

TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

Vol. 28 — Nos. 26 & 27 May 26, June 2, 1984 Rs. 8.00

- DEVIL DANCERS
- HARMONY
- RELIGION
- OLYMPICS
- PRAWN FARM
- RURAL BANKS
- ENVIRONMENT





Govt.

Notice

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (Chap. 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT. NO. 28 OF 1964.

Reference No. 3/2/3/9/785

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars, see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 297/29 of 18. 05. 84

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's Division : Mirigama
Situation :
Village : Bathalagama Panamallanda
Name of Land : Pahala Pitakumbura
Lot Nos. : 1 - 2
Plan No. P. P. Co. : 190.

S. H. Withanage
District Land Officer
of Gampaha District

The Kachcheri,
Gampaha.
Date: 17-05-1984

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER this week we have two dancers with masks. We are not experts in dance lore, but we believe that we will not be wrong if we accept popular terminology and call them "devil dancers". Devil dancing, apart from it being an art form, has been traditionally used in exorcising evil spirits. In this note we are not concerned with the black arts. What we want to point out is that while exorcist or thovil ceremonies may help to drive out the unseen spirits that torment man, the kind of loud incantations and awesome noises that mark each step or movement of devil dancers' performance is not the most appropriate way of making an impression in politics or international relations. In Sri Lanka, politicians in high places have in recent times, unfortunately used the idiom and methodology of the exorcist to wage a verbal campaign against real and imaginary foes. Devil dancing strategies for instance, cannot exorcise the spirits that possess terrorists. Nor will they intimidate foreign governments into submission. What is more, thovil exhortations cannot even induce super-power spirits to do the bidding of the witch doctor. It is true that Sri Lanka Tamil terrorists have asylum and a haven in Tamil Nadu which is an semit autonomous State in the Federal Union of India. It is one thing to wage a polemical battle with the lesser politicians of Tamil Nadu, but it is a totally different thing to make threatening noises directed at the Central Government of India especially when it is on record that New Delhi has done everything possible to help the Jayewardene government not only in its hour of critical need but also to offer its continuing good offices to resolve the ethnic conflict. Nobody can turn a blind eye on terrorists camps and bases in Tamil Nadu but they cannot be ended even by the mightiest of Sinhala Only devil dancers. The remedy lies elsewhere. In this connection we must cite an extract (*Daily Mirror*, 30/5/84) from a speech made at the Youth Parliament of the Moors Islamic Cultural Home by the leader of the opposition, Mr. Anura Bandaranaike: "He said that it was not at all proper for the Sri Lankan Prime Minister to have threatened to wage war against India on the current ethnic issue. . . . that it was absurd for the Government to invite Israel to Sri Lanka to fight the terrorists. 'The Prime Minister has declared war on the Republic of India. India has come to the aid of Sri Lanka to rehabilitate those who are affected by the recent disturbances.' He stressed that the SLFP and himself had been branded as stooges of India. . . . We do not believe in declaring war on approximately 750 million people. The Sirima-Shastri Pact, the Kachchathivu issue were solved through amicable discussions between the two Premiers. The Prime Minister declared war on India at 1.20 a.m. in Parliament when most Ministers were half asleep. . . . Today the speech made by the National Security Minister is an eye opener to the Prime Minister and the Government'. He challenged the Prime Minister to tell the country as to how many among the Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims out of the 15 million people are prepared to lay down their lives. 'It is an utterly foolish idea to declare war on India.' He said that it was a tribute to Mrs. Gandhi not to be provoked by the declaration of war on India by the Sri Lanka Prime Minister. He urged the Prime Minister to repair the roads in Colombo before waging war against India." At this stage we do not want to enter into the more controversial and polemical aspects of the "war on India" speeches. We must however refer to a statement made by Mrs. Gandhi a few days ago at a banquet in New Delhi held in honour of the visiting Prime Minister of Vanavatu. She had said, "Our small neighbours are obsessed by our size and sometimes let their imagination run riot, alleging intentions which do not exist". No names were mentioned, but the meaning was clear. She has thus dismissed with quiet dignity the devil dancing bluster which has lost a great deal of political mileage for those indulging in such heroics among the Sinhala rural masses blessed as they are with pragmatic common (horse) sense particularly in matters of war and peace.

The Ethnic Problem

Colombo, May 24: The ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, as between the Sinhalese and the Tamils, is today on everybody's mind and lips, here and abroad. This country gained Independence from Britain in 1948, that is 36 years ago. From 1930, this country has enjoyed adult franchise, and from that time until Independence, the State Council had exercised a great deal of "home rule" autonomy under direct British gubernatorial suzerainty.

And now, 54 years after adult franchise and 36 years after Independence, *Tribune* is not sure whether the country is moving in the right direction either to develop a Sri Lankan consciousness or concretise national unity. On the contrary our recent political history and developments have manifested strong ethnic polarising tendencies which can be interpreted as direct blatant chauvinism. This has been demonstrated not only in voting for parliament or local elections but also in all sectors of life and living.

In the years after Independence, the attempts to reduce ethnic polarisation have virtually disappeared and no concrete or practical steps have been taken to promote national unity. All that has been done, and is still being done, is to pay lip service to the word "national unity" and this has unfortunately been taken to mean that the minorities must merge their identities in the cultural, language and religious identity of the major community. Officially, an attempt was made to erase Tamil identity from the history, culture, religion and language of this land.

This trend could have been reversed if an attempt had been made to create a Sri Lankan consciousness. To bring this about it was necessary to make it clear that the Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims and Burghers (of whatever religious persuasion) were and are part and parcel of a Ceylonese or a Sri Lankan nation.

This was not done. What is worse is that the population was divided in 1948 into three language "channels" or "streams"—Sinhala, Tamil and English. At the start Sinhala and Tamil swabasha enthusiasts had combined to make the English language a kind of cultural (imperialist) pariah that had to be completely eliminated. This drove the Burghers out of the country and started the suicidal path of national disintegration. Within eight years of dividing the people into three, really two, linguistic (and ethnic) groups, the next step in the process of ethnic segregation began with the Sinhala Only process of wanting to identify the country solely as a Sinhala entity. What these enthusiasts forgot was other languages, religions and cultures, besides Sinhala and Buddhism, have for centuries been part and parcel of this country.

And today, in spite of everything that has happened in the inglorious years of Sinhala Only communalism, Sri Lanka cannot hope to progress unless ethnic and cultural unity (in diversity) is made the centre-piece of a Sri Lanka consciousness. Some of the most ardent Sinhala Only chauvinists have now begun to realise that the attempt to impose Sinhala uniformity has turned counter-productive and even suicidal even for the Sinhalese people.

It is time that the Sinhala Only enthusiasts are told in no uncertain terms that the only way Sri Lanka can be pulled out of the quagmire into which it has fallen and to bring an economic and cultural renaissance will be to treat all sections of the population without differentiation or distinction. It is not enough to point out that there are no "legal disabilities". What is on the Statute Book is one thing, what is done by the Administration is another. There must be equal treatment of and equal opportunities for all Sri Lankans irrespective of ethnic origin. In other words, the Sinhalese must be prepared to accept an eventual situation where existing dichotomies in education, employment and other spheres are totally eliminated.

Given our recent history and the sort of policies which have been pursued, it is not going to be easy to achieve this. It will not be a straight and simple path. Yet a start has to be made for there is no other way in which we can live together. Indeed, the alternative is too horrifying to contemplate. If it is to be a situation of continuous racial polarisation, of ethnic tension and hatred, history has shown that it can have only one outlet—riot and civil war.

TO RESOLVE THE ETHNIC PROBLEM it is necessary for the mediators to understand the position of the various communities and are capable and desirous of working towards a genuine Sri Lanka consciousness acceptable to all. Such mediators should have (1) a conception of history, the present situation and the way a Sri Lanka nation of diverse elements can evolve; (2) a deep and profound understanding of the different cultures and communities that make up the country; (3) a capacity to distinguish the genuine interests of a community from its false interests; (4) a critical, yet constructively creative, attitude to the issues involved in ethnic relations without being slavishly attached to any dogma or doctrine; (5) an honest sincere attitude towards the search for solutions that do not succumb to ethnic prejudices and biases; and (6) a clear vision of the future Sri Lankan nation while taking into account existing realities in their response to immediate ethnic issues.

It must be admitted that large sections of the Sinhala and Tamil elites, which still dominate the political, economic and cultural scene, still do not see the urgent need to mould a national consciousness for a Sri Lanka nation of tomorrow. It is also true that very few of the Sinhalese elites realise the full impli-

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cations of a multi-ethnic society—what it means in terms of the role of the non-Sinhala languages and religions and why it is necessary in their own selfish (Sinhala) interest to work consciously for equality between communities. The non-Sinhalese elites must also learn to understand the position of Sinhala being the sole official language and to understand the position of Buddhism as the "de facto" official religion.

As long as the Sinhalese and non-Sinhalese elites, who exercise so much influence over the rest of the society, do not bridge this gap in understanding, there will be no Sri Lanka consciousness and there will be no national unity. The essence of national unity is a common perception of the form and identity of the nation shared by all communities.

There are many crucial weaknesses in our Society; (a) the gap between Sinhala and non-Sinhala elites on the question of our national identity; (b) economic disparities between the rich and poor that stem from an unwillingness to re-examine the fundamentals of our economic system; (c) the absence of an ethical and humanistic core in education in spite of all the fanfare and hullabaloo about religion and spiritual values; and (e) the failure to realise the significance of a total commitment to integrity—at all levels starting from the top rungs.

IT IS ALSO TIME TO REALISE that Tamil terrorism and the resort to violence was and is the outcome of the persistent determination of the Sinhala elite to eliminate the Tamil identity from a Sri Lankan identity and consciousness. It is true that the Jayewardene government—of which much was expected—rectified some of the anti-Tamil disparities in the Statute Book. But the letter of the law is one thing, but the practice thereof is another. The burning of the Jaffna Library and other anti-Tamil atrocities were inspired by and carried out by a Sinhala elite that seemed and still seems to believe that they could make rivers flow backwards and make a multi-ethnic society with diverse languages, cultures, and religions into one homogenous Sinhala whole. Terrorist violence which sprang from discrimination for over two decades and the chauvinistic Sinhala determination to liquidate all traces of a Tamil identity cannot be eradicated by counter-violence. This attempt to destroy the Tamil identity in Sri Lanka cannot succeed with the 50 million Tamils just across the Palk Straits. Invasion is not necessary to ensure this.

It will not do much good to lament that the Sinhalese have no other land to which they can go. The position of the Tamils, the Muslims and all other non-Sinhala non-Buddhist peoples in this country is the same. They have nowhere else to go. They belong to the land in which they were born. A few might run away to places where they do not belong. Many Burghers did. A few Tamils have followed suit, but many more Sinhalese who did not like the narrow Sinhala Only ethos have fled the land.

This can be stopped only if the Sinhala elite now entrenched in the government and in all the seats of power decide to abandon a policy that will sooner or later destroy all that is good and worthwhile in this island.

It is becoming increasingly clear even to the chauvinistic Sinhalese elite that as long as the ethnic situation with its narrow communal responses persist, there is no future for this country especially in the economic field. Foreign aid and foreign investment, it is realised, is dependent on whether this government or any other government can resolve the ethnic problem. The APC has taken some steps in the search for independent autonomous modes of social action and administrative procedures which are acceptable to all communities.

Knowledgeable and fair-minded sections of the elite should reach out to the mass of the common people over the heads of narrow sectarian sections of the elites. A Sri Lankan consciousness can grow only in the context of a world-view combined with spiritual, ethical and humanistic values. We want a Sri Lankan society that will have deep concern for a human being as a human being: a society that is not obsessed with profits or with modes of production. Our overall vision of society is one that can improve ethnic relations, elevate the status of women, enhance economic self-reliance and decentralise power and authority.

In Sri Lanka, we need more articulation and action from its sane and sober citizens. At the moment they seem to prefer silence to speech. Do they not realise that if they do not speak and act today, there may be no future for them or their children?

TRIBUNE

WE REGRET

that owing to unforeseen circumstances stemming from editorial, administrative and production problems, there were no issues of **Tribune** dated May 5 and 19. The present issue combines No. 26 and No. 27 and bears the date May 26 and June 2. Every effort is being made to restore the regularity of our issues as before.

Bottrell

Sir,

Mr. Kenneth Bottell's letter reproduced in your issue of the 24th March is most interesting. Mr. Bottrell suggests that instead of attacking Nestle's, the *Tribune* talk to them about a production unit on his suggested lines.

He refers to the mid-country and to heat stress. In his capacity as an Agricultural Consultant, can he tell us how many dairy cows are there in the mid-country and what the current milk production in this area is? He refers to Stylo, Guinea grass and Ipil Ipil. We have seen some guinea and the odd-bush of Ipil Ipil in these parts but, equally well have we seen starving animals in these parts. Mr. Bottrell then refers to the need for harvesting these grasses at the pre-flowering stages, which if done will produce two gallons of milk per day. Does Mr. Bottrell know what the production per animal in the Kandy District is? Has he examined the production figures on the Government and Livestock Board Farms? Presumably these are well run.

Mr. Bottrell is undoubtedly an expert on zero grazing, heat stress and tick horn fever. How many animals have died of tick fever in the mid-country?

However, the most profound of his observations is the howler of all howlers. Marketing is easy and all production to be sold at a contract price. How much have the farmers in the Nestle area of activity got after Nestles moved in? Do they deduct any service charges on the collecting points that they manage? How much grass has Nestle grown in their areas of activity? How much Ipil Ipil does Nestle provide to the Oils and Fats Corporation each month? Finally how much does Mr. Bottrell really know of dairy farming in Sri Lanka and the Nestle role in dairy development in this bountiful island and to pose one more question, if the mid-country has all these attributes why did Nestle not go into this area when they first moved in to Sri Lanka?

A Dairy Farmer

Angoda.

x x x

Nestle

Sir,

I have been a reader of your Magazine for many years long since I retired from public service. I am fortunately able to afford, despite the daily cost of living increases, a cross section of the daily papers. My

4

nephew ran a small dairy in Kurunegala and on the occasions I was invited there (or rather tolerated). I listened politely with some interest to the problems he encountered with milk production. I must state that apart from admiring his beasts and trying to logically solve some of his problems, (he often dismissed my suggestions with a sharp report of it being possible in the old days). I cannot recall a single day when I was brave enough to either stroke an animal or milk a cow.

It is in this context therefore that I have to put pen to paper on an issue that seems to have two diverse streams of thought in recent times. There is your quest for the truth on Nestles entry into the country and also the attempts of some of the daily papers to extol the virtues of this internationally famous organisation. What strikes me first is your persistence; often contained in a rather harsh manner, often posed in the form of a question seldom or never answered. If we readers do not receive the benefit of answers and thereby the chance of evaluation, it does rather become like Robert Donat in that early superlative production of the *Thirty Nine Steps*. But I digress—surely if Nestles have come into Sri Lanka, they did so on agreements—why do you not publish the agreements with presumably the terms of reference? What have we limited them to do? What are they doing? Are they straying off course and if so have they been corrected? What are their objectives? How much have they achieved? Have both Nestles and Sri Lanka benefitted? Have the dairy farmers benefitted? The *Daily Mirror* contains an occasional pot shot, as they say, these days. The *Daily News* only has praise for their activities but both papers say nothing from the farmers' point of view. So those views are often discounted. The *Island* and the *Sun* remain silent on this aspect. The missing gaps on my chess board are first have milk collections dropped and is there more (or less) interest in dairy farming. Secondly are the producers reasonably satisfied? (No producer is ever satisfied), under current conditions our producers likely to continue dairying as a feature and finally what does the consumer feel?

On a mischevious note, I must end by saying I rather agree with you Mr. Editor. There are no Rs. 4,000 per month dairy farmers. But aren't multinationals also allowed poetic licence?

RETIRED PENSIONER

Colombo,
16.5.1984.

—*Tribune* will publish the Nestle Agreement in an early issue—Ed.

x x x

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Why Protection ?

Sir,

Thank you for publishing my letter of 7th March on Milk Production in Sri Lanka, and for your comments. Perhaps at this stage I should also say that I am not connected with Nestle in any way. I am not surprised that tariff protection has been suggested for locally-produced milk powder, because dairy products, together with cereals and sugar, cause both economists and politicians more headaches than almost any other group of commodities I can think of. The common factor in the production and marketing of all these products, is that there is world overproduction, at prices that people world-wide are willing and/or able to pay.

Consider sugar: There is world over-production, and the commodity is "inelastic"; in simple words, this means that a small degree of over-production results in very low prices to the producer. In the past, growers responded to high or low prices by planting or grubbing, and sugar was a "Boom or Bust" crop. Nowadays, most producing countries subscribe to a international quota system, to guarantee both supplies to consumers, and reasonable prices to producers. The system works reasonably well, but it is not perfect and often cheap sugar at "dumping" prices is to be had in the international market. *It so happens that Ceylon is currently attempting to become more self-sufficient in sugar production (Pelawatte Co.), and it could be argued that this is unnecessary, since sugar is a cheap commodity.* Such an argument however is naive since (a) even at dumping prices, imports still cost hard currency, (b) home production adds to gross national product, (c) knowledge is disseminated, (d) employment is provided, both directly and in ancillary industries. Hence, it is not economically sound to simply compare the cost of a kilo of home-produced sugar with the cost of a kilo of dumped sugar.

Consider cereals: Within the EEC, for political reasons French and German farmers are paid "floor" prices which encourage them to over-produce. The excess is sold, at a lower price, on the world market.

Consider Dairy products: Despite a tough six-month winter when the cost of production is high, Europe over-produces all dairy products. The excess has to be got rid of, at low prices, on the world market. A few years ago, the EEC had to get rid of a "butter mountain". This was bought at a bargain price by Russia, a fact which was unpopular with European tax payers, who did not see the logic of subsidising the Russian economy, thereby releasing resources for the production of armaments, with which to threaten the west.

As with the Pelawatta Sugar Company, it could be argued that Sri Lanka could exist on milk imports at dumped prices, but the same arguments apply. If a

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country wishes to save hard currency, and develop its economic and social potential, it must become self-sufficient. However, local investors in Agriculture, whether in sugar, milk or whatever, must be protected against other countries' agricultural policies, which are manifest as commodities at dumped prices. Tongue in cheek, I don't think Ceylon's Dairy Industry is ready yet to take on Ireland, Britain, Holland, Denmark and New Zealand in a straight fight. *On this occasion, I think that Nestle is right.*

Kenneth Bottrell

10/1, Mapanawatura Road,
Kandy.
March 26, 1984.



NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (Chap. 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT. NO. 28 OF 1964.

Reference No. 3/2/6/12/570

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SCHEDULE

A. G. A's Division	: Biyagama
Situation	:
Village	: Gonawala
Name of Land	: Millagahawatta. alias Hedawakawatta
Lot Nos.	: 01
Plan No. P. R. No.	: 326

A.L.S Malwenna
District Land Officer,
of Gampaha District.

The Kachcheri,
Gampaha.
Date 17-5-1984

Communal Harmony

By R. Gomis

To deny the existence of racial disharmony in Sri Lanka today is to deny what is factual. But to dispute about the causes and remedies for this situation is something that is the right of men and women gifted with their own intellectual capabilities and consequently, their own views on the interpretation of reality. Therefore, the causes of racial conflict in Sri Lanka remain manifold and are still not clearly identified.

However, it is obvious that the sources of racial conflict are not matters of merely recent origin. They have their roots in the historical, economic and cultural heritages of each race. That is why the present conflict is being tackled and rightly so on many fronts. Unfortunately, at the *religio-cultural level*, the problem was tackled only soon after the unrest. It was carried through for a while and then laid to rest (or at least not intensely pursued)—until perhaps the next eruption of conflict. The effort made to solve the conflict or at least to blunt its thrust at the religious level by inter-religious dialogue and inter-religious action was indeed one aspect of the ethnic issue. The economic, political and social structures too have their respective roles in the fostering and promotion of racial harmony. But each of these does so from its own particular angle. All of them are inter-related.

ECONOMIC STRUCTURES determine how society organizes its resources *e.g.* production, distribution, exchange, consumption, capital, labour, technology, concentrations etc. Social structures determine how society organizes relationships *e.g.* family, clan, tribe, neighbourhood, education, language patterns etc. Cultural structures of which religion is an important dimension organizes meaning through symbols, myths, art, music, folk lore, life style etc. When one speaks of trying to deal with the situation of racial disharmony from the point of view of the religions, the effort is to underline the patterns of meaning that derive from each religious tradition. Are the meaningful patterns in conflict? Do they really demand a manifestation of open conflict? Do they contain the possibility of harmony not merely at the level of concepts, but also at the level of behavioural patterns and more particularly of commitment?

Even though Sinhalese and Tamils have lived together, still each race has maintained its separate identity. This identity expressed itself in their independent organization of economic political and social structures. Each community gave their own legitimation and meaning to these structures in terms of their religious concepts. However, with the adminis-

trative unification of Sri Lanka by the British in 1833, all racial groups came under the same political and economic structures, while their social and cultural structures remained as they had been prior to that. With the passage of time, the situation evolved where in actual fact one group overtook the other in terms of the benefits that group derived from the common economic and political structure. This advantage was not in terms of the numbers that benefitted, but rather in terms of percentages: The percentage of the less numerous group in the country who had or was considered to have advantages was greater than that of the more numerous group in the country. This advantage derived not because the economic or political structure worked to the advantage of any one group, but because the social and religious and cultural structure of a given group placed less restriction and latent "complexes" to that group taking the best advantage of the situation. Often, this working of the social and cultural structure is at the level of what is the "done" thing in that group without much conscious evaluation of what may be right or wrong.

THE SITUATION ESPECIALLY AFTER INDEPENDENCE functioned on the basis of the principle of democracy. The principle of democracy works in such a way that numerical majority carries with it the advantage for that group, independent of whether the objective of that group may be moral or immoral by the standards generally accepted by the world as moral or immoral. "Parliament is supreme. It can do anything" has been a principle that has been quoted. The fears of the majority therefore led to various legislative and policy measures in relation to language, education, religion and government. These measures quite independent of whether they were moral or otherwise carried with it a message and a meaning to the minority community. The minority recognized in these measures that were discriminatory and meant to maintain the minority in an inferior status in the country.

The attitude of the majority was very well described by a cynic as that of "a majority with a minority complex". Perhaps the reverse is also true. The minority felt that they were not necessarily a numerical minority, if they calculated their numbers taking into account the Tamils in neighbouring Tamilnadu. By this reckoning they would outnumber the majority many times over. So, we have "a minority with a majority complex". What is important to underline is that this entire process functions very definitely on the basis of certain inspirations derived from the cultural and religious traditions of each group. But never are these subjected to objective and detached examination. Perhaps it is not possible to do this, since one is not dealing here with a conceptual exercise. If it were a conceptual exercise, one could balance concepts and ideas against each other. What one is dealing here is with an issue that begins, develops and ends in commitment. The logic of commitment is that one chooses one thing while excluding the other.

THE ONE WHO IS COMMITTED finds meaning for his life in the choice he has made. But faced with other realities, he experiences fears and expectations. However, his commitment is bolstered and grows on the basis of many non-rational and a-rational factors. It is a question of perceptions and attitudes. These perceptions and attitudes are genuinely held. But the a-rational basis of commitment often functions, very much at a subliminal level, towards division, further misperceptions, misunderstandings, exaggerations and over-reaction. It is this situation that religion has to face up to and resolve in whatever way it can.

Here it is important to ask what kind of religion one is speaking of. There is first of all a kind of *social religiosity*. Religion centres around the felt needs of people. A religious dimension is given to normal human activity e.g. gathering in the harvest, help in moments of illness, major stages in human growth etc. The reference is to the past (thanking the divine being/s) or to the present (the situation of sickness). The fact that everybody who belongs to that religion performs such rites on these occasions gives a common sense of belonging to the religious group. The functioning of this type of religiosity does not really challenge the perceptions that one has of others. It is a process that goes on within the religious group. *In fact, the careful adherence to religious practices of this type may make one function completely within one's own religious tradition to the exclusion of others. This situation also gives self-identity to the group. In Sri Lanka, as sociologists like Gananath Obeyesekere have observed, the self-identity of Sinhalese has been linked to Buddhism such that "Sinhalese-Buddhist" go together.* Even though the structures of society have changed, at an unconscious level, this *self-identity* still functions. The result is not that there is an effort to falsify history, but in the reading and interpretation of history, this pattern, or this archetype, functions. Historical facts are not disregarded. But their meaning is presented against this framework of a particular attitude. The more such a situation operates, the more there is the danger of patterns and functions becoming more entrenched.

A SECOND TYPE OF RELIGIOSITY is what one could term *religious religiosity*. The orientation is more towards the future. The future, to a great extent, is unknown, even though one may say that the future is somehow the outcome of the past and the present. One engages, therefore, in a series of practices in which the accent is to seek blessings on the future and to ward off any evil that may mar that future. *Once again, these practices do not actually challenge the dynamic misperceptions and misreading of history under which communal disharmony smoulders.* Thus for example, the present author has first hand experience of a group who during the recent disturbances came to burn a house. While preparing to set the house on fire, they saw a religious statue in the house with an oil lamp burning before it. The leader entered the

house and brought the statue to a place of safety in the garden and then set the house on fire.

The *establishment dimension of religion* is another aspect of religion. Here the emphasis is on maintaining the rights and privileges of the particular religious group. It is the perceived disadvantages for a particular group viewed within the various deep rooted images and myths of the cultural tradition of that particular group that have caused the escalation of the present conflict. No matter what accommodations are proposed on the economic and political plane, these are viewed from the point of view of these deep rooted images and myths.

ALL THREE DIMENSIONS of religion as outlined above provide for certain human needs, but they really do not carry its adherent beyond his present situation and present problematic. Religious leaders have to try today to see in what way their religious traditions point the way to carry a man beyond the present situation towards a further plane, where one embraces rather than rejects one's fellow man in making one's own commitment to whatever cause or goal one opts for.

THIS DEEPER LEVEL of religion may be called the "*transeendental*" where subjective consciousness merges with objective consciousness. It may be called "*bhavana*" which refers to the entire process of physical, psychological and intellectual training required to go beyond the situation of "*dukkha*" (sorrow). It may be called "*supernatural*" or even "*utopian*". The term does not matter. What is really conveyed by such expressions is that the ultimate solution for the problems of the human situation cannot and will not be merely in terms and categories that are in strict continuity with the situation as we know it. Religion always brings with it a challenge to move beyond, towards a new understanding of the human condition and the universe. The deeper one enters into human consciousness, the higher is the level at which the synthesis of conflict is reached.

In the training of a Buddhist monk in the Rinzai branch of the Zen sect today, the student does *zazen* or seated meditation with a *koan* carefully chosen by his teacher. The *koan* serves as an instrument for presenting the mind with a paradox, a seemingly self-contradictory or absurd statement, resisting any facile solution. The student grapples with this problem. Often the effort far exceeds that of one who is writing a doctoral dissertation. Some give up in the process. But those who succeed emerge with a new consciousness beyond the limits of human intelligence. It is not an increased IQ that results. Intelligence finds itself stretched to its limits and beyond. It comes to a realization: a solution that is perceived rather than reasoned out step by step. It is an accommodation that springs from the very depths of one's being.

The proposal that religious leaders spend half an hour in deep meditation on 7th June 1984 is a gesture that has to be appreciated in this life. But it is only a first step to go beyond—an effort to perceive a solution which even transcends the conceptual articulations of each religion tradition. This could be a moment when the various religious traditions could play a key role, if they go back to their initial inspiration and seek to make it the dynamic of their present efforts.

However, the present challenge may require that the various religious traditions understand in a new way the various dimensions of the functioning of their religions—whether as social religiosity or religious religiosity or establishmentarian and institutionalised religiosity—and observe how these forms really side-step the basic issue at stake. This would be a process of renunciation, a kind of discipline that may be demanded of the adherents of each religion. *But, it is still possible to find some way towards a new perception of reality without being unfaithful to one's own religions perception.*

Each religion then has to go back to the past—the past that was glorious precisely because religion at that moment had its most dynamic and effective thrust. It has to realize how various human needs and accommodations to various human situations has obscured and blunted that thrust, which is the basis of the true meaning of one's life of commitment to a religious tradition. What are the elements of these subconscious patterns, these myths and archetypes that condition our thinking and yet destroy our human and religious growth? What are the symbols that evoke a response within us and yet we refuse to respond to them to carry us beyond? *This is the thrust of religion for today: not merely for a brief period of communal unrest, but as a policy measure all through their activity.*

22nd May 1984.
Kandy.

x x x

POINT OF VIEW

National Unity

HERE YOU ARE. Devils dare where angels fear to tread. All these long years, after we won our Independence we, in Sri Lanka, have suffered ourselves to be guided and led and ruled by our leaders. And what has been the outcome? I need not describe, nor recount it. I shrink from doing so. I fear to discuss the problem: so gargantuan it has turned out to be. I have a nostalgic fear that warns me and tells me: Let sleeping dogs lie. Stir not a hornets' nest.

So, I refrain from dabbling in party strife and party politics. I am no politician. I have no political acumen. But one thing I desire; and desire intensely. And that is, I, being a peace-loving, peace-seeking citizen like many other true patriotic Sri Lankan, want to be out of this mess.

Certain, simple, commonsense ways suggest themselves, to me, as the correct solution. No political punditry is needed to see them. They are these:—

1. Sri Lanka shall remain a single, undivided sovereign state.
2. It shall continue to be a democracy.
3. It shall have a central governing body. Call it what you will.
4. This body shall be sovereign and have central subjects, Defence etc.
5. There are nine provinces. They have been demarcated by the Britishers for us. They are true geographical regions; and will serve as administrative regions. These shall be administered by Regional Councils. They shall have clearly defined regional subjects, such as land and land settlement, land development, education etc.
6. Sinhala, Tamil and English shall be the media of education, and all the three media shall be taught to all the children in all schools.
7. All administrative officers shall be proficient in all the three languages.
8. In the schools and in the universities, Mathematics, and the sciences shall be taught in English.
9. Admission to the universities shall be made on merit.
10. There shall be freedom of worship. No religious conversions shall be permitted. Inter-religious, inter-communal harmony shall be aimed at by the teaching of comparative religions in all schools and in the Universities.
11. The National Flag shall be what it is; so shall the national anthem.

On this basic framework we hope to build up a united nation shorn of any divisive trends. Be assured of this. Here is no attempt to teach grandma to suck eggs. *It is only a humble attempt to say what a free citizen feels.*

K. KANAPATHIPILLAI

52, Nalliah Road,
Batticaloa.
16.5.84.

April 16 - May 6

**DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA
COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS-
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO**

DN—Daily News; DM—Daily Mirror; DO—Daily Observer; ST—Sunday Times; SO—Sunday Observer; DMN—Dinamina; LD—Lankadipa; VK—Virakesari; ATH—Aththa; SM—Silumina; SLDP—Sri Lankadipa; JD—Jinadina; S—Sun; DV—Davasa; DP—Dinapathi; CM—Chinthamani; WK—Weekend; RV—Rivirasa; DK—Dinakara; EN—Elenadu; IS—Island; DI—Divaina; IDPR—Information Dept. Press Release.

MONDAY, APRIL 16: Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had "emphatically reiterated India's goodwill for Sri Lanka and her commitment to respect our sovereignty and territorial integrity", National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said in a pre-departure statement issued in New Delhi yesterday. President Reagan, thwarted by a Congress which went home for Easter, will use his emergency powers to send military supplies to El Salvador—DN. Except for shortage of fuel including kerosene no incidents anywhere in the northern province were reported over the weekend; the lack of train services has created an acute fuel shortage in Jaffna and people are badly affected by the lack of kerosene—DM. Leading Sri Lankan footwear manufacturers have protested to the government that a multinational organisation in the same business has exceeded the 35 percent market share allotted to them. No person within the administrative districts of Jaffna and Kilinochchi will be permitted to own or possess any outboard motor exceeding the capacity of 15 HP; all persons having such motors are required to surrender them to the nearest Police Station or Naval Post within 24 hours of the coming into force of the Special Emergency Regulations relating to the setting up of a territorial zone and surveillance zone in Sri Lankan territorial waters—/S. Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali is due to meet President J. R. Jayewardene at nine this morning to report to him the outcome of his discussions in India—DO. The left parties, the Communist Party of Sri Lanka, Mahajana Eksath Peramuna, Lanka Sama Samaja Party and Sri Lanka Mahajana Party will jointly celebrate May Day at the Campbell Park—VK.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17: The District Judge of Colombo, Mr. Vimal Wickremasuriya, yesterday entered judgment in Rs. 1 million in favour of Prime Minister R. Premadasa against Upali Newspapers Ltd., and the editor of the *Divaina*, Mr. Edmund Ranasinghe in the case in which Mr. Premadasa claimed Rs. 2 million as damages for defamation. The United States began a fresh effort today to secure a nuclear co-operation agreement with China before President Reagan's visit later this month—

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DN. A local firm with foreign collaboration which first offered to supply both Bombay and Red Onions at cheaper prices is reported to have been completely ignored by the Trade Ministry authorities when issuing permits to the private sector to import these two consumer items—DM. Six teenagers engaged in peddling and smoking heroin were nabbed by the Borella Police in several pre-New Year raids carried out in the area—DO. People's Bank Chairman S. T. G. Fernando yesterday ordered an immediate inquiry on the publication of the "offensive cover picture" in the latest issue of the *Economic Review*. Two passenger trains which were speeding headlong into each other on the same track along the coastline were stopped at Moratuwa, averting a major disaster yesterday morning, Railway Officials said. Special Death Investigation Committees are to be appointed shortly in three of the country's major teaching hospitals—SU. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. G. Ramachandran on Saturday appealed to DMK leader M. Karunanidhi not to give false hopes to youths coming from Sri Lanka and to make political capital out of the miseries of victims of ethnic violence in Sri Lanka. Indian Defence Minister R. Venkataraman criticised the demand of some political leaders in Tamil Nadu that India should send an army to Sri Lanka and warned that such an action would only boomerang on Tamil Nadu with the intervention of some of the powerful allies of Sri Lanka, as Madras *Hindu* of April 16 had reported. A good number of imported popular programmes over both Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation and the Independent Television networks will either be axed or be taken off the air completely—/S.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18: Cutbacks on recurrent expenditure and financial disciplines called for by government earlier this year, have sounded a virtual death-knell for the Agriculture Department's research activities, notably rice research. NATO negotiators will put fresh proposals for reducing troops in Central Europe to the Warsaw Pact today as part of a two-pronged Easter arms control offensive—DN. Sixteen leading export companies have been black listed by the Central Bank for defaulting export proceeds; all Commercial Banks have been instructed by the Central Bank to refrain from referring any exchange transactions from these listed companies—DM. Sri Lanka's armed services will soon be supplied with sophisticated arms to match the modern weapons being used by the northern terrorists—DO. The tea trade has assured overseas buyers that the nine-day strike on the plantations will not have any effect on the April tea crop, although it may affect the quality of the teas manufactured. Five kilograms of gold believed to be part of the loot robbed in the spate of gang robberies carried out by terrorists in recent months have been recovered after an army raid of a terrorist hideout in Nallur yesterday—SU. All public sector employees entitled to a cost of living allowance will from this month, receive an additional Rs. 102 as cost of living allowance; this payment is an addition to the Rs. 246 they are

receiving since September 1983 on a directive by the Finance Minister. Sri Lanka Tamils numbering about 1,300 who are claiming political asylum in Switzerland have caused a public controversy. The Minister of Fisheries Mr. Festus Perera has taken steps to introduce a protective ring around the sea coast extending from Negombo to Kalpitiya in the West Coast, a communique of the Fisheries Ministry said yesterday—/S. President J. R. Jayewardene will make an official visit to China for five days from 20th May—DP.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19: Industrial accidents in Sri Lanka, expensive both in human and economic terms, have increased significantly during the post-1977 years when there has been substantial industrial growth in the country, a trade union study has revealed. Tension mounted between Britain and Libya today after a machine-gun attack from the Libyan embassy on a crowd of demonstrators killed a young policewoman—DN. The Government has decided to impose restrictions on the import of sugar by private importers in view of over imports—DM. About 20,000 of the 15,000 candidates who sat the GCE (Advanced Level) Examination have asked for the rescrutiny of their answer papers—DO. The plight of 10 Sri Lankans stranded in Malaysia with no help, after being taken there with the promise of jobs in factories and plantations has been highlighted in the *New Straits Times* of Malaysia. Government is likely to make fresh proposals in regard to devolution of power within the concept of Development Councils, when the all party conference resumes on May 9—SU. The Minister of National Security Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali last night ordered an inquiry into how the statistics given by a certain government official to a foreign correspondent in a press interview on the number of deaths in the recent violence in Jaffna differed from the official figure of 32. Finance and Planning Minister Ronnie de Mel currently in Washington has expressed disappointment that agreement could not be reached at the IMF meetings for an allocation of SDRs to developing countries. The River Valleys Development Board is reported to have been borrowing large sums from the Provident Fund contributions of employees of the Board for their day to day performances. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party has appointed a three-man committee to effect reforms in the party's trade union set up—/S.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20: Terrorist groups and others desiring to wreck Sri Lanka's integrity should keep the Indian commitment of respecting this country's unity, integrity and sovereignty well in mind "and remember that they will be unable to drag the government of India to support their efforts", National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told parliament yesterday. An overall ceasefire in the Beirut region, agreed to by the main fighting forces, was repeatedly violated by shelling late last night on the eve of a scheduled meeting between the Presidents of Lebanon and Syria in Damascus today—DN. The Ministry of Coconut Industries is to supply 80,000 young coconut plants to

Cuba; this follows a request to Mr. Harold Herat Minister of Coconut Industries for a stock of coconut plants and the technical know how of its cultivation—DM. National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali yesterday called on Lankans not to fall easy prey to the campaign of disinformation carried out by terrorists. President J. R. Jayewardene will sign a science and technological agreement with both China and the United States when he makes state visits to the two countries, Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed told Parliament last night—SU. Heads of local authorities have complained to the Public Accounts Committee that they were faced with serious financial difficulties as a result of State Departments, Boards and Corporations failing to pay up assessment taxes, water taxes and electricity charges over the years despite repeated reminders. Sri Lanka has suggested to India that the two countries should sign a friendship treaty, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told Parliament last night. The Vice Chancellor of the Jaffna University Professor S. Vithyananthan announced that the University lectures will begin from May 7th—DP.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21: Land prices that have gone through the roof has made urban development prohibitively expensive and Prime Minister Premadasa is pushing hard to keep his urban development programmes going in the teeth of formidable cost constraints. Syrian leader Hafez Al-Assad and Lebanese President Amin Gemayel are agreed in principle to end the fighting in Lebanon and unify the shattered country, Assad's spokesman said—DN. President J. R. Jayewardene on Thursday assured the estate workers that the government would take all measures to uplift their standard of living; he was addressing a meeting of estate workers at the Town Hall, Nuwara Eliya—DM. The stateless problem in Sri Lanka will be settled once and for all, when the government grants citizenship to 96,000 stateless persons of Indian origin, President J. R. Jayewardene told a gathering of estate workers belonging to the Lanka Jathika Estate Workers Union at Nuwara Eliya on Thursday. Nearly all government departments and statutory boards have not paid their rates and taxes to the local authorities for several years and have now been taken to task by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament—SU. The Tamil United Liberation Front today sent a memorandum to the UN Human Rights Commission seeking its intervention to stop the ethnic killings in Sri Lanka. The possibility of any draft legislation being presented to the Round Table Conference on issues in which consensus has been reached so far when it resumes on May 9 is very unlikely. British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, fresh from talks in Peking has confirmed that Britain will hand back Hong Kong to China in 1997—/S. The price of cigarettes has been increased by five cents with effect from today—DP.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22: Four young men believed to be having terrorist connections were taken into custody

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by the security forces in a cordon and search operation carried out in the Vavuniya town yesterday. Driving through potholes on Colombo roads has now become a permanent menace to motorists who sometimes spend hours manoeuvring their vehicles across these large holes as skillfully as they can. Over 2,000 volunteers have been enlisted for the Home Guard which was formed as an ancillary to the security forces—*SO*. The illegal pro-Eelam radio broadcasts being picked up both in Sri Lanka and certain parts of South India are now believed to be relayed off a ship anchored outside the Surveillance Zone. A proposal to have special Bribery Courts in every district in the island is before government. A warning to the public went out yesterday from the Police not to contribute to bogus subscription lists being taken round by groups or individuals—*ST*. As a three-member committee probes the conduct of five MPs, United National Party headquarters has received complaints against several more. The ministerial committee appointed by the Cabinet to inquire into allegations made against the passport department will meet this week to finalise its report. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. G. Ramachandran has requested Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to meet President J. R. Jayewardene to find a solution to the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka, the Madras Hindu reported on Friday—*WK*. The Cabinet decision to cancel orders placed for 20 Benz cars for Ministers on a suggestion by President J. R. Jayewardene is not working according to plan; an investigation launched by *The Island* on the whereabouts of all the Benz cars imported, revealed that while two Ministers were using the vehicles, spokesman for several others said they were unaware as to what happened to them. Cancer patients whose malignant growths are detected early and whose lives could possibly be saved may be dying of this deadly disease because they cannot get early treatment at the Maharagama Cancer Hospital. A novel punishment was meted out to a minor employee of the Auditor General's Office found inebriated while on duty—*S*.

MONDAY, APR/L 23: The Presidential Tariff Commission has recommended to government that the customs duty charged on small utility cars imported into the country be substantially reduced, authoritative official sources revealed yesterday. Lebanese politicians consulted today on forming a government of national unity but deep-rooted hostility between factional leaders pointed to a long process—*DN*. The general public in Jaffna have emphatically rejected Eelam and shun the thought of any friendship with Tamil Nadu stating that such a move was to economically destroy the north; two southerners who have lived and worked in Jaffna told that the cry for Eelam was totally rejected by the people of Jaffna who have also been completely disillusioned with the TULF who seem to have rejected the electors and have turned to South India—*DM*. A top British engineering firm will send its engineers to Sri Lanka next week to rehabilitate all roads within the

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Colombo Municipal limits—*DO*. Sri Lanka's charge that northern terrorists are using neighbouring Tamil Nadu as a base for their activities receives further credence today when the state's Chief Minister M. G. Ramachandran begins a two-day dialogue with terrorist leaders. A gang of eight armed youths on Friday night broke into the Jaffna High Court and removed 10 guns after tying up the three watchers who were on duty. The Ministry of Education has directed the Educational Services Commission not to grant transfers to teachers to five specified administrative districts—*SU*. Large numbers of Tamils from Sri Lanka seeking refuge in Tamilnadu are said to be facing great hardship because of the State Governments decision to refuse new admissions to the refugee camps there with effect from January this year. The Minister of Education, Youth Affairs and Employment Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe has requested the Attorney-General Department to inform him on the legal rights of the Ministry of Education in relation to the Colombo International School. The police have recovered 33 cartridges buried near a house at Thampalagamam in the Kantalai police area; two suspects have been taken into custody in this connection—*DP*.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24: The various Tamil groups now operating in Madras all believe that there is no alternative to armed struggle to forge a separate Tamil region in Sri Lanka, the *Far Eastern Economic Review* reported from Madras. Libyans besieged by police in their London Embassy said today they will stay in Britain until next Saturday, the deadline Britain has given for them to go—*DN*. The Ministry of Education will set up a National Unit to launch a Micro-Electronics Education programme in schools shortly—*DM*. Coral mining and the manufacture of limestone in coastal areas—which contributes to sea erosion—will be banned forthwith under Emergency Regulations—*DO*. Coastal security measures in the north are to be intensified and the southern territories will also be patrolled from Puttalam to Hambantota, officials of the Ministry of National Security said yesterday. Several hundred people were rendered homeless in Anamaduwuwa and Puttalam yesterday when torrential showers breached the bunds of ten tanks inundating large areas in the district. Trade and Shipping Minister M. S. Amarasiri has decided to allow the private sector to import 10 percent of the country's essential food requirements—*SU*. The Ministry of Justice has decided to continue with the Jury system, with only a few changes, ending a controversy over the proposal to do away with the Jury system. Cement is not moving out of the country's two biggest cement factories at Puttalam and Kankasanturai and could lead to severe problems in the building industry according to a senior official of the Cement Corporation—*S*. Several people have been affected by Malaria in the Moneragala district; immediate steps have been taken to bring this disease under control—*DP*.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25: The taxman has turned a baneful eye on the free flights perk that Air Lanka and other international airline employees here have long enjoyed. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher is still planning to visit Libya, despite the severing of diplomatic ties between Britain and Libya following a shooting incident outside the Libyan Embassy in London, a foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday. The heavy rains experienced in the past few days have inundated many low-lying areas throughout the country; hundreds of acres of new grown paddy lands mostly in the south are under water and farmers fear that if the rains continue they would be completely ruined—*DM*. The Mannar Police discovered in the Mannar coast this morning a massive quantity of dynamite, gelignite and service fuses capable of completely destroying an area the size of a city—*DO*. The Co-operative Wholesale Establishment will rush essential food stocks to Jaffna before the end of the week; this move comes in the wake of a directive by Trade Minister M. S. Amarasiri to stock all co-operatives in the northern districts with essential food stuff to prevent blackmarketing. Journalists who reported the speech of Chief Justice Neville Samarakoon at the distribution of certificates of a commercial tutory in Colombo have been summoned before the parliamentary select committee probing this matter. The undergraduates of the University of Batticaloa on Monday staged a two-day token strike in protest against the alleged action taken by the armed forces against civilians in the north—*SU*. Nearly 12,000 families have been rendered homeless following floods caused by heavy and continuous rains in several districts, according to reports reaching the ministry of social services; the worst affected areas are Puttalam, Chilaw, Ratnapura, Anamaduwa and Avissawella. David Selbourne, the British journalist, who was expelled from Sri Lanka for alleged distorted reportage, has told reporters in Madras that he has been threatened in Britain by Sinhalese living there. The Government has decided to permit the Defence Ministry to make a purchase of armaments without going through a tender board and being approved by the Cabinet—*/S*. On a recommendation by Agricultural Minister Gamini Jayasuriya, Cabinet discussed with the managers of the Bank of Ceylon and the People's Bank the question of extending rural credit to farmers who have suffered from recent storms. President Reagan on Wednesday urged China and other Asian countries to oppose Soviet power in the Pacific region but dropped a call for them to take joint action with the United States—*DN*. The heavy cyclonic rains experienced in many districts of the island in the past three days have breached several tanks and made over 12,000 families homeless; most rivers overflowed their banks and left a train of destruction in its wake—*DM*. A three-member ministerial team appointed to probe the chaotic conditions at the passports office following a series of exposures in the *Weekend* has made a series of recommendations to remedy the sorry state of affairs.

The supply of electricity to Kotte Sri Jayawardenapura will be handled by a new private company floated by the government from June this year, it was announced yesterday. Undergraduates of the Batticaloa University College yesterday staged a fast "as a protest against the recent incidents that took place in Jaffna". The Department of Social Services has moved in to provide all assistance to the destitute families, while the floods have begun to recede in the Puttalam and Ratnapura districts—*SU*. The Defence Ministry has decided to purchase 12 combat naval vessels for patrolling the area that would come under the surveillance zone. While the government has issued a directive to the Transport Ministry not to allow the hiring of Sri Lanka Central Transport buses on May 1, Ministry sources said that this directive will not be applicable to private bus operators. A shipment of about 1,000 metric tons of wheat flour averted the public cry over the shortage of this commodity in the Jaffna district—*/S*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26: The Cabinet yesterday agreed to treble the salary of the President of the Republic from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 15,000 a month, but President Jayawardene said he would not draw the increase himself. He told the Ministers that he will credit the difference between his present emoluments and the increase approved to the President's Fund to be used for worthy causes. This was disclosed by Cabinet spokesman Minister Anandatissa de Alwis after yesterday's Cabinet meeting. He also revealed that the Cabinet had discussed a recent cover picture on the People's Bank magazine "Economic Review" and said that the President had directed the Chairman to conduct an inquiry into the matter and to suspend the officials concerned until the inquiry was over. The Chairman of the Bank is stated to have informed the President that he had already acted on the matter by withdrawing every possible copy that had got into circulation since he himself had realised that the picture was in bad taste and was also sacrilegious. The floods in most parts of the country have begun to subside. A terrorist arrested in Kallaru who had fought hard to escape from custody was killed and a police officer had been injured in the scuffle. The bodies of eleven young men believed to be passengers on a boat that had ignored the challenge of a naval patrol boat within the surveillance zone last Saturday have been washed ashore on the northern coast—*DN*. Sweeping changes were expected at the Passport Office and these changes would result in passports being issued within a week of the application being made. Police and Army Units in Mannar have detected a massive stock of dynamite which could have been used to blow up a whole area. A large stock of dynamite was also detected in a boarding house in Maradana and it is believed that it was to be transported to the North. Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali appealed to the terrorists to lay down their arms and accept the amnesty offered—*SU*. The Defence Ministry has decided to

purchase 12 combat naval vessels for patrolling the area that would be under the surveillance zone. Students of the Batticaloa University who have been boycotting their classes staged a fast in the campus premises. The Editor of the People's Bank Sinhala journal "Kalpana", Gunadasa Liyanage, was questioned by the Police regarding the outbreak of violence at the Asgiriya Cricket Stadium on March 14 after the Lanka-New Zealand Test match. The "Kalpana" is said to have published a plea for the rebel cricketers who had been banned from cricket for 25 years after their trip to South Africa—/S. Two armed youths yesterday robbed Rs. 1.25 lakhs from the office of the Batticaloa University. Angry customers who had spent hours standing in the queue at the CWE in Colombo to purchase Bombay onions left uttering curses and berating the authorities. They alleged that onions and other had-to-get items were being secretly distributed among CWE employees and their friends—DM.

FR/DAV, APR/L 27: A prominent and highly respected Hindu religious leader in Tamil Nadu South India has condemned the secessionist demand for a Tamil state, Eelam; Sri La Sri Jeyandra Saraswathi Swamigal, Head of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peedam, issued a statement last week deploring the violence in Sri Lanka and the Punjab. A major meeting on development in Asia began in Amsterdam today with a call on rich countries to increase lending to poor countries and act to cut interest rates—DN. The government is considering a proposal to write-off Rs. 72,297,727 being the accumulated losses of the Estate Management Services Division of the Land Reform Commission—DM. Swine fever has broken out again and a large number of pigs on the coastal belt from Katana to Chilaw are reported to have died in the past few days—DO. Cultural Affairs Minister, E. L. B. Hurulle said yesterday that the activities of the Cultural Triangle may have to come to an end if the people did not extend monetary support to the projects. The strike at the Batticaloa University College and the theft of the campus payroll on Wednesday have forced the government to close the University College indefinitely, its Competent Authority Professor T. Rajaratnam said yesterday. TULF Secretary General A. Amirthalingam is reported to have said that President J. R. Jayewardene may not reconvene the all party conference until he returns from his visit to the United States. Exchange Control regulations governing travel to India by Tamils of Indian origin were relaxed yesterday following a Presidential directive—SU. Air Lanka has bought a vintage Boeing 747—200B from Qantas, the Australian National Carrier for A \$23 to \$24 million an international aviation journal published in London, *Flight International* has said. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Mr. M. G. Ramachandran who presided over a two day seminar in Madras on "Human Rights Violations in Sri Lanka" has asked the TULF leaders to go back to Sri Lanka and bring about unity among Tamils in Sri Lanka. Cases of cancer often considered a disease

of affluence, are more common in the Third World than in industrialised countries, a UN body said yesterday—/S.

SATURDAY, APR/L 28: Commercial Banks will soon be compelled to channel at least 10 percent of their total lendings to rural projects, an important sector of the economy, Central Bank Governor, Warnasena Rasaputram, yesterday told the *Daily News* that blueprints for this purpose have already been drawn up. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali has said Cairo and Moscow have agreed to exchange ambassadors again, more than two years after Egypt expelled the last Soviet envoy, accusing him of fomenting trouble—DN. The Department of Inland Revenue has decided to come down strongly on those defaulting payment of the Rehabilitation levy; commencing next month, all identified defaulters and those who registered after the dead line will be liable to pay the penalty of Rs. 5,000/—DM. The Maradana Police yesterday detected a large stock of explosives and detonators which, the investigations have revealed were to be transported to a destination in the North—DO. The bulk of the graduates have deserted the Cultural Triangle sites as promises made by a top Cultural Ministry official have not been kept. More than 1,000 sticks of dynamite had been smuggled into Mannar from South India in two boats, a top security officers said yesterday. The three-member ministerial committee appointed to probe the passport office has recommended that there should be a separate unit for processing passports to West Asian countries, while a second unit should handle passports to other countries and the third should process official and priority passports, under the purview of Assistant Controllers. Government is to confer a series of new powers under emergency regulations to District Ministers in a bid to activate matters relating to civilian administration in the northern and eastern provinces—SU. The Wesak issue of the periodical *Kalpana* published by the People's Bank has been withheld from circulation on a decision by the Board of Directors of the Bank. Arrangements are afoot by various political parties and trade unions to hold eight May Day rallies in Colombo and one at Hatton in commemoration of the International Workers' Day. The first stage of a new television system for Sri Lanka—Narrow Casting—started on Tuesday when the Transervice Information Channel for Sri Lanka was switched on at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Colombo—/S. Minister of National Security Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali said yesterday that the All Party Conference will be held as scheduled on May 9 and that there will be no change—VK.

SUNDAY, APR/L 29: President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday expressed concern at the increasing rate of crime in the country and said his government would take all possible steps to curb it within a democratic framework. No sentences of lashing ordered by judges and magistrates will be carried out. Police

have come to the aid of the Government in the dissemination of information on the activities of the Tigers and Eelamites in the outstations—*SO*. The Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs Mr. Cyril Mathew in a seathing report on the IMF and IBRD's remedies has proposed eleven strong measures to reduce expenditure by Rs. 2.5 billion as sought by the Minister of Finance and Planning. The Department of Immigration and Emigration (Passports Division) has yet to clear the backlog of applications for passports made as far back as October last year. FAO and the centre on Integrated Rural Development for the Asian and the Pacific region—will launch a project to socially, culturally and economically upgrade, undeveloped fishery villages in the South coast of the Island—*S7*. Four hundred police officers are awaiting disciplinary inquiries to be held against them in connection with public complaints and breaches of police discipline. The United Nations High Commissioner for refugees (UNHCR) has asked European governments to avoid turning away Tamils fleeing ethnic violence in Sri Lanka if their security could be endangered by returning home, a UNHCR spokesman said today. Government will introduce emergency regulations to impose the death penalty for kidnapping. The latest Eelamist propaganda is that the ethnic violence in Sri Lanka last July had religious overtones—*WK*. A new Indian Air Force Southern Command is being set up in Trivandrum on the tip of Southern India, 192 nautical miles from Colombo. A Japanese team on an inspection tour of the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation which is an outright gift from Japan said it was the best of the Japanese-aided television projects in Asia. The 70-day strike involving 1,300 workers at the largest garment factory in the GCEC area of authority has reached a deadlock. The Nava Sama Samaja Party leader Vasudeva Nanayakkara and Dr. Wickremabahu Karunaratne, the General Secretary of the party who are wanted at present by police, have written to the Inspector General of Police indicating that they are prepared to surrender and submit themselves for questioning provided the ban on the party is lifted forthwith—*/S*.

MONDAY, APR/L 30: The Labour Department has collected a hefty Rs. 124 million in March as contributions to the Employee's Provident Fund a senior official said, holding out the promise of further increases in interest rates. Rival factions clashed in Beirut last night as Lebanon's New Prime Minister Rashid Karami flew north for talks with former President Suleiman Franjeh on forming a national unity government official sources said—*DN*. The Government will contribute Rs. 382 million towards the Pelawatta Sugar Company Ltd., a major private sector enterprise with foreign and local participation to cultivate sugar cane and produce sugar in Sri Lanka—*DM*. Small hotels, particularly those outside Colombo, which have had a lean period recently can expect relief soon to overcome their liquidity problems—*DO*. The Cement Corporation's factory at Puttalam will reopen today after a week's closure due to floods in the area. UNP head-

quarters has received complaints against some top officials of the party; party sources at Sri Kotha described the development as an obvious attempt to bring about changes at the top. Committees to protect consumers with power to blacklist traders who do not conform to price limits set by the CWE are to be set up in the 24 districts, Trade and Shipping Minister M. S. Amarasiri said yesterday—*SU*. Sri Lanka's planned international oil storage complex is likely to take business away from Singapore, industry officials in Singapore said. The police have banned all May Day rallies in the north to prevent unlawful elements creating trouble. Of the 22 branches of the People's Bank in the southern province, eight have recorded losses for the year 1983; but the total profits from the Southern province branches totalled a little over 12 million rupees compared with Rs. 8 million the previous year. Impoverished fishery villages in the south coast of Sri Lanka will be developed under an Integrated Rural Development and FAO programme, according to a spokesman of the Ministry of Fisheries—*/S*.

TUESDAY, MAY 1: National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali yesterday described the situation in Jaffna as "quiet" with no major incidents reported for the last 15 days. China and the United States on Monday signed four agreements and protocols and initiated a pact on nuclear co-operation as President Reagan prepared to leave Peking for Shanghai after talks with Chinese leaders—*DN*. Government has now established that Rajadurai Jayachandran, Sri Lankan leader of the Uma Maheswaran PLOT, was shot dead by the Police in Batticaloa a few days ago—*DM*. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to send a memorandum to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights spelling out the situation in Sri Lanka and countering accusations made by TULF Secretary General A. Amirthalingam. *Sun* reporter for Wellawaya Parakrama Gunasekera complained to Police Headquarters yesterday that a government politico threatened to kill him while covering a meeting at Malattawela last Saturday. Families and persons affected by last July's ethnic troubles will receive financial compensation—*SU*. The well-known Russian film "Mexico in Flames" was banned by the Public Performances Board last Friday; this film was one of the films selected to be exhibited at the Russian Film Festival starting at the Regal this Friday May 4. May Day meetings have not been banned in the North and East, Minister of National Security Lalith Athulathmudali said yesterday. Officers of the Passport Office in Colombo believe that unless far-reaching changes and improvements are implemented the recommendations made by the Ministerial Committee for streamlining of the passport office would prove to be impractical—*/S*. The Cost of Living Index for the month of April 1984 stood at 548.9 points—*DP*.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2: President Jayewardene said yesterday that his government would not continue emergency rule one day longer than necessary.

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Elections in Pakistan may be held before the end of this year, General Mujibur Rahman, Secretary of information to the government and a close associate of President Zia Ul Haq said on Tuesday—*DN*. Colombo was a dazzling blaze of colour yesterday where thousands of workers from all parts of the island thronged into the city to celebrate a day specifically theirs—May Day; politicians shedding their cloaks of impregnability were seen in the forefront, blending with the processionists—*DM*. Leading citizens including members of the judiciary, the legal profession, doctors, teachers, the clergy and others yesterday urged immediate government action to bring to book those resorting to the heinous act of kidnapping. The Open University will start a professional English course in October this year. No clash or any other incidents of violence in the city were reported during the past 24 hours, according to a spokesman at the Police Command Center at Echelon Square—*SU*. SLFP leader Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike yesterday said that the people should demand for a general election within a year. A constable attached to the Kalmunai Police was shot dead by armed men on Monday night. Police on Saturday discovered several ganja plants grown by the pavement at St. Anthony's Mawatha in the Jampettah Street, Police area following the arrest of a beggar—*/S*. The distribution of school equipment will be made district-wise; the first such distribution will take place at the Matale Vijaya Maha Vidyalaya—*DP*.

THURSDAY, MAY 3: Rail traffic out of Colombo Fort was disrupted for some two and a half hours yesterday and a large number of commuters had to cool their heels while a dispute between some railwaymen and a group of policemen was sorted out. Foreign Ministers of the Contadora Group seeking peace in Central America ended talks here today but disagreement between left-wing Nicaragua and its neighbours on the arms balance in the region remained unresolved, Foreign Ministers said—*DN*. The increasing incidence of crime—murder, kidnappings, drug addiction etc.—was discussed at length by President J. R. Jayewardene and his Cabinet Ministers yesterday. Tamilnadu groups backing extremists in Sri Lanka seem to have hired robber gangs to find funds for the Eelam Tigers engaged in a virtual war with the Jayewardene government, states the *Sunday Daily* a Bombay newspaper. An Act to provide for the employment of women on night duty in factories and industries will be presented in parliament shortly—*SU*. The problem of clearing the backlog of cases in the Magistrate's Courts were discussed yesterday by the Cabinet with the IGP, Mr. Rudra Rajasingham and DIGs Sunderalingam and Tyrell Gunatilleke—*DM*. A top managerial row in the Government Owned Business Undertakings resulted in police being summoned to guard the office of the former Finance Manager Mr. D. B. Wijekoon who the management said was sacked for insubordination. They Ceylon Petroleum Corporation had lost Rs. 133.9 million as a result of the sale of imported aviation

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turbine fuel to Air Lanka at below landed cost during the financial year 1981 and even up till June 1982. A man and a woman, two of the most wanted suspects in the Kinniya People's Bank robbery case in which Rs. 11.8 million was robbed, were taken into custody by the CID on Sunday in a hotel in Pettah. The Sri Lanka Tamils' problem will not be made an issue in the coming by-elections by the DMK, Mr. M. Karunanidhi, the party president said in Tiruchi on April 30—*/S*. Female workers under 18 years of age cannot be employed to work after 10 p.m.; regulations to this effect have been prepared—*DP*.

FRIDAY, MAY 4: Government is offering capital financing and compensation to people displaced during the July disturbances in the form of grants and soft loans. Indian and Bangladesh security officials will meet next Monday to discuss recent tension on the border between the two countries, an Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman said on Friday—*DN*. Internal trade officers are up a gum tree as they find there is no way to bring down the cost of living; only sugar, flour and dhal can be price controlled by the Department of Internal Trade—*DM*. TULF leaders will arrive in Colombo today for the all-party conference which will resume on May 9. Two Italians who pleaded guilty of possessing hashish were yesterday fined Rs. 10,000 each, and given a suspended sentence of two years rigorous imprisonment by Colombo's High Court Judge Tissa Bandaranayake. National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali yesterday warned those who have resorted to violence to solve their problems, that if they failed to understand reason they would be answered by more violence—*SU*. A wage bonanza is now in the offing for plantation sector workers; one million estate workers both male and female, are likely to benefit as a result of President J. R. Jayewardene's appointment of a Committee last week to formulate a more realistic wage structure for the plantation sector. The Bank of Ceylon has decided to close down its representative office in Singapore—*/S*. It has been reported that Police Constable Ponniah Subramaniam (47) of the Chavakachcheri Police was shot dead early morning yesterday at the Kodigamam Kachchi Street—*VK*.

SATURDAY MAY 5: The Central Bank hopes to bring down the inflation rate from its present level of 14 percent to 8 or 9 percent, with the public issue soon of high yielding Central Bank securities, Governor Warnasena Rassapputram said. Pakistan has moved in fresh reinforcements and increased the strength of military concentrations in some areas along the control line with India in the disputed Kashmir region, the Press Trust of India reported yesterday—*DN*. The provision of employment opportunities in the public sector has not only slowed down but in some instances corporations placed under strict financial discipline have had to retrench employees—*DM*. Seven suspects wanted in connection with the 11.8 million rupee Kinniya

People's Bank robbery were arrested by the security forces and the CID in Trincomalee yesterday. The manager of the Kebithigollawa Rural Bank who is alleged to have masterminded the robbery of cash and jewellery worth around 3.6 million rupees in September 1982 was yesterday arrested by the CID. The Monetary Board of the Central Bank has urged the Government to reorganise public enterprises on the basis of efficiency stressing that it is important to ensure that they are compelled to declare dividends to the government, as a return on government's stake in their equity and loan portfolio—*SU*. National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said yesterday that the people of the North are at last realising that the Police and the Services are there not to harass them or harm them but to protect them as friends. Brigadier John F. Halangoda first Officer Commanding of the Gemunu Regiment who is now retired has sent a memorandum to President J. R. Jayewardene, the patron of the Sri Lanka Ex-Servicemen's Association in outlining a national scheme to rehabilitate and re-settle ex-servicemen and their dependents—*/S*. Police have recovered 45 hand bombs in a house at Kodigamam in the Meesalai area—*DP*.

SUNDAY, MAY 6: Heroin worth one million pounds sterling (Rs. 37 million) was found in a Ceylon Shipping Corporation Ship Lanka Ajitha on Friday at the Port of Felixstove in the North of England. The All Party Conference on the ethnic issue will resume as scheduled on May 9 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall. Several former TULF MPs are reported to have sold their cars contravening Government regulations; the cars for MPs were allowed at landed cost without Customs duty being paid. "The surveillance zone now in operation in the North will be extended to cover the eastern coast as well", said the Minister of National Security Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali—*SO*. The Government has decided to appoint conciliation courts on an Island-wide basis to hear cases of minor crime; Magistrates will thereafter devote their whole day to cases of grave crime only. Several parents in the city have complained bitterly that Sinhala pornography is being sold openly and that such material is freely available to people of all ages. Two Mercedes Benz limousines consigned to the Ministers of Labour and Agriculture respectively with total value (landed cost) of Rs. 4,069,928.11 cts. are lying uncleared in the Port of Colombo for over three weeks—*ST*. Central Bank Governor Warnasena Rasaputram said yesterday the Free Trade Zone had generated 24 billion rupees in foreign exchange; this is nearly 11 percent of the total foreign exchange earnings of Sri Lanka in 1983. The TULF General Council is to meet after the all party conference on May 9 to decide their course of action to solve the Tamil problem in the country. A midnight operation by an Army patrol here last week bared details of how youth are being inveigled to join guerilla training camps in Tamil Nadu. The deeply shrouded mystery behind the Batticoloa prison

break on record as the world's largest organised successful attempt is now beginning to unravel, with more than fifteen people being interrogated in Batticoloa and the part they played. The State Plantations Ministry and the Janatha Estate Development Ministry are to be amalgamated while the two boards would continue to function as separate bodies—*WK*. A delegation of all political parties from Tamilnadu is to meet Indian Premier Mrs. Indira Gandhi to urge her to personally intervene and solve the problems of Sri Lanka's Tamils, *The Hindu* reported on Friday. Government is to introduce the death penalty for five additional offences under Emergency Regulations; laws have already been prepared and the death penalty is expected to come into force within the next two weeks. A new generation of Arabs with a lasting appreciation and respect for the culture, art and folklore of Sri Lanka is emerging in the Middle East countries. Sri Lanka Administrative Service officers allege that government was continuing to appoint non-SLAS officers to SLAS posts, despite assurances by President J. R. Jayewardene that this practice will be done away with—*/S*.



SOVIET VIEW

Olympics - Why the USSR Quit ?

Moscow: The decision by the USSR's National Olympic Committee on non-participation of Soviet athletes in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles has drawn a peculiar response from Washington. Senior officials of the US state department and other representatives of the authorities are now seeking to prove in retrospect that peace and harmony are reigning at Los Angeles and that no one has ever threatened, nor is threatening athletes and guests of the Olympics. *The Russians, they allege, have invented all this.* What is the true situation? An openly hostile campaign aimed at preventing the participation of athletes from the USSR and other socialist countries in the Olympic competitions at Los Angeles has been conducted in the United States for several years with full approval of the authorities. The public are learning ever new facts showing the scope of preparations for provocations against representatives of socialist countries. The rabble of all sorts, united into 160 ultra-right groupings and gangs, including criminals, traitors and former nazis, and the terrorist organisation of Cuban counter-

revolutionaries OMEGA 66, set up a coalition called "Ban the Soviets". The rabble did not conceal their aims: launching terror against sportsmen from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

On the eve of the adoption of the USSR NOC's decision, representatives of several anti-Soviet, terrorist and nationalist organisations held a gathering in Los Angeles with knowledge from the federal and local authorities. Its participants announced a plan of subversive actions against sports delegations from socialist countries, ranging from acts of direct physical violence to mean slander and base provocations during the Olympics. It seems that due to inertia the threats of violence against our sportsmen and citizens of socialist countries are still being made in the United States, while kiosks in Los Angeles are still selling "kill a Russian" badges. Threats are contained in leaflets and posters, in newspaper articles and telephone calls to the USSR Consulate-General in San Francisco. Even American newspapers admitted that there would be an extremely tense anti-Soviet climate in Los Angeles, that a squad of Russian-speaking experts had been formed to mastermind defectors during the Olympic games, that acts of violence were being prepared against Soviet athletes and sports devotees. The *Los Angeles TIMES* reported that the leaders of the coalition 'Ban the Soviets from the Olympic Games of 1984' had received a letter from Michael Deaver, a high-ranking White House official, who assured them that the administration was sympathizing with the actions of the coalition. Balsinger, leader of the coalition, said, on receiving this blessing, that acts of violence against Soviet athletes and tourists were not excluded. *What is the worth of the latest assurances by the US President that the American authorities allegedly have nothing to do with these criminal activities since Deaver is known as one of the closest advisers to the US President?* They in Washington cannot deny the fact that militants from the organization calling themselves 'Young Americans for Freedom' were openly declaring that they were planning the abduction of Soviet athletes. This organization is also most closely linked with the present administration. The pathological spy-scar campaign of recent months was also initiated by the official authorities. FBI Chief William Webster declared in public that the FBI would devote special attention to a search for spies among athletes from the socialist and some other countries. "One hundred and fifty FBI agents were to spy on Soviet agents," he said. In full conformity with that statement, an American publication then declared that if the terrorists were to arrive in Los Angeles, they would, undoubtedly, come by Aeroflot planes.

Thus, the campaign of hysteria was whipped up to reach absurd dimensions, some kind of a hostile psychological climate was being created on the eve of the Olympic games. The United States secret services

are known to have formed special 'Olympic units', 'sectors' and 'groups' to carry out acts of provocation against citizens from the socialist countries—athletes, tourists and journalists. One of the CIA Deputy Directors was to exercise general guidance of these activities, in which a total of 500 CIA and FBI agents were to be involved. What were they expected to do? This is very well known: they were to do a dirty job. Provocations of different kinds were to be staged. For example, the secret services were planning to take over control of several city shops, they even selected a staff of specially instructed shop assistants. One may ask, what for? The answer to stage provocations of 'catching in the act' and arresting persons with the things they have allegedly stolen... It was also planned to catch in the act 'spies' when they were making photographs of places of interest in Los Angeles. Cine and photo films purchased in the socialist countries in advance with military facilities filmed were to be used as material evidence of acts of espionage. Plans were also drawn up for the capture and subsequent masterminding of individual athletes, tourists and newsmen and persuading them not to go home. Things have gone so far that billboards were prepared containing calls in the languages of the socialist countries to athletes that they should betray their homeland. The same aim was to be served by thousands of propaganda leaflets and pamphlets.

The Washington authorities are claiming now that all this propaganda stuff was allegedly being prepared by 'private organizations' and that the government services have nothing to do with their activities. This is ridiculous. Such claims are refuted by facts. All the so-called 'private' organizations and terrorists are associated with the US secret services. And they in the White House know that. It is not without reason that spokesman for the US State Department Hughes declined in one of his statements 'any proposals' that the United States administration should take special measures to restrict the activities of the extremist groupings. Kenneth Dam, US Deputy Secretary of State, refused point blank in his television address to condemn in public the bandit plans of fascist-type ultra-rightist groupings, who were preparing acts of physical violence against citizens from the socialist countries. Considering all that, can it be said that the United States official authorities have done everything in their power to create normal conditions for the holding of the Olympic games in Los Angeles? One cannot help drawing a different conclusion—far from seriously intending to ensure the security of citizens of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries, the United States authorities have, as a matter of fact, contributed to building up an atmosphere of hysteria, hatred and provocations.

The lead in the anti-Soviet, anti-Socialist hysteria is given from above. It is from there that systematic attacks come against the Soviet Union and its peace-

able policy. The climate of hysteria, hatred and animosity being whipped up around the Los Angeles competitions is part of the crusade against communism initiated by the President of the United States. The provocations on the part of the secret services of the United States and the activities of the terrorists boasting that they have sneaked also into all the sectors of the organizing committee for the Olympic games, have, as a matter of fact, created a threat to the security of athletes not only from the Soviet Union and the socialist states. They also constitute a threat to the other participants in the Olympic games. There is, apparently, intention to turn the competitions, which are to be a festival of peace and friendship among nations, into a sabbath of hatred and violence, standers and humiliation of human dignity. Under these conditions any country treasuring its good name and dignity cannot subject its citizens to such risks.—A PN

Ashwini Kumar said he was especially concerned about the activities of anti-Soviet organizations. He said he agreed with the opinion of many sportsmen and sport officials who said one felt insecure in Los Angeles. That made the psychological war against the USSR mounted there and the appeals "kill the Russians" sounded there especially ominous. Ashwini Kumar said Washington was evidently standing behind all that. "Preparations for the Olympic games in Los Angeles," he said, "offered a sharp contrast with preparations for the Moscow Olympics which had become a real holiday of sport, peace and friendship among the young. It had been a fantastic Olympiad indeed." Ashwini Kumar said he could not even surmise now what would come out of the Los Angeles Olympics, without the sportsmen of the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia and other countries. "The games would lose their attractiveness and the spirit of the biggest sport tournament", he stressed.—/PS

OLYMPIC GAMES

Unhealthy Atmosphere

New Delhi: "Statements by the USSR's National Olympic Committee about violations of the provisions and rules of the Olympic charter and about an anti-Soviet atmosphere in Los Angeles are quite justified and well-grounded," said Ashwini Kumar, a prominent figure in the Olympic movement of India who is also vice-president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). He said he had attended all Olympics since World War II but could not recall anything in the history of modern Olympics even resembling the way they were preparing for the summer games in Los Angeles.

Ashwini Kumar said departures from the traditions of the Olympic movement, serious abuses of the provisions and rules of the Olympic charter which was held sacred by all, efforts to work up a sickening atmosphere and the farming out of preparations for the Olympics to businessmen who cared only about their profits were just some of the factors which were putting the Los Angeles games in a very sad class of its own. *Ashwini Kumar, who had just returned from Los Angeles where he had inspected security arrangements at the Olympic games on instructions from IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, said he had to admit that the atmosphere in Los Angeles was that of a veritable psychological war against the Soviet Union and that the attitude of the American press towards it was extremely hostile. In those conditions, he said, even the most insignificant incident would be inflated to incredible dimensions, while the prevailing atmosphere was conducive to rampage by all manner of criminal elements.*

U. S. REACTION TO

Soviet Boycott

Washington: The Reagan Administration denounced the Soviet decision to boycott the Olympic Summer Games in Los Angeles as "a blatant political decision," and dismissed as "utterly without merit" Soviet allegations that the United States had hindered Soviet participation in the games. White House press secretary Larry Speakes said the Soviets have disregarded the feelings of other nations and all assurances that the Olympics will be conducted in a non-political atmosphere. The United States government and the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, he said, "had done everything possible to facilitate the participation of all nations in the 1984 Olympics and had made exhaustive efforts to meet Soviet concerns about arrangements in Los Angeles and we have met their concerns," Speakes declared.

At the State Department, spokesman John Hughes said the Soviets had not informed the United States in advance of the announcement that its athletes would not take part in the Summer Games. U.S. officials said that there had been speculation within the Reagan Administration over the past two weeks concerning the question of Soviet participation, but Olympic officials had been convinced that Moscow would not boycott the Games. "This has to be a political decision," said one official. The official would not rule out the possibility of discussions on the question of Soviet participation. But he said, "we doubt that we would back a decision to beg them to come."

Spokesman Hughes said the United States regrets the Soviet disregard for the views of others and rejects

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the suggestion that the Soviets have been hindered by the United States and hampered from participation. "The United States has rejected these charges as utterly without merit. The United States has made every effort to co-operate in this matter. The only instance in which United States rejected anyone is in the case of the proposed Soviet Olympic Attache. Even in that case, objection was not to the idea of an attache," Hughes said. "It was an objection to the person who had been nominated by the Soviets, and we gave consent to an alternate person. So we think this decision is a political action with no real justification."

Asked to view the Soviet Action in light of U.S. refusal to participate in the Summer Games in Moscow, Hughes replied: "I think there is a significant difference. The United States took action to protest the extraordinary behavior of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, which has continued. There is clearly no comparison between that action and this".—USIS



STATE DEPT.

We Did Our Best

Washington: The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, Richard Burt, strongly defended U.S. preparations for the upcoming Los Angeles Olympics. Burt and State Department Spokesman John Hughes detailed steps the United States was ready to take to meet expressed Soviet concerns and the concessions it made in response to Soviet Demands. Burt's response to the Soviet's announced refusal to take part in the Olympics came late May 8 in an appearance on the ABC television news program "Nightline." The following day, President Reagan, during a photo taking session at the White House, was asked by reporters for his reaction to the Soviet announcement that the USSR would not participate in the Olympics in the United States. "Like so many," The President replied, "I have a great feeling of disappointment. I'm sorry that they (the Soviets) feel that way, and I think it's unfair to the young people that have been waiting for so long to participate . . . in those Games. And it ought to be remembered by all (that) the games m'ore than 2,000 years ago started as a means of bringing peace between the Greek city-states. And in those days, even if a war was going on, when Olympic years came, they called off the war in order to hold the Games."

Burt, in response to questions on *Nightline*, said, "The Soviets had an opportunity to express their concerns in some detail. I know it was the opinion of not only the U.S. Olympic Committee but also the International Committee that we were well on our way to ironing out those concerns. "The Los Angeles police

department," Burt said, "is making great efforts to make sure that the security of the athletes will be protected. We are spending a great deal of money to make sure that security is adequate." "We have listened to the Soviet concerns," Burt said. "For example, we were going to permit the Soviet Union to bring in a large ship into the Los Angeles harbour and allow their people to actually live aboard that ship during the games. . . . "We were going to allow the Soviet Union to have a special Olympics Attache. We were going to permit a Soviet advance team to come to Los Angeles and provide them with visas. We were even going to allow the Soviets to rent cars and drive them throughout the Los Angeles area," he said. "So," Burt concluded, "We have bent a number of our rules to make sure that the Soviets were satisfied with existing arrangements."

Asked about politically active groups of private citizens that have formed in Southern California with the expressed intention of persuading Soviet athletes to defect, Burt said, "we have said, both privately to the Soviets and publicly, that . . . these groups have no U.S. Government sanction." But, Burt added, "We are not going to alter our foreign policy. We are not going to stay quiet about captive nations."

Asked why he thought the Soviets had decided not to attend the Olympics, Burt said, "I would suggest that we look beyond the Olympics to understand why the Soviets took this action The Soviet Union has participated in Olympics in free countries before, and I think it perhaps is a concern the Soviet Union had over participating in the Olympics in a Democratic country." Other U.S. officials said the U.S. Government regrets that the Soviets have chosen to make a decision for which there is "absolutely no justification." The officials said numerous concessions have been made in response to Soviet demands.

In a press briefing May 9, State Department Spokesman Hughes listed the efforts made by the United States to reassure the Soviets. He said President Reagan personally and publicly assured the International Olympic Committee that the United States would live up to the Olympic charter. These reassurances have been repeated publicly and privately to the Soviets, he said. In addition, he reported the U.S. Government had: (1) authorized a Soviet request for at least 25 Aeroflot charter flights; (2) assured the Soviets privately and in writing that all Olympic participants would be able to enter the United States on the basis of their Olympic identity cards without visas; (3) authorized a month-long port call for a Soviet cruise ship that would serve as a Soviet Olympics headquarters; (4) assured the Soviets privately that after an initial Customs and safety inspection, subsequent searches of the ship would be only for cause (i.e. in case of threats to the safety of the vessel or its passengers); (5) authorized advance entry into the U.S. of Aeroflot and shipping personnel; (6) indicated its willingness to

receive an Olympic attache with full diplomatic Status (but not the person originally proposed); (7) informed Soviet officials they would be able to rent vehicles (normally prohibited) during the Olympics; (8) told the Soviets publicly and privately that emigre groups organizing demonstrations or planning to incite defections have no U.S. Government sanction whatsoever; (9) opened all areas containing Olympic sites, Hotels and airports to Soviet travel from June 1 thought August 15; (10) undertaken full responsibility for security of the Soviet ship; (11) assured the Soviets privately that every possible security precaution for the games—including extraordinary ones—was being taken.

One U.S. official said "it is not new for the Soviets to have done something that disappoints and shocks millions of people all over the world... "We will continue our efforts to put our relations with the Soviet Union on a more constructive basis for the long-term," he said. "We hope they will respond. If they do not, however, it will be because they have chosen the path of self-isolation and raising tensions, presumably for short term reasons of their own."—USIS



INDIA

Banking for Rural Development

By B. Ramachandra Rao

THE GROWTH OF RURAL BANKING was negligible till 1955 when the then Imperial Bank of India was nationalised by the Government with a commitment to open 400 branches in the rural parts every year. Subsequently the other commercial banks also were encouraged to open rural branches. The tempo of rural banking increased only when the 14 major scheduled, commercial banks were nationalised in July 1969. At that time, banks were having 8,262 branches in the country out of which only 22.2 per cent of the

branches were located in the rural parts. The percentage increased to 49.4 per cent in 1981 and to 52.1 per cent in June 1982. As on June 1982, 20,398 branches were located in rural parts and 8,763 branches were located in semi-urban areas. That means 29,161 branches were serving in the rural India as on June 1982. Since India has 5.76 lakhs of villages and the fact that 80 per cent of the population live in them and that 50 per cent of the national income flows from the countryside, this figure of bank branches operating in the rural parts is hardly encouraging. For a population of 68 crores, the total deposit figure for all these 10 decades in this century is just a little over Rs. 50,000 crores. Even taking a per capita saving of Rs. 100 the figure for 80 years should have been Rs. 5,50,000 crores by now. No doubt, the rural branches have contributed substantially to the growth of deposits in the commercial banks, but as regards credit deployment in the rural and semi-urban areas, the average of 60 per cent credit deposit ratio is yet to be achieved for the country as a whole. In June 1980 the ratio was 49.1 per cent and in June 1981, it was 57.7 per cent.

WHILE THE COMMERCIAL BANKS were opening branches in the rural parts in a big way after nationalisation they were not suitable to deliver the goods in the villages. It was felt that the city-bred staff are not adjustable to rural environment and the cost of operating the branches of nationalised banks in the villages would be prohibitive. Hence, the Narasimhan Committee suggested a new system of banking to be sponsored by public sector banks in the rural side. Accordingly in 1975, Regional Rural Banks (RRB) were established as a framework for rural banking for the rapid development of the economy of the villages and to lift the 40 per cent of the villagers above the poverty line. The Dantwala Committee in 1977 recommended the continuance of the RRBs. As on June 1982, there were 121 RRBs in the country with 5,118 branches serving in 207 districts. It is envisaged to have 170 RRBs by the end of Sixth Five year Plan period in 1985. At present there are 130 RRBs in the country. These are solely meant for rural development helping the small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans, village craftsmen and other people belonging to the weaker and neglected sectors of the economy. The assistance is rendered under 20-Point Economic Programme. DRI lending. IRDP Scheme etc. *Compared to the branches of nationalised banks in the rural areas, how far the RRB branches have functioned well catering to the credit needs of the rural folk is a thing which has come in for a lot of criticism in many quarters.* In RRBs package of services is not rendered. Nor do they lend to all categories of people in the villages. Moreover, they have no capacity to sustain the losses if overdues are not paid. They also lack the technical expertise in lending exercises. The employees of RRBs have already started their unions and associations demanding scales of pay equal to that of other banks.

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IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES it is felt that the public sector banks themselves could open rural branches as in the past with all the manpower, resources and expertise at their command. In the meantime the existing branches of RRBs can be converted into branches of sponsoring banks. This will also reduce the number of banks which will make for control easy for the Reserve Bank of India. As far as the staff of rural branches is concerned, only local staff be taken and no transfer be effected of any employee except on customer complaints or from vigilance angle. Whether the rural India is being served by the branches of commercial banks or RRBs, the growth of rural side depends on the growth of rural banking on a massive scale. The present 29,000 branches serving in the rural and semi-urban parts can hardly touch or solve the fringe of the problem. That is why the new branch expansion policy of the RBI envisages the opening of 8,000 branches in the rural and semi-urban places during 1982-85 to serve 17,000 population per branch office. Rural development can be extensive by increasing the number of villages adopted by the bank branches. As on June 1981, banks have adopted 1,11,000 villages, extending loan through 3.69 million accounts with an outstanding balance of Rs. 944 crores. Looking at the number of 5.76 villages in the country, adoption of 1,11,000 villages by banks may appear reasonable, but the manner in which they are adopted is not very satisfactory. Merely giving a few fold loans or farm loans here and there is not adopting a whole village should cater to the totality of credit needs of every family by extending a package of services. If one bank cannot consider the total credit needs of all the people in a village, other banks should be allowed to operate, but care should be taken to see that no one borrows from more than one bank.

THE RURAL BANK BRANCHES have an uphill task in developing the villages. Though now 60 per cent of the deposits mopped up from the countryside has got to be deployed in the villages only, in many places it has not been possible to do so for want of ventures and entrepreneurs. Therefore, the bankmen working in rural branches have a responsibility to identify youngsters who have got the boldness to face the challenges by absorbing the credit. Living in the villages and mixing with the rustics should help the rural bankers to study the aspirations of the people and devetail it to the various viable rural schemes designed to improve the rural economy and match them to the identified entrepreneurs who if necessary, be properly trained to utilise the bank credit by proper deployment in the schemes. In all cases of rural ending cash and counselling should go together. The borrowers should be given the benefit of extension lectures on various topics and activities based on the purpose for which funds are lent. Expert lectures, demonstrations on farms, cattle shows and organising of credit camps etc., will go along way in developing the entrepreneurs to ground their schemes and ventures in a proper

manner in a rural set up so that the economy at the grass root level can develop in a balanced manner. The District Credit Plans in each district is in progress now under the third round covering the period 1983-85. Resources are allocated amongst the primary, Secondary and tertiary sectors, block-wise and bank-wise. There is a wider coverage of villages in the districts in each block. This is a conscious effort to develop the rural parts by giving credit for bankable schemes under IRDP, 2p-Point Programme, DRI Scheme etc., with subsidies from the Government. Here the approach should be to identify the genuine borrowers who are anxious and sincere to go in village ventures which are income yielding. If the credit is simply disseminated with a target approach and subsidy-approach, banks may not get back their money and money lent could vanish on unproductive purposes. Hence, continuous follow up, supervision and control by the bankers at the rural level is called for to see that the funds are safely invested in the ventures for which borrowings are made. Proper distribution of funds in identified schemes, block-wise and bank-wise, should create balanced growth in rural development while implementing the Credit Plans. Ultimately the District Credit Plan should be constructed as the sum-total of all the budgets for planning of all the families in the villages in all the blocks. The rural banking has this responsibility of financing each rural family for their productive ventures.

Rural banking is ultimately not merely developing the villages, but involves developing the people to develop the villages where they live. The development created by bank lending should continue to yield income through productive assets on a continual basis. If this situation is not firmly set, the whole rural economy will traverse on reverse gear.



FRESH WATER PRAWNS

Only for Export

By James Chesky

JUST TEN YEARS OUT of the streams and rivers of Hawaii and Taiwan, the giant fresh water prawn *Macrobrachium Rosenbergii*, is rapidly becoming a prime Israeli export. Ironically, the prawns are never consumed in Israel because Jewish dietary laws prohibit the eating of crustaceans. And so the non-kosher animals are being cultivated only for export. And a lucrative export item they are. Tons of the giant shrimp are being harvested annually from commercial ponds of dibbutzim (communal farm settlements) and finding their way to fishmongers in France, Spain, Germany, Holland, Belgium and England, where they fetch up to US \$11-15 a kilo (UK \$-7 a pound).

Giant fresh-water prawns have been cultivated in several tropical countries. But only in a few short years, Israeli scientists have developed a technology of growing shrimp profitably which took hundreds of years to accomplish with poultry, says Dr. Dan Cohen of Hebrew University's Department of Life Sciences. Dr. Cohen attributes the rapid Israeli success in the shrimp industry to "the high standard of university research, the proximity to European markets and the readiness of the Israeli farmer to implement research almost before the findings are out."

In comparison to the cultivation of prawns in the Far East, the Israeli prawns grow faster and have a higher survival rate than any others raised as food. This is due to a system developed to allow the prawns, which need constant temperatures of 25 to 30°C to survive the cold Israeli winters which average 5-12°C at night. An observation in nature showed that the fresh water prawn female carries its 30,000 fertilized eggs down stream to estuaries, where the larvae hatch and develop in brackish water and then move back to fresher water upstream. To simulate nature, Dr. Cohen's team developed a system of growing prawns in tanks with bio-filters both to keep the water clean and to adapt it to the changing needs of the developing larvae. In other countries, prawn cultivators constantly flush their tanks with water, causing shock to the larvae. Their survival rate is about 30 percent, in a 45 day larvae cycle, with a prawn population density of about 20 per litre. The Israeli system of filters, which does not shock the animals, yields 80 percent survival, a 25 day larvae cycle and a density of 60 per litre. From the hatcheries, the juvenile prawns are transported by trucks to nurseries in geothermal springs on the Golan Heights and in solar heated ponds. In early summer, they are sent to fish ponds all over the country.

The research also led to selective sophisticated harvesting techniques. Dr. Cohen learned that there are three types of males; the blue claw, which has reached its full size and uses all of its energy for fertilization of the female; the orange claw, which grows rapidly and the small males. "The selective harvest of the blue claws makes the smaller males grow into the final position faster, to get them to market size in just six months." Since Israeli fish ponds are run very efficiently, they easily meet the needs of the domestic market, leading to pressure for export projects. Dr. Cohen maintains that prawns are the means of taking full advantage of the economic potential of fish ponds. "We have proved that prawns, which are bottom dwellers, need no extra feed. There is a rain of organic matter excess feed and fecal matter to the bottom of the ponds. This is the source of food for the prawns. Therefore prawn production costs the farmer only 6 cents for the juvenile animal (which weighs about half a gram) plus harvesting costs. For prawns weighing 45 grams each, we received 8 to 11 dollars

a kilo (a yield of 20-30 prawns)." Israeli prawn exports last year were some 70 thousand pounds to Europe. Dr. Cohen expects production to double annually until it reaches a maximum of about three thousand tons a year. He is also building a complete production system for prawns, including all stages of production. Some are already operating in the Philippines and Jamaica. Others are in the beginning stages in Central America and Africa.—*Israeli Review*.

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FIRST GENERATION

Soviet Agricultural Robots

THE AGRICULTURAL ROBOTICS DEPARTMENT set up at the Moscow V. Goryachkin Institute of Agricultural Engineers, has created the first mobile autonomous robot. It is designed for livestock-farming. It has a pair of hands which possess eight degrees of freedom. The robot's body can turn around the vertical axis. The hydraulic muscles of each hand lift up to 75 kilograms. The tactile converters allow fingers to record the force of compression or stick within the range of 0.03 g to 113 kg, the temperature of 0.4 to 180°C and humidity ranging from 3 to 99 per cent. The internal watch gives the robot the command to start working. The memory of the automatic operator contains information about the production areas of a pig-pen and, therefore, on the way to its workplace the robot will not go astray. Reaching its workplace, it will connect itself with the electric network, the communication line of the control panel or the computer. The cybernetic pig-tender performs a lot of functions. It cleans and disinfects the pig-pen, feeds pigs, weighs them, checks their physiological conditions, marks the animals and drives them from one pig-pen to another. During the work a special automatic device controls the environment—it feels humidity and the high gas content and, if necessary, can switch on or off the air-conditioner, the ventilator or heating. Touching a pit with an ultrasonic sensor, the robot determines the thickness of the fat layer. The robot informs the central control panel about everything it has felt or seen. As distinct from man, robot does not get tired and can work for many days in a row. To simplify the handling robots have detachable components: hands, pumping-hydraulic, power, navigational and detection and ranging subsystems. If a component goes out of order, the robot reports to the control panel which of the components has malfunctioned. The replacement of the unit with a reserve one does not take much time. If it is necessary to change the production process, or to make some corrections, it is enough to multiply cassettes with magnetic records of the new programme, and robots will be re-equipped.

The robot pig-tender is not the only representative of Soviet agricultural cybernetic devices. The automatic milker has four hollow hands provided with vision and the sense of touch. Warm water is transported through internal hoses which also transport milk into the central pipeline. The robot washes and massages the cow's udder. The robot's elastic fingers reproduce the sucking movements of a calf. The operating model of a many-handed mobile manipulator has been designed...It represents a self-propelled frame with several dozens of hands, each of which is provided with a miniature self-controlling device—the microprocessor. Depending on the technological objective such robots operate independently or carry out a common programme...If necessary, they use tools or operate with their fingers-grips. This electronic farmer can sow, plant seedlings, earth up, weed and carry out many other agricultural operations. Its vision can identify weeds. Soviet designers are working also on a set of machinery for mechanizing production processes in gardening. But the problem of picking up fruit without man's participation still remains unsolved. So far machines cannot treat delicate fruit with adequate care.

The designers of the *gardener* robot have found several interesting solutions. They have provided it with double vision...Initially the co-ordinating device of the electronic picker determines the places of the aggregation of fruit and extends there its mechanical hands with the local orientation system. This system helps not only find the fruit, but also differentiate its colour, size and the degree of ripeness. Each hand is trunk-shaped: the picked apple gets into the internal conveyer and is directed into a container. The device makes it possible to put fruit into containers with the preliminary grading...If 600 to 1,000 apples ripen on an apple-tree, it takes the 40-handed robot just 2.5 minutes to pick them. The use of robots on cotton plantations is promising too. The existing cotton harvesters either comb out fibre from bolls or suck them out...In both cases fibre gets dirty due to the contact with green stalks and the quality of the output decreases. Besides, leaves hinder the machine's operation...It is necessary to remove leaves by chemical defoliant, which is rather expensive. Moreover, some valuable useful substance, for instance, citric acid, are destroyed. It has been calculated that automatic manipulators, which cultivate and pick cotton, will save thousands of millions of roubles. Today, of course, it is difficult to assess exactly what changes will be introduced into agriculture by the introduction of robots. But even now, when robots are taking their first steps, the robotization, in the opinion of experts, will raise labour productivity in the fields and at farms five-fold and will reduce the entire diversity of agricultural machinery to several dozens of multi-operational mobile automatic devices.—APN

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GINGER

For Health and Profit

By Victoria Joseph

GINGER is a daily requirement in most households. In food it is used as spice and seasoning. It contains invaluable properties for physical welfare and as a result it is amply used in local medicine. The country is self-sufficient in ginger. It is cultivated in small holdings. Some housewives grow ginger for immediate use in their back gardens. Every home should be encouraged to grow ginger. Mulched with dried leaves, paddy husk and straw to conserve soil-moisture and addition of artificial manure, or cattledung it thrives well. The dried rhizome of the plant, in raw or fresh state is used for commerce.

Some of the countries that grow ginger for export are China, North and West Africa and Jamaica. Malabar ginger has become famous in world markets. The ginger plant (*Zingiber Officinale*) is propagated by the Rhizomes which have eye-buds. In the Central Province in the Kandy district between Kadugannawa and Peradeniya, ginger is well cultivated and is one of the thriving minor crops. It thrives well with ample rainfall and is suited for mixed cultivation with tumeric as the latter provides shade. In Nugegoda you find the Cochin variety cultivated. Perhaps traders and immigrants from Cochin in early days brought them. In ancient times when the Greek ships came to the East and their commercial intercourse was confined to the North-Western parts of the Island—the emporium enroute at Matota (Mantai)—the areas roundabout the Gulf of Mannar, they carried away rice, ginger and cinnamon. They called ginger "gingiber". Ginger was used for medicine by the Greeks.

The Chinese are famous for their ginger preserves in their Chinese jars, which is very much sought after in the East as an indigenous medicine. The Arabs are famous for the use of ginger in all their cooking. In Ayurveda the code for ginger used to be that it "prolongs age, prevents greying and promotes health"!

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SOLUTION FOR

Sunflower Rust

Sunflower pollen and seed with resistance to Race Three of sunflower rust, a disease first identified in January this year, have been developed in Australia. The rust-resistant sunflower breeding material is the work of Dr. Joe Kochman of the Toowoomba office, the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Dr. Doug George of the department's Hermitage

research station. The resistant pollen and seed were derived from crosses between a commercial sunflower breeding line and a wild sunflower native to the sandy coastal soils of southern Texas in the United States.—*Australian Information Service.*



RICE — 2

Drying, Storing and Preserving

By J. Norman Efferson

THE ON-FARM DRYER-STORAGE BIN SYSTEM includes a series of high-capacity bins, usually metal and with a capacity of 700 hectoliters or more. Each bin is equipped with a heater-blower system, fueled by gas, oil, or electricity, in which hot air is blown through the freshly-harvested high-moisture paddy until it is dried in place. This paddy is then held in these same bins until it is removed for sale. The usual on-farm storage-dryer bin system has equipment to move the paddy from one bin to another. This permits the paddy to be turned for treatment for insect attacks or when excessive high moisture spots develop in the bulkstored grain. Bin drying has also been developed for small farms. Plan for an on-farm or village bin dryer, with a capacity of 1 to 2 tons of paddy, dried in 1 to 3 days, and fueled with local materials such as wood or rice hulls, have been developed in several countries. Such plans and specifications are available to farmers from the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines, the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute near Dacca, and from most national departments of agriculture. When threshed most paddy contains a large amount of foreign matter such as straw particles, dirt and small stones, immature grains, and weed seeds. Traditionally on small hand sifting through a wire mesh to remove the heavier particles, and by winnowing. The winnowing process includes the pouring of a small stream of paddy from an elevated surface through the air, preferably on a windy day, to permit the wind to blow away the lighter particles. Neither of these approaches is especially effective although they serve well on the small farm for home-consumption uses. In some areas of Asia farmers have developed home-built hand-operated sifting and fanning machines that are somewhat more efficient. In recent years mechanical cleaners of many sizes and types have been developed. They involve a series of vibrating or rotating screens and blowers to remove the different types of foreign materials on a continuous-flow basis. All modern mills and most modern dryer and storage units for paddy have such equipment. Still more recently, small cleaners adapted to village or single-farm use have been developed. Most major research institutes and national departments of agriculture have

available plans and specifications for such machines adapted to small volume use and constructed of local materials.

PHYSICAL LOSSES in paddy storage vary from two to six percent, depending on storage method and management. Quality losses, independent of volume, are sometimes equally as great. Both quality and quantity losses in paddy storage are not inevitable, however. They can be held to almost nothing with proper facilities and management. On many small farms paddy is stored in woven bamboo-slat baskets, second-hand bags, and home-built bins in the home or nearby. In some areas special structures are utilized on the farmstead or in the village. A unique practice is common in North Africa. Here a small rectangular structure is built in the farmyard. It is an open-air structure without walls or floor, and a small enclosed layer constructed of bamboo or limbs, as built at the second level, about two meters high. Freshly-harvested paddy, either on the stalk unthreshed or threshed in bulk, is placed in this elegated enclosed area directly above the lower level. Below, a fire is maintained most of the time for home cooking. The smoke and heat from the cooking fire serves to dry and preserve the paddy, and protect it from pests while the family meals are being cooked. These are appropriately termed "rice kitchens." On larger farms paddy is stored in special structures, either in bulk or in bags. Losses occur most frequently due to lack of moisture control, the existence of openings that permit invasions of insects and rodents, and the failure to practice sanitary measures and insect control treatments prior to storing the paddy. Storage in bulk or in sacks is not as important as the sanitary practices used, regardless of the type of building or the containers used. For large mechanized production areas, storage is usually in metal or concrete bulk structures of the "silo" or metal bin type. These structures are usually equipped with elevators to move the paddy from one area to another, have heat-detection devices to identify areas of possible spoilage before there is serious damage, and have equipment for insect control treatments when needs.

RICE STORAGE is primarily done as paddy rather than as milled rice because milled rice is so susceptible to losses and does not keep well. Generally paddy is milled only when there is an immediate demand for milled rice. This practice is somewhat different, however, in cool climate areas where rapid deterioration does not usually occur. In Japan, as well as parts of Taiwan, South and North Korea, and Northern China, freshly-harvested paddy is frequently hulled soon after harvest and the product stored as brown or cargo rice. In these areas, the final product, white milled rice, is not produced until the product is to be consumed within a few days after it is processed. Consumer demand for freshly-milled white rice dictates this practice. In the tropical areas of the world where most of the rice is grown and consumed, storage as brown rice is not

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feasible due to therapid deterioration and fermentation that occurs under high temperature storage conditions. Parboiling is the practice of soaking paddy in water for a few hours, then steaming the paddy (or in more primitive areas, simply boiling it) and finally redrying the paddy before storing it, or miling it for consumption. There are several reasons for this practice. Although it represents an extra step in the processing chain, and a higher cost in total milling, there are several advantages. Parboiled rice has a different flavor and color that is preferred by many customers. The parboiling process serves to dissolve some of the nutrients on the outer layers throughout the grain and makes the grain much harder and less subject to breakage in milling as well as somewhat more nutritious. From the point of grain preservation, the harder grain resulting from the parboiling process causes the product, either in paddy or in the milled rice form, to be more resistant to insect and bacteria attacks. Although this is not the major reason for parboiling, the practice serves to preserve rice and maintain quality sufficient for consumption in many areas, including parts of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and some areas of Latin America.

Although difficult to pinpoint exactly, the evaluation of most rice experts is to the effect that from 15 to 30 percent of the annual world's rice crop is never available for consumption due to post-harvest losses in harvesting, threshing, cleaning, drying, storage, parboiling milling, and handling. The larger part of these losses are in threshing, drying, and storage. Recent developments in these areas, especially for the larger commercial rice producers, indicate that with the use of proper equipment and efficient management practices, most of these losses can be prevented. Although some additional investments will be required and more careful practices applied throughout the harvest-marketing process, the facts reveal that these efforts will be more than worth the cost to the producer and to the consumer.—*Concluded.*

THE VILLAGE and THE NATION

HARMONY ESSENTIAL

Between Man and Nature

By Ananda Villavarayan

The 5th of June 1984 is World Environment Day and the purpose of this article is to focus attention on the importance of conserving our natural surroundings. In this environment millions of plant, animal and human species live and thrive. This is the *small* zone on TRIBUNE, MAY 26 & JUNE 2, 1984

earth known as the Biosphere which is confined to the outer surface of earth including the oceans and the lower layers of the atmosphere. The human species, despite an alarm call in the late 1960's and early 1970's by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (I.U.C.N.) and the World Wild Life Fund (W.W.F.) and more recently by the United Nations Environment Programme (U.N.E.P.) continue, regardless, to degenerate Nature's life-support systems in the Biosphere, thereby posing a real threat to earth and their own existence. *One does not have to be a prophet to sound this warning. Notwithstanding the much vaunted intelligence of the human species, ignorance and greed combined with an unshakeable faith in a not too helpful technology, are aggravating the threat.*

NATURE'S LIFE-SUPPORT systems are notably, (1) Air, (2) Water, (3) Soil, (4) Plants, (a) edible, (b) medicinal, (5) Trees, (6) Animals (a) edible, (b) non-edible and wild, (7) Fish, (a) marine, (b) freshwater, and (8) other living organisms. It is generally agreed that the human species are a part of Nature and, therefore, have to come to terms and live in harmony with Nature.

On the contrary, what do we see all around us? Those who care to observe will readily admit that there is air pollution caused by industrial and transport pollutants, water pollution caused by industrial and domestic sewage and so causing harm to humans and fresh water and coastal water fish, soil erosion and silting of rivers created by the denudation of montane forests. Silting leads to floods when the monsoons set in. Denudation of other forests for agriculture, fuel-wood and development schemes destroys the established link between rainfall and forests, thus leading to prolonged droughts. There is also over-exploitation of edible and medicinal plants and edible animals without any thought of sustainable utilisation. At the same time unplanned development and commercial ventures disrupt the habitat of wild life and excessive use of inorganic fertilisers and pesticides cause havoc to other living organisms that enrich the soil.

IT IS WORTH REITERATING that degeneration of Nature's life-support systems can only lead to the extinction of the human species. I believe that it is a grave threat because there is very little appreciation and understanding of the problem among the bulk of the people on this earth. Apparently this lack of appreciation and understanding is an inheritance from the past when man was taught to believe that he was master of Nature and that he could transform it as he liked without having to account for his stewardship. There are good examples of this attitude in developed countries. Four illuminating examples are (1) Industrial pollution of the atmosphere in Britain and Europe and the resulting SMOG and ACID RAIN respectively. (2) The pollution of lake EERIE in U.S.A. with garbage

and industrial pollutants and the resultant damage to fish. (3) The pollution of Sydney Harbour in Australia with industrial and domestic sewage. These examples amply demonstrate the utter lack of concern on the part of those responsible and (4) The pollution of a river in Japan with industrial mercury effluents leading to the death of the near-by inhabitants who ate the fish whose flesh was mercury-contaminated.

In developing countries, a classic example is the felling of trees on the hills in Nepal by the inhabitants of these localities for fuel-wood thus causing a massive erosion of soil that not only clogged the Ganges but also rendered the hill-sides in Nepal unfit for any form of cultivation. The story is the same in Jamaica and other Carribean countries where the Carribean Sea is the recipient of rich soil. *Examples are legion and there is a lesson to be learnt and that is that the entirety of the life-support systems is a chain and each system is a link and that damage to one link can damage the whole chain. Each country must devise its own conservation strategy for survival.*

IRRESPECTFULLY SUGGEST a National Nature Conservation strategy on the following lines,

- (1) That the mass media of communication especially T.V. be used effectively to reach the rural areas of this country where most of the people live.
- (2) That the Central Environmental Authority be empowered to study the impact of a development project on Nature and to take all such remedial measures as are necessary before those responsible for implementing a project assess the social and economic benefits. For example, If a Project is likely to pollute air and/or water, then measures to prevent such pollution must be initiated before a project is implemented. Again, if a project necessitates the cutting down of acres of forests, then the same number or preferably a greater number of acres must be planted with trees which must show signs of growth before a project is implemented. This country must have forest cover of at least 40 per cent of the land area.
- (3) That stringent penalties be imposed on citizens of Sri Lanka and Corporate bodies found guilty of degenerating Nature's life-support systems.
- (4) That every citizen of Sri Lanka who is also a Chief Occupant of a home, whether palatial or a hut, whether living in urban or rural areas, be required by law to plant in his/her compound, depending on the extent of land available, a minimum of three trees which will provide domestic sustenance. For example, one Jak Tree, one Breadfruit Tree, one Mango Tree and/or one Tamarind Tree. Apart from sustenance,

this will be a tremendous booster to the tree planting campaign to be started by the political leadership. The preliminary work of establishing nurseries all round the country must be left to the Government Department of Agriculture.

- (5) That the Forest Department encourages the planting of special fast growing trees on a specified acreage in every Grama Sevaka Division of this Country to meet the fuel-wood requirements of the mass of the people.

The ultimate aim is to make the human species and Nature working partners so that development and conservation march hand in hand towards progress. This planet earth is small but beautiful and the human race must realise that it is its only home. This will make it easier for intelligence and wisdom to triumph.

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TOURISM IN ASIA — 2

Packaged Tourism

By Dennis Shoesmith

TOURISTS AS A GROUP also project a distorted image which can have destructive effects on the self-esteem of local people obliged by economic necessity to serve them. In societies already divided by wealth and class, free-spending or insensitive tourists can reinforce such divisions. The world of high-rise luxury accommodation, air-conditioned cars, conspicuous consumption is brought into stark contrast with the facts of poverty and deprivation. The indulgent consumer lifestyle provided for the visitor can also be adopted by local elites. Particularly in the cities, the contrast between two worlds itself can undermine the cultural integrity of the host people. People in the tourist destination are used as objects, presented in the tourist literature as 'warm', 'hospitable', 'exotic', attractions to be looked at. Local traditional arts and crafts are streamlined and packaged to entertain visitors, an indignity and a subtle threat to the integrity of such traditions. . . . There are signs that the host governments of Third World countries heavily involved in tourism are becoming increasingly uneasy about the destructive cultural effects of tourism but it is difficult to see what effective controls are possible. If controls are too strict, the tourist will probably go somewhere else taking the tourist dollar with him. If the commercialization and trivialization of local culture, the exploitation and consumerism are to be countered it will take a change in values among tourists and the encouragement of a more critical understanding of tourism's impact in the host countries as well as more sensitive government control.

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COMPARED TO THE SITUATION of poorly paid local workers, the guides, waiters, street hawkers, hospitality girls, beggars and others who live off the tourist trade, it may seem strange to claim that the tourists themselves are also cheated by the present way the industry is organized. But the traveller, who accepts the 'packaged experience' offered by mass tourism, is manipulated and cheated of the very kind of experience which attracts many people to travel in the first place. Rather than escaping from the materialism and conformity of life at home, the tourist is guided into a pattern of behaviour which is a product of materialist and consumer values. Especially on the organized tour, the visitor is separated from the people around him as if by a one-way mirror. If the purpose of travel is to interact with the people of another culture on equal terms then the package tour makes this almost impossible. Whether aware of it or not, the tourist is usually isolated, physically present in the host culture but emotionally and imaginatively separated from it. Such isolation tends to confirm rather than challenge the preconceptions and fantasies projected by tourist literature. The experience of heightened luxury and remoteness from a strange and perhaps impoverished local environment can encourage the tourist to experience a curious mixture of guilt and superiority which is less than a fully human response to his hosts.

WHILE THERE IS MUCH TRUTH in the stereotype of the affluent tourist on the package tour, it is also true that tourists are becoming a more diverse lot as mass tourism enters a new phase with specialist services being provided for the increasing number of travellers who want to escape the programmed hotel-resort-hotel circuit. The tourist population is gradually changing. More younger people are travelling alone or in small groups. Japanese tourists still tend to be men and to move in large, organized groups but western tourists have become increasingly diverse. A survey of recent tourist arrivals in the Philippines, for example, found that over three-quarters of all visitors were under 49 years of age, part of a trend away from retired couples as the major consumers of travel. *As alternative styles of travel have become more popular, encouraged by the appearance of an increasingly heterogeneous travelling population, the travel industry has adapted to meet new demands and to keep these changes within the control of the existing economic interests.* The more adventurous tourist, dissatisfied with the expensive, programmed tourist circuit, may be more aware of the issues raised by mass tourism and its ambiguous impact on Third World societies. The literature produced for student travel and other forms of alternative, more individualistic touring raises such questions as the sensibilities of host peoples, the necessity to preserve the environment and the falseness of the commercialized industry. There are signs in the countries of origin that more travellers are becoming sensitive to such issues.

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But the free-ranging, adventurous tourist can also have an ambiguous effect on communities otherwise relatively protected from the crasser impact of packaged tourism. There are now well-publicized alternative tourist routes in Southeast Asia, for example, which bring increasing numbers of visitors to towns and villages outside the large capital cities. The problems that have marked mass tourism in metropolitan cities can be reproduced in miniature in smaller communities. Prices for local food, transport and accommodation rise along the alternative tourist track offsetting the new jobs and the extra income earned. Rural communities, too, are more vulnerable to the cultural dislocation which sustained and uncontrolled contact with even the best-intentioned tourists can bring.

TRAVEL HAS GREAT POTENTIAL as a way of overcoming the ignorance and prejudice which separates people in the First World from people in the Third World. For the first time in history, millions of people can catch a plane in New York or Sydney or Tokyo and, within a few hours, find themselves in societies struggling with all the political, economic and cultural problems of underdevelopment. The opportunity is there for a direct exchange, for human contact between individuals with radically different backgrounds. The tragedy of mass tourism as it has developed is that rather than encouraging authentic interaction and the discovery of solidarity, it has reinforced false and sentimental preconceptions both in the tourist and his hosts. The faces looking through the tinted windows of the tourist bus see without understanding. The farmers in the paddy field are seen through a camera, an illustration in a glossy magazine.

The challenge is to humanize tourism. At one level this means confronting the transnational interests which control the tourist industry and the stream-lined consumerism which such interests find most profitable. At another it means that tourists themselves must become more sensitive to their hosts and more aware of attitudes and behaviour which exploit or degrade local people or their culture. Tourists can learn from the people they meet if only they can establish honest and genuine relationships. The real joy of travel, after all, consists of such contacts. . . .

Needless to say I am referring to cultural and social values which constitute the very patrimony of each country or region. Unfortunately these values often become lost or distorted due to unnecessary uniformization and dubious tastes which destroy a past once profoundly in harmony with nature. The sudden change degrades the city, and tourism (alongside with real estate speculation) is responsible for a series of assaults against nature and, at times, against the historical heritage of people. There are numerous examples throughout Latin America. We could cite the construction of the coastal highway built for tourists between Rio and Santos, in Brazil, which has

destroyed beaches and ancient towns, provoking a negative impact both upon nature and the native population, whose cultural and social values become re-oriented around the new patterns emanating from the touristic onslaught in the area. However, it is not simply natural beauty which is so often lost or destroyed. Local societies suffer a distortion and social divisions become aggravated. This process should be analyzed as part of the global situation which results from the nature of relations between the developed and under-developed world. Between the era of the city created by the Spanish conquest and the commercial city, and between the latter and the industrial city, a dramatic and continuous sequence of events has occurred which has resulted in the almost irreversible political and economic subjection of Latin America by foreign domination.

THE IMPOSITIONS FROM ABROAD are made viable through the collaboration of certain sectors of the population who set a series of internal mechanisms of accommodation into motion. Those most deeply affected are those strata of the local population incapable of defending themselves against the often irresponsible and superficial penetration by tourists.

The city, as Paulo Singer remarks, has historically carried out a strategic role in the maintenance of systems of exploitation. Its two fundamental functions within current power relations are economic and political control. Today, cities continue to be the areas most indispensable for the establishment of various forms of domination and dependency. It would not be an exaggeration to say that within the current system of relations between rich and poor nations, tourism may simply become one more instrument fostering dependence and disaggregation. The contribution of tourism in this process is precisely the establishment of an external point of reference for the population affected. Its traditions become distorted and thus its capacity to absorb or resist the alterations taking place in its midst are diminished.

—Concluded.



ATTITUDE TO ENVIRONMENT — 2

Presidential Address

— to Ruk Rakaganne, the Tree
Society, Sri Lanka

By Prof. A. C. J. Weerakoon

ONE OF THE LATEST SRI LANKAN DOCUMENTS on these topics written by a very high official of our Central Environmental Authority, begins by saying that *Environmental Awareness (is) an Urgent National*

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Need. Well, so it is; and we can all of us endorse that statement. But this document goes on to say that the range of environmental problems like "Deforestation, Soil Erosion, Urban Congestion, Water Contamination, Air Pollution," and similar "prominently visible, high-profile" environmental problems, this "whole range of environmental ills has inadequate environmental awareness as its root cause". Now; that is rubbish. And one does not have to be a trained ecologist to recognise it as rubbish. "Inadequate Environmental Awareness" will certainly delay action to prevent or to cure environmental problems like Deforestation or Urban Congestion, or Water Pollution or any of the others named in that document; But it is not the "root-cause" of any of them. These problems are mainly the results of assaults on our environment in the course of development (industrial, agricultural and the like) by private and by public organisations, primarily for *private profit*, instead of primarily for social progress and community betterment. The efforts of the environmentally aware, however large their numbers, to prevent such assaults have had little success anywhere in the world as long as Authority has been permitted, whilst pretending concern, actually to connive at these assaults. It is worse than rubbish to claim that "inadequate environmental awareness" is the "root cause" of the whole range of environmental ills.

Let us give you a second example from the many in that same document. From its very next paragraph quote a whole sentence *verbatim*: "Even on a national scale, the lack of Environmental Awareness ranks high among major ecological problems." So, we now learn that the lack of environmental awareness is not only the "root cause" of environmental problems it is also itself a "major ecological problem"! One does not have to be a trained ecologist to recognize this statement as another piece of rubbish. Ecology is the name given to the study of the *interrelationships* between living organisms, living species and their surroundings, their environment, both the living and the non-living components of it. Ecology is also the name for the *knowledge* of those *inter-relationships*. And sometimes, by an extension of meaning, Ecology is also the name used to refer to the *inter-relationships themselves*.

The increase of nitrate or of phosphate concentration in stream and ground waters, due to excessive use of artificial fertilizers at the constant urging of fertiliser manufacturers and salesmen and even of the government's agricultural extension services, the increase of this nitrate or phosphate concentration up to and beyond levels that can be tolerated by certain desirable species of aquatic organisms (certain fish, for example) and even by the human species is an ecological problem. But the lack of environmental awareness amongst the farmers and among the human community dependent on that contaminated water

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supply is NOT an *ecological* problem though it is an important educational problem; it is not an ecological problem any more than the lack of an adequate knowledge of English amongst the farmers is an ecological problem, or any more than the lack of an adequate number of science-degrees amongst the consumers of that polluted groundwater is an ecological problem.

Incidentally, if our inadequate environmental awareness is the "root cause" of this pollution of our water supplies which damages our health, would it not be equally correct to say that an inadequate environmental awareness amongst certain aquatic organisms, certain desirable species of algae and annelids, insects and shell-fish and fish, that *their* inadequate environmental awareness is the "root-cause" of that pollution of lake-waters which kills them off and leads to an environmental phenomenon known as the "Death of Lakes"? The absurdity of blaming our inadequate environmental awareness as the "root-cause" of our environmental ills should be clearly evident.

Let's now examine another aspect of that example of water pollution by fertiliser use which I gave you: how should one deal with it? The following group of measures is needed as a minimum: (i) *Controls* on formulations, propaganda and sales by fertiliser manufacturers, marketers and agents (government and private); (ii) careful and continued monitoring of the quantities of fertilisers purchased and used and of the levels of Nitrate and Phosphate in ground and stream waters; (iii) careful *periodical surveys*, qualitative and quantitative, of the fauna and flora of our streams and tanks; (iv) a system of *honestly informing* and warning the public about the quality of its water supplies; (v) *effective laws* and regulations (that is, ones with teeth in them) and the machinery to keep the jaws of teeth working, that is a *proper preventive service*; and (vi) *research on fertilisers* (mode of delivery, movement in soil, uptake by plants, better formulations etc.).

All this you will agree, adds up to a very tall order. In fact it adds up to much more than that, it makes sure that any government attempting to carry out such a programme (which it must if it wishes to safeguard the well-being of its present and future citizens) will antagonise numerous small and large (national) and super-large (international) exploiters of our people and our country, and will therefore have a very tough struggle on its hands. Much easier, much pleasanter to pin the blame for all our environmental ills on the people's "inadequate environmental awareness", the alleged "root cause". That way one may reasonably expect all the irritating conservationist groups, like our *Ruk Rakkaganne* for example, sooner or later to become more and more involved in and finally completely enmeshed and overwhelmed by their efforts to raise to an adequate level our "inadequate environmental awareness", that alleged "root-cause" of all our environmental ills, whilst the real causes escape detection and continue happily to rake in their profits

unhindered and untroubled—until the final disaster, which they believe will not be in their life-times.

I began by saying that much of what's written and said in Sri Lanka today about Ecology and about the Environment is rubbish; and I gave you two examples of it. You must, by now, have asked yourselves: Why is this so? Well, my examination of what's needed in a case of water pollution in a Third World country will have given you the answer to that question. George Bernard Shaw has said that the art of government is the organisation of idolatry. In a Third World context it appears he was not cynical enough.

You have now seen one of the pitfalls on our Society's road ahead of which I warned you early in my address to you this evening. There are other pitfalls now, and there will be still others later. But I do not propose to try to identify them for you tonight. If you think over carefully and honestly, what I have said in this address to you, you will surely spot them all and avoid them all yourselves. In view of the attitudes of Third World Authority to the environment it is of crucial importance that societies like Ruk Rakkaganne should function effectively. You have my best wishes.

—Concluded.

BOOKS, ARTS & THE MEDIA

ARTS COUNCIL

English Literary Competition 1984

The English Literary Panel of the Arts Council of Sri Lanka, which was established recently, is happy to announce a Literary Competition, for Sri Lankan writers, in the English language. We have organized this competition in order to encourage creative writing in the English language. There is not a dearth of such writing but authors face, in many cases, insurmountable obstacles, primarily those of finance. There is quite an extraordinary amount of material being written in English, as you will see from an article written by Dr. Rajiva Wijesinha, which will be published in the first issue of the bi-annual Arts Council magazine which will appear in June. It is to be called "Kala." I am also very pleased to note that the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation is giving opportunities for writers to broadcast their work which does eliminate the costs of publication.

The English Literary Panel was interested to read a lead article in a recent national daily newspaper, which commented on the Wijewardene Prize, recently

established for Sinhala writing. The panel is interested to know that Sinhala writers suffer very much the same problems as English writers and perhaps we can learn from each other's experiences and problems. One would have thought that with the much wider Sinhala reading public, problems would have been reduced to a minimum, but apparently they still exist. Sinhala writers are, of course, represented on the Arts Council and, within the limitations of financing and personnel, we will do what we can to help aspiring writers and to encourage them to continue their excellent work.

Creative writing, of course, includes fiction. Many people believe fiction to be a waste of time, but I totally disagree. The writing of fiction can be a most potent force for social good. One only has to think of Dickens, Rushdie and Dostoyevsky and such others to acknowledge this positive impact. The lasting value of Leonard Woolf's "Village in the Jungle" cannot be denied, a remarkable book, written by a foreigner with an extraordinary understanding of the Sinhalese people. Fiction can also present a social record of the times in which the writers live, e.g. Sita Kulatunga's "The High Chair." And, in addition, they can present a history of our times and other times, e.g. "The Winds of Sinhala" by Colin de Silva. We need more original writing, including fiction, and we will help its growth in any way we can, even though we clearly have to start in a small way because of financial limitations.

Regarding the competition itself, published or unpublished material may be submitted, but the cut off date is December 31, 1981, i.e. nothing published before that date will be accepted. In the case of drama, performed or unperformed material may be submitted, but the same cut-off date applies. The final date for submission of material is June 30, 1984. This will be an annual competition.

Prizes will be awarded in four categories: (1) poetry: a collection of 20 pages or more; (2) non-fiction prose: not less than 20,000 words; (3) short stories and/or novels: not less than 20,000 words; (4) drama: the performance of which will not take longer than two hours and which will consist of one or more acts.

One additional prize will be awarded for the best over-all work, for the outstanding work submitted. The four category prizes are for Rs. 5,000 each and the over-all prize will be Rs. 10,000. In all cases prizes will only be awarded if the work submitted is considered of an adequate standard.

All entries should be sent to the Secretary of the Arts Council of Ceylon at the Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7.

The members of the English Literary Panel of the Arts Council are Mrs. Manel Abeyratne, Mrs. Alfreda de Silva, Mr. Richard de Zoysa, Professor D. C. R. A.

Goonetilleke, Professor Ashley Halpe, Dr. Rajiva Wijesinha and Mrs. Margaret Gooneratne, Chairperson.

(Mrs) Margaret Gooneratne
Chairperson

May 22, 1984.

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BOOK REVIEW

Ceylon

HANDBOOK FOR THE CEYLON TRAVELLER:

A Studio Times Publication: 2nd Edition. Printed at Ceylon Printers Ltd., Colombo 1. 37 Chapters, 437 pages, 24 glossy photographs, numerous illustrations, maps and charts. Price Rs. 350.00. In his delightfully epigrammatic essay titled SEA OF SINBAD published as a prelude to the HANDBOOK FOR THE CEYLON TRAVELLER Author C. Clarke in his exuberant enthusiasm for Sri Lanka, his foster motherland, has shifted her co-ordinates and moved her closer to Paradise. The celebrated papal legate Marignolli, who visited Sri Lanka some six centuries ago was himself swept off his feet by the stunning panorama of the Sri Lankan landscape and the beauty of her people. As he was climbing down Adam's Peak Marignolli was impressed by a native tradition that Ceylon was but forty leagues from Paradise and that the sounds of the fountains of Paradise were heard here. The travelled Vatican diplomat felt that it was around this hallowed Peak that an angel set down the disgraced Adam after his expulsion. In Arthur Clarke's article referred to, which has been excerpted from THE VIEW FROM SERENDIB, a Del Rey book published by Ballantine Books, Marignolli is quoted thus: "From Ceylon to Paradise, according to native tradition, is forty miles; there may be heard the sound of the fountains of Paradise."

Avid readers of the HANDBOOK FOR THE CEYLON TRAVELLER who have read the graphic thumb-nail sketch of our eventful history—tidily compressed into a mere five pages under the title THE ISLANDERS will recall the terse final paragraph by this piece: "And with the traders came the travellers. They came seeking a warm land with warm gentle people. They came seeking beauty and found it. Marco Polo remarked that it is undoubtedly the finest island of its size in all the world. Marignolli judged it 'only forty leagues from Paradise'... still travellers came seeking the unsophisticated way of life of the islanders and the peace and tranquility of an island where more than 2,500 years of history stand still."

If a league is three statute or nautical miles the distance from Sri Lanka to Paradise as presumably conveyed to Marignolli by the courtiers of the Gampola kings may have been 120 miles. (Then how indeed

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was the swish of the celestial fountains heard in this country?) The natives here whose love for the country is a gut feeling will not quarrel with Clarke for dragging the country nearer Paradise. Clarke's knowledge of celestial things, terrestrial and extra-terrestrial bodies are not questioned. He is probably on the right track. More likely he is just homing in on the truth. We natives like to agree with Ari Lanka that Paradise is here and now, not forty miles away and that Clarke's quest for the Fountains of Paradise ended when the excavations around Sigiriya unearthed the fountains leading to the heavenly abode Kasyapa built atop Sirigiya, for his middle aged Goddesses.

Any travel guide will now give you the exact distance to Paradise and the best means to get there, where to stay, food habits of the locals, their life style, what to eat and where and do's and don't's of the Gods and Goddesses. The best way to prepare oneself for a visit to Paradise is to drink deeply of the Handbook so that you know in advance the nature of Paradise and the texture of its inhabitants. And when you are in Paradise you will, if you go to its sun and fun beaches, you are likely to catch sight of Arthur C. Clarke and similar beings who are already there for the merit (kusala karma) which has accrued to them in this life of their journey through Samsara.

B. H. Hemapriya.



FOR THE RECORD

Lankapuwath, Press Institute

WORKSHOP ON REPORTING FOR PRESS, RADIO AND TV AND NEWS AGENCY PERSONNEL,

COLOMBO, 30TH APRIL, 2ND & 3RD MAY, 1984. Organised by The Malaysian Association for Continuing Education (MACE) and the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute (SLFI) and Sponsored by The Asian South Pacific Bureau for Adult Education (ASPBAE) and the Commonwealth Foundation

WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

At the final session on 3rd May, 1984, the Workshop made the following recommendations:—1. Lankapuvath be activated as a National News Agency with independence to report in the national interest. Lankapuvath should have its head office in Colombo and regional bureaux in major provincial towns. 2. All foreign news services should be channelled and distributed through Lankapuvath without editing. This implies that all foreign news is supplied as written.

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3. (a) A Press Institute be established to look after and further the interests of the profession of journalism, recognising that journalism is a profession which covers press, radio and television. The assistance of the United Nations and other agencies should be sought to establish the Press Institute. (b) The work of the Press Institute should include (i) the definition of who a journalist is, (ii) terms and conditions of employment, (iii) training of journalists, (iv) accreditation, (v) links with similar organisations—national and world-wide, bilateral and multilateral. (c) Suitable criteria be formulated to regulate the selection of journalists to be sent abroad for training. 4. (a) The setting up of a pro-tem committee consisting of: Bonnie Fernando (Chairman), Silverine Cassim (Secretary), S. P. Amarasingam, Dalton de Silva, Dayananda de Silva, H. M. Gunasekera, Dr. Piyasoma Medis, Soma Silva and M. L. Ramiah, with the power to co-opt members. (b) The committee should take up matters arising out of its work with the Press Council. (c) The committee should keep all who participated at the Workshop and others interested informed of its work. (d) The committee should investigate the possibilities of follow-up activities arising out of the Workshop and act on them.

The committee decided to meet at 4-00 p.m. on Thursday, 10th May, 1984, at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute. A meeting was also held on May 24, and May 29. The Committee was scheduled to meet the Minister of State, Mr. Ananda Tissa de Alwis on May 31.



SPOTLIGHT

•Rebel Cricketers •Soccer
•Los Angeles Olympics

QUEER HAPPENINGS seem to be taking place in the local cricket scene. These queer happenings are centred round the rebel cricketers led by Bandula Warnapura and managed by Tony Opatha who toured apartheid South Africa. Fourteen rebel cricketers toured South Africa and the Cricket Board angered by this, promptly clamped down a 25-year suspension from the game. We don't want to comment on the 25-year suspension nor do we want to comment on that tour. It is well known that the majority blacks are suffering at the hands of the minority white-ruled

South Africa. So every right thinking person will no doubt condemn the tour. The rebel cricketers no doubt were lured by the filthy rands that were dangled by the South African Cricket Board. Other than another bid to disturb established cricket these tours were not doing anything for the good of the game or its progress. A rebel West Indian team led by Lawrence Rowe also toured South Africa and what is happening to these cricketers who toured is too well known. The rebel Windies made two tours and it is unlikely that they or other cricketers in the West Indies will ever want to go to apartheid South Africa again. It is also certain that unless the South African government changed its attitude of discrimination against the blacks that South Africa will never again be included in the International Cricket Conference. This is a pity, from a cricketing point of view. South Africa is able to produce some of the best cricketers in the world. But owing to their government's racial policies they have to play their strokes in the wilderness. It would be of interest to our readers if the air is cleared regarding the local rebels and their position in the local cricket scene today. It is too well known that the rebels stealthily winged their way to South Africa in the midst of cricket matches in which they were representing their firms. These firms for which the rebels worked, it must be stated, did much to improve their living standards and the perks they got for shining for their firms to say the least was encouraging. But they left their firms to fly to South Africa. In doing so they made the game and their firms look silly.

THE BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN SRI LANKA was quick to show their resentment and promptly clamped a 25-year ban on the rebels. The 25-year ban seems reasonable when one considers the fact that the West Indies Cricket Board clamped a life ban on their cricketers who toured South Africa. When the ban was clamped on the local rebels there were points for and against it. But the dust slowly settled down and nothing much was heard of the rebels. In recent times the rebels have again been in the news. It all started like this. When the votes of the Ministry of Sports were being discussed at the committee stage of the budget, an opposition member asked the Minister of Sports, Mr. Vincent Perera to consider the suspension of the rebels, saying that the 25-year ban was too severe a punishment. The Minister of Sport who is ever willing to help in the progress and development of sport in Sri Lanka in answer said that if the rebels made an appeal he would consider their case. The rebels quick to pounce on this opening submitted their appeal to the Minister. At the time of writing what has happened to the appeal is not known. While this appeal is pending the President of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka Mr. Gamini Dissanayake has gone on record saying that if another tour to South Africa by Sri Lankan cricketers takes place the repercussions would be worse. Mr. Dissanayake made these remarks when

addressing a pool of young cricketers the other day. Addressing the poolists the Board President urged them not to fall victims to the machinations of the South Africans. He had asked the poolists to earn their cricket honestly and professionally. But what is queer is that while the Ministry of Sport will consider the appeal made by the rebel cricketers, the President of the Cricket Board says that if another tour was to take place the punishment would be worse. What does this all show? It shows that the Ministry of Sport and the Cricket Board are not on the same wave-length. The Ministry of Sport, it must be understood, is the governing body for all sports, repeat governing body for all sports. It is time that the Cricket Board realised this and played ball with the Ministry. To think that the Cricket Board can go it alone is wrong. It is also time that the Ministry and the Cricket Board sat down to serious discussion regarding the future of the rebels.

SRI LANKA'S SOCCER which has always been a hot topic over the years. The game shows signs of enjoying its best years in the future owing to the interest shown by our good Prime Minister Premadasa. However, football fans received a jolt recently when it was made known that all backward National Football Associations would be relegated to that of Associate membership unless the Associations concerned put their houses in order. This was one of the decisions taken at the Congress of the Asian Football Confederation which was held in China recently. Local Football Board President F. A. Yaseen represented Sri Lanka at this meeting. Speaking at this congress, Tan Sri Hamzah, President of the AFC had said that a new National Football Associations are making no progress and are falling behind. He had requested these associations to step up their efforts to improve the game. At this congress it was also decided to get each National Association to prepare and implement a Technical Development Programme in an effort to raise the standard of football. It was agreed that the following aspects would be looked into: Motivation of players at a very young age; Organisation of incentives fixed domestic tournaments; application of Sports medicine in the welfare of players; uninterrupted and continuous preparation of senior and youth teams. With the Prime Minister interested in improving this poor man's game there is no doubt that the game will improve and reach Asian standard before long. The new Football Board has a lot to do for the improvement of the game. The new Board must understand that there is no use in putting the blame on the previous members who held office. The past is past, the new Board must look to the future and plan its programme for the development of the game accordingly. Let them not fall by the wayside.

SRI LANKA, it is certain will not have any competitors at the Los Angeles Games in America when it begins in July. However, we will have some consolation by the fact that we will have a hockey umpire in the panel that

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will blow the hockey matches at the Games. Our man who will toot the whistle at the Los Angeles Games will be Jampathy Perera. Perera thus becomes the first Sri Lanka umpire at the Olympic games. The International Hockey Federation (IHF) has done well in picking Perera who is Sri Lanka's only International Class I umpire. He will officiate as one of the four neutral Umpires at the Games. What is creditable is that Perera was picked as a neutral umpire from among 63 non-participating countries. Perera has officiated in several tournaments abroad and this is the first time he will do so in an Olympics. As a hockey player he began his career at St. Thomas' College, Matale and later played club hockey for the CR & FC and Havelocks. He represented the Nationalised Services in the National Championships for six years. Perera became an international umpire in 1977 during the Junior World Cup in Malaysia.

Gehan Mendis the Sussex opening batsman who is staking a strong claim to sport NCC colours this season started the County Cricket season with a bang by notching up a dashing century. Mendis has always been on the fringe of representative honours. But this century should nudge the selectors. Mendis has been recommended by some of the selectors.

WITH THE REPORTED PULL OUT OF THE SOVIETS the 1984 Olympics to be held in Los Angeles seems headed for disaster like the Moscow Olympics of 1980. In the Moscow Olympics President Jimmy Carter led a United States boycott and as if to return the compliment the Soviets will not participate in the Games to be held in July. The decision by the Soviet Union to stay away seems certain to raise the question: "Can the Olympic Games survive"? According to a Reuter Report from London "The Olympic movement is seen by its detractors as an outdated dinosaur with no place in the modern world. When one crisis recedes, another comes along to take its place". However at the time of writing hints had been dropped that the Soviets might reverse their decision not to take part if the United States gave them certain assurances. Appearing in a Television programme in London, Soviet Central Committee Member Georgi Arbatov with Peter Usberroth, President of the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee hinted the above. Usberroth said he had hopes there could be a reversal of the boycott decision announced by Moscow. "I think they will receive assurances from the President of the United States, assurances from our government that they will protect the (Soviet) athlete. I think there is at least one more page to turn", Usberroth said. Arbatov said, "Well you know I would be glad if it would materialise because I'm sure Soviet athletes and other people would like to compete with the Americans and have good feelings towards American fans and people in general". Arbatov added that Moscow needed assurances that "There will be normal conditions" at the Olympics.

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ATHLETES must be protected not only from physical harm but also harassment by demonstrators and "attempts to kidnap you or to seduce you to leave the country". Valery Kisely head of the Soviet Olympic Ice-skating team said in Sydney that the Soviet decision could be changed if the United States guaranteed the safety of Soviet athletes. He said that an irreversible decision would not be made until June 2, the final date for accepting or declining invitations to Los Angeles. In the meantime the Reagan administration denounced the Soviet decision to boycott the Olympics as "a blatant political decision" and dismissed as "utterly without merit" Soviet allegations that the United States had hindered Soviet participation. Larry Speakes, White House Press Secretary said the Soviets had disregarded the feelings of other nations and all assurances that the Olympics will be conducted in a non-political atmosphere. Said Speakes, "The United States Government and the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee had done everything possible to facilitate the participation of all nations in the 1984 Olympics and had made exhaustive efforts to meet the Soviet concerns about arrangements in Los Angeles and we have met their concerns." John Hughes a spokesman for the State Department had said that the Soviets had not informed the US in advance of the announcement that its athletes would not take part in the Summer Games. However, President of the International Olympic Committee Juan Antonio Samaranch said that the Los Angeles Olympics would go on as scheduled. He added that the IOC did its best to maintain international sports in 1980 when the United States boycotted the Games in Moscow. With Moscow's pull out from the Olympic Games it is also certain that all Eastern bloc countries would also skip the Games. If this happens the Games will be minus the participation of some of the top athletes and the United States athletes are sure to have a field day.

IN THE MEANTIME, President Reagan expressed disappointment at the Soviet Union's boycott of the Games, and called it unfair by the athletes. "Like so many I have a great feeling of disappointment. I am sorry that they feel that way. I think it's unfair to the young people who have been waiting for so long to participate in the Games", said President Reagan. These remarks were made by President Reagan in response to a question before he met El Salvador election observers at the White House. President Reagan further added: "It ought to be remembered by all . . . the Game's more than 2,000 years ago started as a means of bringing peace between the Greek city-states. And in those days, even if a war was going on, when Olympic year came, they called off the war in order to hold the games. I wish we were still as civilised."

THE WEST INDIES CRICKETERS led by "supercat" Clive Lloyd proved to be the world's pop stars of the game when they beat the Australians by three matches

to nil in the recently concluded series. They rightly now wear the crown of world champions. The West Indians would have made it a complete sweep had not rain interfered with the first two Test matches. It was indeed a day of rejoicing for all West Indians and especially for 40-year-old Lloyd. Lloyd playing in his 100th Test match was the brains behind the Windies triumph. After the Final Test, Lloyd said he would like to retire at the end of the 1984/85 tour of Australia, but said he had not made a final decision yet. In fact there were rumours that Lloyd would retire after the last World Cup tourney in England where the West Indies lost to India. But he was forced to stay and subsequently led the Windies to series of victories against the Indians in India and now the Australians in the West Indies. The Indians and the Australians were no match to the West Indians. The Windies proved better in every department of the game and the Indians and the Aussies were cannon fodder to them. Kim Hughes the Aussie skipper after the series described the Windies as the strongest, most disciplined and professional team he has ever played against. In this series too, it was the tremendous pace battery of the Windies that proved the undoing of the Aussie batsmen. Cyclones in the form of Joel Garner, Malcolm Marshall, Micheal Holding, Wayne Daniel and Eldine Baptiste hit the Aussie batsmen at every stage of the Tests and they crumbled like a pack of cards. Six foot eight inch fast man Joel Garner who led the bowling averages for the Windies with 31 wickets set a new West Indian record for the series. Garner did not tour India and this seemed to have revitalised the giant fast bowler.

IN FACT he opened the bowling for the West Indies and never for once did he fail to obtain the early breakthrough which is a must where every fast bowler is concerned. He was ably supported by Marshall and Holding. The three of them with support from Daniel and Baptiste proved the most fearsome in the world and the poor Aussies had no answer to them. When it came to batting it was the openers Desmond Haynes and Gordon Greenidge who set the stage for big West Indian totals. Haynes had a poor tour of India. But on this tour he came out with his best batting and along with Greenidge and Richardson totted up two centuries in the series. There were several century partnerships between the two openers. Richie Richardson the new find was also in tremendous form with the bat and he too made two fine centuries in the series. Richardson is in the tour party to England and much is expected from this young and exciting batsman. Judging from the standards set by the great Vivian Richards, his efforts against the Aussies was indeed poor. Richards however has the ability to adapt himself to English conditions and wickets and a lot of runs should flow from his bat. Augustine Logie and Jeff Dujon also maintain their batting reputations and like Richards should be on the run trail in England. Skipper Clive Lloyd, though not scoring heavily held

the batting together with his heady play and was always there to cement a big West Indian total.

This summer's tour to England by the West Indies should see some of the finest cricket to be played. From the looks of it, the Englishmen stand no chance. But England are known to do better on their home soil. But it will not be easy to counter the killer pace of the Windies bowlers. From Australia's point of view it was one of the most disappointing tours. The team was hit by injury and they lost Kepler Wessels and Greame Wood midway in the series and in the last Test the dashing Steve Smith could not bat. However in the circumstances, left hander Alan Border did a magnificent job. He was always a steady influence in the middle order. But he did not find batsmen capable to stand up to the speed of the Windies bowlers for support. The captaincy of Kim Hughes is now open to question. Unfortunately, Hughes could not break into his usual free flow with the bat and was always dismissed in the twenties. The Aussies however are sure to learn from their mistakes.

THE MIGHTY WEST INDIAN CRICKETERS arrived in England led by "supercat" Clive Lloyd and managed by former wicket keeper batsman Jackie Hendricks. Manager Hendricks on arrival warned England to expect a regular, but not excessive ration of short-pitched bowling during the Test matches and the one-day internationals. This series between England and the West Indies promises to be one of the best. The tour of West Indies to England will be followed by Sri Lanka towards the tail end of the season. England's cricket too was at the crossroads after their disastrous tours of New Zealand and Pakistan and at the moment seems to be getting back to its own with the appointment of dashing left hand batsman David Gower to lead in the one dayers. At a press conference on arrival in London, Manager Hendricks ruled out the possibility of the touring team limiting the number of bouncers delivered by their pacemen or bowling 96 as a minimum per day in the Tests. The umpires will be the sole judges of intimidatory bowling. There will be no bouncer restrictions in the test or the three one-dayers. "I would not like to see any legislation brought in. A bouncer is a part of a fast bowler's armoury and he has got to have a free hand to work out his method of attack. Batsmen have got to accept a certain amount of short pitched bowling although I think six bouncers in an over would be totally unfair", said Hendricks. Hendricks added: "Too many rules have been brought in on this issue, and the poor umpires have got to keep up with the changes every season. It is about time the authorities stopped meddling with the regulations". "We will probably have four quick bowlers in the Tests and it's asking a lot for them to get through 96 overs in a day. The spectacle of a fast bowler in action and a batsman going for his shots will make up for the lack of overs", said Hendricks. He said the question is whether the Windies will bowl

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96 overs a day as was the rule in the past two seasons in England.

CLIVE LLOYD who will be making his final tour as captain said, "We will bowl about 80 overs in the day and that will not be a bad number. I don't see how another dozen overs or 16 will make any difference". Lloyd is on his fifth tour of England and third as skipper and he is likely to step down after the 1984-85 tour of Australia. Lloyd is hoping to leave his successor with a side befitting the high West Indian cricketing traditions. Said Lloyd who will be 40 in August, "There are still one or two youngsters who need nurturing. But we have been lucky the way the new players have performed. The main aim will be to get these players in the right frame of mind to play the kind of professional cricket predominant with West Indies teams these days. Perhaps the (rebel) tour to South Africa was a blessing in disguise and brought along the new talent quicker than we might have hoped."

The Windies tour squad now taking cricketing crowds by storm include two players who have not had experience in playing in England before—reserve wicket keeper Thelston Payne and promising young fast bowler Milton Small. Incidentally, Milton Small is held in high esteem by all the Windies cricket. Small displaced Wayne Daniel and Winston Davis for this tour. The Windies in their opening game against Worcestershire showed what could be expected of them as the tour goes on with an encouraging performance. Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes, the two best opening batsmen in the world today started off with a bang posting a century opening stand with Greenidge having the distinction of scoring the first century on tour. Haynes too contributed a pleasing half century and of the latter batsmen Jeffrey Dujon cracked a blistering 50 odd. This game was washed off by rain with the home team too putting up a spirited performance although having to face a blistering spell by Michael Holding and Malcom Marshall. Having to face the might of the West Indies will no doubt be a daunting task for the Englishmen. But the Englishmen are known to come good on their home wickets. Whatever is said and done, it should bring out the best from both teams.

THE LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS will go on without Moscow and its allies. In addition to Moscow others who will be sadly missed will be East Germany and Cuba. It is a pity that these sportsmen and women and also their allies will be missing from the games. Observers see the Russian pull out as a tit-for-tat. It will be recalled that the Carter administration led a US boycott of the Moscow games because of Russia's interference in Afghanistan. In the midst of all this controversy, it is the poor sportsmen and women and the sport that suffers. After hours and hours and days and days of training it must surely be heartbreaking for them to realise that they have had to stay back. One

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of the allegations made by the Russians is that of Security. Daryl Gates, chief of the Los Angeles Police according to a *Reuter* report said that the Soviet Union and some of its East European allies had shown no inclination to find out what security arrangements were being made. "I don't think they have any right to criticise what they know nothing about. I quite frankly deeply resent it", said Gates. Gates said that the Israelis one of the most security conscious countries following the attack on its athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics had inspected the Los Angeles facilities and were satisfied with the security. Asked what impact the Soviet-led pull out would have on security arrangements, Gates said, it was possible that one of the two main Olympic villages will have to be closed down if enough countries withdrew.

Representatives of a coalition of anti-Soviet groups called "Ban the Soviets" staged a small demonstration outside the Los Angeles City Hall, urging local Olympics chief Peter Uberroth and Mayor Tom Bradley, "not to demean and humiliate the American people" by granting concessions to the Russians. In the meantime, President Reagan held the Olympic flame aloft at the White House and then sent it on its way to the Summer Games in Los Angeles. The torch began the American portion of its 9,000-mile journey from Greece to Los Angeles and is scheduled to arrive in California on July 28 before the opening of the games. Kurt Thomas a former Olympic gymnast took the torch across the White House ground. He handed it to President Reagan who then handed it over to Charlotte Pearson of the Special Olympics programme for the physical and mentally handicapped. In brief remarks, Reagan never directly mentioned the Soviet Union's decision to boycott the Games. But in an obvious reference to Moscow's claim that it withdrew because of concern for its athletes' welfare he said. "The United States is totally committed to uphold the Olympic Charter and traditions."

IN THE MEANTIME, in Sri Lanka the hot topic is whether to retain Duleep Mendis as captain. *All-rounder* learns that the powers-that-be are for Mendis and that he will lead the team to England for several County games and the historic Test match at Lord's in August. Mendis has done nothing wrong to be deposed. Every top class batsman runs into a bad trot at some point of his career. World beaters like Geoff Boycott, Greg Chappel and Sunil Gavaskar had to suffer this humiliation, but they were not discarded. Mendis too is going through such a period and he has it in him to come good soon. Especially in England he has some good knocks to his credit and he must be given the all clear to lead the team to England with confidence. This tour will be of vital importance to Sri Lanka cricket because of the Test match at Lords. Sri Lanka will be taking on England after their battles against the West Indies are over. From indications the West Indies should really rub it in against England and

then it will certainly not be a confident England side that will take the field against Sri Lanka. So it is of paramount importance that the Board and the Selectors immediately name Mendis as skipper so as to give him all the confidence he needs. In a few weeks the inter-zonal cricket tourney will get off the ground and the selectors will be scouting for new talent. All of the most promising cricketers will be seen in action. It is a pity that Lakshman Aloysius and Channa Wijemanne, two of the most promising players have been left out. Aloysius and Wijemanne have results to show, but have been unfortunately left out.

ALLROUNDER



SPORTS CHRONICLE

April 16 - May 13

MONDAY, APRIL 16: CWE became Group I champions in the Nationalised Services B Division Cricket Tournament when they beat Central Engineering Consultation Bureau on the first innings by 62 runs at Rifle Green CECB 136 and 61 for 6 and CWE 198. Negombo Rovers SC beat Aluthkade SC by one goal to nil in an exhibition soccer match played at Negombo esplanade recently. Maliyadeva Balika Vidyalaya captained by Kalyani Kumari clinched another title on Tuesday, when they crushed the formidable Sri Lak Sports Club 23-15 in the final of the Kurunegala AGA's Division Netball tournament played at the People's Park, Kurunegala.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17: St. Joseph's College, Colombo, registered three consecutive wins in the under-18 tournament conducted by the Sri Lanka School's Football Association: Results: beat St. Michael's Colombo 9-1, beat Colombo South Science College 6-1 and beat Nalanda Vidyalaya 3-2. Reigning snooker champion J. W. Henry Boteju and J. Wahid won their respective matches with ease on the opening day of the Open Invitation Billiards and Snooker Tournament conducted by Ceylon Brewery Sports Club, Nuwara Eliya: Boteju beat R. Senaratne by three frames to nil (63-16, 55-11, 64-16).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18: Malwatte SC beat Matale Youth SC 2-1 in a soccer match at the Bernard Aluvihare Stadium. Kandy Young Men's Christian Association maintained their supremacy when they became champions with 19 points at the All-Island Novices Weight Lifting Championship for 1984 conducted by the Sri Lanka Amateur Weight Lifting Federation and held at the Kandy YMCA Gymnasium last Sunday.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19: A limited over cricket match between Ekamuthu Sports Club and Mayura Sports Club both of Madampagama, played at Madampagama playground ended in a narrow 7 run victory for Mayura:

Mayura scored 49 runs in 18 overs and Ekamuthu replied with 42 in 18 overs. Hayleys Ltd., and Lake House Sports Club completed a double each at the Mercantile Services Table Tennis knock out tournament; Hayleys won the men's A Division league and knockout titles, while Lake House took both the women's titles and in the same division; both tournaments were held at the Race Course TT Hall.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20: All Sorts Cricket Club from the United Kingdom held Kandy District Cricket Association's Colts XI to a draw in a two-day match played at Campus Grounds Peradeniya, two schoolboys from St. Sylvesters Manoj Perera 102 (12 fours) and Namal Hettiaratne 31 (10 fours) bore the brunt of the batting in KDCA's total of 257 for 5 declared: All Sorts SC 151 for 5 declared. BRC won the Moore Shield when they prevailed over Old Zaharians Matale 3-2 in the tie-breaker at Police Park, yesterday; it was nil-all at the final whistle.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21: CH & FC fought off a late challenge from CR & FC to snatch a thrilling 18 points (2 goals, 2 penalties) to 14 (1 goal, 1 try, 1 penalty) victory in the opening League Rugby match for the Clifford Cup at Maitland Crescent yesterday; CH led 9-0 at half time. A career best 8 for 47 by Leicestershire pace bowler Jonathan Agnew had Cambridge University on the run on the second day of the English cricket season yesterday; the University were skittled out for only 127-226 behind on the first innings and by the close Ian Butcher had become the third of Leicestershire's batsmen to have hit a century on the match.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22: Kurunegala Youth Cricket Club were shot out for 76 in their first innings in the Donovan Andree division two final round game against SSC at Maitland Place yesterday; at close of play SSC replied with 4 for no loss. After being tied down to 3 all at half time, Police broke loose in the second half to score a 19 points (two goals, one try and one penalty) to 3 points (1 penalty) win over the Army in their Clifford Cup opener for 1984 at Galle Face yesterday. L. Samarasinghe with a hard hit 40 runs which included five fours saved the Kalutara PCC from a batting debacle in their match against CCC in the division three Pure Beverages Final Round cricket match played at the CCC grounds yesterday: Sarasaviya XI beat the Mihira XI by 60 runs in a Lake House inter-department cricket match played at the MCA grounds yesterday: Sarasaviya XI 105 for 5 in 20 overs and Mihira XI 45 in 17.3 overs.

MONDAY, APRIL 23: The Chinese club team, Guang Tong, opened their short tour of Sri Lanka with a 2-0 victory over York SC at the Sugathadasa Stadium under floodlights yesterday. Havelock opened their season with an unimpressive 6 points (2 penalties) to 3 (1 penalty) win over Air Force in the First Round Clifford

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Cup League Rugby Tournament match at Longden Place yesterday after leading 3-0 at lemons. Navy scored an impressive first innings victory over CCC in a Donovan Andree trophy Final Round cricket match played at Welisara yesterday: CCC 102 and Navy 357 for 7 at stumps.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24: Top-seeded Martina Navratilova ended Chris Evert Lloyd's unbeaten streak on Florida Clay in devastating style yesterday winning the 250,000 dollar Women's Tennis Association Championships 6-2, 6-0. Three times former World Champion John Spencer cruised to a second round meeting with defending champion Steve Davis after a comfortable 10-3 win against Graham Miles in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championships at Sheffield.

WEDNESDAY, APR/L 25: The touring Chinese Club side, Guang Tong were given a torrid time before winning their match against a strong Colombo Football League side 4-2 on the tie-breaker at the Sugathadasa Stadium under floodlights yesterday. After trailing 0-7 at the "breather" Air Force Chipmunks rallied to defeat Colombo University by 11 points (2 tries and a penalty) in a B Division Rugby League match played at Reid Avenue. S. A. L. Selvanayakam and Mrs. L. P. N. Singham won the mixed pairs event held at the Women's International Club.

THURSDAY, APR/L 26: T. Karunadasa of Elgiriya came first in the cycle race held in connection with Sinhala New Year celebrations at Horagoda. Former World Champion Alex Higgins crashed out of the world snooker championships in the first round at Sheffield on Tuesday. The first goal in the 1986 World Cup was scored last night by a team of young Mexican graphic designers whose Winning Design for the event's Mascot features a Green Chili Pepper wearing a Sombrero. Nottinghamshire beat Oxford University by 258 runs in their friendly three day cricket match at Oxford yesterday: Nottinghamshire 355 for 6 declared and 220 declared for no wickets: Oxford University 154 and 163.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27: Unseeded Laura Arraya of Peru stunned second-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia 7-5, 6-3 in the second round of the 200,000 dollar Women's Tennis Tournament of Champions at Florida yesterday: Arraya won the 12th game of the opening set after a delay when Mandlikova disputed an apparent ace that was over-ruled by the chair umpire. M. Vipulasena of Walpola won the men's cycle race at the Sinhala New Year celebrations held on Sunday at Wariyapola; N. K. P. Dayawathi of Minuwangatte won the women's race.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28: Desmond Haynes scored his third century of the series and his fifth against the Australians on tour—104 not out with one six and ten fours for West Indies to overpower Australia by nine

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wickets in the Fourth and last one-day international at Sabina Park at Kingston on Thursday; Australia 209 for 7 and West Indies 211 for 1. Alethea College, newcomers to rugby suffered their second successive defeat inside three days when they lost to Zahira by 88 points (1p goals and 7 tries) to nil at Maradana; Zahira led 38—0 at half time.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29: Army put up a plucky fight before going down to defending Clifford Cup Champions CH & FC yesterday at Maitland Crescent: CH & FC won by 7 points (a try and a penalty) to 3 (a penalty). National Sarings Bank beat Customs by 38 runs on the first innings in the State Services C division cricket tournament match on the Health Department Sports Club grounds: NSB 13p and Customs 92. Saunders lived up to their name of being the glamour boys of local soccer, when they scored a rousing win over Ratnam SC by 5 goals to 2 in the final of the Black Square invitation tournament played under floodlights at the Sugathadasa Stadium yesterday. K. M. Nelson (5 for 51) bowled CCC to a strong position in their Pure Bererages Division 3 final round cricket match against Galle CC at the Saravanamuthu Stadium yesterday: Galle CC 162 and CCC 66 for 1 at close.

MONDAY, APR/L 30: Poor catching by SSC enabled Navy to escape wit) only a first inning defeat in their Donovan Andree Trophy Final Round game concluded at Maitland Place yesterday: SSC 304 for 8 declared and Navy 13 for 3 continued 120. A chanceless century by former Devan skipper Ajith Ballala highlighted Kurunegala Youth Cricket Clubs' first innings win over CCC at Braybrooke Place. CCC 151 and 97 for 5 at stumps and KYCC 30 for 2 wickets continued 250 for 8 declared.

TUESDAY, MAY 1: Nalanda beat Zahira by 14 points (a goal and two tries) to nil in their rugby match at Campbell Place yesterday after leading 4-nil at half time. A Athique had a hat-trick in his match bag of 8 wickets for 47 runs, but could not prevent Zahira losing to Nalanda on the first innings in an Under-15 pre-tournament cricket match played at Ananda Mawatha: Nalanda 120 and Zahira 93. Havelocks Bambaras prevailed over Army "Colts" by 7 points (a try and penalty) to 4 (a try) in a B Division rugby match played at Galle Face.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2: China won two more events yesterday to capture a total of nine gold medals and lead the 17-nation Second Asian Swimming Championships on the third day of the competition. Canadian Cliff Thorburn, runner up in last year's world professional snooker championship, had the edge over Britain's Willie Thorne in their second round clash at this year's event in Sheffield on Tuesday; Thorburn led 9-7 at the end of the second session with nine frames remaining. The Canadian 5-3 ahead overnight was pegged back to 6-6 before breaks of 65 and 68 helped him with the next three frames.

THURSDAY, MAY 3: Taimur Hassan of Pakistan maintained his supremacy by convincingly defeating K. Atwal of India six and five in the second round of the National Amateur Golf Championships of Sri Lanka sponsored by Black and White Scotch Whisky and played at the Nuwara Eliya Golf Club course yesterday. The Pedro Sports Club became champions of the seven a side soccer tournament organised by the Nuwara Eliya Young Birds Sports Club held in conjunction with their eighth annual Sinhala New Year celebrations; in the final Pedro SC beat Young Birds SC 4-3.

FRIDAY, MAY 4: K. H. Sirisoma of the Ports Authority RC clinched the All-Island Lanka Plate Snooker title when he defeated M. J. Mansoor of SSC by four frames to two at the MICH tables, Dematagoda; Sirisoma won 58-71, 57/55, 31-97, 43-18, 65-25 and 59/50 to register his second win in the four man final round robin stage. The CTB National Services A Division football champions, beat Pettah United SC 4-2 in the opening match of the Mayor's Cup tournament conducted by the City Football League and played at the Sugathadasa Stadium at the lemons it was one-all.

SATURDAY, MAY 5: The No-Side RFC from Fukuoka city, Japan, concluded their two-match tour of Sri Lanka with a comfortable 32 points (4 goals, 2 tries) to 13 (a goal, 1 try, 1 penalty) victory over the Pink Elephants led by Y. C. Chang at Maitland Crescent yesterday; the Pinkies led 13/12 at lemons. Ananda opened their 1984 schools rugby season with an easy 13 points (1 try, 1 drop goal, 2 penalties) to 3 (1 penalty) win over Kingswood at Havelock Park yesterday. The schools rugby match between St. Anthony's, Katugastota and Maliyadeva Kurunegala ended in a nil-all draw at Maliyadeva grounds yesterday.

SUNDAY, MAY 6: Saunders Sports Club scored a rousing win over Aluthkade Rangers by six goals to nil in the Mayor's Cup Football Tournament last night at the Sugathadasa Stadium; at half time Saunders led 1-nil. Kalutara Physical Culture Circle gained first innings points yesterday in their "Pure Beverages" final round cricket match against Galle CC on the Kalutara Esplanade; Kalutara PCC 168 and Galle CC 78. Chairman's XI won the Lake House inter-department cricket-final when they beat D.F.C. XI by 47 runs in the cricket match played on the M.C.A. grounds yesterday; Chairman's XI 117 and D.F.C.'s XI 70.

MONDAY, MAY 7: M. Kariyapperuma and Nama Mendis shared a double century stand to enable CCC beat Old Dharmapalians on the first innings at Pannipitiya: Old Dharmapalians 302: CCC 84 for 2 continued 374 for 8 at stumps. In a low scoring match at Kalutara, Kalutara PCC scored the only outright win of the Pure Beverages trophy final round by beating Galle CC by 72 runs. Kalutara PCC 168 and 37 and Galle CC 72 and 55. Saunders Sports Club scored a rousing win over Aluthkade Rangers by six goals to nil

in the Mayor's Cup Football Tournament on Saturday at the Sugathadasa Stadium.

TUESDAY, MAY 8: Peterson SC Colombo defeated University of Peradeniya by 16 points (2 goals, 1 try) to 6 points (1 goal) on their SLRFU C Division match played at Peradeniya yesterday. CH 'Kabaragoyas' beat CR 'Bees' by 13 points (1 goal, 1 try, 1 penalty) to 7 (1 try, 1 penalty) in their B Division League rugby encounter at Longden Place yesterday. Veteran Swarna Peiris created an upset when she ousted fourth seed Ghazala Muhajireen 21-17, 16-21, 21-16, 21-17 to enter the women's open singles semi finals of the State Services Open Table Tennis tournament at the Race Course TT Hall yesterday.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9: Hosts Malaysia impressively launched their challenge in the Thomas Cup Men's World Team Badminton Championships by crushing Japan 5-0 at Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. Surrey beaten in all three competitions this season, escaped from an awkward situation in their County Championship cricket match at Edgbaston yesterday by restricting Warwickshire to a first innings lead of 28 and then taking 2 wickets for 19 runs: Warwickshire 275 in 104.5 overs and 19 for 2: Surrey 247 in 96.3 overs.

THURSDAY, MAY 10: Sixteen-year old O. M. Jayantha of St. John's College, Nugegoda completed a double at the YMCA Open Novices Badminton Championships of 1984 held at the Fort "Y" gymnasium. St. Thomas College, Mount Lavinia failed narrowly to qualify for the final of the Norwich Winterthur International, Schools Under-19 Coxed Fours event at the Sixth Hong Kong Rowing Championships and Second International Classic Fours held in Hong Kong. Fourth seeded Kathy Rinaldi of the United States easily beat West German Andrew Betzner 6-2, 6-3 in the first round of the Lugano women's tennis tournament on Tuesday.

FRIDAY, MAY 11: Angelo Santiago upset the top seed Shabbir Hussein 22-20, 20-22, 21-15, 21-17 to win the Men's Open Singles Title of the State Services Table Tennis Tournament at the Race Course TT Hall. Sri Lanka Navy won the Eastern Tours and Travels challenge shield when they became champions in a volleyball tournament conducted as part of the Freedom Day celebrations at Trincomalee in February.

SATURDAY, MAY 12: St. Joseph's beat Wesley by six points (2 penalties) to nil in their rugby match at Longdon Place yesterday. St. Anthony's Katugastota were held to a 4-all draw by Kingswood in their schools rugby match played at Peradeniya yesterday. Forbes and Walker beat Eastern Brokers 3-0 in a Mercantile C Division knock-out hockey tournament match played at Colts grounds on Thursday. Shamrocks, Police and Moratuwa YMCA scored victories in their respective Mercantile Services Open Club Basketball tournament matches played at the Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium. Shamrocks beat Old Joes 91-54:

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Police beat Old Bens 57-53 and Moratuwa YMCA beat Old Peterites SC 77-55.

SUNDAY, MAY 13: In a game that lacked fire, Police scored their third successive win when they beat Kandy by 19 points (2 goals, a try and a penalty) to nil in the Clifford Cup Rugby encounter played at the Police Park yesterday. Trinity opened their inter-school rugby season with a comfortable win over Thurstan by 38 points (5 goals and 2 tries) to 7 points (a try and a penalty) at Longdon Place yesterday. Java Lane beat Sunny Mount by two goals to nil in a group A final-round Mayor's Cup soccer tournament match played last night at the Sugathadasa Stadium.

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ROWING

Sculling Champion

The concluding Regatta of the C.R.C. was on 7th April, traditionally the last regatta before the election of the new committee takes place. The two most important races of the Year were held, the Harry Creasy Cup for senior fours, and the Herbert Sirimanne Memorial Trophy which is the name given to the Sculling Championship. This last race was reminiscent of that of 1963, when there were only two entries and the eventual winner trained only to avoid the disgrace of being beaten by half the course and won it instead beating the reigning champion. This year, too, there were only two entries and it was not certain until the last moment who the challenger would be, and, in fact, if there would be a race at all, for in rowing it takes at least two scullers or crews to make a contest or the race in that year is cancelled. No one seemed keen to take the reigning champion, young Hussain Anverally of St. Thomas' Prep on, and eventually it was an English school-boy on holiday in the Island who did so. Gervase Bush won by sheer English pluck. Anverally shot away at the start, but Bush hung on, never gave up hope, caught up a great deal before the bend in the mile course, spurred at the bend to try and unsettle Hussain, who was unsettled enough by the fight his challenger was putting up to overshoot his front stop and so put his sliding seat out of action, and it must have been lack of experience of things of this sort that led him to give up the fight by stopping rowing instead of settling himself on the slides and sculling for all his worth as if he was on a fixed seat. Hussain is a very big-made lad and perhaps it was just possible for him to do this. So Bush had an easy win, and we have a new champion until next year comes round.

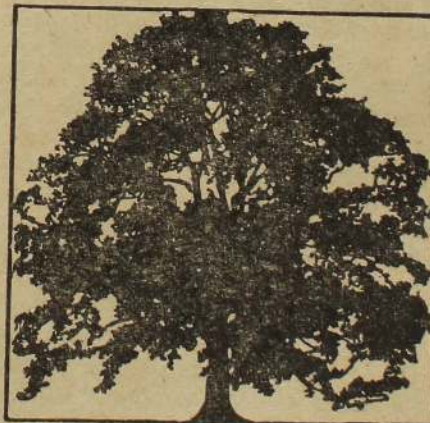
The race for the Harry Creasy makes more interesting reading, on reflection, in the light of what happened in Hongkong three weeks later, for the stroke and three of the winning crew were the bow and two of the crew that beat two other school-boy fours from California in Hongkong in that other regatta. The winning Harry Creasy four was stroked by the experienced stroke-side Thomian oarsman A. Junaideen and the No. 3

was his school-mate M. L. de Silva. Two in the boat was former Havelock winger Y. Thurainayagam, a former Josephian, who is turning out a fine oarsman, and bow the very experienced oarsman and sculler, J. Ponniah. There were two other fours in this race, all with very fine and experienced oarsmen, such as Ali and Fahim Moheed, Rohan Fernando and Wickremasinghe, Handy and S. Fernando, and the Thomians J. de Fonseka and K. Arvind, here split up between two boats, but who were stroke and three respectively in the Thomian four that rowed in Hongkong. The Harry Creasy and the sculling championship are always rowed over the mile course, and the times this year were 6 mins. 43.9 secs. for the fours and 7 mins. 50 secs. for the sculls.

The other races in the programme were for novices. The sculls was won by R. S. Perera in 5 mins. 1p secs. and the coxed pairs by N. Samarawickreme and R. Ghafoor coxed by C. Cumaratunga in 5 mins. 3 secs. Both races were a 1,000 yards. The Ladies Sculls was 880 yards and was won by Thamara Gunasekera in 6 mins. 38 secs. There was only one other entry for this race, but there were many scullers and pairs in the other two races. Altogether it was a very fine regatta. Coxing the winning Harry Creasy four was S. Cooke.

OUR ROWING CORRESPONDENT

PLANT MORE TREES



Multi-Packs (Cey) Ltd.
24, Katukurunduwatta Road,
Ratmalana

Commodity Futures

IS IT NOT TRUE that *Tribune* had drawn attention to a fraud that was perpetrated on many gullible folk in Sri Lanka (with plenty of idle cash, most of it black) under a stock market gambit known as FUTURES TRADING? That in three issues of *Tribune* dated September 18, 1982 (Vol. 26, No. 42), September 25, 1982 (Vol. 27 No. 1) and October 2, 1982 (Vol. 27 No. 2) this column had turned the spotlight on this business of Commodities Futures trading allegedly in the Hongkong and Tokyo markets? That this column had raised the question whether the Commodities Futures as operated in this country (under the open economy) was Trading or Cheating? That in the first of the three articles, *Tribune* had asked "IS IT NOT A FACT that commercial circles in Colombo are buzzing with stories about this Coribal (Ceylon) Ltd., and one or two other 'foreign' investment companies that have sprung up in this country? That in the open economy structure of the Island—without proper laws or a Securities Commission to cover investment companies that dabble in stocks and shares of foreign exchanges—smart operators can make millions overnight especially with black market funds in the hands of gem smugglers or narcotic trade tycoons?" That after citing extracts from the prospectus of a Company which had virtually disappeared after diddling a number of Sri Lankan tycoons of a few millions, this column had pointed out, "... That in spite of what the brochure says, trading in futures is nothing but a kind of sophisticated gambling?" That in the second article, this column had quoted *in extenso* from the brochure of that company which tried very hard to prove this Futures Trading was not gambling? "... In this sense alone, an investment programme in futures trading has much to commend it. The preconception that it represents speculation and gambling should be totally discarded". That the article cited further extracts (it described it as "pompously weighty") on the *History of Exchange Commodity Markets*? That this section ended with, What *Tribune* described as a kindergarten lesson on Comparison Between Physical Trade and Future Trade? That after this series of "pompous preambles" the mechanics of the business were set out in a chapter entitled *The Commodity Procedures*? That on this our second article commented: "... That we will discuss in the concluding part next week what the procedures really amount to and also refer to the questions that are floating around about the many loopholes available to unscrupulous operators to cheat in the absence of laws to control stock-broking and commodities futures transactions on Exchanges abroad? That on the basis of this brochure and backed by the most intensive lobbying by active agents among the new class of the *nouveau riche* millions (not lakhs) had been pledged for futures trading? That our information is that the trading was said to have been

done in the Tokyo Stock Exchange through Hongkong brokers? That so far as clients in Colombo were concerned they were in the dark? That whilst book-makers publicised race results, the local clients of the Future's brokers had to depend on telex chits from Hongkong produced by the local operators in regard to the commodity price movements in Tokyo?"

IS IT NOT TRUE that our third article concluded thus? "That the information furnished in the brochure and on the basis of what they had been told, Sri Lankan clients had been persuaded to make margin deposits? That one client told the *Tribune* Investigator that from the time the Company started operations in September 1981 to the end of March 1982 on a modest estimate over Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 million (if not more) had been deposited as 'margin'? That it is not known how much was returned to Sri Lankan margin depositors with profits if any? That in the absence of a Securities Commission or an organisation to keep a check on these 'futures trading' organisations (there are now two more in addition to *Coribal*) the Government must take steps to probe the activities of these companies? That in the first place it is necessary to know whether those who made deposits got any returns at all or whether their deposits were swallowed up in the trading together with further sums allegedly to cover losses on the Stock Exchange? That in the second place, it is necessary to find out if the customers orders were 'telecommunicated' to the broker (in this case in Hongkong) to be transmitted to floor brokers in Tokyo? That anyone with a telex machine can easily manufacture copies of messages allegedly sent and received? That such copies are no guarantee that such messages were actually sent or received? That our investigations show that what Sri Lanka clients had seen were only such 'copies'? That on the basis of such copies, several had forfeited large sums to cover losses? That most of the clients were only gambling with black market money (gems, narcotic, textile and electronic smuggling) and were not in a position to complain to the police or the authorities? That there are good reasons to suspect that vast sums of good Sri Lankan money have been siphoned to bogus 'brokers' in Hongkong? That this is a matter the Government should investigate?" That our interest in Futures Trading was aroused once again because of a memorandum we have received entitled RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE "ASSOCIATION FOR INVESTORS PROTECTION IN SHARES AND COMMODITY FUTURES"? That first the object of this Association is to protect the interests of Investors in shares and commodity Futures? That next week we propose to examine the rules and regulations of this Association to see how far it can help those who have invested in Commodity Futures?

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TRIBUNE MAY 26 & JUNE 2, 1984

Govt



Notices

**THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)
AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION
(AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964.**

**THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460)
AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION
(AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964.**

Notice Under Section 7.

Notice Under Section 7

Reference No. 34/3252

My No. Wen/3A/LA/82/10

The land described in the schedule below have been acquired. For further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 295/5 of 30.4.1984.

It has been decided to acquire the land described in the schedule herein below for a public purpose. For further particulars please see the Extra Ordinary Gazette No. 296/21 dated 11.5.84 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE

Situation of land : Rassandeniya village,
Meddawatte Grama
Sevaka division,
D.R.O.'s Division of
Four Gravets, Matara
District.

Name of Land : Thalgahawatta
Name of Village : Ulhitiyawa South

Name of Land : Ehetugahawatta and
Pinna Godella

Plan No. : Pu 2514

Lot & Plan No. : Lot Nos. 1 and 2
in P.Plan No. 1039

*Asst. Govt. Agent's
Division* : Wennappuwa

G. L. W. Samarasinghe
*Acquiring Officer
Matara District.*

D. F. Abeysinghe,
*District Land Officer,
Puttalam District.*

The Kachcheri,
Matara.
24th April 1984.

1984.05.03
Asst. Govt. Agent's Office,
Wennappuwa.

RELY ON



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