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MINISTERS RETURN FROM LONDON

Sterling Balances and Aviation Talks Successful

SIR OLIVER GOONETILLEKE

and Mr. J. R. Jayewardene returned to Ceylon on Monday. They have brought certain very favourable recommendations in regard to Sterling and Dollar balances which will be placed before the Cabinet next Thursday.

Both Sir Oliver and Mr. Jayewardene are happy over the unanimous decisions arrived at with the representatives of the U.K. and are optimistic of their acceptance by the Cabinet and the country.

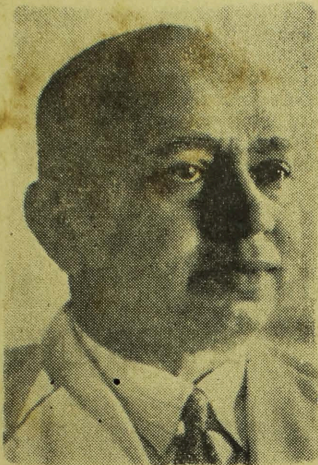
RESERVE BANK

The Ministers have also discussed details with the officials of the Bank of England for the establishment of a Reserve Bank in Ceylon which will be a reality in the near future.

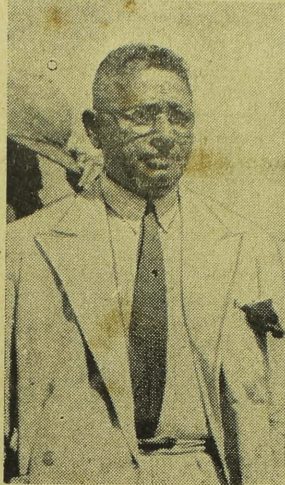
Messrs. N. U. Jayawardana and K. Williams will submit a comprehensive scheme upon their return to the Island after a close study of the English Banking system.

AVIATION TALKS SUCCESSFUL

A comprehensive report of the aviation talks with Pakistan and London will be submitted to the Cabinet by Col. J. L. Kotelawala who returned to Ceylon yes-



Sir Oliver Goonetilleke



Col. J. L. Kotelawala



Mr. J. R. Jayewardene

terday with Messrs. Chandrasoma and de Alwis who accompanied him to London.

Col. Kotelawala is enthusiastic over the co-operation of the aviation officials both in Pakistan and London and assures that Ceylon will secure her share of the aviation traffic between Ceylon, Pakistan and London immediately.

WHAT IS FREEDOM?

By K. Stephen Perera

PERHAPS no other word in the English language has been so misunderstood and misrepresented as the word Freedom. So much so that the poet Milton shouted at the top of his voice, "Freedom, what crimes have been committed in thy name?"

People have had, and still have, different conceptions of this thing called freedom. One school of thought believes in that kind of "freedom" which allows people to live their lives just as they please. That is the wrong conception and it is rightly called "the freedom of the wild ass."

It is not my intention here to draw up a list of the thousand and one different conceptions of freedom, but rather to make a few observations on the subject.

Freedom in any context should not mean licence. Real freedom comes from within: it is not injected or imposed from without.

When one thinks too much of individual freedom one is apt to be selfish and narrow in outlook. The happiness of the hawk, it is said, is the misery of

the linnet. And freedom should not be something that benefits one at the regrettable expense of another. It should rather benefit all, irrespective of class, creed or community. There are no racial barriers to freedom. It is better to be free rather than to belong even to God's own chosen race, whatever that may mean. Freedom, like Truth, is higher than religion. In fact, no religion worthy of its name, will try to take away that freedom which is the birthright of every human being.

Freedom, like matter, cannot be destroyed. Though crushed it rises again and again. From time to time Hitlers and Mussolinis are born into this world, they have their day, they challenge the might of freedom, and fall with a crash. Yes, freedom, so to say, goes on for ever. And what is more, it creates and throws up its own champions and defenders when threatened by evil forces.

In our own little island political freedom has been won. Economic freedom, we are assured, is already in the making. Freedom of worship we have been enjoying for quite a long time now. But what are all these freedoms worth, if we do not train ourselves for true citizenship and try to understand the other man's point of view?

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BEWARE OF IMITATIONS

Mr. A. E. GOONESINHA EXPOSES THE COMMUNISTS ON MAY DAY

The following is the full text of Mr. Goonesinha's address at the Labour Meeting at the Colombo Town Hall last Saturday:—

"We are celebrating May Day for the 20th time in this country. May Day is Labour Day, and celebrated by workers the world over. Its great aim is to establish the solidarity of the working classes. We have in this country worked for such a desideratum, but with due consideration to the needs and the progress of the country as a whole. Workers are as important a factor in nationhood as any other; and as such, it is incumbent upon those who rule the destinies of a country to give them their due status in it. Right through these long years extending to very near three decades, this has been the aim of those of us who have been in the forefront of the Labour movement.

We can look back with pride and gratification on the success we have achieved. A great deal more has to be done and that will be done notwithstanding the disruptive forces that are operating today to the harm and detriment of the country and to the suffering misery and wretchedness among the working classes. A world force perhaps more diabolical than the fascist holocaust that was destroyed a couple of years ago by the determined efforts of the great democracies.

is now spreading its tentacles over the free countries of the world for their enslavement to one dictatorship. This monstrosity has on its approach darkened our land, deadened our soul and is destroying our culture and civilisation. Even the domestic life of the individual is assailed. The son stands in bold defiance of the mother and father.

The workers who had organised themselves under one banner and worked courageously for the securing of their Rights and Privileges stand disunited, confused and are suffering. The activities of the Satanic agents in the recent past are familiar to you, and it does appear many have discerned by practical experience the fate that awaits a country.

The Communist agents are well-known today. They have come into the open with their sordid work of destruction. By fantastic promises, the worker is led away. He becomes a ready pawn to destroy his own country, and all that is sacred to patriotism.

The movement that I led for over a quarter of a century did not divorce the material from the spiritual, self-interest from the country's interests. The nobility of the Soul in the worker is being destroyed today.

In this hour of travail then I call upon the workers of Sri Lanka to unite in a great endeavour to battle against these enemies of our Motherland, to free ourselves from the thralldom of a foreign

Dharma, and establish the culture and the civilisation that lived for over two thousand five hundred years, and which today is the wonder and admiration of every foreigner. The cult of hatred and murder should never find response from you.

He is your enemy and the enemy of your motherland. Those who joined him have sold their country in other parts of the world. They are the Quislings—the Traitors. A careful examination of their modus operandi would disclose their motives. The strikes they organised are for the express purpose of creating chaos in the land—viz., revolution and overthrow the government, your government established by you by the exercise of your vote. Those who govern you are elected by you, by the laws they formulate you are governed, and by the exercise of the vote again you can throw them out. That is how democracy is worked and there is no doubt that the democratic form of government is the best at all times.

In 1928 giving evidence before the Donoughmore Commission I asked for adult franchise in order that the weapon of strike may be used, difficult and dangerous as it is, so that your battles may be fought in the Councils of State—in Parliament. This being a government of the people, for the people by the people no policy but peace and happiness of the people must be the great fundamental concern of those who hold the reins of government today.

The Labour Party joined the government to achieve this end and however lonely the voice, it is raised loudly for the vindication of your Rights. Much may not be achieved but I am hopeful that a good deal could be secured acting in the way we do now.

On this day of the workers then I call upon the workers of Lanka to unite as one people in Free Lanka to bring happiness and contentment to all sons of the soil and for the greater Glory of our common Motherland.

Mr. R. G. SENANAYAKE'S INSPIRING EXAMPLE Bringing the Party's Policy to the People

THE strength of a political party depends on the drive and determination of its individual members. This is a platitude of politics but it does not seem to be widely appreciated here.

Honesty and a willingness to face the facts should force us to admit that too many of us leave the hard and practical tasks to the leaders. The burden of indicating the Party's plans, the task of counteracting Leftist propaganda has been largely left to the Prime Minister, to Col. Kotelawala, to Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike and Mr. Dudley Senanayake. Too many of us trade on the personalities of the leaders.

While the leaders should be active the rank and file should exert themselves to propagate the views of the Party to take the Party's policy to the people and so rally them behind the U.N.P.'s programme. There must be energetic action on a nation-wide scale by every party member.

There is one member of the Party who is most conscious of his duty to his country, of his obligations to his Party. That is the young Member of Parliament, Mr. R. G. Senanayake.

In the last fortnight he has been busy organising political meetings in his constituency. He has been telling the people what the Party means to do for them. The mammoth rally in Alawwa is an inspiring example of how a Party member should nurture the roots of his Party among the people.

At the Alawwa meeting Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Mr. Bandaranaike and several others spoke. The nucleus of a party is its local organisation and Mr. R. G. Senanayake is showing how the Party's strength can be developed. If his activities inspire other members we shall soon have a militant organisation as powerful as the Indian National Con-

gress. We shall have a party of Ceylon's patriots.

At the moment the Party concentrates criticism of the Leftists. This type of political activity alone is inadequate. We must bring before the people the Party's manifesto, and draw the people themselves into our ranks so that we can march forward to build a new Lanka, a new Lanka built by the willing co-operation of the people.

Mr. R. G. Senanayake's example needs to be emulated, especially because our Party needs to consolidate its organisation. Party activity must not be left to the Parliamentary group alone. There are many members of the Party who are not in Parliament. They should bring their skill and education to the tasks of organising the party and establishing its branches all over the country. Public meetings are not the only way of propagating the party's programme. A public meeting has little value in itself. The points made at a mass meeting must be reinforced by discussion in little group meetings where the rank and file too participate in debate. Otherwise, people would attend a mass meeting, drawn to it by the glamour of personalities and when the meeting is over go away with little in centre to reflect on what they have heard. In order to imprint the Party's ideology firmly in the minds of the masses, to seek their consciousness with the Party's policy, it is necessary that there should be frequent activity by Party members, especially through village groups and similar smaller units. The unobtrusive work, which lays a steady foundation is that which works.

If in each village there is one Party member, however humble he is, then the Party's programme can be the more easily propagated and the party could be said to have a contact among the people.

Mr. R. G. Senanayake has begun a programme of vigorous activity. If he is supported by other members, if his work is repeated in other areas the Party would have become an invincible force within the country.

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THE UPROAR IN MALAYA

Our Pioneers Must be Told they are Gentlemen

By 'Caliph'

INFERIORITY complex brings out the worst in a man. This is true of our "heroic" Pioneer Corps who have been hitting the headlines five times in two months! It is no credit for Ceylon, of course. For it was not courageous deeds nor military efficiency and brilliancy nor disciplinary conduct that put Ceylon on the world newspaper map. It was just rowdy riots.

Before we strike at the root of the trouble let us list the causes of the riots: bad food, poor pay, bad treatment, and recently—a woman! The causes are so divergent in character that it makes it absurd to believe that there is nothing underlying all these disturbances. I believe it is inferiority complex.

SCUM OF THE EARTH

I HAD occasion to talk to a few returned Pioneers. "We are treated like the scum of the earth even by our own people," one of them told

me. For instance, on our preliminary marches before we set out of Ceylon a few Ceylonese in the morning queue at the Regal Theatre remarked: "Here come the rowdies." Naturally we were hurt. So we broke ranks and assaulted him. Further trouble was avoided by the Sergeant in charge."

"What our predecessors did is none of our concern," said another. "We try to hold the flag of Lanka high in Malaya. But the moment we arrive we are looked on both by the officers and the populace as if we are some deported convicts landed in Malaya instead of being dumped on the Andaman Islands."

Another Pioneer told me that people in Malaya believe that the men of the Corps are being sent away from Ceylon to reduce thuggerly and crime in that Island. When he and his comrades landed in Malaya he overheard an officer say: "We are going to get more riots from these thugs."

"If the dirty lie is drilled into us that we are nothing but thugs and crooks and we can do nothing but riot then

where is the opportunity for us to show our mettle?" they ask.

LIKE GENTLEMEN

THEY are right. Let us grant them the status they desire and treat them like gentlemen. Let us rid them of that inferiority feeling. We may still have good men to give Ceylon a good name in Malaya.

We sent a venerable Buddhist priest and an Army Officer to investigate. Their report is not out. But what we must send to Malaya is a psychologist, who could examine Pioneer by Pioneer and rid them of their inferiority feeling. Let us give them that chance. For after all, they are our men.

Just as I was closing this paragraph my wife thrust the morning "Daily News" on to my desk. In bold headlines was the story:

CEYLON PIONEERS CAUSE CINEMA PANIC

(From Our Correspondent)

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 3
While the Court of Inquiry was sitting

in the Federal capital, recording the evidence of victims of the Ceylon Pioneers' riots a week ago, news was received of a clash on Saturday between Pioneers stationed in Kedah State and a party of soldiers from the Malay Regiment, in which bottles, sticks, stones and penknives served as weapons for both parties.

The trouble, it is alleged, started over a woman in front of a cinema. From here the Pioneers are alleged to have proceeded to another cinema some distance away, entered the hall and clashed with men of the Malay Regiment, causing a panic among the audience and stopping the performance.

FIGHT SPREADS

The fight then spread to the junction of the two roads in which the respective cinemas are situated. During the fight civilians bolted for safety.

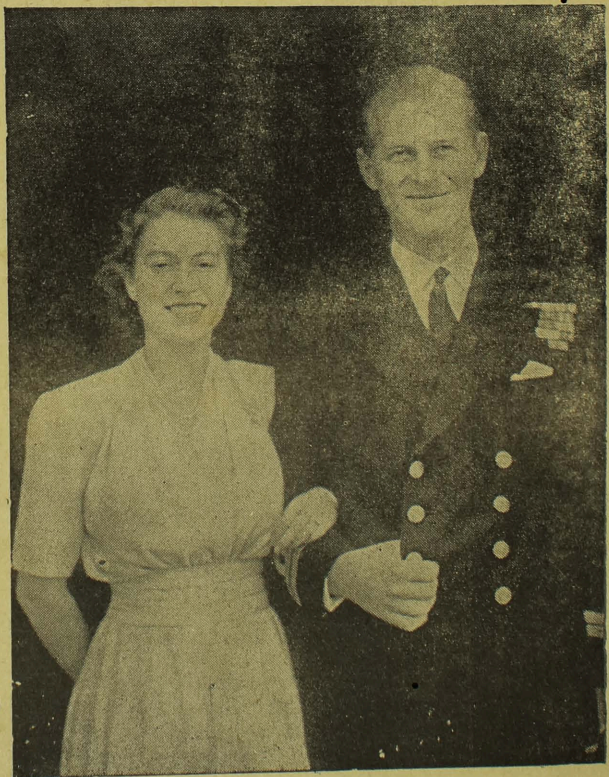
The fight is estimated to have lasted half an hour, forty persons on each side participating.

The fighters stopped after the arrival of Lt.-Col. Denaro, Commander of the Malay Regiment, and Captain Usher, Officer Commanding the Ceylon Pioneer Corps stationed at Sungei Patani. Several men on both sides were detained and inquiries are proceeding.

Ah me, that was too bad. Heaven help our boys.

The Public are invited to view CEYLON'S WEDDING GIFT to Princess Elizabeth

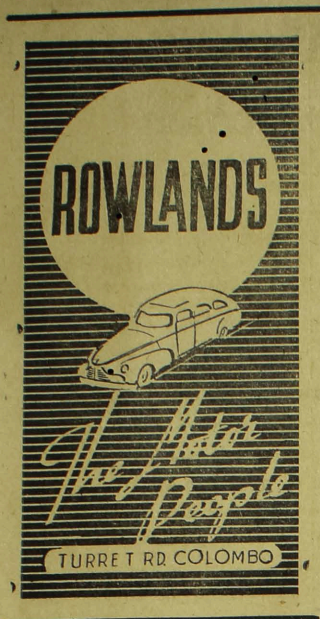
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Friday, May 7, 1948

PUBLIC RELATIONS

UNDER the above caption the "Ceylon Daily News" in its editorial of Tuesday, May 4th, deals with the organisation of the Government Information Department by the Minister of Home Affairs, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke.

In the course of this editorial it says: "It should on no account assume the complexion of a party propaganda machinery. If the U.N.P. as a Party wishes to set up a Party propaganda machine, it is perfectly entitled to do so, but it must finance it from Party funds."

We do not suggest that the statement implies even the remote possibility of the United National Party using the Department for its own propaganda purposes. Nevertheless we assure the "Ceylon Daily News" and the public that our Party propaganda machinery, which has been in existence for fourteen months, is entirely self-supporting and subsidised by Party funds and will continue to be so.

We go even further than the "Ceylon Daily News" to stress that the Government Information Department should not only be a rigidly non-party organisation but that the Department should be manned by the best available talent in the country with the necessary experience for this particular type of work.

The education of the public in the affairs of the State and the correct presentation of news without fear or favour should form the corner-stone of any democratic Government.

For the handling of an all-

A PEOPLE'S PLAN AGAINST POVERTY

By Nandalal

FROM war-ridden China to strife-torn Greece, from the prosperous United States to renaissance Burma there is today a common concern—how to deal with the forces of Communism. We have not yet addressed ourselves seriously to that task, beyond warning the people to beware of the activities of the numerous Communist sects. How should we get about dealing with the propaganda of the Communists, how effectively circumvent their agitation?

There is the example of Burma, where the various Communist parties have been declared illegal. Much the same thing has been done in certain parts of India. There is the example of the United States where the Communists are allowed to function but only under grave disabilities. There is the practice of England, which true to her traditions of tolerance, has banned Communists from positions where they might threaten the security of the State, but has left it to the citizen's own endeavour to drive out the Reds from other places.

The easiest way to tackle this question of Communism would seem to be to suppress them entirely. Unfortunately, the easiest way out is seldom the soundest way, and the experience of history is that suppression is not the way to fight ideas, however perverted they may appear to be. The Roman Empire persecuted the early Christians and drove their activities underground. In the end while Rome decayed the strength of the Christians increased. Martyrdom is that which the Communists most desire and this gratuitous encouragement to their ideas need not be offered.

This is a counsel that would seem startling yet those familiar with agricultural activities will appreciate it. If a land is to be removed of its weeds merely to cut them down with a scythe is to allow them to grow again. What is needed is that these should be removed from the roots, and the conditions removed which foster the growth of the weeds. Let us stop the conditions which help Communism to flourish.

The Leader of the House, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, touched the core of the problem of Communism during a debate in Parliament a few months ago. Communism, he pointed out, was not a disease. It was the symptom of a disease, which was poverty and exploitation.

People gravitate to Communism when their living conditions are distressing. Where there is starvation, unemployment, bad housing and an unwillingness to end these evils there will flourish Communism.

★ ● ★
THE problem of the Communist is also a problem of the Capitalist. If there is a determined drive against poverty in Ceylon neither the Sama Samajists, nor the Communists will have even their present tenuous appeal to the people.

Is it any matter for wonder that agitators should find their opportunity when, according to the report in the Incidence of Taxation issued in 1942, 76 per cent. of our population had an income of less than Rs. 25 a month; in other words, were at the barest subsistence level? Is it any wonder that Communism should make some headway when the average worker in Ceylon spent only 92 cents a day to feed a family of five; not progress, when the average expectancy of life is below 34?

There is a way open against the propaganda of the Communists, a way which will once and for all defeat the agitator. That way is to offer the people a programme against poverty; a programme which will inspire the people and draw them totally behind the Government.

important department such as this, therefore, men of unquestionable integrity with the highest sense of public duty and thoroughly versed in the languages of the country should be selected.

Such a plan of action is available in the Post-War Development proposals which the Board of Ministers of the last State Council submitted.

The comprehensive document contained proposals both of a long-term nature as well as those which could be immediately applied.

"As it is the amount of National Income," says the report, "that will determine the nature, extent and scope of social security, it is very necessary for steps to be taken to increase the National Income of this Island. Agriculture and Industry must be planned and developed so that all available resources for the production of national wealth are exploited to the fullest extent."

Our national resources consist of: (1) about 16,212,480 acres of which 9,718,000 may be cultivated; (2) a coastline of 1,140 acres and the sea surrounding that coastline; (3) plumbago, some deposits of iron ore, ilmenite and peat; (4) the possibility of hydro-electric power.

The increased production of rice is our first need and if adequate nutritional standards are to be attained we must aim at producing ourselves 24 million bushels of rice a year. The present yield is 15 bushels of paddy per acre. This would mean we should bring under cultivation 24 million acres more than are being tilled at present. If we use improved methods of cultivators, use better seed and fertilisers we would need only another million acres.

There is one point in that long-term plan. To relieve the immediate distress there are many measures which can be adopted.

One of these is the ending of agricultural indebtedness. The chronic state of indebtedness in which the peasant cultivator in Ceylon finds himself is a serious obstacle to the development of agriculture and to the growth of a sound village economy.

★ ● ★

THE Post-War Development proposals point out that the state of neglect into which the cultivation of paddy and other food crops has fallen is due in no small measure to the poor returns yielded in the past in this field of activity, as compared with the returns obtained in the relatively prosperous industries of tea, rubber and coconut. Cheap imported rice also kept down the price of local rice to an uneconomic level. In the war years, on the other hand, with the shortage of imported rice, the cultivation of paddy was stimulated.

In order to increase the production of country rice the producer should be offered a guaranteed market and a minimum economic price. A guaranteed price existed under the Internal Purchase Scheme.

An authority on rural economics has stated that there is no other means by which a cultivator's income can be so quickly enhanced as by the consolidation of fragmented holdings. The fragmentation of holdings is the bane of our agricultural economy. For one thing, it impedes the adoption of improved methods of cultivation.

★ ● ★

I HAVE picked out here one or two items from the programme of agricultural regeneration outlined in the Post-War Development proposal. I have done this in order to indicate that that scheme has considered and drawn up a solution for most of our pressing problems.

There is also outlined in it a 15-year programme for housing which would cost the country about Rs. 34 million. It is worked out in relation to Municipalities to Urban Councils and Village Committees.

What is most important to consider is that this plan is not a mere recital of good intentions, but it is a programme of action taken department by department and worked out in great detail. We already have the plan, and the time taken to draw up schemes can be eliminated. Committees should be appointed to go over this programme and decide how much of it can be immediately implemented and what ways and means there are of executing these.

A People's programme against poverty is available. Let us get to work on it.

COMMUNISM IN AMERICA

The Enemy of Religion and Government

By Kenneth O. Goff Ex-Communist

ON admission to the Communist Party one must sign a membership card which pledges his allegiance to the Communist International, and for the revolutionary overthrow of our government, and the establishment in its place a United States of Soviet America. One then assumes an alias (another name) so that if his membership book is ever found, it cannot be traced. If you are a member of any of its national committees, you receive a number. On entering the Party I chose the name John Keats and later received the number 18-B-2, the latter to be used if the Communist Party went underground.

COMMUNISM AND RELIGION DON'T MIX

I was told that I wouldn't have to give up my religious beliefs, and all they asked in regard to that was that I read their material on religion. Later I was told by a leading comrade, that if I didn't give up my religious beliefs I would have to die along with the ministers and priests after the revolution. He said dialectic materialism and religion don't mix, and anyone with religious tendencies would be a menace to a Communist State. He gave me a number of anti-religious books to read, in hopes I would soon renounce my Christian faith. I asked him about the thousands of "liberal" ministers who have either defended or furthered the Communist cause. He said: "These liberal chameleons are of great value at present, but once our goal is reached, they will either have to change their belief or pay the price with their heads along with the rest."

We were given to understand that Communism was Twentieth Century Americanism, and that Earl Browder and Foster were the Washington and Lincoln of our day. Large posters were displayed of all mass meetings showing the American flag alongside the Soviet flag, and in the background it showed Browder, Foster, Lincoln and Washington. During the civil war in Spain in 1936 the two volunteer American battalions were named after Washington and Lincoln. It was a common thing to see in our meeting place a picture of Lenin and Washington side by side, draped with the Red flag.

REVOLUTIONISTS FREQUENTLY DENY COMMUNIST PARTY

I was told that I could deny that I was a member of the Communist Party but never to make any statement damaging to the reputation of the Soviet Union, as it was the fatherland of all workers and should always be upheld. I was assigned to a special branch in the Party to which certain individuals belonged who, of necessity, had to hide their affiliation with the Party, in some cases even from some of its own members. This was required because a slip of the tongue could handicap our work among other groups.

The general membership of the Communist Party is never disclosed to the public and only a few leaders in each state admit their membership in the Party. These men became the mouthpiece in disclosing its stand to the world. The rest remain under cover in order that no accurate check may be made as to its strength. This policy has led many to believe that the Party is weak. As an argument they refer to the small vote of the Communist Party in the general elections. The

Party does not allow its power to be shown through votes cast for its presidential candidates. It only uses the election as a channel to carry on a propaganda campaign to further the destruction of our democratic system, the very system which gives them the right to vote. It can be truthfully said that there are more Communists in America today than there were in Russia before the revolution and in Spain before their civil war. Since the so-called "dissolution" of the Comintern, their membership has increased by leaps and bounds.

Earl Browder, National Secretary of the Communist Party in the United States, in his book, "Communism in the U.S.", page 310, says: "The worker's school is that institution where we are providing our leaders with weapons, ideological weapons of Marxism and Leninism, to be used in the mass struggle." Georgi Dimitroff, president of the World Comintern, said: "The masses must be stirred to struggle, and the Communist schools must be used to help them grasp the mighty, fertile, All Powerful Bolshevik Theory, the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin."

One of my first duties on entering the Communist Party was to attend the Gene Debs Workers' School (then at 113, East Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin). There I received my primary training in anti-Christian, anti-American ideas. Later I was assigned to attend the main school in New York. I refused this assignment, having just married and knowing also that being there would mean I could not see or talk to my wife for six months. When sent to this school, not even the immediate family is to know the location of the school, and all letters are addressed to a place in New York City, and from there they are taken to the school. While in the school, one isn't allowed any contact with the outside world except through the Party leaders. All expenses and problems are taken care of by the Party, even that of sex. Both sexes attend the school. There are no moral restraints.

BORING FROM WITHIN

When a Party member has received the proper training, he applies to whatever organization he is assigned in the hope of guiding its course to the left. A special course is given each year for those working in the church groups and in the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. These students are leaders in their church groups. As an example of the cleverness of these God-hating atheists, I cite you an incident which occurred in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Two young girls were assigned by the Young Communist League to bore from within the Epworth League of one of the city's largest churches. They soon became quite popular and were elected to leading league offices, one of the girls having charge of worship.

On one Sunday evening the Epworth League held a discussion on "Christ, the Alternative to Communism," by E. Stanly Jones. We were notified of the meeting and ten of our comrades attended, and successfully led the discussion along Communist lines, till we had Christ, if He were here on earth today, leading strikes and marching on Washington, D.C., to overthrow the established government. One red haired fellow in the Church, who seemed a little more awake to what was transpiring, arose and asked the pastor of the Church whether this was a meeting of the Epworth League or the Young Communist League. The pastor thought this was a very irregular question due to the fact that Communists don't believe in God; therefore don't attend church. He assured the young man that this was a good Christian discussion. To fully convince this young man, he asked any Communists in the room to please raise their hands. There were ten of us there but not a hand was raised. The pastor smilingly turned and said: "Just as I told you—there are none here." This is just one example of what is taking place in thousands of our churches throughout our land.

EYE OPENERS FOR COMRADES ON MAY DAY

IT was a thousand pities that the Bolshevik Doctor was not an eye-witness to the May Day farce conducted by the L.S.S.P. and the Communists at Galle Face and Price Park last Saturday. If he had the shadow of a doubt about the lack of mass support for revolutions, he would have been convinced last Saturday.

The copious tears shed by the two Comrades in two corners of the city, associated with a few camp-followers who were as copious with theirs left the hearers completely unmoved and unconvinced. Yards and yards of "unanimous" resolutions were passed demanding the Sun, Moon and Stars for the down-trodden masses but the audience did not turn a hair. A few stooges in the immediate presence of the speakers did initiate the clapping but the response was NIL.

Even the U.N.P., the common bone of contention among the Comrades generally, was back-staged and the whole of the controversy between the L.S.S.P. and the Communists was trotted out from the beginning from both platforms. There cannot be any ending to this tug-of-war until one party is eliminated. In the meanwhile the public who foregathered to hear what they had to say

were even deprived of an afternoon's mental recreation and entertainment for the Fourth International Comintern and other high sounding terms with which the comrades try to impress them left them more confused than ever.

What has May Day got to do with Communists and Sama Samajists anyway? By what right do they usurp one day set apart for the workers, to trot out their political shibboleths?

The correct May Day atmosphere was felt at the Town Hall where Mr. A. E. Goonesinha explained its significance to the workers. May Day should not be permitted to be the hunting ground for designing politicians to mislead the masses and the workers of the country on the one day exclusively set apart in their interests.

Talking of the Communists and L.S.S.P., it is just as well that they let off hot air from time to time to relieve the monotony of day to day life but the piece de resistance of the whole of the May Day show was that the Eksath Kantha Peramuna ladies should have marched to the tune of Communist slogans in the company of such a nondescript crowd. These are but the signs of a changing world—and what a world!

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SPORTS

Commentary

COVER-POINT

THE C.T.C. May Monsoon

Meet will be advanced a stage further tomorrow and indications are that sport of a high order will be provided. Whereas last Saturday's Meet catered in the main for sprinters, there is much more variety in tomorrow's card. The principal event of the afternoon is the Carlisle Stakes in which Manchú heads the handicap. This well-bred gelding proved, last Saturday, that weight means nothing to him when he gave nearly 2 st., and a beating to his stable-mate St. Just. The distance of tomorrow's race should suit him even better than the 5 furlongs last week and he will again be the hardest to beat. His chief rival will, I think, be Jai Lanka, who was finishing very strongly last Saturday.

The Ormonde Handicap for Class II horses is notable for the entry of Tudor

who made his way to this company after two effortless victories in Class III. The waler is now up against a much better lot of stayers than he has so far met and will have his work fully cut out to get the better of Montrose Lady and Pactolian. The "Lady" who has excellent Irish form, broke the ice at Nuwara Eliya when winning over 10 furlongs but Pactolian blotted his copy-book at the Sanatorium when he finished last in the Tom Wilson Plate. The short straight at Nuwara Eliya militated against the Pactolian gelding who likes a long, galloping course. This he will get in Colombo and he should be Tudor's greatest danger.

The Norwich Plate over a mile for Class III horses sets a poser to punters. This mile scramble should see a pretty set-to between Prince Wijaya, Vijay-laxmi, Lady Bobs, Future Princess, Aliban and Winnie Wink. All these horses were very much to the fore in their last outing in Nuwara Eliya and anyone of them may improve on that.

In the Maturata Plate for Class IV

horses Silver Ray and Supremacy can re-stage their Nuwara Eliya battle and personally, I think that Supremacy will confirm the previous placing. Prince Rufus should find a place on the board as he appeared to be finishing strongly in last week's sprint.

The Yakkala Plate for C.T.C. griffins should resolve itself into a tri-cornered contest between Macheta, The Pled Piper and Golden Gleam, with the first-named having the advantage.

In the Arab events, the straight race for Class I ponies should give Yisir al Arab another bracket while the Baghdad Plate reads like a match between Sahara and Ranjit.

The best of a poor lot in the Pottuvil Plate for Class III ponies are Najih al Hawa, Rolex Prince, Sa'ad Rahman and Zaman Shammar.

★

THE first two Classics of the current English racing season are now matters of past history.

My Babu's victory in the 2,000 Guineas gave the Gaekwar of Baroda his first classic win at Newmarket. It has taken the Indian Prince very much less time than his more famous colleague, the Aga Khan, to get among the big race winners and this was more or less to be expected considering that the Gaekwar's racing establishment in England is one of the biggest in training and costs something like £50,000 a year to maintain. Ever since he decided, about a couple of years ago, to transfer his racing interests from India to England, he has spent fabulous sums on the purchase of bloodstock. His advisers have done their work well and in two years two classics have already come his way.

His first big winner was, of course, Sayajirao, or young Dante as he is called, whose great victory in the St. Leger last season, made his price of 26,000 guineas a profitable investment.

My Babu who is by Djebel, who won the 2,000 Guineas a few years ago, will now harden as favourite for the Derby and will certainly take a lot of running down. The extra half mile of the Epsom race will test his stamina to the full but in the absence of any really outstanding stayer in this year's crop of 3-year-olds, it is not unlikely that the Gaekwar will make history by winning the Derby at the second time of asking.

Among those who finished behind My Babu, I doubt whether The Cobbler can see the Epsom distance out, but Pride of India will be better suited by the longer race. Then there is the American-owned Black Tarquin, who is not in the Stud Book owing to the Jersey Act and whose preparation is being timed for Epsom. In the intervening six weeks more youngsters may come to light as possible Derby challengers but at the moment it is difficult to see who can lower the colours of My Babu.

The result of the Fillies Classic did not follow the money, though the supporters of Gordon Richards must have reaped a rich harvest as the winner, Queenpot, started at the very nourishing odds of 6 to 1. The filly, who is by His Majesty the King's Big Game, who won the 2,000 Guineas but failed in the Derby, led all the way and, like My Babu, had only a head to spare at the finish. As an Oaks proposition, however, Queenpot does not make much of an appeal to me. Her runner-up

Ariostar, who is by Solario, should be seen to better advantage at Epsom.

★

THE cricket news of the week is provided by the Trichy United Club. The tourists were a very keen lot of cricketers but hardly up to first-class standard. When they came up last week against the Ceylon club champions, the S.S.C., their many weaknesses were fully exposed. Their batsmen were none too comfortable against the varied S.S.C. attack and their bowlers made very little impression on the regular members of the S.S.C. first team. Sargo Jayewickreme, who is still, in my opinion, the greatest batsman in Ceylon, made mincemeat of the Trichy bowling and in scoring 149, showed all his old confidence and artistry and incidentally gave the lie direct to some iconoclastic critics who recently started a whispering campaign suggesting that he is a "has been." Apart from the brilliant batting of Jayewickreme, the most pleasing feature about the match was the excellent fielding of both sides, which provided a welcome contrast to the abundance of missed catches, which marred the Holkar matches. During the whole match, only two catches were dropped and these were difficult ones which became catches only because of the enterprise and anticipation of the fieldsmen.

This brings me to a subject to which I would not have referred but for the fact that official cognisance has now been taken of it. This subject is the boycott of the Holkar matches by the S.S.C. invitees, which mischievous critics have tried to convert into a "cause celebre." Their stock gambit seems to be that the refusal of the S.S.C. men to turn out for the C.C.A. was a gratuitous insult to that Prince of Indian cricketers, Col. C. K. Nayudu. I have it on the highest authority that Col. Nayudu himself, when apprised of the FULL facts of the case, took not the slightest exception to the S.S.C. action and, as a matter of fact, inclined to the view that the S.S.C. players had no OTHER course open to them.

As far as the S.S.C. participation in the Australian match, it followed an earlier undertaking given by the players to take part in it—an undertaking which was honoured even though the S.S.C. players were far from satisfied with the state of things. Much has been made of the fact that one of the alleged bones of contention, namely that the selection of a Ceylon captain is in the hands of the representatives of ALL the affiliated clubs and NOT a Board of Control, was of the S.S.C.'s own making, in the sense that years ago, the club had opposed the appointment of such a Board of Control. But this argument can surely hold very little water. No rule is so sacrosanct that the passage of time and the experience gained cannot justify its amendment. Even if the S.S.C. did really oppose the formation of a Board then, much water has flowed under the bridge since those bygone days.

The C.C.A. decision to leave the matter of the boycott to the S.S.C. for any action the club may wish to take is, I think, a wise move. I understand that F. C. de Saram is to make a statement to the S.S.C. Committee this week and the public will then have an opportunity of hearing the other side of the case.

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DEATH OF Mr. SIMON ABEY-WICKREME M.P.

MR. SIMON ABEYWICKREMA, M.P. and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport and Works, died suddenly at his home at Baddegama on Sunday after a heart attack.

The late Mr. Abeywickrema entered politics very early in life having been returned to the former State Council as Member for Udugama.

He was until recently the Chairman of the Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia U.C., and his Parliamentary experience gained him the appointment of Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport

Chandraleka

THE great strides made by the Indian film industry in recent times was clearly indicated by Chandraleka, the latest Gemini production, now showing to packed houses at the Elphinstone, Majestic and the Regal.

But for the language, which by no means is a handicap to a Ceylon audience, the film is up to standard with the best American productions.

Chandraleka gives the public not only a real afternoon's entertainment but the story gives a detailed insight to the splendours of South Indian Court life.

The undertaking has been on a truly vast scale never attempted before and thoroughly fitted for both children and adults.

and Works in the present Parliament. Mr. Abeywickrema was also a prominent member of the Galle Planters' Association and a Vice-President of the Aero Club of Ceylon.

THE TAMILS HAVE NOTH- ING TO FEAR

The Misguided
Stalwarts of the
Tamil Congress
Stand Discredited
by their Own
Countrymen

THE condemnation of the Tamil Congress, that attempted to foist a virulent communal bias to the body politic of the country, by the Tamils themselves have lent the correct approach to a problem that even the Government had left alone to solve itself.

That the Jaffnese should have been led up the garden path twice in recent years, once by a lady from across the seas and then by one of their own misguided compatriots is indeed a matter for surprise.

Never had there been such a debacle in the history of any other community in this country.

These shrewd and thrifty people who always get the best out of a deal like the proverbial Scots, were completely hypnotised by the oratory of a lady and gentleman. Kamaladevi is an Indian patriot and one of the trusted lieutenants of the late Mahatma while G.G. has served both his own community and the larger interests of the community.

G.G. and his group of faithful lieutenants are possibly convinced now that in a democratic form of Government a loaf could not be divided fifty-fifty between two peoples constituting a minority and majority.

The clever tactician that he is, he fought tooth and nail to get away with it and nobody could find fault with him for that. However unacceptable to the majority community his advocacy was able and persistent, but he should by now be convinced without the shadow of a doubt that his approach to the problem is entirely wrong. His own compatriots have said so and have completely dissociated themselves with the Tamil Congress.

In this battle of wits, and it was no more, it stands to his credit and that of his party that they did not stoop to Hitlerian methods although in the hustings many things are pardonable.

What is then his obvious duty, both in the interests of his compatriots and the larger interests of the country?

Everybody knows that he never was and never will be comfortable in the company of the L.S.S.P., Communist and B.L.P.I.

He knows too well that these units that are parties no more are mainly the pastimes of three individuals and that they will never again secure a following in the country and much less in his own home town where they invariably received hot receptions, with sticks, stones and what-not.

The duty of the Tamil Congress and its leaders therefore is to retrieve the position in which they have placed their community and pave the way to take their due share in the affairs of the State.

POLITICAL BANDWAGGON

By Lakshman Seneviratne

COMRADE PIETER KEUNEMAN, that victim of Stalinism now under Moscovite inspiration, a Cominform clique in Sri Lanka, must be abjectly unhappy about the Communist electoral rout in Italy. A quack psychological incursion into an anatomical analysis of Mr. Bandaranaike's backbone is no convincing substitute for explaining away the Stalinite electoral fatality in Mare Nostrium. Anyway, the Banda Sea of Oratory certainly does not originate from the jawbone of an ass!

The relationship between Buddhism and Leftism has been more acrimoniously than knowledgeably bandied about on platforms. Certainly Buddhism is a way of life, which is more in harmony with Radical and Socialist economics than with any form of Capitalism. Though its supreme spiritual objective Nibbana is above and beyond economics. But, if any unsophisticated innocent attempts to think that all Leftists are Buddhists, he merely reveals his pathetic ignorance of the philosophic basis of Marxism.

Sidney Hook, an acknowledged international authority on Marxism, disposes of the tactical pose of Marxists of temporarily going all religious in countries like Lanka, where the religious sentiment of the peasant and worker is strong. Hook states, in explaining the "Meaning of Marx", "For Marx however, although the qualities and categories of experience differ as we go from the inorganic to the organic, and from the organic to the social and psychological, all knowledge in so far as it is a matter of knowledge and not of value or preference is to be won by the painstaking methods of experimental science which give truths that are reliable without being certain, and relative without being subjective. From this theory of meaning, truth and knowledge there follows a complete rejection of any form of supernaturalism in religion and idealism in philosophy." It would be naive to imagine that Trotskyites like N. M. Perera, or their more powerful rivals, on a global basis the Stalinists, don't actually know that religion and Marxism are not in harmony with each other. But the Big Innocents, politicians of Liberal sentiment who are strategically in the struggle for political power, actually stooges of the Communists, seem to want to be fellow travellers of the Communists, without realizing its religious implications.

Even multi-millionaires like the Aga Khan, write with the caption 'Your Obedient Servant' to the Editor of the London "Times," confessing that he has discussed Marx with the late Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi thought, writes the Aga Khan, that his doctrine and philosophy of ahimsa also leads to the withering away of the State, and the ushering in of a classless society on a spiritual basis.

However, an acceptance of religion, if logically translated into mundane economics certainly points to Social-Democracy on the Scandinavian and New Zealand basis. And I am glad to note that the Minister of Finance has accepted my advice and gone on an economic study tour of Denmark and Sweden, besides, as he should, France.

TALKING informally and freely with a friend, to some Appuhamy fisher-folk near Colombo, I asked them what their reactions were to Trotskyism (Sama Samajism), as they knew it. A senior, among them, frankly told me: "It is true my religion (which was Catholicism) condemns Sama Sama-

jism. But they say we are all equal. And now though you have a car, I haven't even a bullock cart." I requested him to state how much it was necessary to maintain himself and his family of four under present inflationary tendencies. He said, the Government should house him properly and enable him to earn, by whatever means, two hundred rupees a month. Whereas he earns only sixty rupees a month, right now. This is a challenge that by Socialist economic planning, the Government must accept and fulfill.

It is interesting to record what the Fabian Society Vice-Chairman, John Parker, says in "Labour Marches On," on the relative per capita incomes of Social Democratic countries and Communist Russia. He wrote: "Taking the ordinary street-sweeper as being approximately of the same social standard in most countries they compared his real earnings, including the social services he received, with those of the highest paid Municipal executives. In London

and Moscow it was found that a street sweeper received about a 24th and a 30th respectively of the chief Municipal executive's income. In Stockholm, Copenhagen, Brisbane and Wellington (New Zealand) this figure was increased to between a fifth and seventh. Thus there was a greater measure of equality in countries where the Social Democratic and Trade Union movements were then powerful than in Communist Russia or capitalist Britain. I have always advised mon ami intime, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, to visit and study, the agricultural economy of Social-Democratic, New Zealand, as useful data for progressively planning our agriculture here in Lanka.

For if the per capita income of the peasant family in Lanka, can, look full in the face New Zealand standards, in between five to ten years, well Stalin's stooges locally might as well, liquidate their political activities. Provided Stalin is kept at bay, by the political democracies of the world.

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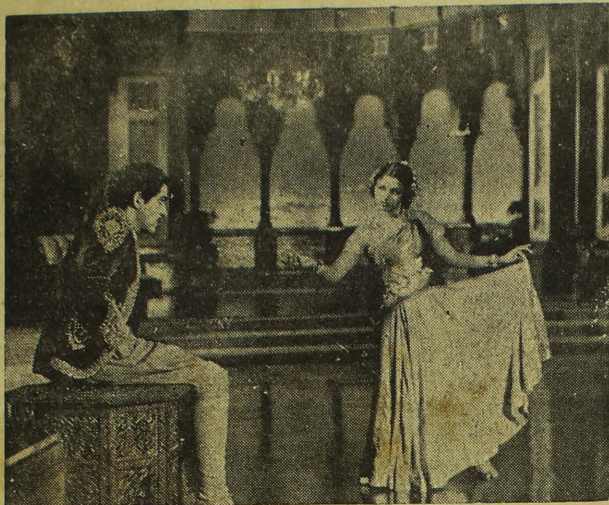
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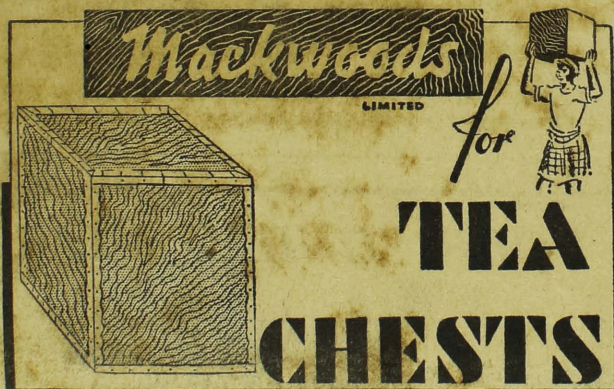
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