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LEADER'S DEATH WILL BE RECALLED

Churches, Temples, Mosques Join in Remembrance

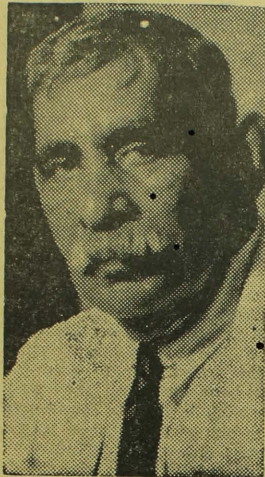
THE commemoration of the first anniversary of the death of the late Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake, on Sunday, the 22nd instant, will be observed by religious services, poojahs and pinkamas throughout the Island.

The large-scale pinkama arranged by the Memorial Committee begins on Saturday night in most of the important temples in the City. These will be followed by poojas in Hindu temples, prayers in mosques and special services in churches on Sunday. One thousand Buddhist monks will participate in a "dana" at the Royal College hall on Sunday forenoon.

CHRISTIANS' TRIBUTE

The Ven. A. J. Kendall Baker, Bishop's Commissary, in a circular to clergy of the Diocese of Colombo, makes a reference to the first anniversary of the death of the late Prime Minister. He calls upon the clergy to join with our fellow citizens in honouring this noble son of Lanka, and thank God for his devotion to the welfare and security of all who live in this land. The Commissary states in the circular:

"Although Stephen Senanayake was not a Christian, he was a fine patriot and statesman, and under his benign and strong leadership the country enjoyed peace and complete self-government."



The Late Prime Minister

ROMAN CATHOLIC OBSERVANCE

The Vicar-General of Colombo, Rev. Father G. Fontin, O.M.I., has circularised an order by His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, that Sunday, the 22nd instant, would be a day of national commemoration of the late Prime Minister's death and in order to associate the Catholic community to this commemoration, the Reverend Missionaries are requested to inform the faithful accordingly and to ring the bells of the Parish Churches on that day before the morning Angelus bell.

CEYLON MOORS' TRIBUTE

At a mass meeting of the All-Ceylon Moors' Association consisting of 220 branches it was decided to commemorate the death anniversary of the Rt. Hon. D. S. Senanayake with a meeting of the Ceylon Moors on Sunday at Kuruwe Street, Colombo.

AT TRINCOMALEE

At a meeting of the leading residents of Trincomalee convened by Mr. T. Ehamparam, Chairman, U.C., Trincomalee, it was agreed that Commemoration Day should begin with special prayers in all places of worship.

A suggestion that alms be given to the poor in the noon was unanimously accepted and a committee was appointed to attend to this item.

In the evening a public meeting will be held where all the religious leaders of the town, the Chairman, U.C., and the M.P. for Trincomalee are expected to take part.

FINAL CENSUS TODAY

Today, the 20th March, is the final Census day. The 40,000 ordinary enumerators who compiled the preliminary census in mid-February will check their entries between 6 p.m. and midnight. All householders are requested by the Director of Census and Statistics to "stay at home" during the period.

All Government offices will close at 3 p.m. today. So will commercial establishments. The banks will close at 11-30 a.m. Special trains will be run to enable people to get back to their homes early.

Govt. Grant to Lanka Mahila Samiti

THE attitude of Government in regard to direct grants paid to voluntary charitable institutions, such as the Lanka Mahila Samiti was clarified by the Minister of Home Affairs in response to a question raised by the Member for Matugama who referred to a letter published in the Press by the Life President of the Samiti:

"The Department of Rural Development was established in 1948 for the purpose of organizing the rural people into men's and women's societies in order to intensify welfare activities in the villages, largely on a basis of self-help," said Mr. Ratnayake. "With this object in view the department has, over a period of five years, been able to organise over 5,000 such societies. However, the Lanka Mahila Samiti and other women's organizations in the country were engaged in welfare work among women in rural areas, and they received a certain measure of assistance from the Department of Rural Development, chiefly by way of direct grants."

DEPARTMENT TO ORGANISE SOCIETIES

It has been found, he said, that the number of women's organizations have now assumed such proportions that it is considered necessary for the Department to take over welfare work among women as

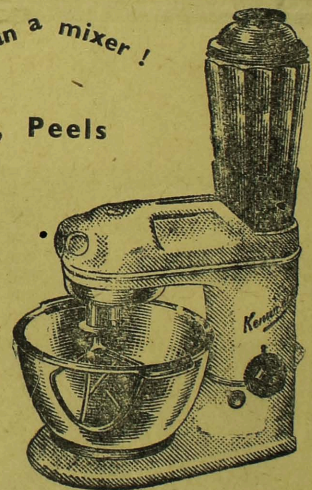
one of its main activities. This, it is claimed, will also eliminate rural organizations springing up in rural areas and claiming recognition. It was accordingly decided that the department should in future organize the activities of women in rural areas by giving direct grants, and assistance in other forms to women's organizations and individual women's societies, including the Mahila Samiti, engaged in rural welfare work, depending on the measure of self-help achieved by them.

"It is not my intention to suppress or discourage the Mahila Samiti," declared Mr. Ratnayake. "On the other hand I want to give the fullest possible encouragement to them. Instead of giving the grant through a central organization, it will be given direct to the societies. To enable the department to undertake this additional work, it has become necessary to utilize the block grant paid to the Central Lanka Mahila Samiti.

This vote is not intended for any particular society; it is meant to be given to women's organizations, and that is entirely within the discretion of the Department of Rural Development, with a view to stepping up these activities, the Department will in future give direct assistance to individual women's societies including Mahila Samiti or unions of such societies formed in rural areas."

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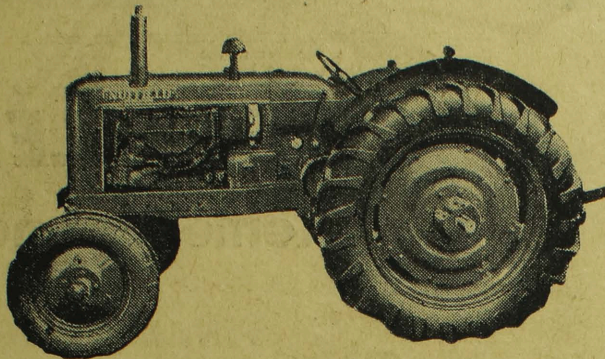
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In Ceylon Workers' Loyalty Should be to Democracy

By Quintus Delilkhan

SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA has made a very clear and convincing statement on the situation in the Harbour. The workers who are adopting a "go slow" policy, at the dictation of those who desire to incite strikes and dislocate work, are assuredly lacking in any element of patriotism. The workers appear to forget that the Government has conferred many benefits on them. Sir John's policy in respect of the workers has been to treat them with sympathy and consideration. But he can be firm and invincible in a different line of action if the workers persist in abusing their privileges. There is no reason for the Harbour workers to be ungrateful and unpatriotic. It is a disreputable attitude for them to take up that they can demand what they like and it must be immediately granted to them. The workers must themselves develop a sense of responsibility towards democracy. Their whole purpose at present seems to be to take advantage of any vulnerable situation in the country and press their demands with a savage and unthinking obstinacy. Their idea of negotiation seems to be that the other party must immediately surrender at the first threat to create trouble in the Harbour. Such a frame of mind makes any kind of negotiation futile. The workers who expect to get all they want are only creating trouble for themselves.

It is obviously in their interest to trust the Government and not the revolutionary leaders who are only out to create, as far as possible, trouble for the Government and for the country and gain advantages to the cause of revolution. It is unfortunate that the laws of democracy have not been amended to make it difficult for the revolutionary leaders to incite the workmen into wrong courses of action. Today these revolutionary leaders, who declare that they owe no allegiance to Ceylon, are perfectly free to queer the pitch for the democratic way of life by victimizing the workers to serve their own nefarious ends. It is an absurd position that they could always do so with impunity. They are trading on the generosity and liberality of the democratic laws. The tolerance of the democratic spirit they abuse unashamedly to the fullest possible extent.

The State in this or any other country has the right to expect the co-operation of the workers. In Ceylon, it cannot be denied that there has been for years now a growing body of laws and enactments and provisions which have aimed at improving the lot of the workers. In the circumstances, one would naturally expect a reasonable response on the part of the workers. But, it must be increasingly evident to many sections of the community the workers have in many instances made most extravagant and impossible demands, and boldly and unscrupulously held the community to ransom.

There is no reason why a policy of continuous appeasement should be adopted towards the workers who exceed their rights and make fantastic claims for themselves. The workers are sometimes apt to regard themselves as a specially privileged class in the community. It requires all kinds and classes of workers in a country to keep it going on lines that would really help its prosperity and economic development. The worker has somehow come to believe that he has only to make a claim for it to be granted. This is an utterly absurd and infeasible position and the sooner the unreasonable classes of workers are made to realize this, the better will it be for the future of the country.

No honest or sensible man who desires the well being of this country will deny to the worker what is due to him as one whose honourable toil entitles him fully to its legitimate rewards. But what has happened is that the revolutionary teaching which is so readily thrust upon the workers has had the deliberate aim of making him lose his sense of

proportion. It is merely foolish on the part of revolutionaries to go on preaching to the worker that he is ground under the heels of a cruel and exacting capitalism. That process has stopped in the world quite a long time ago. Capitalism is under very severe restraints. Such restraints are salutary and were due to the workers who carried most of the world's burdens. It is a triumph of justice and of the civilized conscience that so much has been done to ease the hard conditions of living for the workers. It has brought about much better relations between capital and labour. It has set new living standards for the working classes. It has humanized a relationship between capital and labour which at one time was most unjust. It must also be realized that these relations are being improved from time to time, and more than all it should be honestly and openly acknowledged that all this has been done under the system of capitalism which the revolutionaries so consistently misrepresent and decry on every possible occasion.

The core of rot in trade unions and labour organizations is that the workers are generally being exploited for ends beyond the legitimate improvement of their own conditions. The workers are being used to serve the political ends of the revolutionary leaders who have constituted themselves as their guardians but who really desire to put labour into any situation which may disrupt a democratic economy. The technique employed is to create discontent continuously among the working classes. Whatever concessions are made, there will always be further concessions to be made from time to time. There is skill in this method. It keeps many other workers continually tied to the revolutionary leaders who appear in the light of friends who alone stand by the workers through thick and thin, through reasonableness and unreasonableness, through peace and through war. In a lull in the war against authority, the worker is carefully indoctrinated with an exaggerated sense of his rights. When action starts, the worker is accordingly prepared to go to any lengths that the revolutionaries desire. The workers are really pawns in a successful game of political propaganda.

It is well to realise early that one of the dangers of the future, not only for Ceylon but for all other democratic countries of the world, would be combinations of workers in trade unions and other organizations which have grown powerful and unscrupulous enough to become a menace to the peace and prosperity of their own country. This statement does not mean that there is anything inherently wrong or improper in the principle of trade unionism. It is on the contrary absolutely necessary to the protection of the rights of the workers. As such, it must be encouraged to grow. It is the duty of the State to foster movements which are designed primarily to protect the rights of the workers.

But it is also the duty of the State to see that the right to combine does not become an instrument of oppression to the whole community. We have heard day in and day out of the excesses of capitalism. We do not hear enough, and take judicious note of the increasing excesses of combines which threaten to disrupt the peace and prosperity of the State. It is better to resist an irrational force early than late. Demands by the workers, if they overstep the bounds of what is reasonable and legitimate must be resisted. The worker has his duties by the community as well as his rights and privileges. He is as much a member of a democratic community as any other. He cannot have an interest in creating disruption for the sake of advancing the political purposes of forces which are the avowed opponents of the democracy under which they have privileges which they have no scruple in deliberately abusing. The workers owe their loyalty to democracy and not to revolution.

(Continued on page 7)

Mr. NEHRU'S 'THIRD AREA'

By Stanley Morrison

IN the present "cold war" neutrality is as much disliked as it is in a real hot war. Today the great neutral is India. Despite all the assistance she has received from the U.S.A. (both as regards the financing of her development schemes and the huge gift of food two years ago to stave off a famine) India holds steadfastly to her policy of neutrality, albeit a neutrality that leans slightly in favour of the Western Powers. To the Americans this policy of neutrality is not only baffling, but also appears very ungrateful in view of all that the Americans have done for India. But is the American reaction to India's neutrality justified?

In order to give an adequate answer to this question it must first be realised that India herself does not always behave towards other nations with that detachment which she demands from the U.S.A. where Indian interests are involved. Had India helped Ceylon to the degree that the U.S.A. has helped her, India would not have been slow to hurl the epithet "ungrateful" at Ceylon, if Ceylon persisted in the attitude she now adopts towards Indians claiming citizenship rights in this country. As it is, the Indian Press, with a few notable exceptions, has systematically misrepresented Ceylon's case to the Indian public. The attitude of the Indian Press generally has been extremely hostile and utterly unfair to Ceylon. In fact, their attitude is that of a big brawny bully out to intimidate a small fellow. If India and Ceylon drift apart permanently, the responsibility will belong to the Indian Press. In fact, when Mr. C. C. Desai, the new envoy to Ceylon, was appointed, certain leading sections of the Indian Press went so far as to say that the Indian Government was wasting one of its first-class brains by sending him to Ceylon, a small and insignificant country. In view of these facts, therefore, it is difficult for other countries, particularly Western countries, to understand the spirit of detachment with which India views her relations with the U.S.A. to whom India owes so much.

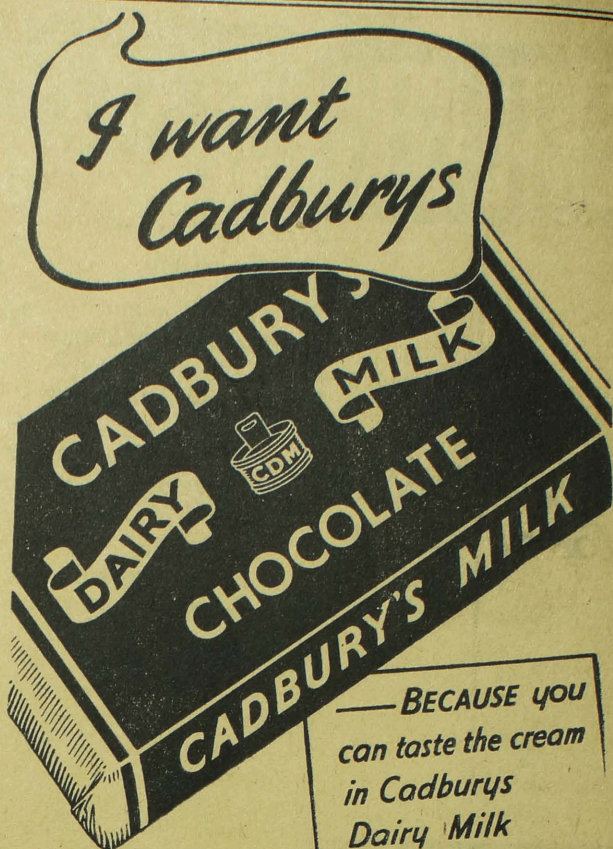
However, India's policy of detachment from power blocs is the carefully considered policy of no less a man than Shri Nehru, and nothing that he does can be dismissed lightly because he is without doubt the most honest, fearless and sincere statesman in the world today. There is no other statesman anywhere who governs his policy by high principle and a freedom from diplomatic chicane. He has no ulterior motives. And his detachment from the world scene enables him to see things in their true perspective, with his eyes undimmed by the fog of selfishness, suspicion and narrow nationalism which beclouds all large international questions which confront other statesmen of the world.

It is now becoming more and more apparent that the policy of neutrality adhered to by India is the safest one for her. And recently Shri Nehru enunciated the new theory of a "Third Area" as opposed to the theory of a "Third Force" which finds support among some Westerners. What does Shri Nehru mean by the idea of a "Third Area?" Undoubtedly, he contemplates the formation of a group of nations determined to keep clear of entangling alliances and resolved to act as a mediating force in any conflict. It is a very powerful idea, if it is encouraged to develop. Because if India could gather round her, in the United Nations, a large body of nations who have nothing to do

either with the North Atlantic Organisation or the Communist bloc, but forming a powerful bloc of their own, then neither of the other blocs could afford to offend this great neutral group. For instance, in the event of another world war breaking out, the belligerent group which incurred the hostility of the neutral bloc was bound to lose the war since the neutral bloc would be so powerful (as regards resources and military potential) as to be able to turn the scales against anyone who provoked its enmity. While India is the great neutral in Asia, Sweden and Switzerland are the great neutrals in the West. If the neutral nations could add to their number until they became a force to reckon with, then the peace of the world would be safer. This is what the war-weary and war-mad nations of the West cannot understand. After all, if the neutral nations one by one abandon their neutrality and join either of the power blocs, the danger of a head-on clash will be enhanced and not (as the power blocs imagine) be reduced. Ultimately one or other of the two power blocs would become tired of the "cold war" and decide to "have it out." But at present, both sides are afraid of the great neutrals, particularly of India. The fear of India restrains China and the U.S.A. No sane nation wishes to take the risk of having India against it.

Thus, the wisdom of Shri Nehru's policy is patent. As I said, neither of the power blocs like his policy. Like the Gadarene swine they desire to see India, too, rush with them headlong to the sea. But Nehru's India may ultimately be the salvation both of Asia and Europe. How wise Nehru's policy is can be seen from what has just happened in Japan. The downfall of the Japanese Government is a portent for Asia. India, it will be remembered, stayed away from the San Francisco conference in 1951 which signed the Japanese Peace Treaty. India's argument then was that a peace treaty which excluded Russia and China was a treaty directed against Russia and China. India, which desired to be neutral, could not sign it. India also objected to American trusteeship over the Ryukyu Islands. Over Formosa, too, India had her objections to the treaty provisions. India wanted a renewed declaration that Formosa should be returned to China. One extremely well-informed authority on the Far East, the British journalist, Guy Wint, seems correctly to have interpreted India's attitude to this treaty. In a pamphlet entitled "The Future of Japan" he says: "But behind the concrete issues lay other things. India, it is clear, disliked the whole spirit in which the treaty was made. The treaty, in its opinion, was a part of American policy to "contain" Russia. Mr. Nehru has never concealed his view that the policy may in fact lead to the war which it is its object to prevent. Many Indians interpret the generosity of the treaty as a price paid by America to enlist Japan as an ally. Mr. Nehru is suspicious that the Western powers intend to use the Asian countries as pawns in their world policy.....Mr. Nehru wants Asia left out of the struggle between Moscow and the West. He believes that Asia can be neutral and he disliked the San Francisco Treaty because, by it, Japan turns its back on possible neutrality."

These are the words of a British authority. And today, after the moves recently made by President Eisenhower in the Far East, who will be so bold as to say that Shri Nehru was wrong. And in view of the opposition inside Japan to Premier Yoshida's policy of collaboration with the U.S.A. a new government may come to power in Japan after the forthcoming elections with a strong policy of neutrality. If that happens, the whole carefully built-up fabric of American Far Eastern policy will collapse like a house of cards. AND NEHRU WILL HAVE BEEN PROVED TO BE RIGHT.



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Friday, March 20, 1953

THE RADIO COMMITTEE

The appointment of a Committee to go into the organization of Radio Ceylon raises some interesting issues.

What happens to the unnoticed recommendations of the Vaithianathan Committee?

That report was a model document of its kind and many of its recommendations have been implemented with varying degrees of efficiency. Why the rest of its recommendations have not been adequately considered, the public would like to know.

We are glad that in Mr. Natesan we have a Minister with the highest cultural attainments. We hope that he will pull Radio Ceylon—particularly its commercial side—away from the “play to the gallery” policy which is depressing the standards of public taste in our country. The standard of radio broadcasting in the Island is of great importance because the radio plays an unusually important role in Ceylon. Commercial broadcasting instead of raising the standard of musical values has produced a “new low” and the standards of the streets are being forced into the drawing rooms and homes of the land. It is a peculiar thing that this country has spent large sums of money from time to time in importing so-called experts who are supposed to have brought new life and new standards to broadcasting. None of these expensive imports have left anything new and worthwhile behind. We had a man called Lampson who was ushered in with a fanfare of trumpets. Unfortunately he was one of those second-class B.B.C. men who somehow succeeded in hitting the front pages of our newspapers who in turn did all they could to publicise what they thought to be an honest effort to improve broadcasting. It can be said with some justice that the only thing that Lampson left behind was an inflated designation for the Head of Broadcasting in Ceylon. We had the designation Director of Broadcasting. Lampson made it Director-General. That was that. We also had a gentleman named Rex Moorfoot who also had the charmed letters B.B.C. behind him. It would appear that one of his uses was supposed to be an improvement

of the standard he was going to usher into Ceylon. All that happened was that when his term of service expired he declared that a Commission on Broadcasting is necessary. What on earth, the public will ask, is the use of having these so-called experts if a Commission has to be appointed from time to time to tell us what to do? In recent times we have also had a number of exports from Radio Ceylon to London, of broadcasting officials who have been sent there to learn how it should be done. Some of them have come back. It would be useful if the Committee now appointed to enquire into the changes or innovations these specialised trainees brought to Ceylon.

We remember that there was a time when a man named Shirley Da Silva gave the public as good a radio service as we can get now with about one-tenth of the present staff. He had four or five rooms in the old Lunatic Asylum building at Torrington Square. Some of the features he introduced are still the best features of Colombo Radio Schools broadcasting, Brains Trust, In Town Tonight, were innovations of Mr. Da Silva. They were no doubt inspired by similar programmes put across by the B.B.C. For that matter every new feature of Radio Ceylon is, after all, a localised idea borrowed from the B.B.C. or the Voice of America.

Another reflection we are moved to make is that Radio Seac which had worked under the most difficult conditions and with an extremely limited staff during the war, gave more popular features for radio listeners than the vast and impressive Radio Ceylon could claim to give today.

We hope the Committee will make a definite recommendation that no further staff is necessary for the purpose of broadcasting and we also hope that they will stand squarely against any attempt to make commercial radio an independent organisation. If they allow such a calamity to overtake this country it will be something which the public will vigorously resist.

We have enough talent at Broadcasting House. There is now sound administration, and the Lampson muddles are almost cleared up. But it is necessary to see that Radio Ceylon concentrates on its job. Its experiments in radio journalism, the publication of indifferent periodicals, its bungling in artiste grading, the existence of certain favoured groups—these need looking into. Due allowance must always be made for the fact that Radio Ceylon cannot be expected to give better programmes with the material at its disposal.

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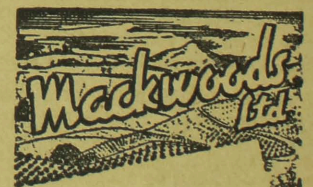
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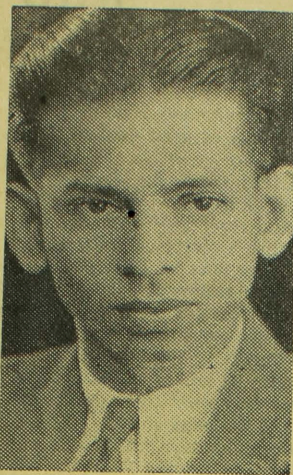
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BEHIND THE HEADLINES

By **Pertinax**

SOME time ago I wrote in these columns about the extent of the welfare arrangements at Messrs. Heath and Co. The other day I happened to come across another interesting and highly commendable policy of one of the biggest Ceylonese firms. I am referring to the Ceylon Insurance Co., Ltd. This firm has an important word "Think." The idea is that the directorate and management are interested in making its staff think and think to some purpose. For example once in a while the 17 peons on the staff are invited by the Managing Director, Senator Justin Kotelawala, to a conference with him. He then invites these gentlemen to discuss with him the problems that may arise from time to time. He tells them freely to criticise or make suggestions on any department or method being used in the office.



Mr. S. de S. Jayasinghe, M.P.

Senator Kotelawala tells me that he finds this system extremely valuable and that many useful ideas for saving time and thus increasing the efficiency of the offices had come out of such conferences. The principal idea behind it is that the employees are encouraged by this attitude of confidence in them to think constructively about the organization to which they belong.

This system operates throughout the firm at all levels. Once a month all the branch offices meet and discuss ways and means of improving business and speeding up work. Their reports are regularly sent to the Head Office. A week after, the headquarter staff meet and discuss these reports adding their own comments, and suggestions. Free criticism is allowed on any measures even if it happens to be that of any order made by the Directors. A cyclostyled news sheet is circulated and this contains the summaries of the criticism made by the different sections and the action taken on them.

On the welfare side an important and useful thing that the firm does is that once a year payment is allowed to every member of the staff to cover the clothing necessary for a period of about twelve months. A staff committee discusses who should do the tailoring. Four or five names of firms are discussed and special rates arranged with them. The annual order of the entire staff is about Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000 which is spread among the selected firms of outfitters. Payment is made outright by the firm and the staff pay back the individual bills to the firm in twelve monthly instalments. This system (1) prevents the staff from getting into debt for their clothing requirements (2) enables the staff to be smartly dressed throughout (3) gets them cheap rates made possible by placing large orders which enable them to get the highest possible discount.

Senator Kotelawala also runs Ceylon's finest dairy business, The Ceylon Farmsteads Ltd. which has its farm and stock at Homagama. He tells me that the same employer-employee relations system is adopted in running this farm. When I dropped in to see him last week he was in conference with some of his staff which included bill-collectors, van-drivers, stock manager, accountant and stenographer (who also acts as secretary). The purpose of this conference, he told me, was to find out what each one thought of the progress of the business and what should be done to improve it. There are no secrets from any of them.

The Balance Sheet is not a private document scrutinised in secrecy by the directorate or the management. The lads who drive the vans which deliver the milk know as much of the finances of the firm as the Managing Director. Senator Kotelawala explained that many of the best innovations had come from such conferences. After all, he says, the men who actually do the work know the difficulties and problems that have to be faced, and if they feel their opinions are respected and really wanted then they will think and think to some purpose.

Talking about the dairy business he told me he found his staff at the farm in common with many others suffering from a feeling of fatigue and one of the innovations which gave good results was that each one of them was given a glass of milk a day. Of course this is not the kind of milk that the average person can get from the itinerant milk vendor which is 50 per cent water. It is rich unadulterated milk which a respectable business like The Ceylon Farmsteads gives to its customers. I told him about a similar innovation at Messrs. Heath and Co. which gives its staff a balanced two-course lunch every day at the Company's expense.

The Senator said: "That's the way to look after one's staff and that way one can get the best results."

I made a suggestion which the Senator quickly accepted. I told him it would be a good idea if The Ceylon Farmsteads supplied milk at a specially low rate to any recognised firm which wanted it for its staff. The Senator is quite willing to do this. So, if any firm wishes to put pep into their staff, here's the opportunity.

Aerated Waters

SEVERAL Ceylonese with money to invest, want to know whether there are others who would like to join in launching a Ceylonese A-waters firm with 100 per cent Ceylonese staff and 100 per cent Ceylonese capital, with a tie-up with the Co-op. networks in Ceylon. There are some snappy ideas among them, too. If there are others interested they can write to the Editor of this Journal who will put them in touch with the others. Will the Government help in such a venture particularly in regard to refrigeration facilities?—they also ask. This needs thinking over. Perhaps it will—it all depends how practical the proposals are and how the national interests could best be served.

Charming M.P.

RESIDENTS of Wellawatte-Galkissa are charmed by their young M.P., Mr. S. de S. Jayasinghe, who meets everyone who sees him with a genuinely charming smile. He is also often seen in white banian and cloth visiting the Bellanwila Shrine on a Sunday morning where he is the friend of all fellow-worshippers.

Mr. Jayasinghe is a deeply religious man and one of his problems is that he has no time to relax either to worship at a temple, or to read a book or spend a few hours with his family. Always, always, there are people to see him.

Even Mr. Anandattissa de Alwis, the young U.N.P. contestant who fought Kotte and nearly downed the Himmler of the L.S.S.P., spends several hours each day listening to the troubles of his might-have-been constituents. The fact that he is not yet an M.P. does not seem to stop the flow of people. They say in Kotte that he will win easily next time. On the last occasion a frequent complaint was that no one knew him. Now there is no one who doesn't.

Q.C.—M.P. for Colombo North

I RAN into that quiet, engaging personality, Mr. Cyril E. S. Perera, M.P. for Colombo

North. He had a harassed look on his face. He told me that three to four hours of each day is spent trying to find jobs for residents of his area. "It takes a terrible lot of my time," he said, "but what else can I do? There is so much misery and unemployment. These people come because they are in great need. We can't shut the door in their faces."

And yet, he thinks, it is wasteful of an M.P.'s time which should be devoted to larger, national and local issues. Most M.P.s, however, have their time and energies sapped by these ceaseless requests for jobs, certificates, and intervention in personal employment problems. This is one of Ceylon's national problems today. The Leftists also have the

same worry, but they can lie well and their technique is to take down copious notes and promise to look into the matter. The caller is asked to see him a week later. Nothing, however, is done. A week later the man hopefully returns. The M.P. promptly launches into a vituperative attack on the U.N.P. He says he wrote to this Minister, interviewed some other Minister, but these "callous animals" don't care about the poor suffering masses.

"I'm very sorry, but as long as the U.N.P. rascals are in power these things can't be put right. Send us into power and all these things will be put right."

That is the way the Leftists do it.

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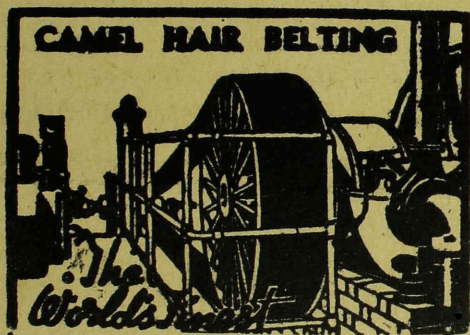
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"I DO not deny that there are experts of good quality and value in the Soviet Union. I do not know whether China has experts, but I know Russia has, because she has learnt from the Americans and English experts at the time they were building up their State for setting up technical colleges. If it is possible to get them, I do not think this motion is necessary to be moved in Ceylon. I think this motion should be moved in Moscow, so that they may send their people out, get rid of the bans and the various visas and difficulties which they impose on people leaving Moscow, so that when we need their aid we can get it for the benefit of Ceylon," said the Minister of Finance in commenting on a motion introduced by the Member for Akuressa, that "in view of the urgent necessity of stepping up our own food production in the present emergency the Government of the U.S.S.R. and the Peoples' Republic of China should be requested to lend us the services of technical experts to advise us."

SOVIET POLICY UNHELPFUL

Continuing, the Minister said: "We have scoured the world from China to Peru for the purpose of getting experts and we have not left the Soviet Union and China outside as far as our search abroad was concerned. We have applied for technicians throughout the world. The only thing is that we have been unable to get in touch with the Russian newspapers. We are not entirely shut out for want of experts because the Soviet Union and China could not help us. I say, could not help us because they have not yet offered any help to us as far as technical assistance is concerned, although we have advertised all over the world. We, as a Government, also have got our own experts. So the real reason why I got up to speak was to say that as far as this Government's policy is concerned, we

are not against Russian and Chinese experts coming in to Ceylon It is very difficult to know whether Russia can help us, because, during the war there were English and American soldiers who, when they were in Russia, married Russian girls, but when they had to go back they were not allowed to take their wives with them. There may be certain laws prohibiting Russian women from leaving that country. I do not know—which are peculiar to that country. I do not know whether girls are more dangerous than technicians, but the wives of those soldiers were not allowed to leave Russia, and I understand there are such restrictions as far as travel is concerned both into and out of the Soviet Union."

CEYLON'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Referring to what Ceylon has been able to achieve, the Minister said that if he had to go to Russia and speak about them, the Russians would be completely amazed that Ceylon has been able to achieve so much—that the Kelani bund burst before we got freedom, that the land got flooded, but that since we got freedom it has not burst, and that we built the Laxapana Hydro-electric scheme. I would also praise the Hon. Minister of Lands and Land Development for having built, in the year 1951-52 30,000 houses and 60 schools for colonists in one year. Those are achievements. Why do you not think of your own men and women who achieved those achievements by the sweat of their own brow?

After all, the people of Ceylon have had an ancient civilisation and when you talk of irrigation schemes, of diverting rivers in the hills, bunding the water, utilising it and harnessing it for man's use, it must be realised that that was what we did in 600 B.C. before there was a name called Russia in the world, and the whole world has to learn that science from us.

DIGNITY OF LABOUR

By *Oswald Nihal Fernando*

RECENTLY, Professor T. L. Green of the University of Ceylon gave his verdict on an important matter which concerns every Ceylonese. After a survey he found out that the labour requirements and labour supplements varied greatly in Ceylon. This was attributed, by him, to the fact that a large proportion of the youth sought 'white-collar jobs', even when there were better prospects awaiting them else-where, or, they were not suited for such work.

That Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country is a fact which cannot be over-emphasized. The immediate and pressing need for progressive agricultural development has been realized and the slow but sure work has already begun. This entails a large amount of manual labour. However, comparatively few prefer to take to such manual labour, resulting in a drastic shortage of agriculture's most important need—in Ceylon—manpower.

The Government has begun work on various industrial projects, such as the Kankesanural Cement Factory. Industry too requires men, though lesser than agriculture. But alas! very few are willing to take up to work in industries. Private firms too need men for work in industrial branches but few are willing to take up such work.

There is then little wonder, that the problem of unemployment is acute. The problem should really be

called mis-employment rather than unemployment.

What is this due to? This is a question which has a number of answers. Indeed, I might venture to say that it is a remnant of a faulty habit acquired during the foreign rule. During the foreign rule it was customary for all the manual labour to be done by more or less illiterate people, who were supposed to be below par. Thus naturally there arose a certain amount of aversion for such work.

In the contemporary world we can think of no lesser country than America to serve as a splendid example to us. In America no work is considered beneath the dignity of man. On the contrary, the shame would be, to get work done by others which one can do oneself, or, not to work.

Today we are a free nation. The future and present is in our hands. The need for manual labour has been stressed earlier. Thus, again we must manage and man our own industrial and agricultural projects etc. "Infra-dig" is a term that should be buried. Indeed, it is in the hands of the farmers—the sons of the soil—that the present and future lies. It is an honourable job. Did not our fore-fathers show us the real value of manual labour? The tanks and Wewas remain the immemorable monumental remains of our glorious past. At the zenith of Ceylon's prosperity agriculture was the main occupation of the people,

ADULT EDUCATION

By Dorian Gray

IN a broad sense, the term Adult Education means "non-vocational" education. The fundamental purpose of adult education is to enable working men and women to read and write, to educate them, to make them better citizens.

In Britain, the history of adult education goes far back as the early years of the 19th century. But for many years—in fact, till about the end of the 19th century—it was carried on solely with the aid of voluntary associations: the Government was obsessed with the ideas of "laissez-faire." But later, the conceptions of government were changing, and "laissez-faire" gave way to "State Intervention," and, as a result, in 1893 State aid was rendered to adult education. But, however, in the eighteen seventies the Universities took a step in this direction. Cambridge University began to provide "University Extension" lectures and courses suitable for popular audiences. In 1876 London and in 1878 Oxford followed the example.

One of the most important organizations for the promotion of adult education in Britain today is the W.E.A.—the Workers' Educational Association. It is remarkable that this body is a voluntary organization. The W.E.A. came into existence in 1903 as a result of negotiations between the University Extension Movement, the Trade Unions and the Co-operative Movement. The aim of the W.E.A. is the development of social consciousness among the working classes "through intellectual studies and discipline: Its appeal is deliberately to the intellectual elite among the working class population." Its examinations are of a very high standard: It's "Three-Year Tutorial Class" is in many respects equal to a University degree.

There are other voluntary organizations also for the promotion of adult education in Britain, e.g., the Rural Community Councils, the Educational Centres Association, etc. They believe that "adult education must start at the level of and grow from, the interests of the masses." So these organizations have provided—not without success—a wide range of semi-recreative, semi-educational activities to the adult workers with the hope that they should go from informal to more formal education.

It is gratifying to note that in Ceylon, too, in recent times there has been an effort to make adult edu-

cation popular with the masses. Not quite long ago, at Minneriya was opened up an Adult Education Centre under the auspices of U.N.E.S.C.O.—"Ceylon's Rural University." The efforts of the Government to make adult education more widespread in this country deserve special merit. The main purpose is to make the illiterate masses literate, to educate them, to make them worthy citizens. Education is necessary, too, for the successful working of democracy, for education, in a classic phrase, is the process by which a gentleman is evolved from a little savage.

It will, of course, take a long time for Ceylon to have adult education on a large scale, as is for instance in Great Britain. We have got no W.E.A.s in our country, and very few voluntary organizations. It is unfair for us to look upon the Government for everything—more and more voluntary help is wanted. However, since a start has been made in this direction, it is the duty of every one of us to foster adult education in Ceylon.

Paddy Cultivation In 1950-51

THE following statement was made in the House of Representatives by the Minister of Lands and Land Development in response to a question asked by the Member for Vadukoddal:—

Total extent of paddy cultivated in Maha (1950-1951) is 635,918 acres.

Total extent of paddy cultivated in Yala (1950-1951) is 437,580 acres.

Land suitable for paddy cultivation for colonization purposes is not made available until irrigation is provided. Crown land is alienated for paddy cultivation as soon as it is rendered irrigable.

The total extent of land cultivated in other cereals in the Maha season 1950-1951 and Yala 1950-1951 is 153,604 acres.

The figures for 1951-52 are not yet available.

Workers' Loyalty

(Continued from page 2)

Why should the workers who enjoy real liberty only under a democratic order, allow themselves to be exploited by revolutionary propagandists who will assuredly oppress them under a communist order of society?



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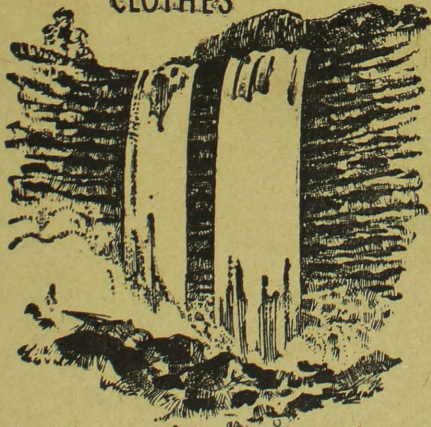
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