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VOL. I. No. 45

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FRIDAY, 16th JANUARY, 1948

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LEFTISTS RESUME LIE CAMPAIGN

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"We have frightened the Senanayake Government" (N. M. Perera)

"CHAPTER OF SLAVERY IS NOW OVER"

(Dudley
Senanayake)

MR. DUDLEY SENANAYAKE
made a stirring appeal for
an organised drive for in-
creased production in agricul-
ture when he declared open
the exhibition at Kurunegala
on Saturday.

Speaking to a large gathering
Mr. Senanayake explained the steps
being taken by his Ministry to
organise intensive cultivation of the
lands already in use and to open
out more land in the future.

"The chapter of slavery is now over
and our people can proudly raise their
heads in the world as free citizens of a
free country. There is an urgent need
to continue the national battle until we
have conquered our economic difficul-
ties. We must wage war on want and
poverty. The only way in which we
can achieve our objective is to increase
our agricultural production by intensive
cultivation and by the use of modern
methods."



TUESDAY night saw the Left-wing
bandsmen at it again, beating the
same old drum... They revealed that
the past month had not diminished
their ability to lie. They lied glibly,
unashamedly.

They told the mass meeting at Galle
Face green about their "exploits."

"We have frightened the Senanayake
Government" into granting concessions
to us. They now come to consult us
and to pacify us. They know our
strength and are afraid. The Butter
Tax was withdrawn when we raised our
voices in protest against it."

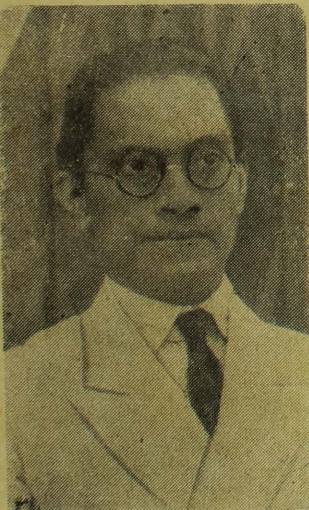
"Senanayake is a wily, shrewd poli-
tician—perhaps the shrewdest politician
in Ceylon today. He knows he cannot
have his own way now. The Ministers
are also afraid of us. They have pro-
mised to attend to the needs of our
constituencies. Be of stout heart. We
shall deliver the goods. The little we
can do this time will show you what
we really can do next time when we
have full power."

The above is from the Chairman's
speech. The other speeches don't
count. They were the flat, stale, old
tales.

BACK FROM BURMA

**MR. S. W. R. D. BANDARA-
NAIKE** returned to the
Island from Burma where he
represented Ceylon at the Freedom
Celebrations of the new Burma
Republic.

Mr. Bandaranaike was deeply im-
pressed with the new brave spirit of
the Burmese. In his opinion a repre-
sentative of this country should be sent
at the earliest possible moment to
Burma.



The Case of Philip Gunewardene An Apology

WITH reference to the Editorial
under the heading "The Case
of Philip Gunewardene" appearing
in our issue of the 2nd January,
1948, we intended to cast no asper-
sion on the integrity or the character
of the Honourable Member concerned
and that we had no idea whatsoever
that the language used in the Editorial
referred to above was a reflection on

the House or that it was a breach of
privileges of the House.

Now that it has been brought to our
notice by the Honourable the Speaker
that he personally thinks certain parts
of the article amount to that, we take
this earliest opportunity of tendering
our sincere apologies to the House col-
lectively and to the Honourable Member
concerned.



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for the
Queen's hands
too...*

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Neem Oil, it ensures silky softness for your
skin—so essential for radiant beauty! Its
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fume will fill your heart with sheer delight.
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FASCIST OPPOSITION MUST BE HALTED

Says
Patriot of Lanka

WE have at last got something called freedom and soon the proclamation will be made. The British have agreed to hand over to us the powers of governing ourselves. We do not know why. Perhaps it may be because we agitated for it. Or else it may be because the British found their Eastern Empire in danger, as the result of the last war. Did we a decade or so ago think that the British would ever agree to part with India, Ceylon or Burma? Even when the war was at its worst, what did old Churchill say at the Yalta Conference? He said that he did not come there to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire.

This shows how sore the mind of the Britisher was to part with even a square inch of his acquired territory. Yet for all the British have now sought to part with some of them under certain conditions. Ceylon is one of them. They had so long almost forcibly drained the milk of this cow, which they will soon set free. It is on condition that we give them milk of our own accord when

they are in need. We will be free with our arm round John Bull's neck on terms of friendship. So have our statesmen promised to be.

We, the people of a small country, had to be as slippery as the eel in obtaining our friendship from a powerful giant like Britain. Our friendship with Britain can be tested at its best when a war breaks out. However it is not so bad as many of us expected, because if we had been independent of Britain we would be an easy prey to India or some other giant.



MANY people say many things about this freedom that is in store for us. Some say that Ceylon is sold to Britain. Others say that it is for a certain section of the people; others that it is for a certain community. There may be one motive behind the minds of all these people. Their grudge, it seems, is not with the freedom, awaiting us but with the people who obtained it for us. They call them thieves, and have forgotten that if not for them nothing could have been done. Some of them wanted it in their own way. Others wanted all

the loaves and fishes of office for themselves. However, the party that was wise enough to obtain freedom as is suited for this country, got the day and they are now in power. It is their duty to work it out and protect it as is apparent from the words of the late Bahu, Subhas Chandra Bose. He says: "I have always held the view that those who fight for freedom will have to undertake the task of 'post-war' reconstruction, when freedom is won. There can be no shirking of responsibility on the pretext. Our mission is over. Therefore as soon as a political party is victorious, it has to throw itself heart and soul into the task of administration and social reconstruction and thereby demonstrate that it can create as effectively as it can destroy. But before the party can undertake that responsibility, it has to decide, if the longed for hour has arrived and freedom's battle won."

They are the victorious parties that have taken the reins of Government in India, Pakistan, and in Burma. So it is in Ceylon also. But who in India grudges Pandit Nehru and his colleagues? Who in Pakistan grudges over Mr. Jinnah becoming the Governor-General? Even the Communists in India want Panditji in power. But what of Ceylon? It is a different story altogether. It is the case of one trying to be greater than the other.



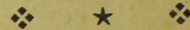
MR. SENANAYAKE and his colleagues are not saints.

We admit that they too have their defects. It is the duty of us all to check them when they go amiss. It is not for them to take the role of dictatorship into their own hands but this does not mean that they should resign their statesmanship. They who were the real architects of Ceylon's freedom should work. Mr. Senanayake cannot be a Cincinnatus because he has opponents. He cannot hand over the affairs of State to them at once. Even

if Mr. Senanayake tries to be a Cincinnatus, there must be his colleagues in office. Then and then only can the present Government work during its period of five years. If there is anybody to work better than Mr. Senanayake, there is no harm in his doing so provided he does not land himself and the people of this country in the wilderness.

Who in this country was opposed to Britons holding office? Who grudged them? Who was jealous of them? Who raised his voice against them? None! Why then are our own people opposed to their own brethren ruling the country? If it is not jealousy, what else can we conclude?

The endeavour of every party is to get at the common man. They say they want to lead him but they often mislead him. This is what is happening in Ceylon. The average man is at a loss to understand who the leader is and who the misleaders are. He is more taken up by the letter than by the former. The former preaches evolution while the latter preaches revolution.



LET changes come to us gradually, effectively and constructively. The same Subhas Chandra Bose says: "Revolution is evolution compressed into a shorter period; evolution is revolution spread out over a longer period. Both evolution and revolution imply change and progress and in nature there is room for both. In fact nature cannot do without either."

Let us therefore change with the world when there is the real necessity to do so. What we want today is Democracy based on Socialist principles. Let Nationalism go hand in hand with it but let not room be given to Fascist or Machiavellian tendencies, on the part of our statesmen.

"Banghawewa" was Heard In 1924

CONTESTANTS for the Colombo North Seat in the 1924 Legislative Council Elections were Eugene Wilfred Jayewardene, K.C., M.M.C. (outlook National Liberal), and C. E. Victor S. Corea, Advocate, President, Young Lanka League.

Colombo South having returned the late Sir James Peiris uncontested, the City's interest centred on Colombo North. Among the brilliant and polished speakers at Candidate Jayewardene's meetings the then youthful Dr. A. R. Perera was considered the best. Equally gifted speakers were heard at Candidate Corea's meetings, but among them fiery, witty, grey-haired Muhandiram B. M. F. Jayaratne (Head Clerk, National Bank) drew tremendous applause whenever he spoke.

The founder of the Young Lanka League—Alexander Ekanayake Goonesinha—worked enthusiastically for the President, Y.L.L. The night the results were announced Labour Leader Goonesinha was overwhelmed with emotion as Councillor Corea with tears in his eyes thanked the people for their verdict.

Not long afterwards, at a meeting of the Ceylon National Congress, Councillor Corea complained that the "Ceylon Daily News" was not reporting his speeches in the manner he desired. The

Editor was likened to a gramophone reproducing "His Master's Voice."

The speech was duly reported, followed by an Editorial in which readers were informed that Councillor Corea owed thanks to the "Ceylon Daily News" for assisting in the advancement of his political career. Referring to the Councillor's colourful words the Editorial commenced: "The Harebrained Orator"..... "The gramophone, etc." was avenged, but the Editor's feelings were not lightly to be set aside, when, in his opinion, the Councillor was so unmindful of the paper's services. The Editorial concluded: "But we do not regret the publicity we gave him for though Chilaw has lost nothing the Legislative Council has gained a first-class clown whose antics delight the whole of Ceylon."

We were very young then, so were many of our present Members of Parliament, but with due regard to the Editor, it was generally agreed that the description given could not be applied to Councillor Corea. One who was destined to be a member of the last State Council and present House of Representatives added fuel to fire when he shouted in a bathroom, "Editor, Public Enemy No. 1, Bangawewa."

It is doubtful whether records in print exist indicating further action in the matter, which shows that Councillor Corea and the Editor were tolerant men. Long may they live!

by V. E. S.

Let Unani Be In Ceylon

The recent report of the Indigenous Medicine Commission had caused a great misunderstanding among the Muslims of this country by its recommendation for the discontinuance of the teaching of Unani in the Ceylon College of Indigenous Medicine. Unani practitioners, who are also known as "Hakeems," have done no little service to the people—particularly to the Muslim community.

What Ayurveda and Sidha are to the Sinhalese and Tamils, Unani is to the Muslims. Ayurveda and Sidha are taught in Ceylon, mostly to the Sinhalese and Tamils in their respective national languages side by side with Unani taught mainly to the Muslims in English. Of course, Unani students do require a knowledge of Urdu. But this privilege is also granted to them in the College. What is more? Only vast improvement with all necessary facilities is at the present needed. By abolishing a certain system functioning the College cannot be improved. The Commission could have recommended in many other ways instead of aiming to discontinue the teaching of Unani which has been serving the people—even our

Sinhalese Kings—since its coming to Ceylon.

I gathered that the Commission was appointed for the improvement of the College and Hospital and not for the purpose of uprooting the teaching of any system. The College and Hospital were opened with the intention of teaching and practising all three systems of indigenous medicine—Ayurveda, Sidha, Unani.

Let us now forget all about this and work for the welfare of the country and its people thus giving every nationality a fair deal. Ayurveda and Sidha may be indigenous but still, Unani is also having an equal right as it is indigenous to the Muslim culture. Anyway, the Report will have to come before the House of Representatives for approval and it is here that we could find out whether communalism is "dying" or "on the fence." I hope the new Ministry of Health will, by all means, endeavour to continue the teaching of Unani in the College of Indigenous Medicine and thus safeguard the interests of all students of the three systems of medicine.

M. B. M. GHOUSE.

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THESE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

By Maha Amerasingha

IT has been brought to our notice by certain influential sections of the House of Representatives that there may be several flaws in the present Constitution either in particular cases where the intentions of the framers have not been carried out in the actual enactment or where there may be sections which might be amended in order to remove restrictions or requirements that may not, in the light of fresh thought, be considered entirely necessary. A submission has been made to us that the Ceylon Constitution should be brought in line with the Constitution of the British House of Commons and that constitutional requirements in the Mother of Parliaments should be the model for us to follow.

We are of the view that a Constitution should be amended only when some

matter of grave importance arises and only when the fullest possible weight of competent authority has been thrown on the side of any particular amendment. We may suggest, however, that it may be useful to appoint a Select Committee of the House of Representatives who will invite recognised authorities on constitutional developments and the law officers of the Crown to a series of meetings at which it may be left open to representative opinion to state its case on whatever measures may be considered necessary to bring our Constitution in line with the spirit of the Constitution of the British House of Commons.

There should be no hurry in this regard and we should proceed on that assumption of jurisprudence which states that "justice should not be hurried." The danger of piecemeal amendments to our Constitution should not be over-emphasized.

A Constitution is the repository of the liberties of citizenship and must be fiercely, jealously and constitutionally defended against any assaults either on

its provisions or its spirit.

It would be unwise, therefore, to amend any particular sections of the Constitution to suit a particular case of any individual who may be affected by its provisions. That is why we are of a definite opinion in the case of Mr. Philip Gunawardane.

★ ★ ★

THE main points in the editorial on the case of Mr. Philip Gunawardane may have receded somewhat into the background owing to the particular attention paid to the opening paragraph which became the subject of inquiry in the House. We therefore wish to bring to the notice of the Members of the House that the main criticisms that we made of the resolution itself still stand, and that the House should be extremely wary before it accepts the position that what is declared to be criminal intimidation should be even indirectly condoned by a resolution which expects to exploit sympathy rather than appeal to reason.

We maintain that our editorial on the case of Philip Gunawardane in unanswerable and it would be a pity if the red herring of the question of privilege in the first paragraph should make it necessary for members to lose sight of the main argument. Point for point we challenge any member of the Opposition to meet our case against the resolution. It will tax all the rhetorical genius of the entire Opposition Front Bench to cross swords with us on this particular issue.

It is a pity that just at the present moment the most competent debater on the Opposition Ranks, Mr. Pieter Keuneman, is himself preoccupied with the question of the young and well-meaning member of his Party who has had to suffer the penalties of law. We hope that when he approaches this motion he will endeavour to isolate this particular case from the other and look upon this from the point of view we hold, that the respect for established law must be maintained unless we are to use the Parliament to make possible the ultimate revolution for which Marxist politicians work night and day.

If it comes to the question of revolution we dare say we shall be ready, perhaps far more ready than the mem-

bers of the Opposition apparently realise. If it is necessary to have a show down we would wish the members of the Opposition to realise that we shall not be backward in facing whatever issues with which we may be confronted now or in the future.

Let us not, however, in this first Parliament of a free country, give the sanction of law to those who may wish to flout provisions under the Penal Code.

★ ★ ★

THE issue is clear enough. Mr. Gunawardane has been charged and sentenced under the Penal Code of having been guilty of criminal intimidation. The Parliament cannot question the validity of that sentence. Therefore we must accept the position that whoever wishes to challenge the law must suffer the penalties under that law. That is the only way in which we can protect individual members and the rights of peaceful and peace-loving citizens.

We certainly do not wish to lock up our opponents in prison. It is not a question of disposing of our political opponents in this way. Our only aim is to preserve the sanctity of the law, and Parliament is entrusted with the supreme task of safeguarding such established laws as are recognised in all parts of the world as necessary for civilised society. Let it not be said in the future that this Parliament gave hostages to fortune and altered the conditions of our social structure in its very fundamentals.

MUSLIMS PERTURBED BY PALESTINE PLAN

By M. A. C. M. Saleh

MUSLIMS throughout the world have been greatly perturbed with the decision of the U.N.O. to divide Palestine and hand over a good portion of it to the Jews while the Arabs of the Holy Land of Islam to be ousted from their centuries old homeland and submit and surrender tamely to the atrocious designs of Zionism, backed by International Jewry. The world has already witnessed two Great Wars within the living memory of quarter century and the third cannot be held back too long if the U.N.O. fails to achieve its avowed object of preserving the sanctity of peace and restoring order to the world which is still in a state of firmament. Its latest decision on Palestine seems to defeat the very object for which nations joined in the hope of peaceful settlement of outstanding problems justly and satisfactorily to the parties concerned.

It is an irony of cruel fate to find the Arabs of Palestine placed on the horns of a dilemma while their co-religionists and the Arab fraternity from the neighbouring countries have been roused to the highest pitch of righteous indignation against an act calculated to destroy all hopes of justice and fairplay. The League of Nations which was the offspring of the First Great War, proved a dismal failure and the Mandate of Palestine continued to remain vested until the termination of the Second Great War. This has given birth to another organisation to solve problems affecting all nations. In the calmer atmosphere of peace the smaller nations expected to find solace and tranquillity through negotiations and discussions for peaceful settlement but their high hopes and ambitions have been shattered and frustrated.

The U.N.O. has embittered and alienated the respect and esteem with which it claimed to sponsor and espouse the rights and liberties of the people who suffered and sacrificed to uphold the greatness of perfect peace and full justice. The joint protest against the Anglo-American report by Major-General Sir Edward Spears, Major-General Sir Frederick Sykes, Sir Ronald Stores, General Sir Reginald Wingate and other leading lights in England enhanced British prestige for justice and fairplay. Simultaneously, Mr. Justice Rose in his equally sound deprecation of Jewry observed that international Jewry was the worst form of racialism which could only plunge the world into an era of barbarism. But the U.N.O. instead of restoring law and order has attempted to set the Muslim World on

fire. Its decision is no more than a direct challenge to world peace and to nullify the effect of peace achieved through years of war and bloodshed. It appears to be a clever ruse. The part to be played in statesmanship and diplomacy has been by-passed. Upon the termination of the Mandate the country should have been restored to the original owners from whom it was taken with a definite understanding and this legal and moral obligation awaits fulfilment to this day. The Arabs have every right to claim it back as they are legitimately entitled to the right of possession after the period of the Mandate is over which cannot continue for an indefinite length of time. It is binding on the Mandatory Power

(Continued on page 5)

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Friday, 16th January, 1948

MR. SPEAKER

At the request of the Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives we published a full and unqualified apology in the last issue of our paper in regard to the first paragraph of our editorial of 2nd January, 1948, in which our comments were considered by Mr. Speaker to constitute a breach of the privileges of the House. We had no hesitation in tendering that apology and would wish to take this opportunity of clarifying our position. We assure Mr. Gratiaen that it was not our intention to question his integrity as an individual nor was it our desire to challenge his professional rectitude. We certainly did not wish to make the suggestion that Mr. Gratiaen gave notice of the resolution in regard to Mr. Philip Gunawardene because he was paid to do it. It is unfortunate that such a construction arose during the question of privilege that was brought up in the House.

We are glad to observe that Mr. Gratiaen is a sportsman and will be able to take a sporting view of the matter when the seriousness of it has been admitted and adequately discussed. Besides, he is a sailor, for he once commanded our land navy. Therefore he is one of those who would be able to take as much as he gives in the way of criticism and attack.

On the question of privilege itself we would like to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of Mr. Speaker to the present state of some journals in this country. The U.N.P. journal has maintained a high level of criticism and an even higher level of constructive thinking. It has used restrained language not because it is impossible to get together writers who can put venom into their pens but because it presents the considered views of the most influential political party in this country and what is more a Party that happens to be in the Government. We have, therefore, sought to maintain a dignity of language which prevents us from meeting on common ground the gutter writing of the City press. Mr. Speaker may not be aware that comments are being published in various weekly and daily journals in Ceylon which are a disgrace to the profession and ethics of journalism. Apart from that aspect of the matter those criticisms are encrusted with the most flagrant breaches of the privileges of the House of Representatives. If the comments we made on Mr. Gratiaen amount to a breach of privilege the com-

ments of some of these newspapers amount to a wholesale massacre of whatever privileges there still may be left. We have seen newspaper articles which question the impartiality of Mr. Speaker himself. Attacks have been made on members of the Government and on individual members of the House which go beyond the line of distinction that can be drawn between fair comment and breach of privilege. We would suggest, in all humility, that it might be useful if Mr. Speaker directed a competent authority to submit to him all the publications in this country which contain articles challenging the integrity and the motives of the Ministers and other members of the House of Representatives. We do not wish to reflect on a certain paper, one of whose articles is now the subject of a law suit. But we do wish to point out that the particular paper which claims to be the official organ of an Opposition Party continues to call various members of the House by names which cannot be repeated in decent society. Whilst we appreciate the difficulty which confronts those who manage such papers we still insist that when any article appears in print and is intended for public distribution the House must insist that certain minimum levels of decency are maintained. The danger of allowing a policy of dignified indifference to be mistaken for weakness on the part of the administration is that the standards of criticism in this country will be dragged down to the level of those who cannot rise above the strata in which they have found their equals.

There is yet another aspect

NEW MALARIA DRUG

WASHINGTON

A NEW drug (6-methoxy-8), combined with quinine, effected cures in 95 per cent. of malaria relapse cases in tests at Columbia University, New York City. Dr. Robert C. Elberfeld, Chemistry Professor, said the drug should bring immediate relief, for example, to nearly half a million United States veterans who contracted malaria during the war. The yet unnamed synthetic was found only half as toxic and better therapeutically than pentamycin which in turn was a great improvement over the German drug plasmochin.—(USIS).

MIDGET TRANSMITTER

WASHINGTON

A TINY radio transmitter—operating on very high frequencies (121,500 to 122,900 kilo-cycles) relatively unaffected by thunderstorms, reaching over an area of about 50 miles from an altitude of 5,000 feet and weighing two pounds nine ounces in all—has been developed by the General Electric Company. Its characteristics make it the ideal transmitter for storm-proof transmissions from light, private planes to airports.—(USIS).

LEARNING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

THE Brookings Institution, a private research organization in the United States, has initiated a broad program of education in the field of international relations, in co-operation with leading American universities and colleges. The program is designed to aid in the training of the increasing number of specialists in international relations required in Government and other agencies abroad today.

of this particular issue on which we would wish Mr. Speaker and the House to dwell. In the British Commonwealth it is recognised that the Press represents a distinguished and honourable section of the community. In England the Press is described as the Fourth Estate, the first three being the King, the Peers, and the Commons, in that order. And it is further recognised that the freedom of the Fourth Estate must be safeguarded as far as the limits of the law will allow. Democracy can never function unless and until the Press obtains the liberty to write vigorously, and according to its lights, criticise the conduct of the affairs of Government as well as of any particular individual who takes upon himself the responsibility of being a member of Parliament. The freedom of speech and the freedom of writing must be jealously guarded not only by the Press but by Parliament itself. In adopting the safeguards against those irresponsible writers who call themselves journalists owing to the mere accident of fortune which places them in command of a printed sheet, the House must not go beyond what is necessary to be done; for if it does, we shall lose the privileges of citizenship in this country although we may have gained the privileges that the members of a legislature may rightly desire to possess. We must establish a tradition in this country that while we may disagree with the views expressed by our political opponents we must defend to the utmost their freedom of decent expression. And in the process of achieving that objective we must be wary about the measures that we propose to take.

An integral part of the program will be a national conference each year on the teaching of international relations. Plans for the series were worked out following an experimental conference at Darmouth College this year which was attended by faculty members of 45 universities and colleges as well as by Government officials engaged in the formation of foreign policy. The conferences will be held in various sections of the country.

In connection with the program, the Institution has issued the first annual volume on "Major Problems of United States Foreign Policy," which is in the nature of a study guide. This volume, to be issued annually and supplemented by monthly summaries, together with the annual conference, are intended to provide a new approach to the study of international relations—by bringing to the classroom and discussion groups the methods of analysis actually employed in formulating foreign policy, and by focussing attention on the international problems currently being faced.

The program is being conducted by a group of experts of the Institution's International Studies Group headed by Leo Pasvolksy, former special assistant to the Secretary of State in charge of international organization and security affairs.—(USIS).

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Sir,—Press is the sacred palladium of people's rights and privileges. In these days of Freedom, freedom of speech, the freedom of the Press should be maintained at any cost. More strength to your elbows, Mr. Editor.

Yours truly,

(Miss) Ophelia Karunaratna...

Dehiwala, 12.1.48.

THE VOTER'S WAYS

By "Caliph"

THE voter is a most difficult individual. He is unpromising, capricious and unappeasable. But he cannot be ignored. No politician will ignore him for fear of reprisals. The power of the vote is more deadly than a "hooniam." It can make or mar a politician. And every politician knows it.

Life, says Shakespeare, has seven stages. The voter has four, which recur in cycles at every election in either an adverse or a beneficial way. The first stage is the pre-election period. The voter is highly sensitive. If you visit the next garden while canvassing, and finding you have no time left, reserve a visit to the particular voter's garden (we'll call him, Singho herein-after) the next day you have forced one vote against you.

Or may be, you visit the neighbour and stay a longer time there than at Singho's, then God help you. Or you may leave room for remarks like these: "He drank Vimto at Arnolis' but when my wife offered to prepare him coffee he said he was full."

Then there are the "mudalalis" of each garden or locality. There is no question of a direct approach to the voter. These heads must first be consulted and it is at their pleasure that you may interview voters.

Usually these heads need "baksheesh" to be won over. But if their pride is respected and recognised some will do everything for you, Mr. Candidate.

THE second stage is the elections. As election day draws nigh, the voter usually awaits a last-minute call from the candidate. If this is overlooked, many a vote may turn to the rival overnight. Some candidates prefer a general tour with much shouting and flag-waving to make an impression on the electorate. Here too he must tread carefully. If he can-

not visit any house he must not at least miss even the smallest lane or by-way.

Election cards also attract the voter. If the card is printed attractively the candidate has some hope. He usually finds it a physical impossibility to deliver every card at every house. But if this is done, it scores a lot. The fact that the candidate came "to the doorstep of my poor home" softens the heart of any voter.

Of course there are those who expect drinks and "santosums" before the event. It is a hard choice for a candidate to gratify a hundred Singhos. But if the particular individual voter is an influential man, many candidates risk their money on him. There are many Singhos, however, who show displeasure in another way and for a different reason.

These want "command" of particular areas in the electorate. To them this is a coveted honour. It is a common boast by these: "I was in charge of this area. We polled the most." Another boast is: "The majority of the votes went from my area."

This reminds me of an actual instance when a candidate won a Municipal election by three votes. Three voters (also workers) of one area cast the last three votes at the booth nearest to their area. In the "Victory" speeches made after the successful candidates had been brought home by a cheering crowd these three heroes vaunted forth: "We cast the last three winning votes, gentlemen."

But did they reckon the other polling booth? The last three voters there also could have claimed that honour. But everyone cheered them, and all ended so happily!

(Continued on page 6)

MUSLIMS PERTURBED.

(Continued from page 3)

morally and legally to act in accordance with the dictates of conscience based on the foundation of truth and the fundamental rights which should not be withheld for reasons of expediency or exploitation to prey upon weaker nations.

THIS is the humble submission of the Arabs of Palestine for international arbitration but the decision of that august body appears to be clean out of the line devoid of any sense of justice and denying to the Arabs and depriving them of their elementary right to settle down and develop the land of their birth. When self-determination is the key-note of nations which seek to promote the ideals and principles through democratic institutions, the national aspirations of the people of Palestine have been thwarted by means of an international organisation which has done more harm than good to the cause which it claims to have espoused as guardian of peace and the arsenal of democracy. The Arabs of Palestine in the First Great War challenged the suzerainty of their Turkish compatriots upon the strength of the pledges, proclamations and declarations of the British and Allied Nations but they have been disillusioned and disappointed and they are now between the devil and the deep sea—neither here nor there.

It is true that Mr. Lloyd George pressed the case of the Arabs at the last Peace Conference but decades have passed and yet the position had been deteriorating and British prestige has suffered enormously on account of her broken pledges and promises. Another war broke out and had ended but fate decreed that the Palestine problem to remain unsolved. This time the United Nations Organisation tackled it and by its latest decision it has forfeited the confidence of the Muslim world. It is a case of robbing Peter to give Paul. Without the least sign of sacrifice or sense of justice affecting those who sit in judgment, the U.N.O. decided to parcel out Palestine. The Muslim world expected and wanted the U.N.O.

to bring about lasting settlement upon the basis of the promises and pledges given to the Arabs of Palestine from time to time for they as all others felt the need for peace and recovery from an all-powerful body established to save the world without war.

THE decision of the U.N.O. has aroused a storm of protest from all quarters of the Muslim world and from responsible statesmen in England and elsewhere. Unless the U.N.O. takes a sane and sensible attitude to review the situation anew, the repercussion is bound to be too dangerous for the Arabs and the component parts of the Muslim world have already declared their determination to fight in vindication of the sacred rights of the Holy Land of Islam which forms an integral part of Jezirathul-Arab to remain inviolable. The Arabs of Palestine stand for peace honourably before the eyes of the civilised world and any action of the U.N.O. to precipitate a crisis would tantamount to a violation of the principles upon which nations joined for united action, with a view to prevent any conflict between them.

The Second Great War claimed to have achieved the equilibrium of maintaining world peace through the U.N.O. which was founded soon after the cessation of hostilities. The assurance of Major-General Sir Edward Spears, former Minister to Syria and Lebanon, Sir Ronald Stores, former Military Governor of Jerusalem and other English friends of the Arabs, with whom the writer is already in communication, has emboldened the protagonists of the Arabs to declare as observed in a Memorandum to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1937 that any reliance placed on the Muslims more than support to the evil designs of Zionism and International Jewry would amply compensate the recovery for world peace and let it be known that Muslim brotherhood is still a living force that stands for uprightness and chivalry.

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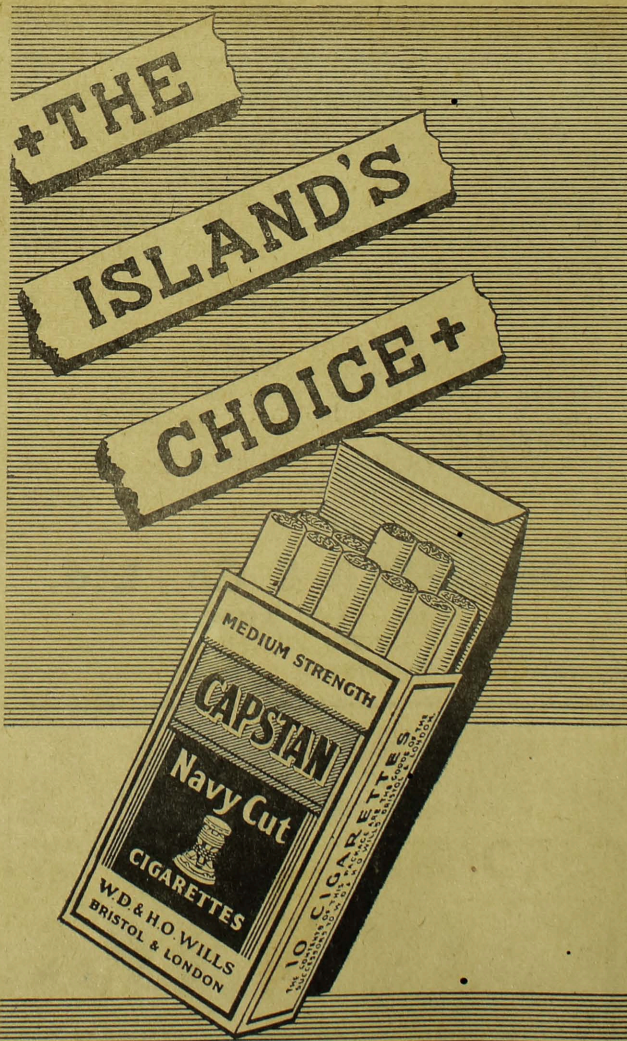
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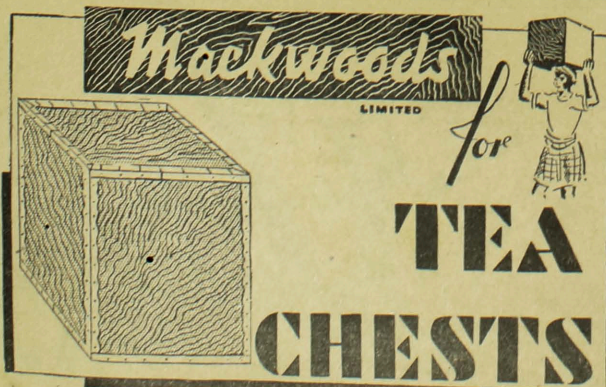
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THE VOTER'S WAYS

(Continued from page 5)

THE election is over. But the demand of the voter is not over. The ordeal gone through during canvassing must be gone through again in a different form. The candidate must visit every house to thank every individual, for "after all, it was we who sent him into council."

Here too the eating ordeal is to be burdened on the candidate. He must eat and/or drink at every house. It matters little to the voters whether his representative to Council or Parliament will suffer from indigestion or gripe the next day.

I know of one successful candidate who actually suffered so—and rather severely. But then the voters complained, when he was bedridden for two weeks, that after all, they had returned only an invalid at the polls!

Usually candidates fight shy of visiting every house after the elections as they have perforce to visit even the supporters of the rival candidate or candidates. With the heat engendered during the elections and the bitterness of defeat only a day or two old, who knows what bodily harm may befall the winner. But a little bit of courage this way shown by the successful candidate and a few tactful words spoken by him have usually made a friend of a foe.

THE fourth stage is the voter's role in the career of the member for his constituency. The duties of the member to his voters falls into these categories: (a) Recommending for posts; (b) Relieving the demand for taxes by obtaining for the constituent extra time to pay off the dues; (c) Improvement of the area; (d) Miscellaneous; (e) Cash.

The first is the easiest. The member has only to write on a notepaper with his name and title as letterhead: "The bearer is a constituent of mine. I have known him for a long time. He is a man of good character. I can recommend him for the job he seeks," etc. That is the Open Sesame to jobs. So the constituents think. Usually those who benefit more by this help are those who voted against the particular member.

The second is most common in Municipal Council constituencies. It is not so bad. So is (c), which should be the ideal of every member. Under "Miscellaneous" come various items. It may be a patronage for a show, attesting witness to a wedding, guest of honour at a "baila" party, kicker-off at a charity soccer or rubber ball match, or necessary attendance at funerals (usually indulged in by members when elections are nearing!)

But the fifth and last item takes the cake. Death of a relative or some such occasion is the motive for a constituent to pester a member. It is no fault of the member, neither is it his responsibility.

As one member roundly told off a constituent: "I was elected by you to serve you. So I am your servant, not your benefactor."

Then there are, of course, those uncompromising constituents, who expect their member to be at home every time they choose to pester him. As if members cannot have their own free time or their holidays.

Yes, the voter is most uncompromising and ruthless. But the politician must face him—for he is a necessary evil.

Art & Letters

By Quintus Delil Khan

BOOKMAN'S HOLIDAY

IT is good to take an occasional excursion into the lighter side of books and authors. People who would be rightly regarded as unduly inquisitive if they had a flair for prying into the affairs of their neighbours and friends could be readily forgiven if they had an unbounded curiosity about authors who have interested them. There is such an exceptional abundance of such delightful matter that one wonders why it never struck anyone before Mr. Holbrook Jackson did it, that a most entertaining volume could be made from the diaries, letters and journals of the great and even the lesser names in English literature. It is not enough to know an author through his books alone. We would like to know how he dined, what friends he had, what sort of letters he wrote, what were his foibles, and how he talked, quarrelled, lived and died. An author can reveal more of his true nature sometimes in a letter to a friend on some event or character than in the more formal and objective work which he gives the public. Charles Lamb honestly loved books about books, and no detail of an author but would have stimulated his appetite for incidents and opinions which contributed to make us glimpse the real man behind the appearance he usually presented to his contemporaries. There is a quality of liveliness and spontaneity in letters and diaries which we cannot find in the more enduring work of an author into which he has put his whole genius. Human nature is very much the same amongst any

group of people, but authors have the gift of expression which enables them to convey to us the feelings or impressions which most affected their own minds. "It is so pleasant to talk of one's self," said Hannah More to Horace Walpole, "that one would rather talk of one's faults than not talk of oneself at all." Authors have never been too anxious to hide their light under a bushel. On the contrary, they have done all they could to let the world know everything about themselves. Great writers were in a very real sense egoists. They felt that the known world centred round themselves. Some few were modest, but most of them were immoderately vain. "Conceit is just as natural a thing to the human mind," said Oliver Wendell Holmes, the celebrated author of the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," "as a centre is to a circle." This dictum sounds true, and there is no denying the overwhelming evidence for this shrewd observation by a man who should know.

BETTER THAN D.D.T.

WASHINGTON

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SPORTS

Commentary

COVER-POINT

TENNIS makes the biggest splash in this week's sports review, even though the scene of the matches that provided the headlines was in far away Madras and the results of such matches brought little credit to Ceylon.

When the Indian Lawn Tennis Association paid Ceylon the compliment of inviting three players from the Island to take part in the Hard Court championships, and when the C.L.T.A. were able to call on the services of the two Singles champions of Ceylon, F. J. de Saram and Sheila Roberts, with F. C. de Saram as the third string, it seemed quite on the cards that some of India's titles would cross the Palk Strait. This was rendered all the more likely first by the fact that India's Davis Cup players like Sumant Misra, Ghaus Mohamed and Co., were giving the meet a miss and, secondly, because both Koo de Saram and Sheila Roberts were playing at the top of the form. Their displays in the early rounds were so full of promise that some of us were pretty confident that an even greater measure of success would attend Ceylon's challenge this year than had been the case last year when two titles were brought to Ceylon.

While our hopes might have been fulfilled had the opposition been restricted to purely South Indian talent, they were rudely dashed to the ground by the presence of two Swedish players, who are now touring India. They were Swedish champion Lennart Bergelin, and Torsten Johansson, who swept through the meet like a tornado.

Bergelin, who is a youngster of 22, has chalked up victories against world players like Petra, Patty and Geoff Brown, and recently at Calcutta beat Sumant Misra out of sight. It is said that it is his powerful forehand drive which fetches him most points, but he is equally good in other departments of the game. Against such a masterly player Koo de Saram had no earthly chance and an all-Swede final materialised with Bergelin winning the title.

The Women's championship has been claimed by Miss Woodbridge, after our principal challenger, Miss Sheila Roberts, had surprisingly fallen by the way. Miss Doris Fonseka kept Ceylon's flag flying till the penultimate round, where she went under to the new champion.

The Men's Doubles resolved itself into a duel between our Ceylon pair, F.C. and F. J. de Saram, and the two Swedes. The Ceylon couple proved easy meat for the Swedes, who won in straight sets. Play as well as the Ceylonese did, they never made any

impression on their opponents, who took things very easy.

The dominance of the Swedes was further emphasised when they both entered the finals of the Mixed Doubles, Bergelin in partnership with Miss Woodbridge and Johansson in collaboration with Miss Khanne.

★

AFTER their Test debacle, the Indians crossed over to Tasmania where they are now engaged in a match at Hobart against the State. Tasmania came up against spell of deadly bowling by Rangachari, who achieved the first hat-trick of the tour. The Indians have placed themselves in a winning position by scoring nearly 200 runs for the loss of 2 wickets, the most pleasing feature being Amarnath's decision to go in first wicket down and his unqualified success as a No. 3 batsman.

The M.C.C. have also begun their tour of the West Indies and have not made too auspicious a start. They had to struggle hard against steady Barbados bowling to score a very modest 334 while the homesters rattled up 200 for the loss of only one wicket.

★

WHILE on the subject of racing, I might mention that the draft prospectus for the current year, which was referred back to the Stewards last August by the general meeting of the Turf Club, has now been revised. All the stakes offered have generally been increased and the biggest increases are in the races for Arabs, where the stakes have gone up to within striking distance of those offered for thoroughbreds. For instance Class I Arabs will race for stakes at-

taching to events open to Class II horses, which means that the prize money offered has been increased by nearly a third. As for the Governor-General's Cup a first prize of Rs. 17,000 compares favourably with the stakes offered in Bombay or Calcutta.

With racing in the principal Indian centres facing extinction within the next few years, Ceylon should make her programmes as attractive as possible so that we shall, in the fulness of time, become the Mecca of racing in the East.

Racing news from India also finds a bigish place in the news.

Before touching on a few of the races run last Saturday at the three principal Indian centres, I should like to refer to some past events, on which I could not comment as I was down at Boosa. The first is Kunj Lata's debut in Bombay, which would certainly have been a winning one had not Sawyer found himself pocketed on the rails in the straight. Senator Gardiner has, I understand, suggested a challenge match between Kunj Lata and Her Majesty for a stake of a lakh. If this materialises, the result should prove how unlucky Kunj Lata was to lose her unbeaten certificate in the manner she did.

In Madras, Mr. Buddy Amarasuriya's Devilment put Ceylon on the racing map by dead-heating in the Governor's Cup but the lack of the toss deprived him of the holding of the trophy.

In Calcutta, Push On proved himself the best Indian bred and I think his connections must be congratulated on their decision to run him only in races reserved for country-breds after he had proved unequal to the task of meeting the best thoroughbreds in Calcutta on level terms. Push On won both the Indian Vase and the Champion Cup and must be the biggest money-spinner in Calcutta.

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