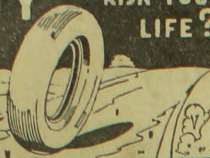


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Colombo-Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme In Action

ITS ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE JUNE 1950

THE Colombo Plan Scheme came into existence in December, 1950, and has been operating for about twenty-two months. The original members were Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and the United Kingdom and a Council was set up in Colombo to administer the Scheme. Cambodia and Viet Nam joined during 1951 and early last year they were followed by Burma and Nepal. In addition, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand have been represented by observers at most meetings of the Council. This month Indonesia has joined the C-Plan. The Indonesian Minister of Information has stated that Indonesia's participation in the Plan will strengthen her relations with India and Pakistan.

One of a number of Government-sponsored schemes is the C-Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme, intended to increase the supply of trained men and women in the undeveloped countries. It is a deli-

berate attempt by the Governments of developed countries, mainly at their own expense, to spread knowledge of the techniques by which their people have succeeded in becoming relatively prosperous. It was originally intended that the scheme should operate for a three-year period from July 1, 1950. By the end of 1951, however, it was clear that the speed with which a scheme of this kind could be brought into operation had been over-estimated. The Council for Technical Co-operation, therefore, decided last April that the scheme should continue to run for the same period as the economic development part of the Colombo Plan, that is, until June 30, 1957.

ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

Statistics are a useful way of indicating what is happening. The figures show that under the Technical Co-operation Scheme up to June 30, 1952, negotiations had been completed for the provision of 65 experts, 24 to Ceylon, 10 to India and 31 to Pakistan. Negotiations were

proceeding for a further 124. Arrangements had been made for 548 students to receive practical or academic training overseas; 121 from Ceylon, 198 from India, 163 from Pakistan, and 66 from other parts of the South and South-East Asia region. Pakistan had undertaken to provide one Ceylonese with practical experience in the construction of concrete and earth dams and allied work. Of the experts who have come to Ceylon, five have been concerned with industries, four with fisheries, four with agriculture, two with education and two with tuberculosis (Dr. Barlow and his anaesthetist) and the remaining seven include an actuary, an economist, a waterworks engineer and a cost accountant. Students from Ceylon have gone overseas, mainly to get

practical experience in such subjects as Veterinary and Agricultural Science, engineering of all kinds, dental, nursing and other branches of medicine, civil aviation, highway construction, customs administration, education, broadcasting, statistics and economics and poultry keeping. In addition to the exchanges that have taken place under the C-Plan Scheme, many experts and scholarships have been provided by the United Nations Agencies. Technical co-operation on an organized international basis is still fairly new and there is scope for a good deal of development in working out techniques which will produce the best results. As the Colombo Plan Scheme will now run

(Continued on page 7)

PRIME MINISTER'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

The Blessing of Political Stability

THE Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, sends the following message for the New Year:

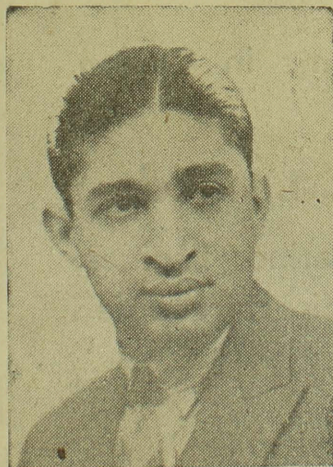
"It gives me much pleasure to send you these greetings. It is natural that on such an occasion we should look back and consider our country's progress during the course of the year that is just over.

"We can draw a measure of justifiable satisfaction from such a review.

"We have enjoyed the blessing of political stability; our people have almost with one accord decided that democracy and not the forces of totalitarianism should govern the land; our pact with China should go a long way towards solving the present food problem, while the steady progress of our agricultural schemes promises a future of prosperity. Indeed in almost every branch of life we have known success and progress, much of which was due to the efforts and the example left us by the late Prime Minister whose death is the most tragic blow the country has taken in many years.

"But this should not make us feel unduly optimistic or cause us to relax into the lethargy of complacency.

"Though much has been done, much more remains to be done and all of us should dedicate ourselves to the task of bringing prosperity and happiness to our people.

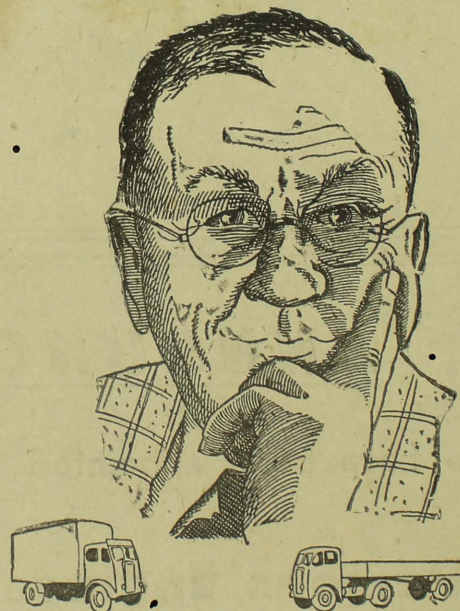


Mr. Dudley Senanayake

"The Athenians considered that men who are not interested in the country's good are not merely lazy but useless. Such a spirit we must allow to grow amongst us.

"And to me it appears that the best way in which each of us can contribute to the common good is to do that task which is allotted to us and to do it well.

"Let us therefore face the future with the courage and the determination to build a Ceylon that is better and happier than the Ceylon we have known up to now."



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THE MALDIVIAN REPUBLIC INAUGURATED

Change-Over on New Year's Day

AFTER over eight centuries' Government by a Sultanate, the Maldivian Republic became a Republic, the change-over taking place on New Year's Day, when the new form of Government was inaugurated at Male, the capital, with much pomp and ceremony, and Mr. Amin Didi, who had been the Prime Minister for several years was declared President.

The Constitution of this newly-proclaimed Republic was described as "unique" by the author who drafted it, Sir Ivor Jennings, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ceylon, who was present at the inaugural ceremony. The Constitution included provision to enable the President to assume the office of Prime Minister as well if the necessity arose. Such provision is said to be useful for a small country such as the Maldives.

The election of a President and

the 47 members of the House of the People will take place once every five years. The Senate consists of 18 members, nine of whom are nominated by the President. Male is divided into four wards each administered by a Headman. The headman of each ward is advised by a Council elected by the people. Each ward has a Government school, a Government restaurant and other amenities.

THE INAUGURATION

Ceylon was represented at the ceremony by Major Montague Jayawickrama, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence and External Affairs. Sir Cecil Syers and Lady Syers accompanied by Major and Mrs. Jayawickrama, Sir Ivor Jennings and Commander Royce de Mel, took their seats on the platform where the Cabinet Ministers had assembled, together with the Atoll Chiefs. As the 47 representatives of the House of the People including 8 women walked up to the

Durbar Hall, they were followed by the 18 Senators led by Mrs. Fathima Ibrahim Didi, President of the Senate. Four of the Senators were women—the first occasion in the history of the Maldives when women were elected to represent the people.

The Chief Justice, after offering prayers and verses from the Koran, administered the oath of office to Mr. Didi and handed him a sword, the symbol of the power of his office of President of the Maldivian Republic. A salute of 21 guns greeted the first President while the band played the Maldivian National Anthem.

Then followed the signing of a new agreement between the United Kingdom and the Maldivian Islands, the signatories being Sir Cecil Syers and Mr. Amin Didi, the President.

MESSAGE FROM THE QUEEN

The following message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was then read by Sir Cecil Syers.

"I send to you and to your people sincere greetings from myself and my people in the United Kingdom. It is my earnest hope that the ties of comradeship and mutual interest which have so naturally united our two island peoples will be continued and strengthened in the years to come. For the future we wish you good luck, fair winds and calm waters"

NOT A BRITISH PROTECTORATE

There used to be the impression in the minds of many that the Maldivian Islands were a British Protectorate, judging perhaps from the fact that an annual tribute was paid to the British Governor of Ceylon—that quaint and picturesque presentation witnessed in Colombo. The real position has now been clarified by the Information Officer attached to the office of the United Kingdom High Commissioner.

"The Maldivian Islands have never been a Protectorate of the British Government. The Maldivian Islands' celebrations of January 1 were held to celebrate an internal constitutional change from a Sultanate to a Republic. Because of the Constitutional change, a new treaty between Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Maldivian Government became necessary, but relations between the two Governments are in fact in principle the same, now that the Maldives are a Republic, as they were when the Maldives was a Sultanate. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have nothing whatsoever to do with the internal affairs of the Maldives, but as under the Agreement of 1948, and in accordance with the wishes of the peoples of the Maldives, the foreign relations of the Islands will continue to be conducted through, or on the advice of Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. The intermediary will be the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Ceylon."

MESSAGE FROM CEYLON PREMIER

The following message from Mr. Dudley Senanayake, Prime Minister of Ceylon, was handed over by Ceylon's Representative at the inaugural ceremony:—

(Continued on page 8)

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A YEAR OF DECISION DAWNS

By Stanley Morrison

AFTER the economic tribulations and political storms of the year just ended everyone looks forward to the year 1953 to bring them a release from the anxieties and insecurities that hang like an incubus over them. There is, however, no doubt that if the world does not move into calmer waters this year, then things will get worse and not better. And if things get worse, it will mean more victories for Communism and the increasing loss of faith of the common people in the democratic way of life. This, therefore, is the challenge—Democracy or Communism? And this year the challenge will become more insistent since the prosperity and general economic stability which prevailed over the years 1950 to 1951 have given way to a condition of economic depression with its attendant evils of unemployment and mass dependency. Hopes of a great new era of general prosperity and an advance to a better order of life have receded and the bewildered peoples of the democratic world do not know where to turn for a fresh move forward into the Better World that was promised them after the war.

Will the Democracies be equal to the challenge of these troubled times? The answer depends on the United States of America and Great Britain. They alone, on the Democratic side, are dynamic enough and resourceful enough to devise the means to end the present world crisis and to give the peoples in the Democratic Bloc the leadership they badly want to bring them to the Promised Land. As the year 1953 dawned all eyes were turned towards the new President-elect of the U.S.A., General Eisenhower, who assumes his terrific responsibilities on January 20th this year. There is no doubt that in him the Democratic World has a leader of world stature and that he is infused with a spirit of idealism and a daring resolve to break new ground in order to save the nations who look to him from the horrors of a new war and the trials and sufferings of the economic crisis that hamstring every effort of the Democratic peoples to lift themselves up from the helpless condition in which the year 1952 found them.

In General Eisenhower the democratic world possesses the right leader. But great though he is, alone he cannot do it. He must have the willing co-operation of the American Congress. Will he have that co-operation? Unfortunately, the signs are not too propitious. The hopes that the very slim majority the Republicans hold in Congress would lead to some compromise with the Democrats are belied by the latest cables from Washington, which state that there is every prospect that the Southern Democrats and the Republicans will be, more or less, allied on all major issues. It is only too well known that the Southern Democrats are the anti-progressive wing of the Democratic Party and strenuously opposed every progressive measure President Truman introduced—particularly his Civil Rights Bill whereby he sought to enforce equal rights for American Negroes. This lineup between the last democratic element of the Democratic Party and the Republicans is likely to prove a terrible handicap to the high-souled General who becomes President of the United States this month.

But if the American Congress fails to support the new President of the U.S.A., in the measures he puts

forward, after consultation with his experts, for correcting the downward trend of world trade and for bringing peace to a war-torn world, then certainly the Democratic Bloc is in for a thin time and the 83rd American Congress will go down in history as the Congress that wrecked the Democratic world. But, as against this dark side of the picture, there is a bright side. That is to say, there are powerful factors working to defeat the anti-progressives in the American Congress. One of these factors is General Eisenhower himself. He is not a man to be trifled with. He did not win World War II to be defeated by the least progressive elements in the American Congress. The second factor is American public opinion. It was this public opinion, irrespective of party, which gave him the colossal voting strength a President-elect, and there is no doubt that these 33 millions of Americans who voted for him will be behind him in every good thing he may wish to do for the benefit of the American people and the Democratic world at large. The third factor in his favour is the Western European Democracies. They know him personally and trust him implicitly. And they will be wholly with him in any steps he sees fit to take to help an ailing world to get well and to move forward into a better era. Of course, American public opinion can be decisive. In a fight between the new President and Congress American public opinion can make it clear on which side it stands. And the world outside can only hope that ultimately General Eisenhower will be able to line up on his side the best and most progressive sections of both the Republican and Democratic Parties. If he succeeds in doing that, then the Democratic World is safe against the alarms and excursions of the Isolationists, the Dixiecrats, the Tariff Specialists and the various types of Extremists who decorate the American landscape to the discomfiture of all honest-to-goodness Americans.

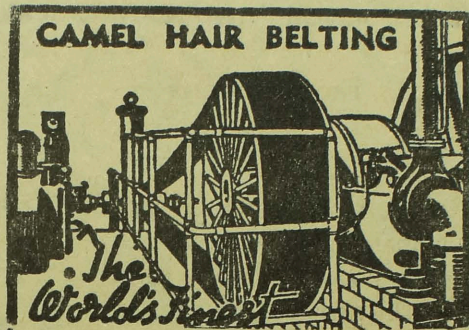
If I emphasise the part that General Eisenhower has to play on the world's stage, it is because the United States today holds the key to the success or failure of the Democratic World. And this year is going to be decisive. Two world systems are competing for the allegiance of the peoples—Democracy or Communism. The past year's economic difficulties have resulted in an increasing number of people in the East turning their eyes towards Communist and Red China has acted like a Beacon, beckoning the poverty-stricken peoples of Asia to look to her for leadership. India under the great Jawaharlal Nehru has met the challenge constructively by launching a wonderful Five-Year Plan, which is designed to set India on the road to a higher standard of life and culture for her diverse peoples. The plan is imbued with a spirit of idealism and, as Mr. Nehru said in inaugurating it, the objective of the plan is the creation of a classless society in India by evolution, not revolution. Now, the other nations of South Asia have neither the financial resources nor the technical skills to embark on such an enterprise unaided. And they look to the powerful industrial nations of the West to assist them in a humanitarian spirit. If such assistance is not given—and given without ulterior motives and without subtle desires of exploitation—then these countries will fall under the spell of Communism.

However, over all the hopes of the Democratic World there hangs the

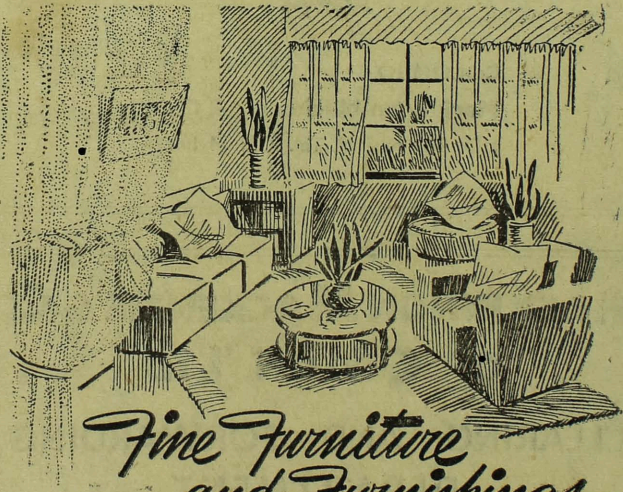
shadow of the Dark Continent of Africa. In Kenya and South Africa the things that are happening are a New Year gift to the Communists. Of what use are the howls of the Democratic Press of Britain over the Prague Trial when in Kenya and South Africa White domination has provoked passive as well as savage revolts on the part of the native Africans. Democracy must have a perfectly clean sheet if it is to confront Communism with success. Does it have that clean sheet in Africa? Africa can be the grave, not only of the White Man, but also of the whole Democratic Way of Life.

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**THE "IKE" ROUND-UP
IN KOREA**

"NOW I have a feeling for this situation," said President-elect Dwight Eisenhower as he was leaving Korea last week. He had flown 10,836 miles to Seoul, spent three days appraising the Korean war with the world's most practiced inspecting eye. He talked face to face, piling question on question, with the top U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force commanders in the Pacific, with Korea's doughty President Rhee, with European allies, U.S. diplomats, young front-line officers and G.I.s. Then he went into retreat with his staff on the U.S.S. "Helena" in mid-Pacific to translate a feeling for the situation into a course of action.

THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

In the starlit stillness of 5.30 a.m., a lonely New York policeman stamped his feet and tried to beat off the chill as he stood watch outside Ike Eisenhower's upper Manhattan residence at 60, Morningside Drive. A black Cadillac limousine rolled through the empty streets and pulled up at the curb. Two U.S. Secret Service men got out. One walked up to the cop, chatted with him and drew him away from the door. The other slipped inside. A moment later, with the cop's back turned, a quick striding man, with his felt hat drawn low and the collar of his camel's-hair coat turned up, hurried out of the house and into the limousine. Then the two agents hopped in, and the Cadillac pulled away into the night.

Ike Eisenhower was on his way to Korea, muffled in the most elaborate cloak of security the U.S. Secret Service could stitch together. As his car rolled toward Mitchell Air Force Base, the rest of his party materialized from their quiet "fadeaways" from everyday life. The three reporters assigned to the trip met at Manhattan's Pennsylvania Station, then headed out for Long Island with the Secret Service in charge. Ike's Defence Secretary Charles E. Wilson strolled slowly out of the Waldorf-Astoria without any luggage, took a cab to the south-east corner of 58th Street and Fifth Avenue. He waited only a moment before a sedan picked him up and whisked him toward Mitchell Field. There crewmen worked rapidly around two Constellations.

One by one, Ike's guests and staff tramped aboard his plane. There was his old friend and West Point classmate, General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Ike's Defence Secretary Wilson, Attorney-General Herbert Brownell, Major General Wilton B. Persons (ret.); and James Rowley, chief of the White House Secret Service detail. Ike swung up the ladder with a greeting to all hands, and at 5.55 a.m. his Constellation took off. Ten minutes later the Press plane followed. Both planes carried double crews.

WHO'S THAT GUY?

From New York, the two Constellations hopped non-stop to San Francisco, then to Honolulu, then to Medway Island. They travelled under false identification and flight numbers; over water, they were never more than 100 miles from a ship or another plane. During the fuel stops, nobody was allowed to get off. Beyond Medway, the Press plane developed engine trouble.

**CRICKET PAVILION AS MEMORIAL
TO LATE PREMIER**

MEMBERS of St. Thomas' College Old Boys' Association have resolved to erect a Cricket Pavilion as a memorial to the late Prime Minister, the Hon. D. S. Senanayake, P.C., than whom there was no one more loyal to his old school to which he brought great honour by the position he held, both in our country and indeed in the whole world.

When it messaged its plight to Ike's plane, security permitted only a cold response of "message received." The Press plane limped into Wake Island for repairs. Ike went on to Iwo Jima, landed in time for an evening pilgrimage to the Marine Corps' famed battle monument on Mount Suribachi.

When the Press contingent caught up with Ike in the morning, photographers begged him to repeat his trip to Suribachi. He agreed. On the way out, the official party transferred from a Chevrolet sedan to a jeep for the last steep part of the climb. Said Charlie Wilson, soon to resign as president of General Motors: "Why are we changing to the jeep?" Replied the driver: "That hill's too steep for the Chevrolet to make it." "Are you sure?" pressed Wilson. "I'm damned sure, sir," said the driver. When Wilson was gone, the G.I. snorted: "Who's that guy?" "Why," said Herb Brownell with delight, "he's the man who makes Chevrolets." The driver swallowed. "Oh, lordy, I put my foot in my mouth, didn't I?"

BRASS IN THE LAUNDRY

Just after 8 p.m. on Tuesday, the two Constellations put down on an icy runway at a little-used field outside Seoul. Only a bird colonel was on hand for the reception: G-2 had learned that 135 Communist agents had recently slipped into Seoul, feared that a reception by high brass might be a tipoff to Ike's arrival. Ike, bundled in an overcoat, climbed into a sedan and the convoy rolled quietly into Seoul through the windy, sub-freezing (18 degrees) night. When his car pulled up at Eighth Army headquarters, U.N. Commander Mark Clark and the Eighth Army's James Van Fleet stepped out of the shadows for a handshake and an old friends' greeting. Then they hustled Ike inside for a turkey sandwich, a cup of hot chocolate and a bull session.

That night Omar Bradley slept in Van Fleet's room, which faced on the street. Ike—on the insistence of the Secret Service—slept in a room off the street and facing the compound. And four-starred Jim Van Fleet, outranked all around, moved to an Army cot in the laundry.

They awoke to a clear, bitter-cold Wednesday. Ike put on his old battle jacket—with no rank insignia, but still sporting the flaming-sword shoulder patch of SHAPE—and wool Army trousers, then added a fur-lined Army field parka and a pile hat. First, he flew off in a little L-19 Cessna for a look at the 4th Fighter Interceptor Wing (where he asked about the capabilities of M.I.G.s) then on to a briefing at the 1st Marine Division's command post, six miles from the front and well within ground-shaking distance of Marine artillery and aerial rocket fire. In the afternoon, he arrived at I. Corps headquarters, put on his gold braid NATO overseas cap to take a salute from the shivering troops of 15 U.N. nations. Finally that night Ike got a little time alone with his son, Major John Eisenhower of the 3rd Infantry Division, who was detached from his unit to serve as Ike's aide during the Korean trip. Grandfather Eisenhower passed along the latest reports on John's three youngsters, and confided that he had bought John's wife a fur coat for Christmas.

(TIME).

Mr. Senanayake was a great sportsman. He never, if he could help it, missed the annual Royal-Thomian match and it is his shield that is year by year presented to the winning side in the encounter. Year by year he unfailingly turned up for the Old Boys' Match. A cricket pavilion, therefore, appears to be a most appropriate memorial to this loyal Thomian.

Can the Present World Crisis be Solved?

(Communicated)

IN the Modern Capitalistic Organization, any war, in which the combatants form at least a considerable proportion of the great powers is necessarily followed immediately or later by a World Crisis due to the disorganisation of industrial and agricultural organisations and also of a change in the political boundaries of the countries concerned. Such a political and economic upheaval is generally accompanied by social consequences. Thus the present crisis is economical, social and political in character.

A brief survey of the causes of the crisis is essential. When the International Market had arrested the depression of the 1930's, other disruptive forces were set in motion in Europe and Asia, in which a settlement on a compromise basis, though possible was genuinely not attempted. Germany was aspiring to world leadership which undoubtedly was perhaps, misunderstood by the other powers as a challenge to their prestige and independence and Japan was organising "A Co-Prosperity Sphere" against China and indirectly against U.S.A., U.K., and U.S.S.R. Then the aggressive policy of Germany kindled the candle and thus began a protracted war on the most gigantic scale ever known to history with Europe and East Asia as the cockpits of that struggle. The war is nothing but a tale of foul play. Yet traditional luck favoured the Allies according to the opinion of the moderate section. This is highly questionable.

Still remains the task of the division of the spoils of victory over which question no definite settlement is visible and the U.N.O. and its allied meetings end in smoke. The solution of the present world crisis do not, as is supposed, depend on mediation, conferences and plans but on the real adjustment and redistribution of the political boundaries with special reference to the world resources. But today Capitalism is faced with the growing menace of Communism. Therefore two opposing camps are again seen. Instead of Fascism, there is its counterpart Communism. The proper settlement of these problems will only prevent a depression of an unprecedented scale. Therefore it is really the economic factor that govern the political and social relations of the countries. At present, Great Britain and U.S.A. control the world market with the exception of U.S.S.R. and Japan which are fast becoming the world's greatest industrial and agricultural countries. Firstly, the political boundaries must be definitely settled to the satisfaction of the Great Powers. Secondly the Great Powers will have to adopt a compromise with regard to International Trade. Taking the most important countries, U.K.'s very existence as a power to reckon with depends on its foreign trade. In 1870, Britain with 2 per cent. of the world population made 1/3 of the world manufactures and was responsible for 2/3 of world exports but early in the present century, Germany, U.S.A. and Japan appeared as her serious rivals. With the dislocation of German, Japanese and European organisation, she will have to build a favourable balance of trade before others capture the markets. Perhaps a policy of bi-lateralism will be useful. Next a revaluation of the Pound must be in accord with that of Dollar. With the loss of India, Burma, Ceylon and the industrialisation of other Asiatic countries, would result the economic breakdown of Great Britain unless she explores other avenues to act as a compensation.

Then came the Beveridge Plan of Full Employment which aimed at reducing want, disease, ignorance and squalor by various means, e.g. controlled location of industry, organised mobility of labour, changes of Government machinery, a full policy of full employment, etc. Any way, far important are the Brettonwoods Agreement, Anglo-American Loan

Agreement and American trade policy relations. Brettonwoods Agreement provided for two international financial agencies—the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The operation of the scheme on an unprejudiced basis would be of tremendous help to the undeveloped areas. The San Francisco Charter of the U.N.O. pledged member countries to collaboration in maintaining full employment—a Utopian ideal.

As Finance is the "Grand Atmospheric" control, U.S.A. is able to yield much power in shaping the destinies of the international market. Some agreements have been discussed earlier, but reduction of trade barriers, promoting export of capital as an instrument for the planned prevention of Mass Unemployment, large scale industrial development under official international auspices, rehabilitation and reconstruction of war damage and payment of compensation to those concerned might prevent another crisis.

Now, Russia is trying to capture the East and Central European markets and the East Asiatic market. The success of this depend firstly whether Germany, Japan and Italy are permitted to industrialise themselves with subsidies from U.S.A. or not; secondly, on the industrial organisation of India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Ceylon, South-East Asia and China, which is rapidly developing; thirdly on the competition of U.S.A.; fourthly on the results of the present Protracted See-Saw Korean War; and fifthly, on new developments of Pakistan, Indo-China and especially of Middle East, Marshal Plan of U.S.A. and the United States of Europe as visualised by Mr. Churchill are two other solutions to the problem. The most important problem facing many a country is that of food with "Malthus" nightmare still haunting their minds. Starvation is more dangerous than a depression.

Then comes the countries producing the raw materials which are faced with a far more economic danger, namely East Indies and South-East Asia including India, Pakistan and Ceylon. After the war the demand for raw materials is less than the supply, which fact is accentuated more by the synthetic production of goods.

With the Conservative Government again at the helm of affairs in U.K. with her world-famous soldier-politician as its head, W. Churchill; and Dwight Eisenhower, one responsible for the victory of the Allies in the present World War, as President, there is sure to be certain changes in the direction of the activities of their respective governments, which will shape the destiny of many a country. Already the Dollar has swallowed the Sterling, which is a stumbling block to many nascent independent countries. U.S.S.R. is making use of China as a pawn to obtain the raw materials from non-Communist countries and a ready market is found for Russian manufactures in that country. More, the world is faced with a dilemma. China is willing to pay more for raw materials than the Dollar-Sterling Block. The choice is very precarious. Ceylon has just completed certain terms of an agreement to trade with China. If the block referred to is unable to help the backward countries with better payments for raw materials, it is in the interest of Ceylon to trade with China. This action of the Ceylon Government will not breed Communism in this country. More, U.K. herself exports commodities to Russia. What is her defence against this action? Then why be worried about similar action by our country? These facts and factors will illustrate the intricate nature of the World Problem which will remain unsolved as long as Human Nature remains unchanged. N.N.O. or any other organisation will not solve the problem as has been well illustrated by the "Kashmir Flare Up" and dethronement of King Farouk in Egypt.

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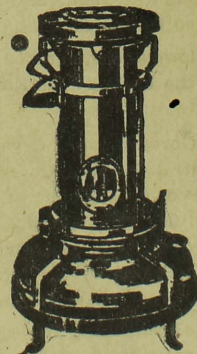
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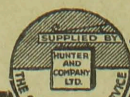


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Friday, January 9, 1953

CEYLON DAILY NEWS

The thirty-fifth anniversary of the "Ceylon Daily News" was celebrated last week with dignified references in its own columns to the event. It is a pleasure to do so in these columns because the "Daily News" is a national institution. It was begun under the best possible auspices in the sense that thirty-five years ago most people believed that Ceylonese could not run anything successfully. Mr. D. R. Wijewardene lived to see that not only was it run with great competence as a newspaper but that as a business enterprise it was equally sound. The world of commerce was littered with the debris of broken hearts and Colombo was one vast cemetery of buried hopes and aspirations of Ceylonese men of commerce. Mr. D. R. Wijewardene, with very little capital and with infinite resources of mind set out on the uncharted seas of Ceylonese journalism. He gave purpose and direction to the policy of the "Daily News" when he campaigned with unequalled vigour and persistence for political reform. He gave no heed to the very gay life of society. He declined invita-

tions of all kinds, because he felt that social contact with those whom he may have to criticise would handicap him in doing what he considered to be his duty. After all it is difficult for a cultured human being to launch an attack on someone with whom one had had intimate and pleasant social intercourse, the previous week. This decision was an act of great sacrifice and for it Mr. Wijewardene paid a heavy price. While he became a bitter critic he also lost that human touch that makes a man both great and good. He ruled his domain with ruthlessness which will never be equalled and he aimed at building up a great newspaper and achieved his purpose. Once the newspaper was fairly started he spared no expense to give his readers all the news that was fit to print. In order to achieve this he had to be a hard man and old hands who worked under him might with justice say that the paper was printed not only with ink but with tears. Withal he left to the nation at his death one of the soundest commercial enterprises in Ceylon. He left a building which was one of the best designed in the Island. He left a newspaper without peer. We record this tribute to our contemporary on this occasion with sincere feelings of pride in being able to be associated in the sphere of journalism with so eminent a sister journal. We have had occasion to tilt at each other, but that does not distract us from our unreserved admiration of the greatness which it still enjoys.

CHINA TRADE PACT RATIFIED.

AT a meeting of the Cabinet which lasted nearly five hours the Trade Pact between China and Ceylon was ratified.

The contracts for the sale of the island's rubber to China and the purchase of rice from that country in respect of the year 1953 were also ratified by the Cabinet.

The following communique was issued to the Press by Sir Kanthiah Vaithianathan:—

"The Government of Ceylon and the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China have ratified the following agreements which were recently negotiated in Peking by the representatives of the two Governments:

- (a) A Government Trade Agreement signed in Peking on 4th October, 1952;
- (b) A Five-Year Trade Agreement relating to the purchase and sale of rubber and rice, and two contracts for rubber and rice in respect of the year 1953, all of which were signed in Peking on 8th December, 1952.

"In accordance with the understanding between the two Governments these agreements will come into operation between them as from 1st January, 1953."

F. R. Senanayake Remembrance Day Celebrations

F. R. SENANAYAKE Remembrance Day, 1st January, was observed this year with due solemnity by the Senanayake Gunanusmarana Sabha by a public meeting held at Ananda College hall followed by a procession to the statue near the Town Hall at the foot of which wreaths were placed as a tribute to the departed leader.

Mr. A. Ratnayake, Minister of Home Affairs, who presided at the public meeting, referred to the late Mr. F. R. Senanayake, the national leader, who not only was a perfect man who practised what he preached but also rendered valuable service to the country. He was a fearless patriot and a deeply religious man whose example should be followed by his countrymen.

Referring to the services rendered by the Senanayake family to the country Mr. Ratnayake said that the Independence Movement started by Mr. F. R. Senanayake was finally realised by his brother, the late Mr. D. S. Senanayake. The best way to preserve the country's newly won freedom was to remain united. Unity among the various nationals in Ceylon was the greatest strength they could acquire.

Ven. Seenimodera Deerananda Thero who spoke next said that the best tribute one could pay for the late patriot would be to give up at least one "bad" habit, like smoking, drinking or gambling from that day.

The Mayor of Colombo, Mr. C. T. Grero, who placed a wreath at the foot of the statue, promised to consider the question of having a permanent light to illuminate the Senanayake statue at night.

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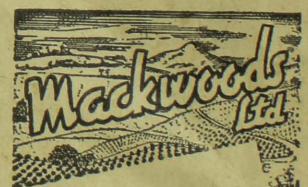
UNITED NATIONAL PARTY

INDEPENDENCE SOUVENIR

Feb. 4th, 1953

Pictures of Topical Interest will be gratefully received.

Compiler, P. O. Box 751,
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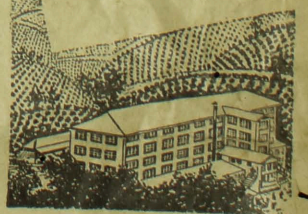


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MORAL RE-ARMAMENT ASSEMBLY AT NEW DELHI

Message From Ceylon Premier

A PERSONAL message from Mr. Dudley Senanayake, the Premier, describing the "unflagging enthusiasm" and "seriousness" of members of the Moral Re-Armament Movement when they were in Colombo recently, was delivered to Dr. Frank Buchman, Leader of the Movement, at the assembly held on the 30th December at New Delhi, where a ten-day conference is being held, attended by 400 delegates from many countries.

The Premier's message was handed to Dr. Buchman by Senator L. L. Hunter, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Finance and Leader of the Ceylon delegation.

Mr. Hunter reported on the practical results of the M.R.A. visit to Ceylon. They included families reunited, settlement of a strike that threatened the Colombo Port, and creation of a new tradition in villages and estates where employers were providing better sanitation, wages and economic conditions for workers. Mr. Hunter spoke of the effect of M.R.A. on his own Parliamentary life. "Distinctions of race, community, creed, caste and social status should never again influence my life," he added.

In the Premier's speech, describing the visit to Ceylon, he said: "Their plays and meetings, their unflagging enthusiasm, seriousness and—paradoxical though it may sound—gaiety, left an abiding impression in the hearts of the people of Ceylon."

M.R.A. WAY FOR INDUSTRY

This is the story of two men in the coal industry.

One is the managing director of a group of mines employing 27,000 workers, at Gelsenkirchen in the Ruhr. His name is Hans Dutting.

The other is the leader of the 27,000 workers, Paul Dikus, the Chairman of the Works Council. These two men represent the opposite poles of management and labour. They are both in their forties, both fighters. Between them was continual collision, tension and deadlock.

But they changed. And the one who led the way was the managing director.

"HIS CHANGE BOWLED US OVER"

Says Dikus, the labour leader: "When director Dutting first went in for Moral Re-Armament we workers just laughed. But his change was

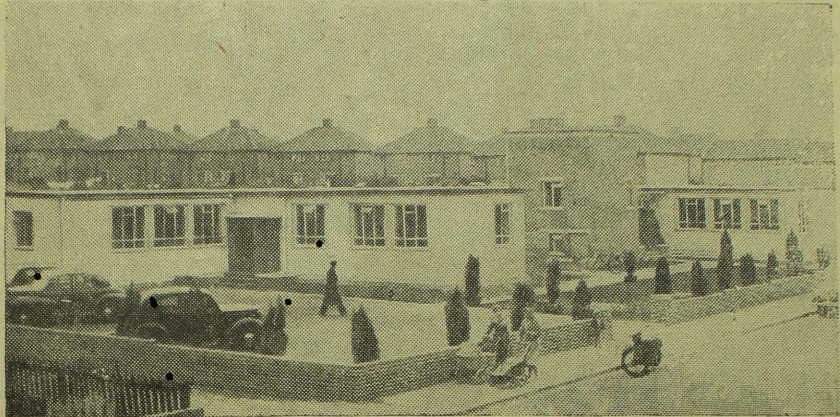
completely bowled us over. A few years ago I did everything possible to prevent his being appointed to his present position. Now I stand beside him."

Dutting says: "I have had to alter my whole idea of the nature and purpose of industry. There is a great task before us employers. If we are going to live out these four absolute moral standards in the way that is demanded of us there are

Armament to the heavy industries of the Ruhr. Together they invited the industrial play 'The Forgotten Factor' to come to Gelsenkirchen. It was seen by 120 thousand men and women in Germany, mainly from the coal and steel industries.

They took the biggest hall in the city, for a Moral Re-armament demonstration for the whole of the Ruhr. On the invitation of the Minister, Presidents of five of the

German Provinces, warmly supported by the Federal Chancellor, Dr. Adenauer, Dr. Frank Buchman addressed this assembly. With him spoke Dutting and Dikus, and a strong group of Ruhr miners, some of them former Communists of 25 years' standing. It was here that the French Government invested Dr. Buchman with the Legion of Honour for his contribution to Franco-German understanding.



BRISTOL HEALTH CENTRE—The opening recently of Bristol's new health centre at their Knowle West housing estate is an important experiment in the early life of Britain's National Health Service. The Act empowered local authorities to build, equip and maintain health centres. Although one or two places have been adapted for this purpose, the new premises at Knowle West are the first to be built specifically as a health centre. The new health centre at Bristol. Doctors' suites and surgery run along full width at the back. Front wings contain main waiting-room and offices (On Right) and the staff room (On Left).

going to be sacrifices in time and money and many other material things, too. We have to remake the world. That is an idea for which it is worth working and sacrificing.

"I SAY YES TO M.R.A."

Paul Dikus goes on: "I have been a Socialist for twenty-five years. The class war has been painted on our banners. I realise this is not the way to find a solution between management and labour.

"In our pits we are now demonstrating how you can get the answer to all problems on the basis of what is right for all, without class warfare. Therefore, I, as a worker, say an absolutely clear 'Yes' to Moral Re-Armament."

Dutting says: "It isn't only the task of management to produce good conditions in industry. We must take the initiative far beyond that and see that this ideology goes all over the world and builds unity between nations."

Dutting and Dikus decided that they must get the ideas of Moral Re-

Colombo-Plan Technical Co-operation Scheme in Action

(Continued from page 1)

until June 30, 1957, arrangements can be made and contracts entered into for the supply of experts, training equipment and training facilities on a long-term basis, and there is thus a real opportunity to build up permanent institutions in the countries of the area.

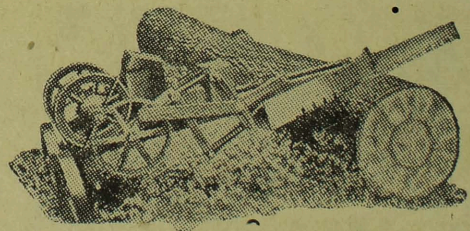
FLEXIBILITY OF SCHEME

One of the main strengths of the Colombo Plan Scheme is its great flexibility. It operates on a Government to Government basis, with the Council and the small Bureau that the Council has set up to assist its work, exercising a general co-ordinating function and giving whatever help they can in ensuring that requests for assistance are met. There is no red tape and practically no rules. New ideas are constantly

being thrown up and are considered on their merits. In this way there is a continuous process of development and the scheme can be, and is being continually adapted to the needs of the area. In the words of the Constitution, "technical assistance provided under the scheme will be arranged on a bilateral basis by agreement between co-operating Governments, and the terms and conditions upon which assistance is rendered will, in every case, a matter for the Governments concerned." The functions of the Council and of the Bureau are to act as a clearing house for information to reconcile divergent views to initiate action on the requests for assistance made by Governments, to make recommendations on matters of policy with regard to the operation of the scheme and generally to supervise its operation.

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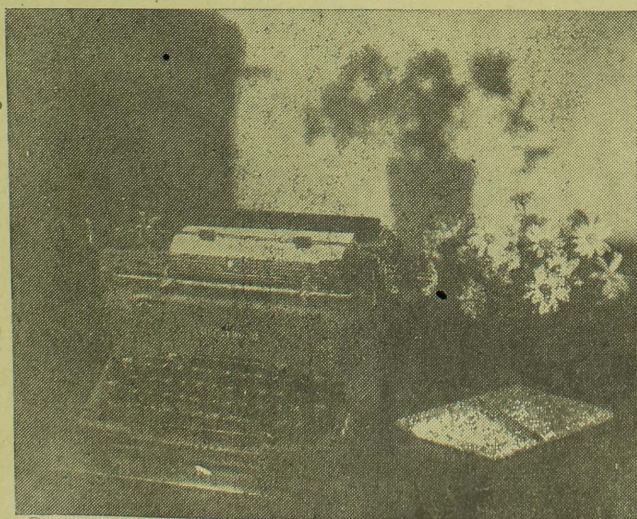
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HONG-KONG, CITY OF CONTRASTS

INFORMED travellers on their way round the world are now insisting on four and five day stop-overs in this tiny British colony. For years the busy city has been a favourite of foreigners stationed in the Far East. Not only is it a shopper's paradise rewarding even for a visit of a few hours, but now that more hotel space is becoming available, the casual traveller can also share in the cosmopolitan life of the beautiful Chinese port.

This bastion of the British Empire in the East is best seen from a Pan American Clipper which circles over tiny islands, through gaps in the steep hills, flies over the steamships in the harbour, past modern apartment houses perched on the mountains, and over hundreds of characteristic Chinese junks before it lands at the Kai Tak airport.

CITY OF CONTRASTS

Like most of the Far East, Hong-kong is a city of contrasts. The newest British and American cars dodge Chinese coolies jog-trotting along with their rickshaws. Narrow, winding streets, ladder-like in their steepness, lead abruptly to white, modern skyscrapers. Latten sails of junks patched with a thousand scraps of cloth are silhouetted against sleek Navy cruisers. At night the peaceful flashing signs in Chinese advertising American soft drinks as "good for the tummy" contrast with the slow probing of the military searchlights in their normal hunt for smugglers at the harbour entrances.

"Wait till you get to Hong Kong," is the usual advice to the round-the-world shopper. The reason is simple. Hong Kong is one of the world's few free ports. No duties are assessed on most of the merchandise which overflows the shelves and tables of its thousands of shops and markets. This means that manufactured goods from all over the world are sold here cheaper than in the country in which they were made.

Hong Kong is the only place left in China where Chinese goods are available for the free world. Hundreds of factories from Shanghai and Canton have moved down into the 391 square-mile Crown Colony and are busy turning out brocade, summer Shantung suits, camphor-wood chests, carved ivory, jade, porcelain and silk.

SHOPPING CENTRE

Advice on the unusual buys which make the colony the shopping cen-

tre of the Far East can be obtained at the local Pan American office.

Oriental brocades, 27" wide, can be purchased for Rs. 6 a yard. Silk women's blouses, hand embroidered either long or short-sleeved, sell for Rs. 3 to Rs. 33/8. Hand-loomed Harris Tweeds, 29" wide, come for Rs. 14/4 a yard. Jade costs anywhere from Rs. 9/8 up. Wedgewood China, service for 12, sells from Rs. 214/4 up. Carved teakwood nested tables can be obtained for Rs. 100 for a set of four.

One of the minor miracles of Hong Kong is the tailoring. Tiny shops can produce a suit for a man in less than 24 hours with two fittings included. The speed depends on an intricate system of couriers to subcontractors, the button holes, for instance, being sewn by a lightning artist perhaps several blocks away.

Hong Kong itself is an island about ten minutes by big ferry boats from the Kowloon peninsular which itself leads to a broad strip of land leased from the Chinese Government. The hotels, mostly in Kowloon, vary from the stately old Peninsular Hotel with its cool, high-ceilinged rooms and the type of punctilious service one expects in a British Colony, to the brand new, air conditioned Miramar, still extending its wings. The hotel shortage is acute, but the airline will make reservations ahead. Single rooms come at Rs. 19 to Rs. 38 a night.

SIGHT-SEEING BY RICKSHAW

The visitor usually does his shopping in the morning and sight-seeing by car or on foot or in a rickshaw in the afternoon. Most fun is the ride on the cable railway to the Victoria Peak, a vantage point with a pleasant little restaurant over-looking the entire harbour on one side and the odd-looking islands stretching away toward the Portuguese colony of Macan, forty miles away, on the other. Besides the Peak, one should not miss the amusing Tiger Balm gardens with the impressive Pagoda and the beach life on the shores of Repulse Bay.

The sophisticated major restaurants provide all the variety one could desire from authentic Cantonese dinners to the best French and Russian menus. One adventure is a fish dinner in the floating restaurant at Aberdeen, a main port for the thousands of fishing junks. One reaches this restaurant by sampan and has the privilege of choosing what fish to eat out of a large tank of live fish attached to the side of the boat. No meal anywhere in Hong Kong, even with wine and all the trimmings cost more than Rs. 19 and usually much less.

The Maldivian Republic Inaugurated

(Continued from page 2)

"Your Excellency, I am happy to be able to send you through our representative, Mr. Montague Jayawickrama, greetings and warmest congratulations from the Government and people of Ceylon on this occasion of the inauguration of your country as a Republic.

"Ceylon and the Maldivian Islands have had very close associations with each other for many years and having only recently acquired our own independence, we in Ceylon can readily share the pride and pleasure your people must feel today.

"We look forward to seeing the new Republic take her place in the family of free nations and extend to you and to your colleagues every good wish for the future. I avail myself of this opportunity to convey

to Your Excellency the assurance of the highest consideration."

PRESIDENT'S REPLY

Mr. Amin Didi in reply said: "My dear Prime Minister, permit me to thank you most sincerely for your very kind letter sent through your representative, Mr. Montague Jayawickrama, conveying to the people of the Maldives and myself warm congratulations from the Government and people of Ceylon on the occasion of the inauguration of our new Constitution. As you so rightly reminded me, associations between our two countries have always been most cordial and may I say, affectionate.

"I have no doubt that our close connections will be further strengthened as the years glide by."

STALIN AND RUMANIA

By Eardley Gunasekera

IN Rumania, the world is witnessing the curious and seemingly paradoxical phenomenon of seeing "Titoism" imposed by its enemy, Stalin himself. Accompanying it is the annihilation of Rumania's top Communists. They have been replaced by less able men whose chief virtue seems to be that they parade as "nationalists" and are in fact considered by Stalin himself as more acceptable to the dissatisfied Rumanian people.

Patrascanu, who for nearly thirty years had fought the cause of the Rumanian people and "was for some time Minister of Justice, died unhonoured and unsung in a nameless prison. Vasile Luca, former Minister of Finance, was dismissed from the Central Committee of the party and was further subjected to the most humiliating abuse. The same fate befell Teohari Georgescu, Minister of the Interior in the Rumanian Government. But the most spectacular of these degradations was that of the Foreign Minister, Anna Pauker. The Stalinists adopted a very different technique in her case. They did not specifically expel her from any post but conveniently removed her name from the lists of members of the Politburo and from the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party. It is so difficult to understand why Pauker at one time the most ardent and trustworthy agent of Moscow, should end up in the manner of Rajk of Hungary, Slansky and Clementis in Czechoslovakia and the many other party "yes" men of satellite Communist countries.

This is not the finale to the Rumanian purge of Russian Communists because a considerable section of the Ministry of the Interior have been victimised in a similar fashion. Lothar Radeceanu who had gone so far as to take over the leadership of the Socialist party only to betray it to the Communists, was excluded from the Politburo and the Central Committee. One begins to wonder why people who had done so much to further the interests of Communists should be rewarded in a manner so degrading. The reason is no other than the fact that it is only the Stalinists and the extreme Cominformists who occupy strategic positions in the bureaucracy. Anna Pauker whose life was closely knit with those of the workers was ultimately to be reduced to nothingness. "She has hundreds of thousands of disciples and no hostile force will henceforth be able to darken the light which she spreads," the Ministry of Propaganda described her. But what no hostile force was able to do her own party, the Communist party did for her. Luca who was described as having "tireless energy and his conscience fanned into flame" was also finally to come to an inglorious end.

One cannot characterize the process which has just begun in Rumania as a mere repetition of what has happened in other satellite countries. On this occasion Moscow has

shown greater perspicacity. "Titoism" has been fought in other places by the ruthless and vehement elimination of all "national" elements together by their replacement with Muscovites. The universal tendency is to replace native Communist elements dismissing them on the grounds that they are losing class consciousness or are not "toeing the party line." In Rumania, however, the battle against "national" Communism is being carried on at the expense of inveterate non-nationalists. All this is part of the intensive campaign against complete annexation of Rumania by Russia. It is engineered to make Rumanian Communists understand that they will be left "to make their dirt alone."

Anna Pauker who had always been a faithful servant in the Moscow regime was discarded and cast to the anti-Stalinist Communists and anti-Semitic Rumanian wolves, now being substituted by Geortiva Dej not because he was held in greater esteem by the Muscovites but because he was stupid enough to receive instructions from a panel of advisers. Formerly a woman of superb figure and personally Anna Pauker is hagged, depressed and uncared for. It is no surprise for Pauker is conversant with the slow and inexorable process which winds up on the scaffold or with the weighty cargo of lead in your heart. But after the slow relentless process of extraction of confessions she will come into the prison cell, the show trial culminating in liquidation.

Quite unfortunately the macabre experience of Pauker was insufficient to teach the senseless fanatic extremists and the power thirsty sycophants who labour so hard for the victory of Stalinism, the fate that awaits all of them once the regime they serve is consolidated. Again and again Anna Pauker was sent to jail by King Carol and tortured by the Rumanian Security Police. Having been favoured with slave labour in the Rumanian salt mines Pauker was later pardoned only to be re-arrested and punished for her Jewish "instincts" as for her Communist faith. But in 1940 by the grace of the Hitler-Stalin Pact she earned once more her freedom whereupon she went to Moscow to learn how to tether the reins of Stalinist dictatorship to her mother country. Her efforts to do this had failed at least from the Russian point of view and it is the Russian concept to do away with those elements who in their opinion failed to further the interests of Moscow.

This is what is happening in Rumania today and it is Stalin's modus operandi to be done with the nationalist Communist element in Rumania and replace them by the Communist stooges of Moscow. Whether they will ultimately be completely successful I dare not pass verdict but with a fair degree of uncertainty I can say that in the face of violence, oppression and terror tactics the stout hearted spirit is bound to crumble some time.

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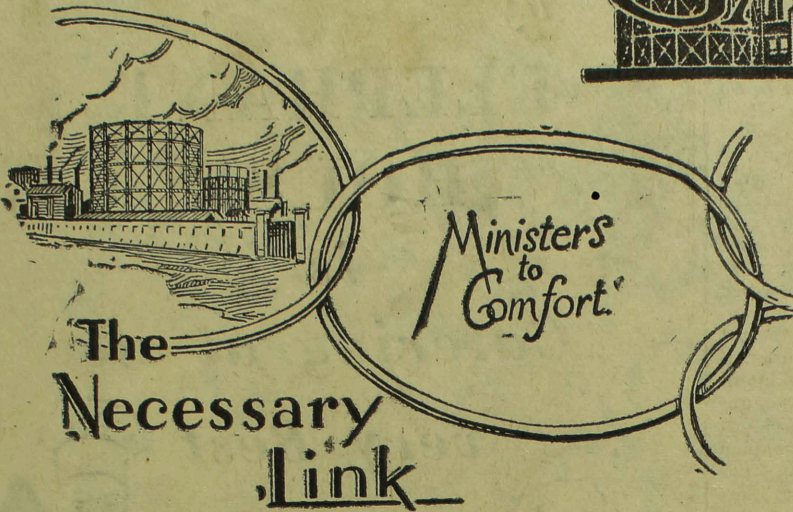
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Short Story

"NOT, SO LONG AGO"

By Shirley J. Payoe

NOW, from this safe distance of time when I no longer run the risk of being kept after school, I can record dispassionately a forgotten story about our teacher. My classmates of long ago will remember this incident which led to my being dealt a stinging blow on the cheek with her open palm! Incidentally, that was about the one and only occasion we had of seeing our teacher in any angry mood like a tornado. But to begin at the beginning.....

I had then just started going to my first school. It was a modest establishment which my mature cousins, who were attending big colleges and convents, referred to as the *takaran iscolaya*. Truth to tell, my first school was a zinc-shed; box-like, ill-ventilated and insufficiently lighted. What it lacked in air-conditioning and mere sham show, it made up in pure scholastic achievements; later, at least a couple of savants and a pandit or two, who had rounded off their careers in foreign universities, looked back with esteem at their old school and remembered with gratitude the teacher under whom they mastered the *Sinhala Hodiya* or the English alphabet.

Our teacher, she was baby-faced, with smooth brow, button-nose, puffy cheeks, and was entirely different from the conventional idea of a dried-up spinster. She used to take up her point of vantage before the class every morning and lead the happy chorus: C.A.T.—cat, H.A.T.—hat, M.A.T.—mat. And she used to lead the games, or teach us simple rhymes such as the ones about *Ma Weni Bellinda* and the *Black Sheep* that reserved its wool for its master and not for the *Little Boy* living down the Lane. Of course, the older boys and girls in the class were set difficult lessons from the *New Method* or *Raja's Picture Lesson Book*. There were nearly twenty of us young scholars on the roll, both boys and girls, including *Nalini*, teacher's own child.

I happened to be not more than so high at the time, and, as you will presently see for yourselves, I was quite tactless and inexperienced. So much so that my mother would not trust me to cross the Main Road all by myself. It was the age when I felt quite big, but others thought different! To accompany me to and from school and to act generally in the manner of a guardian angel, we had a servant boy, *Banda* by name. He was a little older than I.

With my hand in his, I would set off from home each morning, slate tucked under the arm-pit, hair combed and carefully parted in the centre and my canvas shoes, which mother so dutifully whitened in the evenings, spick and span and properly laced under her vigilant eye. Her words of caution would ring in my ears only till I got out of the gate, but—come to think of it!—*Banda* and I behaved on the road, thereafter unconcernedly like heavily insured and armour-plated jay-walkers.

One bright morning I walked to school rather pensively. The previous evening an uncle of mine had said: "Find out from your teacher whether she likes to marry me." He appeared to be serious. There was not a trace of joking in his voice.

I knew my teacher was a widow, but I was broad-minded enough not to be alarmed at the idea of my uncle wanting to marry a widow. It was after all his business.

Blood flowed thicker than water in my veins—I was all eager to help my relative. Yet, I was stuck by a doubt the moment I entered the school premises. So I confided in a friend and asked his opinion.

"Tell her when she comes. Tell teacher that your uncle wishes to marry her. She might even like the idea!" *Shelton* advised.

(Continued on page 11)

Island-Wide Water Supply Schemes

44 Town Supplies and 105 for Rural Areas

A COMPREHENSIVE scheme for water supplies to towns and rural areas has been undertaken by the Ministry of Local Government. There are in all forty-four town supply schemes and 105 rural supply schemes. Several of these schemes are under investigation, but as the Waterworks Branch of the P.W.D. is not in a position to undertake all the schemes, it has been decided to entrust the work on certain schemes such as Jaffna and for other towns in the neighbourhood and south of Colombo to a team of French engineers. It is anticipated that this would be a more speedy means of solving the water problem in Jaffna and in the areas outlying Colombo. In addition to these, a major water supply scheme for Kandy has been decided, by the Waterworks Branch of the P.W.D., and tenders have been called for the design of the scheme. A sum of Rs. 7,500,000 was provided under the loan scheme for the construction of these water supply schemes. A further sum of Rs. 423,242 has been provided under the Loan Scheme for 1952-53. The following schemes, for which monies have been released, are under preparation or under construction by the Waterworks Branch of the P.W.D.

Anuradhapura Emergency Scheme	23,340
Puttalam	251,500
Beralapanathara	33,438
Kalatuwawa	1,000,000
Thimbrigaspitiya	26,000
Hali Ela	93,000
Vavuniya	215,000
Marichikuddy	34,000
Bogowantalawa Improvements	14,750
Palugama	39,500
Gampola Improvements	5,250
Balangoda	170,259
Nainativu	187,000
Vidatativu	80,000
TOTAL	6,786,787

Schemes for Vankalai and Deniyaya have also been drawn up, and resolutions for the release of the necessary funds will be submitted to Parliament shortly. The estimated cost of the Kalatuwawa Augmentation Scheme has risen from Rs. 10,500,000 to Rs. 14 million (approximately). Government has already given a sum of Rs. 5,250,000 being 50 per cent. of the original estimate, and a further payment on account of the increase in the estimate is under consideration. The following further schemes have been drawn up, and monetary provision has been made under Loan Fund expenditure in the current year's estimates:—

Rs.		Rs.	
Kandy Pumping Scheme at Peradeniya and Lewella	2,286,000	Negombo Water Supply Scheme	200,000
Tangalla	1,028,500	Matara Water Supply Scheme	200,000
Hambantota	811,500	Kurunegala Water Supply Scheme	100,000
Padiyapelella	44,000	Other Minor Water Supply Schemes	255,000
Matale Ambagahapila Scheme	48,750		
Kayts	395,000		

“Not so Long Ago”

(Continued from page 10)

Teacher entered with her cheery, “Good morning children!” We sat down. There was a secret expectation hovering in the air. Shelton had spread the story. I was nudged from my left and from my right.

“Tell her! Tell her!” my classmates whispered. But I had already made up my mind to wait.

Then Shelton stood up. “Teacher, this boy here has a message for you,” he said.

“What is it, Daya? Speak out!” teacher said looking up from her desk. I demurred, “Nothing,” I said.

Teacher called me to her side, patted my head, hugged me to her bosom. “Speak out, child! Don't be

afraid. What is it that you have to tell me?”

“Nothing,” I said. “Speak out, child,” teacher repeated.

I began: “Teacher, my uncle wants to know.....” but the words got blocked somehow. “Oh! I am shy!” I said and hid my face in my hands.

“Speak out, Daya,” teacher coaxed. The school trembled with excitement. And in the end I had to come out with the message.

The school exploded into laughter. Teacher slapped me. Her cheeks burnt red hot, and she was convulsed with anger. The boys and girls howled. She jumped down from her platform, knocked the blackboard aside in the rush and stormed out of the school premises.....



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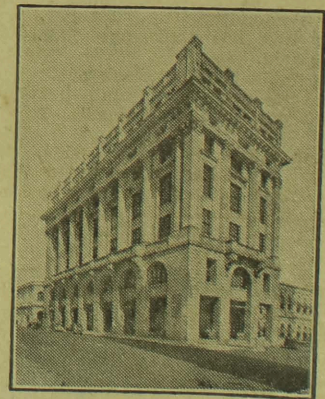
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