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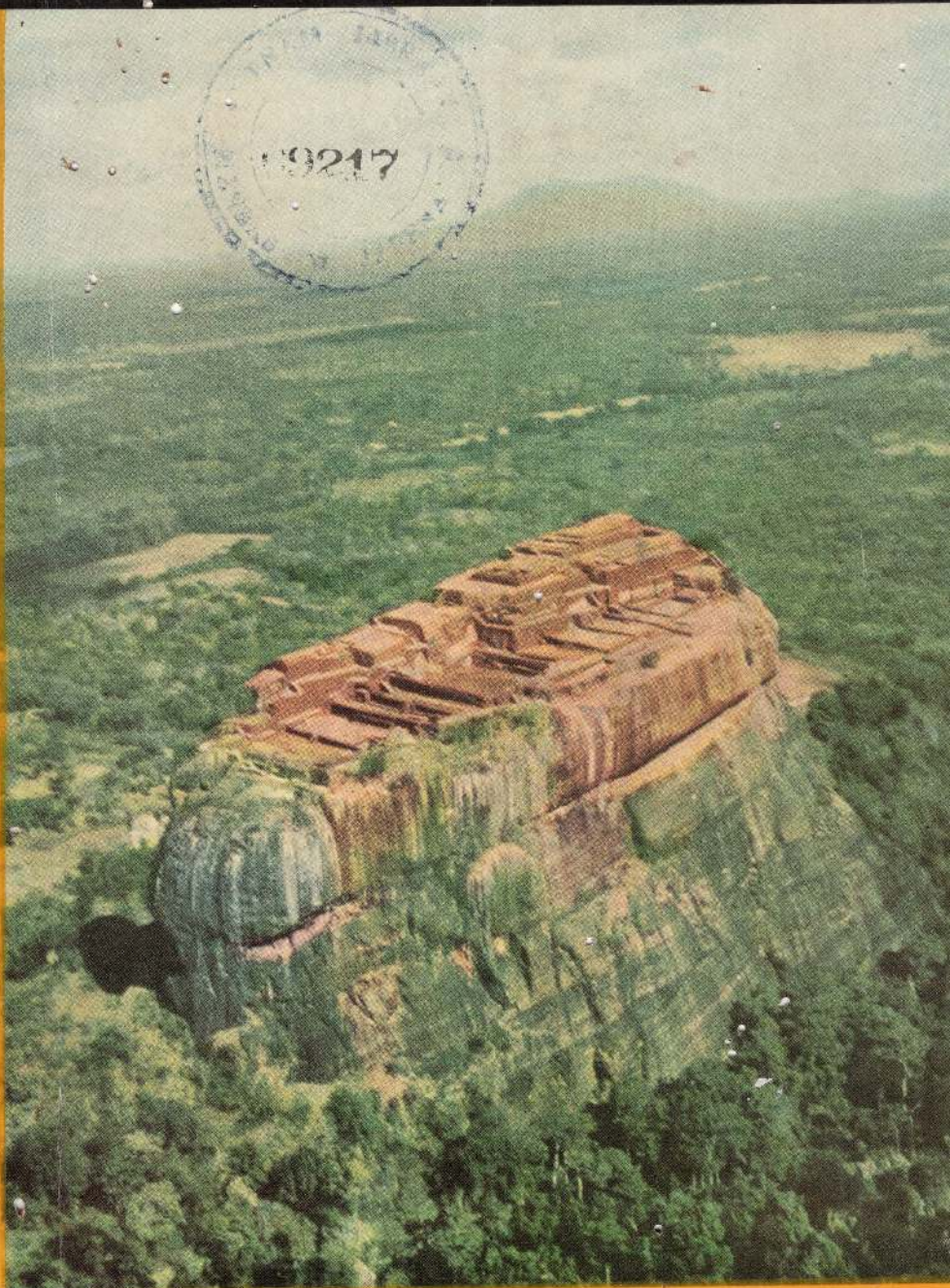
Campaign to Eradicate Salvinia

Ceylon prepares for the Jet Age

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JULY, 1959

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Speech from the Throne

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, His Excellency Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, declared open the Fourth Session of the Third Parliament of Ceylon on June 30, 1959. In his Speech from the Throne, His Excellency said :

This Session marks the fourth year of the life of the present Government. It therefore is the last full year of the present Parliament. My Government feels, in this final period of the Parliament's life, that the programme which it should generally follow is the ensurement of the successful working of the schemes that have already been completed, the completion of such schemes as are in hand, and the introduction of such new schemes as are considered urgent and important. My Government will endeavour to avoid the introduction of measures of a sharply controversial nature.

During the last Session, My Government, in the pursuit of its foreign policy of non-alignment with power blocs, of neutralism and co-existence to which it firmly adheres, further strengthened friendly relations with other countries by the establishment of diplomatic relations with Afghanistan, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, the Philippines, Poland, Roumania, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

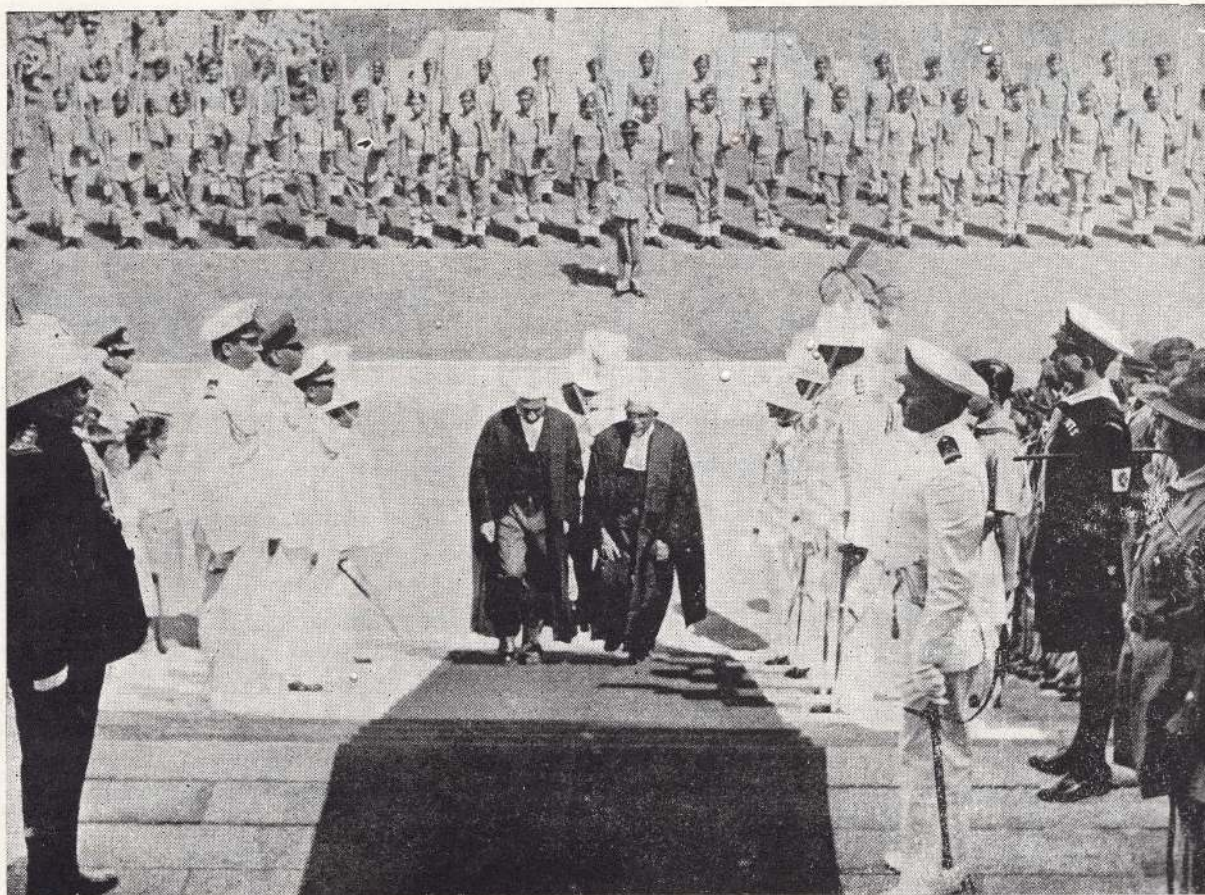
Trade and other Agreements were entered into with Italy, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Austrian Federal Government, the Federal Republic of Germany, Poland and Yugoslavia.

In pursuance of the five-year rice-rubber agreement with China, an agreement has been concluded for the coming year which is satisfactory to both countries.

My Prime Minister will be taking up the case of persons of Indian descent resident in Ceylon with a view to achieving a satisfactory solution of this problem.

In pursuance of an interim report of a Joint Select Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives which has been appointed to consider the revision of the Constitution, certain amendments to the Constitution, particularly for the delimitation of Electoral Districts, have been passed. The Joint Select Committee has progressed very far in its consideration of the subjects referred to it. It is hoped that the Committee will be able to complete its work when it is re-appointed during this Session. It may even be possible to implement some of its recommendations during this Session.

A Bill to amend the Ceylon (Parliamentary Elections) Order in Council has been passed and is in the process of implementation.



The Clerks to the House of Representatives and the Senate walking up the steps leading to the House of Representatives for the ceremonial opening of Parliament

The measures mentioned above will ensure the more effective working of the democratic principle in our country at the next general election.

The Report of the Delimitation Commission has been issued. The Reports of such important Commissions as the Salaries and Cadres Commission, the Commission on a National Wages Structure, the Commission appointed to report on the establishment of a Sasana Council, the Commission on Ceylon Shipping Lines and the University Commission are expected during this Session. These Reports will receive the earnest and urgent

consideration of My Government. The Report of the National Planning Council is ready and, after consideration by My Government, will be presented to you. The progressive implementation of this Plan will provide not only for the development of the country but also for the elimination of unemployment.

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the forthcoming financial year will be laid before you. When these Estimates are submitted you will see the details of the work and the programme of development which My Government proposes for that year. These

proposals provide for further economic development and for a further advance in social services, including housing, and are likely to give employment to many thousands of persons.

The new structure of taxation has been embodied in Bills that have been passed into law and are being implemented. A Bill to amend the Income Tax Ordinance in regard to the taxation of incomes of charitable institutions has been passed into law.

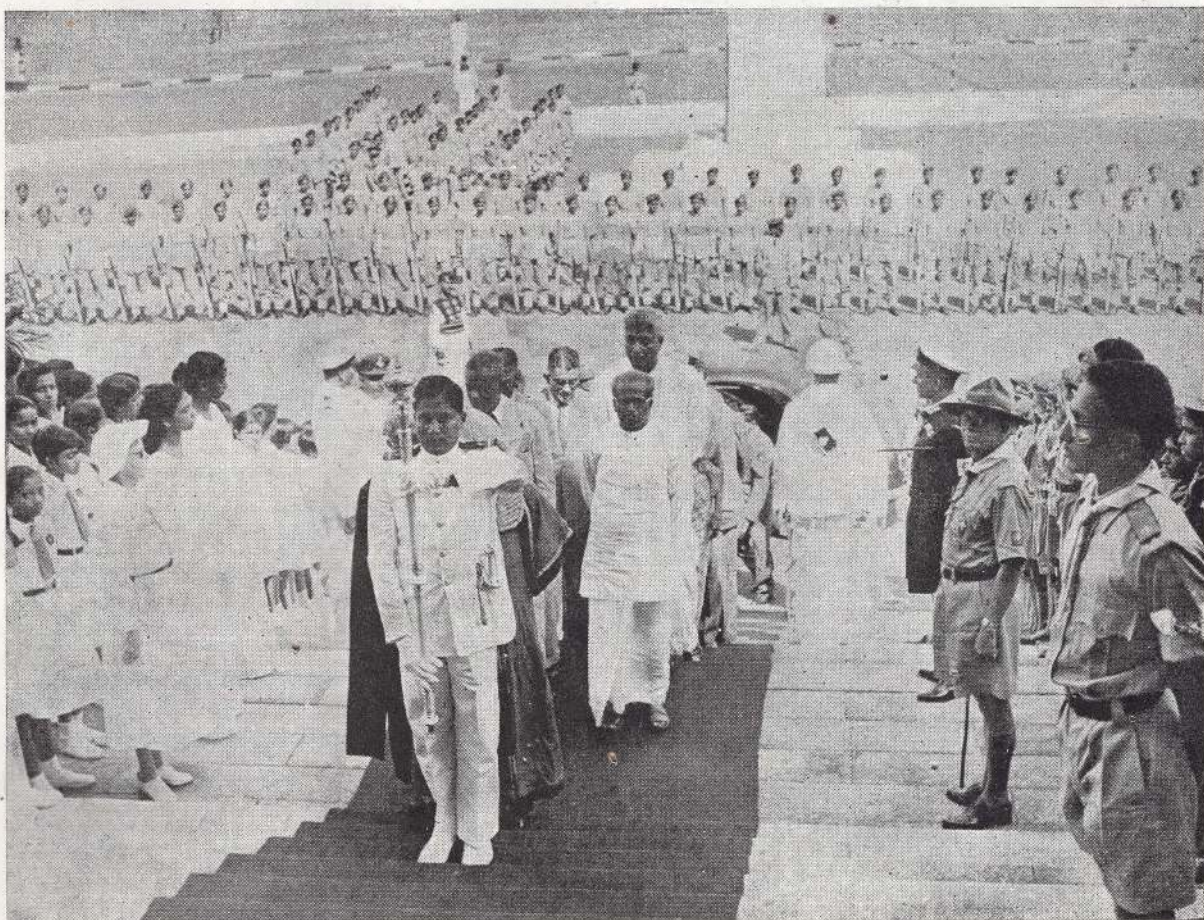
Steps have been taken to reduce the prices of certain essential foodstuffs. Further steps will be taken in this direction and in regard

to other matters that affect the cost of living.

The nationalised services of road transport and cargo handling are being dealt with by the Ceylon Transport Board and the Port Cargo Corporation. While recognizing that there are still defects that need to be remedied, My Government will take all necessary steps in order to ensure an efficient service to the public in these ventures.

In pursuance of its socialist policy, My Government will consider what further measures of nationalisation may be undertaken usefully and wisely. My Government

Members of the Senate entering the House of Representatives





The Prime Minister, the Hon. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, handing over to the Governor-General the Speech from the Throne

will also further clarify where necessary the position of State enterprise as well as private enterprise in order to remove any confusion that may exist in the public mind on this subject.

A Bill was passed into law to raise the status of the Vidyodaya and Vidyalankara Pirivenas to that of Universities and these Universities have already been inaugurated.

The Rent Restriction Amendment Bill and the Crop Insurance Bill which lapsed on the prorogation of Parliament will be re-introduced early. Other Bills which lapsed owing

to prorogation will be proceeded with during this Session. A number of Bills which have been under consideration by My Government, including the Co-operative Development Bank Bill, a Bill to provide for further security of employment to workers, a Bill to make provision for State Insurance in respect of Workmen's Compensation and a Bill for the Registration of Title to Land, will be presented to you.

I commend all these matters to you for your deliberation and I trust they will receive your most careful consideration.

The President of the Republic of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, being greeted on arrival in Colombo by the Ceylon Premier, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike



Visit of Dr. Rajendra Prasad to Ceylon

CEYLON was honoured by the visit of yet another distinguished visitor this year when the President of the Republic of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, arrived here on June 16, on a six-day visit as a State guest.

The Indian President who came here in a special plane with a party of twenty others, had a busy programme visiting Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Kandy and Sigiriya. During his short stay in Ceylon, the Presi-

dent also visited the International Buddhist Centre and the Ramakrishna Mission Centre at Wellawatte, the Vidyalkankara and the Vidyodaya Universities, the University of Ceylon and the Royal Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya and the Malfakande Temple.

On the 16th morning, as the President stepped out of the Silver Viscount which brought him to Ceylon at 11.30 a.m., the first to greet him at the airport was the



Dr. Prasad delivering the Convocation Address at the Vidyalkankara University

Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke. "Welcome to Ceylon", said Sir Oliver as the President was given a twenty-one gun salute by the Ceylon Army.

Among the others at the airport to greet the distinguished visitor were the Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya, Minister of Health, Mr. W. Dahanayake, Education Minister, and Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, Minister of Transport.

Deep feelings

SHORTLY after the formal introductions were over at the airport, the President addressing those present said that this was his first visit to free Ceylon and he could hardly say how happy he was to be "in this beautiful country".

He further declared : " I bring with me the good wishes and the deep feelings of friendship and good neighbourliness from the people and the Government of India for the Ceylonese people. These feelings which are rooted in the ancient and medieval history of our two countries have now been further strengthened by our common experience, common problems and common aims in this era of national freedom.

"Emancipated recently after centuries of foreign domination, both our countries are naturally engaged in the all-important task of economic reconstruction with a view to raising the living standards of our respective peoples and making life happier for the common man. It is a stupendous undertaking and calls for sustained and hard work.

I am sure before long we shall have succeeded in giving economic content to our political freedom."

That evening the President attended his first official function when he visited the International Buddhist Centre at Wellawatte where he handed over to the Ven. Heenatiyane Dhammaloka Nayake Thero the Buddha Statue gifted by the Indian Government.

In the course of his Address at this ceremony, the President said that the message of the Buddha was an integral part of our heritage. Its tenets had been household knowledge to many millions in Asia.

He added that the history of the growth and spread of Buddhism was a remarkable example of the manner in which ideas travelled and how readily man responded to a prophet's healing message.

Shortly before the President attended this function he had talks with the Prime Minister who called on him at Queen's House. A State Banquet was accorded to the President at Queen's House that night.

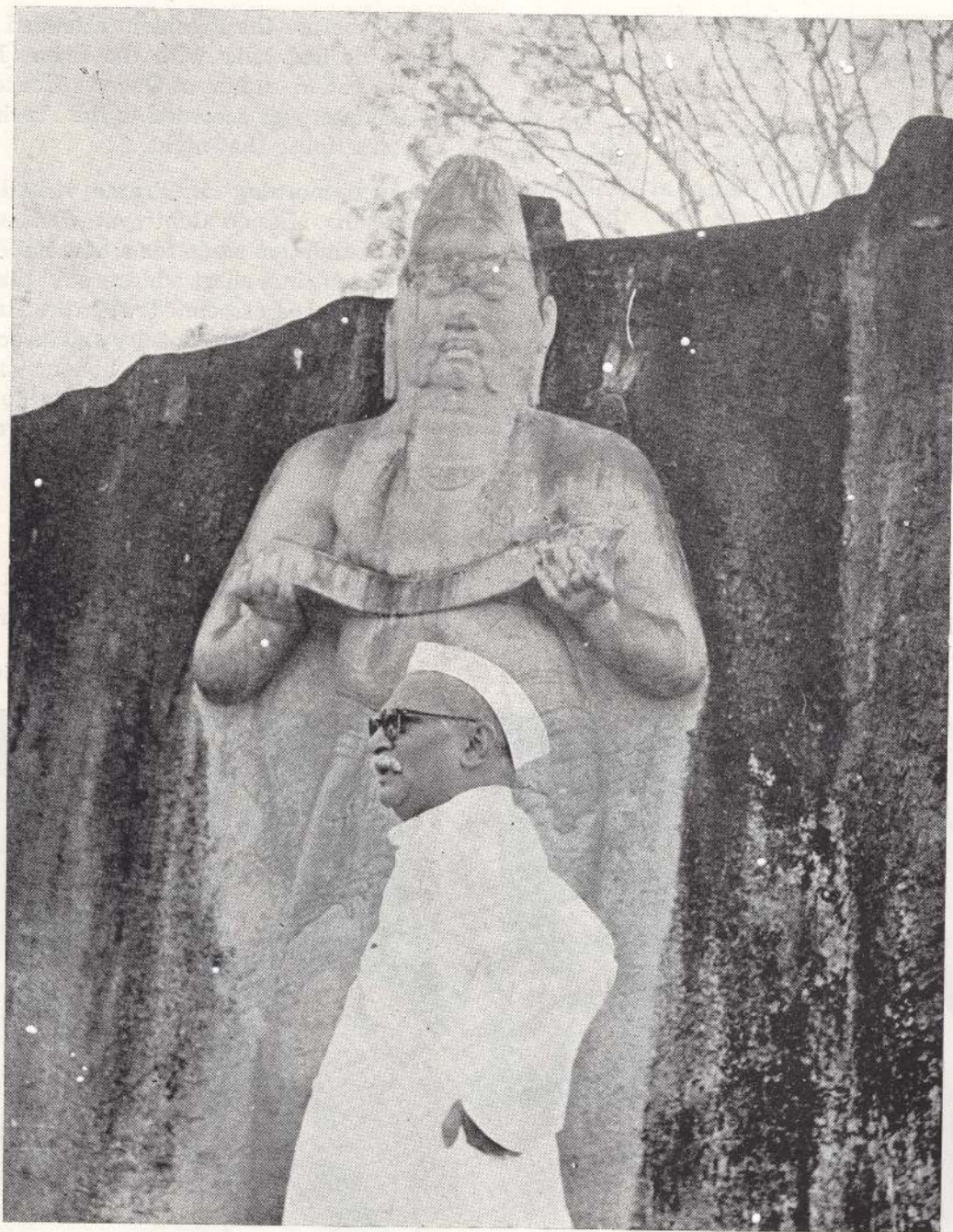
The next morning Dr. Prasad visited the Ramakrishna Mission Centre at Wellawatte to lay a foundation stone for a new building. The President in a short address said that he was happy to be associated with the Ramakrishna Mission in any capacity and its activities in any country was an honour and a privilege which anyone subscribing to the high ideals of the Mission would greatly value.

Show and glamour

HE further said that in the present age with its emphasis on show and glamour one

Dr. Rajendra Prasad at the Vidyodaya University





The Indian President beside the statue of Parakrama Bahu at Polonnaruwa

might wonder how a world-wide organisation could survive by making a virtue of unobtrusiveness and apparent self-denial.

But in all earnestness he would suggest that a movement did not necessarily live

on placards and noisy tom-toming. The real soul of a movement was the spirit which animated those who were behind it, the depth of their convictions and the devotion to the cause they had espoused.



The Mayor of Jaffna welcomes the Indian President to the northern town

The President concluded his Address by hoping that the additional facilities would provide greater success to this Mission in the service of human beings and the establishment of goodwill and closer understanding between the peoples of Ceylon and India.

The same morning Dr. Prasad received calls from the President of the Senate, Sir Cyril de Zoysa, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. H. S. Ismail.

The Vidyalankara University of Ceylon was inaugurated at Kelaniya by the Indian President at a very impressive ceremony that afternoon. The Governor-General, the Prime Minister, Members of the Cabinet and other distinguished visitors watched the President as he lit a giant Sinhala brass lamp, thereby raising the status of this 84-year-old seat of learning.

At a special convocation that followed Dr. Prasad was conferred with the Degree of

Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*). Other recipients of this honour were the Governor-General, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, and the Vice-Chancellor of the Ceylon University, Sir Nicholas Attygalle.

The President, speaking at this historic function, said that it was a signal honour to him and to his country to have been asked to initiate this University and to be among the first to receive its Degree of Doctorate (*honoris causa*).

Dedicated labour

HE said : "Vidyalankara is an old seat of learning hallowed by a near-century of dedicated labour, freely given by wise and venerable men. The need for such a University has always been great, but in these modern times, in the exhaustion and weariness of this speeding century, a haven, however small, where the tenets and principles

of such an entirely practical religion as Buddhism are studied and reflected upon, is of the greatest importance. Here in the peace and quiet of Vidyānankara, you can aspire to that wisdom which is the highest virtue of all”.

Immediately after this ceremony the President attended a reception given in his honour by the High Commissioner for India in Ceylon. The President had dinner at Queen's House and left by special train for Polonnaruwa at 10 p.m.

For the first time during his tour, brilliant sunshine greeted Dr. Prasad when he arrived at Polonnaruwa the next morning. Mr. C. P. de Silva, Minister of Lands and Agriculture and M. P. for the area, met the President as he stepped off the train. Accompanied by Mr. de Silva and Dr. C. E. Godakumbare, acting Archaeological Commissioner, the President toured the ruins of Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura.

On Friday morning, the President and party left Anuradhapura for Kandy by car. They broke journey at Sigiriya.

That afternoon, at a very colourful ceremony, the Governor-General conferred the Degree of Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*) on the President in the University Theatre, Peradeniya.

The Convocation ceremony began with a ceremonial procession headed by the Registrars and Deans of the University. The President was accompanied by Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Mr. W. Dahanayake and Sir Nicholas Attygalle.

In his Convocation Address, Dr. Prasad stressed the need for modern universities to turn out technicians who were able to grapple with the growing problems of handling the industrial development works of their countries, India and Ceylon.

He said that India was very much interested in Ceylon because the two countries were related to each other culturally and historically. Young people should realise, stressed Dr. Prasad, that they could

not depend on the present alone or on the past alone. They must try to solve their problems by combining the past and the present.

Kandyan dancing

THE President watched a display of Kandyan dancing at King's Pavilion before he retired for the night.

On Saturday, June 20th, the President visited the Royal Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya, and also attended a civic reception by the Kandy Municipal Council. He paid a visit to the Dalada Maligawa where he donated Rs. 2,500 and also presented a Rajput Bronze Chandelier at a special exposition of the Tooth Relic.

The President left Kandy that evening by special train for Colombo.

On Sunday morning, the President paid visits to the Vidyodaya University and the Maligakande Temple. He also visited the Vice-Chancery of the Indian High Commission and attended a reception by the Indian Community in Ceylon at the Galle Face Hotel.

The same evening, the President attended a reception given in his honour by the Prime Minister at “Temple Trees”. This was followed by a banquet given by the President at the Galle Face Hotel.

On Sunday, June 22nd, the President left in his special plane at 8.30 a.m. for Jaffna where he attended a civic reception given by the Jaffna Municipal Council before leaving for Bangalore.

In a farewell message at the airport the President thanked the Governor-General, the Prime Minister and the people of Ceylon for the hospitality shown to him.

He said: “I take back with me very pleasant memories of my visit. It is my honest hope that my contact with you all will help to strengthen the centuries-old traditional ties of culture, religion and friendship which have always bound our two neighbouring countries together”.

A Note on Sanchi

SIR RICHARD ALUWIHARE

WE publish below a note on Sanchi written by the High Commissioner for Ceylon in India, Sir Richard Aluwihare, after a recent visit to Sanchi. We hope this note will stimulate further thought and research.

A note on Ajanta, also written by Sir Richard, will appear in our next issue.

SANCHI is of special interest to Ceylon. The Mahavamsa has the following reference to it :—

"When the Prince Asoka, while ruling over the realm of Avanti, that his father had bestowed on him, halted in the town of Vedisa, before he came to Ujjeni, and met there a lovely maiden named Devi, the daughter of a merchant, he made her his wife; and she was (afterwards) with child by him and bore in Ujjeni a beautiful boy, Mahinda, and when two years had passed (she bore) a daughter, Sanghamitta. At that time she lived in the city of Vedisa."

Sir John Marshall in his "A Guide to Sanchi" has the following reference to this paragraph in the Mahavamsa :—

"And it is probable, too, that Sanchi is referred to under the name Chetiyagiri in the Mahavamsa—the Buddhist chronicle of Ceylon—where it is recorded that Asoka when he was heir-apparent and was journeying as Viceroy to Ujjayini (Ujjain), halted at Vidisa and there married the daughter of a local banker, one Devi by name, by whom he had two sons, Ujjeniya and Mahendra, and a daughter Sanghamitta. It is further narrated that, after Asoka's accession, Mahendra headed the Buddhist mission, sent probably under the auspices of the emperor, to Ceylon, and that before setting out to the island he visited his mother at "Chetiyagiri" near Vidisa, and was lodged there in a sumptuous vihare or monastery, which she herself



The Ceylon Premier placing a casket containing the Sanchi relics for public exposition in Colombo recently

had created. Now, assuming that the story of Mahendra as told in the Sinhalese chronicle is correct, it would be reasonable to identify this "Chetiyagiri" with the hill of Sanchi; for it was at Sanchi that Asoka set up one of his edict pillars as well as other monuments; and it is at Sanchi alone in this neighbourhood that any remains of the Maurya age have been found",

Although Sir John Marshall in his book points out that it would be unsafe to deduce from the reference in our chronicle that the history of Chetiyagiri (Sanchi) as given in the Mahavamsa is authentic because of another version of the legend which makes Mahinda, the brother, and not the son of Asoka, Sir John is convinced that whether the story given in the Mahavamsa be true or not, there is good evidence to show that Buddhism was established at Sanchi before or during the life time of Asoka. It is also clear from the memorials which the Emperor erected at Sanchi that the Sangha was an object of special interest and care.

Remarkable Similarity

THE first impression created in me when I visited Sanchi was its remarkable similarity to Mihintale, the headquarters of Mahinda Thero in Anuradhapura, Ceylon. The physical likeness of these two places is obvious to any visitor. They dominate a flat plain and each commands a panoramic view of the country surrounding it. Both have stupas on their summits and the immediately surrounding premises are covered with priestly establishments.

The pertinent question that arises here is whether this remarkable physical likeness between them is an accidental coincidence or does it support the account given in the Mahavamsa that Mahinda was the son of Asoka, had an intimate connection with Sanchi (Chetiyagiri of the Mahavamsa). If this view be correct, is it unlikely that he,

on reaching Ceylon, selected a site which reminded him of his own home and childhood memories.

I am conscious of the fact that my view as shown in this brief article is superficial and may require further close study by scholars who may be able to trace archaeological or other kinship between Mihintale and Sanchi. If my view is worth pursuing, I would strongly recommend to those interested in this subject to pursue the line of inquiry I have suggested here.

I am strongly of the view that our Mahavamsa version cannot be rejected as a pious variation of the other story that the first missionary to Ceylon was not the son but the brother of Asoka. The latter view has an advocate in no less a person than the eminent historian, Vincent Smith, who has written a short biography of Emperor Asoka but I prefer to accept the view of Sir John Marshall that the version given in our Mahavamsa merits further careful investigation. Here it will be relevant to note that the tradition prevailing even in India is that Mahinda was the son and not the brother of Asoka. If we reject our Mahavamsa version that Mahinda was the son of the Emperor, as a logical sequel, we may have to reject the story that Sanghamitta was the daughter of Emperor Asoka. I think it is generally accepted that the Mahavamsa, in spite of pious exaggerations, has a great historical value and when the chaff of hyperbole is winnowed there is a solid kernel of factual information.



View of a section of the 700,000 acre feet of water held in the Senanayake Samudra, with intake tower and summer house in foreground

Ceylon's Biggest Multi-purpose Project

I. M. DE SILVA

(Chairman, Gal Oya Development Board)

THE impounding of rivers for irrigation in Ceylon is almost as old as her recorded history. From over 2,000 years ago the social benevolence of kingship was judged mainly by the patronage given to religion and agriculture. The growth of kingdoms in Ceylon, like everywhere else, was to a large extent geographically conditioned by the availability of waters in rivers for storage in reservoirs for irrigation purposes.

The multi-purpose Gal Oya Valley project was mooted in 1949. Originally the scheme was conceived to provide flood protection to the lower half of the eastern coastal sector of

the country and irrigate efficiently 33,000 acres of rice lands, the agricultural efforts on which were invariably defeated by drought and floods. Investigations subsequently carried out revealed that the scope of the scheme could be enlarged to bring new lands under the plough and generate hydro-electric power for rural electrification and for promoting industry. The attaining of political freedom brought into focus the urgent need to raise the standard of living of the people by diversifying the country's cash crop economy and increasing production in agriculture and the establishment of new industries.

The plan of the project was to impound the waters of the 62-mile long Gal Oya river in a giant reservoir with a 35 square mile water-spread and of its tributaries in a number of smaller detention reservoirs. The impounded water in the main reservoir and a few of the smaller ones was to be used for power generation in addition to irrigation.

The first step in this project was the construction of the main reservoir at a point called Inginiyagala. The work of placing an earthen dam three-quarter mile long, 150 feet high and 800 feet broad at the base that tapered to a 30-feet roadway at the crest commenced towards the end of 1949. This work was undertaken with the most modern mechanised equipment and was completed in three years by an internationally reputed firm of dam builders, supervised by Government's Irrigation Engineers. The firm also built the hydro-electric power station capable of generating 10,000 kw. of power. Simultaneously, the Gal Oya Development Board set about the task of reclaiming jungle lands for human settlement, agriculture and the establishment of towns, villages and industries. In magnitude and scope, the whole undertaking was unprecedented in the history of the country.

Direct benefits

THE work that has been done in the Gal Oya Valley during the past decade has benefited many thousands of people. In fact, the scheme has brought about a slow but steady revolution in the way of living of tens of thousands of people within the Gal Oya Valley and the areas adjacent to it. Forty new villages have been carved out of the jungle. In each village about 150 families have been settled. The land allotment to each family consists of three acres of irrigable land and two acres of high land. In addition, to provide for the overflow of population from the villages on the coast to the valley, village expansion schemes have been established to settle over 2,000 families with the same

acreage of irrigable land and a smaller homestead allotment. Paddy cultivation on a large scale has been tried out by the alienation of irrigable lands to a food production company and middle class colonists.

Thus, the agricultural efforts, with irrigation, in the area now cover about 26,000 acres of new lands which have recently been reclaimed. In addition, a regular and assured irrigation is provided to 33,000 acres of old paddy lands. Some parts of the total 59,000 acres under the plough are now cultivated twice a year and annually the area under irrigation from Gal Oya is over 80,000 acres. The contribution of this area to the national economy in the field of paddy production alone results in the saving of about Rs. 10 million in the imports of rice.

In addition, high land allotments of the new settlers, though unirrigated up to now, have been put to a variety of uses, the chief of which are the growing of vegetables, grains and pulses, onions, yams and tubers and more permanent crops like citrus, plantain and coconut. The measure of success obtained, though not spectacular, is estimated to value another Rs. 2 million, yearly. Lift irrigation experiments are being carried out with crops that yield a high economy return. Water is lifted to the lands above the irrigation canals by means of power-operated pumps. The crops on trial include rice, tobacco, cotton and ground-nuts. If the experiments prove a success, it would result in 30,000 acres of high land areas becoming more fruitful.

Although, by comparison to the power potential of big multi-purpose projects elsewhere, the power project of Gal Oya (10,000 kw.) is small, its value to a newly developing area, and to the people in this remote area of Ceylon who have been hitherto denied the benefits of scientific and technical progress, cannot be over-estimated. Today, within four years of operation of the power plant, the entire area is skirted by about 140 miles of high tension transmission lines, 40 substations and 60 miles of local distribution



The Regional Technical Training Institute at Amparai in the Gal Oya Valley

lines, taking the benefits of electricity and its many uses to about 16,000 homes.

A perceptible revolution is taking place in the day to day life of the people. For generations past, manual labour was the only form of village industry. To cite an example, women pounded paddy with their hands for producing rice. During the past three years this practice has disappeared and small power-operated rice hullers are used instead. Small kerosene lamps with an exposed flame, popularly called "bottle lamps", which have taken considerable toll of children's lives in the rural areas, are being replaced with electric lights. The benefits of an air link, radio, and telecommunications have brought this once remote area closer, and has knit this district with the rest of the country. Trade and commerce have made vast strides and growing towns dot the landscape.

New industries

IN the field of power-operated industries, a Brick and Tile Factory with an annual production potential of three million tiles (sufficient to meet the needs of eastern Ceylon) and one million bricks has been established. This would conserve considerable amounts of foreign exchange at present

used for importing tiles. The Rice Mill, the largest in Ceylon and one of the largest in South and South-East Asia, capable of milling a million bushels of paddy a year, went into production last year. A Saw Mill and Carpentry Workshop which initially served the construction needs of the building in the Gal Oya Valley, is being transformed into a commercial enterprise to produce furniture, building material, bodies for bullock carts and lorries.

The first Sugar Mill in Ceylon will go into production in Gal Oya next year to manufacture, at maximum capacity, 40,000 tons of sugar annually which, it is estimated, is about 20 per cent. of the country's total imports of this commodity. The establishment of a Power Alcohol Distillery will commence within the next few months to produce 2,000 gallons of this commodity which, like sugar, is again imported currently. Among the other industries envisaged are an acetic acid factory, perfumery, hard-board production and the use of bagasse, a by-product of sugar, as a raw material for newsprint.

Gal Oya is Ceylon's largest national development project so far and is almost entirely financed from national funds. Of a total investment of a little over Rs. 400 million up to now, less than Rs. 10 million has been in foreign aid derived mainly from the Colombo Plan countries and the United Nations aid agencies. However, the spheres in which foreign aid has been given, though small, are vital. A very important contribution has been of the Government of Canada which has financed the power transmission extension scheme. This aid has clearly made an impact on over 50,000 people in the Gal Oya Valley and the adjacent area both in the social and economic fields. But as yet this is only the initial base for future development and use. Within the next 25 years it will undoubtedly affect, in a very big way, about a million lives in eastern Ceylon, including the new settlers in the Gal Oya Valley. Canada has also aided with power-driven lift irrigation

equipment for experimental purposes. Lifting water for irrigation of lands higher than the water source is not altogether unknown in Ceylon. Well irrigation is virtually the *forte* of the hardworking peasant farmer of the Jaffna peninsula in the north of Ceylon. But the work is done manually or with the aid of oxen. The introduction of power in this field will break new grounds and will undoubtedly increase the *per capita* production of the individual farmer. Its success would undoubtedly spread to other areas in Ceylon before long.

The keynote of operations in Gal Oya is modernisation. Mechanised development cannot be successfully carried out without suitable men with training, ability and experience at all levels in technological and scientific fields. Ceylon has had a serious dearth of such men and progress in Gal Oya would have been retarded if the Gal Oya Development Board had not received external assistance in this field. During the past 10 years, 23 experts from the United Nations and Colombo Plan have assisted in a variety of fields, and many of them have made a valuable contribution to the Scheme. One aspect of their work was to get the job in hand done. But a more important responsibility was the training of local personnel to take their places in the future. During the same period, 13 officers of the Board have followed courses of study and observation in their respective fields in Australia, Japan, Canada, India, United Kingdom, Germany and Italy.

There was also an acute shortage of field and technical officers (middle grade) to implement the development programme with efficiency. Various training schemes initiated to meet this urgent need culminated in the establishment in 1956 of the Regional Technical Training Institute at Gal Oya, jointly with the funds provided by the Government of Ceylon, the F. A. O. of the United Nations and the Colombo Plan. This Institute today provides "on-the-job training" to about 70 persons in the fields of Civil,

Mechanical, Irrigation and Electrical Engineering as well as Agriculture, Survey, Waterworks, &c. The Institute is being expanded to take in 100 students every year. The first batch of trainees passed out last year and have all been absorbed into the development projects.

While Gal Oya is receiving valuable assistance from technologically more progressive and developed countries, she is in turn contributing her small mite in the training of those from other countries that need such assistance. In the Regional Technical Training Institute at Gal Oya, a quota has been reserved for trainees from other countries of South and South-East Asia. Twelve trainees coming from India, Burma, Malaya, Egypt, Nigeria, Yugoslavia and Pakistan, have been trained in courses ranging from six months to two years.

Future Programme

THE foregoing briefly portrays what has so far been done in Gal Oya. The problems of development are, however, pressing and are increasing in magnitude on account of the rapid growth of population. Recognising this, and the fact that vast areas in Ceylon are yet rural and agricultural and will remain so for generations to come, more multi-purpose irrigation-cum-power projects are being planned. A five-year plan of development to enlarge and expand the usefulness of the Gal Oya project has also been launched. When this plan is implemented by 1964, we would have settled 12,000 families, electrified 15 more villages, doubled the number of our industrial factories, built four more reservoirs, increased the capacity of one other and brought 80,000 more acres of land under irrigation. With the reclamation and settlement of new areas, opportunities for the growth of private enterprise, particularly in the fields of trade and commerce, will also be available spreading the benefits of the Scheme even more widely.

The Esala Festival at Kataragama

WILLIAM PEIRIS

THE anniversary of the Buddha's first sermon which falls on the full moon day of the month of Esala (July) has been commemorated with solemnity by Buddhists of Ceylon since the introduction of Buddhism to this country about 307 B.C.

Exactly two months after he attained Supreme Enlightenment, the Buddha preached his first sermon entitled *Dhammachakkapavattana Sutta* (setting in motion the Wheel of the Truth) in the Deer Park in Isipatana, Benares, to five ascetics who had been his companions when he was practising extreme asceticism and who had left him when he gave up self-mortification, adopting a middle course. In his sermon, he pointed out to them the utter futility of the extremes of self-indulgence and self-mortification and declared that he had discovered a middle way which led to supreme wisdom. He

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Solemn manner

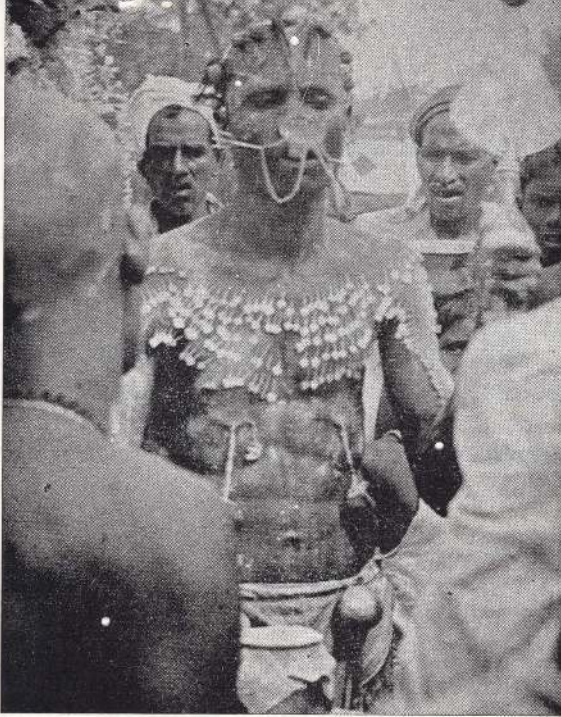
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A group of kavadi-bearers "dancing" in their frenzy in the Kataragama temple grounds





A Kataragama devotee, with his chest and tongue pierced with "arrows". Note the other forms of torture on the ribs and waist

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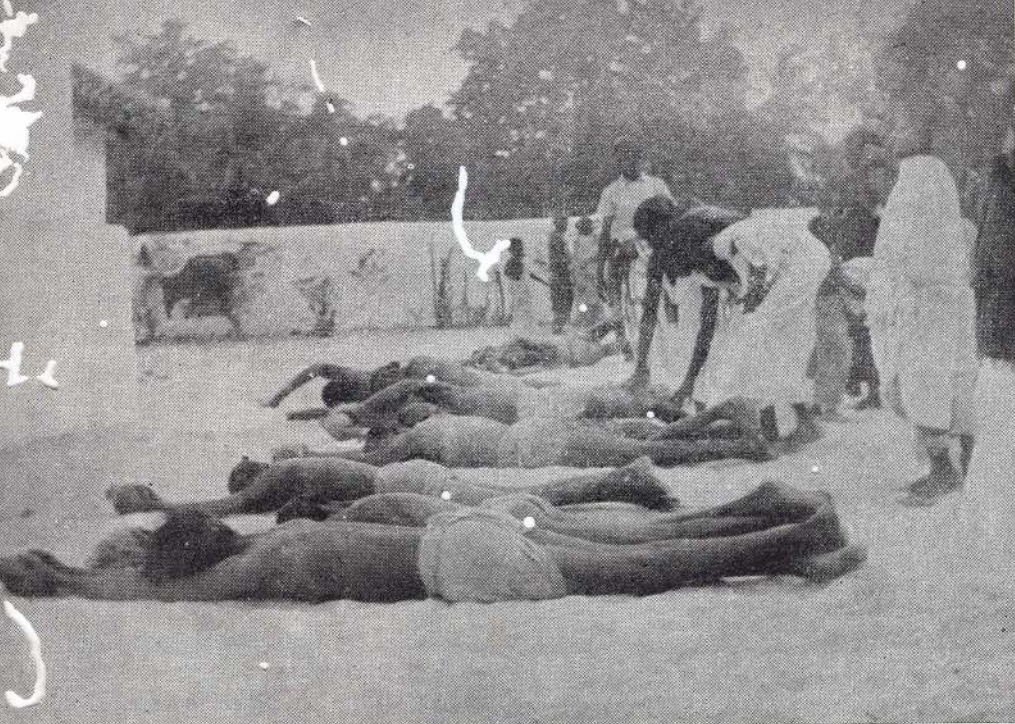
Besides the Maha Devala dedicated to the Kataragama God, there are other devalas at Kataragama dedicated to Valliamma, Thevaniamma, Ganesha and other minor deities. There is also a mosque. About three-quarter of a mile away from the devalas lies the Buddhist Kiri Vehera built by King Mahanaga in 104 B.C.

Several names

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Tradition has it that he married Devasena, a daughter of God Indra who, according to



Coconut in hand,
pilgrims lie
prostrate and roll
along the ground
in the temple
courtyard

Hindu mythology, rules over three hundred and thirty million lesser gods. Another tradition says that he has two other wives, Thevaniamma and Valliamma. The story of how he wooed and won the latter is interesting. Valliamma was the beautiful daughter of a Veddah chief and used to watch her father's crops. One day the Kataragama God happened to see her and was enamoured of her. He at once wooed her, but all his entreaties could not melt her heart. So he sought the assistance of his brother Ganesha, the god of wisdom, to win her. The two brothers decided to play a frightening hoax on her. Accordingly, one day, the Kataragama God began to woo her when she was watching her father's plantation. Assuming the guise of an elephant Ganesha appeared on the scene and trumpeted aloud. The trick worked like magic. The unapproachable Valliamma at once clung to the Kataragama God for protection and promised to yield herself to him if he would save her from the elephant.

According to the plan of the two brothers, the Kataragama God was to will that Ganesha's elephant guise should vanish the moment Valliamma was won. But the Katara-

gama God forgot all about his part of the arrangement owing to the ecstasy of the moment, and Ganesha is supposed to carry an elephants's head on his shoulders to this day.

The Kataragama God is said to be ashamed of having taken Valliamma as a wife because she was born of a she-deer. He treated her more as a mistress than a wife, and used to visit her under cover of darkness. Thus when the procession at Kataragama enters the Valliamma Devala at night the tom-toms cease to beat, the conch-shells remain silent, the people whisper in low tones, and the Kapurala who represents the god enters the devala over the garden wall covering himself with a black shawl!

Another legend says that Goddess Pattini is the consort of the Kataragama God. This goddess is said to possess marvellous powers, including the power to cause and heal diseases. She is said to manifest herself through virgins. Thirty-five years ago the local newspapers carried fascinating stories of how she had taken possession of a village girl of Haldummulla named Celestina who was said to have had the power of divination. This goddess is said to exercise her influence in a most powerful form at the



Fire-walkers wending their way across the pit of red-hot embers as a symbol of extreme penance

Lunawa devala where she has a large number of votaries.

Tradition has it that Dutugemunu (161 B.C.), the Buddhist Sinhala king, invoked the aid of the Kataragama God when he set out to fight Elara, the Hindu Tamil king, and after his victory over Elara he made offerings to the god. If the Kataragama God is the Hindu god of war, it is difficult to understand why he helped a Buddhist king to defeat a Hindu king. Buddhists claim that the Kataragama God is a believer in the teachings of the Buddha.

Extreme physical pain

THE Kataragama festival remains the same, unchanged in its pristine customs and unmarred in its wild richness. The modes of worship, especially of the Hindus, are primitive and sometimes sink to acts very elemental and barbaric. The devotees in the way of penance resort to extreme physical pain to invoke the god's favour. Around the devala the devotees perform vows made in times of distress. The commonest performance is to roll a specified number of times around the devala. Some of these devotees have quite a large number of hooks driven

through the bare flesh of the shoulders. As though that were not enough they often get a man to pull at these hooks by means of a rope to increase the discomfort. Not a few of these devotees have their tongues and cheeks pierced with a gilded arrow or skewer. Scores of them slash their necks with a knife and bleed themselves to their heart's content as they lie half conscious on the bare ground. The most amazing feat is the walking on live red-hot embers with naked feet. Strangely enough, these fire-walkers come out of their feat unscathed!

Frenzied votaries, evidently possessed by a devil, fall on the ground and writhe and kick and wriggle in amazing contortions. A thousand torches burn at night. The pipes shriek shrill Tamil tunes, the conch-shells call deep into the air, the tom-toms clamour, the bells tinkle while the devotees shout "haro, hara" and other slogans, making the confusion worse confounded.

Strange as it may seem, the Kapurala or the high priest of the devala dedicated to the Hindu god of war is a Sinhala layman, and has been so from time immemorial. He heads the procession mounted on a caparisoned elephant.

The Esala Festival at Kataragama

WILLIAM PEIRIS

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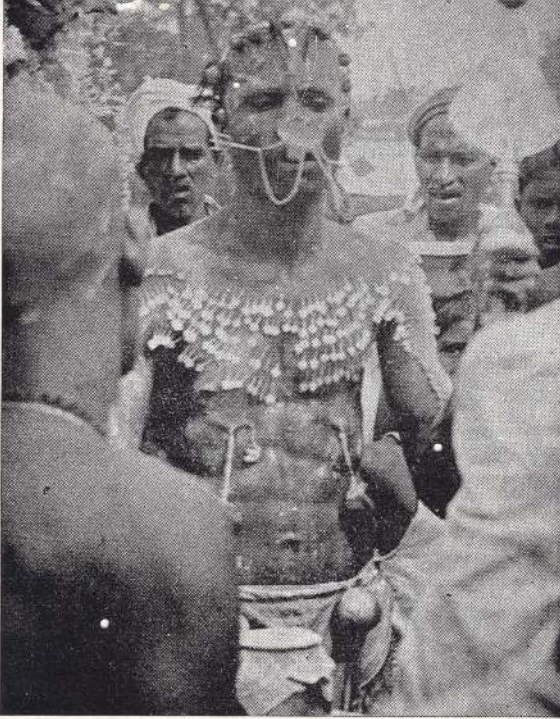
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The Ten-Year Development Plan

CEYLON is a poor country compared to the more developed countries of the world, although she is much better off than most other Asian countries. It is obviously poor comfort for her people to know that they are relatively well placed among pauper nations. Her population, too, is increasing rapidly while her economic growth is comparatively slow. According to present trends, it is estimated that, between the years 1957 and 1968, there will be a rise of $3\frac{1}{2}$ million in the population.

This is undoubtedly a staggering increase and if nothing is done during the next decade to step up the production of consumer goods the standard of living of the people, which is at present not very high, will drop by one-fourth.

In order to ensure that there be a very substantial increase in the real living standards of the people despite this big growth in population, the National Planning Council has formulated a Ten-Year Development Plan which outlines the various steps that should be taken in the fields of agriculture, industries, and so on, to increase productivity and meet all the economic and social needs of the entire population: food, clothing and shelter, health, education and employment.

To achieve this, the Plan aims at increasing national income from Rs. 4,742 million in 1957 to Rs. 8,905 million in 1968. The country's population is expected to rise by 3,693,000 during this period. Even when allowance is made for this increase in population, there will still be substantial increases in the standard of living of the people. During this period, income will rise by 36 per cent and consumption per head by 19 per cent.

In addition to raising incomes, the Plan provides for creating more jobs for the

people. Employment opportunities will be provided for 1.4 million people. This will reduce unemployment in addition to under-employment.

Expanded Production

BY 1968, under the Plan, there will be a big reduction of the Island's present dependence on imported foodstuffs, despite the increase in population. An expanded production of rice and virtual transformation of the fishing industry account for a large part of the development but provision is also made for big increases in supplies of other domestic products, particularly sugar, milk and meat products, eggs, tobacco, chillies, potatoes, and so on.

While a full-scale programme of agricultural development is envisaged, the Plan also proposes a major step forward towards industrialisation. Investment in industry will increase by 550 per cent between 1957 and 1958. By 1968 there should be a sound foundation of basic industries for future development.

This programme includes the expansion of the cement industry which is expected to produce a million tons of cement by 1968. Large-scale sugar production is also envisaged, and 272,000 tons of sugar are expected to be produced every year by 1968.

Expansion in other already-existing industrial fields, such as textiles, ceramics, chemicals, salt, bricks and tiles, glass, paper, machine tools and equipment, is also contemplated.

As for small-scale and cottage industries such as hand looms, power looms, coir weaving, bricks, mats, leather, pottery and woodwork, the Plan recommends an investment target of Rs. 400 million during the ten years.

Closely linked with industrialisation is the development of power. The Plan provides for the rapid expansion of power supplies from 82 megawatts in 1957 to 382 megawatts in 1968. It has been recommended that a sum amounting to Rs. 826 million be spent on the development of the further stages of the Laxapana hydro-electric scheme, the Seven Virgins Scheme and the multi-purpose project of the Walawe basin.

The Plan also places a great deal of emphasis on housing needs. Over the ten years, it is proposed that nearly a million houses will be built in both the rural and urban areas. This takes into account not only the housing needs of the increasing population but also the existing backlog.

Adequate provision is also made in the Plan to meet the increased needs for health and education. Additional educational facilities are to be provided for 900,000 more pupils. In the field of health, the Plan envisages the extension of the health services to meet the needs of large numbers of village labourers, accustomed to primitive sanitary conditions, who will be transferred to the towns as a result of industrialisation.

Net results

TO sum up, this will be the net result at the end of the ten years if the Plan is implemented: every year, 100 million more pounds of tea will be produced, almost two and half times as much paddy, three times as much new land will be opened up, five times as much fish produced, 123,000 more houses built, six times more electricity produced and twelve times as much cement manufactured. The list could be made much longer.

The question may be asked why the Plan covers a period of ten years. This is because

it proposes to bring about a radical change in the entire economy—a gradual move towards those of the advanced countries of today. It is difficult to achieve this within a shorter period. In short, the Plan does not simply mean increased output; it means a new sort of economy, new ways of living.

Because of the nature of the problems, their size and complexity, it is natural that it should be the Government on whom should fall the major responsibility for implementing the Plan. It is only through it that the necessary initiative, drive and sense of purpose can be achieved.

The Government, however, can only operate through the people. The Plan is a people's Plan. It seeks to increase their living standards and hence it requires their co-operation and enthusiasm. The people must be prepared to work harder and save more. A smaller share of their increase in incomes must henceforward be spent on food, drink, clothing and luxury goods, and a bigger share saved to be invested on development projects like opening up new land, building factories, roads, schools, houses, and so on.

Of course, a major share of the new investment will be initiated by the Government and the private sector but the people, too, must contribute their share for the Plan to be a success. The people themselves must be prepared to support their Plan to accept the burdens and reap the benefits implied in it.

For this to be possible what is now needed more than anything else is active public discussion to understand the Plan and give it their support. For without their active support, the Plan must surely fail. If they do not work hard, are not trained in the right skills, are not prepared to save or be taxed, this Plan like any other will remain a paper report.

Industrial Development in Ceylon

THE HON. J. C. W. MUNASINHA

(Minister of Industries and Fisheries)

IN the short space of three years, the Ministry of Industries and Fisheries has laid the foundation of a balanced economy, placing the accent on industrial development utilising, as far as possible, the resources available in the country.

In formulating a plan for the most effective and balanced utilisation of the country's resources, the various possible industries (on the basis of known resources and raw materials) have been divided into three categories ;

- (a) basic major industries that are entirely State-owned ;
- (b) industries to be developed jointly or separately by the State and the private sector ; and
- (c) certain industries left entirely in the hands of the private sector.

Investment in industrial ventures by Ceylonese had in the past been very scarce, as people with money preferred to invest it in already developed agricultural estates from which there was an assured return.

To encourage the investment of local capital in industrial ventures, certain tax concessions have been granted through Section 7A and Section 44 (E) of the Income Tax Ordinance.

Under the former Section, income tax for the first 5 years of operation of an industrial undertaking sponsored by Government is waived completely, while under Section 44 (E) certain "approved" ventures are entitled to substantial relief in income tax.

Under the Government's new tax proposals, there will be a radical alteration in the tax structure of the country, which will assure to an even greater extent, a proper channelling of local capital into commercial

and industrial undertakings for the benefit of the people. On the question of foreign capital investment in industry, since investment of foreign capital necessitates the utilisation of indigenous resources, it is desirable that foreign investment be restricted to those spheres where new lines of production are to be developed, or where special types and experience and technical skills are required, or where the volume of domestic production is small in relation to the domestic demand.

The machinery for the promotion and establishment of the basic industries referred to earlier is laid down in the State Industrial Corporations Act, No. 49 of 1957. Under this Act, State Corporations are formed to develop specific fields of industrial activities. Corporations are managed by a Board of Directors, who are charged with the responsibility of conducting its day to day business. At the same time, power is vested in the Minister for giving general and specific directions.

Twelve Corporations

AT present there are 12 Corporations established under the State Industrial Corporations Act to deal with the following industries :—

1. Oils and Fats
2. Paper
3. Ceramics
4. Plywood
5. Leather
6. Caustic Soda and Chlorine
7. Cement
8. Textiles
9. Sugar
10. Salt and By-products
11. Ilmenite
12. Carpentry

Some of these factories, which have been in existence for some time, have shown marked progress during the last two years so that it has been decided to launch out on an expansion programme in order that a corresponding reduction in imports could be effected; at the same time it would enable the development of technical skills at home.

The expansion schemes contemplated relate to cement, ceramics, plywood, and leather factories. Besides, the expansion of the cement factory at Kankasanturai to produce 200,000 tons per annum, I propose to establish a second cement factory at Puttalam with a capacity of 125,000 tons. The original proposal for the establishment of a Spinning Mill to cater for the local handloom industry has since been enlarged by the inclusion of a Spinning and Weaving Mill capable of producing 10 million yards.

New factories

IN the 1959-60 programme, provision has been made for the establishment of several new factories, such as a second Spinning and Weaving Mill with a rated capacity of 15 million yards, a second Sugar Factory to produce 60,000 tons of sugar which is roughly one-third of Ceylon's present domestic demand, three tile factories each producing one million tiles and 600,000 bricks, and an Ayurvedic Drugs Factory for the manufacture of indigenous preparations.

Other basic industries which are receiving the active consideration of my Ministry are the Fertilizer Project, Iron and Steel Plant and a Tyre Factory. The last two projects will be set up with assistance from the USSR under the Economic Co-operation Agreement, and contracts for the supply of project reports have already been signed.

As a result of the recent tax concessions, the response received from the private sector so far has been encouraging. Several industries have been set up with joint State-private capital. Among these are the Dry Cell Batteries, Bicycles and Asbestos companies and a Boat-building yard. There are also a few factories set up with foreign capital, like Messrs. Pfizer-Dumex and Glaxo Laboratories, who have ventured into the pharmaceutical fields. Messrs. Danfood Ltd. of Denmark have been operating a factory for the last two years for the production of bacon, ham and sausages. The Government has formulated a comprehensive scheme for the establishment of industrial estates throughout the Island. The first "estate" under this scheme is to be established near Jaala and a public company with Government participation will be entrusted with the management of this Estate.

My Ministry has also drawn up a plan aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in requirements of fish. Fundamentally, the plan is directed towards mechanization of fish capture operations and the promotion of modern techniques of fishing. Attention is also paid to the development of fresh-water and brackish-water fisheries and the intensification of culture operations. It also includes provision for the reorganization of the present system of fish marketing, establishment of modern market stalls, construction of harbours, provision of cold storage facilities, etc.

With the implementation of this plan, which is under consideration by Government at present, self-sufficiency could be reached in a period of 10 years, thereby eliminating the import of fish and fish products, which is now a recurring annual drain on our exchequer to the tune of Rs. 80 million.

Campaign to eradicate *Salvinia*

AMONG the innumerable weeds in Ceylon, *Salvinia* has taken the foremost place. Major infestations of this weed are confined to the coastal belt extending from Puttalam southwards to Matara and large acreages of paddy land have gone out of cultivation. As a free floating weed not only does it reduce yields but also could completely smother a field of young paddy. Its rapid growth and tenacity to survive during an unfavourable period have been instrumental for its rapid spread.

"*Salvinia Auriculata*", the species found in Ceylon, is an introduced plant. The only known form of spread under local conditions is by vegetative means. The non-viability of the spores is thus the pivotal point on which it is hoped to achieve success in this work. Spraying of infestations with pentachlorophenol was adopted and has been the practice for the last three years.

At present 75 units are working. Each unit is able to clear around 1—1½ acres a day. The high cost of equipment and weedkiller does not warrant random expansion.

The Department of Agrarian Services has now undertaken a systematic programme of tackling infestations from the source and proceeding on to the lower plains.

An island-wide campaign of this nature is not possible. Under the circumstances section by section of the Island has to be tackled.

The work is at present confined to the areas north of Colombo and south of

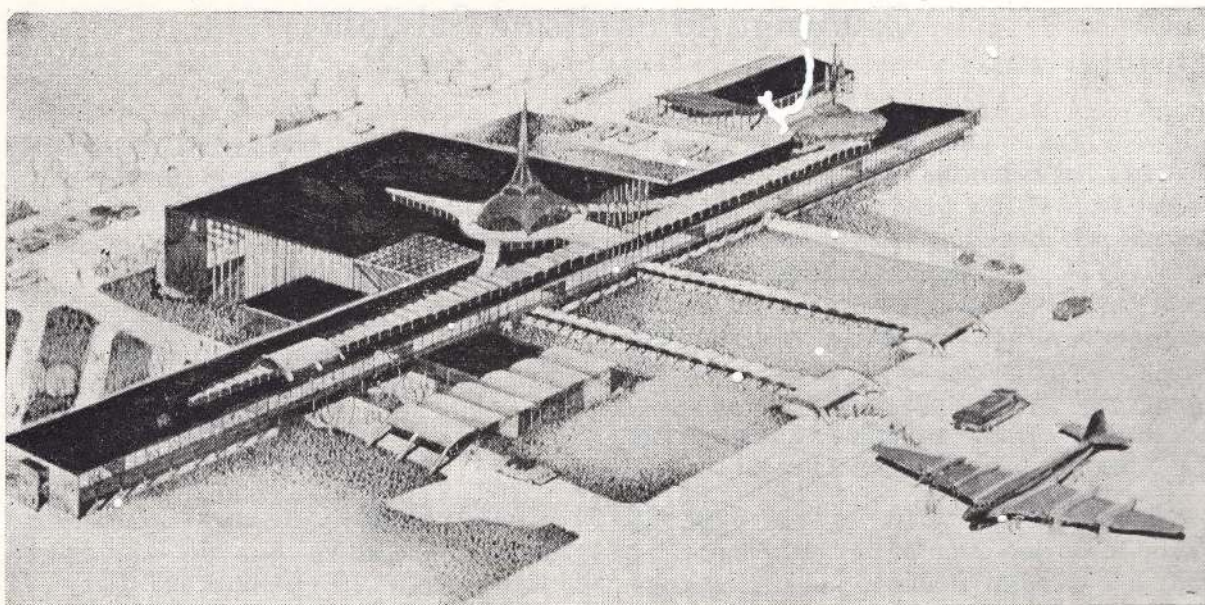
Puttalam. Large acreages in this area which have been abandoned during the last few years are now under cultivation. In addition tanks and waterways to a great extent have been cleared of the weed.

The chemicals used are comparatively non-toxic to fish and paddy. A low mortality rate among the smaller fish is to be expected. Though serious damage to paddy does not occur, fields under cultivation are not treated. The water does not retain any toxic effect. Therefore sprayed waters could be used for purposes of irrigation. A slight tainting of the water due to the chemical and decay of the plants makes it unfit for drinking for a short period after spraying.

Various leaflets, and bulletins have been periodically released bearing general advice regarding the control of this weed. These have been futile. The plants are yet being used even among the literate population as an ornamental plant and in fish ponds and tanks. Very many infestations have originated from such places. Other than its beauty its ability to retain moisture also has been causative in its spread.

In controlling an infestation every plant has to be killed and subsequently constant vigil maintained. This wanton spread by human agencies if controlled will minimize the task ahead.

Thus greater acreages under paddy and higher yields per acre will bring this country close to its goal of self-sufficiency in food.



An artist's impression of the new airport which is to be constructed at Katunayake

Ceylon prepares for the Jet Age

STANLEY JOSEPH

CEYLON will have an airport capable of accommodating jet aircraft in two years time. Work has already commenced in preparing preliminary plans for developing Katunayake to the standard of a first class international airport and this is expected to be completed before the end of the year.

Commercial airlines operating into and through Ceylon have indicated that they will in the near future be introducing more modern, larger and faster aircraft such as the Boeing 707, Conveyor 880 and Vickers DC 10. The Comet IV is already operating through Ceylon. The runway at Katunayake airport will, therefore, have to be lengthened and strengthened to take in these aircraft. In addition other airport facilities such as adequate communication and navigational aids, terminal buildings, hangar accommodation, taxiways, car parks, approach roads,

runway lighting and emergency services will have to be provided.

The first step towards the installation of the most up-to-date communication and navigational aids has already been taken. The Government has entered into an agreement with the International Co-operation Administration of America for the supply of a modern navigational aid known as VOR (very high frequency omni directional range) which has been adopted by the International Civil Aviation Organisation as a standard short-distance radio aid. This aid will enable aircraft to fly along any one of 360 radial tracks towards the airport it serves in any kind of weather. This equipment is initially to serve Colombo airport but will be transferred to Katunayake when that airport is ready for operation.

The first consignment of equipment arrived in July, 1958, and the rest is still in process of shipment. Installation should be complete by the end of this year.

The Katunayake airport project is estimated to cost Rs. 23 million, made up as follows:—

1. Extensions and strengthening of runway to 8,700 feet with 2,300 feet graded overrun ..	Rs. 6,000,000
2. Construction of taxiways ..	Rs. 4,000,000
3. Construction of apron ..	Rs. 2,000,000
4. Construction of approach road from main road to airport ..	Rs. 500,000
5. Construction of terminal building ..	Rs. 2,500,000

General

(a) Power lines ..	Rs. 50,000	
(b) Utilities ..	Rs. 1,000,000	
(c) Car park ..	Rs. 100,000	
(d) Extras ..	Rs. 350,000	Rs. 1,500,000
(e) Acquisition of additional 500 acres for full requirements at Rs. 5,000 per acre ..		Rs. 2,500,000

(f) Communications and navigational aids ..	Rs. 2,000,000
(g) Quarters for staff ..	Rs. 1,000,000
(h) Hangars and other accommodation for vehicles ..	Rs. 1,000,000

Total cost .. Rs. 23,000,000

Meanwhile, the Ratmalana Airport telecommunication project for which 205,000 dollars worth of equipment has been gifted by Canada is progressing satisfactorily but it will take some time yet before the equipment which is already in hand, as well as that which is due to arrive, will actually be installed. When this equipment has been installed and the two radio teletype circuits Colombo/Bombay and Colombo/Singapore are in operation, point to point communication regarding aircraft movements will be three to four times quicker than what it is now.



Mr. and Mrs. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike arrive for the American Independence Day party in Colombo on July 4, 1959

Foreign Affairs

CEYLON'S Ambassador to the U.S.S.R., Dr. G. P. Malalasekera, was concurrently appointed recently as Ceylon's Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. At the ceremony where he presented his credentials to the President of the Republic of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Malalasekera said :—

“ This is a historic occasion for my country because for the first time Ceylon is being formally represented in the Republic of Czechoslovakia. To me, personally, it is a signal honour to be accredited as Ceylon's first Ambassador in your great country and I am extremely happy to visit this gracious city in such a capacity.

“ We in Ceylon have long been aware of the historic past of your land, and its contributions from earliest times to the culture and civilization of Europe. Being ourselves a nation with a long and distinguished tradition of our own, we are proud to be thus drawn closer in our relationship with you. Though this is the first time my country has been given diplomatic status in yours, many cordial and friendly exchanges have already taken place between us. Delegates and visitors from Ceylon have been here and participated in fruitful discussions with your leaders. They have carried away with them lasting impressions of your kindness and warm hospitality. We recall with special



▲
Dr. G. P. Malalasekera inspecting a guard-of-honour at Czechoslovakia when he went there to present his credentials as Ceylon's first Ambassador to Czechoslovakia



▶
Ceylon's first Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, Dr. G. P. Malalasekera, being greeted by the President of Czechoslovakia

pleasure the visit to our country last year of your distinguished Prime Minister, Mr. Siroky. Troupes of Czechoslovakian artistes

have gone to Ceylon and by their performances given great delight to vast audiences in various parts of the Island. Some of them



The Prime Minister proposing the toast of the President and people of the U. S. A. at the American Independence Day party given in Colombo on July 4, 1959

even learnt our songs and dances and thereby endeared themselves to our people.

"Ceylon is well acquainted with the industrial greatness of your country and the very high position it occupies in the industrial world of today. The exhibition of Czechoslovakian industries held in Colombo not long ago created much interest and admiration and drew great crowds of spectators. Industrial organizations from your country have been active in Ceylon and demonstrated your potential for making useful contributions to our economic development. We can consider today's event, therefore, as reflecting

in some ways the growing need for co-operation between our two countries, particularly in the economic sphere, and the scope there is for mutual benefit by strengthening our ties.

"Although Ceylon cannot, by any means, consider herself your equal in respect of economic or industrial capacity, we have in our own way, participated actively in the cultural and political life of our region. Many neighbouring countries regard Ceylon as having provided the nucleus of their cultural achievements. You are, no doubt, aware of our policy of non-alignment and positive



The Ceylon Premier with Mr. Nik Cavell, Canadian High Commissioner in Ceylon, at the Canada Day party held at Mr. Cavell's residence

neutrality in international relationships which has won recognition as a significant achievement in diplomacy. It is this outlook, uncoloured by ideological reservations and animated by a genuine desire for friendship with all peoples, that has won for us acceptance throughout the world. We consider the establishment of diplomatic relations with you a further landmark in our history as an independent nation and a manifest vindication of our policy.

"I am confident that, with our respective historical heritage and the opportunities now made available for mutual co-operation, our two countries can look forward to a friendship which will be a living example of the principles and the spirit that should animate nations towards each other, ensuring peace

and harmony for the whole world and happiness for humanity."

Rubber-Rice Agreement for 1959 between China and Ceylon

THE Government of Ceylon and the Government of the People's Republic of China signed on June 13, 1959, the contracts for the purchase of 230,000 metric tons of rice by Ceylon and 30,000 metric tons of rubber by China. The following is the text of the communique issued :—

In accordance with the provisions of the "Trade and Payments Agreement between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of Ceylon" concluded on the 19th September, 1957, between



Mrs. Bandaranaike, wife of the Ceylon Premier, being greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Soerianata Djoemena, the Indonesian Ambassador and his wife, at a farewell party given by them shortly before their departure from Ceylon

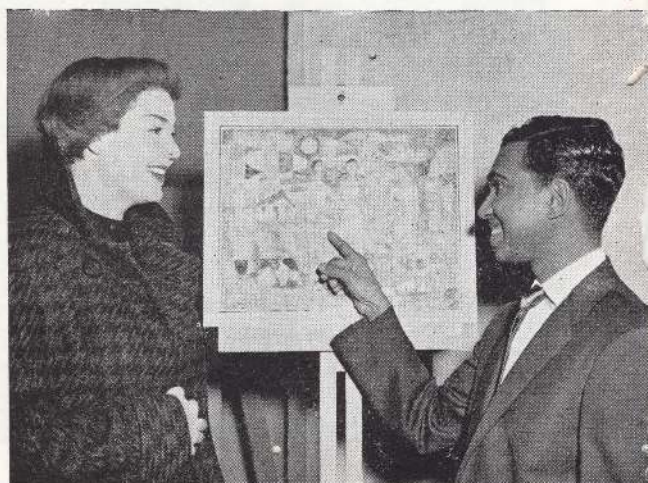
the two Governments, representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of Ceylon, after negotiations conducted in Colombo, have signed the "Protocol Relating to the Exchange of Commodities between China and Ceylon in 1959", as well as the Contracts for the purchase of 30,000 metric tons of rubber by the Government of the People's Republic of China from the Government of Ceylon and for the purchase of 230,000 metric tons of rice by the Government of Ceylon from the Government of the People's Republic of China for 1959.

The Protocol for the Exchange of Commodities between the two countries in 1959 envisages exports by China to Ceylon to a total value of Rs. 124,600,000 and exports by Ceylon to China up to an equivalent value.

The discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of utmost goodwill and cordiality and the agreements reached mark a further step forward in the development and consolidation of trade and friendly relations between China and Ceylon."



▲ The Australian Trade Commissioner in Ceylon, Mr. M. F. Roberts (second from left) gave a party in Colombo to Mr. Len Dorman (second from right), Assistant General Manager of the Australian Wheat Board, to meet members of the Ceylon flour trade



▲ Over 400 Australian art lovers crowded the Richman Art Galleries in Melbourne when a talented Ceylonese artist, Mr. Gamini Warnesuriya, opened his two-weeks exhibition of paintings. Mr. Warnesuriya is the first Asian artist to exhibit a one-man show in Melbourne. In the picture, Mr. Warnesuriya discusses his paintings with Miss Shiril Conway, a well-known American actress who officially opened the exhibition

▼ The Prime Minister at the Cultural Exhibition organised in Colombo by the Soviet-Ceylon Friendship League. Mr. Bandaranaike opened the Exhibition



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