

The Ceylon Postnightly Review

Vol. XIV

PRICE 50 Cts.

Registered at the G. P. O. as a Newspaper.

9th June, 1961.

No. 3.

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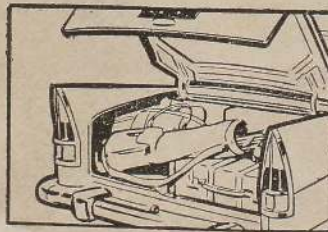


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SEVENTY years old, but still going strong, Dixie, Whipsnade Zoo's famous Indian elephant, pulls tree trunks from a site near the main entrance to the Zoo which is being cleared to widen an existing road into the Zoo. A pedestrian tunnel leading from the car park outside is also being built so that visitors will not have to cross a busy main road to enter the Zoo.

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CEYLON AND TOURISM

IT is reported that the Skal international congress, which was to be held in October in Ceylon, will be held elsewhere. The reasons given for the change of venue is the cost of travelling to Ceylon and the unsettled conditions in the country.

Wherever the congress meets, it must involve more expense to some delegates than to others, while time and distance are of no account in this jet age. The real reason must be assumed to be the political instability in the Island, with the possibility of an eruption of disorder.

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THE proposal to hold the Skal congress in Ceylon, which meant a foregathering of representatives of travel organizations from all over the world, was expected to give a boost to Ceylon as a tourist centre. But the efforts of the Government to promote tourism have produced such poor results that it is to be doubted whether even the holding of the Congress would have improved matters.

While the Government maintains a tourist organization, and incurs expenditure on publicity of the Island's attractions, it is true to say that the facilities available to visitors in the way of hotel accommodation and travel arrangements leave much to be desired. There are also the frequent complaints against the Customs, immigration, and health authorities, not to mention instances of harassment by touts and of cheating by taxi-drivers and traders.

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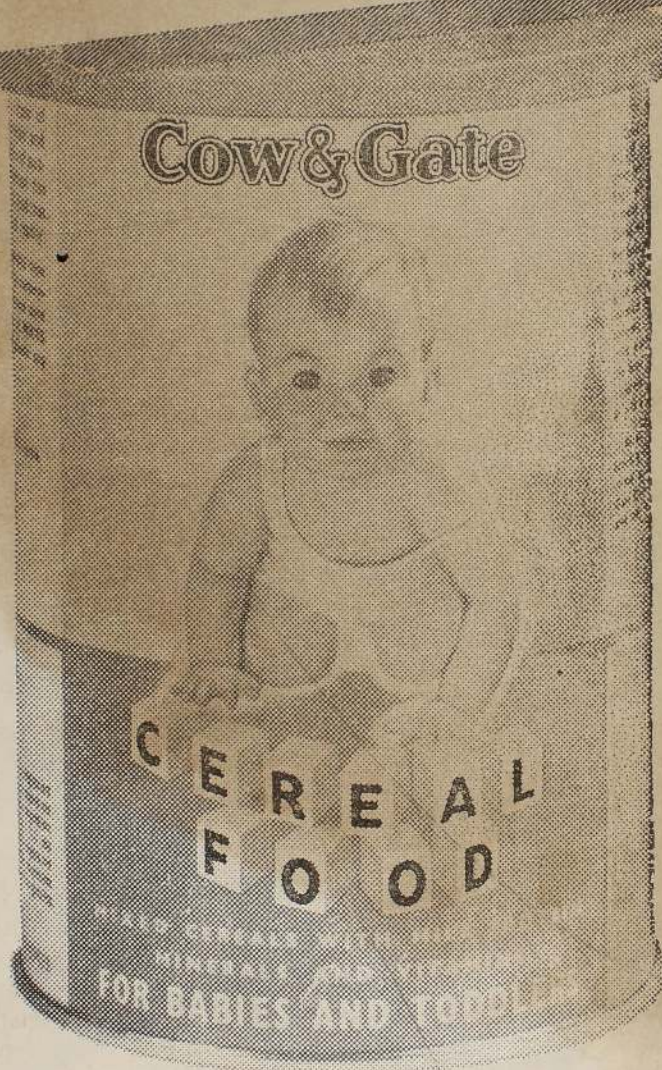
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CEYLON'S tourist potentialities are obvious, but as long as causes for dissatisfaction on the part of visitors exist it is pertinent to ask whether the Government is serious about drawing tourists here. It is significant that while other Eastern countries have joined in making 1961 "Visit the Orient" year, Ceylon seems to be standing out.

If the Government is not prepared to help improve hotel services and firm action is not to be taken to get rid of touts and control trades catering for tourists, what is the purpose of the expenditure on promoting tourism? Now that the subject has been placed under the Prime Minister, a clear policy should emerge from the investigations of the committee she has appointed.

THE EDITOR

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

—By BRUTUS—

A message from the Queen was read in many languages at churches throughout Britain and the Commonwealth on May 14—Commonwealth Youth Sunday.

It read: "I thank you for the loyal message which I have received for Commonwealth Youth Sunday. On this important day I send my greetings to all young people who have met together to pledge once again their loyalty to our family of nations.

"My thoughts go out to all of you both here at home and in the distant parts of our Commonwealth today, and my heart is warmed by the knowledge that our relationship one with the other, in perfect freedom, has grown because we share a faith both in our heritage and our future.

"You, now listening to my words, hold the future of our troubled world in your hands. Never was there a time when so much was offered to youth, nor so much demanded of it. To be young in 1961 is a challenge, but to be young and a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations is also an opportunity.

"I ask you now to remember that this is a time for greatness in which each one of you will have a part to play. May God bless you all".

The Queen's message was read in Sinhalese and Tamil in churches throughout Ceylon.

* * *

A jubilee, the celebration of which has had to be postponed on account of the existence of a state of emergency is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Ceylon Planters' Society. May 13th was the date fixed for the event, which was to have been held at Radella at the same time as the annual general meeting. It is likely that the celebrations will take place later this month, should normality return.

Many of the original members of the Society are no longer in the Island and the affairs of the Society, which has changed in complexion considerably in recent years, are in younger hands. For the new

as well as the older members the excitement that prevailed in the planting community when the Society went through its birth pangs is being recapitulated in a souvenir publication of its Bulletin. It will no doubt record the indefatigable exertions of the late D.E. Hamilton, the first Chairman, in setting the Society on its feet and the valuable part played by men like E. F. Marriott, H. S. Hurst, and B. D. Fay in guiding it to maturity.

* * *

THE state of emergency was extended to a second month by a proclamation by the Governor-



H. M. Queen Elizabeth II.

General on Tuesday, May 16th. A week later the curfew in Jaffna, Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Mannar was reduced from ten hours at night to six (10 p.m. to 4 a.m.) and completely lifted at Vavuniya.

In a statement in the Senate the Prime Minister said that certain of the persons held in detention were being released, but not the Members of Parliament of the Federal Party. She added that the Government was making every effort to solve the language problem; it was wrong to suggest that the Government wished to continue the emergency indefinitely, she said.

In the meantime, at the instance of the Government the House of

Representatives agreed to give four months leave to the detained Federal Party members.

* * *

ANURADHAPURA was brought within the internal air service last month with the Prime Minister arriving in the sacred city in the inaugural flight. Several ministers accompanied her on the flight and a ceremonial reception was accorded to them in the airfield. Free flights were given to many people, including Buddhist monks.

Mrs. Bandaranaike announced that it was intended to extend the air service to the Southern Province and to Nuwara Eliya, so that all the regions would be accessible by air.

Mrs. Bandaranaike also laid the foundation stone for an ornamental shelter for the seated statue of the Buddha on the western perimeter of the old city of Anuradhapura. This sculpture has been widely acclaimed as a masterpiece.

* * *

PARLIAMENT was the scene of most exciting events before the adjournment last month. Three days were spent in a procedural wrangle arising from the suspension of two members of the Opposition and in the course of it, for the first time, the tape recorder was consulted to check the Speaker's memory. Subsequently one of the two, who had both returned to the House, was again suspended for insulting the Chair. Thereafter when the House was trying to catch up on lost time another member, the former caretaker Prime Minister, Mr. W. Dahanayake, was suspended for disobeying the deputy-Speaker and bodily taken out of the chamber. The House set up a record by being in continuous session on the last day for nearly 23 hours.

The trouble began when Mr. Philip Gunawardena, leader of the MEP, rose in defence of Mr. J. R. Jayawardene (UNP) against insinuations referring to Mr. Bandaranaike's assassination by Mr. P. B. G. Kalugalla (Minister of Transport and Works). The Speaker (Mr. R. S. Pelpola) called him to order, but he criticised the Speaker himself and was named and suspended for a week. His brother, Mr. Robert Gunawar-

MATTERS OF MOMENT

dena, rose in his support, and following an uproar he too was suspended. On the following day, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, contended that the motions suspending the two members had not been put to the House. During the ensuing discussion the two members made their way into the chamber despite obstruction by Police. After listening to the tape-recorder on the suggestion of Mr. Senanayake, the Speaker declared his orders of suspension as of no effect.

THE Government, however, made an issue of the conduct of the Gunewardena brothers, and the Standing Orders being no longer available the Leader of the House, Mr. C. P. de Silva, introduced motions charging them with breach of privilege. During the debate on it, the brothers clashed with the Speaker and Mr. Philip Gunewardena was again suspended.

The motion against Mr. Philip Gunewardena was supported by the LSSP and the C.P. and carried. The Leader of the House thereupon announced that the honour and dignity of the Speaker having been vindicated he would not move for punishment of the member. The announcement was received with applause from all sides of the House, as was the decision of Mr. de Silva to withdraw the motion against Mr. Robert Gunewardena.

The incident in which Mr. Dahanayake figured occurred during the marathon session the next day on his insisting to speak, in defiance of the Chair, in support of a motion by Mr. Robert Gunewardena to suspend the third reading of a Bill amending the Village Councils Act for six months.

THE Minister of Trade and Food, Mr. T. B. Ilangaratne, chalked up a third momentous achievement last month when he piloted through Parliament the People's Bank Bill. It is identical with the Co-operative Development Bank Bill formulated by Mr. Philip Gunewardena whilst in the late Mr. Bandaranaike's Cabinet opposition to which led to the break-up of the MEP coalition. Earlier Mr. Ilangaratne introduced the Bill to nationalise life insurance and the Petrol Corporation Bill.

The Bank is designed to give credit to peasants, which, it was Mr. Ilangaratne's case, the commercial banks, including the Bank of Ceylon, had failed to do, and even the Co-operative Federal Bank, which is to be merged in the new bank. The capital of the bank will be Rs. 6 million divided into 120,000 shares of Rs. 50, of which half will be allotted to co-operative societies and the other half be purchased by the Government. The Government will also contribute Rs. 2 million

towards the general and special reserve of the bank and Rs. 1 million to its building fund. The prospectus of the bank states that it will carry out all the functions of a commercial bank and develop the co-operative movement, rural banking and agricultural credit by furnishing financial and other assistance to co-operative societies and individuals.

Mr. Vincent Subasinghe, founder of the model Sandalankawa Co-operative Societies, has been appointed manager of the bank.

A Bill providing for the levy of a tax of Rs. 400 a year on non-nationals resident for more than three months in Ceylon on visas was also passed in the House of Representatives. Exempt from the tax are residents of Indian origin who are "stateless" estate workers, children under 16 and students in educational institutions recognized by the state, experts, technicians and officials engaged in development projects. There is provision in the Bill for the alteration of the rate of tax from time to time and exemption of any class of person who deserves relief.

In the committee stage of the Bill a Communist amendment for the tax being payable in instalments was accepted by the Government.

The tax was described by the Finance Minister, Mr. Felix Dias Bandaranaike, as a revenue proposal. To criticism by Mr. Thondaman (appointed member), he replied by asking whether it was unfair to ask a person who came here for a living to pay the tax. If a man found it profitable to bring his wife and family, he should pay for them he said, and pointed out that when they left Ceylon they would be allowed to take away the money they had earned in Ceylon.

THE anniversary service commemorating the founding of Kingswood, Kandy—on May 4th, 1891—was this year held in the Baptist Chapel, Cinnamon Gardens, Colombo, with special reference to the late Rev. Cyril Ratnaike, an old boy of the school and some time Secretary of the National Christian Council.

The service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. Lakdasa de Mel, Bishop of Kurunegala, assisted by the



A reception was given by the German Ambassador on May 29th, at his residence, to the German Trade Union Delegation. Left to right: Mr. P. B. Tampoe, Ceylon Mercantile Union, Mr. Von Goerzke, Press Attache, German Embassy, and H.E. the German Ambassador, Dr. Theodore Auer.

MATTERS OF MOMENT

Rev. W. G. Wickremasinghe, Principal of Carey College, Colombo

Kingswood, which was founded by L. E. Blaze, is now a state-managed school.

* * *

SPECIMENS of wood believed to be a million years old, now in the laboratories of Leeds University's Botany Department, are being studied by Professor K. A. Chowdhury, Professor of Botany at Aligarh Muslim University, who is no stranger to Ceylon.

These and other specimens have been discovered in Ceylon and parts of South-West and Eastern India and may lead to important discoveries concerning the difference in the behaviour of tissues in ancient plants. Professor Chowdhury has explained that the million-year-old Ceylon wood had been discovered in gem mines, while the Indian samples had been collected by Buddhist monks 2,000 years ago.

"It may be" he said "that eventually my work may lead to important discoveries in timber research which will benefit my country's paper and paper-board making industry".

* * *

FOLLOWING the recent very successful visit of Lady Ogilvie, one of the leading person-

alities in women's university education in the United Kingdom, the British Council is arranging for a visit to Ceylon by a person of outstanding experience in the education of girls at secondary school level. She is Miss Margaret F. Adams, O.B.E., Officer d'Academie, and formerly Headmistress of Croydon High School.

Miss Adams has served for many years on the Central Advisory Council for Education and was Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Four Secondary Associations. She was President of the Association of Headmistresses 1946-48 and has served on several national committees appointed by the Ministry of Education. During her stay in Ceylon, from June 19 to 26, Miss Adams will give various lectures on the Training of Teachers, School Examinations (G.C.E. and others), Sixth Form Studies and the Education of Girls.

* * *

THE Supreme Court has confirmed the conviction on all but two charges of the Member of Parliament for Welimada, Mr. K. M. P. Rajaratna, and eight others, and reduced the sentence imposed on them by the Badulla District Court from two and half years hard labour to a year and a half. Mr. Rajaratna is the leader of the extremist nationa-

list party, Jatika Vimukthi Peramuna which he and his wife represent in Parliament.

The incidents leading to the charges against the nine persons occurred at Welimada in April, 1958, a month before the communal riots, when a shop was damaged and its proprietor injured, after a meeting held in the course of a campaign to erase Tamil letters in signboards. It was argued for the defence that the convicted persons had no part in the incidents and it was pointed out that it was a Sinhalese who was injured and whose property was damaged.

The Supreme Court held that it was a serious matter to incite a crowd. The appeal was heard by Justices Sinnetamby and Thambiah.

* * *

THREE of the seniormost officers in the public service retired last month. They were Mr. M. F. de S. Jayaratne Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs, Mr. S. F. Amerasinghe, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance and the head of the Treasury, and his deputy, Mr. Herman Peries.

Mr. Peries is the youngest of the three, being only 55. One of Ceylon's few wranglers, he was appointed Deputy Secretary to the Treasury in 1957.



Sierra Leone's independence was officially proclaimed in Freetown, the capital, on April 27 when the Duke of Kent representing the Queen handed the constitutional instruments to the Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai, at the State opening of Parliament.

The presentation of a Gold Key to the Duke was made at the civic welcome to the Duke at the East Municipal Boundary.

Seated at the extreme right is the Governor of Sierra Leone, Sir Maurice Dorman.



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ON THE SUNNY SIDE

— BY ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON —

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

"OPEN wider, please", says the dentist and, registering silent protest with our eyes, we try to comply, even if it means lock-jaw. Not a pleasant experience at the best of times, and I am glad to see that Britain's school children, at any rate, have a dental champion who spares them this indignity when he can.

He is Dr. Massey Dawkins. Writing in the "British Dental Journal", Dr. Dawkins describes a sweet, edible mouth-prop he has been using to keep children's jaws open. Not only does it save tears and struggles; the child knows that, after the stopping or extraction, the tasty "prop" will be washed and presented to him for immediate enjoyable consumption.

* * *

• TO THE 10,880th PLACE

WOULD that such summary rewards could follow tedious classroom tasks, especially—to recall my own schoolboy experience—mathematics! No schoolboy, even today, gets the benefit of an electronic computer, though many must wish they owned one of Britain's new EMIDEC 1100s. This remarkable machine has just calculated almost the exact value of the Greek symbol π .

Every schoolboy knows that π —used to indicate the proportion of a circle's circumference to its diameter—works out at roughly 3.14 but always with a remainder. Which means that the figures after the decimal points go stretching on to infinity.

Now along comes Mr. N. D. Robinson, a mathematician at the laboratories of E.M.I. Electronics Ltd. He sets his computer in motion and, after 35,000,000 separate calculations, it discovers the value of π to 10,880 decimal places—further than it has ever been taken before. If a 15-years-old schoolboy started on the same task with pencil and paper, he would finish it at about the age of 80. The EMIDEC took 13 hours.

DESERT ISLAND THRILL

THE demands of schoolwork, by the way, have set a pretty problem for a British film company whose talent scouts have been scouring Canada and the United States of America, as well as the United Kingdom, in search of twelve and 13 years-old boys to play parts in a new film, "The Lord of the Flies", based on William Golding's best-selling novel. It tells of schoolboys



Viscount de L'Isle

Viscount de L'Isle, V.C., has been appointed Governor-General of Australia in succession to Lord Dunrossil, who died in February. Lord de L'Isle won the Victoria Cross while serving with the Grenadier Guards at Anzio, Italy, during World War II

marooned on a desert island, and the aim is to do most of the filming at Puerto Rico, in The West Indies, in June and July. Unfortunately for director Peter Brook, this does not coincide with school holidays.

With the optimism of most of his tribe, however, Mr. Brook hopes to prevail on schools to release these "stars in embryo" when the final choice is made at the end of May.

Who would not wish to be marooned on an island when it means eight weeks in West Indian sunshine? Really hot sunshine is what we hope for and expect in Britain in the next few months during the height of the holiday season, but

no one in these interesting islands can ever be sure in advance. The farmers, especially, would like to know.

* * *

WEATHER WARNINGS

NOWADAYS they are getting useful help from Britain's Meteorological Office in the shape of a telegram service indicating to each subscribing farmer when a fine spell is expected in his area. A fine spell is defined as at least 72 hours without measurable rain. The all-in charge for the service is £2 from May to October. Farmers are also encouraged to telephone their local "Met" office for up-to-the-minute forecasts. Last year there were 61,652 such enquiries, which indicates a healthy respect for the work of weather ships throughout the world, and the forecasters who compile the information. One day I imagine, we shall have electronic computers gauging weather vagaries to the last drop of rain.

* * *

FOOT-AND-MOUTH VACCINE

BUT the news that will alert farmers everywhere concerns Britain's plans for making and selling on a world-wide scale new vaccine to combat foot-and-mouth disease. Giving the news in the House of Commons, Mr. Denzil Freeth, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Science, said the vaccines will be made at the Government's research institute at Pirbright, in the English county of Surrey, by the Wellcome Foundation Ltd. Research there has produced a vaccine against six or seven types of foot-and-mouth disease. Its efficiency has been demonstrated in experiments with hundreds of thousands of animals in South And East Africa.

By 1962 Britain will be exporting the means to avert much of the world's staggering annual loss in meat and milk.

* * *

EXPORTING A FACTORY—COMPLETE

TALKING of exports, the month's most intriguing item, to my mind, is an entire biscuit factory which is being shipped from Britain to Nigeria, packed in 275 crates. Made at Earlestown, in Lancashire, England, and costing £200,000, it

(Continued on page 32)



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PARLIAMENTARY TRADITIONS

—By CROSS-BENCHER—

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

THE series of incidents which upset the parliamentary programme last month disturbed some people anxious about healthy traditions being set up. Their concern, however, is misplaced. The traditions of Parliament do not rest entirely on the sustained decorous conduct of its members. Indeed occasional outbursts of feeling signify the existence of a live democracy, subject of course to the penalties which abuse of freedom of expression entails. Our Parliament is actually a tame institution compared with that of some countries. There has never, for example, been any violence in the chamber, as happened in Japan's Diet some time ago. Why even in the Mother of Parliaments not long ago there was an uproar when the Labour Opposition challenged a ruling of the Chair.

Where the establishment of good traditions are concerned, what matters is give and take between Government and Opposition when important issues are at stake and the pains taken by all the members to uphold the honour as well as the dignity of Parliament. In this respect our Parliament has on the whole a good record, taking the occasional lapses into account. Considering that the present House has a number of members, specially on the Government side, who are new to parliamentary life, it is no doubt deplorable that some of the oldest members should have been named and suspended. But in the Leader of the House has emerged a model for the younger members to follow.

* * *

WITH the seat of the Prime Minister beside him empty, Mr. C. P. de Silva has been visibly growing in stature as a parliamentarian by the graciousness with which he shoulders the added responsibility that has devolved on him. Of all the members on the Front Bench he alone seems to be unaffected by the sort of hostility his party encountered at the hustings last year. His loyalty to the Party is not of the order which sees slights in every move of the Oppo-

sition. His outlook is in contrast to the resentments generated by the elections which some of his colleagues have not been able to shake off. Nor is he influenced inordinately by self-interest: witness the readiness with which, in the interests of the Party, he relinquished its leadership on it being apparent that he should make way for Mrs. Bandaranaike if the late Prime Minister was to be vindicated.



Mr. C. P. de Silva
Leader of the House of Representatives

And after the Party was returned to power, and as a matter of course he became Leader of the House, his purpose has been to avoid Party squabbles so that parliamentary business may proceed smoothly. Having often to speak for the Government, his role has been not only to ward off criticism but create an atmosphere favourable for the Government by placating fractious elements on both sides.

* * *

MR. de Silva first gave evidence of his parliamentary maturity when, no doubt overcoming the

objection of some members of the Cabinet, he announced that the report of the Parliamentary Bribery Commission would be published in full. A strategic move by the Opposition did go to force the hand of the Government, but it is significant that he was no party to the suggestion of pressure having been brought on the Commission in arriving at its findings. He rose in the estimation of the Opposition and the public again when, after the declaration of a state of emergency, he announced that the report of the debate on the emergency, including allegations against the Police and the Army in Jaffna, would not be censored. Mr. J. R. Jayewardene paid him a just tribute when he applauded his democratic spirit.

* * *
MR. Jayewardene went on to say that he hoped Mr. de Silva would continue to put the supremacy and sovereignty of Parliament above all other institutions. He and the Opposition had not long to wait before Mr. de Silva gave further proof of his appreciation of democratic principles and his jealousy of the prestige of Parliament. When the Government group was insistent that the Gunewardena brothers should be dealt with for not respecting the Chair, after the Speaker had found his order suspending them of no effect, Mr. de Silva chose not to follow up the adoption of the motion censuring the elder brother by moving for his punishment. He also withdrew the motion against the younger brother. This was not dictated by just an impulse of personal generosity; it had a deep political significance. Nevertheless, as far as Parliament was concerned, the action created a historic precedent and established a splendid tradition.

To his duties as Minister, with a background of 15 years as a civil servant in dealing with the subjects with which he is in charge, Mr. de Silva adds a parliamentary sense as Leader of the House which cannot fail to have its impact on the course of events in the remainder of the term of the Government.

He is at present in America leading a parliamentary delegation which includes the Sama Samajist leader, Dr. N. M. Perera.

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A LOOK ROUND

— BY PERISCOPE —

ST. Xavier's College, Marawila, is to be heartily congratulated on having set a very good example to those of the rising generation who are imbued with political aspirations. In inaugurating a parliament for the College, Rev. Father J. B. Andradi, the Rector, said that training in leadership should form an essential feature in every school curriculum.

The parliamentary democratic system of government in Ceylon is still in its early youth, and our parliamentarians have yet to learn and unlearn a multitude of things before it can be said that our system of government has advanced far enough to be classed with similar systems in most of the Western countries. Nevertheless, it would be ungracious to say that the conduct of our present lot of parliamentarians is proof that the parliamentary democratic system of government will never be a success in Ceylon.

The establishment of school parliaments will go a long way towards ensuring that, as the years roll by, parliamentary democracy in Ceylon will become a more responsible and sedate institution and that our future parliamentarians will not be infected by that fatuous tendency to indulge in unseemly wrangles which tend to bring the legislature into disrepute.

THE recent scenes in the House of Representatives when the Gunawardena brothers had to be suspended, and the subsequent discomfiture of Mr. Speaker, who had to admit that his order of suspension was void, are incidents which, apart from being unedifying, are calculated to lower the importance of our legislature not only in the estimation of the public in Ceylon, but also in the estimation of the world outside.

High-ranking foreign personalities who have visited Ceylon when Parliament has been in session and seen for themselves the manner in which business is conducted normally in the House of Representatives have spoken in high terms of the standard of debate. If unfortunately they had been present when

Parliament was transformed into a bear garden with members shouting at and threatening each other across the floor of the House, it would have been a sorry story they would have told their compatriots on their return to their own countries.

WHAT some of our parliamentarians seem to lack badly is the ability to keep their tempers under control. They must understand that in Parliament they represent large sections of people whose interests they have pledged themselves to protect and foster. It is a tremendous responsibility which they have undertaken and it is up to them to be always mindful of it.

Mere tongue wagging and braggadoccio may be an easy way of playing to the gallery and winning cheap applause, but in the ultimate analysis it will be seen that such irresponsible, flashy conduct does no good either to those who resort to it or to the constituents they represent.

The Gunawardena brothers are undoubtedly able parliamentarians who could be a great asset to the country if they only learned the art of keeping their tempers unruffled in the heat of debate. The thrust and parry are admissible in any debate provided the regulations relating to such a dialectical technique are not contravened.

ANOTHER point worth stressing is the position of Mr. Speaker. He is a symbol of authority; he must be obeyed and respected and as long as he presides over a debate his rulings must be accepted without demur. Otherwise, the whole system of parliamentary government will be reduced to a farce.

Supposing an umpire's decision at a cricket match could be challenged or objected to, and if, say, a referee's ruling in a professional fistic encounter could be called in question, what would cricket or boxing be but a bellicose encounter that might at any moment flare up into a free-for-all by the supporters of the respective contestants.

PATIENCE, tolerance, forbearance and courtesy are the cardinal virtues of a gentleman, and as our parliamentarians are justly regarded as gentlemen with a high sense of honour and responsibility it should always be their aim to so conduct themselves in parliamentary debates as to make such conduct proclaim their virtues.

In this connection a story about Lord Randolph Churchill, the father of Sir Winston, is worth noting. He was a man of impeccable courtesy who never interrupted a speaker, no matter how tedious the recitation. One night at his club he was cornered by a bore who began to recount a dull story. After some minutes, Lord Randolph suddenly remembered that he had an appointment to keep. Excusing himself, the noble lord walked over to one of the attendants and said; "Will you please listen to that gentlemen who was just speaking to me and don't go away until he has finished what he has to say. I have to leave to attend some important business!" That was a gesture which proclaimed the gentleman.

PAY-days and festivals have become a bugbear to the bosses of the Ceylon Transport Board. It is alleged by them that most of their transport workers have a tendency to give themselves an extra day off following pay-days and festivals in order evidently to get over the hangover on the morning of the night before. This practice is, however, not confined to our C.T.B. workers. It is a trait that has more extensive application. But the C.T.B. bosses are rightly incensed because this sort of absenteeism among their workers is causing them great loss at a time when they can ill afford to sustain such loss. Besides, it means great inconvenience to a large section of the public who daily patronise the bus services.

THE practice has apparently been countenanced so long that those who are addicted to it have come to regard it as a privilege to which they are entitled. Any drastic or stringent measures to put a stop to it, as proposed by the C.T.B., might only make matters worse. Workers of the type to which the C.T.B. men belong are always on

(Continued on page 32)

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CRICKET AT ITS BEST

By W. T. GRESWELL

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

THE pleasant looking-forward through the dark and dreary months of an English Winter culminates now in excited speculation. The first Test match at Birmingham between England and Australia starts in a fortnight. Interest is probably at a higher pitch than it has been for many years at the start of a cricket season. For this the visit of the Australians is entirely responsible, reinforced as it is by memories of their absorbing and close-fought battles with the West Indians last Winter. It is safe to say that, if it was the turn of any member country of the lesser lights of the Imperial Cricket Conference to tour England this Summer, matters would be approaching a state of fatal disinterest.

As it is there are signs that English County Cricket is responding to the efforts of the M.C.C. Special Committee appointed to make suggestions as to how the game may be brightened, though these suggestions contain no concrete changes and are purely exhortation and "pep" talk. The press gave accounts yesterday of three matches decided only in the last few minutes of play: cricket at its best and most exciting.

AS a background to this, and already a definite inspiration, is the manner in which Benaud and his men are setting about their task. The Australian skipper's announcement on arrival that he and his team are determined to play entertaining cricket, win or lose, is being amply fulfilled already and the Counties, who have met our guests, have been slaughtered mercilessly and with cheerful abandon, and chiefly through hammer blows from batsmen of high quality who think only in terms of three figure scores.

As so often happens the Australians were greeted at Tilbury with typical English late Spring weather, a chilly reception in which northerly gales and drizzling rain make a cricketer wonder how many sweaters he can wear without distortion to his figure or hampering movement. This state of affairs accompanied

net practice at Lord's and the three opening games of the tour with Worcester, Yorkshire and Derbyshire. The only signs of brightness and the hope of things to come were provided by our visitors, who soon showed promise of batting excellence.

The weather improved and at the moment Summer is with us at its best. The Australian batting has responded yet more until, in their match with Cambridge, the score card showed four centuries by the first four batsmen in the first innings, an astonishing performance.



Mr. W. T. Greswell

In a "Birthday Message" to us last month, Sir John Howard, our former Chief Justice, said: "You must be congratulated on having secured over the years the expert, well-informed and breezy articles of Mr. W. T. Greswell."

TO prophesy the outcome of the Test series is at this moment foolhardy and asking for trouble. In three weeks' time, after the first engagement, it should be one fifth easier but by no means safe. At the moment two main facts stand out and cannot be denied. Both sides are strong in batting with England possibly the stronger lower in the order of going in, and both

sides are likely to be very limited in class bowling. The conclusion based on these two facts is that, given fine weather and presumably good batting conditions, the matches should last the full five days, a very promising prospect in the matter of "gates" and the urgent need of the Test match "share out" by the many impoverished counties.

DEALING with England's batting strength, it is more than likely that four amateurs will form the backbone of it as before: May, Cowdrey, Dexter and M. J. K. Smith, though at the moment Dexter is resting because of a slight knee injury. It may be assumed that May, who is once more in his powerful batting form after a season's absence through ill health, will captain England, a welcome return to his responsible post.

The selectors will not have much trouble in fitting in with this nucleus a few more batsmen of quality such as Subba Row, Barrington, Pullar and Parks. In opposition the Australians have batting stars of great brilliance who have already run into form. Of these O'Neill on his first visit to England is prominent in the galaxy and will have a great reception in the Test arena, while Simpson, another new comer, will be watched with interest as an all-rounder. Harvey, in age the father of the side, and a batsman whose Test appearances have been so marked by fluctuations in form, is at present seeing the ball well and is punishing it accordingly. Macdonald and Burge and Benaud and Davidson are all potential and greedy rungetters.

THE real interest in this series centres on the bowling. Each side has only two bowlers of proven merit. England with Trueman and Statham and Australia with Benaud and Davidson. Let it be noted that these four bowlers are no longer in their first youth and five day Test matches are a severe strain on a bowler's endurance. Australia's other bowling choices are definitely inexperienced and their appearances are experimental to a large degree. The suspect-action fast bowlers have faded away into a memory, lost in an effort to adjust their actions to the laws of Cricket.

(Continued on page 32)



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DAME NELLIE MELBA

CENTENARY OF A GREAT SINGER

(Fortnightly Review Special)

ONE hundred years ago, on May 19, Helen Porter Mitchell was born in the Melbourne suburb of Richmond. As Dame Nellie Melba, she was destined to put Australia on the map of the civilized world more surely and more lastingly than any other man or woman before her time. Although it is 30 years since Melba was buried on the outskirts of her beloved Lilydale, near Melbourne, Australians travelling on the Continent at the present time will still encounter Europeans who identify Australia as Melba's birthplace. Such lasting fame is achieved by few mortals in each generation. That Melba won this world acclaim at a time when Australia was little thought of abroad is a tribute to her unique gifts and personality.

* * *

NELLIE Melba, who once sang in Colombo before a packed house at the old Public Hall, was blessed with a God-given voice which enabled her to sing herself into the hearts of millions of people, but she was much more than a great singer. Throughout her long career, Melba proved herself unique as a woman who was intensely proud of her country and determined that whatever fame she won should be shared with her country and her countrymen. This trait in Melba's character shows itself in numberless ways: her very choice of Melba as her stage name; the inscription, "East, West, home's best" on the clock-tower of Coombe Cottage, her Lilydale home; and in her search for "a second Melba", which became almost an obsession in the closing years of her life.

The real story of Melba has not yet been written. Her autobiography does not do her justice—the Beverly Nichols novel, *EVEN-SONG*, is juvenile and curiously feline, and the few other books about her are inadequate. And with that tendency to deride the great, countless damaging stories have been invented around the name of Melba. But perhaps these provide in themselves a measure of the awe the great singer inspired among her own people.

The story of Nellie Melba is the story of one woman against the world, a most unconventional story at a time when convention ruled society from its aristocratic pinnacles down to the lowest sub-strata of the poor. Her struggle began soon after the break-up of her marriage to Charles Armstrong, son of an Irish baronet and manager of a Queensland sugar mill.

* * *

NELLIE persuaded her father, a well-to-do quarry operator in Melbourne, to take her and her baby son, George, to London where she hoped to win recognition as a singer. But when the trio arrived, London was apathetic. Sir Arthur Sullivan heard Nellie sing and told her that if she studied hard for a year he might be able to offer her a small part in *THE MIKADO*. Further disappointments followed and an ignominious return to Australia seemed inevitable, but Nellie's faith in herself never wavered. "I am going to Paris to see Madame Marchesi", she said.

She told her father: "If Madame Marchesi does not think anything of my voice, I promise to return to Australia with you and try to be happy there". David Mitchell reluctantly agreed to the pact, and Nellie and her small child crossed the Channel for the momentous interview with Marchesi, acknowledged as the greatest teacher of operatic singing of the day. Nellie was terrified when Marchesi sat down at the piano and told her to sing. Her terror grew when the teacher told her not to screech her top notes, but she put all she had into singing as softly as she could.

* * *

SUDDENLY Marchesi sprang from her stool and rushed out of the room, leaving the young Australian aghast. Marchesi had run into her husband's study to announce breathlessly: "At last I have found a star". She returned to tell Nellie, "If you stay with me and work hard, I will make something extraordinary of you".

Marchesi was as good as her word and in October, 1887, the 26-year-old Nellie Armstrong made her bow in the world of opera as Madame Melba, a name formed from the city of her birth. *RIGOLETTO* had been chosen for her debut, which took place at the Theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels. Next morning the music critics spoke with one voice: a new and brilliant star had risen, they proclaimed, whose voice was a revelation for its purity and amazing technique. Offers of engagements began to flow in, and Melba chose the one closest to her heart: an offer to appear as Lucia at Covent Garden.

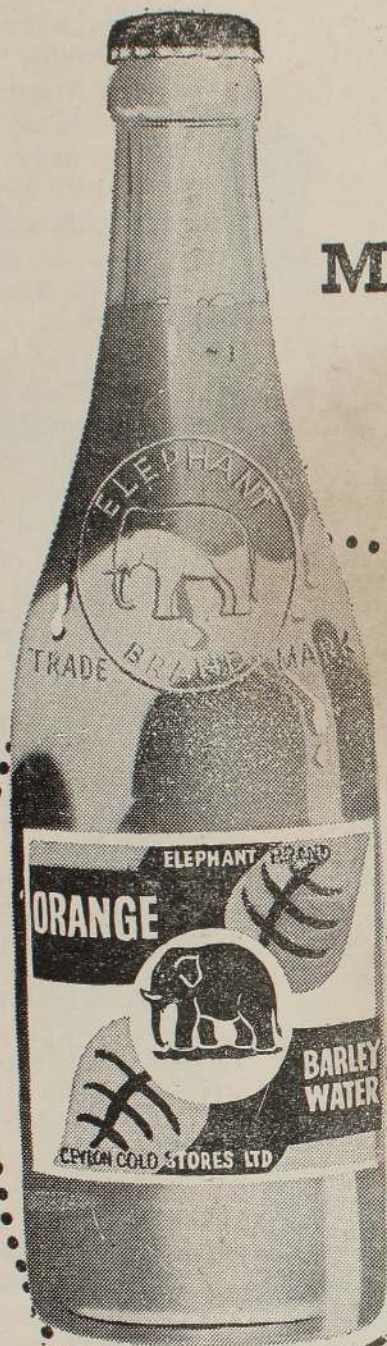
* * *

SHE made her Covent Garden debut in May, 1888, and suffered yet another setback. The opera house was half empty, the audience was half-hearted and the critics damned her with faint praise. Melba returned to Brussels and continued to triumph at the Theatre de la Monnaie.

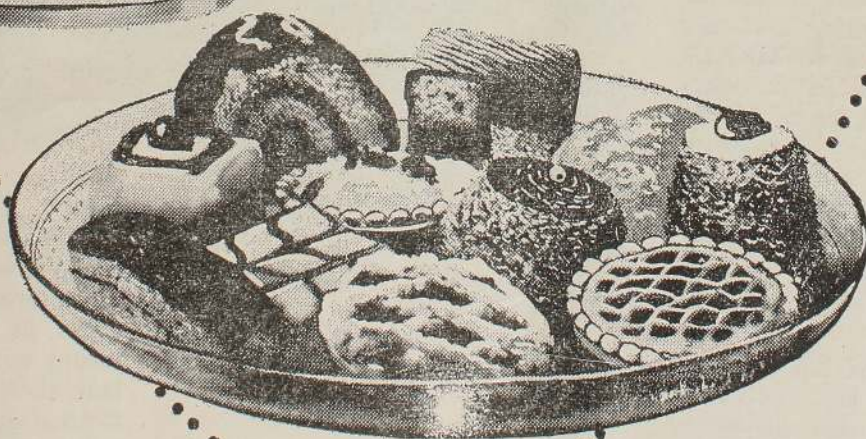
The next year she was back in London for her second Covent Garden appearance, in Gounod's *ROMEO AND JULIET*. She was partnered by the Polish tenors, Jean and Edouard de Reszke, and this time the curtain rose to a packed house. When it finally descended on that brilliant night, Melba had won a permanent place in the hearts of the British public, a place she was to retain unchallenged until her emotional farewell appearance in June, 1926.

As if to place the final seal on Melba's role as Queen of Song, Queen Victoria commanded the young Australian to sing before her at Windsor. There now followed an unbroken series of triumphs in Paris, in Vienna, in St. Petersburg, where enthusiastic Russian officers laid their cloaks across the snow from stage door to Melba's carriage which was itself banked high with orchids. In Sweden, King Oscar bowed to her from his theatre box and next day invited her to his palace. When he spoke to her in Italian, Melba's reply was typical: "Perhaps your Majesty does not know I am Australian?" "In that case," the King replied, "let us talk Australian".

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THE PASSING SCENE

— BY SPHINX —

A new interpretation of Darwin's Theory of Evolution has been propounded by Dr. Paul Deraniyagala in his well known book *Some Extinct Elephants, Their Relatives and Two Living Species*:

"After evolution reaches a certain limit extinction occurs, and neither of the two living species can be regarded, as being more highly specialized than the other, although the extinct one has progressed further in several respects. The few characters available of several other extinct subfamilies suggest that some of their species also had advanced further in evolving certain characters than have the living species. This evidence, supplied by the Proboscidea, indicates that the theory of evolution needs re-interpretation. Possibly each animal progresses through an allied series of evolutionary phases along a more or less well defined pattern until it reaches the final phase ending in extinction. Many of the final phases are in a more or less equal degree of advanced specialization although along different lines".

In supporting this theory, Dr. Charles Arthur Muses, reviewing the book in the latest issue of the *EXPLORERS JOURNAL*, New York, Vol. XXXIX No. 1, February, 1961, states:—

"The present theories of evolution based, since Darwin, on an almost religiously intense belief in an environmental determinism, either simply adaptive or modified by presumably radiation-caused (cosmic ray or otherwise) mutations, will indeed have to be modified and perhaps radically altered."

"There are a host of other paleozoological facts to support and confirm those our expert author tells us about the elephants...."

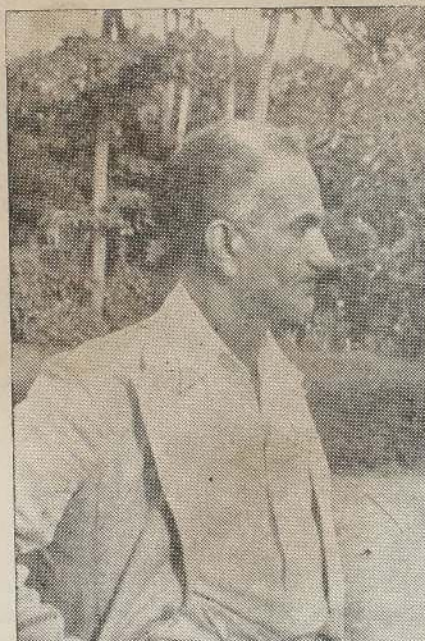
Regarding the author, Dr. Deraniyagala, the reviewer states:—

"Active member-author Deraniyagala is by no means merely a professor or pedant; he has himself nearly been killed by a mad charging bull elephant in the swamps of the southern province of Ceylon, and has explored fossil elephants in the Libyan desert and Tanganyika.

A palaeontologist, zoologist and explorer of first rank, not only of regions of the earth but of ideas as well. A fascinating book throughout".

* * *

TO restore or not to restore: that is the question which is raging in artistic cultural and antiquarian circles as we go to press. The controversy flared up, following the formal initiation by the Prime Minister (Mrs. Bandaranaike) of work upon a shelter for the famed



Dr. Paul Deraniyagala

Samadhi (Buddha) statue at Anuradhapura recently of which Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, said: "When I was in jail, I used to think of this statue, and it was a source of tremendous inspiration to me". Seeing it several years later Mr. Nehru threw up his hands in horror and qualified his praise by adding: "That was before they did this horrible thing to it".

The horrible thing was a new nose "grafted" upon the historic statue. The present controversy arises from a proposal to replace it with another nose. When the statue was originally discovered, the nose had been already damaged and when the pious restoration was done, an iron bar had been fixed to keep the nose in place. According to one school of thought, to which the Director of National

Museums is reported to belong, there is no alternative to a new nose because the iron bar must at all costs be covered from public view. The Director Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala, advocates a new nose of correct proportions.

In the opposite camp are such stalwarts as Prof. G. P. Malalasekera, Ceylon's Representative at the U.N., and the foremost artists including Mr. David Paynter, Mr. Stanley Abeysinghe and Mr. Harry Peries.

Dr. Malalasekera warned that by trying to repair one mistake, worse may be done, strengthening his argument by allusion to a familiar folk story of the man who went to a blacksmith to repair a dent in his knife and returned with two.

The chances, I guess, are that the would-be restorers will win. In fact that the "restoration" which is said to have been decided upon by the Archaeological Department is held up only because the man commissioned, Mr. J. D. A. Perera also a well known artist and a former Principal of the Government College of Fine Arts, is ill.

* * *

THE story is probably apocryphal but it deserves to be true and may well be so. The story goes that recently a nattily dressed man carrying a bulging brief case walked into the offices of a perfervid prohibition organisation and threw down a challenge.

The man said he manufactured illicit "hootch", and sold it.

To appreciate the story some knowledge of the background is necessary. The manufacture of illicit brews—some of them rank poison—has become what is sarcastically referred to as the most flourishing cottage industry in the island after the Government had raised the price of arrack to a level which put it beyond the average man, whether under pressure from prohibitionists or as a revenue measure, no one knows.

The hero in our story strode into the office of the organisation and told officials he manufactured, sold and himself drank his "brews". "I was once a building contractor and I paid more than Rs. 1,000 a year income tax. Now I make

(Continued on page 32)

PEOPLE

HIS friends in Ceylon will be happy to learn of the election to the East Sussex County Council of Mr. John R. Murray, former appointed member of Parliament in Ceylon. He stood on the Liberal ticket and defeated his Conservative rival by the narrow majority of 18 votes. At the last General Election he failed to win a seat in the House of Commons.

A chartered accountant, Mr. Murray retired from Ceylon as director of Bosanquet & Skrine, having in the course of his career been chairman of the Chamber of Commerce for several years. Besides the prominent place he occupied in the business world, his interest in music brought him to public notice and widened his circle of friends. An accomplished singer, he appeared on the concert stage very often in his younger days. He also gave recitals over Radio Ceylon.

THE death occurred in London last month of Lady Wijeyekoon, widow of Sir Gerard Wijeyekoon, for many years before independence a member of the Governor's executive council and first President of the Senate after independence.

The body was flown to Ceylon and the interment took place at Kanatte on May 27th. The pallbearers were the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke; the President of the Senate, Sir Cyril de Zoysa; the Minister of Justice, Mr. S. P. C. Fernando; Mr. Dudley Senanayake, Dr. G. R. Handy, Mr. D. W.

Rajapathirana (Governor of the Central Bank), Dr. H. C. V. de Silva and Col. J. G. Vandersmagt.

Lady Wijeyekoon leaves two sons, Major-General H. W. G. Wijeyekoon and Mr. S. N. B. Wijeyekoon, and a daughter, Mrs. T. S. V. Tillekeratne.

THE death is announced at his home in Hampshire of Mr. R. F. Lushington formerly of Mahagastota, Nuwara Eliya. He came to Ceylon before the first world war and spent nearly forty years in the Island.

Another former planter whose death occurred in London last month was Mr. N. S. S. Martin, who was on Kiribathgala.

BACK in Ceylon after being called to the English Bar is Mr. Sinha Basnayake, eldest son of the Chief Justice, Mr. Hema Basnayake and Mrs. Basnayake.

Mr. Basnayake, who held a Gibbs scholarship at Oxford University, graduated with first class honours and subsequently obtained the BCL. He was at the Inner Temple last year.

THE marriage was solemnised at St. Anthony's Cathedral Kandy, last month of Mr. Robert Eustace Strange, only son of the late Mr. E. C. Strange and of Mrs. Strange of The Manor Farm, Minstead, Hampshire, and Miss June Rosemary Bargate, younger daughter of Mr. L. H. Bargate and of Mrs. G. D. Finch of Liniyagalla, Dereniyagala.

The bride, who was given away by Mr. Finch, had six flower girls—Hilarie Bargate (niece,) Debbie Scammel, Patricia and Shena Curry, Helena Radcliffe and Lesley Harbottle. The bestman was Mr. Sandy Llewlyn and the ushers were Messrs. P.R. Bargate, Mervyn Cole-Bowen, W. Monypenny and Brian Parker.

THE death of Mr. James Arthur Honter (Jim), Secretary, Colombo Apothecaries Company Limited, on Saturday, 27th May, will be widely regretted, particularly by old Wesleyites. He was a step-brother of a famous trio of brothers—Benny, Dick and Christy—who over sixty years ago left their mark as outstanding Wesleyites, R. F. (Dick), the most famous of the trio, having won the University scholarship and distinguished himself at Cambridge University. "Jimmy" was a well known figure in mercantile circles, having served as Secretary of the old Fort firm of Cutler, Palmer & Co., for several years before he left them with his manager, the late Mr. R. W. Sutherland, to join the Colombo Apothecaries nearly twenty-five years ago. There was a large gathering at the funeral on Sunday, 28th May, at the General Cemetery, Kanatte.

MR. T. J. Morgan, A.M.I.E.E., an Assistant Staff Engineer in the British General Post Office, arrived in Ceylon by air on the morning of Wednesday, May 24, for a two months' assignment under the Technical Co-operation Scheme of the Colombo Plan. Mr. Morgan whose services were requested by the Ministry of Transport and Works will assist in the implementation of the scheme for improving telecommunications in the Greater Colombo Area.

In 1957 he was a member of the Colombo Plan team which came to Ceylon for one month to plan and design the new Colombo telephone system, and his present visit is a follow-up to that earlier assignment. Work is now going ahead on the scheme following the Rs. 33,000,000 United Kingdom loan agreement signed in Colombo on March 17 this year.

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PEOPLE

MR. Philip Buultjens, a great all-round sportsman in his day, particularly during the period he was at Trinity College, Kandy, has left the island to settle down in Australia with his wife and six children. Already his sons have made a name for themselves. The eldest, Tony, finished up at Trinity as Senior Prefect and winning the coveted rugger Lion like his father before him. Geoffrey, the next, showed great promise in boxing, and Mickey was a pole vaulter.

But it is Philip Buultjens of whom we speak; he received a magnificent "farewell" from old boys of Trinity and their wives at Asgiriya before his departure. His record in school sports particularly between 1921 and 1924 is hard to beat. He was a member of the famous Trinity team that beat every other school by an innings in 1922; all, that is, except Wesley College who were lucky to lose by ten wickets and a large number of runs. He did not drop a single catch in the three cricket seasons (1921-24), and, fielding at extra cover, he ran out 17 batsmen, including C. E. Belleth and L. D. S. Gunasekera (both of Royal), the best between-the-wicket runners.

He played for the Ceylonese against the Europeans while he was still at University College. On the staff at Trinity later he coached the boys in cricket, athletics and rugger, and he was a double Lion (cricket and rugger). He played representative soccer against a visiting Indian team and, in hockey, he played for Up-country against the Low Country. He was probably the first Ceylonese to play rugger for the Kandy Sports Club. Australia is lucky to have Philip and family settle down there!

DR. H. S. de Silva, Physician-in-Charge and Consultant Paediatrician at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children, left Ceylon for London by BOAC plane on May 26 on a Colombo Plan Scholarship, to study the paediatric services in the United Kingdom. Dr. de Silva, who will spend about three months in Britain, will have practical attachments with a number of institutions and hospitals, including the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children and King's College Hospital, where he studied just after the war.

He will see the organisation of these units at work, and discuss various administrative procedures with the executive staff, with a view to assessing the suitability of such methods for adoption in Ceylon.

The Lady Ridgeway Hospital is the only children's hospital in Ceylon and serves as a model for the country. On his return Dr. de Silva will train medical and nursing personnel in the management of children's hospitals and wards which are to be built in the future.

THE death occurred on Tuesday, 23rd May, in Colombo, of Miss Lily Werkmeister, sister of Mrs. R. L. Brohier and Mrs. B. Lourensz. She was for several years on the staff of St. John's College, Panadura, at the time Mr. Cyril Jansz was Principal. The funeral took place at the General Cemetery, Kanatte, the same evening.

THE death of Merle Siebel, wife of Mr. Mervyn Siebel, and daughter of Mr. L. André Misso, of the Royal Belgian legation in Karachi, occurred recently on Ellagalla Estate, Kandy. She was 34 years old and leaves behind five children. The burial took place at the Mahiyawa cemetery on May Day.

MR. R. J. G. de Mel, Director-General of Broadcasting, will spend four weeks in Britain as a guest of the Commonwealth Relations Office, from May 29 to June 26. In the course of his tour Mr. de Mel will be studying the organisation of the British Broadcasting Corporation in London, Birmingham, Cardiff and Bristol. He will also visit the cities of Oxford and Coventry, a Welsh steel plant, a nuclear power station, Stratford-upon-Avon and the Houses of Parliament. While in the provinces

(Continued on page 23)



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ART, MUSIC & DRAMA

—By LYRICUS—

BUT a few months ago, West End audiences in London were flocking to see Oliver Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer" when it was presented by the Old Vic with Tommy Steele in the role of Tony Lumpkin. Colombo play-goers last week had the same opportunity given to them by the Ceylon Amateur Dramatic Society when they put this 200-year old play on the boards. Actually, the two presentations bore another connexion, the CADC producer having received

some useful hints from London. With or without such external aid, the CADC could have been expected to provide an evening's excellent entertainment and it did, in this case too.

The CADC producer (Brian Rockingham Gill) had cheerfully admitted that he took a few liberties with Goldsmith's comedy but justified himself on the ground that the playwright had practically left no directions; besides, if the Old Vic was ruthless on this score, could they be mistaken to follow in the footsteps "of our betters". Needless to say, the liberties he took paid off!

The cast was thoroughly accomplished and competent and decor,

stage management, lighting and "props" were all excellent for which due credit to those concerned.

The cast was as follows:

Mrs. Harcastle, Gwynn O' Rior-dan; Mr. Harcastle, Vaughan Evans; Tony Lumpkin, Chris Greet; Kate Harcastle, Jennie Rockingham Gill; Constance Neville, Irene de Costa; Landlord, Neil Macdonald; Marlow, Tate O' Dowd; Hastings, Michael Ingleton; 1st Maidservant, Joan de Saram; 2nd Maidservant, Barbara Macdonald; Sir Charles Marlow, Cecil Anderson.

* * *

THE Catholic Choral Society held its third festival of music at St. Peter's College hall last Saturday and proved again that if they are to be equalled or outclassed it would have to be by performers of no less than world class.

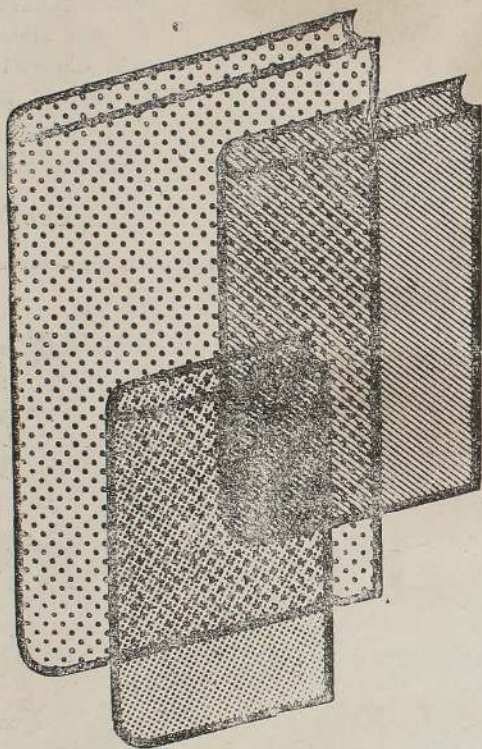
Once again the Rev. Fr. Ignatius Perera was conductor, and it is due to Fr. Perera in great measure that the Society has been consistently excellent. The highlight of the programme was the Missae Papae Marcelli by Palestrina, and there were Motets by Palestrina and Madrigals by Monteverde.

* * *

ARTHUR Van Langenberg Mrs. R. A. Spencer Sheppard and Neville Weeraratne, producers and decor designer of Barrie's "Peter Pan" (presented by the Girton School), were wonderfully successful at the Lionel Wendt Theatre, which possesses no mechanised equipment. But the imaginative artists and competent theatrical craftsmen they were, they overcame the handicap of the lack of revolving stages, hydraulic lifts and monorails without which a production of "Peter Pan" seems impossible. It was ingenuity of a high order which ensured that the small Wendy Hut, miraculously large enough to hold nine children, moved off by itself.

The cast was no less admirable. It was a team and its standard of acting was well above that usually displayed in Colombo schools. A well known producer was quoted as saying that the playing was adult in its sensitivity and depth. Wendy (Sonia Nalliah) bore the stamp of class, and she showed her exceptional talent in her subtle change from Wendy, the child, into Wendy the mother.

(Continued on page 23)



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ART, MUSIC & DRAMA

(Continued from page 22)

AN exhibition of reproductions of temple and cave paintings of Ceylon was declared open at Kandy last week by the Assistant Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Embassy in Ceylon, Mr. E. Mathes, who said that painting, like any other form of art, was a very important aspect of a nation's culture. The temple and cave paintings would help in an understanding of Ceylon's past. He emphasised the heavy responsibility on teachers of art in guiding young artists and inspiring creative work.

* * *

THE Berlin Chamber Orchestra, one of the best in the world, is to play in Colombo in July under its distinguished conductor Hans von Benda. Arrangements are being made by the German Cultural Institute in Colombo, whose Minister, Dr. Willie Kuenzel works with zeal to bring the best of German culture into touch with this country.

Due to appear with the famous orchestra is Ceylon's Rohan de Saram, a signal honour to have the

opportunity to play in his own country as a guest of this great ensemble.

Von Benda had met de Saram in Europe and suggested that he play with them in Colombo. It is almost certain, according to advance information, that the cellist and the orchestra will play a Haydn concerto; if there are two concerts, they will also play Boccherini.

Latest honour to come to de Saram is an honorary award given by the Royal Academy of Music; possibly, he is the youngest ever to receive the distinction.

PEOPLE

(Continued from page 21)

he will pay particular attention to methods of rural broadcasting, and in the London area he will visit schools to see something of educational programmes by radio and television.

* * *

LAW student Mr. M. I. Hamavi Haniffa, from Colombo, was the guest of the Queen at a garden

party at Buckingham Palace on May 11. It was a wonderfully fine sunny afternoon, and Her Majesty spoke to Mr. Haniffa for a minute or two. The Ceylon High Commission nominated Mr. Haniffa to attend the Commonwealth Technical Training Week which, was held in London from May 29 to June 4. Organised by the Industrial Welfare Society, there were talks on "Human Relations in Industry".

The delegates paraded from Blackfriars Bridge to St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, June 1, for a service of thanksgiving and dedication which was attended by the Duke of Edinburgh.

* * *

MISS Priya Vittachi, a 22-year-old student nurse from Colombo training at the Charing Cross Hospital in London, was to broadcast in the B.B.C. Overseas Service last month. In a series entitled "My Kind of Music", Miss Vittachi was to talk to Wilfrid Thomas about the music she likes and make a choice of records to be played in a half-hour programme.



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WORDS ON WINGS

—By E. C. T.—

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

IT has always struck me as odd that Britain, which invented radar, and was using it to locate approaching enemy bombers as far back as 1940, has not until now been able to cope with the flocks of starlings which nightly invade London's Trafalgar Square.

Like locusts, they have been swarming in from the outer suburbs at sundown to roost on ledges and parapets, setting up a tumult of twitters enough to drown the incessant roar of the traffic. To discourage them, everything within the wit of man has been tried, from gun salvos to wire entanglements pulsing with ticklish electric currents. More and more starlings came along to enjoy the fun.

Now, at last, I can report a diminuendo in the nightly cacophony. The Ministry of Works has tried out a new deterrent in the form of a plastic material laid in a continuous strip along the ledges used by the birds. Apparently the stuff is just sticky enough, without adhering to a startling's wings, to make him feel unsure of himself, and he flies away.

Rentokil Ltd., the London insecticide manufacturers who devised the method, are delighted with their victory, not only over starlings, but pigeons, too. Other public squares in Britain are being similarly treated, and I should imagine the system would be a boon in bird-encumbered spots all over the world. The biggest building to be so treated in United Kingdom is Birmingham Cathedral.

* * *

POWERED WINGS

IT was near Birmingham, by the way, at Baginton airport, Coventry, that the air has been filled with flight swarms of a more welcome kind this month. The "starlings" in this case were clusters of light aircraft, of the business and private executive type, which are starting a new vogue in the United Kingdom. It was an international show, the biggest of its kind yet held, with entries from seven European countries and the United States of America. Altogether 45 types were on view, ranging in price from

£1,000 upwards, with second-hand models as low as £350. Purchasers were able to buy on the spot and fly off like starlings.

The main interest for us flying enthusiasts in Britain centred on the new four-seater Beagle-Auster Airedale, making its public debut. It is a beautiful little machine with sleek lines and swept-back tail, and a tri-cycle undercarriage to simplify take-off and touch-down.

Mr. Peter Masefield, managing director of the Beagle concern, said maintenance costs were comparable with those of a large car. Many a large car, incidentally, costs more to buy. The standard Airedale is only £4,750, making it the cheapest four-seater aircraft in the United Kingdom market. The 180 horse power Lycoming engine gives a cruising speed of over 140 miles (225 kilometres) per hour, with a flight range of about 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometres) on one fuelling. I hear that a big export drive to sell 70 per cent, of Beagle's production abroad begins after the famous Farnborough Air Show — "shop window" of Britain's aircraft industry—in September. By then we shall be seeing a more advanced edition of the machine—a seven seater executive largely constructed of glass fibre.

Although such aircraft may be used mainly for business purposes, they point the way to big developments in private flying for pleasure.

* * *

AN UNUSUAL ENGINE

NOW comes an automobile engine the size of a football, only 10½ inches (26.67 centimetres) in diameter. I am not surprised there has been a lifting of technical eyebrows this month over this latest product of Britain's workshops. The Selwood engine, as it is called, is not only small. It is revolutionary in every sense. Although an internal combustion engine, it dispenses with crankshaft, connecting rods, radiator, valves and camshaft. It simply turns on its own axis like a spinning coin. It is air-cooled, so there are no water jackets, pumps or radiator, and the twelve

cylinders are two-stroke, eliminating the need for valves.

We shall be hearing a lot more of the Selwood. Judging from a glance at this intriguing little power unit, I would say it brings miniaturisation to the internal combustion engine in the way that the transistor has done for radio.

* * *

NOW—THE SKIMMER

THE inventor, Mr. William Selwood, has his workshops at Southampton. There must be something stimulating in the air down there on England's south coast, for it was only a few miles across the water, at Cowes, Isle of Wight, that Mr. Christopher Cockrell invented the now famous Hovercraft, the amphibious vehicle which skims over land or water on its own cushion of air.

Now Britain's first privately-built hovercraft has just been completed in London by a group of Commonwealth students led by a former Canadian bush pilot, Mr. D. R. Robertson. These enthusiasts from such countries as Ceylon, Pakistan, India, Nigeria and Britain made the machine in their spare time from materials costing only £70.

They call it the Skimmer, and any week-end now one can see it skimming over Redhill airfield, in the county of Surrey, with almost the precision of the professional models that will be soon solving transport problems over rivers, swamps, deserts and other difficult territories in different parts of the world.

LORD NUFFIELD

LORD Nuffield, the British motor manufacturer who over the years has given £30,000,000 to charity, has made yet another gift which will help those who are handicapped. It was announced on May 22nd, that the profits from Morris Garages Limited will be distributed between the blind, deaf and dumb, and orphans.

Morris Garages includes a coach-building firm and car distributing centre. The firm was founded in the 1920s, and Lord Nuffield has remained its only shareholder. Its value today is estimated at more than £500,000.

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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

—By ITINERANT—

RUGBY FOOTBALL

CLIFFORD Cup rugger found the Police, in a mid-week game, carrying on from where they left off against the CH & FC. In this game they trounced the CR 'B' team 15-0, all scores unconverted tries, a measure of the victor's power.

The big match of this week was the Uva-Dimbula clash, which the former unexpectedly won. Their free-running threes were too much for Dimbula's pack strength and this 11-6 win has completely opened up the up-country championships.

The Havelocks 'A' had an easy time against the Navy, who after their lay-off were just beginning to find their feet. The Navy were sunk by 34 points to 3, as many as six tries being scored against them and 16 points off Trevor Anghie's kicking.

The CR & FC 'A', too, had an easy time against the Varsity, but despite a 27-0 victory they did not impress, their three-quarters showing up poorly.

* * *

CLIFFORD Cup rugger continues to dominate the sporting scene, alternating between thrilling, touch-and-go games and runaway victories—the former category, fortunately, being more often the rule.

Last year's Up-Country champions, Dimbula, figured in two good games in which they disappointed. True, they have been weakened, but they are also not a fit side and there is something desultory about their play.

Against the 'junior' champions—the 'dark horses' of the tournament—they had to defend dourly their line for the last ten minutes of the game before king out a 3-all draw.

* * *

THE following week Dimbula met the speedy Havelocks who have a powerful back division, but whose pack—hit by injury and transfers—was said to be weak. That pack, however, dominated the game and making every use of defensive lapses, the Havelocks

overcame a 3-5 half-time deficit and an out 17-5 winners as Dimbulla trired in the last quarter.

The Havelocks prepared for this game by trouncing their 'B' team 53-0, thus beating the previous season's high of 49-0 which Uva had chalked up against the same hapless team. But this scoring record was short lived, as last year's champions, the CH, playing fast, open rugger swamped a 12-man (for the most part) Navy fifteen 64-0.

The exhibition by the CH was as though to make up for their disappointing form against the CR & FC. The first leg of this traditional match was won by the CH, 8-0 all the points coming the first half, off an interception - breakaway solo and off a 5-yard scrum in the second half. The CR did all the running and attacking, but there was little thrust against a rugged CH defence.

* * *

HAVELOCKS DEFEAT CH.

THE Havelocks are the only unbeaten team in Ceylon rugger to-day. In their key match against the champions, the CH & FC, they rallied magnificently to come from behind and win 11-8. The CH had led 8-3 at the half.

There was little to choose between the two teams, both packs evenly matched and ferocious in performance, while the outsiders of both teams combined well and moved the ball about freely despite it being slippery due to the sodden ground conditions. But that 'little difference' the Havelocks had was their speed—and young Maurice Anghie, the finest three-quarter in the Island when in attack.

The game itself, spotlessly clean for such a tense encounter, was the best we had seen in many a moon. Every try scored was a thing of beauty matched only by numerous defensive feats that bordered on the spectacular.

* * *

RACING

THE month of May ended with an extra race meet. Poor fields and only a 6-event card were a feature of a day's racing that did not provide too many surprises on the yielding turf.

Friendly Isle, finding conditions underfoot to his liking, cantered to comfortable victory in the Kotagala Plate—7 furlongs, giving favourite jockey Denzil Jayawardene and trainer Samarawira a double, the first half of which was Tiger Tim's easy win in the two-horse Haliela Plate—one mile.

The one upset for the day was when United Steel ran away from the start with the Beliatta Stakes—9 furlongs—and paid nearly 7 to 1 odds.

Generally fancied but not winners were the other winners. Jockey Baldwin Perera completed a United Steel-Tickle double, when the latter, unfortunate in many a recent race, made no mistake in the Dimbula Plate (7 fur).

Ghazal al Thanayah justified his track work in winning the Kalkudah Plate (1 mile) while Wiqar Hikmat continued his good form annexing the Lunuwila Plate (7 fur).

* * *

CEYLON CRICKETERS IN ENGLAND

CEYLON cricketers, as a whole, appear to have been having a lean time in England. The chances of a Ceylon representative in the Battle of the Blues is remote, while little of note has been done by Ceylonese in league cricket.

Exceptions however have been Club cricketers—Joe Misso, who will represent the Club Cricket Conference against the Australians and L. Senanayake and L. Samarassekera who have been batting well for the London club, Mill Hill.

The brightest star, however, has been former Ceylon 'cap' and Lancashire League scoring-machine Stanley Jayasinghe, who is now qualifying for Leicestershire. He has to be, for the moment, content with second XI games and the occasional non-inter-county game. Turning out for the first team against Ireland, Jayasinghe top-scored with 89. And for the second he top-scored against Somerset second (72 not out and 96). Against both Ireland and Somerset he was out attempting 'sixers'.

* * *

ANDRIESZ SHIELD HOCKEY

THE Andriesz Shield Hockey appears to be a cake-walk for the Tamils 'A', who have been unbeaten to date. They have not even had any score against them.

A SPORTS CAUSERIE

HONOURING TWO DISTINGUISHED SPORTSMEN

THE Tamil Union honoured two of its distinguished members—the late Mr. M. C. Raju and the late Mr. K. C. Rasiah—when their photographs were unveiled in the presence of a large gathering of members in the Club pavilion on Thursday, 25th May.

In referring to Mr. Raju, the Patron of the Club, Adigar A. Sellamuttu, paid a great tribute to one who had a large hand in the formation of the Club at the turn of the century. A founder member Mr. Raju had rendered yeoman service from the time the Club had its humble home in Campbell Park. He hoped Mr. Raju's example would serve as an inspiration to its present members.

Mr. S. Somasundaram, President of the Club and in his day one of its most famous bowlers, referring to the late Mr. K. C. Rasiah said his loss was a severe blow to the Tamil Union. An expert on the preparation of turf wickets, his work had earned the acclamation of cricketers of international repute. He was one of the Club's most loyal and devoted members. By his untimely death the Club had not only lost a most valuable member, but a sincere friend.

H. G. C. LADIES' ECLECTIC COMPETITION

A feature of the Eclectic Competition organised by the women's section of the Havelock Golf Club played during April and May was the success of a teenager, Mira Muttukumaraswamy, daughter of the well known Ceylonese golfer who has in recent times been well to the fore in important competitions on the Ridgeways and McCallum courses. Mira Muttukumaraswamy who took to golf only a year ago has made such vast strides under the tuition of her father that in the recent competition she won from a field of experienced golfers with a score of 65 nett. Mrs. L. A. Weerasinghe was second with a score of 68½ and Mrs. B. R. Fernando third with 69.

In the first qualifying round for the H. G. C. President's Prize played under extremely bad weather con-

ditions towards the end of last month W. Parakrama Fernando returned the best card, nett 71, one below par.

CONSOLATION FOR PETER MAY

WHILE he is nursing his injured groin, Peter May has a large crumb of consolation—he has reached his total of 25,000 runs. And that is something achieved by only two other players still in first class cricket. His exact figure is now 25,072, made in 550 innings since he started his career with Cambridge University in 1948. In 69 of those innings he was not out and his average is 52.12. He has hit 80 centuries.



Bill Lawry

Who had bad luck to miss "twin centuries" for Australia against the M.C.C. at Lords.

The only other 25,000-run men still playing are Tom Graveney, whose total stands at 29,432, and his Worcestershire colleague, Don Kenyon, with 28,021.

M.C.C.'S NEW SECRETARY

WHEN Mr. S. C. Griffith takes over as secretary of the M.C.C. in 18 months' time as successor to Mr. Ronald Aird, who is retiring, he will be only the 10th. holder of the office in 140 years. And he will be the first Test cricketer to fill the secretary's chair, having played five times for England.

In his playing days Billy Griffith, as he is known, was a first class wicket-keeper and a batsman of some distinction. Against the West Indies in 1948 at Port of Spain he scored his maiden Test century. In South Africa during the next winter he was twice preferred in Test matches to Godfrey Evans, who was nearing the height of his powers behind the stumps.

As an undergraduate at Cambridge he was given leave to tour Australia and New Zealand with an unofficial M.C.C. side and he kept wicket for the University against Oxford in 1935.

During the war he served with the Glider Pilot Regiment and won the D.F.C. In 1946 he became secretary of the Sussex County Cricket Club, and captained the side for a season. He joined the staff at Lord's in 1952.

PATAUDI IN TOP FORM

THE achievement of the 20-year-old Nawab of Pataudi in scoring two centuries off Yorkshire in the county's game against Oxford University recently has been praised by British cricket commentators. The young Oxford captain—known as "Tiger" to the cricket world—hit 106 and 103 not out, and is only the tenth batsman to achieve this feat against Yorkshire.

Typical of the Press tributes is that in the "Daily Telegraph". E. W. Swanton wrote: "Young Pataudi has all the strokes and is dead set on using them. In the West Indies recently his chief enemy was his own exuberance. His special pride is the leg hit given the face of the bat and played with wrist and punch to either side of the umpire. Further he is a much finer fielder than his parent ever was".

According to Alex Bannister writing in the "Daily Mail", Frank Woolley, the great England left-hander who has coached both father and son, believes that "Tiger" will prove the greater batsman.

The "Yorkshire Post" said: "Pataudi was masterful... any Yorkshire plan to control or defeat him was indiscernible. He took boundaries from leg hitting and square cutting through a ring of

(Continued on page 32)

THE TYRE WITH THE SELF-ADJUSTING TREAD



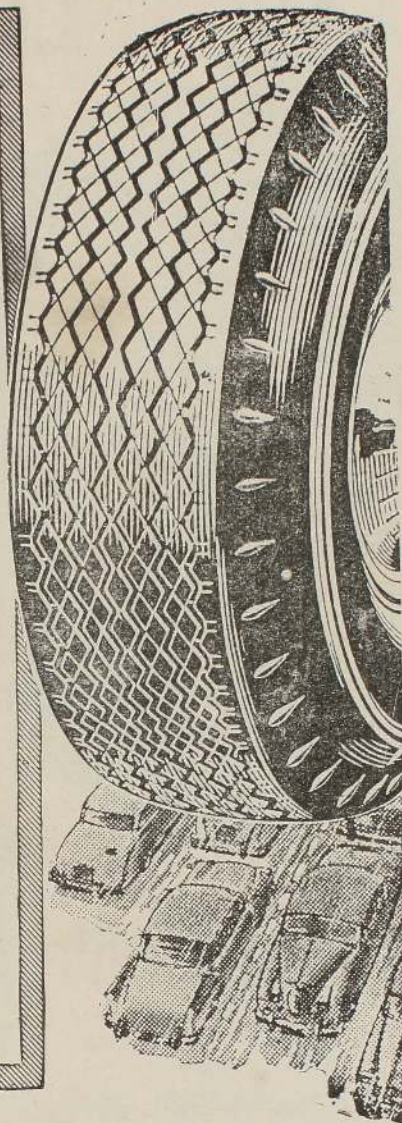
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A WOMAN'S DIARY

—By "BETA"—

THE papers tell us that the South West Monsoon is here again—dead on time this year, the weather people say. It announced its arrival with a fine display of "fireworks" the other morning, and now for some time we can expect plenty of rain—as if we haven't been having plenty of rain all through this year! Now is the time for harrassed housewives to begin laying in a collection of bowls and basins to place under the leaks in the roof to catch the drips, wondering meanwhile when it will stop raining long enough to send the handy man up on the roof to rearrange the tiles without danger of his breaking a few more tiles and starting some new leaks. Now is the time when the man of the house finds with disgust that the rain starts just as he is due to set out for work, or else, if the morning is clear, finds in the evening, having disdained proffered raincoats or umbrellas when leaving home, that he has to choose between going home soaked to the skin or waiting two or three hours before he is able to start out. Now is also the time for endless tussles with Junior as to why he can't play in the garden or why he must keep his shoes on or why he can't sail the paper boats Daddy made him in the over flowing drain.

* * *

ONE of the major difficulties in a household at this time of the year is how to dry clothes—both the ordinary wash, and the sodden clothes of those who have got caught in the rain. Few of us are lucky enough, I should imagine, to have an used room in which lines can be put up—most of us have to be content with dodging between lines of wet clothes set up on the back verandah! Also, I can imagine, in many cases the bill for electricity is set soaring as the iron is pressed in to service to help in drying garments which have to be worn again. Shoes, too, present a problem, and although we are advised that wet shoes are best stuffed with old paper and dried well away from direct heat, the advice is by no means easy to follow when you have only two or three pairs, they are all wet, and you have to go out again. I can remember, from the past, more than one occasion at home when my

father's or brother's shoes had actually to be put into the hot oven after the light was knocked off and 'baked' in order that they could be dried in time. And one of our delights in school going days was to step in as many puddles as we could on our way to school so as to have the joy of being allowed to run about in school barefooted.

* * *

SPEAKING of schools, I wonder whether many children now-a-days, with all schools taken over by the government will enjoy the "rain holidays" which we used to have, when the downpour had been so heavy in the morning that a sufficient number of children had not been able to get to school to make it worthwhile to hold a session. And I must confess that on some occasions, when we felt too many had braved the elements and turned up, we would try to persuade some to hide before the teachers came round to count heads and decide whether there were enough of us or not. I can also remember my brother telling us of a school fellow of his who made a bid for a private rain holiday of his own! Having reached school without getting as much as a drop of rain on him on his way to school, he then proceeded to get under a shower, fully clothed, after which he presented himself, a pitiable sight, to his form master, and asked for permission to go home that he might change. Alas for him, the master was more than a match for naughty boys, and after one good look at him, sent him instead, to the head master for a caning. You see, the luckless wight had forgotten his books, and there was he, supposedly soaked to the skin by the rain, with a pile of bone dry books!

* * *

YET another rainy day delight was having a rain bath. Somehow it seemed a pity to waste all the water tumbling down free, gratis and for nothing, and to be allowed to run about in the downpour, clad in a swimsuit, seemed the logical thing to do! It was not always, though, that we could persuade mother to see it!

Quite the most embarrassing thing that ever happened to me was once, when walking home from somewhere in the rain, the straps of one of my shoes gave way, and I was forced to take my shoes off and paddled home along the high road!

Fortunately for me it really was a heavy shower, and there was hardly anyone about to see my predicament—certainly I met no one I knew.

* * *

BUT of all the joys of a rainy day I would put first that of curling up in a cosy bed or comfortable chair with an interesting book, but sadly for me such delicious idleness is temporarily impossible—or else I would find my small son experimenting on the joys of having a rain bath!—which joy I am not at all keen on his discovering until he is a good bit older.

COMMONWEALTH DAY

IN a Commonwealth Day message on May 24, the chairman of the Joint Commonwealth Societies Conference, Earl de la Warr, said that the Commonwealth could be defined as a "family relationship". "It is a wonderful and tremendous conception but challenged now by one danger, that we take our Commonwealth for granted. In these dynamic days nothing, however precious, can be taken for granted, and on this Commonwealth Day let us be determined that during the coming year we will not forget what the Commonwealth means to each of us. Let us remember what, by our example, we can contribute to the welfare of the whole human race".

Commonwealth Day celebrated with a service in St. Paul's Cathedral and afterwards by a luncheon in

(Continued on page 32)



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THE PASSING SCENE

(Continued from page 19)

enough money to save Rs. 4,000 a month and it is all tax free", he is reported to have said.

He went on: "You can't stop the manufacture of illicit liquor, nor can you stop people from drinking. I am only trying to show you that you are wasting your time". And more in that strain, including a boast they could never catch him. They might catch his men but he would pay their fines and, if they were jailed, he'd look after their families.

A foretaste of worse things to come under the prohibition era? There is a moral in it somewhere, surely.

A LOOK ROUND

(Continued from page 13)

the alert to resort to their favourite weapon, the strike, in retaliation to any action of their employers which they rightly or wrongly imagine threatens to deprive them of a privilege which they have established for themselves by prescriptive right.

A little tact and patience with an occasional homily addressed to those who are "chronic cases" are likely to produce better results.

COMMONWEALTH DAY

(Continued from page 31)

Guildhall. Among those attending the service were Princess Margaret and her husband, Mr. Anthony Armstrong-Jones; the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Iain Macleod; the Under-Secretary of state for Commonwealth Relations, the Duke of Devonshire, Commonwealth High Commissioners and Agents-General; and representatives of Commonwealth organisations in London.

Six hundred guests, including Princess Margaret, her husband and many of those at the service, attended the Guildhall luncheon at which Earl de la Warr presided.

CRICKET AT ITS BEST

(Continued from page 15)

The new ones are now on trial, having hardly made good in their homeland. The situation is almost without precedent. What do you

think of it, Gregory and MacDonald and Miller and Lindwall? England is in scarcely better case. Trueman has already been severely trounced in his county's match with the visitors and there are definite signs that Fiery Fred is losing his penetration powers. Statham seems as good as ever. Much depends on this superb bowler but he cannot carry all the burden.

ENGLAND'S spin bowling is such a big question mark that some say Lock of Surrey will be used once more, having modified his action to eliminate all suggestion of throwing. Allen (D.A.) is probably the most certain of inclusion, but our dearth of class spinners is so alarming at this time when the England side is announced in ten days' time there may well be some surprises—e.g. the ancient Sam Cook of Gloucester, who played his only Test for England 14 years ago, may perforce find a place. And this calls to mind another veteran fighter who has so often served England so well in a crisis, Trevor Bailey. If he found a place and Tony Lock as well, to say nothing of Cook, who would dare to call this the dawn of a new era in English Test cricket?

BUT away with guess work and speculation! Let the Selectors, with ice packs on their heads, make their choices for Birmingham. A very large crowd will be there to applaud or be severely critical. But be assured of one certain fact. Benaud and his men will not let the grass grow under their feet. They are out to save cricket from dying of inaction. It is up to their English opponents to assist them by playing in the same free and gay manner. If they do not do so first class cricket in England will pass to its doom after this year of glorious opportunity.

ON THE SUNNY SIDE

(Continued from page 9)

will blossom forth as headquarters of the Biscuit Company of Nigeria, with specially-trained Nigerians to run it.

Statistically, Australia has given us the brightest titbit. Australian girls, we are told, married 7,210 men from other countries in 1960. Nearly half of these lucky fellows—3,272, to be exact—were British.

A SPORTS CAUSERIE

(Continued from page 28)

fieldsmen stationed for no other apparent purpose than in the general hope of a mishit".

The Nawab followed up his twin centuries with a brilliant 144 off the Middlesex bowling at Oxford on Monday.

RUSSIANS AT WIMBLEDON

THE Soviet Union will send a team to compete in the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis championships again this year. The team will spend a month in Britain and will compete at the Queens Club and in one other tournament. The team will consist of two men, two women and two juniors. Two trainers and an interpreter will accompany the players and the party are due in London on June 8.

ALY KHAN MEMORIAL RACE

THERE are 82 entries for the Aly Khan Memorial Gold Cup, which will be run for the first time at Kempton Park, near London, on July 4. The prize money is over £10,000, which includes contributions by friends of the late Aly Khan whose interest in horse racing was international.

The distance to be covered by the final acceptors is 1½ miles, and there are nearly 50 entries from overseas countries for the event. Ireland alone is sending 27 horses, France 13, Italy 4 and America 2.

Ceylon Fortnightly Review

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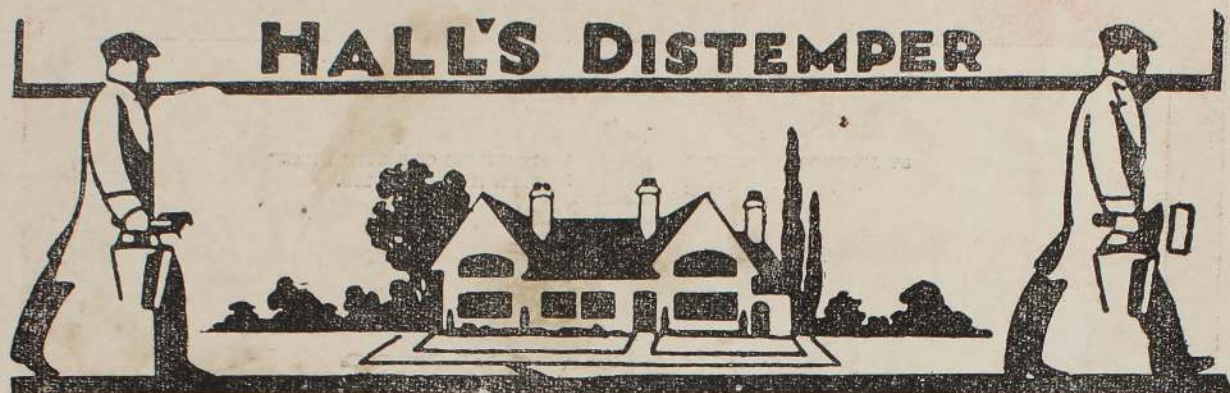
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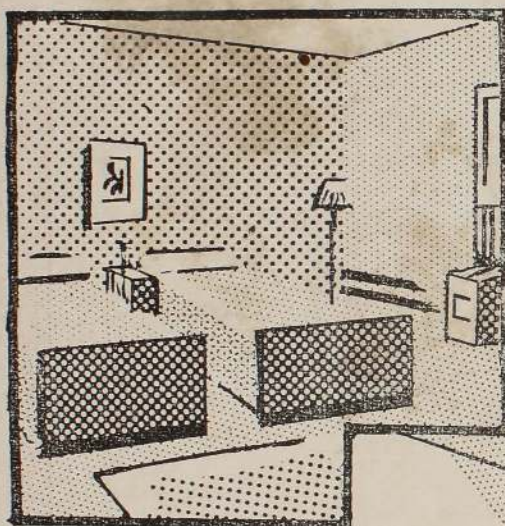


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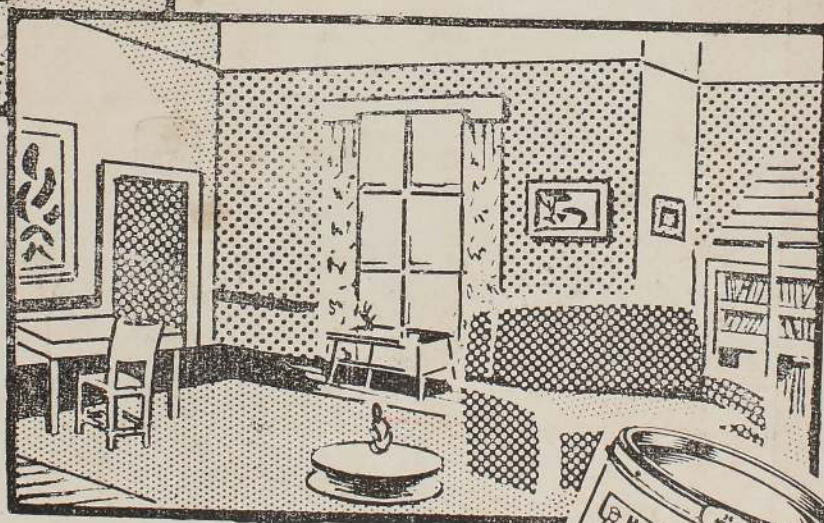
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