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Prime Minister Appeals to the Nation

ALSO THE PUBLIC SERVANTS TO "SEARCH THEIR HEARTS"

"We Are Pledged to the Preservation of Democracy"

SPEAKING after the Member for Vavuniya had commented at great length on the Budget proposals, the Prime Minister observed that the only Member of the Opposition who had made a real attempt to meet the arguments set forth in the Budget speech, and that was the Member for Ruanwella. Quite rightly he had characterised the Budget speech of the Finance Minister as one that required heavy going. The factor that should have been uppermost in the minds of Honourable Members of the House was the picture of the financial position of the country.

The Minister for Finance had endeavoured to give the House as clear a picture as possible of the circumstances which impelled the Government to take the step it had taken. The Member for Ruanwella had taken up some of those arguments and had endeavoured to meet them. But he had also distorted the picture of the financial position drawn by the Finance Minister.

The Member for Ruanwella had made out that the Finance Minister's position was that the adverse balance of payments had been due to the huge food subsidy. But that had not been the argument put forward by the Finance Minister.

The removal of the food subsidy had been a tremendous step. Why had the Government been forced to take that step, and that step alone? Only the financial position had impelled them. No other course had been possible.

THREE FACTORS

Mr. Senanayake went on to explain that three factors went to affect the Balance of Payments. (a) The terms of trade—when the terms of trade were adverse they had an adverse balance of trade. (b) The rate of expansion or contraction in the private sector of the economy. (c) The rate of expansion or contraction in the public sector of the economy. These were three distinct factors. In a given situation one or more of these could be operating, he said. The argument put forward by the Member for Ruanwella, who had asked how, if the food subsidy had been the cause of their financial troubles they had built up their external assets in 1947-48 was not tenable for the following reason: An overall budget deficit was in itself not the problem, but the way in which that deficit was to be financed. If the deficit was of such a size as could be financed by the real savings of the people, of the country, then that deficit could not have an effect on the balance of payments.

SECRET SOLUTION?

Judging from the criticism made by the Opposition, the only alternative constructive proposals had come from the Member for Ruanwella. Of course, some had suggested the closing down of Ceylonese embassies abroad. But the money thus gained could at most ensure rice only for one day. He challenged any other Member of the Opposition to say that he had offered an alternative solution. At least let them tell the

people of the country of this secret solution of theirs.

The Member for Ruanwella had suggested the banning of luxury imports into the country. He asked whether that would automatically solve their problems.

They had to keep their external assets above a certain level, as that formed the backing for their currency. They also should not have had an overall deficit of over • Rs. 80 millions.

POLITICAL NEUTRALITY

Referring to the recent strike attempt made by Public Servants, he said that whatever political opinions Members of the House may hold, they must admit that the members of the Public Service should be politically neutral.

He asked the members of the Public Service to search their own hearts, realise the amount of public money that went into personnel emoluments, and see whether they gave that amount of service to the public and community at large. They, (the public service) owed a duty not to the Government as such, but to the people of the country. He was glad that in those circumstances wiser counsels appeared to be prevailing.

INSTIGATING VIOLENCE

"It would be useful to read some proceedings of the protest meetings held," said the Prime Minister who proceeded to do so. There was a protest meeting held at Moratuwa.

"The following addressed the gathering:

Mr. Rolley Fernando.
 Mr. Watson Fernando.
 Mr. Henry Peiris, N.L.S.S.P.
 Mr. M. Wieman Perera, V.L.S.S.P.
 Dr. Kumaran Ratnam, P. D. Front.
 I do not know what this P.D. Front is. People's Democracy perhaps.
 "Mr. S. T. Peiris, Member U.C.M.
 Mr. Pieter Keuneman, C.C.P.
 Mr. Somaweera Chandrasiri.
 Dr. Colvin R. de Silva".

This is what Mr. Henry Peiris, an ex-Member of this House says: He is a member of the N.L.S.S.P.—

"Create as much trouble as possible in Moratuwa area (Leda danna pulwantaram) on the 12th instant and see that the Moratuwa Police do not go out of Moratuwa on this day, stop buses. Then reinforcement from the Military and the Police from Colombo will come to Moratuwa".

Then there can be trouble in Colombo.

This is what Mr. M. Wieman Perera said:

"People of Ceylon have not yet learned how to pelt stones at buses, trains and how to cut telephone and electric wires. This is the time to learn those things. See what happened in Calcutta recently. You create troubles in Moratuwa and we will create troubles at Kolonnawa."

This will be of interest to the hon. Member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare) "I challenge the Moosala Peretha Aluwihare to come with his Police Force to have fight with all the three Marxist Parties in Ceylon. If the workers at the Colombo Harbour have a few machine guns we will capture the whole of Colombo Fort within a matter of two hours. Meet

the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Police face to face on the 12th instant. We shall not be responsible for any injuries caused whilst travelling on buses and trains."

This is to frighten the people who are coming to work. They say that people have to learn to pelt stones now. They say, "Do not hold us responsible if you are injured on the day of our strike."

Mr. Wieman Perera said further:

"And even the Insurance Companies will not compensate you."

Now there is a Mr. S. T. Peiris who said:

"The people of Ceylon must undergo a course of training at once in the art of pelting of stones at the Police."

"baton drill, throwing of cloth balls—

I have never heard of some of these things—

"cloth balls soaked with kerosene oil at the Police, entering Jails and breaking away from Jails."

DUTY OF GOVT.

"What we say is", said the Prime Minister, "we are pledged to the preservation of democracy. Democracy does not mean the rule of the thug, of the rowdy and the hooligan. I am not attacking the hon. Leader of the Opposition or his Party. I have read his speeches and so far I know what he has said. But it is the duty of any duly constituted government to see that law and order are maintained. Whether it be on the 12th or any other day, this Government will maintain law and order and see that every peaceful citizen who wishes to go about his work on that day or any

(Continued on page 2)

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SOLE AGENTS IN CEYLON.

FUNDAMENTAL ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED

By T. M. G. Samat

THOUSANDS of words both written and otherwise, I see, have been stating that we in Ceylon are facing an economic crisis. It is based on a misunderstanding of our position and the prevailing temper of our people. The truth is rather that we face a fundamental economic disbalance which has to be remedied by fundamental adjustments.

Precisely this is what has happened. We had gained economic advantages during the war which during a period of development placed us in perhaps a falsely strong

position; for those advantages could not have been otherwise than temporary unless we had a commercial and industrial output to pay for wide gaps in self sufficiency in such essentials as Food, Clothing and Shelter not to mention Health welfare and other social needs. Dependent on world movements of world prices these advantages could not have remained with us in any case permanently with our many commitments to our approach to a welfare State. What could have been more fatal flow than a sharp blow brought down by the decline in value of exports relative to our imports? The result was our pre-

sent discontents.

Examination of the disposal of our economic advantages would reveal that a good portion has gone for Food and Development. The question is should holding on to these economic advantages have been preferred to promotion of development of the Island and advantages to be obtained in Food for the people? Clearly it would have been wrong to aim at being a rich nation instead of aiming at becoming a contented nation.

So some of us became accustomed to living a life with subsidised rice and conditions associated with one of the less taxed countries so much that people have come to accept these conditions as our right. The unpalatable truth is that we cannot do so any longer.

In other words during the next few years we face a challenge. Either we work harder and more scientifically or we reduce our material standards of living all round. If we are worthy of the name of a nation the challenge has to be accepted. But it is clear it can only be accepted under a unified sense of collective values working together with enthusiasm if we are to achieve anything substantial. Indeed it can be said that there is hardly any limit to what we can do if the collective values are really appreciated. How could a people who worked rapid adjustments during the war be baffled by problems that are no more difficult than those that were solved during those years of stress and shortages with an enemy who would have come like a bolt from the blue or like whirlwind from somewhere around us?

No tinkering with exchanges nor any attempt to make wages follow prices—like a kitten chasing its tail will serve to fend off the inevitable. Instead of waiting for the goad of final economic necessity to drive us forward we should not wait any longer to make the necessary

adjustments. We should not take any longer to recognise that there are far too many people doing jobs which for all economical purposes are unproductive. Most of these jobs need not be done at all. There are too many engaged in movements like sale of Sweep tickets and industries that cater for amusements who together with their camp followers are economically regarded as Lotus Eaters living in this country. Too much of our national effort is frittered away in competitive duplication and because the distribution of goods and services is less efficient. There are too many people drawing their day's wages for really work done for half a day. Between the basic cost of things to produce and the consumer price there are often too many pickings for too many people.

In consequence we find everybody trying to do a bit of dodging. It is no longer realised that we are all in the same boat and a leaky boat too. So many issues that are national are assuming quite wrongly the colour of party politics. In these conditions when are we going to get our full human resources towards the more basic needs of the nation such as Food, Clothing, Shelter and Health?

Ceylon might not be an intrinsically rich country. But our soil is reasonably fertile and in an agricultural economy supported on the right lines by industry we could instead of putting a drain on external balance of payment build a huge favourable balance of payments. Then the seas round our shores are sufficiently stocked with fish. What is required is the inspiration to live devotedly in peace as in war with as much appreciation of collective values.

Instead of relieving drabness by triviality and trying to build a new Ceylon out of record sales of liquor, sales of race books and sweep tickets and wasting our credits on the importation of too many worthless films let us restore a few of the collective values we have lost.

(Continued on page 3)

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P.M. Appeals to the Nation

(Continued from page 1)

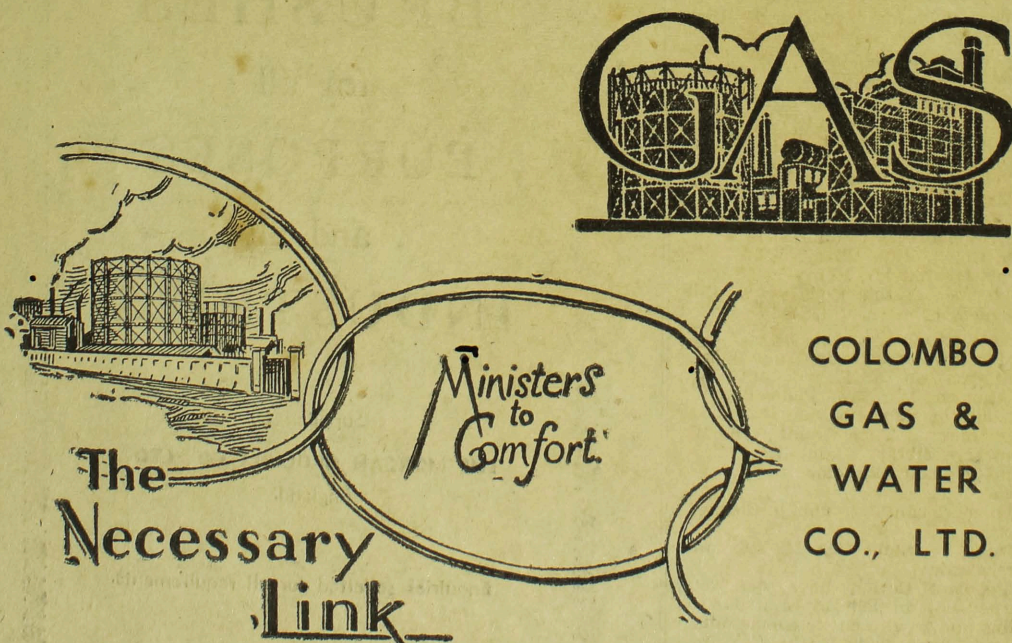
other day, does so and is duly protected in the pursuit of his work of that I can assure this House and through this House, the country.

PROTECT COUNTRY'S INTEREST

We are conscious of the fact that it is our duty to protect the interests of the masses of this country. We are fully conscious of that. And, conscious of that, we would not have taken these drastic steps unless we were compelled to by the circumstances in which we found ourselves; circumstances if not altered, if not checked would mean ruin to the masses as well as to the country as a whole. We have been compelled in the greater interests of this country and for the greater good of this country, to take these steps and we are confident that the people will begin to realize why we have taken these steps. Their sense of patriotism and nationalism will make them see that these steps had to be taken in their own interests and in the interests of the country as a whole. Other countries placed in similar circumstances have had to take similar steps, have taken similar steps.

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE

Therefore, in that full confidence I appeal to the people of this country to realize the circumstances that led this Government to take these measures. It is most unfortunate that the Government was compelled to do this, but think of the generations to come and the loss or the disadvantages we will suffer if we are to curtail all future developments and go on with this swollen subsidy from year to year. It may be—and I have reason to feel—that the price of rice in the years to come, instead of soaring up will come down. The price of rice is already coming down in international markets and, with the passage of time it may cost us less. I may be possible in those circumstances from year to year to reduce the price of rice when it begins to come down. Till these conditions come, the people are being called upon to make a sacrifice; not a sacrifice, but to deprive themselves, for a year or two or till the prices come down of a gift that the Government gave them for five years. It is in that full confidence that I wish to conclude my speech.



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Rubber Re-planting Subsidy Bill Passed

"Luxury of Competitive Industry"

THE Rubber Re-planting Subsidy Bill after considerable discussion for and against, was read a third time and passed during the present Session of Parliament. The purpose of the Bill is to rehabilitate the rubber industry and to give some measure of relief to those engaged in the industry, be they Capitalists or small-holders. Its purpose, further, is to enable rubber growers to produce rubber at a cheaper rate so that "we can compete with our competitors in Indonesia and Malaya."

The objects and reasons appended to the Bill clearly state the purpose:—

"When the vast extents replanted in Malaya and Indonesia come into full bearing it will be impossible for Ceylon to compete effectively with these countries in the world's rubber markets, unless Ceylon too launches an immediate and effective replanting programme."

A NATIONAL ASSET

In a spirited speech commenting on the Bill, the Member for Horana defended that and met point by point every point raised by the Members of the Opposition and urged against the Bill. "The rubber industry is not concerned only with the export of rubber", he said, "it is a national asset upon which the Island's revenue is dependent, in that Government stands to benefit to the extent of Rs. 33,000,000 on export duty alone". Continuing, he said that the Government proposed to finance the scheme out of the proceeds that Government was compulsorily taking from the hands of the producer, namely, ten cents on every pound; otherwise that too would have gone into his hands. So instead of giving that profit back to

him the Government proposed to rehabilitate the rubber industry with that forced levy.

AN ACCEPTED PRINCIPLE

The principle of the Bill was not something which is new, for the same principle has been adopted in New Zealand, where the Government was compulsorily appropriating over 30 per cent. of the cost of the wool exported and giving it back to the producer in five yearly instalments without the payment of any interest.

"So what is the Government doing?" asked the Member for Horana who supplied the reply "This Government is compulsorily levying a cess from the producers and is giving it back for them in instalments in order to rehabilitate the rubber industry."

SMALL-HOLDERS TO BENEFIT

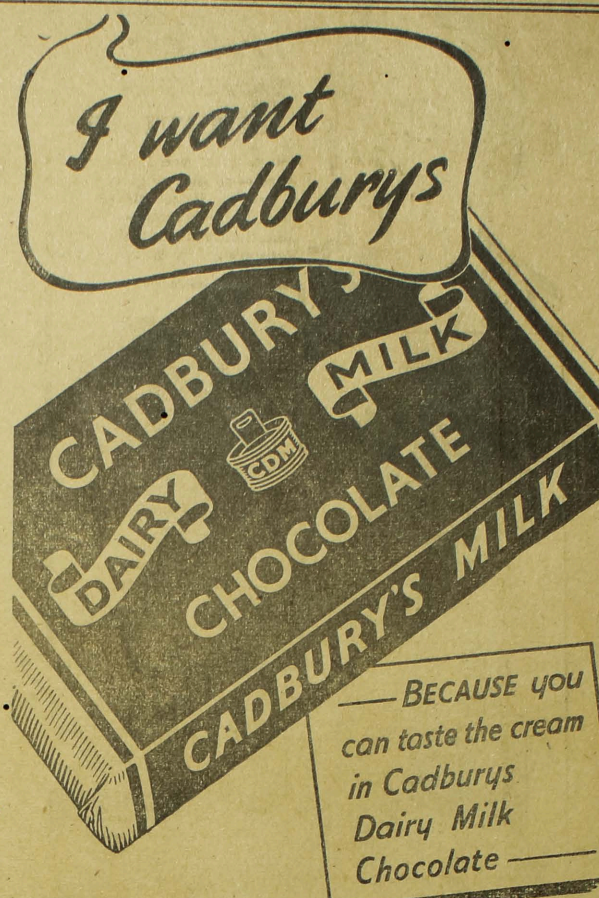
The Capitalist class was not going to be benefited by this subsidy; they need not be given this subsidy at all, because any expenditure incurred by them would be a permissible deduction from income tax. The only people who would be benefited by this Bill are the people who would fall into the category of those who have one to two acres or fifteen acres who pay no income tax. It is a real advantage to them because the subsidy comes from the money levied from the other producers. It was suggested by the Perera-Whitelaw Commission that something should be done to benefit the small-holder. They should be induced to form themselves into co-operative societies and be share-holders to run big estates combining all the small-holdings. Otherwise one could imagine the number of inspections which would be necessitated before the subsidy is given. "Crime will also increase because these small-holders will not be able to divide among themselves the subsidy that is given to them by the Government." In conclusion, the Member for Horana said:—

"I do hope that this Bill which has already been delayed will be quickly put into effect so that the rubber industry, which has been one of the mainstays of our economic prosperity, will continue to give prosperity to the people of this country. There are thousands of people who are dependent on the prosperity of the rubber industry. I would say that upon the rubber industry depends not only the progress of our area, but I might say, our very survival too. It is absolutely necessary in this changing competitive and dynamic world that we must establish our rubber industry on such a footing that we may compete with the rubber industry in Malaya and Indonesia. As Dr. Robertson says in his book "Luxury of Competitive Industry", this is an age where the battle is swift and victory is to the strong."

FUNDAMENTAL ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED

(Continued from page 2)

The adjustments that are necessary need not doom us to any less a full life than we have lived so far. It is true of nations as of individuals that money cannot make folks happy but can only enable them to be miserable in comfort. Indeed if we had less commercialized pleasure and a curtailment of luxury we would have more opportunity for spontaneous flowering of the true arts. No life is more satisfying nor more exciting than that of hard work, simple living and high thinking.



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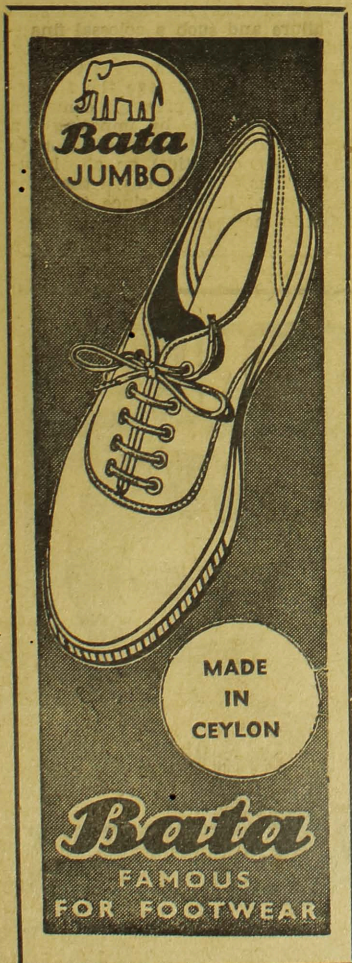
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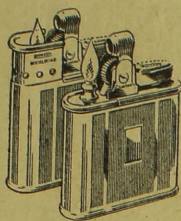
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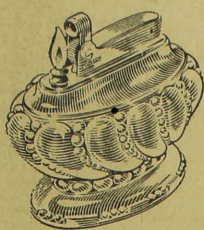
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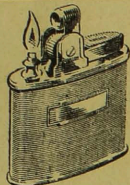
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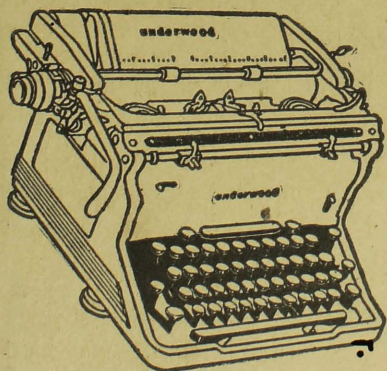
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OPPOSITION'S DAMP FIREWORKS

By Stanley Morrison

THE Big Guns of the Opposition have fired their salvos and badly missed their targets. One of the few genuine intellectuals in local politics, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, could bolster up his arguments against the Budget only with some of the spurious economic theories of his economist colleague, Dr. N. M. Perera, when he fell back on the proposal that the Government should have frozen the dividends of foreign companies in Ceylon? He also repeated Dr. Perera's suggestion that all luxury imports should be banned. The poverty of Mr. Bandaranaike's arguments is undoubtedly not due to the poverty of his thinking on the subject, but to the fact that no really valid criticism of the Budget could be made. Dr. Perera reluctantly admitted this when he paid a tribute to the financial acumen of the Finance Minister in preparing such a Budget at such a time.

As regards Mr. Bandaranaike's reiteration of Dr. Perera's proposal for the freezing of foreign dividends, the utterly fantastic nature of this proposal does not appear to have struck the Leader of the Opposition. Several objections could be raised against it. To begin with, he asks the Government to penalise Ceylon's best customer and friend, the British people, since most foreign companies' dividends find their way to Britain—which, since Ceylon attained independence, has been a far better friend to this country than her neighbour, India. In the second place, if Ceylon were to freeze the dividends of British companies, Britain could, if she wished, recover these dividends from the sales of Ceylon teas and rubber in London. Also if Britain wished, she could withdraw the shipping facilities she provides Ceylon to bring Chinese rice to Ceylon. These are some of the things Britain could do. It seems to be forgotten that the British are still a great power and that unlike some other great powers, they are a very patient people. But the world knows what happens when they lose their patience. Hitler got to know this at a terrible cost. It is a pity, therefore, that the Opposition big-wigs can think of no better means of assisting the Government than making the Government quarrel with this country's best friend, whose ships bring us our rice from China, who is the best friend of some members of the Opposition. Besides, it is Britain today who is fighting hard to win China a seat in the United Nations—an objective which is also dear to the heart of some members of the Opposition.

But, of course, the most powerful objection to the freezing of the dividends of foreign companies is that such a step would frighten away forever all foreign capital which desires to come to this country to develop its resources and to start new industries, which would create new avenues of employment. And if there were serious unemployment in this country in the near future, it will be a terrific weapon for the Opposition to use against the Government. Besides, will any responsible Member of the Opposition dare to say that this country is rich enough to do without foreign risk capital, that is to say, the kind of capital which is prepared to take a venture on some new enterprise which may or may not succeed? It is a notorious fact that Ceylonese capital is normally extremely timid and utterly unadventurous. The policy of the average Ceylonese capitalist is one of "follow-my-leader" in the sense that he will only seek investment in enterprises which somebody else has undertaken and proved to be safe. On the other hand, the foreign capitalist is noted for the spirit of adventure which leads him to embark on enterprises, not in a gambling spirit, but in the faith that his own skill and business acumen will pull him through. The Ceylonese capitalist is notorious for

investing his money in what he calls "safe mortgages." It would be idle to pretend, therefore, that this poor and struggling country could afford to do without foreign capital, especially considering that its population is rising at the rate of 200,000 a year.

Meanwhile, with a dearth of local capital, the rate of direct taxation on income can be said to have reached a dangerous level, in the sense that it militates against an adequate accumulation of capital available for fresh investment. I referred to this in the last two articles I contributed to these columns. And since then there has come into my hands a very interesting special supplement of "Financial Times" of London entitled "A Survey of the British Economy." In this publication two well-known economists, Lionel Robbins and Colin Clarke both warn the British Government against the dangerously high rate of direct taxation in Britain. Their arguments are peculiarly applicable to Ceylon. For instance, take this view of Lionel Robbins: "I should think this to be true if I were thinking of a community, taxed as we are, but not engaged in competition overseas; I should have fears for the future of accumulation; I should have fears for the future of risk-taking enterprise."

"How much more, therefore, is there cause for apprehension in a community such as ours whose standard of living depends so much upon ability to maintain and increase its present volume of exports?" And what does Mr. Colin Clarke say? This is it: "No country which seriously regarded increased exports as a matter of life and death would continue to collect taxation at the rate of 40 per cent. of the national income, as both Cripps and Mr. Butler have done. Nor would it tolerate all the other rigidities and restrictions of modern industrial life."

In the face of the dicta of two such authorities I do not think any reasonable man will quarrel with my contention that, in a young economy such as Ceylon's is, it is more than ever imperative for the Government to encourage the accumulation of private capital and to encourage it to seek investment in new enterprises, considering that Government industrial enterprises have been such a failure and such a colossal financial loss to the whole community. But, at the same time, the Government should discourage the frittering away of large private incomes on luxuries and vice by imposing a heavy purchase tax (in addition to heavy import duties) on all luxuries. This would be better than the banning of luxuries since it will bring in increased revenue.

RANI Sandalwood
SOAP



THE SWADESHI INDUSTRIAL
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Round-up the Tax-Dodgers

By Civis

PATRIOTISM in this country is an unknown thing but it is common for people to feel delighted the moment they have deceived or cheated the Government of a few rupees. How often have we heard men speaking of the achievement of evading payment of income tax. We have also heard how people devise ways and means of not paying the actual amount due to the state according to law. We also know that there are thousands who have escaped the law and yet to be rounded up. These people are responsible, if ever, Ceylon starts on the road to decay or decline. It is therefore the duty of every loyal man and woman in this country to prevent such a calamity and to help the Government by informing the authorities of tax-dodgers and others who give false income returns.

The method adopted to evade the payment of Income Tax are manifold. It is a common practice in this country for business men to maintain two sets of accounts books. One set indicating the correct income and expenditure and the other to fool the authorities and showing a lower income to pay less tax. In this connection many of us are aware of the payment of check roll labour. Here especially the small estate owner pays only an amount very much lower than the recognised and stipulated pay advised by the Labour Department but obtains receipts for the correct and higher amount. For the purposes of Income Tax the figures indicating higher rates of payment and expenditure are furnished thus avoiding the payment of a higher rate of income tax.

Of the thousands who have escaped the payment of income tax we have to include among many other business men, hotel and eating house proprietors. In certain of these premises a day's takings go up to several hundred rupees and the nett profit is considerable. They do not issue printed or machine numbered bills and their accounts for purposes of payment of income tax, are falsified. There should be some legislation which would compel every registered business man to issue a bill. To go further these bill books must bear the frank of the Commissioner of Income Tax to avoid any manipulation of fraud. Unless some such method is adopted tax dodgers will live in peace, content and without fear of detection.

The Income Tax Department should have a separate section, manned by loyal men of the state to deal with the question of rounding up tax dodgers. I had the honour of working in this Department. There is a feeling that due to administrative laxity or perhaps pressure of work satisfactory attention is not being given to the question of getting those men who are liable to pay tax, to settle accounts. There are thousands of persons scattered all over the Island who earn very high incomes but who have avoided payment of taxes. There should be an investigating squad with powers to examine books and visit business places at the spot with a view to

obtaining the lawful tax due to the state.

When we look further into the cases of tax-dodgers, it could be observed that many of them purchase properties under the names of close relations or in the names of their children. This is done in most cases to defraud the state. If everybody adopts this line of action the state will be deprived of a considerable amount of money which is its due. To prevent such losses the whole departmental structure should be tightened up and without any respect for names or persons every suspect who is liable to pay income tax should be hauled up for strict examination. Sometimes one is led to believe the accusation levelled that this Government is too soft and hence it cannot manage its business. If the income tax business cannot be efficiently managed with new ideas and new styles of action, the country and its development is bound to suffer.

It is ironical to think that a vast majority of white collar workers, pay income tax, however small it may be, as a result of their emoluments being noted in the registers, whereas ordinary brokers, caddy keepers, oilman store managers, grocers and the vegetable wholesalers or agents escape the payment of income tax. Then the village mudalalis and the lorry owners who say that only fools pay income tax and the wise escape deserve close attention. We have yet to see or read of a public spirited man who would come forward with a voluntary declaration of income and pay the tax on same, but I believe the day will soon dawn when a closer vigilance by the state will obtain the desired result. I also believe that propaganda appealing to the conscience of the people that it's a crime to defraud the Government will help the position. The members of Parliament are ideal to perform this duty to the country

BUDGET IS THROUGH

THE debate on the most controversial Budget introduced by the Minister of Finance which lasted seven days concluded last Friday when the second reading was passed by the House of Representatives.

For the Opposition the debate was opened by Dr. N. M. Perera and closed by Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Leader of the Opposition.

The Prime Minister met the arguments and explained in detail the factors that went to affect the balance of payments.

He referred to the recent strike attempt made by Public Servants and declared that the Public Service had a duty not to the Government as such, but to the people of the country. He also quoted extracts from inciting speeches made at protest meetings by the Leftists and declared that the Government would maintain law and order and see that every peaceful citizen was duly protected in the pursuit of his daily avocation.

After the reply for the Government by Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam the question was put to the House and adopted by 59 votes to 23.

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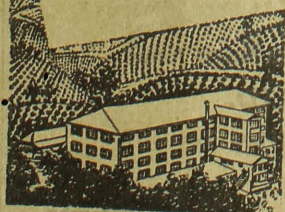


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u.n.p.

Friday, August 14, 1953

WE TOLD YOU SO

The Reds have rendered an incalculable service to the forces of democracy. Their campaign of hate and incitement to violence has given proof of what we always said a "Dictatorship of the Proletariat" would mean. When we spoke or wrote of the stability and peace we had won and preserved, people were apt to scoff at its importance as a national cause. From the security of their homes and in the comfort of easy chairs there were many, at different levels who were inclined to regard Communism and Communist parties as harmless exhibitionists who organized an occasional strike and talked a great deal of nonsense. When we tried to show the true picture: of the grim life in Malaya, of Burma, of Indonesia, of Thailand, of China, of Korea, of East Germany, etc., our local business magnates, our local intellectuals, the educated middle-class, teachers, clubland toffs and a host of others smiled disdainfully at the picture we painted of what could happen here.

What is happening now is just a mere footnote to the main story of Red strategy of terror. Peaceful strikes are only a preliminary, to organize mass action and consciousness. The Lenin text lays down the stages of development thereafter and recommends the gradual pressure that must end in violence. It is necessary for the success of a revolution to rid the fear of police and army uniforms from the minds of the proletariat. It begins with defiance of authority, leads on to blows, to murder of a few, to the use of stones, brickbats, knives, bombs, and finally, after the robbery of arms, to open street fighting and assassination. That is the true, inexorable march of the processes of revolutionary politics. It is not something invented by the local Reds. It is

as old as Marxism, and in practice has a history since 1917. Even the intellectuals and anti-U.N.P. men on the outer fringes of Red parties do not know the full implications of this technique nor of its logical ends.

The events of the last few days should now open the eyes of those who want to live peacefully, to be able to send their children to school in perfect safety, to know that their wives and children who have to go out to work can do so in security, to be able to go to work themselves without their dependants being in a scare all day. Parents were terrorized into keeping their children away from certain schools: and who can blame such parents. Some schools had, therefore, to close for the day. Now those parents will see what the U.N.P. means when it placed public security and safety high up on its election pledges. Those armchair critics who trembled on the 12th had even now better realize what their fate would have been if the U.N.P. were not firmly in the saddle. Businessmen can have had no better demonstration of the value of stable government to their own survival.

The junction rowdy is the proletariat, the man of no faith, no morals, no scruples, no heart, no honour—the plain, unmitigated thug and hooligan. These form the vanguard of the revolution, the expendable agents of Marxist terror campaigns. As for such jellyfish like Bandaranaike, he has already met his destiny. He was afraid to lose his leadership, and the Reds used him up to a point and discarded him. His vain glorious promposity landed him in the mess he himself had created.

Now, at least, all who can think must know that if they cannot themselves fight to preserve their democratic rights, they must help the one Party in Ceylon that can do so. They must now join the U.N.P. in their thousands; contribute to the limit to U.N.P. funds; boycott Red boutique keepers and traders who abandoned the community at a time of need. Do not sell your souls for a measure of rice. Sell it even, if need be, to preserve peace, security, democracy for your children and your homes.

Relief to Victims of Jaffna Gale

IN reply to a question raised in Parliament regarding the measures taken by the Government, utilizing Government funds and contributions from private funds organized by various newspapers, to grant relief to the victims of the Jaffna gale, Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel, Minister of Labour, gave the following information:—

Government funds Rs. 289,201.50.
Private funds Rs. 165,184.72.

Total paid from Government

funds on account of damage to all houses was Rs. 74,383. The contribution from private funds amounted to Rs. 7,870.

The amount paid from Government funds to fishermen for loss of fishing utensils was Rs. 72,605, while from private funds a sum of Rs. 4,830 was paid on this item.

While a sum of Rs. 142,213.50 was paid out of Government funds to cultivators for loss of their crops—a sum of Rs. 106,140 was paid out of private funds.

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The Language Medium in Ceylon Schools

"ON the subject of the language medium the country is suffering from an acute attack of adolescence and any reasonable discussion of it is at present impossible", observes Canon de Saram, Warden, of St. Thomas' College, in his report presented at the prize-giving held recently.

"We shall, no doubt, in due course grow up and face the facts of our situation for we are a sensible people and given time will not fail to distinguish the humbug, the opportunist the demagogue and the fanatic from the genuine lover of his country. In the meantime it would help if (a) those whose ancestors have been in this country as long as any one else's (except of course the Veddhas) are not spoken of as though they were foreigners because they dare to demur against what at the moment may be 'popular' or politically expedient, (b) if considerations of religion were left out of the argument. They are quite irrelevant. Any implication that Christians qua Christians cannot in the fullest sense be loyal and patriotic citizens of this country is either dishonest or indicates a perverted mind. Such attempts to embitter the relations between our people on the ground of religion are a disgrace to the great teacher whose precepts the majority of the people profess to follow.

A CRUEL PARADOX

Nationalism is an importation from the West. The East in its great past knew nothing of it. It is a strange and cruel paradox that just as we are engaged in trying to cast off what are considered to be some of

the poisons of the West we should accept with so warm a welcome this particular virus—and that at a time when the West has painfully discovered that nationalism has served its time and some modification of it, some wider and more generous view, is necessary if the world is to be saved from disaster. One of the harsh and unflattering facts we have to face is that the aggressive and narrow nationalist is, so far from being in the van of modern thought and progress as he fondly thinks he is, just merely behind the times. He is only thinking today what Europe thought yesterday and is attempting now however unsuccessfully to leave behind.

CEYLON'S ROLE IN THE EAST

I believe Ceylon has a role in this matter as a leader to the peoples of the East which is out of all proportion to her size. We have not the same bitternesses in our midst from which so many other people in the East suffer; we have not the same hatreds and cleavages. We have by great good fortune (and, be it freely owned, by the protection offered us by Britain) escaped the ravages of war. We have also as a people a sense of humour—a quality which is closely allied to a sense of proportion. We are therefore in a position to do something which scarcely any other country in the East can do—namely, while accepting nationalism as a potent force, to turn it by wise and courageous leadership through good and fruitful courses to a more generous and more glorious blossoming. But for this something more is required than a slogan which will win the next general election. In the meantime, as loyal citizens we shall endeavour to carry out as well as may be the policy laid down by our rulers though we shall if need be, continue to criticize it."

BRITISH FAMILY STABILITY

By Eardley Gunasekera

THE publication of the preliminary Census report held in 1951 in England has given no valuable information. It shows that whilst only ten per cent. of married women went out to work in 1931, twenty per cent. of married women today are gainfully employed away from their homes. This increase is rather startling if economic factors are considered. Nearly seventy per cent. of the families could be classed in the weekly age earning group and as a matter of fact these families are better off financially today and supply the majority of married women workers.

The expansion of social services in a particular direction has provided a basic minimum when as a result of unforeseen circumstances the normal income from wages ceases. In Britain today, family allowances are paid but not as attractive as provided in France. Furthermore, the efficient system of providing free meals, free milk and free medical services in schools have tended to lessen the burden of the lower income groups. Thus so far as economic matters are concerned there appears to be less pressure on the married woman to become a wage-earner than before the war.

Social surveys have shown that the reason which prompts married women in Britain to work is economic insufficiency and minimum comfort. Though wages have kept abreast of prices there have been examples as in transport where wages are below the average and have not stemmed the rise in cost of living. In Britain it is common for the husband to give his wife a sum which he considers to be sufficient for the housekeeping and

which may or may not reflect a just division of the pay packet.

The housing factor is also important in assessing the reasons which compel the British housewife to seek work. In England a woman may go to work because her living conditions are intolerable. Despite the fact that nearly five and a half million people were provided with shelters there are still a large number living under the most distressing conditions. Even where flats and homes have been provided the woman has had to supplement the income in order to meet exorbitant house rent.

Nearly 90 per cent. of the unmarried girls in England work. The effect of two wars, extensive education and expansion of social services have enlarged the scope of women's employment. The result has been that the women's wages have increased and compares favourably with the wages of men. It must not be presumed that this improved economic position would have affected the incidence of marriage for statistics show that marriage is on the up-grade and fewer people continue unmarried. It has also been found that marriages take place at an earlier age which helps the young married woman to continue in work and make a substantial contribution towards setting up a home.

In Ceylon too there is a similar trend in the incidence of work among women after the war. But for the prevalence of certain customs and prejudices there would undoubtedly have been a greater number of women at work. In Ceylon unlike in England, the working girl after marriage very often ceases to work for wages, perhaps elated by the new state of life she has entered while the husband has to sweat for the daily bread.

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HUMAN RESOURCES

By Bertil Ranasinghe

IT has been pointed out during the Budget debate by members on both sides of the House that human resources are of vital importance in economic development. The World Bank Mission reiterated this view when it maintained that Ceylon's rate of development would be determined largely by the efficiency with which the human resources of the country can be applied to the natural resources within it. In order to obtain the fullest possible efficiency it is evident that the standard of the population's Health, Education and discipline must be raised to the highest level. How has this Government tackled this aspect of the question?

It has probably laid greater stress on the importance of maintaining a high standard of education and health than any other country in South East Asia. This is witnessed in the provision of free education right up to the University and the insistence on rapid slum clearance. The World Bank Mission admits that there is no significant unemployment at present. The problem is really underemployment caused by the concentration of the village population in the presently cultivated lands which constitute a small percentage of the total cultivable acreage. This problem can only be solved by the extension of Agricultural development, the improvement of the methods of cultivation of existing lands and the creation of additional employment outside the agricultural sector. It is precisely for these reasons that the food subsidy was decreased. The money needed for the solution of

both the Labour and the Food problems could only be raised by this unpopular measure.

But the adherence to a traditional way of life by the sections of the population which should form the backbone of Ceylon's economic development is a grave hindrance to it. For example Religious influences have excited a conservative pressure and the Caste System has created a tendency to avoid job changing among the rural population. Similarly the Western Educated class has treated Agricultural occupations with dislike and even contempt. Will the urgency of the situation lead to a radical change in these unfortunate attitudes of the people? Surely it is unfair to blame the present Government for the existence of these attitudes.

The greatest defect is that the spirit of the nation is rather weak. A remarkably unfortunate lack of initiative, self-confidence, experimentation is observed among the people. The best remedy for this defect rests in the timely appearance of a leader who will whip up initiative and self-confidence among the people. He is Sir John Kotelawala who in his characteristic knightly fashion taught the people the way to fight the pro-opposition thugs who are a menace to progress. Sir John can best perform the task of awakening our people from the sleep of inefficiency, corruption and despair into a glorious new era of peace and prosperity for all. He has begun this great task in a very auspicious manner by his gallant call to save Democracy. May this task be completed on the same triumphant note.

Aureomycin Treatment for Pneumonia

VIRUS pneumonia—a type of pneumonia which is so unlike most forms of pneumonia that it is often referred to as "atypical" pneumonia, and a type also which has in the past resisted almost every form of treatment—has finally yielded to attack by the versatile antibiotic, aureomycin, according to latest case history reports published in medical journals in the United States, Great Britain, France and the Scandinavian countries.

For many years, pneumonia was considered as a single disease and doctors were baffled by the differences in the results obtained in treating patients suffering from it. Some cases yielded easily, others were very difficult to treat, and still others resisted all forms of treatment. Research finally revealed that there actually are many kinds of "pneumonia" and even today the specific organism or bodily condition that causes some forms of pneumonia is not known. The term "pneumonia" is used now simply to describe an inflammation of the lungs and related parts of the breathing apparatus. To identify the specific type of disease involved, you must name the organism causing it.

Certain forms of pneumonia have been treated with the chemical drugs known as the sulfonamides

and even more successfully with the antibiotics, penicillin and streptomycin. However, these substances are specific in their action—that is, they are effective in only one or perhaps two forms of pneumonia, and ineffective in other forms. In the case of virus pneumonia none of these is effective.

When the research staff of the Lederle Laboratories Division of the American Cyanamid Company announced the discovery of aureomycin, doctors found that they had a weapon—a "shotgun"—which was effective against all forms of pneumonia, including the deadly viral pneumonias. This "shotgun" action of aureomycin soon proved to be a great lifesaver.

Recent medical literature has reported more than 200 cases of viral pneumonia, and nearly 350 cases of unspecified or mixed pneumonias successfully treated with aureomycin. In addition, aureomycin has proven its wide range of effectiveness by its use in the successful treatment of many other infections and diseases.

Now that aureomycin is readily available to the medical world from Lederle's several plants throughout the world, its widespread application in the treatment of disease should bring increased health and a longer life-span for thousands.

THE NEED FOR STOCK-TAKING

By M. S. A. Farouk

A GOOD habit that many of us have is to take stock of ourselves every now and then to find out how far we have advanced or retreated from where we started life; to find out where we stand today; whether the form of life we follow is the generally accepted one; whether our life has brought profit or loss these are some of the important things that almost everyone of us should do to verify our own questions and their results.

From the cradle to the grave we are all always gathering knowledge to better ourselves from what we were. Our quest for knowledge is limitless and our Faith in God is unbreakable. Those who become a victim to the opposite of these two important principles of life are to be pardoned if the occasion so requires and not otherwise. Hence our stock-taking will show us where we are from what we were and help us to lead a life both worthy and useful.

A good illustration for our purpose of this so-called stocktaking is the present condition of our own country. Years ago a good percentage of the people were illiterate as facilities were inadequate. Today the Government has and is providing almost all the required facilities that it can render to raise the standard of education. "The foundation of a nation is Education" said Tagore and I think it is highly commendable that the Government is prepared to spend millions on our education. Not only in the field of education but also on Food, Clothing and Housing. These of course, are the vital necessities for man to live and it is the duty of every government to provide its people with them to live. But we cannot expect the government to

carry on supporting us without a little aid rendered by everyone of us to prevent any crisis. While mentioning the fact that it is the duty of the Government to provide its people all the principle requirements let us not forget the vital fact that the government is ours and that it requires the whole-hearted support of everyone of us.

When our country was rich we were provided well, taxed little and given more of everything but we did not stop to think that it was not possible for our Government to carry on that way throughout and hence if a financial crisis or a food problem has occurred we must all blame ourselves for that. It is not necessary to mention here about our food problem or the financial crisis since we are all aware of these two problems and many have talked on them. The only thing that now remains is for everyone of us to render every possible aid, be it small or big, that our government requires to carry on its rule. If on the other hand we collect ourselves into different groups and try to make matters worse by protesting at measures adopted by the Government to control the present critical situation then to a very great extent we will have to blame ourselves for any ill-feelings created among ourselves. At the moment I am reminded of the present troubles created by some hoodlums on the Budget Day and since much has been said about it let us pass over it not trying to forget the affair. Even though the affair was small yet the damage was done and once again we are the defaulters. This incident at Galle Face Green is almost the first of its kind and I wish those trouble creators will realise the damage that they have done to the national prestige of Lanka. Time alone will tell them!

CHILD SLAVERY IN CEYLON

By Nilhan

IT was a cold morning. The sun was still below the Eastern horizon. A little girl, no older than five years, thin, frail, with a weary look on her face was slumbering peacefully. Ah! the care-free sleep of an innocent child knows no equal. She had been exquisitely beautiful when she was born, and yet her lips were as red as a ripe "jambu", her eyes were as dazzling as a ruby. A cold wind blew across the open room. She who was known as Emelia curled herself nearer to the dog sleeping on her mat. The warmth of the dog's body was a blessing. The mutual warmth was a tremendous help to each other on these cold, chilly nights.

Suddenly, the dog growled and straightened up. A lone cock had crowed, breaking the silence of the early hours of a cold morning. It could not be later than 3 o'clock. A man staggered towards the little girl—her master. "You lazy hound" he yelled sleepily. The girl slept on undisturbed. Taking a step forward he kicked the girl viciously on the ribs. "All you can do is sleep," he barked. Emelia accustomed to such rude awakenings stood on her feet and moved towards the kitchen door.

In the kitchen, Emelia was expected to prepare the tea and then she had to clean up the house. She proceeded with her work.

The sun was throwing its bright rays, but, in the heart of Emelia there is not one ray of joy or hope. Thinking of the day ahead she heard a quick step. Her master again. In his hand is a whip and then it cracks harshly on her frail figure. A tear falls down as she sees that whip—the common bond between her and the neighbours' dogs who come nosing around, coming down on her tender skin. The

reason—she has not tied the dogs. As she moves to the doorway the whip bites her tender face and lips. The falling tear drops cause the wounds to burn her. She does not speak a word even of apology.

What is all this, you ask me. Fiction? Far from it. There is not even a slight exaggeration of the truth. I could repeat hundreds of other stories. Children being burnt with firebrands like animals, whipped like horses, scourged like bulls. Yes! I am calling to your minds the problem of Child Slavery in Ceylon.

We are said to be in a free country. All individuals are supposed to be free. Is this true? I answer daringly, "No! a thousand and one times No. The slaves employed in some homes are no less free than a fish on dry land. You must have seen the disgraceful appearances of some child slaves. You must have heard the hoarse, stifled helpless cry of an unfortunate child and surely, you must have felt a pang of sorrow and compassion to this daughter of misfortune—a helpless child slave.

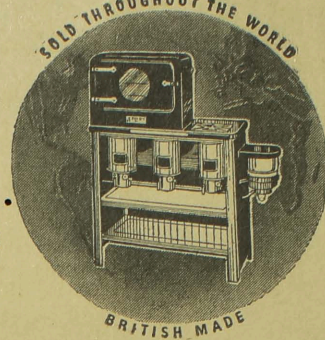
Are we going to remain and be told that we had eyes to see and we saw not, that we had ears to hear and we heard not? These are questions which face the people of free Lanka. Are we going to see one of our brethren, one of our fellow-countrymen being trampled and trod upon, because he had the misfortune to be born of poor parents or during a period of economic crisis? What right have we to deny the freedom that every single individual of free Ceylon is entitled to?

"Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves and under a just God cannot long retain it!" said Lincoln. Where is freedom from fear when fear binds them to their work? Where is freedom of thought? Where is freedom of speech? Where is freedom of action?

(Continued on page 11)

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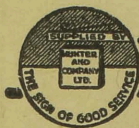
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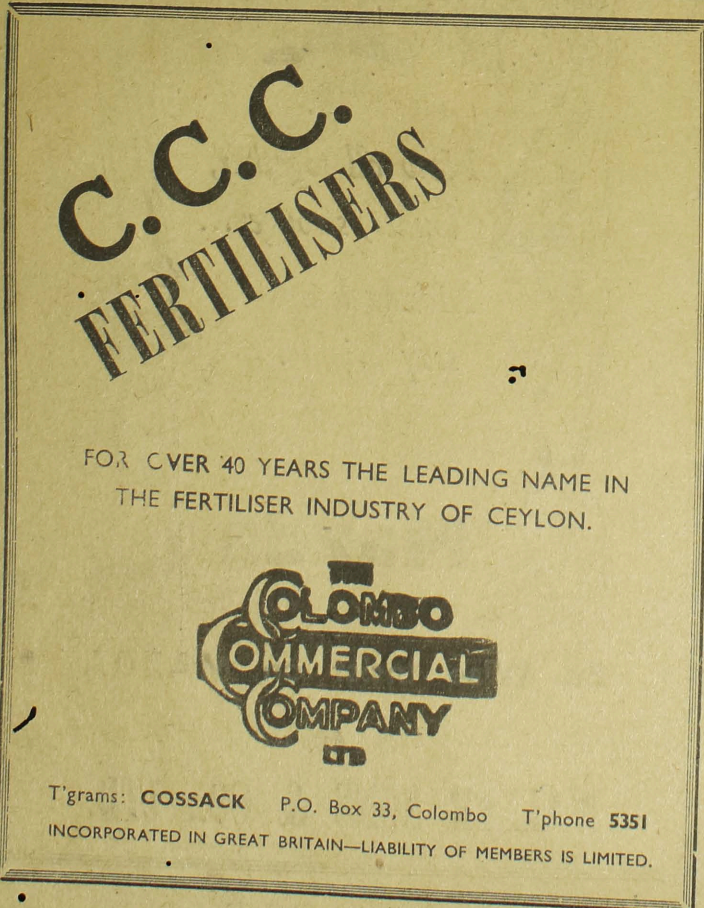
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By Wilson Siriwarnasingha

The Kinnarayas, in the same way as those who belonged to other castes had to perform their duty of mat weaving and they produced mats in such a vast scale that they succeeded in meeting the demands of the whole Island. Kinnarayas still believe that their life would be endangered if they are to give up their traditional occupation.

Apart from mat weaving Kinna-
rayas are noted for their Sokari
Netuma—a folk play that is very
popular in Ceylon. Just as their
mat weaving industry their tradi-
tional Sokari dance too has a long
and an eventful history. Sokari is
their chief means of amusement.
The cast of the play comprises only
of male actors and is staged under
the guidance of a person known as
Gurunanse. Long ago this folk-
play was very common in Ceylon but
today it is confined only to Kinna-
raya people.

Justice Gratiaen, the Ideal Thomian

"We welcome him with great pleasure and that for many reasons," said the Warden. "For one thing he is what we regard as the ideal Thomian, one who combines with effortless ease, brilliance of intellect with athletic distinction and a wide and sustained interest in many things, the kind of person who gets through an incredible amount of work, excellently done in the minimum of time and can then turn with undiminished zest to sport or literature or music. For another he has, what we value so much, a great and abiding loyalty and devotion to the school. He was at the school at Mutwa, and came over with it to

Mount Lavinia; so that he belongs to that generation of Thomians who were at the school and stood by it in the difficult time of its transplantation. He is a product of the great days of Stone and C. V. Pereira and Navaratnam and was an embarrassment, as I remember, to those in charge of him because he always passed all his examinations much too well at much too early an age. He was also, believe it or not, a very swift runner and in later days, as you will have no difficulty in believing, a formidable person to meet on the rugby field. There are, I understand, some people who would like to banish him because he has had the courage to make some very just remarks in criticism of certain unfortunate tendencies that have manifested themselves in our public life, but, for our part, we would assure him that he is and always will be most welcome in our midst. We consider his presence with us today a great honour."

Juvenile Delinquency

By O. N. Fernando

JUVENILE delinquency is not a problem that is limited to the present age. Innumerable cases have been recorded in the past, where men and women, who were incorrigible delinquents, when they were young, grew up to be criminals and murderers, who usually ended with a rope round their necks. The main cause of juvenile delinquency, during these ages, was invariably economic stress which acted in an indirect way. The ways and means adopted for the stamping out of this problem included the administration of corporal punishment to delinquents. As could be expected the problem was never solved satisfactorily.

Today, juvenile delinquency is the headache of many leaders. Faults committed by juvenile delinquents vary from cigarette smoking to sexual diversions. Robbery, damaging of public property, bullying and leading others in their footsteps are among the more common faults of delinquents.

Juvenile delinquency should obviously be considered a major problem in democratic Ceylon. The reason for this is that the proper development of the youth of a country is essential in the interests of the preservation of law, justice, order and a rightful sense of freedom in the country. It was only recently that the C-Plan authority on juvenile delinquency, Mr. Hamlin, observed that there was even "an academy for pick-pockets in Colombo where young prospective pickpockets are trained in the art. This is indeed an alarming state of affairs, but we are glad to note that the Government has realized this.

Let us examine the causes of the rise of juvenile delinquency with an eye on Ceylon's problem. Primarily it must be mentioned that economic reasons are the cause of the fall of many. This is perhaps the major cause of the incidence of juvenile delinquency in Ceylon. The "financially embarrassed" parent usually sells his child as a slave, or he is given full freedom so that he can beg for his food or earn a living, even at the tender age of 4 or 5 years. Result—the child goes on the easy path of delinquency. Then we have the delinquent who is led away in his innocent ignorance, by others to commit various crimes. The dope peddler and the bookie figure very conspicuously in this set up. The child is trained and taught by adult experts to go about his job without

getting into trouble. Films, too, play a not inconsiderable part in the moulding of the juvenile delinquent. A recent survey showed that many delinquents attributed their state of helplessness to films. The idea of easy money and the criminal getting away with it prompted many to making a career of crime. In general the basic causes are economic poverty and lack of education.

The approach towards solving this problem has changed considerably in the past few years. A more sensible and rational way has been devised which dispenses and contrasts with the old systems of corporal punishment. The attitude is concerned more with the prevention of delinquency than with the actual remodelling of the delinquent. Where the remodelling of the delinquent is concerned more psychological and reasonable ways of action have been devised. Juvenile courts and borstal institutes try to impress upon the mind of the individual the ideas of the baseness of crime, and of his usefulness in the world. Invariably they learn a trade which helps them on in later life. The methods work in such a way as to show him that he is not an outcast. The absence of usual prison atmosphere and habits such as showing of heads, wearing of uniforms, etc., serve to remove from him the sense of guilt and shame. These methods ultimately tend to move the delinquent on the right path.

In Ceylon today much work is done towards solving the problem of delinquency. The Borstal Institute (Wathupitiwela), The Reformatory (Maggona) are the major institutes for the rehabilitation of delinquents. A special point which is very encouraging is the series of Street Boys' Clubs. They serve an admirable purpose and deserve all encouragement and help. Of course, the basic causes of economic distress and lack of education should also be tackled.

It is obvious that juvenile delinquency is a problem that cannot be stamped out in a hurry. On the contrary, time, nature's great healer, will help in the gradual disappearance of this ugly fault. The methods that are being used today are quite reasonable and one can safely assume their success as desired. Results have been very encouraging and perhaps in the near future we can hope to see the death of this unwanted spoiler of the race and its younger generations.

Trinco G. C. S. U. Branch Opposes Strike

AN emergency Special General Meeting of the Trincomalee Branch of the General Clerical Service Union was held on the 30th July, at the Kachcheri Welfare Room. Mr. T. Umapathysivam, the Chairman, presided.

The following decisions were taken and the Hony. Secretary, Mr. Mervyn St. C. Nicholas, was directed to inform the Parent Union accordingly:—first that this Branch Union deplores the attitude of the Public Servants to embark on a strike at this juncture, and that it was against a strike; secondly, that the grievances be redressed by legitimate and just means; and thirdly, that the Public Services should not resort

to this extreme method against our Government before exploring other means of redress of wrongs perpetrated.—(Trinco Cor.).

CHILD SLAVERY IN CEYLON

(Continued from page 9)

The solution to the problem lies in the hands of the citizens rather than in the Government. I appeal to you, today, to do your duty by free Lanka by contributing your effort to stamp out child slavery. Hark! the cry of a helpless child. Listen to the prayer of an unfortunate brother.

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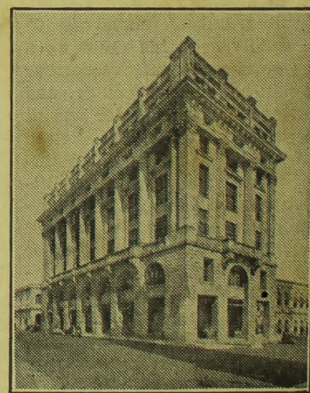
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