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A ROYAL TRIO



***B**ABY Prince Andrew, third child of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who will be one year old next month, rides with his brother and sister, Prince Charles and Princess Anne, as they return to Buckingham Palace from Clarence House, where the Queen Mother was celebrating her 60th birthday.*

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REACHING FOR THE SHADOW

A fact to be deplored as the country advances into the new year is that six months after the SLFP came to power no tangible improvement has taken place in the living conditions of the people. The cost of essential articles of food remains at a high level, and, in Colombo particularly, shortage of housing continues to be a grim reality.

* * *

THE government has of course expressed awareness of the problems and is moving in the right direction as by activising the marketing organization and expanding the CWE department-store system, and as regards housing offering Rs. 2,000 loans to the lower income groups. The pace at which ideas are translated into action, however, does not give hope of much or early relief. A reason for the tardy progress is the Government's preoccupation with ideological questions, possibly because they are capable of producing spectacular results.

* * *

TO say so is not to ignore the projects for economic development that are on the programme of the Government. But they are of a long-term character and their impact will be felt only several years hence. What the people look for in the immediate present is a lightening of the crushing burden of the cost of living. That would be an index to the ultimate performance of the Government in other fields, for which they would be content to wait.

* * *

THE switch-over to Sinhalese as the official language is no doubt a factor that will excite national consciousness. May be the assumption of management of most of the schools by the state will bring about a fresh outlook in the rising generation. But as long as more than half the food of the people is imported and unemployment is not falling but rising, to be concerned about national dignity is to by-pass the substance in reaching for the shadow.

THE EDITOR,



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MATTERS OF MOMENT

—BY BRUTUS—

THE transition from English to Sinhala as the official language had a mixed reception. Tamils closed their ranks, the Tamil Congress joined the Federal Party in the hartal which the latter called to protest against the Government's policy. The hartal was peacefully observed in the North and East.

In Colombo thousands of public servants started the first working day of the year by signing the attendance register in Sinhalese, while in many offices kiri-bath (milk rice) was distributed. Mercantile offices also announced arrangements to fall into line with the state and diplomatic missions were reported to be adapting themselves to the new requirements.

In a broadcast the chairman of the Cabinet, Mr. C. P. de Silva, said: "Today is an important day in the annals of our country. After nearly 400 years the Sinhala language, the language of the vast majority of the people, of this country, has been given its rightful place." "No injustice will be done to the Tamil language," he added.

* * *

THE Supreme Court has allowed an application for a special jury for the Bandaranaike assassination trial. After considering affidavits presented by the five accused and discussing submissions made by their counsel, the judge, Mr. T. S. Fernando, declared himself satisfied that the accused bona fide feel that a fair trial could only be had before a special jury; there was no valid reason why he should refuse the application.

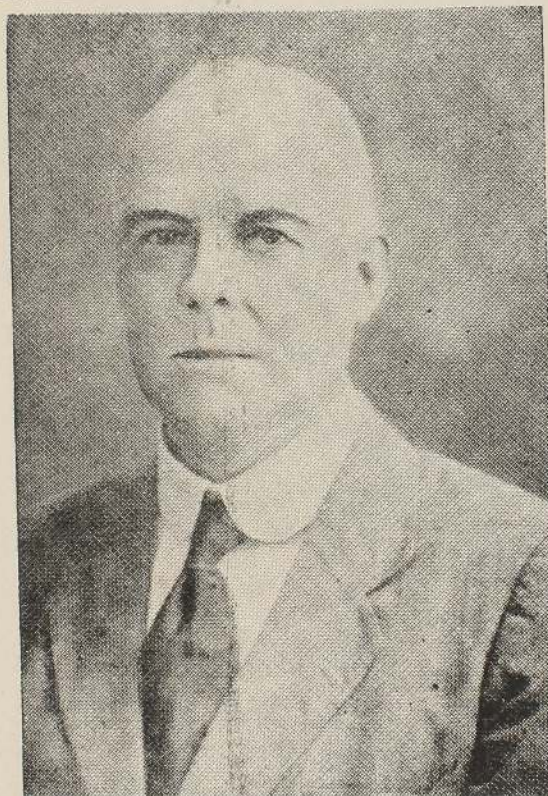
In making his order the Judge also referred to questions that might arise with regard to the evidence in the course of the trial, in addition to which, he said "it appears not to be disputed that this case unfortunately has received attention outside its proper place, namely the courts, and that by the very nature of the tragedy the public have been discussing the case in many places, including, I am sorry to say, even Parliament."

* * *

ON her return from India the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, was reported as

being anxious to find an early solution to the problem of citizenship of people of Indian origin in the Island. Having had informal discussions with Mr. Nehru on the subject, she is expected to arrange for discussions at diplomatic level before formal negotiations take place.

The arrival of Mrs. Bandaranaike was marked by strict security arrangements and an absence of popular demonstrations. She was met by the Governor-General and ministers on alighting from the plane and immediately drove away from the airport.



The Late Mr. W. E. Wait, C.M.G.

While in India Mrs. Bandaranaike laid the foundation stone for the offices of the Ceylon High Commission in New Delhi. In her public statements she paid a handsome tribute to the Indian Government for the care bestowed on Buddhist monuments.

* * *

THE news of the death of Mr. W. E. Wait, C.M.G. formerly of the Ceylon Civil Service, which occurred in England early this month will be received with regret by his many friends in the Island. Mr. Wait, who was eighty-two years old, arrived in Ceylon in

October, 1902 and was attached to the Jaffna Kachcheri as Additional Asst. to the G.A. In 1905 he joined the Land Settlement Dept. and later was Deputy Collector of Customs. He was acting Settlement Officer in 1920 and two years later was acting Controller of Revenue. In 1930 he was Chairman of one of the several Committees dealing with the details of the new Constitution.

During his stay of nearly thirty years in Ceylon he served in many posts and always with distinction. He organised the Indian Immigrant Labour Department, and was the first Controller. In 1925 he published his invaluable book on the Birds of Ceylon.

Mr. Wait was a prominent member of the Royal Asiatic Society and on more than one occasion he delivered interesting lectures on his researches in the Natural History of Ceylon. We recall Mr. Wait's remarks during one of his lectures when he said—"We talk a good deal about education and the professions, about the Ceylon University and the lack of openings for our young people. There are unrivalled openings for research work in every branch of Natural History in Ceylon. Ceylon is rich in material for study and experiment which will add to the world's knowledge of scientific facts and theories. I appeal to some of our young men to take up this fascinating work".

Mr. Wait, who had a keen sense of humour, was altogether a charming personality and made a fair and sympathetic Chief both at the Customs, where he served as Principal Collector, and later at the Secretariat, where he acted as Chief Secretary for a short time before he left Ceylon on retirement in 1931.

* * *

THE death occurred on New Year's day of Dr. Marzook A. Cader, M.S. (London), ENT specialist. Son of Mr. N. D. H. Abdul Cader, sometime member of the Legislative Council, Dr. Cader was educated at Royal College. After passing the first M.B. in Ceylon he joined King's College, London from where he graduated. He practised for several years in Harley Street before he returned to Ceylon. After a short spell in the General Hospital he set up in private practice in Colombo. Dr. Cader was also Chairman of New Olympia Theatres, Ltd., and of the Colombo Rotary Club.

MATTERS OF MOMENT

THERE was a 'tremendous rush by ordinary folk as well as philatelists for first-day covers of a ten-cent stamp issued to mark the 62nd birth anniversary of the late Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike on January 8th. Although it was a Sunday, there were long queues at post offices during the short time for which they were open for the sale of the stamps. Provincial offices reported sales by the thousand and the General Post Office disposed of hundred thousands.

The stamp bears a bust of the late Prime Minister.

* * *

THE military parade which forms the main event in the celebration of Independence Day is hereafter to be held in the provincial capitals as well as Colombo. It will be staged in Kandy on February 4th this year. The idea comes from the Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Maitripala Senanayake.

As Bogambara green is considered too small for the purpose, the march-past will be along Ward Street, Kandy. At night there will be a display of fireworks from the Island in the Lake.

* * *

CEYLON black and pink granite is to be used for the tomb at Horagolla of the late Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike. Polished black granite from Nalanda will go into the podium skirting the tomb slab, which will itself be of ordinary rough granite. The choice of stone is symbolical, the polished black representing the late Prime Minister's aristocratic youth and the rough slab "the rugged path of the common people he chose to follow". Of pink granite from Gampaha will be five stone columns of the Anuradhapura period. They will represent the five precepts of Buddhism.

The monument will be set in a pool and there will be another pool at the entrance to the tomb. Temple flower trees will be grown around the area. The design is by Mr. Pannini Tennekoon, Assistant Architect of the P.W.D.

* * *

MR. Richard Church, eminent English poet, novelist and essayist will spend three weeks in Ceylon from February 15 to March

10, under the auspices of the British Council. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Church. The range of interest of Mr. Church's versatile mind is indicated by the titles of the lectures he will give in Ceylon. One is a consideration of Rabindranath Tagore which he has prepared for the Tagore Centenary Conference this month. He will also speak on "The Relationship of Faith to the Creative Impulse". Other lecture titles are Thomas Hardy's 'The Dynasts', 'The personality of Charles Dickens', 'Walter de la Mare', 'The Art of Autobiography', and 'An Opposition of Prose and Poetry'. There will



Mr. Richard Church

also be readings from his own poems and from "North of Rome", a book of poems at present in the press.

* * *

THE pride of the P. & O. - Orient liner, the Oriana, which passed through Colombo last month, has been criticised from an unexpected angle—that it has nowhere to fly her house flag from. The critic is the Rev. Graham Martyr, resident of Ceylon since the beginning of the war, a former journalist in China and teacher of English in Japan.

Mr. Martyr often goes down to the water front to see the ships in the harbour—he is a connoisseur of ships, so to say. Of the Oriana he granted that it was the last thing in floating hotels and sea efficiency, an opinion backed by his sixty years of memories of ships—from common sailing ships to stylish wind-

jammer and grimy colliers to graceful steamships. In the Oriana he said he admired the ensign staff in the orthodox position over the stern, "from which floated the glorious Blue Ensign", but for the rest the ship was hard put to it to show her flags. He excused the stay rigged from the top of a crane for the signals but for the house flag in the same insignificant secondary position he had nothing but condemnation.

* * *

BOTH the British and American governments are reported to have protested at some of the provisions of the Petroleum Corporation Bill for the marketing of Soviet Russian oil to be imported by the Government.

Chief objection is said to be the compulsory acquisition of plant and equipment of companies operating in Ceylon and to the fixing of minimum and maximum prices. The reply of the Government is reported to be that it is within its rights to enact legislation to meet special situations that might arise, but the powers would be exercised at the discretion of the Government, depending on the circumstances prevailing at any moment. The powers given to the corporation would be to help it to get the facilities it needed to conduct its business, for which purpose the Government wanted to make the best use of the resources and facilities available in the country. The Government proposed to buy oil from the cheapest source; it would not restrict itself to any single one. The object was to serve the national interest. Reference is also said to have been made to the reluctance of oil companies to reduce prices when reduction was warranted by the drop in oil prices at points of production.

It is believed that Soviet oil would be sold to Ceylon at 25 per cent below world market rates.

* * *

THERE are no matters at issue between his company nor as far as he knew other companies, and the Government, said Mr. S. J. Blamey, general manager of the Shell Co. of Ceylon, in a statement in the Press. Refuting allegations of loaded invoices, taxation evasion, profiteering, etc., as completely unfounded and calculated to undermine the position of private capital

MATTERS OF MOMENT

and public confidence in the administration, he declared: "The taxation department, foreign exchange authorities and the Customs department are all familiar with our workings and figures in a day-to-day sense.... He asserted that the company had no objection to the establishment of a government corporation for the purchase and distribution of petroleum: it would be presumptuous for them to object to the advent of a competitor in the market, he said.

Mr. Blamey went on to say: "Our philosophy is one of free competition, and as such we compete with anyone who cares to come into the market. Our basic objections are not to that part of the Bill setting up to the Ceylon Petroleum corporation, but to the clauses empowering acquisition of oil company assets to be used to compete with the companies from which they are acquired. We believe that this does not represent fair competition in any shape or form, nor does tax exemption for the corporation and the concept of price control at minimum levels".

THE latest development stemming from the Government taking over assisted schools is the drafting of legislation to meet Catholic resistance to the schools reopening under state management. Parliament has been summoned to an extraordinary session to consider the Bill.

The Bill provides for the ownership of the schools, most of which are barricaded and occupied by parents, in the Government, exclusive of places of worship located in school premises.

A board of arbitration is to be appointed to settle disputes that may arise between the state authority and the present owners of the schools. One such is said to be the position of premises used for conducting Sunday schools.

IN a significant passage in his address to the annual session of the Methodist Synod, the chairman, the Rev. Fred S. de Silva said legislation, however necessary, can

never by itself produce the kind of people on whom alone a healthy society can be built.

He went on to say: "Honesty is a very simple virtue, to which most people pay lip service. Honesty has become the pathetic casualty in the public life of our country. We shall need a large number of genuinely honest men in responsible positions to lead this country out of the present sad state of affairs."

TEN of the thirty members of the Senate are due to retire this year. They are the President, Sir Cyril de Zoysa; the deputy-President, Lady Molamure; the Minister of Health, Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya, Dr. A. M. Amarasinghe and Mr. J. P. Jayasena—all elected by the House of Representatives—and the following appointed members: Mr. E. J. Cooray, Mr. R. A. de Mel, Mr. N. U. Jayawardena, Dr. M. V. P. Peiris and Dr. T. E. Senanayake.

According to the strength of the ruling SLFP in the Lower House, it is expected that the party would secure three seats and the UNP one.



Mr. C. P. de Silva, Minister of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation and Power, at the wheel of the 3,000th Massey-Ferguson tractor imported to Ceylon which was presented by Mr. G.C. Gray, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Messrs Brown and Co., Ltd. (grey suit, second from right).

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OFF THE BEAT

— BY ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON —

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

WHILE hundreds of thousands of United Kingdom citizens of all ages are now halfway through their winter evening educational courses in such serious subjects as accountancy and political economy, electronics, nuclear energy and quantity surveying, I am glad to see that many find time also for archery, mountaineering, home wine-making and even golfing lessons.

The education authorities describe these as "fringe" subjects, perfectly in the spirit of Britain's 1944 Education Act, which aimed to provide, among other things, "leisure time occupation in cultural training and recreative activities".

It would be a sad day, to my mind, if life were ever so solemn that "fringe" topics had to be excluded. In the English town of Reading there are night classes for car-owners and wine tasters. Further west, in Bristol, the evenings are brightened with lessons in archery, basketball, football coaching, silver smithing and yachtsmanship. Birmingham night schools teach golf; so do eleven institutions of the London County Council, whose varied curriculum also embraces antique collecting and fur renovation.

* * *

A WELCOME CHANGE

"FRINGE" news items, I find, make a welcome change from heavier themes during the Christmas and New Year vacation period. How restful, for instance, to contemplate the College Garden attached to Westminster Abbey. The Dean of Westminster, Dr. E. S. Abbott, has been advertising for a head gardener—man or woman—to tend this, the oldest garden in London. It has been under constant cultivation since the year 1065. As countless visitors from all over the Commonwealth can testify, it is beautiful and peaceful, a haven of quiet not a hundred yards (91 metres) from busy streets and those great haunts of talk, the Houses of Parliament.

If it is talk we prefer, I like a "fringe" news item from the Yorkshire port of Hull, which has just instituted a telephone service of bedtime stories every evening for

children up to the age of nine. By dialling 95, clients can hear a different story each night. They last three-and-a-half minutes each and have been written by two lecturers at the teachers' training college.

Hull Corporation is unique in having the only municipal telephone system in Britain, which explains this fairy tale gesture of independence. The Post Office bought up the National Telephone Company in 1912, and although local autho-



The Marquess of Lansdowne

The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and ministerial leader of the United Kingdom delegation to the Colombo Plan consultative meeting held in Tokyo in November.

rities were permitted to operate their own services under licence, Hull alone has chosen to retain this right, doubtless to the great joy this winter of the children in the district. The Channel Islands, too, have their local telephone service, and, like Hull, are connected to the Post Office trunk network.

* * *

PLASTIC COINAGE

ANOTHER "off-beat" story this month supplies the intriguing prospect of a plastic coinage to

replace metal. The suggestion is discussed by Mr. J. H. James, Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, in his annual report. He contends the case for plastics is "quite a serious one", and goes on to say that, apart from the advantage of cheapness, plastic coins could be made in variety of colours for different denominations and would be light in weight for pocket and purses.

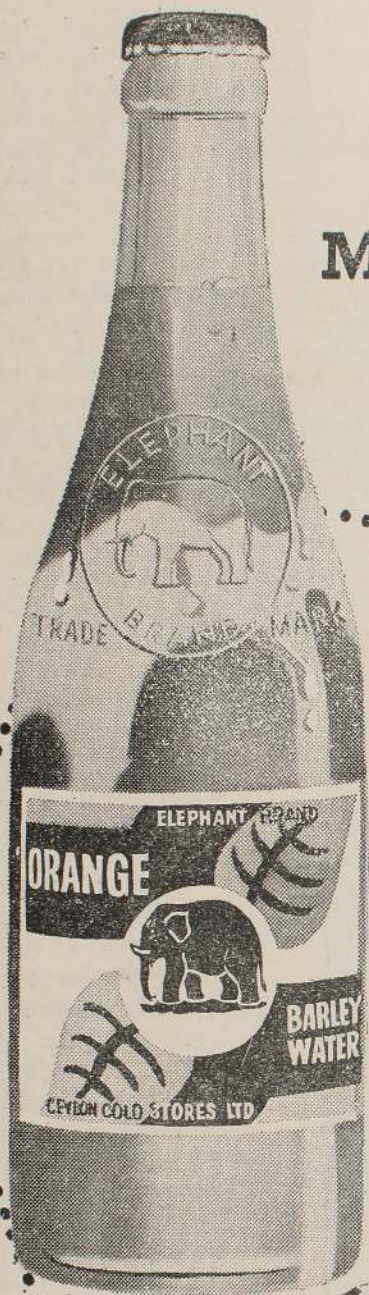
What is the main objection? Relative ease of counterfeiting, apparently. The crime of counterfeiting is very much in decline in Britain. In 1959, the value of reported counterfeit coin was only £122 in a total circulation of £186,000,000. Incidentally, the actual number of coins now in use is 6,441,000,000.

Perhaps the most "out-of-the-ordinary" enterprise at the moment is that of the Granada Historical Trust, which is inviting great men of the modern world to sum up for the benefit of posterity their candid opinions of the age in which we live. These personal assessments would be recorded on film and sound tape, which would then be stored away in secret archives and not released until after the speakers' death. The trustees are the Earl of Harewood (a cousin of Queen Elizabeth II), Sir Kenneth Clark, Chairman of Britain's Art Council, and Mr. Sidney L. Bernstein, one of the chiefs of independent television in Britain.

The contributors would be allowed to make any corrections or additions they saw fit, and their wishes would be observed in any use which might be made of these valuable records.

Talking of great men, there can be few to whom that epithet more aptly applies than Sir Howard Florey, who has just been elected President of the Royal Society. Florey was the friend and collaborator of the late Sir Alexander Fleming in the discovery of penicillin, which has probably saved more lives than any other single discovery or invention of man. Together they won the Nobel Award for Medicine in 1945. Sir Howard Florey, now Professor of Pathology at Oxford University, was born in Adelaide in 1898, and is the Royal Society's first Australian president.

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A POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

— BY CROSS-BENCHER —

AFTER the concessions made to Tamil where the proceedings of Parliament were concerned and the recognition given to the claim of the Northern and Eastern provinces in the matter of the language of administration, the Language of the Courts Bill did strike a discordant note. Although the Bill was meant to provide for the use of Sinhala for recording the proceedings and for pleadings filed of record, the special position of English was admitted in that it was made permissible for a judge who did not know Sinhala to obtain an English translation of the record and pleadings. And it was also provided that when a judge of the Supreme Court pronounced a judgement, decree, order or direction in English, a Sinhala translation of it should be read.

But the case of a judge sitting in a Tamil area dealing with a matter concerning Tamils was ignored, as if all Tamils knew English if they did not know Sinhala. Indeed the word Tamil did not occur in the Bill at all. The Tamil members naturally fought tooth and nail against the passage of the Bill and, be it said to their credit, the LSSP supported them in the debate and in the division.

* * *

THE Bill was passed in the Senate as well as in the Lower House and became law early this month. The Tamils retaliated by staging a hartal and contemplate further resistance. Whatever goodwill the Government earned by the terms of the amendment of the standing orders of Parliament has thus been dissipated by the inconsistent character of the Language of the Courts Act and a state of tension prevails which is bound to be reflected when the regulations under the Tamil Language Special Provisions Bill comes to be debated.

The Minister of Justice, Mr. S. P. C. Fernando, has given the assurance that in the application of the Act no injustice would be done to Tamils, meaning presumably that administrative action would be taken to meet ad hoc situations. But where the operation of a law is concerned, it is surely not safe that any person should be dependent

on the grace of a minister who may be replaced at any time. In a multiple society especially, the rights of the different peoples should be clearly laid down and guaranteed by law. It is to be hoped that the Act will be reviewed in the light of experience. Already there are signs of misconstruction of its objects and purposes.

* * *

THE schools take-over Act is another instance of legislation hampering the aims of the Government. On the date on which the schools brought under state management were due to reopen, not only were Catholic schools occupied by parents and the entrances barricaded. Agents of the proprietor (the Archbishop), namely parish priests, also obtained magistrates' orders in the areas affected forbidding "unauthorised" persons to enter the premises. The orders were subsequently rescinded on the application of the Director of Education in order to enable education officers, teachers, etc. to gain entrance to the schools. The original petition, however, explained that they had no intention of refusing admission to persons with a legal right to it, but they were seeking to protect themselves from counter-demonstrations or mischief-makers.

Prudently the Education Department did not attempt to open the occupied schools, in which event there was the possibility of the resistance taking a violent turn. Instead arrangements were made for excluded pupils to be admitted to near-by schools by holding dual sessions in them. At the same time, there was a threat of legislation empowering the Government to take assured ownership of the buildings.

Happily the Catholics themselves came forward with suggestions for a compromise by asking for the church to be represented in the district advisory bodies and for a voice in the appointment of teachers to the schools. They were anxious, it was explained, that communists and anti-Catholics did not get on the staff of their schools.

IN the meantime a number of children are without any education. These are not only those pupils of occupied schools who have not been able to go to alternative schools, but a recurring 400,000 or so children for whom for several years no accommodation has been available. The Government has thus added to the problem on its hands by precipitate action to introduce "national education".

A further battle is to be expected when the committee that is to be appointed to go into the content of education and cognate questions makes its report. From the preliminary skirmish of the reaction to the take-over of schools, it is a battle royal that is likely to take place. The influence of disinterested educationists will, it is to be hoped, bring about a reconciliation of conflicting views.

THE ROYAL FLIGHT TO INDIA

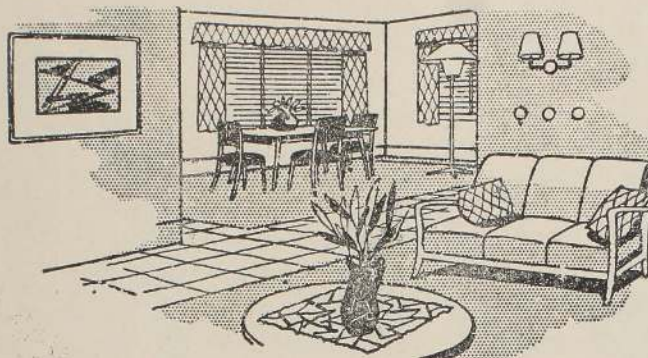
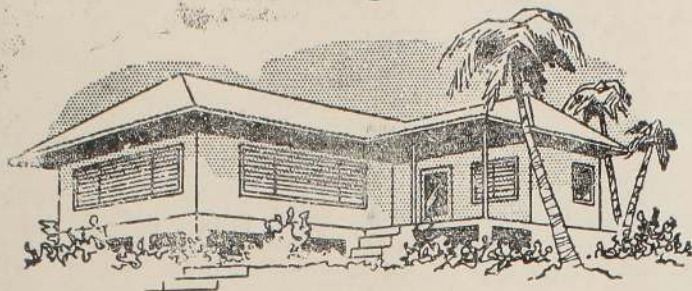
SHORTLY AFTER NOON
TODAY

SHORTLY after noon on January 20, a BOAC Bristol Britannia, distinctive with high tailplane and blue and white house colours, takes off from London airport on one of the most carefully planned of modern transport operations—a Royal flight. The aircraft is carrying Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh on their tour of India and Pakistan, and there is a tradition that whenever possible Royal aircraft always arrive with split second timing.

They do, and this is a triumph of careful pre-flight organisation. The forthcoming tour is probably the most complex carried out by the Corporation, who have had the privilege and responsibility of taking members of the British Royal Family over many thousands of miles across the earth. It is expected that the plane will use at least 15 different airports in four countries.

On the flight out the Royal plane is expected to make a stop at Cyprus, reaching Delhi at 11 a.m. local time on January 21.

outside...



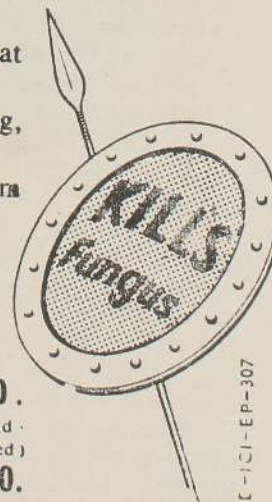
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A JOURNEY TO EIRE

— BY MRS. ADA DOUDNEY —

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

THE Ceylon Fortnightly Review has pleasure in making available to its readers this lively account of life in Ireland from the pen of Mrs. Ada Doudney, formerly of Passekudah, Batticaloa, a household name in the Eastern Province, as she wrote to her friend, Mr. S. V. O. Somanader of Kalkudah.

WE left Ceylon on March 25th and had a very pleasant voyage over on the "Derbyshire", reaching England on Easter Day. My younger son, Herbert and his wife Cicely (Mr. H. V. A. Doudney who was planting at Kegalle till recently and has retired and gone to live in Ireland with his wife Cicely) and his mother, Mrs. Doudney) went over to Kilkenny after only a couple of days in England, but I remained in England for about two months, visiting a bewildering lot of nephews and nieces, great nephews and great nieces, and seeing my only remaining sister-in-law who is 92 years old and many friends, a number of them old, retired-from-Ceylon folks. Among them you will remember Mrs. Ida Morrison (nee Cotton)—the daughter of the late Mr. John Cotton, once Superintendent of Paddiruppu Estate in the Eastern Province; Ida was married to the late Mr. J. W. Morrison, Provincial Engineer, P.W.D., Batticaloa, who became Deputy Director, P.W.D. I stayed several days with her at Watford.

* * *

WHILE I stayed with my niece at Beaconsfield, Gresham Johnson came and spent the day with us, bringing his wife to see me. You remember Gresham Johnson who owned the "Hulungay" Bungalow at Kalkudah, was a proprietary planter at Nuwara Eliya and left Ceylon for good a year or two ago? Finally I stayed with Sybil's sister, Rene, and her husband, Roland Butterfield, who was for many years—a long time ago—a padre in Ceylon. He is 85 and retired, though still doing service for parsons on holiday and still remembers some of his Tamil which he and I spouted together. Rene is his second wife. (Sybil is the wife of Mr. R. A. Doudney, the writer's elder son, who is still planting in Ceylon).

Then Herbert returned to England and fetched me over here—to Kilkenny—via Fishguard and Ross-lare and I reached this charming spot on June 22nd. Lavistown, which is a large house standing on about 20 acres, and Maiden Hall and Scatorish, five miles away (where Cicely's brothers Herbert and Gilbert live with their wives) have all been in Cicely's family for generations and she also "owns" a portion of the river Nore (just down and across the road) for trout and salmon fishing.

* * *

THIS is a lovely spot and I have a nice room up twelve easy stairs. There are many friends all round us and we have been to many gay gatherings—teas, luncheons and, what seems in fashion here, cocktail parties, and we have had Herbert showing "movie" and "still" pictures of Ceylon, their trip to India and our voyage over, all of which are much admired.

People are all so kind and friendly! I thought I would be one of the "old 'uns" in these parts but Miss Springfield and Lady Cuffe, both living near us, are 87; Col. Fowler is well past my age, Mrs. Bor, 97, and Lady Dowdall, 106. So Cicely says I mustn't give myself airs about my "mere 80"!

Richard, my elder grandson (son of Mr. A. A. R. Doudney), spent a month with us and has now sailed for Ceylon. He has got a job and is going to try his hand at tea planting, following in the footsteps of his father and uncle. I pray all goes well. Kenneth, the younger lad, 15, and at Repton, spent his holidays here. We long for news, all the news, any news, as you will understand.

* * *

WE have two large walled-in gardens of vegetables and fruit, where Herbert works, ("like a coolie"

helped by old Paddy Carney and we have a nice girl, daily from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. to do the rough work indoors but I must say I miss our nice Ceylon servants. Cicely cooks and I do various odd jobs, laying for meals, drying for the washing up, doing the flowers, etc., etc., also polishing the silver and the rest of it.

With winter setting in, the trees look sad, pointing their bare branches heavenward and it is cold! I feel the cold a lot and think regretfully of, and often long for, a good blast of hot "katchan" from the Eastern Province of the dear land of my birth. Herbert and I often burst into Tamil which somewhat mystifies shop-keepers and so on!

* * *

THE vast Cathedral and St. John's Church in Kilkenny is only three miles away from there; we know Bishop Phayre and the nice Dean Gash whose call we lately returned. We chiefly go to Ennisnag where the Rector and his wife, the Briscoes, are most charming people and where Cicely's brother, Gilbert, reads the Lessons. We do all our shopping in Kilkenny town.

Coal and our own food fire in the drawing room; storage heater in the hall; electric fires elsewhere; and, in my room, I have an electric fire AND an electric blanket and snuggle under four blankets and an eiderdown as well. I certainly hate the cold!

* * *

HERBERT gets quite a lot of shooting both here on Lavistown and also on friends' properties round about, and we are feeding on hare, pheasants, pigeon and cock. We have all sorts of vegetables of our own too of course and have, in season, straw—and raspberries, peaches, pears, plums etc. and now masses of apples.

Arthur and Sybil (Mr. and Mrs. R. A. A. Doudney) are on Carolina, Watawala, till about spring I believe and I hear from them regularly, of course. Mr. Cheyne is still on Passekudah. Please remember me to him, and will you give my good wishes to all Batticaloa friends. To me, I need hardly say, Ceylon—Batticaloa—must always remain Home though I don't suppose I shall ever return there—at my age!

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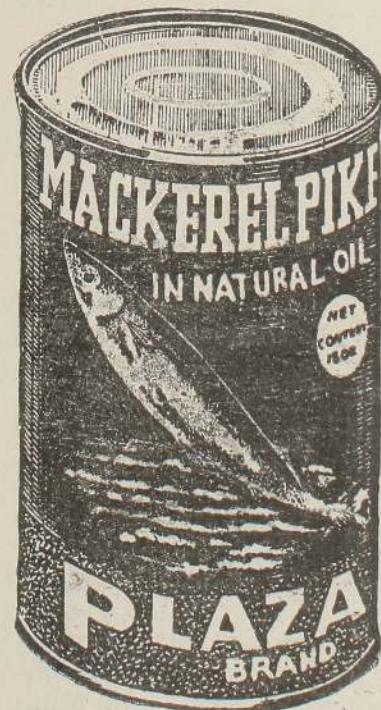
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THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE IN 1960

— BY W. N. EWER —

NINETEEN SIXTY is over. And I am afraid that there is no escaping the fact that it has been internationally a depressing and disappointing year; that the scene at its end is far more sombre than at its beginning. It opened, you will remember, in a mood of optimism. Cautious, perhaps, but nevertheless optimism: especially about relations between the "West" and the "Soviet Union".

There was still talk of the "Spirit of Camp David". Top-level statesmen were flitting to and fro on goodwill visits to each other. A new disarmament committee was to meet in Geneva in March. The Four-Power "Summit" itself, after long negotiation, was to meet in Paris in May. Nobody expected miracles from it, but there were hopes that it would open new vistas of co-operation.

* * *

HOPE IN AFRICA

AFRICA, too, looked hopeful. The new independence of the Congo had a universal welcome. President de Gaulle's offer of self-determination to Algeria had caught the imagination. Neither the revolt of the "French Algeria" elements nor the breakdown of the Melun talks had yet clouded the picture. As 1959 gave place to 1960 there was a cheerful feeling that perhaps the "Sixties" were going to be a big improvement on the "Fifties". But the roseate visions faded. I suppose that the optimism had always been—too optimistic. Certainly, by the time the year was half over it had been proved so.

First, West-Soviet relations, seemingly at the beginning better than for years, by June they were already worse than for years. The "summit" meeting on which such high hopes had been founded had collapsed in anger. The Russians and their associates had walked out of the Disarmament Committee and brought its work to a halt.

* * *

SOVIET POLICY CHANGES

RELATIONS were worse than at any time since Mr. Krushchev had suddenly created a new

"Berlin crisis" at the close of 1958—even worse, perhaps, than then. What had happened? The timetable is, I think important. The legend has been built up that it was the "spy flight" of the U.2 on the eve of the "Summit" which ruined everything. Now that is not so. There had already been a change in Soviet policy. Such changes are not usual: the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact, for instance. Or the strange occasion when the Kremlin switched overnight its attitude to the Marshall Plan, from willing co-operation to violent opposition.

Mr. Krushchev in March had been on a State visit to France. His attitude had seemed to show that he was prepared for serious and constructive talks next month at the "Summit"—in particular on disarmament and on Germany. But three weeks after he returned home he made a speech at Baku. He went uncompromisingly back to the 1958 position on Berlin—threats and all. It was that which, together with the flight of the U.2 five days later, helped to destroy every chance of the "Summit" achieving anything. That was the turning point. The rest followed. The walk-out from the Disarmament Committee: the worsening of relations in every field. Every issue, every event all over the world, became tangled and involved in the storms of the new cold war.

There was a new moment of hope when Mr. Krushchev decided to head the Soviet delegation to the United Nations Assembly himself. Surely, said the optimists, he must be going to New York in the hope of having quiet talks there which might at any rate repair some of the damage done during the spring and summer.

But it soon became only too plain that he had gone not to negotiate but to attack. And to attack, with a violence of language without precedent in the history of the organisation, not only the "Western" Powers but the Secretary-General and by implication the United Nations itself.

NEW HOSTILITY

AND so the year that had opened so cheerfully drew to its dismal and depressing close. Of course, the sources of trouble have been widespread and many-rooted. The Congo, Algeria, Laos and so on. But they might all have been better dealt with in the general interest had it not been for the new hostility (I fear that the word is right) between the Communist Powers and the "West". And that was opened by Mr. Krushchev on April 25 at Baku. Why I cannot divine. I am no "Kremlinologist". But the fact seems to me inescapable.

The consolation as this unhappy year ends may perhaps be that Soviet policy can be as suddenly switched back to "peaceful" co-existence" as last April it was switched to what one may call "hostile competition".

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS

AMONG the new knights in the recent New Year Honours List is the name of Mr. William Angus Boyd Illiff, vice-president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the man who was largely responsible for the successful conclusion of the Indus Waters negotiations. Mr. Illiff, who has been the Bank's vice-president since 1956, was born 62 years ago. At the age of 18 he was commissioned into the Indian Army and served on the North-West Frontier and in the Middle East. On demobilisation he joined the civil service in Northern Ireland. In 1948 he joined the International Bank as Loan Director. It was in 1954 that he began conducting the negotiations with the Governments of India and Pakistan on the Indus Waters question, negotiations which led to the signing of the treaty on September 9, 1960.

* * *

THE Honours List includes fewer peerages than usual, but confers awards for public service in many fields over a wide range of recipients—both in the United Kingdom and in many parts of the Commonwealth. Industry, the professions, the arts and sport are all represented and the list of these receiving honours

(Continued on page 32)



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SOME BIRDS' NESTS AND THEIR SITES

By S. V. O. SOMANADER

HOW varied and wonderful birds' nests are! And in what strange and unexpected spots they often place their homes!

In its crudest form, a bird's nest is a simple scrape in the ground; in its highest, a most beautiful and elaborate structure in which the eggs are laid and the offspring brought up.

Among nesting birds which merely scratch a hollow in the ground are the plovers, lapwings and terns. I have come across tern's eggs deposited in a shallow depression surrounded by pebbles and shells which camouflaged their presence. I have also seen them placed in a slight scratch on the seashore, overgrown with long, trailing grasses and other creepers.

* * *

THE lapwing scoops out a depression on an unfrequented spot in a plain or tank-bund or alongside marshes. The ground chosen is the same colour as the eggs, so that the latter may escape detection. Once, accidentally, I found the eggs placed on dry cowdung. And, when I got near, the excited bird tried to allure me away by flying close to me and pretending lameness, besides resorting to the usual "broken-wing trick".

The nightjars, too, have no nest worth speaking of. The salmon-pink eggs, mottled and marbled, are placed under an unfrequented bush, or bald, disintegrated rocks, so that they may not be easily discovered. But the sitting bird, when flushed, does not fuss about as lapwings do, nor does it fly, like them, over your head to give you, as it were, a knock with its feet. Instead it silently flies away to hide in another bush.

* * *

AMONG birds which nest in holes of trees, we may include the paroquets, mynahs, Indian rollers, barbets, wood-peckers, robins, hornbills and the owls.

The woodpecker usually chooses a decayed coconut stem or other tree-trunk for its nesting-site. With

its very powerful beak, it strikes hammer and tongs to cut a round entrance-hole to lead to its home within. Certain species, like the black-backed woodpecker, choose a nest high up a tall forest tree, and, sometimes, on the same line, one can find a number of other nicely-bevelled nesting-holes, which, presumably, are previous year's nests, now used by the birds as roosting-chambers.

The rufous wood-pecker, however, places its nesting hole, not on hard tree-stems, but inside large

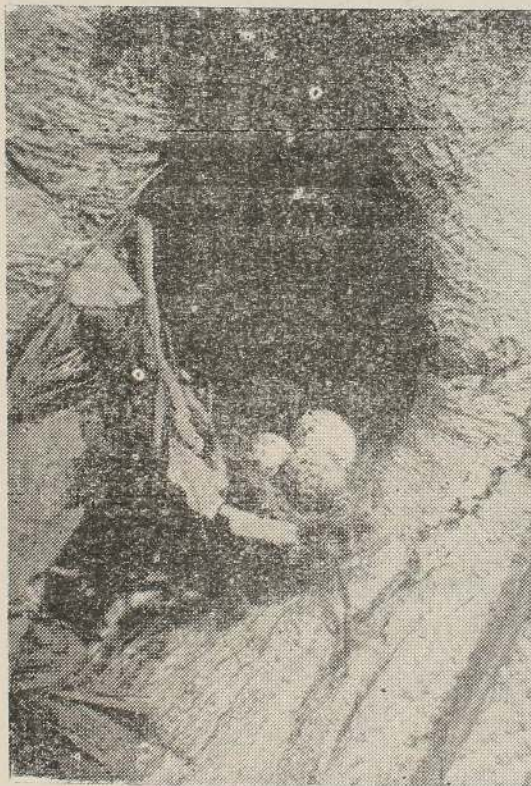


Photo by S. V. O. S.

A hollow at the base of a palmyra palm being used as a nesting hole by the Magpie robin. The eggs have been brought out to the entrance for the purpose of photography.

forest-ants' nests, built by these ferocious insects on the forks of thorny shrubs. Why this woodpecker should excavate an opening in the structure of these savage ants which (would go all out to defend their homes against enemies) is a problem which has puzzled ornithologists. But some think that the reason is that this woodpecker has a softer beak, which cannot easily burrow a hole on hard wood.

THE green barbet perforates a cavity in a rotten tree for a new nest each year; or it improvises a home by building on an unfinished nesting-hole of the woodpecker. In any case, the nest is lined with grass-stalks and other softer material within. And, like the woodpecker's it is neatly bevelled and rounded.

To come to the Mynahs! These birds generally nest in the holes of old trees, but I have often found them placing their home into the thick, clasping root-clumps of certain tree-orchids (like *Cymbidium bicolor*), which grow freely on the rough stems of palmyra palms. Inside the nest, there is usually a pad of grass, roots, fibres and feathers, as birds, like humans, wish to produce and rear their young in "cushy" surroundings.

* * *

ANOTHER bird which selects its building-site in tree-holes is the magpie robin. But I have sometimes seen it breeding in such odd places as a niche in a cracked wall, or in a hollow at the base of a palmyra palm—the spot being well hidden by the leafy twigs of thorny bushes. And I also know of an instance where the nest was placed in an opening found in the fork of an abandoned well-sweep in a town-garden. I also noticed that crows and crow-pheasants, which came to spirit away the chicks, had a bad time of it; for the parents, cocked up their tails, screamed in anger at the intruders and "went" for them.

* * *

REGARDING other birds which nest in tree-holes, the peculiar nidification of the hornbill is of more than passing interest. This forest bird breeds in the hollow of a high tree-trunk, if not on an upper branch. While the hen is incubating her eggs, her mate closes up the entrance almost entirely with mud, leaving only an aperture just large enough to admit of his feeding his imprisoned partner, from outside with his long, curved, horny beak. During this period of incarceration which runs for several weeks, the cock feeds his mate with pellets formed of fruits, seeds and insects. And when the chicks are hatched, the mud-plaster wall is broken down by a few strokes of the crude beak to release the brooding mother—and both the parents, then, help to feed the offspring.

—To be continued

PEOPLE

AMONG the names in the New Year Honours List published recently is that of Mr. Charles Dymoke Green, who is made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) "for community work in Ceylon". Mr. Green recently left Ceylon on retiring from the position of Managing Director of Messrs. Whittall Boustead. He came to Ceylon in 1929.

In addition to the leading position he held in the business life of Colombo, Mr. Green took a keen personal interest in social work and was for many years closely connected with Toc H and with the Boy Scout Movement. In 1941 he was appointed Assistant Chief Commissioner of the Ceylon Boy Scouts Association, and was for many years Scoutmaster of a Boy Scout Group in a poor part of Colombo. He was also a Justice of the Peace.

* * *

MR. P. W. Gordon Spence, former Managing Director of Messrs Aitken, Spence & Co., Ltd., who left Ceylon many years ago on retirement, now lives in East Avenue, Talbot Woods, Bournemouth, where so many ex-Ceylon folk reside. Mr. Gordon Spence, who has been a regular reader of the *Ceylon Fortnightly Review* since it was launched thirteen years ago, writes to us as follows.—"It is always a pleasure to get your journal with its news of happenings in the Island. As you are aware there are a number of ex-Ceylon residents in this part of England and usually when

we meet the conversation turns to Ceylon and the happy days we had out there.

"I was very glad to read in your last issue that Mike Thornton of our firm, had once again won the Ceylon Golf Championship. I well remember the first time he achieved this honour in 1949, and the anxious moments his parents



[Mr. C. Dymoke Green, O. B. E.]

(Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Thornton) who were then in Halgranoia, and his supporters went through towards the end of his match in the final with George Koch which ended at the 37th hole". Mr. Spence sends his best wishes to the *Fortnightly* for 1961.

WHEN he returns to Ceylon Mr. H. D. Perera has an interesting gift to present to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike. Mr. Perera, who is general secretary of the Government Technical Officers' Trade Union Federation and president of the Public Works Department Inspectors' Union, is among 20 senior trade union officials from Asia and Africa who have just ended 13 weeks of intensive study of industrial relations in the United Kingdom.

During a visit to Newcastle to study conditions in the North of England, the Lord Mayor, Lady Gladys Robson, entertained the visitors at a civil reception. It was then that Lady Robson presented Mr. Perera with a letter of friendship and an illustrated history of Newcastle for Mrs. Bandaranaike.

* * *

SIR Henry Self, a former Permanent Secretary at the United Kingdom Ministry of Civil Aviation and Chairman of the Electricity Council, is making a lecture visit to Ceylon arranged by the Commonwealth Relations Office. He is due to arrive in Colombo in the "Canton" on January 25, accompanied by Lady Self. They will leave in the "Arcadia" on February 5.

Sir Henry has had much experience of British nationalised industries, particularly in the field of management and in the relationship of nationalised industries with Government Departments and Parliament. He will be lecturing in Colombo on January 30 and subsequently speaking at the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya.

* * *

DR. P. J. Chissell, who spent the greater part of his life in Ceylon and left some years ago to settle down in England, is at present on one of his periodical visits to the Island. Prior to World War I, Dr. Chissell identified himself prominently with the Ceylon Turf both as an owner and Steward of the Ceylon Turf Club.

Dr. Chissell is at present staying at the Galle Face Hotel. He will as usual be looking up friends Up-country before he returns to England by the P. & O.-Orient Line "Arcadia", at the end of April. We wish him a very pleasant holiday in the Island.

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PEOPLE

MR. F. W. Hales, who was with Messrs. H. W. Cave & Co., for many years before World War II, is now residing in Nyasaland and is in charge of a School Boarding House.

* * *

MR. T. S. White, a technical assistant at Radio Ceylon, left for the United Kingdom by Quantas on January 2 for training in broadcasting engineering under the Technical Co-operation Scheme of the Colombo Plan. One of his assignments in Britain will be three months' training in the assembly and testing of high power transmitters with Messrs. Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., of Chelmsford.

He will also spend a month with Messrs. E. K. Cole Ltd., of Prettlewell, and a further month with Messrs. Pye Telecommunications Ltd., of Cambridge, working on A.F. and V. H. F. equipment respectively. The B.B.C. are providing two months' training on medium and short-wave transmitting stations and the maintenance of transmitting equipment.

* * *

MRS. Marian Brohier, whose death occurred recently in Colombo, was the widow of Major R. A. Brohier who predeceased her 49 years ago. He was Assistant Post Master General and a popular Volunteer Officer. In his day the annual camp of Exercise was at Urugasmanhandya and the troops had to march 15 miles carrying all equipment from the rail-terminus at Alutgama.

The late Mrs. Brohier lived to pass her 91st birthday and until a couple of years back was in good health considering her age, and enjoyed a full and active life. She and her husband were the front rangers of the Burgher exodus from the Pettah to the suburbs of Colombo. At that time this residential area with its spacious Dutch villas and clean, shaded streets was yielding to the growing need and vital urge which compelled it to make room for stores, boutiques and dingy dens where today humanity mass together. She was consequently very well informed of the past when Bambalapitiya was composed of but a few houses with large gardens and when Havelock Town was a tract of waste cinnamon jungle.

Mrs. Brohier was the doyen of a well-known family composed of three distinguished sons—R. L., Dr. Eric and C. P., and of four daughters, Mrs. Vernon Arndt, Misses Ella and Alma Brohier, the latter of whom has been over a decade abroad, and Mrs. W. G. Woutersz. She also leaves a number of grand-children and great-grand-children. In her day she was a leading spirit in the social activities of the Bambalapitiya Recreation Club, by which name the Havelock Park Burgher Club was originally known, and of the Dutch Burgher Union of which she was a Founder Member. Her loss will be felt by a large circle of friends in all communities.

* * *

THE death of Mr. J. J. (Jeff) Weinman, well known Colombo Proctor, who in the early years of this century was associated with the late Mr. J. Alfred Perera, one of Colombo's leading lawyers, removes from the scene a popular sportsman of other days, who at

one time was Captain of the Non-descripts C.C. It was as a golfer, however, that "Jeff" Weinman figured most prominently, being one of the best in the ranks of the H.G.C. prior to World War II. He once reached the semi-finals of the Ceylon Amateur Championship on the Ridgeway course. One of a family of three brothers,—the other two were J. C. and Dr. L. O.—all of whom were prominent sportsmen in their day, "Jeff" was one of the pioneers of Ceylonese Rugger and played at three-quarter in the earliest matches at the turn of the century between Colombo Ceylonese and the Kandy Rovers. He was the second son of the late Mr. J. R. Weinman.

* * *

THE death occurred in New Delhi on January 15, of Lady Lucille Aluvihare, wife of Sir Richard Aluvihare, Ceylon High Commissioner in India. Lady Aluvihare, who was sixty years old, had been ailing for some time.

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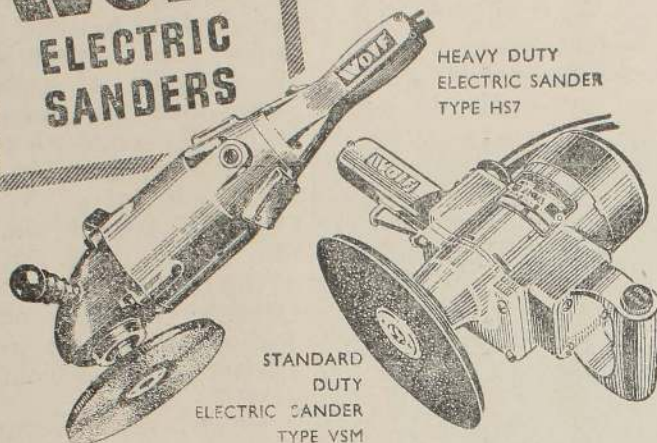
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THE PASSING SCENE

— By SPHINX —

THE 3,000th Massey-Ferguson tractor imported to Ceylon has been presented to the Government and will be used by the School of Agriculture, Peradeniya, and replaces the thousandth tractor imported to Ceylon and presented to the school by Messrs. Brown & Co., Ltd., the importers.

The Minister of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation and Power, Mr. C. P. de Silva, accepted the gift on behalf of the Government at a ceremony in the premises of the House of Representatives. The presentation was made by Mr. G. C. Gray, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Messrs. Brown & Co. Several Members of Parliament and the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. C. P. B. Perera, were present at the hand-over ceremony.

Mr. C. P. de Silva said the Massey Ferguson tractor had proved very economical in operation and reliable which explained its popularity and success in the island. "I, too, am a Massey Ferguson owner", he added; "I bought a tractor ten years ago and it is still in excellent condition". He commended Messrs. Brown & Co., for the excellent in-the-field servicing and maintenance facilities which the company provided for the machines it sold.

The Manager, Agricultural Division of Messrs. Brown & Co., Mr. P. F. Warren said that the new tractor was lighter than the previous models, making it ideal for paddy cultivation.

The Minister then took the wheel and drove the tractor for a short while on the lawn of the House of Representatives. In a subsequent message to the Press, he made special mention of the fact that 6,200 acres in the Hurulu Wewa Scheme (in the Anuradhapura district in the North-Central Province) which were found uncultivable by traditional methods, gave a bumper harvest of 35 bushels per acre during the "maha" season of 1959-60 after they had been tractor-ploughed and drysown with four months' paddy.

"It has been found that tractor ploughing of paddy fields is essential in the Dry Zone if all the aswed-dumized land is to be cultivated

with the normally available water supply. People are beginning to appreciate that the tractor extends the cultivated area per head which, of course, means that production per head rises sharply when tractors are used", the message concluded.

* * *

CLOAK and dagger murder in Ceylon? It seems hardly likely in this peaceful island but this is what the American magazine News-week had in its latest issue:

"Colombo: Latest buzz in diplomatic circles here: the recent death of a Soviet sugar dealer, officially called a suicide, really was a cloak and dagger murder case. Alexander Golubyev, 35, slated for transfer home to Russia, had been seen more often in the company of westerners. There's good reason to believe he was a Soviet secret agent fed up and about to defect. Found out, he was poisoned and dumped into the harbour (at Trincomalee)."

As newspaper readers knew the story in the island before the sensational account appeared in the American review, the man really was a technician at the Kantalai sugar factory and he was to be "sent" home after his term of service in the island. His body was found in Trincomalee harbour. He had previously attempted to commit suicide and been released on surety.

* * *

CEYLON does indeed get publicity in the most unlikely journals. For instance, the *Railway Review*, published in Euston Road, London, had a double-column display in a recent issue, headlined: "The Police Sergeant who was a hero". It said:

"Whoever he is, he is a hero. A police sergeant openly and bravely jibbed at the order to fire tear-gas bombs into a crowd of demonstrators. A Times correspondent reporting from Colombo in Ceylon said that demonstrators, many women, lined the route to the air port when the Prime Minister, Mrs. Bandaranaike was about to start on a journey to India. The report said: 'At one stage, the police

got ready to use tear gas to disperse the crowd. A sergeant in the police party sobbed and asked his superior officer: 'Sir, how can we fire on innocent people like these?' That man was a hero".

And, writing from Wattegama, in Ceylon, to the January issue of *Good Housekeeping*, Mrs. Pamela Martin has this to say:

"No firm in Ceylon will ever provide any sort of extra service. Half the time they don't even answer letters unless they are registered".

No comment.

* * *

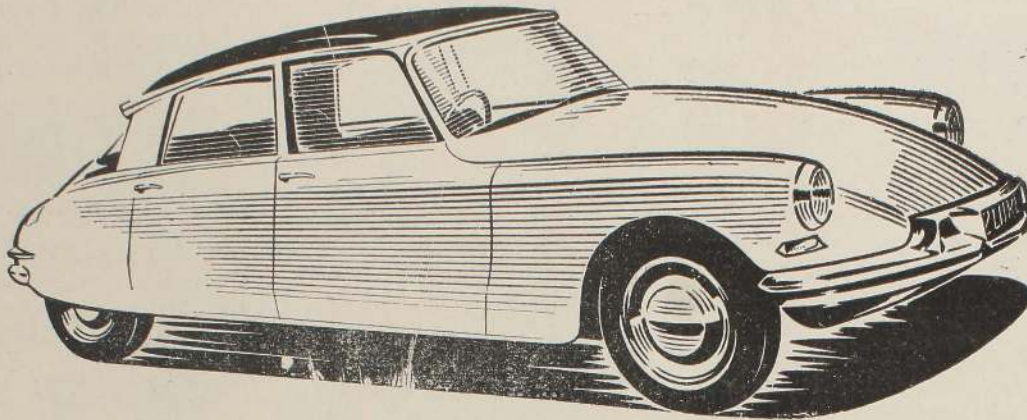
READERS who were resident in Ceylon will probably be somewhat startled by this item in a local newspaper: "The lower class in the ferry between Talaimannar and Dhanuskody, which was built in colonial days, was meant for estate labourers who travelled between India and Ceylon. There were no seats and passengers had either to stand or squat on the floors. But with independence, lower class passengers agitated for better accommodation, as a result of which the Southern Railway has now provided seats. The 'Goschen' which now plies between India and Ceylon is the first of two ferries to be fitted with seats. The other one, the 'Irwin', which is undergoing repairs will also be provided with seats".

* * *

MRS. L. J. de S. Seneviratne, honorary general secretary of the National Council for Child and Youth Welfare, has returned to Ceylon after an extensive study tour in the United States of America and Canada. Her itinerary covered visits to welfare organizations and social service institutions, children's hospitals and homes for the mentally retarded and physically handicapped. She also attended a course in social service administration in the University of Chicago.

An American institution that impressed her, she said, was the united community chest, into which goes the proceeds of joint appeals made by the charitable organizations of the area and from which funds are given out to each according to its need. She considered it a great improvement on the frequent flag-days and charity shows held in Ceylon in that it was "easy on the public".

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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

TEST CRICKET IS 500 NOT OUT

ON a warm March day in Melbourne in 1877 Alfred Shaw, the Nottinghamshire bowler, sent down the first ball in Test Match cricket. The batsman was Charles Bannerman. The first Test run came from the second ball, and Bannerman went on to score the first Test century. Three weeks ago the 500th Test Match—this time between Australia and the West Indies—was played, also at Melbourne.

* * *

THE "Daily Mail" cricket writer, Alex Bannister, points out in an article commemorating the anniversary that since Shaw began that historic first over, more than a million balls have been bowled in Tests—1,063,997 to be exact. The batsmen, plus Mr. Extras, have scored 451,344 runs and 15,438 wickets have fallen.

* * *

ALEC BEDSER, of England, has taken the most wickets, 236, and batsmen have scored 765 centuries. Wally Hammond, with 7,249 runs, has the best aggregate, Sir Donald Bradman the most centuries, 29. Bradman's average of 99.94 is the highest.

* * *

THE man who has played in most Tests is Godfrey Evans (91) and he has also the best wicket-keeping record with 219 victims—173 caught and 46 stumped. Four players have scored over 2,000 runs and taken over 100 wickets—Vinoo Mankad of India, Trevor Bailey and Wilfred Rhodes of England, and Keith Miller of Australia.

Up to 1914 only 134 Tests had been played. By 1939 the figure had mounted to 273. Since 1946 there have been 223 Tests.

England has made the highest total—903 for 7 declared against Australia at the Oval in 1938. The lowest score was New Zealand's 26 against England at Auckland in the 1954—55 series.

* * *

HEARTENED by events in the closing months of last year, most people in Great Britain think that 1961 will be a very good year in sport. Cricket fans especially can hardly wait for the new season, which will

bring with it the Australian team—and it is assumed a brighter approach to Test cricket. The manner in which West Indies skipper Frank Worrell and Australian captain Richie Benaud have approached the present Test series has whetted every appetite in England. Whoever leads England this summer—and it looks more than ever a fit Peter May will resume the captaincy must follow the example set by Benaud and Worrell or undoubtedly he will be the most unpopular sportsman of 1961.

* * *

ENGLAND'S cricketers were unbeaten last year. After winning the series in the West Indies, they comfortably beat the touring South Africans. But it was unenterprising cricket—the sort which has been emptying Test grounds. It is felt that the year's enforced absence from the game will have done Peter May the world of good. Even before he was hit by bad health he was looking stale after eight years of more or less continuous cricket, winter as well as summer. With May, Colin Cowdrey and Ted Dexter in the team, England will be well equipped this summer to score quickly. In form they have no superiors in the world as attractive batsmen.

But 1961 will also, I am afraid, prove once again just how much the England attack depends on two fast bowlers, Brian Statham and Freddie Trueman. They will still be good enough to trouble the best of the Australians, but one cannot see spinners in England capable of replacing adequately Jim Laker, Tony Lock or Johnny Wardle, who have departed from the Test cricket scene.

* * *

ENGLAND'S SOCCER OUT-LOOK

ENGLAND'S wonderful victory over Spain by four goals to two—the manner of it rather than the mere achievement—promises a bright 1961 for England in international soccer. For the first time ever England's international team got together as often as possible and the benefits of this intimacy were soon seen on the field of play. Under skipper Johnny Haynes there is splendid team spirit and already he and his men are looking forward confidently to the next World Cup.

The success of good football playing sides like Tottenham Hotspur, Burnley and Everton will, I am sure, produce a higher standard of play in the League championship in 1961. More and more clubs are realising that their only hope of success is to copy the purists.

* * *

INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW

One of the features of the current International Boat Show in London is a "build it yourself" small racing dinghy which is described as being ideal for assembly and use in tropical waters.

The designers claim that the new dinghy sets an entirely new standard in small racing craft and, at a total cost of £1,000, meets the requirements of yachtsmen throughout the world.

The "Zest", as she is called, is full of novel features. Designed by Jack Holt, she is of double chine plywood constructed and is thus very light, easy to build, and costs much less than the normal type of boat of the same size.

The builders claim that tests have shown that the "Zest" combines the sparkling performance of a thoroughbred dinghy with the stability and seaworthiness of the keel-boat. Details are available from "Yachting World", Dorset House, Stamford Street, London S.E.1. Building plans cost 15 guineas.

* * *

SARA TROPHY CRICKET

SARA Trophy cricket came into its own again in the second week-end in January with S.S.C. struggling to beat the lowly Colts and the Saracens edging the Varsity to take the lead in the first division

In the second division the Tamils B were trounced by the B.R.C., while Bloomfield scored an easy victory over Negombo.

School cricket facing a gloomy season with Zahira and most of the Catholic colleges giving up the game, began with Royal beating a young Ananda team. Royal's skipper, N. Senanayake scored the first century of the season after his bowling had helped to skittle out Ananda

* * *

WEST INDIES WIN

Australia were beaten in the Third Test at Sydney by 222 runs.

EVENTFUL YEAR FOR COMMONWEALTH

— By A Special Correspondent —

FOR the Commonwealth as a whole, and some members in particular, 1961 will be a historic year. The Queen is visiting some territories, South Africa becomes a Republic and will ask to be permitted to retain membership in the Commonwealth, and the Commonwealth Prime Ministers will meet in London in March.

The Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland will in the first quarter of the year continue and probably conclude talks on its future constitution; the two Rhodesias will decide on their future set-ups. Cyprus will decide whether it should become another Republic inside the Commonwealth.

ROYAL VISITS

HER Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh leave London by air on January 20 for State visits to India, Pakistan, Nepal and Iran at the invitations of the Governments of those countries. The Royal party will be away until March 6.

In India and Pakistan the Queen will be welcomed as "Head of the Commonwealth". The Indian Government has prepared a programme which will enable the Queen to see as much of India and its people as possible.

She will watch displays by Indian youth organisations and cultural shows. In Benares, Agra and Rajas-

than she will see some of the glories of India's past. After 10 days the Queen and the Duke will fly to Karachi for a tour of Pakistan which will range through Quetta, Peshawar, Swat, Rawalpindi and Lahore before going to Dacca for a visit to East Pakistan. The Queen will return to India to end the tour with visits to Madras, Bangalore and Bombay.

On February 26 the Queen flies to Katmandu in Nepal, then on March 1 she flies to Teheran in Iran.

* * *

COMMONWEALTH PREMIERS

THE Commonwealth Prime Ministers will gather in London for a meeting on March 8. The Prime Minister of Nigeria will be a new member. One subject for discussion will be South Africa's membership of the Commonwealth in her new status as a Republic from March 31.

At their last meeting in April, 1960, the Prime Ministers suggested that "in the event of South Africa deciding to become a Republic, and if the desire was subsequently expressed to remain a member of the Commonwealth", the South African Government "should then ask for the consent of the other Commonwealth Governments either at a meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers, or if this were not practicable, by correspondence.

* * *

CYPRUS MEMBERSHIP

ANOTHER Republic, Cyprus, will decide soon whether it should apply for membership of the Commonwealth. This decision will be taken by its Parliament. When agreements about the independence of Cyprus were signed it was agreed that Cyprus should be regarded as a member of the Commonwealth pending a decision on applying for permanent membership.

Talks on the future constitutions of Southern and Northern Rhodesia will resume respectively in Salisbury and London. Later, in London, there will be a continuation of the conference which is reviewing the future form of the present Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The British Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Macmillan, will preside over the Federal review. The Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, Mr. Duncan Sandys, who is at present on a tour embracing India, Pakistan and Malaya, will fly to Salisbury to preside over the Southern Rhodesia talks.

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

(Continued from page 7)

THE British Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Macmillan, replying to New Year greetings from Mr. Khrushchev, said: "I send you my sincere thanks for your New Year message. I well recall our meetings in 1959 which I am sure contributed to the improvement in relations between East and West which that year brought us. "Although I regret that the high hopes with which we both entered 1960 were largely disappointing it is my earnest wish that 1961 may bring a return of the spirit of moderation and mutual confidence. Without this there can be no solution of the many difficult problems confronting us and no lasting improvement in the international situation. I assure you most sincerely that this is the goal towards which my endeavours will be directed. I share your hope that relations between our countries will continue to develop in the fields of trade, science and technology and culture. Our negotiations in Mos-

cow on the renewal of our cultural agreement provide an early opportunity for us to translate these hopes into practice.

Mr. Khrushchev's telegram, which extended congratulations and best wishes for the New Year to the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of Britain, concluded with the words: "May relations between the Soviet Union and Great Britain develop and grow stronger in the interests of our people and in the interests of securing lasting peace on earth."

* * *

DR. Veni Shanker Jha, formerly Vice-Chancellor of Barnares University, and now the first Director of the Commonwealth Liaison Unit, whose headquarters are now in London, is at present on an extensive tour of Commonwealth countries. He is now on a visit to Ceylon. His object is to learn at first hand something of the educational system in each country by making contact with leaders in education, both officials and private individuals. He is particularly hoping to gain an insight into any

problems, so as to enable him, as Director of the C.E.L.U., to act as a channel for conveying information about needs, and the assistance available to meet them, as between one Commonwealth country and another.

His programme in Ceylon, which includes meetings with the Minister of Education and other leading people in the educational field, and visits to educational institutions, has been drawn up by the Ministry of Education and Broadcasting. One of Dr. Jha's engagements was a talk to a public meeting, sponsored by the Royal Commonwealth Society in the ballroom of the Galle Face Hotel yesterday.

The Commonwealth Education Liaison Unit was set up in April 1960, following a recommendation of the Commonwealth Education Conference held at Oxford in 1959. Its functions are to help Commonwealth Countries to obtain educational assistance from the rest of the member-countries, to promote educational contacts within the Commonwealth and to act as a centre of reference in such matters.



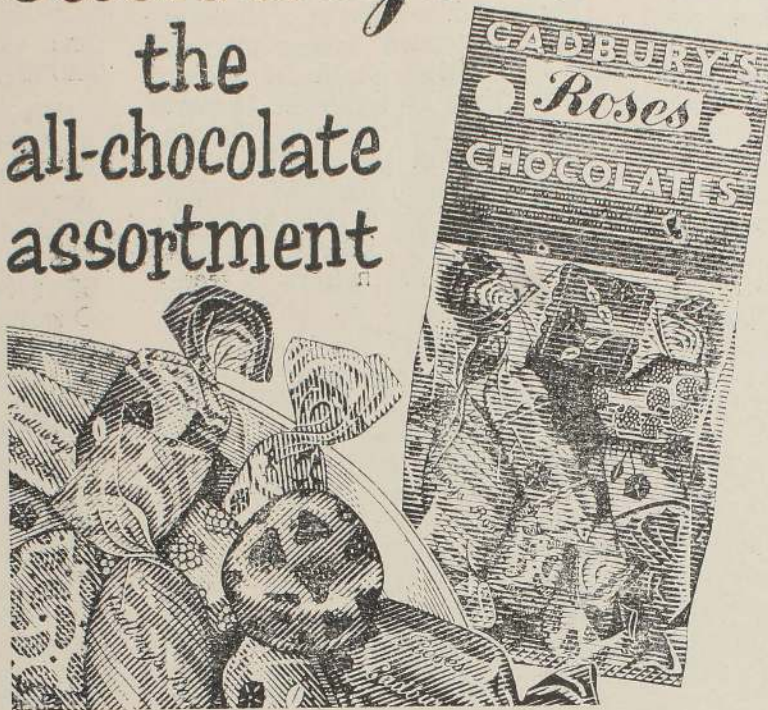
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A LOOK ROUND

— BY PERISCOPE —

THE book "Ceylon", by Christine Weston, is recommended as "an accurate and interesting source of information" on the island nation in a review published in the Asian Student, weekly newspaper published in America for exchange students in the U.S.

Reviewing the book, published in the U.S. last year by Charles Scribner's Sons of New York, Mr. Cyril Ponnampereuma of the University of California notes that "Ceylon has been very much in the news recently". He continues:

At such a time, Christine Weston's book on Ceylon provides an accurate and interesting source of information to the inquiring reader. It is written in a readable and refreshing style. The trivialities of the average travelogue have no place in this discerning work. Numerous photographs also furnish a pictorial survey of the land and its people.

"Sympathy with her subject and a personal touch are the keynotes of her narrative. To use her own words: Like a book an island has a distinct personality, compact, intimate and complete. One can open it in the middle and never be very far from beginning or end, and this I believe is part of the enchantment—a throwback to childhood and the love of small objects and an affinity with them".

Mr. Ponnampereuma notes that "the pageant of Lanka is re-enacted for us in this book" and in addition "we are transported through the centuries from Hanuman's epic invasion and the landing of the North Indian prince, Vijaya". Mr. Ponnampereuma suggests that "the difficulties confronting the Ceylonese today are those of an agricultural community battling for survival in the face of a growing population and the behemoth of atomic-age industrialization".

* * *

FOUR summer schools are to be held this year by British universities for students from Ceylon and other Commonwealth countries. At Stratford-on-Avon, Birmingham University is running a course on "Shakespeare and Elizabethan Drama", from July 10 to August 19. The University of

London will offer "Art, Literature and Music in England, 1660-1790", from July 10 to August 18. At Oxford one can study the progress of history, literature and the arts in a course entitled "England, 1870 to the present day" from July 3 to August 11, and at Edinburgh the four Scottish universities have combined to sponsor a course, "From Renaissance to Revolution: 1559-1789", from July 3 to August 11.

All the courses are designed for graduate students, including teachers in universities and schools, and for undergraduates students in their last two years at a university. An important aspect will be tutorial work in small groups, each under the supervision of a university tutor. Further details of the courses may be obtained from the Education Officer, British Council, 154 Galle Road, Colombo 3.

* * *

APPLICATIONS are now being accepted for the Canada Council Fellowship being offered in Ceylon for study in Canada for the academic year 1961-62 commencing in September 1961. This award is open to artists and scholars who have shown exceptional promise in their work. Those applying for academic studies can only do so for work leading to a Master's degree or equivalent standing and the award will be made subject to admission to a recognized Canadian University. Fluency in either the English or French language is essential.

Only application related to the arts, humanities and social sciences can be accepted. "Arts" is taken to include studies at the graduate level or extra-curricular training in architecture, the arts of the theatre, literature, music, painting, sculpture, graphic arts, and other similar creative or interpretative activities, such as film and radio work. The "Humanities" include studies at the graduate level or extra-curricular work in history, languages, literature, pure mathematics, philosophy and archaeology. The "Social Science" include economics, sociology, and political science and other subjects such as anthropology, geography, law, edu-

cation and psychology as they bear on the three subjects first named. This list is not exhaustive.

The value of the fellowship will be 2,000 dollars (Canadian) and the cost of tuition, plus the cost of transportation to Canada and return.

* * *

IN Britain the pantomime season started a day or so before Christmas and goes on for several months, sometimes into the beginning of April. Pantomimes are generally based on a well-known fairy story, such as "Cinderella", "Goody Two-Shoes", "Red Riding Hood" or "Jack and the Beanstalk" in which the forces of good and evil struggle for supremacy, and good (more often than not represented by a Fairy Queen) finally conquers and completely routs evil. The final scene is usually an assembly of the whole cast dressed in sumptuous costumes. They come on to the stage alone or with their partners, and march down to the footlights before taking their places to the sound of applause and rousing music.

* * *

WHATEVER the story, there is generally a "Dame" played by a male comedian, a young and beautiful heroine played by a girl, and a "Principal Boy" played by a girl. This is not always the case, however, and the London Palladium, which annually puts on a most lavish pantomime, changed six years ago to having the Principal Boy played by a man. This season Norman Wisdom, a well-known English comedian and film star, is playing "Dick" in "Turn Again Whittington". Besides the main characters, there are teams of dancers and singers, a lively orchestra, and conjurers, acrobats and mimics. Sometimes children from the audience go up on the stage to meet the cast and are coaxed to sing or recite into a microphone. At other times the audience is invited to join with the cast in singing a well-known song, and generally respond lustily, guided and urged on by the comedian. Often he divides the theatre into parts, say boys and girls or "upstairs" and "downstairs", and makes one group compete with the other to see which sings the louder.

(Continued on page 32)

A SPORTS CAUSERIE

—By "ITINERANT"—

RACING

WHAT a pony Mr. C. Sathananthan's Class 1 Arab, Kubaishan, is. On the first day of the Galle Gymkhana Club meet, shouldering 9.7 he cantered to victory in the 6 furlongs' Southern Cup. Now on the third day, with the welter burden of 9.13, Kubaishan trounced his opposition to annex the de Soysa Cup (1½ miles) and that after bolting thrice at the start, covering over 300 yards. Trainer A. Selvaratnam and jockey Mohideen have really worked wonders with this pony.

Miss Eleanor who revels on the Galle track pulled off a good win in the Abeyundere Cup (1 mile) against some of the best Class 1 horses in training.

Other third day winners were Rye-Bred in the Richmond Hill Stakes (1½ miles), Galle specialist Desire in the Kaluwella Handicap (6 furlongs), another track favourite, The Locksmith in the Bentota

Handicap (1 mile) and newcomer Sadiq al Muluk, an Arab of much promise, in the Ratgama Handicap (7 furlongs).

* * *

THE Galle racing season came to an end with a minor riot. The cause of the riot: that champion thoroughbred Shell Pink. What a horse Mr. Vernon Rajapakse's Shell Pink is. Taking the lead from barrier rise he won the Blue Riband of Boosa (the President's Cup), 1½ miles, as he liked. Select Allow's late run got him second place 3 lengths away, a neck from Amurath with Tudor Dream a further half a length away.

Then began the fun and games. The Clerk of the Scales discovered that Shell Pink had discarded 13 lbs. of lead on the way and instead of carrying the heavy impost of 10 s. 7 lbs., carried 9 s. 8 lbs., the second heaviest handicap in the race. He lodged an objection which

the Stewards upheld. Shell Pink was taken off the board and the other three moved up.

A demonstrating, restive crowd charged the Stewards' room at the new verdict and were only calmed down by the decision to refund all bets on Shell Pink.

Mr. Idroos Noordeen collected the President's Cup, but all who watched the race will know that Shell Pink is the undefeated champion. Some consolation for Mr. Rajapakse was the upset his United Steel caused in the C.T.C. Cup (1½ miles). This aged, neglected gelding made all the running to stun the punters and send the treble dividend soaring.

On a day of upsets, only two favourites obliged—Neon Lights in the Ruhuna H'cap and Munim al Khair in the Hujara H'cap.

* * *

MAJOR FULHAM WRIGHT FOR AUSTRALIA

LIKE so many well known Ceylonese sportsmen, Major Fulham Wright, M.B.E., E.D., Ceylon Engineers, who has been a prominent figure in local sport for nearly three decades since he left St. Joseph's College, sailed for Australia last Sunday to join his wife who is in Melbourne. While at St. Joseph's, Fulham Wright figured with success not only as an outstanding Soccer forward but in other games proving a fine all round athlete. It is interesting to mention that he was named after a very popular Catholic priest, Rev. Fr. Fulham, who was in charge of the sporting activities of St. Joseph's in the early years of this century.

Fulham Wright's father, the late Dr. Victor Wright, who was a well known musician and cricketer, had six sons, one of whom Cyprian has been in Melbourne for some years. Fulham who was the eldest figured conspicuously both at soccer and hockey, playing for Ceylon on many occasions and he was also a more than useful cricketer who used to play for the Burgher Recreation Club, whose General Hon. Secretary he was for many years. The B.R.C. accorded Fulham Wright a rousing farewell at the Club on Thursday, 12th January. We wish this popular sportsman good "hunting" in the Antipodes.



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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

U.K. CRICKET TEAM FOR WEST INDIES

EVERTON Weekes, the West Indies Test batsman, has accepted an invitation to join Mr. E. W. Swanton's cricket team to tour the West Indies in March and April. Also in the team will be India's Ali Baig. Commenting on the announcement, Mr. Swanton writes in the "Daily Telegraph": "Naturally I am very happy to have Everton Weekes, who is available because cricket is out of season in Barbados, where he is the official island coach as well as captain. We are only practising in Barbados and playing a one-day game there." The team, under the captaincy of A.D.C. Lingleby-Mackenzie, will play two four-day matches against British Guiana and Trinidad, two or three days against the Windward Islands and Berbice, three two-day games at Tobago, St. Kitts and Trinidad, and a one-day match in Barbados.

* * *

RUSSIAN CHALLENGE AT AINTREE

IF present plans hold good Russia will challenge with five of her best steeple-chasers at Aintree next March. Three are due to run in the Grand National itself and two in the Topham Trophy. Mr. E. N. Dolmator, secretary of the Moscow Hippodrome, and Mr. E. Gotlib, director of one of the four biggest State stud farms in the U.S.S.R., have been in England for three weeks buying yearlings and exploring the possibility of racing their horses in Britain. In Russia horses are State-owned, in England by individuals. With the help of Weatherby's, secretaries to the National Hunt Committee, this hurdle has been overcome by arranging for the five Russian chasers to be leased to an individual while they run in England. The plan is for them to be sent over less than a week before Aintree. The three to be entered for the Grand National are Epigraff, Grifel, and Relieff; the two for the Topham are Broosnika and Exprompt.

* * *

THIRD TEST THRILLS

ONE of the most memorable days of Test cricket was witnessed on the opening day of the third Test at Sydney last week when

Garfield Sobers, the hero of the never-to-be-forgotten tie-match at Brisbane, unmercifully slammed the Australian bowling in a devastating onslaught to hit an unbeaten 152, described by discerning judges of the game as the greatest epic ever in Test cricket. Sobers who at the start played well within himself at a period when his side was in distress—3 for 89—went on with caution to reach his century—superb and chanceless—and then treating the immense gathering present to an orgy of some of the most brilliant hitting ever seen on the Sydney ground. In two overs bowled by controversial Meckiff, Sobers slammed 4, 6, 4, 4, 4. One famous writer says:—"I never dreamed that the ball Sobers lifted for six off Meckiff would be played in a Test match. I am certain that mere words could not express the feelings of Meckiff as he saw the ball sail into the distance."

Sobers had added 16 to his overnight score on the second morning of the match when he was out for 168. Then followed a collapse and the West Indies were all out for 339.

* * *

CONRAD HUNTE'S CONSISTENCY

CONRAD HUNTE who scored a superb century for the West Indies in the second innings of the Second Test match at Melbourne is the only recognised opening batsman in the side, but he is a far cry from the conventional idea of an opening batsman.

He is a West Indian, which means he regards the bat as something to hit the ball with; he is a Barbadian, which means he has all the strokes, the nerve, the confidence and the equipment to use the bat for that purpose.

That's possibly why he has never lived up to his early promise in Test cricket. His life at the wicket is usually short, but NEVER dull.

His style is as original as his middle name (Cleophus)

A right-hander, short, powerful and a lightning-fast runner, Hunt was a schoolboy prodigy in Barbados. In 1951, at the age of 19, he was making centuries for Barbados.

But he had to wait a long while for his Test chance—he first appeared against Pakistan in West

Indies in 1958 when he scored 160 in the Third Test and shared a 446-run partnership with Sobers.

He is a magnificent cutter and hooker of anything short.

He has scored over one thousand runs in 18 Tests and has already notched three centuries on the present tour.

* * *

FRANZ ALEXANDER

FRANZ COPELAND MURRAY ALEXANDER, Vice-captain of the West Indies team, was another who figured with notable success in the third Test match at Sydney, not only keeping wickets in his best form, but scoring an invaluable 108 in the second innings—his highest in Test cricket.

Alexander captained West Indies in four series against India, Pakistan (twice) and England. A brilliantly acrobatic wicket-keeper, against England in the West Indies last season he equalled South African John Waite's record of 23 wickets in a series.

A magnificent athlete, powerful and sturdy, he gained a double blue (soccer and cricket) at Cambridge University and won an English Amateur International "cap" against Scotland at soccer.

His batting is more determined than dashing, but he has played some extremely useful innings for West Indies.

He was offered the captaincy in Australia, but stood down in favour of Worrell, explaining that he wished to concentrate wholly on his 'keeping.

Prior to this tour he had played in 20 Tests, 28 innings, 4 not-outs, highest score 70, runs 477, average 19.8; 74 victims, only 5 stumped.

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A WOMAN'S DIARY

—By "BETA"—

WITH the opening of the new school year there will be numbers of children who are in for the experience of going to school for the first time. For most of them it would be the first time they have been away from their homes for a considerable stretch of time on their own, and sometimes parents do not realise quite how important a step this is in the child's life. A young child who has spent all his time up to now in a home environment in which his needs and desires play a big part suddenly finds himself pushed out of his secure world into strange rooms tenanted by unfamiliar grown-ups and numbers of unknown children. There are numbers of children of course who take to school like ducks to water, and enjoy themselves thoroughly from the word go, but there are the others, who find it rather an overwhelming business, and who will need a lot of understanding and help if it is to be made a happy experience. This is important, because on the pattern of this, the child's first reaction to the world at large, will be built all his future patterns of social behaviour.

THERE are many ways in which parents can help. The first, and indeed the most important, is by never letting the child feel that going to school is some kind of a punishment. Some parents, unfortunately, tell their children "If you are naughty I shall pack you off to school, and then see what will happen"! No wonder such children approach school with something akin to terror. Even such remarks as "Junior starts school soon, and then we shall have some peace" are not very kind. The child should never be made to feel he is being got rid of by being sent to school. School should, instead, be made one of the goals of growing "when you are older, you will be able to go to school."

IT is also important that school should not be made to appear a place of banishment! For instance, if an addition to the family is expected, it might seem the most expedient thing to do is to pack an older child off to school, but care

must be exercised. If the two events take place at about the same time the child will unavoidably be made to feel that he is being sent away to make place for the new arrival, and his attitude both to school and to the changed home life will be affected. If it is at all possible, he should start school well before the expected time, and if this cannot be arranged, at least six months to a year should be allowed to elapse before schooling is begun. Another factor which might necessitate the postponement temporarily of beginning school is if for any reason a family have to move house about that time. It is a strain on a child to have to read, just himself to the unfamiliar back ground of a new home, and going to school at the same time would be an additional strain.

HAVING done as much as possible to ensure that entry into school should be happy, the next thing to consider is how to help the child through the early days. Some people make a habit of staying throughout the time with the child, but with most children this is not necessary, and indeed may hold the child back from entering fully into the activities of the rest, although some very timid children might need the assurance of a familiar presence for a short time. The more important thing, however, is that who ever comes to take the child home should be punctual, and if possible should be waiting for the child when the time comes, for nothing would be more unnerving to a child than to find himself "left behind" with everyone else going away.

IT should also be realised by parents that at this stage it is natural that a child should become rather boisterous and aggressive at home. This is not because the child "meets all sorts of children at school, and picks up all their bad habits" but because it is the natural outlet for the pent up energies of the child who has been restrained at school. What should be more natural than that a child who has had to be comparatively quiet and subjugate his wishes to those of his teachers and the other children, should want to blow his top when he gets back to the safety of his own home. It should be a relief to

parents to know that this stage does not usually last very long and usually the less notice and comment it evokes, the sooner it stops!

PARENTS should, however, unobtrusively watch to see whether a child is fitting satisfactorily into school life or not. Children who are fortunate enough to have an older brother or sister at school, or a friend they have known previously outside school, usually settle in with the minimum of difficulty, but some children who find themselves in completely new environment are apt to suffer. It is in such cases that a good parent-teacher relationship is of inestimable value, for the parent and the teacher together can find the answer to the question of how best to help the child. It has been suggested by some experts that a system by which children, before they actually join a nursery class, can "visit" the class from time to time and so become familiar with it could be useful. It could also be that a child would benefit if at first he did not stay for the full session, or else missed a day occasionally and spent it quietly at home. For such solutions, of course, the co-operation of the teacher is absolutely necessary.

THERE are other little points which go a long way to making a child's introduction to school life either happy or miserable, which parents do not always appreciate. One thing is that children are particularly wary of anything which makes them "different"—clothes, accent, possessions, they all wish to be as like to each other as possible. For instance, if fifteen out of a class of sixteen come to school with their books in satchels slung over their shoulder, the sixteenth is not going to be very happy with his attache case, however neat or expensive it may be! Nobody wants all the children turned into carbon copies of each other, needless to say, but if a child repeatedly remarks that all the other children have something or do something, it is up to a parent to investigate as to whether the remark is activated by the desire to conform!

(Continued on page 32)

ART, MUSIC & DRAMA

— By "LYRICUS" —

MANY in Colombo had their first experience of Japanese dancing when the Nichigeki Dancing Team from Tokyo gave a performance recently. It provided a fleeting glimpse of the living Japan, of ballet-like lightness and grace, tasteful blend of colours and accomplished singing. Some of the dances had been modified to suit foreign audiences and therefore could not perhaps be strictly described as folk dances but the "westernization" was not jarring, and produced a characteristic Japanese blend of the old with the new, traditional with the contemporary and the native with the foreign.

It seems a pity that there should have been room for complaint that the recitals were confined to invitees and in fact the publicity arrangements seemed to be inadequate; few members of the public were aware of the recitals till afterwards.

ROHAN de Saram, the Ceylon cellist, received warm praise from music critics following his solo appearance with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra at Carnegie Hall recently. He was described as "extremely talented" by the "Herald Tribune" critic, and "a serious musician and a good instrumentalist" by the critic of the "New York Times".

The latter said: "He left no doubt that he was a serious musician and a good instrumentalist. Certainly his cellistic background is impeccable — studies with Hohermann, Cassado, Navarra and Casals. All this was evident in his clear work and in the finish of his playing. Next time perhaps the music will be matched to the man", said the critic who expressed the view that de Saram had been somewhat miscast.

The "New York Herald Tribune" said: "His technique seemed flawless and his tone was exceptionally lyric and fluent in playing that had a refreshing absence of weightiness or overt effort. His higher notes had unusual breadth and colour, and warmth marked his lower tones, while he had a thorough command of subtle degrees of volume and hue".

DENES Zsigmondy, the well known violinist who eleven months ago gave a grand recital with Janet Keuneman at the piano comes back to Colombo this month to play at the Lionel Wendt Theatre on January 26. This time his pianist is Annaheze Zsigmondy. In his programme are three major works: the Bach Chaconne, Brahms's Sonata in G. Opus 78 and Ravel's Tzigane.

THE musical world of Ceylon loses one of its prominent figures with the departure to Australia with his wife and family on January 27, of Mr. Orwell Foenander, who recently retired after a long period of service on the preventive staff of H. M. Customs, to make his home in Melbourne. He has been in much demand in musical circles and made frequent radio appearances. We wish him and his family all the best.

A LOOK ROUND

(Continued from page 27)

"FLYING ballets" are always popular in pantomimes. The dancers really do seem to fly gracefully over the stage as they are carried high into the air on wires. Sometimes they skim right out over the audience, and all of it is thrilling, especially for the very young, many of whom have never seen anything like it before. Auditorium "flying" is one of the features of this year's pantomime, "Mother Goose", at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. In "Peter Pan", which comes back every Christmas but is a children's play and not a pantomime, the "flying" is an important part of the story.

These spectacular Christmas shows which go on in London and all over Britain are mainly intended for children, but they also delight the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and god-parents who take them, and who not only share in the fun but also re-capture memories of their own childhood. Perhaps, that is why thousands of families go every year, and why seat bookings for next year's pantomimes start almost as soon as this season's finishes.

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS

(Continue from page 15)

ranges from a Commonwealth Prime Minister to a British trawler skipper. The Commonwealth statesman honoured is the Prime Minister of Malaya, Tunku Abdul Rahman. He is made a member of the small, distinguished order of Companions of Honour. The only other person to be made a Companion of Honour is the Earl of Limerick, chairman of Britain's Medical Research Council.

Only two peerages are included in the list—one a hereditary peerage and the other a life peerage. The hereditary peerage is conferred on Sir Alexander Fleck, the well-known industrialist, for public services.

Sir Alexander, now 71, was formerly chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., and was chairman of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1958.

A WOMAN'S DIARY

(Continued from page 11)

TAKING it by and large, therefore, the responsibility for ensuring that their children's introduction to education is a happy one, lies with the parents, and it is up to them to call upon all their resources of understanding and tact so that this, their children's first contact with the outside world, should be such as to help them to develop along lines which will mean the development of all their potentialities.

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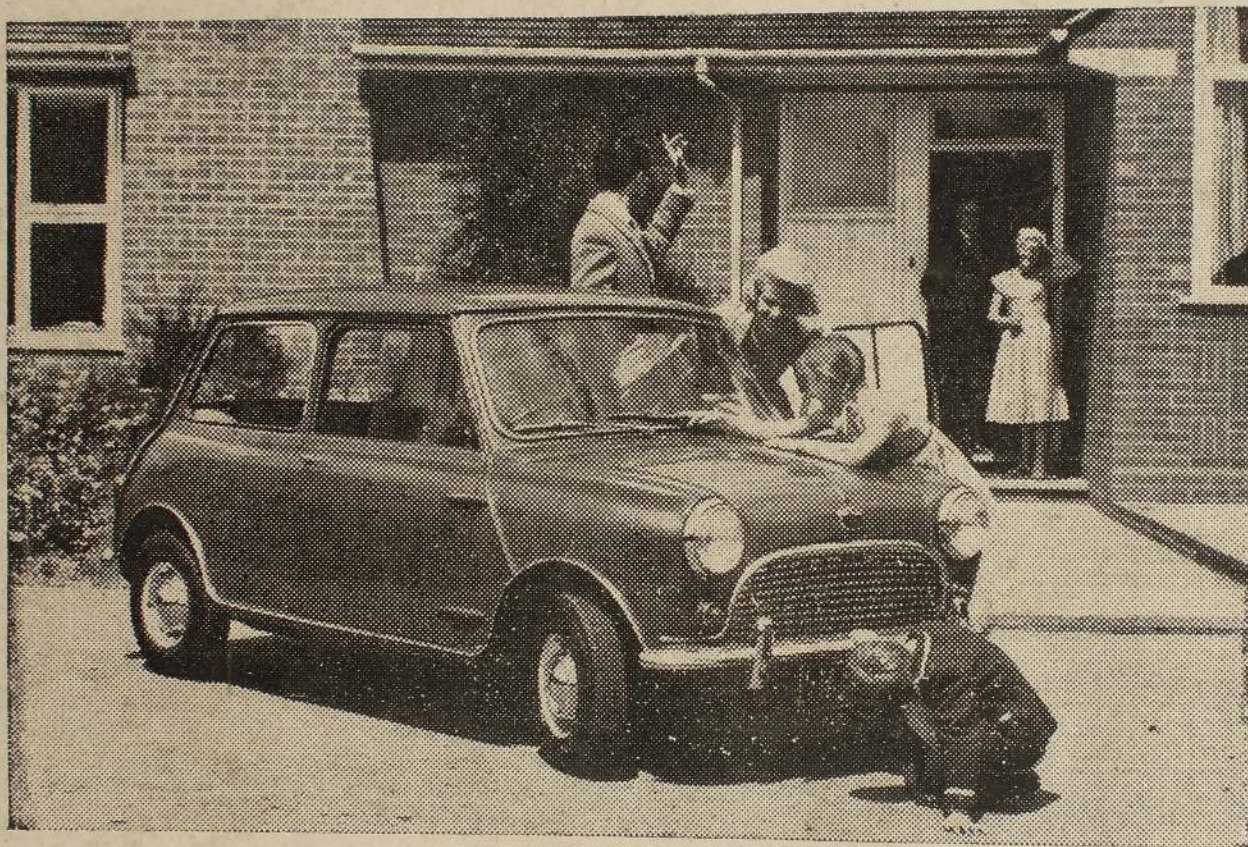
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