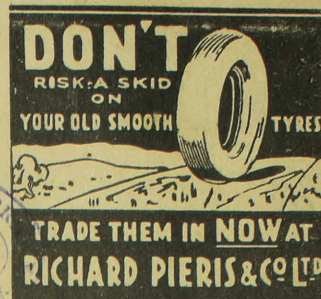


# u.n.p.



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## REVISION OF THE TRIPITAKA TEXT UNIQUE EVENT IN BUDDHIST ANNALS

THE Government of Burma has invited Ceylon to assist them in conducting a Sangayana in Burma during the period, May, 1954 to May, 1956, for the revision of the Tripitaka, which as is known, contains the whole range of Buddhist philosophy, the initiative being taken by the Burma Government. The Home Minister received and invitation from the Attorney-General of Burma and subsequently a Burma Mission consisting of the Minister for Sasana Affairs and leading monks visited Ceylon. The Mission was given an undertaking that Ceylon would make every possible effort to render the necessary assistance in this great work. The Mission handed over to the Prime Minister five complete sets of the texts of the Tripitaka to be reviewed and returned for final revision in Burma.

In consultation with certain leading Buddhist monks and lay scholars it has been decided to set up the necessary organisation for the revision of the draft text through groups of Sangha. A Central Dayaka Sabha comprising of lay Buddhists drawn from practically every district in the Island has been formed to be in charge of the organizational work with the help of various groups of Sangha. The Bhikkhus who are invited to assist in this tremendous task have to be provided with all the necessary facilities. This Sabha

proposes to make an appeal to the public for subscriptions and support in connection with the other activities connected with the Sangayana. An outright grant will be made to the Central Sabha to meet the expenses involved. The expenses total Rs. 35,650 which includes the following items:

	Rs.
(1) Expenditure for organizational work	11,050
(2) Allowances to monks participating in the revision: (a) Central Body of 16 Bhikkhus—10 meetings per month at Rs. 200 per meeting, Rs. 12,000; (b) Unitary Bodies of 5 members each at Rs. 50 per month per unit—15 units at Rs. 750 per month, Rs. 4,500; (c) A Bhikkhu with a knowledge of Burmese to make copies (Colombo Allowance Rs. 100 per month), Rs. 600	17,100
(3) Provision for meals to Monks, etc.	1,500
(4) Advertising and purchase of books	5,000
(5) Already incurred from 10.12.52 up-to-date on travelling of monks	1,000
	35,650

### UNIQUE EVENT IN BUDDHIST ANNALS

In presenting the Supplementary Supply Bill in the House of Representatives, the Minister of Home Affairs, explained that the Burma Government was engaged in a very laudable enterprise which deserved every help. "Some critics might say that this is a religious event," observed the Minister, "but it is important and interesting from the point of view of promoting the revision of certain great works of philosophy. The Tripitaka covers the whole range of Buddhist philosophy and this is a unique event in the history of the Buddhist world."

It is interesting to note that the Tripitaka was written at Aluwihare

for the first time. Ceylon has one great fame. It has been the repository of the Theravada doctrine of Buddha. It is this fact that induced Burma to come to Ceylon first and seek Ceylon's contribution to the work. It was at Aluwihare that the Tripitaka was for the first time reduced to writing as a result of which the Tripitaka has been preserved right through the centuries. It was a copy of the Aluwihare text that was sent as a gift to Burma and the written script in Mandalay is a copy. It was the Burma text that was brought to Ceylon a gift to the Prime Minister.

This project, it is hoped, will bring about a better understanding between Burma and Ceylon.

## Finance Minister Replies to Critics

"It is our duty as Cabinet Ministers to place before the voters who returned us to power, the financial position of the country, and in this connection I have to inform the public that the finances of the country are in a disheartening position," said Mr. J. R. Jayewardene, Minister of Finance, in the course of an address at a public meeting held at Agalawatte in connection with the opening of the new extension to the school and quarters for teachers.

Accusations were hurled from certain quarters, he continued, that the Government has squandered the country's finances through extravagance, bad planning and mismanagement.

In reply to these allegations he said that the Government had been faced with a sharp decline in revenue due to the falling price of rubber, coconuts and tea, though the expenditure on development works and other expenditure items of Government were mounting. The Government had, therefore, been compelled to curtail expenditure as much as possible.

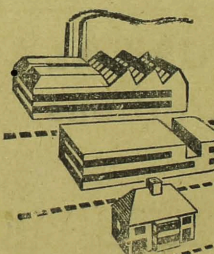
### NO NEGLECT AT ALL

Despite the financial stringency, asserted the Finance Minister, Government had not neglected such development works as the Gal Oya Scheme and it is not proposed to curtail expenditure on such schemes. The country's sterling balances had dropped to a perilous level, so that Government was no longer able to draw on them. In order to find the funds for developments the Cabinet would very soon have to decide on the withdrawal of food subsidies.

### COST OF FOODS

Referring to the cost of foods, he said that Ceylon was the only country at present where rice was available to the people at 25 cents a measure. In Burma from where Ceylon obtained rice, it costs 50 cts. to the consumer while in India the price was 60 cts. a measure.

It is the prospect of cheap rice in Ceylon that was one of the reasons that induced Indians to come here on the sly.



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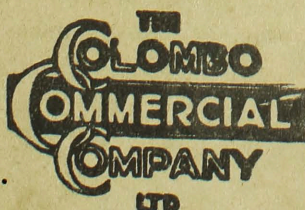
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# SIR WINSTON AS ARCHITECT OF PEACE

By Stanley Morrison

ON Monday the 11th of April.

Sir Winston Churchill made a speech in Parliament which will go down in history as the greatest peace speech of his career and as the greatest peace speech in history made by any British statesman. In this momentous pronouncement of his, Sir Winston, the architect of victory in two world wars, became the architect of peace. And in taking upon himself this great new role, he reached heights of eloquence and statesmanship such as rank him with Pericles and Chatham. It was an amazing performance for a man who only two years hence will be an octogenarian.

It is a pity that the local newspapers have not published a verbatim report of the wonderful oratorical performance of this great old British statesman, since his full speech is replete with the political wisdom of one who has had the most varied and adventurous career of any statesman in history. And the most amazing aspect of the survey of foreign affairs which he gave the House of Commons last week is the resilience of mind and freshness of outlook displayed by a man who normally would have been considered only fit for retirement. Perhaps, no speech by any statesman in the world today will have a greater influence in world affairs, particularly as it is heavily weighted in favour of a world peace settlement. Sir Winston, by this speech, has at once restored world leadership to Britain. By his wisdom, his moderation, his willingness to give Soviet Russia's new rulers credit for sincerity in the new policy they are trying to evolve after Stalin's death, and by the extraordinary grasp of international affairs which his speech manifests, Sir Winston has electrified the world and made England speak for peace with the voice of many trumpets. How great an impression he has created by this speech is proved by the fact that soon afterwards, in the Indian Parliament, there rose Sir Winston's great political enemy, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, to pay tribute to Sir Winston's wisdom in calling for a conference of the Big Powers to bring about a permanent world peace settlement and thus to usher in a great new era of prosperity for all the world's peoples. Nehru's silver bugle after Churchill's trumpet call—this is the spectacle to which a war-weary and peace-hungry

world is now being treated. There is not the slightest doubt that if these two great statesmen—one representing Asia and the other representing Europe—could get together and keep together, the future of all the world's peoples will be in safe hands. In a few days' time from now Sir Winston and Mr. Nehru will be meeting face to face for the first time in their official capacities. It is fervently to be hoped that these two men, whose political philosophy differs so greatly, will nevertheless become firm friends and that their friendship will be like a flaring beacon to guide the world's peoples on their journey to the promised world of peace and plenty. It would be a wonderful thing if the great Indian patriot and the great British patriot were to bind themselves together to fight for a world peace settlement. That would be a great day for the Commonwealth and a great day for Britain and India. The world today sorely needs such leadership—the leadership which only the alliance of two such statesmen as Churchill and Nehru could provide.

The forthcoming Commonwealth Premiers' Conference will, therefore, be a most momentous one, fraught with destiny for the peoples of the world. I have no doubt that when the magnanimous Nehru and the old doughty warrior, Churchill, meet, it will be like the meeting of two great thunder-clouds which, by some miracle, agree to merge rather than clash. If these two great men could form a working partnership in the cause of peace, now that they agree on essentials, they would positively create a new era in the world's history. Thus, Asia and Europe would combine completely to discard war as an instrument of national policy and the prospects of a world government will then be brighter than they have ever been.

The world's peoples must pray that the forthcoming meeting of the two great Asian and European statesmen will be fruitful of a great friendship which will bind the best that India has to give with the best that Britain has to offer in a wonderful alliance, both political and personal, that would lift the whole world on to a new plane of thought—where wars would cease, swords would be beaten into ploughshares, and tanks be converted into tractors.

## Exchange Control Tightens

In response to a question asked by the Member for Talawakelle on the subject of remittances despatched from Ceylon in respect of dividends earned by foreign companies and by individuals to the United Kingdom, India and other countries during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952, the Minister of Finance presented the following statement in the House of Representatives:

	1950	1951	1952
	(in Rs. Million)		
(a) Remittances in respect of interest and dividends earned by foreign companies to all countries	58.4	37.4	21.4
(b) Remittances by Individuals*			
To:			
(1) The United Kingdom	7.1	38.2	32.8

(2) India and Pakistan	58.8	88.3	123.1
(3) All other countries	49.3	12.3	14.5

Total 115.2 138.8 170.4

\* Includes remittances on account of travel, private remittances and migrants' transfers but excludes miscellaneous remittances to all countries which amounted to Rs. 52.0 millions in 1950; Rs. 40.4 millions in 1951 and Rs. 62.9 millions in 1952.

With the help of further restrictions imposed on the release of exchange for personal remittances the Government hopes to keep the total amount annually remitted on this account to India and Pakistan at the 1951 level. For economic reasons it has been decided to tighten the exchange restrictions.



# CAPITALISM IN THE MODERN FORM

By Eardley Gunasekera

THE economic condition of a country very often controls its political destiny. If the economic position is bad then the welfare of the country and its progress is impeded. It is only then that we are confronted with the fanciful ideas of armchair critics as our present day Marxists in an attempt to better these conditions. The Marxist strategy is such that it makes use of social and economic defects to implement personal desires. Expostulating liberal fallacies with the machinery of exploitation is a favourite pastime of the Marxist. If economic conditions are bettered and social injustice eradicated Marxism is sure to die. Capitalism to the Marxist is anathema for in his viewpoint it is the most vulnerable point in the present economic regime. Capitalism is that economic regime in which men co-operate in economic production. This is done in two ways. Some prefer to do it by the employment of capital while others resort to the use of labour.

Capitalism, today, has been subject to vehement criticism because on superficial analysis nothing but vice is noticeable. However, capitalism in itself is not to be thrust away but like all human institutions it is bound to deteriorate. It can give rise to many abuses specially when there is a concentration of wealth in the hands of a clique. It can also give rise to another very unpardonable abuse in the oppression of workers. The worker by virtue of the humble and meek position he occupies in life has to curb his elemental longings. In common parlance the word Capitalism frequently connotes the abuses that accompany a system of uncontrolled private ownership. Private ownership must always be controlled without which its growth would terminate in economic and social disaster.

The question whether the Capitalist system is the only economic system consonant with the right of public ownership needs elucidation. This argument can be refuted on the grounds that in the bygone days the labourer owned for himself the means of production, that is the materials he worked on and the tools used for this working. But today the peasant farmer class when it owns land is independent of invested capital, with the dawn of the Industrial Revolution and the birth of a galaxy of mechanical inventions the industrial labourer generally depended on invested capital. The chief evil, therefore, fostered by modern capitalism is the inequitable distribution of wealth resulting in an economic dictatorship. In many cases the few in whose hands wealth is concentrated are only managers of funds that have been invested. In spite of this they dominate the allotment of credit thereby executing the coup-de-grace to efficient production.

The accumulation of economic power in the hands of a few is attributed to competition resulting ultimately in the survival of the fittest. In the greed for wealth a vicious circle is set up when we encounter not healthy rivalry but cut-throat competition when one tries to be rid of the other. The position of the small capitalist is therefore threatened by virtue of the speculative risk the big capitalist is willing to take and the financial resources at his disposal. The consequences of the extensive accumulation of

wealth in the hands of a few is never ending hatred, suspicion, strife and jealousy among the various classes as well as in economic and international spheres. This is more because the powerful few, animated by an insatiable greed and ambition and consuming all the resources of free competition, struggle by fair means or foul to be done with all their competitors and thus appropriate for themselves all economic power.

This unjust accumulation of economic power gives rise to tension in the national sphere because the powerful few attempt to secure control of the State ultimately making the power and authority of the State a secondary matter while their own passion and seal are given priority. This makes them complete and indisputable masters within the State ending in capitalist dictatorship. Having once achieved this mastery within the State they extend it to the international sphere in order that their own interests may be furthered even to the detriment of other nations. International political controversies are not adjudicated on their merits but to satisfy the interests and desires of a small band of wealthy people. We cannot expect them to be more considerate where international matters are concerned because what they could have meted out ruthlessly to their own nation is sufficient indication as to what will happen to foreigners. The unscrupulous capitalist pays no heed to the welfare of others because his primary motive is to enrich his own pockets at all costs. Such a capitalist obviously cannot pay attention to welfare and service because it is through the impoverishment and deprivation of others that he thrives. If, however, he decides to recognise these matters than it is done at the expense of his own pocket which incidentally the unscrupulous capitalist would never consent to do. Capitalism cannot be solely condemned if it merely stands for a system where capital and labour co-operate for it is only in such a condition that we could be afforded with cheaper production meaning cheaper goods and less money. This type of system does not transgress on the natural law but all the defects and evils that have resulted from the modern capitalistic regime are lamentable. The right of private property is founded on the natural law but it does not necessarily mean that the capitalist method is the only genuine method of production. But it must be remembered that in the present economic system where capital and labour are provided by different parties the one needs the help of the other. The subjugation of the worker by the employer is a common occurrence today. The workers feel insecure in the grip of the capitalist who is at perfect liberty to dispense with his services at a moment's notice without compensation. This type of capitalism is then to be discouraged because instead of eradicating social evils and bettering the economy of a country it tends impede smooth progress.

The innumerable defects in our present economic regime is most objectionable and if we are to avert the dangers of a capitalist regime the best remedy would be to ban free competition. Since in practice this is impossible the principle of free competition must be kept within certain limits and be kept under the effective control of public authority.

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Friday, May 22, 1953

### SPEED OUR TRAINS

The Ministry of Transport should take a look at our trains. The old proverbial saying "as late as a Ceylon train" died out for a short time, but once again the time table seems to have jumped the rails. We remember an occasion when Sir John Kotelawala decided to see for himself how our evening trains and buses were running. On that day there were no queues at bus termini and hardly a hundred people at the Fort Railway Station by 5.15 p.m. It was obvious that everything had been put into a positive effort to clear the queues. But only on that one day. Once again the old order returned, and our trains keep running any old how. While all the Press attention has been concentrated on the buses and there has been a noticeable improvement in many bus services, the grand old lady of our public transport system ambles along.

It is true that the trains carry the main burden of our suburban traffic. The trains bring in 72,000 people to Maradana and Fort each day and take them back. This is a colossal undertaking. But it is not so formidable considering the advantages the railways

enjoy—monopoly tracks, enclosed halts, legal assistance and a huge subsidy. The High Level Road Bus Co., for that matter, carries 35,000 people a day, but their buses have to run the gamut of traffic laws, police traps, tests, checks, and must weave their way through piles of cars, carts and an assortment of other vehicles.

With a G.M.R. who is highly sensitive to public opinion and is always willing to do all he can for the public it should not be difficult to get more out of our trains. It seems to us that his administrative duties do not spare him for outdoor work. In any event that job is the duty of his other headquarters officers. The Railway has a slogan: "It's Your Railway, help to keep it clean." Let us suggest another: "It's our railway, run it to time."

Every week we get numerous complaints about late trains. Engines break down more often now than before. Ceylon has bought new Diesel locomotives at a colossal price. Why should these new engines break down? We hope the Acting Minister for Transport, Mr. Montague Jayawickrema, will look into this problem of late trains and have "on the spot" conferences with Railway officials to find ways and means of removing bottlenecks if any. If Ministry and Railway Headquarter officers visited outlying stations at peak hours and travelled with the morning crowds to Fort and Maradana over a period of three to four days, they would get some idea of the irritating problems of the man in the train.

## "Free Flow of Information and Ideas"

### UNESCO'S RECOMMENDATIONS

U.N.E.S.C.O. urges low postal rates for printed matter and calls upon member States to grant the greatest possible concessions to newspapers, magazines, books and other information material when revising the postal regulations in the light of the decisions of the Universal Postal Congress held in Brussels last year.

The Congress decisions which take effect from July this year are based on the U.N.E.S.C.O. proposals partly, and the organization recommends that Governments take the following steps:

Allow newspapers and magazines sent abroad to be mailed at half the ordinary rate for printed matter. So far, only two-fifths of the world's postal administrations make this concession.

Grant the same reduction to books, pamphlets, maps and sheets of music.

Ensure that rates for publications sent abroad will parallel the favourable rates for publications mailed within a country.

Allow all publications for the blind to be mailed free of charge.

Allow postal and Customs charges, due upon delivery, to be prepared by the sender.

Apply a scheme permitting payment in national currency at local post offices for subscriptions to foreign newspapers and magazines, and their despatch at low rates.

Finally, U.N.E.S.C.O. urges governments to take advantage of a provision of the Universal Postal Convention permitting groups of countries to make special arrangements among themselves. The organization proposes that States conclude reciprocal postal agreements to "establish more favourable conditions than those obtaining at present with regard to the free flow of information and ideas."

## A Hiking We Will Go!

Four Youth Leaguers of Trincomalee, Annesley Nicholas, Carlo Kelly, Donald de Lima and Norbert Ragel went on a hiking tour to Colombo on their push-cycles. They pedalled all the day long in the sultry heat through elephant and bear haunted areas and resting at Habarana and Kurunegala, where they climbed the Elephant Rock. Reaching there destination they scoured the capital and returned with a wealth of first hand knowledge and daring episodes, which would have been denied to them had they used any other mode of travel. With satisfaction of their success in their maiden venture, they have decided to tour the Eastern Province to visit the Gal Oya project and return touching at Polonnaruwa and Minneriya colonization schemes.

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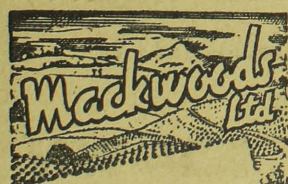
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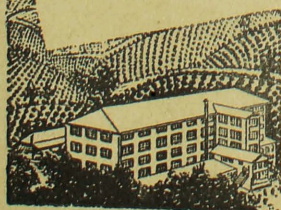


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# RISING PRICES AND PENSIONERS

By T. M. G. Samat

THE increasing fall in the value of the monetary unit must result in freedom from financial worries something rare as far as those in retirement are concerned, if not for most of us. Should not people in retirement after faithfully upholding the standards of their profession throughout an active career be reasonably assured of a retirement free from financial worries?

It follows that in these days of rapid change of money values it is necessary to establish certain procedure with which financial worries at least for pensioners could be reduced to a minimum. Those who have proved their character and ability in the fire of experience during their best years would expect freedom from financial worries in much the same way it is a procedure for any young man with ability and character to expect a start in a career.

It would certainly be difficult to resist the argument that while members of the community who have retired, have inadequate means to suffer from rising prices other members of the community could demand a rise in wages and expect an improved scale of increments, not mention all kinds of allowances.

Why cannot some arrangement be made for those who go on retirement whether from Government or mercantile service to have available to them the "know-how" of how not to idle their years of retirement about which there is a complete absence of information now?

Lacking technical knowledge most Policemen once they retire are good enough for the dust bin if they do not die as watchers. There are many such professions that place those who pursue them very disadvantageously in their retiring age.

A national aim which should have the good wishes of all people (what-

ever their political opinions) is productivity of agriculture. Now if Government Departments and Society can encourage sporting activities like Volley Ball, Soccer, Cricket and other pursuits why cannot we hope for encouragement from the same sources in much the same way on the same club lines for Poultry breeding, Cattle and Goat breeding and Growing Food not to mention building houses. Out of these schemes could be evolved something compatible with certain uniformity of ideas of collective retirement which would give courage and initiative to a person to face the years usefully employed to the nation when in retirement.

In other words the solution to the problem could be tackled with the same enthusiasm we have in building our Sports Clubs and result in saving the Nation's Social Service Bill in some way with resulting employment. Moreover those in retirement can in this way make a direct contribution to increased productivity which at all times is a vital national need.

The problem in fact should be simple. A pensioner on the threshold of retirement with some capital at his command, time at his disposal and ability and character only needs a sound organisation with people like him to combat the rising prices. It is just a case of action totally lacking now. Surely there is a wide field where the needs of a set of people who have retired could be studied and a clear technique of management of any productive operation with good possibilities could be put down as procedure.

Unless the steadily rising cost of living is matched with increasing productivity in agriculture in Ceylon the final result could be a smash for every citizen. Here lies the crux of the matter even for our pensioners.

## Ceylon's Food Problem

By O. N. Fernando

THE rapid increase of population in the last few years and the instability of food supplies have created another problem in Ceylon—the food problem. Fears have also arisen that the people's food requirements will exceed the food supplies.

In the past, although Ceylon had to face a problem of this type, it was not as grave and imminent as it is today. Historians have shown us how, Ceylon, during the reign of the Sinhalese kings was quite dependent for her food supplies produced in the country. In fact some varieties of food were also available for export. Later we came under the rule of the foreigners and Ceylon was forced to depend for her food supplies from abroad.

Today, Independent Ceylon still depends on other countries for the major part of her food supplies. Ceylon is not the only country that is feeling this dangerous problem. Our former suppliers, Burma, Siam, and Japan have their own food problems, causing them to cut down and restrict their exports to us.

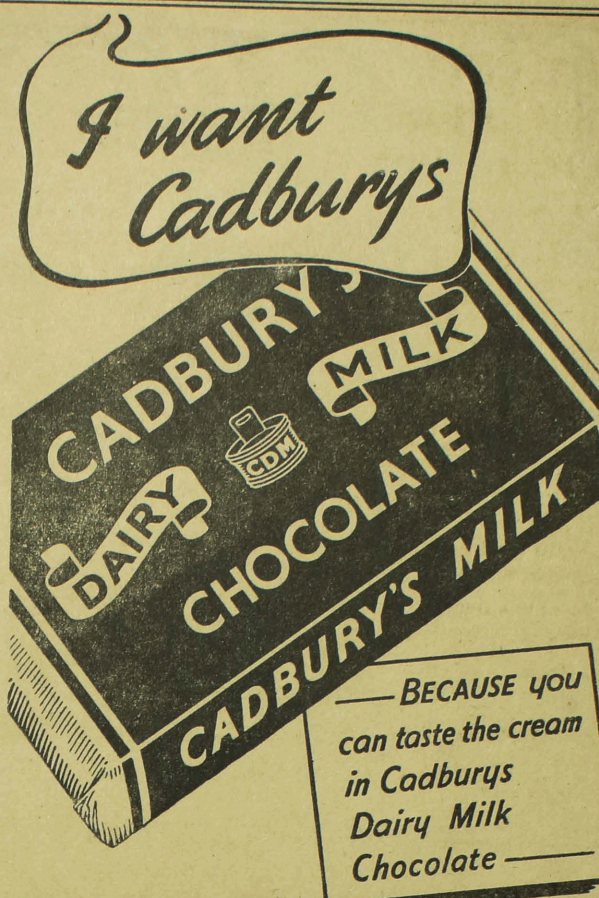
The Government in its endeavour to solve this problem has agreed on a Trade Pact with China. This Trade Pact aims at obtaining a portion of our rice requirements from China in exchange for rubber. This is of great help to us, especially when many other countries have refused to export any rice to us.

The next step that the Government has taken is the so-called "austerity movement." The Government has appealed to the people to cut down the consumption of rice and take to other substitutes such as kurakkan, maize, etc. It aims at making people have one rice meal a day. Further, legislation has been introduced to restrict the use of rice for food requirements in hotels, etc.

The Government aims not only at growing rice, but also other substitutes, such as sorghum, maize, etc. Appeals have been made to the farmers of Ceylon, encouragement has been given to them with the purpose of establishing a stable agricultural industry in Ceylon. Mechanization will greatly help in the stepping up and speeding of food production. The use of the latest manures, fertilizers, etc. would be a tremendous boon to our farmers. Practical aid from countries such as Australia and America would help a lot. The establishment of research laboratories and experimental stations would prove to be of benefit in the long run.

When all has been said and done, we see that the solving of this problem lies in our hands.

Yes! if we are all "sons of the soil," each in his own measure there will be no more food problems which will result in ultimate self-dependence as far as food is concerned.



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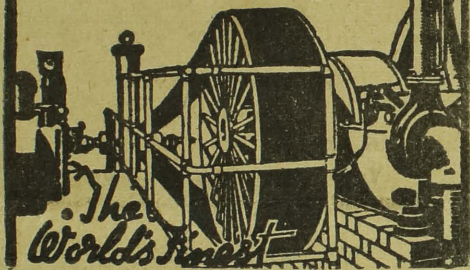


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# The Malay Community in Ceylon

By Fareed Aniff

THE Soulbury Commission made a provision for six appointed members to represent the minority in Parliament at its recommendations for granting Dominion Status to this Island.

Amongst the various communities that go to make the peaceful Ceylonese nation, there is, however, one important race of people, who have contributed vastly to Ceylon's past and present but remain unrepresented in the current affairs of this country. They are the Malays.

Though we lack genuine historical documents, about the early settlement of the Malays in Ceylon, references taken at random show, that the origin of the Malays has been traced to Borneo and Tartary. Others name Java as their homeland which we believe is most appropriate. Be their motherland where it may, the Malays appear to have been one of the earliest commercial powers in the East. Their "prahus" or sailing boats carried their goods which comprised mainly of camphor and spices. The destination of these boats were the Malabar and Coromandel Coasts of India, Madagascar, the African Coasts and the Persian Gulf, where the Malays had strong business relationship. Perhaps, it was when these goods were being transported, the Malays, early in the Christian era, used certain of our coastal towns, Hambantota and Galle as halting places, thus introducing the Malays to Ceylon.

Later, with the fall of the Portuguese, and the strengthening of Dutch Territory in the East, the Malays, brave soldiers as they were, formed the nucleus of the Dutch garrisons in Ceylon. Incidentally, these Malays were drawn straight from Java and Batavia. In Ceylon, they found a new home with an abundance of possibilities, and they decided to make permanent residence here. In 1796, when Colombo was capitulated to the British, the Malays of the army consisted eleven companies (800 strong). Further detachments were stationed at Trincomalee, Batticaloa, etc. These Malay soldiers entered the services of the famous Rifle Regiment of the British in Ceylon.

Other occurrences that led to the settlement of more prominent Javanese or Malays in Ceylon were a series of events from 1706 to 1745. In these years, many famous Javanese were banished to Ceylon by the Dutch. They included Susuma Mankurat Maas, ex-King of Java, Danurajo, first Minister of the Court of Java, Susanan Kining, King of Java, and several other Princes and Chiefs.

### UNDOUBTED LOYALTY

The Malays are all Mohamedans in religion, and have orthodox Aryan up-bringing due to their early subjection to Brahmin and Buddhist influences. They, unlike the Moors, have a language of their own, a motherland and a deep cultural heritage of which they can be proud. They live scattered throughout all parts of Ceylon, but have their stronghold in Hambantota, where Malayan peasant lives a hand to mouth existence today, with the salt pans as their only livelihood. Jagoda, Jakotuwa and Jawela in Galle, Jaela in Negombo and Jawatte in Colombo are some places which have gained their names after Malayan connections.

A noteworthy quality which has undoubtedly impressed many, is the loyalty of the Ceylon Malays, towards their respective rulers.

Under the Council of the British, they genuinely stood by the allegiance made to the Crown, and they took an adamant stand against the Sinhalese, during the bad old conflicts. Later, however, it is revealed in history that the illustrious Captain of the Navy of King Parakrama Bahu the Great was Malaya Ryar, who was a Malay. This leads one to believe that the other Captains of the Sinhalese vessels too were Malays, for history never says that a Yaka or a Naga (men of two of the earliest inhabitants of the Island) were chiefs of the old Sinhalese navy or army.

The Malays have been responsible for many martial deeds rendered for the sake of the Sinhalese. When the years went by, they exhibited these bold qualities in the Ceylon Army, Navy, Fire Fighting and Police units to which they have contributed a great deal in building the present day modern forces of free Ceylon.

Another aspect in which the Malays have played a vital role is the improvement of sports in Ceylon. The Malays are modestly conscious of the fact that they are the oldest cricket club in the Island. Their share towards the betterment of football, boxing, athletics, wrestling and indoor games including billiards and snooker standards, is noteworthy.

### GRADUAL DECLINE

It is with regret we notice that, the Malays in Ceylon have considerably deteriorated in their activities during the last quarter century. Their numbers in the Police and Fire Fighting forces have declined, whilst in the other public departments too, hitherto dominated by the capabilities of the Malays, they seem to loose grip.

In the sphere of education, though many present day Malay youth have shone, very few have achieved the heights reached by those late Malayan scholars, Justice M. T. Akbar and that famous journalist, Maas J. Majeed, who was one of the finest writers Ceylonese have known. It is a pity the responsible authorities have failed to name any of the halls or part of buildings of the University of Peradeniya in the memory of the late Justice Akbar. He was an important personality who advocated the shift and establishing of the University at Peradeniya.

Much of the impetus to Sinhalese culture has been provided by the Malays. The sarong, and the picturesque comb, worn by the Sinhalese in ceremonial costume, were two vital introductions made by the Malays to the Sinhalese people. In the world of oriental dancing too, it was a Malay, the pioneer Tuan Ibbon Allalidin Saldin, who was responsible to breakdown prejudicial barriers and produce the first Sinhalese ballet "Vijaya and Kuvani" at the Regal Theatre, Colombo.

### NO REPRESENTATIVE IN PARLIAMENT

Socially the Malays are a very enjoyable people, the majority of whom do not believe in thrift. This combined with the fact that they have lost interest in the glory of their old commercial ventures, the Malays of Ceylon are today economically a backward race. Poverty among the Malays is taking toll in out-stations, and have also paralysed the younger Malays from doing higher studies etc. This is one reason why the Malays in this Island need a representative in Parliament to look to their interests.

Under the Donoughmore Constitution, the Malays were time and again represented in the old State Council. The granting of Independence and the election of members for the first Parliament saw His Excellency T. B. Jayah chosen to represent the people of the Colombo-Central. During his short term of office, he also kept a vigil over the needs of the Malays in Ceylon. Since he was recruited to the Diplomatic Corps, the Malays have remained unrepresented and unattended.

Can the Sinhalese afford to keep this gallant race, the Malays, neglected forever? It is believed when the Malays recently made representation over this affair to the Hon'ble Mr. Dudley Senanayake, the Prime Minister, he promised to do his utmost in the near future. The task in finding a suitable representative is no doubt difficult, for in the long absence of the Hon. Mr. Jayah, the Malays have not considered any other as their leader—not even the President of the All-Ceylon Malay Association!



# CO-OPERATION THE WORLD OVER

By D. L. Perera

TO win the war against starvation and want is to determine the amount of food and other essentials which could be produced the world over but to achieve this a considerable amount of international co-operation is necessary. Although production methods does not differ very much today it is an accepted fact that certain countries of the world with its latent resources are quite un-co-operative and unmindful of the requirements of smaller countries struggling against economic inequalities. This lack of proper understanding except when it is discussed in terms of dollars and sterling, is the missing link in the producer-consumer chain of international co-operative activity. As a result we find that the organisational structure of co-operatives has been based to meet the particular demands of each country.

In reviewing the various co-operative systems we find that the principles governing co-operative activity remain universally the same except in Russia where there is a whole of a difference. Co-operation in the Soviet falls in line with the Socialist law governing that country, is compulsory and was enforced to destroy private trade. Whereas, in other countries of the world co-operation is a voluntary effort, preserving to the individual as well the right of private trade, a characteristic common to democratic governments. Apart from this the individual producer who has grouped into a co-operative organisation obtains the maximum benefits of his membership, which is contrary to the practice reigning in Soviet Collectives where apart from a denial of the privileges due to the farmer, the bulk of the produce is appropriated by the State.

Looking at the smaller states of Europe, we find co-operative trading in its most developed form. The exchange of goods from one producing area to another is a common feature of co-operative activity and is reminiscent of the bartering system, the first co-operative trading system known to the world. It is well to consider whether the giving directly or indirectly the products of a country's natural resources in exchange for food from food producing countries would foster a system of co-operation which would lead to better international understanding. However that may be, co-operative wholesale organisations have acted as purchasing agents, both internally and externally, of grain and other produce. In India this is common and internal purchases have been resold through the medium of consumers' societies situated in industrial and non-self-sufficient districts. In several other countries, especially those dependent on imported foodstuffs, co-operative consumers' societies have served the States' purpose of control and distribution of foodstuffs, but the main feature of these organisations is the accumulation and sharing of business profits by the constituents of the society. In Ceylon the con-

sumers' movement is well established and in recent times, progress has been made to feed these societies with internal produce of everyday requirements.

The aims of co-operatives in small countries of the world are manifold. In large and self-sufficient countries co-operation is simple procedure as it does not involve that anxiety of waiting for regular shipments of food. Today small and backward countries have awakened to the belief that in agricultural production depends everything and a direct aim of co-operative activity in such countries has been to help rural producers to cultivate more land with a view not only to improve their living conditions but also to help the economic policy of such countries.

Unlike in European countries where rural farmers obtain part-time employment in factories during cultivation off seasons, no such facilities are available to the rural cultivators of the East. Rural indebtedness is therefore widespread and co-operative activity especially in places like India and Ceylon or its neighbouring countries has helped to combat this menace. State aid in this connection has been very liberal, vast acres of land have been freely allotted to landless peasants and co-operative agricultural producers' organisations have been set up to aid rural producers to market their goods without fear of victimisation.

This type of progress is not peculiar to any single country. In Occupied Japan, the displaced peasant soldiers were given land which once belonged to feudal landlords. The co-operative efforts of these peasant farmers helped to ease the local food situation. Particularly interesting would be the advance made by African organisations in Kenya and Uganda where grain produced co-operatively is exported to neighbouring territories. Then we also find Australian co-operative farm and dairy produce reaching all parts of the world. In all these cases of co-operative activity, the main consideration has been a cash and carry system and it is ironical to think that no country in the world has ever adopted a system of exchange of goods from one part to another on a co-operative understanding which would have set the base for a global co-operative scheme.

This ignorance or callousness would have been avoided if co-operative trading methods existed between countries. The United States of America is up to its arm-pits in food but how much of it is wasted when it could profitably help the hungry masses of the world. Ceylon recently agreed to supply rubber to China in exchange for rice when other sources of supply failed. A pact of this nature from a co-operative point of view is ideal, although it will be viewed with alarm by countries whose relations with China are strained. Successful co-operation therefore depends to a great extent on the goodwill and understanding of nations, not colour, prejudice or politics.

## India Will Take Less Time Than Russia

ADDRESSING the last public meeting of his Maharashtra tour at Jalgaon on May 3, Shri Nehru said nowhere in the world had economic revolution taken place without toil and bloodshed. In Russia it took 25 years and a lot of bloodshed. In the U.S.A., it took more time. He said: "I can promise you that India will be able to achieve her goal in lesser time than it took for others. In this task I only ask for your co-operation."

Referring to big landlords, he said that they were definitely retarding the economic and political progress of the country. He said: "Have decided to put an end to the Jagirdari and the Zamindari systems and they will vanish very soon."

Speaking to newsmen who accompanied him on his tour, Shri Nehru said he saw popular enthusiasm as never before. He added: "I do not think that I will see this type of popular demonstration in any country at any time. I am not thinking in personal terms....."

"There is something much more than demonstration in this. There is something elemental about this most popular movement. The mere fact of this taking place is of highest importance and on the whole it is a very hopeful sign of the vitality of the people. This kind of thing would not have taken place if people are spiritless. No revolution in the country has such a great movement of the people as were seen during my tour."—I.I.S.

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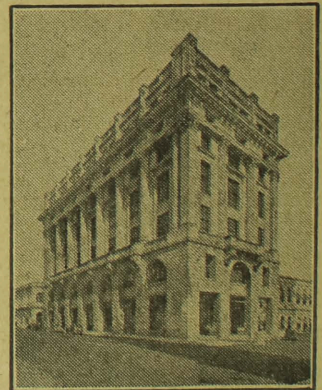
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