": it is determined by the class that is waging the war, and the politics of which this war is a continuation'."

(Lenin: "The Proletarian Revolution and the Renegade Kautsky," November, 1918. Reprinted in the fourth edition of Lenin's *Collected Works*, Vol. 28, p. 264).

(b) SOCIALISTS AND WAR

"Socialists, without ceasing to be Socialists, cannot oppose war in general. In the first place, Socialists never have and never would oppose revolutionary wars..... Civil wars are also wars. He who accepts the class struggle cannot fail to recognise civil wars..... Socialism victorious in one country does not exclude forthwith all wars in general. On the contrary, it presupposes them.....

"Only after we overthrow, completely defeat and expropriate the bourgeoisie in the entire world and not only in one country, wars will become impossible.....

" 'Social' priests and opportunists are always ready to dream of future peaceful Socialism but this is precisely the way they differ from revolutionary social democrats, because they do not wish to think and ponder the embittered class struggle and class wars which are required in order to bring about this wonderful future."

(Lenin's essay, "The War Programme of the Proletarian Revolution," 1916; reprinted in the fourth edition of Lenin's *Works*, Vol. 23, pp. 65-68).

"As far as war stories are concerned, they must be published only after careful selection. There is a mass of stories on the book market which depict the 'horrors' of war, and which instil hatred towards every kind of war (not only towards imperialist war but towards every other as well). These are bourgeois, pacifist tales, not worth much. We need stories which will lead readers' minds away from the horrors of imperialist war but towards the necessity of overthrowing imperialist governments, which organise such wars.

"Moreover, we are not, after all, opposed to every war. We are against imperialist war because it is counter-revolutionary war. But we are for a liberating, anti-imperialist, revolutionary war despite the fact that such a war, as is well known, is not only not devoid of the 'horrors of bloodshed' but even abounds in them."

(From Stalin's letter to Gorky, 17th January, 1930, published in Vol. 12, Stalin's *Collected Works*, Moscow, 1949, and quoted in the leading article of the Soviet *Literary Gazette*, 21st June, 1951).

Plea to Raise Workers' Minimum Wage TO Rs. 2/- PER DAY

A PLEA for the increase of the minimum wage from Rs. 1-25 to Rs. 2 per day was made by Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis at a meeting presided over by Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel, Minister of Labour and Social Services, at Madiwela, in the Kotte constituency on Saturday, the 5th instant.

The meeting was held for the joint purpose of according a reception to Mr. de Alwis who was the U.N.P. nominee at the recent elections and forming a branch of the U.N.P. Youth League, in Madiwela village.

Mr. de Alwis said that the living conditions in Ceylon had risen to a level that a wage of Rs. 1.25 per day, although it was increased by allowances made it impossible for the worker with a family of four or five children and wife to subsist without debt and misery.

"Although I was defeated in the elections," continued Mr. de Alwis, "I feel a sense of responsibility in regard to the large masses of the poor in this country because the 11,000 who voted for me were all poor wage-earners each of whom had many personal reasons which could have made them vote against the U.N.P."

In the presence of this Cabinet Minister, I would plead that the United National Party must consider the fact that it was returned to power by the working masses of the land. It is true that the capitalists in Ceylon gave of their money to fight the elections. That was a very praiseworthy and patriotic effort on their part, but the hundreds and thousands who voted for the U.N.P. candidates were poor people, each of them suffering from various economic ills which may normally be expected to prejudice their minds against any Party responsible for the Government of the land.

"It was a very heartening thing, therefore, to find that those people willingly submerged their own personal feelings and considered the larger issues of stability, peace and the virtues of democracy in voting for the U.N.P."

"The U.N.P. must, therefore, consider itself a Party of all the people, and in such a context the interests of the poor must take first place. We poor people eagerly look forward to the day when the policy of the United National Party would be completely socialist. Ours should be a Social Democratic Party. Already much of our work is of a Socialist nature. Our Free Education Scheme, our scheme for old age pensions, our offer of land for the landless come within that category."

Dr. Kaleel in his presidential speech said that it was happy to be present at a meeting of the Kotte Electorate in which a young newcomer to the hustlings had achieved a creditable task of polling as much as 11,000 votes. Usually defeated candidates were difficult to find. They sulked in their homes, were angry even with their own best supporters. In this case Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis was not only going round the electorate thanking the people for having voted for him and was organizing branches of the Youth League so that the Party strength might be increased for the future. That was the true democratic spirit.

Referring to the problems of the Government, Dr. Kaleel said that the reference made to the needs of the working masses of the poor people by Mr. de Alwis went deep into his heart and he would earnestly give further consideration to that point of view.

"It is necessary for the good government of a democratic country that the Government be constantly in touch with the people and that the people be in touch with the Government. All troubles arise because Government loses touch with the people they govern and the people take no interest in the Government which governs them. That is why in France years ago there was a revolution. That is why there was that disastrous revolution in Russia. Both these revolutions were caused by the Governments in those countries being completely unconcerned

with the views and needs of their people. Ours is a democratic Government, where the people have the opportunity of getting rid of their Government at least once in five years. Those people who follow the Marxist political doctrine hope to get control of the Government in the same way as Marxists have taken control of the government of other countries outside ours. But if they succeeded in Ceylon what happened in other countries will happen here also. That will be the biggest tragedy ever overcome the people of our land. Once Marxists take control the people cease to have the power to change their government and there will be no more elections and Parliamentary methods will be given up in favour of autocratic and complete rule for all time by one party. It will in the end be one or two individuals who will themselves control that party. Under the democratic system anyone who is not in agreement with the government of the country has the freedom to say so either at public meetings or by publishing a booklet, by writing to the Press or by airing his views in buses, trams or in his own house. Anyone has the freedom to express anti-government opinions. Under the Marxists there is only one party. Freedom is denied to anyone to express his opinion against the Government. That will be considered anti-national and unpatriotic and an act of sabotage. For such acts of sabotage there is dire punishment. It is either death, deprivation of one's own possessions or imprisonment in concentration camps. That is why it is important to protect democracy and for the Government to keep constantly in touch with the people so that for personal reasons of any kind people will not throw up their rights without knowing the consequences of their impulsive action. If the people of this country voted Marxists and they came into power at the last elections that would have been the last elections held in Ceylon. Fortunately for us our country believes in spiritual values and not merely material ends.

Perhaps the benefits which the Government proposes and hopes to give the people were often denied to them.

Dr. Kaleel quoted incidents where letters of recommendation to people who had gone to Gal Oya some time ago returned with the story that even the minimum wage of Rs. 1-25 per day which the Government had promulgated to all parts of the Island was not paid.

Dr. Kaleel personally investigated the matter and found in some cases they were paid only 75 cents a day. These matters had been put right. He was in complete agreement with Mr. de Alwis' proposal that the Government should set up welfare officers in all the large departments whose primary task would be to see to it that the grievances of the workers would be met with active consideration by the Government and prompt action by the high-ups.

Mr. B. Wijeyesinghe congratulated the people of Kotte for having voted in such large numbers for the U.N.P. candidate. He reminded them that Mr. de Alwis had promised during his election visits that whether he won or lost he would always do whatever he could for the people of Kotte. He was glad to find that this young politician was keeping his word when as a human being he may actually be expected to give Kotte a wide berth he was visiting house to house to discuss and look into the grievances of people. This

(Continued on page 7)

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Representatives from many public associations and a large number of individuals were present. Proposed by Mr. S. Lucian J. Silva and seconded by Mr. P. W. Fernando, it was resolved to felicitate Mr. H. E. P.

de Mel in honour of his election as a Parliamentarian and in appreciation of the manifold services rendered to Moratuwa by Mr. de Mel, especially for its literary, social and economic advancements, the venue of the celebrations to be at Koralawella in view of his birthplace.

The following were elected office-bearers:—

Chairman: Mr. T. Cecil A. de Soysa

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Lucian J. Silva

Hony. Joint Secretaries: Messrs. G. O. C. Cooray, Rupert V. B. Peiris and Vijitha S. Senaratne.

Hony. Treasurer: Mr. J. Herman Cooray.

A general Reception Committee of over one hundred members was also elected to make the necessary arrangements for the reception.—(Moratuwa Cor.)

**TRANSPLANTING COMPETITIONS
 IN PUTTALAM**

(From Our Puttalam Correspondent)

"THE Government today is concentrating itself on increasing food production and all cultivators should use the modern methods taught to them for an increase yield in their harvest," said Mr. H. S. Ismail, M.P. for Puttalam, speaking after the distribution of prizes to several women competitors who took part in the competition for transplanting their paddy fields in the Kottukachchiya Colony.

A large gathering of colonists was present at this prize distribution held at the Kottukachchiya Government School presided over by Mr. Ismail.

AUSTRALIA CITED AS EXAMPLE

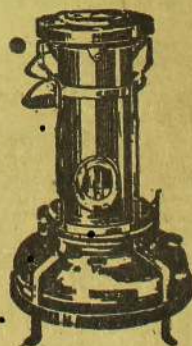
Continuing, he said that though we prided ourselves that we have cultivated the land for over 2,000 years and nothing can be taught to improve our methods, places like Australia which took to paddy cultivation only 25 years ago, were able

to produce a better yield of eighty bushels per acre compared to Ceylon's average of 15 bushels per acre, though the rainfall was even less than in Ceylon. He, therefore, appealed on behalf of the Government to adopt modern methods introduced through the Agricultural Department, and increase their yield and be self-sufficient than depend on the import of foodstuffs from foreign countries.

Mr. Bennet Fernando, Agricultural Instructor, Puttalam District, speaking before the distribution said that after the Indian citizenship problem India now refused to send us chillies. Unless we adopt these improved processes and double our production we will die of starvation.

Mr. Ismail later offered a cash prize of Rs. 100 for the colonist who should produce a better return in his fields.

The Kottukachchiya Buddhist priest, the Cultivation Officer and a colonist also spoke for a better understanding between the Agricultural Department and the cultivator.

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Analysis of Ceylon's Economic and Financial Status

A REVIEW of the policies and measures adopted by the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Ceylon during the financial year ending 31st December, 1951, and an analysis of the economic and financial circumstances that prompted those policies and measures is published in the Second Annual Report of the Board.

As regards foreign trade which plays a dominant role in determining the economic condition of Ceylon it is stated that reports have recently contributed directly over one-third of gross national income and indirectly much more, since many industries and occupations not producing directly for export are largely sustained by export income. On the expenditure side, nearly three-tenths of gross national expenditure was on imports. Value of exports rose markedly in 1951 by 22 per cent. The physical quantity of exports, however, showed only a slight increase. The large rise in export value was, therefore, due almost entirely to a steep rise in prices. They reached an all-time high in March and April when the price index was 607, and thereafter fell away almost steadily to 473 by the end of the year.

Value of imports also rose greatly between 1950 and 1951 by 33 per cent. The rise in average import prices was much less than that in average export prices and so the terms of trade improved. The high export income enabled the country to bear the rising cost of imports, to increase decidedly the physical volume of imports and yet have a substantial export surplus not much smaller than that for 1950. The merchandise surplus was Rs. 346 million for 1951 as against Rs. 396 million in 1950. These figures show that foreign trade in 1951 as a whole was decidedly favourable to Ceylon.

EFFECTS OF THE KOREAN WAR

The average and total figures for 1951, however, conceal a serious deterioration during the year. The deterioration is shown most plainly in the terms of trade, which is simply the export price index expressed as a per cent. of the import price index. On a 1934-1938 base

of 100, the terms of trade were 113 in January, 1951, and rose to a peak of 123 in March. Thereafter they worsened rapidly and nearly continuously. The figure of 79 reached in December was almost the same as that for 1949 before the Korean war.

In sympathy with this adverse movement, the monthly report surplus also declined and at one stage even became negative. The boom enjoyed by Ceylon as a result of the outbreak of the Korean War has ended. Already by December, 1951, a given physical volume of exports brought only seven-tenths as much physical volume of imports as it had in the previous January.

DECLINE IN RUBBER EARNINGS

The fall in export prices of rubber by 31 per cent. was felt most by that commodity. The decline was specially serious for Ceylon as rubber is Ceylon's best dollar earner. Together with the general fall in price there was a sharp decline in the physical volume of American imports of Ceylon rubber. The value of Ceylon's rubber sales to the United States was Rs. 29.4 million in December, 1950. In January, 1951, it was Rs. 28.3 million but it fell to Rs. 5.9 million by April and reached a low figure of Rs. 2.5 million in September. This fall in earnings from rubber followed the action taken by the United States Government when it made an official purchasing agency, the General Services Administration, the sole importer of natural rubber into that country. The result was to eliminate competitive bidding in world markets by private American importers. The physical volume of Ceylon rubber purchased by the United States in the second and third quarters of 1951 was 80 per cent. below that purchased in the third and fourth quarters of 1950. For Ceylon the reversion to private American trading in rubber, announced in December, 1951, was obviously most welcome, but the restrictions on the use of natural rubber still in force in the United States continue to handicap natural rubber in its competition with synthetic.

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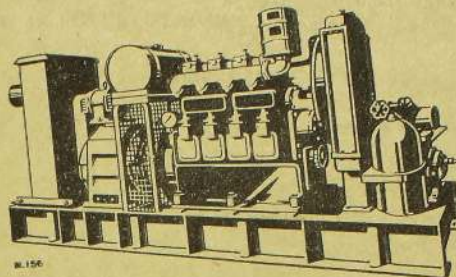
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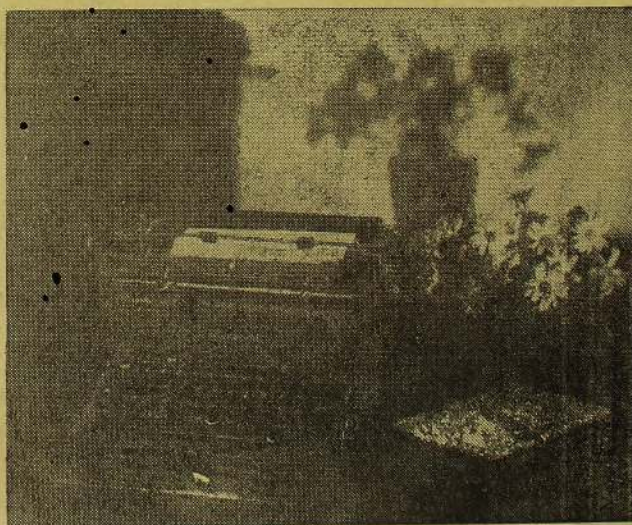
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RESURGENCE OF NATIONAL ARTS

The excellence of the play "Vessantara," by the players who produced Siri Sanghabo focuses public attention on the subject of State aid for the development of the Arts in Ceylon. Hitherto one of the problems confronting those who have been inclined to help societies devoted to the promotion of artistic tendencies has been the absence of reliable and capable body or society to which such aid could safely be given. After the days of John de Silva, the Sinhalese drama went through various stages until it reached the final chapter of decline. Now, however, we have under the able production of Mr. J. D. A. Perera, a society and cast which can bring new life to the Sinhalese stage. Those in charge of such production have to undergo great difficulties and grievously suffer from financial worries. The artist must be able to have his mind at peace so that he may concentrate his entire energy on the task of perfecting his performance. Here in our country where the patrons are poor and large profits cannot be made from any performance however excellent. The wonderful results obtained with the use of cheap mate-

rial by Messrs. J. D. A. Perera and Premaratna make it pretty obvious that given a little more encouragement and freed from money problems the Sinhalese stage will be as rich in its presentation as some of vaunted productions in the West.

From an artistic point of view some of the scenes in Vessantara are breath-taking, and it is a pity that such creative ability cannot find in our country the support of Government. We, therefore, urge the Cabinet to seriously consider direct subsidization of the society responsible for the staging of Siri Sanghabo and Vessantara.

It is heartening that men like Major T. F. Jayewardene have come forward to help this society to find its feet. It would be wrong for the State or the country to take advantage of such public-spirited citizens and let them continue to risk their money in isolated efforts to help the cultural renaissance.

We are aware that some conferences had been held at Queen's House to discuss ways and means of promoting the development of the Arts. Conferences at Queen's House often end at conference level. Lord Soulbury's touching interest in the local Arts expressed on his arrival in Ceylon still remains, after all these years, in the realm of interest.

It is necessary, therefore, for the Cabinet to get down to "brass tacks" and forge ahead with direct aid to those already taking practical interest in the development of the Arts.

A Ceylon Veteran of American Service

A FAMILIAR figure to officers of the various American diplomatic missions to Ceylon is an ageing Negombo man who has seen service for the United States in World War I (1914-1918). This unique individual is Mr. Charles Grand who makes a monthly trip from Negombo to collect his monthly cheque as a veteran of the American Service. As a one-time American Service man, Grand regularly does the 22-mile trip from Negombo every month, under the provisions of legislation passed by the United States Congress shortly after World War I, extending financial benefits to veterans of that war. It is in a substantial amount, sufficient to meet the monthly needs of Grand and his family.

ENLISTED IN 1917

The facts behind Grand's record of service in the American forces are none too clear, since his memory has faded with advancing age. However, he recalls that he shipped aboard a vessel sailing to the United States in 1912 or thereabouts. Arriving in America he decided to remain for a time, working at various jobs, and staying for the ensuing several years. When America entered the war on the side of the Western Allies, Grand enlisted for service with the United States. Eventually he went with the American Expeditionary Force to France, where he

served until the end of the war in November, 1918. Although not wounded in action, he suffered a disabling injury which made him eligible for the pension assistance he has been receiving for some years from the United States Government. Despite his age Grand stands straight and firm, although using a cane. He comes to the Embassy alone, but occasionally his wife makes the trip from Negombo with him.

ONCE A PUGILIST

Despite his lapses of memory, Grand recalls with pride some of his physical achievements while in the American service. One does not often catch him in a reminiscent mood, but on such an occasion he modestly admits that as a pugilist he was a terror in his company. And once in Argentina, he remembers he rescued a young woman from drowning in a rough sea, while a large crowd watched. He was, of course, the day's hero. Following the cessation of hostilities he was discharged and returned to Ceylon to marry and settle down in Negombo. With advancing age, illness occasionally has prevented his monthly appearance, but whenever possible he has come in person to accept his pension cheque, proudly displaying the little gold insignia in the buttonhole of the lapel of his coat—which indicates that Charles Grand is a Ceylonese veteran of the United Service in World War One—the only one in Ceylon.

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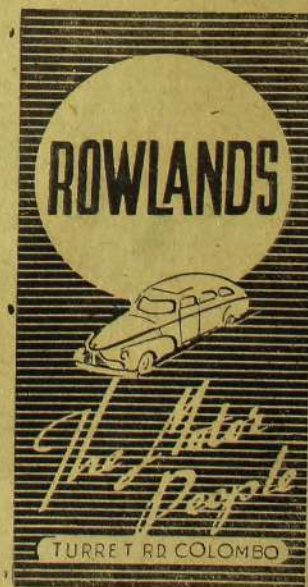
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RE-AWAKENING OF CEYLON'S CULTURAL TRADITIONS

THE formal inauguration of the School of National Music and Dancing by the Minister of Finance, at the School of Arts, Horton Place, Colombo, may well be regarded as a landmark in the history of the State patronage of the arts in Ceylon, recalling the days of old when those arts flourished under Royal patronage. With the attainment of independence it was but natural that the arts and crafts of the country should receive encouragement and the fostering care of the Government. It was, therefore, only correct and in keeping with tradition that the modern State, the successor should carry on those practices. The scheme for the establishment of the school was placed before the last Cabinet by the then Minister of Education and the plans were finalised by the Permanent Secretary to the Minister, Mr. L. J. de S. Seneviratne, who indeed sponsored the movement, personally attending to the numerous details connected with the establishment of the school.

THE AIM OF THE SCHOOL

The aim of the school was mainly to preserve in their pure forms their heritage of national dances, folk-songs, music, etc., which, though having a continuous tradition dating back to many centuries, had languished in the recent past when the country was under foreign rule. The present attempt to develop the aesthetic and spiritual aspects of the life of the community is certainly commendable. In a small country like Ceylon it was natural that the avenues of employment for the graduates of the school would necessarily be limited and in order that there might be no frustration among trained artistes it is considered very necessary to have a small number of students for a start. The details of the courses have not been finalised yet. When the full staff of the school has been

recruited—there being only two lecturers at present, one for North Indian Music and the other for Kandyan Dancing—a scheme outlining the nature and duration of the courses to be provided by the school will be outlined.

REBUILDING A NATION

"We create today not a monument to departed glory, but an academy where the youth of our land may ever seek to reach their hands towards perfection," said Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, in declaring the school open. He said that the opening of the National School of Music and Dancing was another indication that the people of Sri Lanka have awakened after several centuries and are seeking to express themselves according to their own tradition and genius. During the 19th and 20th centuries there was a continuous decline of the national arts for it was not possible for them to flourish under an alien rule. Those who governed the country then were ignorant of and even opposed to the development of indigenous art and culture.

Continuing, he said: "We have but very recently become the masters of our destiny, and it is but natural that among people who have such a long and distinguished tradition of artistic achievement, there should arise once again the desire to see them given wider and fuller opportunities for development. We are now engaged in rebuilding a nation. The preservation and development of that nation's culture form an important part of that process. It is the responsibility of a Government elected by the people to support their culture and arts."

"We have in Lanka unique material upon which we can build a history which goes back to the very dawn of human adolescence; traditions which can inspire and form the theme for artistic expression; human resources whose talent and skill can be moulded to be as perfect as any other in the world."

JURGEN.

The Late Mr. K. D. J. Vistrene Pieris AN APPRECIATION

THE large and representative gathering that assembled at Saints Peter and Paul's Church Lunawa, Moratuwa on Thursday the 3rd July to pay their last respects to the late Mr. K. D. J. Vistrene Pieris of "Mark Dale" Moratuwa was indication that the deceased was beloved of God and Man.

The late Mr. Pieris' demise has created a void both in his family and the town. He was a Director of Messrs: Lanka Trading Co. Ltd. He evinced a keen interest in all welfare activities of the town. Being deeply religious minded, he tolerated no irreligious movement. The Old Boys' Association of St. Sebastian's College, the Moratuwa Catholic Association and the Congregation of Saints Peter and Paul's Church have lost one of their leaders. The employees of his firm will miss a Director who was both a friend and a counsellor. The many patrons of Lanka Trading Co., Ltd., will miss that charming and winsome personality with whom it was their privilege to transact business. The Moratuwa North Co-operative Society has lost one of its active office-bearers.

The loss sustained by the Youth League of the U.N.P. at Moratuwa is irreparable. He was one of its prime movers and founders. His dynamic zeal and energy was a driving force of the budding League. He was an ardent believer of the democratic way of life and believed that he had a mission to fulfil in Moratuwa—to free the youth of Moratuwa from the tentacles of the Red menace. Three days prior to his death, the writer and Mr. Herbert A. J. Wijesekera, the propaganda secretary of the Moratuwa U.N.P., had the privilege of conversing with him. He told the visitors that sick though

he was, his heart was with them who were just launching out a campaign for the promotion of a membership drive for the U.N.P. His memory will remain ever green as long as the Youth League remain also a live force in Moratuwa's politics. The rich and poor, young and old, Christians and non-Christians—all had easy access to him. He was friend of all and the enemy of none. Hence his memory will be held in Benediction by one and all.

We offer our sincerest sympathies to his bereaved family. May he rest in peace.

PLEA TO RAISE WORKERS' MINIMUM WAGE

(Continued from page 3)

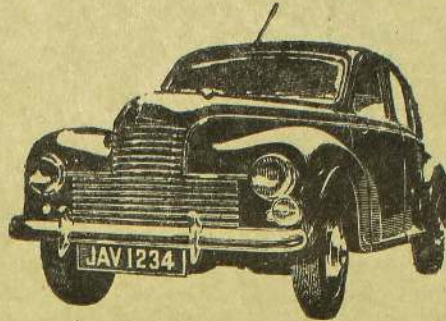
kind of men we need in a democratic country, men who have real love for the people they serve and who are not discouraged by defeat. There is no doubt that at the next election Kotte will definitely return a U.N.P. candidate whoever comes in the guise of a friend and tries to split the U.N.P. votes.

Mr. Jinadasa Niyatipala on behalf of the Youth League of Maharagama of which he is the President, explained the system to be followed in organising a Youth League and appealed to those present to consider the importance of such an organisation in the village of Madiwela.

Mr. U. S. Perera welcomed Dr. Kaleel and Mr. de Alwis to the meeting at the inception of the proceedings.

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The Right of Private Property

By Eardley Gunasekera

IF ever there has been a question where Marxists yearn to attack it is this business of private property. It is their creed to appropriate all wealth into the hands of a select few under the guise of State ownership. They even go to the extent of substituting the implications of private property by capitalism, and while accepting this as correct it is conspicuously noticeable that the Marxists themselves are the greatest capitalists. So under the misleading pretext of championing the cause of the poverty stricken masses they seek to shield their guilt. The day when the Marxist will distribute his own wealth both for the alleviation of suffering and as an example to the more vicious of our capitalists has yet to come. It can never happen, it never will for their affinity for power and wealth cannot be torn asunder. The Marxist regime is the most perfect capitalist regime in the world because under a Marxist government it is the Marxist hierarchy that controls all wealth. Those under them become mere insignificant cogs in a giant social mechanism and hence are reduced to utter impotence.

By the right of private property we mean the right a human being may have to the free use and disposal of certain material things. This right and justification to own property is based on the natural law, of which God is the author. This at least is the Christian viewpoint and I believe it is the same with all other religions. The law of nature authorises man to provide for himself and his dependants which duty it is rendered incumbent to accomplish only if there exists an established system of private ownership. At this point it is best to clarify the doubt whether it would not be more suitable to allow society to own the means of production and raw materials thereby allowing the produce to be allocated according to each one's necessity. In theory this is a very commendable system but in actual working it is impracticable the reasons for which I will set out. Firstly, the family which is the unit of society runs the very grave risk of annihilation. Secondly, personal liberty being one of man's very precious possessions will be annulled and every individual will be at the mercy of a few who wield public authority. Thirdly, every human being will be possessed by a feeling of insecurity resulting from complete dependency on the goodwill of State officials. Finally the impetus which a reasonable desire of gain now gives to personal effort would be completely lost.

The right of private property is misinterpreted by those who consider that it connotes the right of each man to acquire as much as he can get and to so use his acquisitions in the way he pleases. However, the most reasonable meaning is that a human being cannot live comfortably unless he has some ownership and is entitled to private possessions. This is universally applicable but it certainly rejects an economic regime in which a vested few own more than they deserve while on the other hand an appreciable section own far less than their requirements and in some cases absolutely nothing. Nevertheless the scope of private property is not unlimited as its limitations are controlled by every member of society. This control has to be exercised socially in so much as every member of society can live in minimum comfort. This is also evinced by the fact when it is said that private property has a twofold character, namely individually and socially.

The individual characteristics of private property is illustrated when it is expected to facilitate individuals to make provision for both the necessity of themselves and their dependents. The social characteristic is exhibited by the fact that it is intended to benefit the entire human society. Private ownership, if reasonably applied and duly controlled by public authority, is beneficial to society because it engenders happiness, independence and is moreover an incentive to private initiative. The fact that it is subject to abuse if mismanaged becomes a foregone conclusion. The right to own property must be distinguished from its use because ownership of property is regulated by strict commutative justice whereas the use of property is regulated by equity. The indiscriminate use of private property does not forfeit the owner's right to it and in the case of such a use public authority is warranted to exercise strict control in such a way as to compel the owner to consult the public good.

The use of private property enables one to employ it for profit. The use of private property is not wrong provided the means resorted to are just and equitable. If on this criterion profit is made then both the individual and society are benefited, accordingly. Profit or surplus income cannot be left entirely to man's discretion as the social law demands that whatever surplus that remains after one's own needs and those of his dependants are attended to should be consumed in order that the common good may be promoted. Now this common good can be promoted if surplus income is used for supporting any type of institution that is interested in public welfare, and very significantly in this period when it can be invested to enhance opportunities for remunerative work which will produce articles of a utilitarian value.

The system of private property is never static. It is always in constant motion which movement is controlled by the social and economic conditions which undergo change at different times in different places. The abolition of the right of private property cannot be upheld even by the State as it is the obligation of the State to guard, control and regulate its use, in consonance with the demands of the common good. This control can sometimes be felt in the form of taxation which are a mode of payment for the innumerable services rendered by the State and its contribution to the common good. This does not necessarily mean that taxation should be excessive. Such as to fall heavily on some while it rests lightly on others, since if the system of taxation is inequitable we may be confronted with the prospect of a complete destruction of the right of private property.

Man's natural right to own property does not extend to all material goods for certain objects have a common ownership and the private ownership of them will result in more harm than something of value and genuinely good. There are on the other hand when certain things can never give of their best when privately managed in these cases. Therefore public or State ownership becomes imperative. The State, in certain instances is empowered to deprive any citizen of whatever private property that citizen may have conditionally—if that particular private ownership is detrimental to the common good then it could do so. If we are confronted with this deprivation of private ownership, then as justice would demand, sufficient and reasonable compensation must always be given. The right of private property is the gift of the natural law, the law of God to ensure a decent and comfortable living among all human beings.

Ceylon Student's Experiences In America

THE impressions he has received and the experiences he has gained during his two years' sojourn in America are recorded in a contribution by Mr. Piyadasa W. Vitanage to the June number of "Free World." Many adventures in learning and living are packed into the recital. The scholarship to do graduate work at the University of Chicago was offered to him as a member of the Ceylon Geological Survey. Although he had read up on the United States in general and on University life in particular, before he left Colombo for Chicago, it was only after he got to the "second largest city" in America that he obtained a meaningful picture of American life with its rush and bustle.

"I met my first American friend shortly after my arrival," says Mr. Vitanage, "as I was shopping in a departmental store, when an old gentleman came up and spoke to me.

"Are you from India?" he asked.

"Well," I replied, "very near to India, I am from Ceylon."

"Oh, I know. That is where our tea comes from." I walked down the street with him and he invited me to dinner at his home. I have many friends in this informal way. Others I have met through my work and especially through the Chicago Y.W.C.A., which arranges for foreign students to live with American families during week-ends and vacations. This programme of international understanding is particularly valuable to those of us who come from the East, as we are likely to have rather limited notions of American life derived from movies and magazines we have sampled back home."

SOME FALSE NOTIONS

Mr. Vitanage has discarded some of the notions about American life. For example, he used to think that all Americans in big cities went to night clubs on week-ends. Those

whom he had met rarely went, if at all. Other ideas that he learnt to modify dealt with the home and the family. From his many visits he was convinced that American family life was pretty much like that in Ceylon. There was, however, one difference worth noting. He has observed that all parents including the wealthy, encouraged their children to be independent at an early age, and permitted them to earn money by selling newspapers or doing odd jobs about the house. There was a strong sense of the dignity of labour. Most of his fellow students had to work to pay at least part of their expenses, but not one of them felt ashamed to serve as a waiter or janitor or to do any other task which in the East might be considered "menial."

"DAS" FOR SHORT

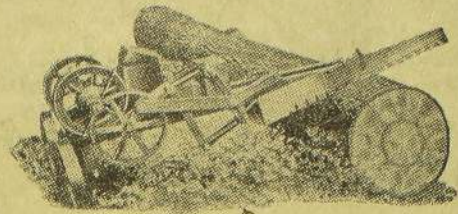
Despite the tensions of work, it took him the better part of a year to get accustomed to the intensive programme of study, both faculty and students were easy going and friendly. On the first day he met his classmates, they announced: "Your name is too long. Let us call you 'Das.'" Thereafter he was known as Das to everyone including the professors who shared the typical American informality. Even though he was the only student from Ceylon at the University he never felt homesick. One reason was that at International House, a campers' residence, students from every part of the United States and from every country in the world live together in warm comradeship. There are no barriers of creed, race or language. While walking along the corridors one heard a happy medley of greetings: Hi (American), Namaste (Indian), Kon Niche Wa (Japanese), Guten Tag (German), Shalom (Hebrew), Bon jour (French).

CEYLON'S INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATED

Though a lone Ceylonese, Mr. Vitanage launched on a gala dinner and entertainment in honour of
(Continued on page 11)

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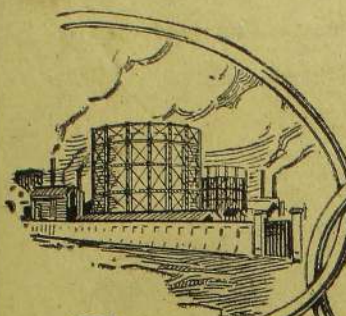
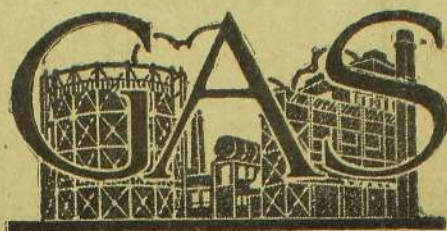
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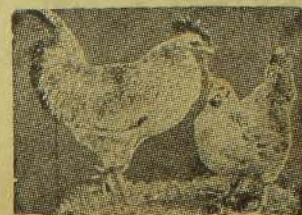
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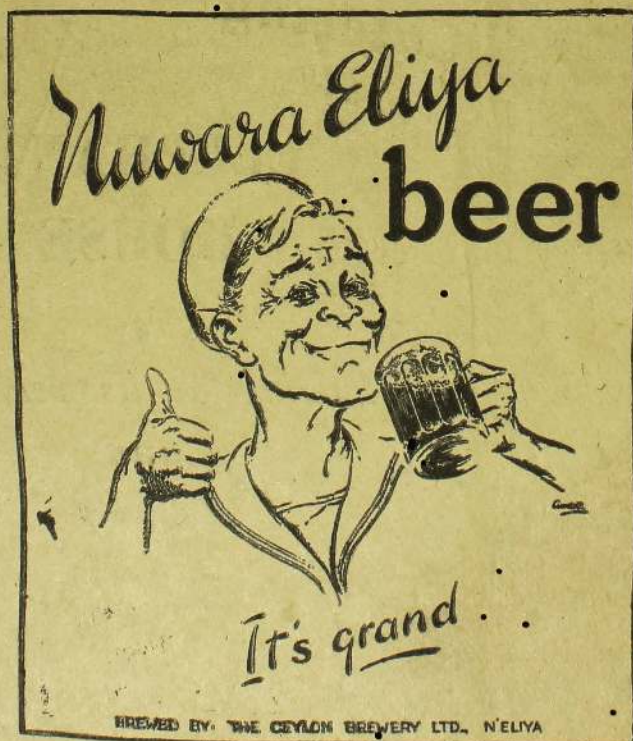
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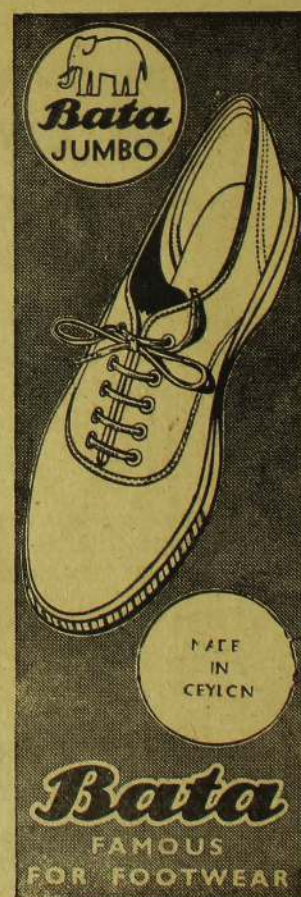
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(Continued from page 1)

SIR JOHN'S MISSION ABROAD

Sir John leaves for Europe and America on August 5, after his Ministry's budget estimates have gone through the committee stage. During his mission abroad, a number of important development works will be looked into by him. In the United Kingdom he hopes to have talks with the consulting engineers for the Hydro-Electric Scheme, Messrs. Preece Cardew and Ryder, regarding Stage II of the Scheme which is about to be taken in hand.

In France Sir John will meet the Directors of the Port Development Scheme in connection with the work now in progress. He will avail himself of the opportunity of meeting the French Waterworks Engineers who have been assigned the job of drawing of designs and specifications for water supply schemes for a number of towns.

The modernisation of the Ratmalana Airport, the report on which had been prepared by Mr. Francis J. Rhody three years ago, will be discussed again in view of the rapid strides made in civil aviation since the report was prepared. Technical assistance will also be sought for the implementation of the scheme.

THE OTTAWA CONFERENCE

Sir John who is a Vice-President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, will attend the Ottawa Conference of the Association, which is being attended by the other Ceylon representatives, Mr. Albert Peries, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Minister of Industries. Accompanying them are Sir Lalita Rajapakse, Minister of Justice, and Mr. R. St. L. P. Deraniyagala. They will be leaving for Canada on August 25. Sir John will be joining them in September. The Conference which will last a week, begins on September 8, and will be attended by delegations from all the Commonwealth countries, when various problems common to the Commonwealth will be

discussed. While in the United Kingdom, Sir John will attend the Farnborough Air Display and Exhibition of British Aircraft Constructors. He has been invited to address the World Association of Parliamentarians who are having their second Parliamentary Conference in London.

MAY VISIT JAPANESE EMPEROR

After the Conference at Ottawa concludes Sir John proposes to visit Japan and call on the Japanese Emperor, and also discuss matters relating to trade between Japan and Ceylon with the officials there. He hopes to visit Washington and San Francisco before returning to Ceylon about the end of September.

CEYLON STUDENT'S EXPERIENCES IN AMERICA

(Continued from page 9)

the fourth anniversary of Ceylon's independence. Since all the students in International House enjoy celebrating one another's national festivals, he had offers of unlimited help from his fellow-students with the result that a Ceylonese dinner for forty-five guests was arranged as a joint effort. The guest of honour was Mr. G. S. Peiris of the Ceylon Embassy in Washington. After the dinner two movies were shown, "Song of Ceylon" and the "Enchanted Isle," to a crowded house. It was a most thrilling day for him, states Mr. Vitanage, who concludes thus:

"This and other experiences I have had in America are not, to me, merely pleasant events in a strange land. In the prevailing atmosphere of fellowship I have found it possible to lose the sense of being a foreigner and to feel at one with Americans and with people from other countries. That, I think, is a step toward world citizenship."

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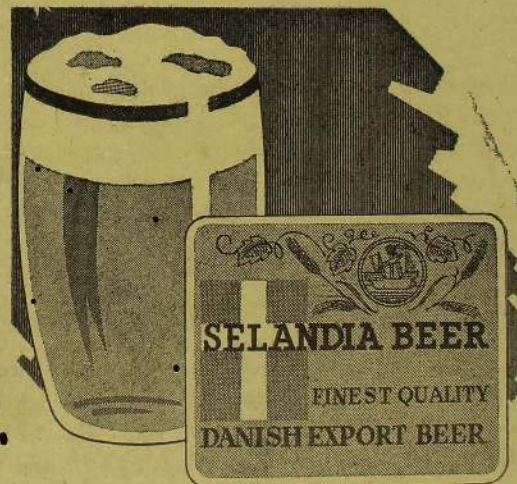
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THIS well-known Office commenced operations in Ceylon in the year 1906 and it can truly be said that the Association has pioneered Life Assurance in the Island. The very large volume of business that is now written by it is ample testimony of the goodwill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



COLOMBO BUILDING

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

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

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

FOR PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

F. R. CONNOLLY,

Manager for South-Eastern Asia.

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