

The Ceylon Fortnightly Review

Vol. V

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THE CEYLON FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW

Vol. V

10th April, 1953

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

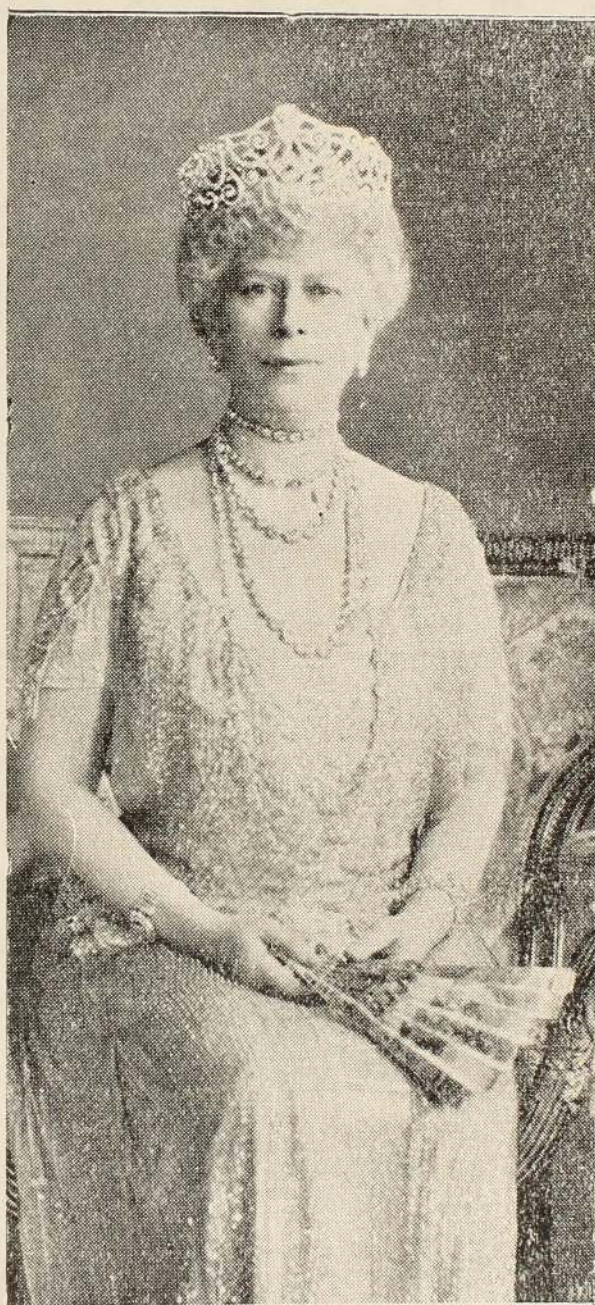
By BRUTUS

LITTLE over a year after the death of King George VI, the British Royal Family suffered another sad bereavement with the death, on March 24, of the Dowager Queen Mary, grandmother of Queen Elizabeth II. She was 85 years old and was the last Royal link with the spacious and gracious days of Queen Victoria. The widespread sorrow evoked by her death revealed how much she was loved throughout the world. It is hard to be a King. It also requires fortitude and faith to measure up to the full stature of a Queen. Of the beloved Queen Mary it has been truly said that she was every inch a Queen. She looked a Queen and every act of hers was Queenly. As Mr. Attlee said in the House of Commons, she was probably the most beloved of British Queens. She was an ideal wife and mother. Her patriotism manifested itself in practical form, such as when she presented to the British nation for sale for dollars a carpet on which she had lavished years of toil to make it with her own hands. Above all, Queen Mary was a shining symbol of the spirit of quiet endurance, the spirit that sets about the daily task unobtrusively and knows not defeat.

* * *

QUEEN MARY was the only member of the British Royal Family to visit Ceylon who subsequently ascended the throne. She came here at the turn of the Century with her husband, the future King George V. At that time, they were Duke and Duchess of York. It speaks much for Queen Mary's good influence that even millions who never saw her except in pictures of her in the newspapers, felt that with her passing the world had lost a good and great Queen. In Ceylon, flags were flown at half mast in token of sorrow. The Governor-General, Prime Minister, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives sent messages of condolence to the Royal Family and in Parliament a motion of condolence was passed.

A PROGRAMME to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, on June 2, in Colombo and the outstations has been drawn up by the Ministry of Home Affairs. In Colombo, the day will commence with religious services. At 8 a.m., the Army and Navy will fire a Royal salute. The Governor-General, Lord Soulbury, will attend a service at St. Peter's Church, Fort, at 10.45 a.m.,



DOWAGER QUEEN MARY

—Times Photo

and at noon the Governor-General will receive the Diplomatic Corps in Colombo. In the evening, there will be march pasts, sports meets, and drill displays by school children and there will be a garden party at Queen's House from 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. The day's celebrations will be brought to a grand conclusion with a display of fireworks, starting at 9.30 p.m. at Galle Face Green. On Coronation Day, public buildings and streets will be decorated and illuminated. The celebrations in the

outstations will, more or less, follow a similar pattern.

* * *

"SAVE the Fauna" Week was inaugurated on Sunday, March 29. Sponsored by the Shell Company and with the blessing of the Wild Life Department it was directed to making the public more conscious of the need for active co-operation towards saving our wild animals and birds from those who would destroy them indiscriminately. Thousands of posters, propaganda for wild life, were displayed throughout the Island, films on wild life too were shown and Dr. R. L. Spittel made a powerful plea over the radio for the intelligent conservation of our dwindling wild life before it is too late and the damage is beyond repair. Dr. Spittel emphasised what a previous heritage our wild animals and birds are and referred in particular for the need of timely measures to save the noblest of the animals, the elephant, from the steady destruction that is now its fate. He made several practical suggestions which the Government will do well to adopt while there is yet time to do something. It is true there is an Ordinance directed towards the preservation of wild life, but unless the public co-operate effectively with the Wild Life Department and others in authority to bring offenders against the law to book, the Ordinance is not going to be of much benefit. The public must be made to realise that our wild life is a precious possession which if once lost can never be replaced.

* * *

THE Prime Minister, Mr. Dudley Senanayake, took the salute at the passing out parade of about 150 Army recruits held at the Training Depot ground, Diyatalawa. The Premier on arrival was received by Brigadier F. S. Reid, Commander of the Ceylon Army, and Major A. R. Udugama, Commanding Officer, Army Recruits Training Depot. The parade, commanded by Captain M. O. Gooneratne, parade commander, marched past in line in slow time, followed by a march past in quick time. After the parade, the Premier presented awards to the winners of the training competition and accompanied by Brigadier Reid and Major Udugama, visited all the military establishments at Diyatalawa. He also watched a field firing exercise by a platoon of the Ceylon Light infantry.

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

WHEN the next sessions of Parliament begin, in June, M.P.'s. will be permitted the opportunity of making speeches in Sinhalese and Tamil without any restriction. This follows a decision arrived at by the Standing Orders Committee of the House of Representatives. Hitherto, consent of the Speaker has been necessary before a member could make a speech in Sinhalese or Tamil. Such a development was perhaps bound to come sooner or later, but unless all our M.P.'s are truly trilingual, a member making a speech in Sinhalese or Tamil cannot be certain that he is understood by all his listeners without having to await the production of a translation.

* * *

THE Chief Justice, Sir Alan Rose, when he presided over the Kingswood College prize-giving deplored "a tendency amongst certain of those professing the majority religion to try to divide the communal and nation against itself by appeals to religious prejudices." Sir Alan, who ventured to describe this development as symptomatic of a "new tribalism," pleaded earnestly that the leaders of the "new tribalists" should "pause before it is too late and consider the harm that they are doing not only to the minorities, whom perhaps they are not unwilling to injure, not only to the country as a whole which they profess to love, but also—and in the long run especially—to that very section of the majority community whose interests they affect to serve."

The Principal of Kingswood, Mr. P. H. Nonis, in the course of his report, said the need was realised of gradual introduction of the mother tongue as medium of instruction even into the Upper School, but urged that the language in which a school subject was taught was obviously an educational matter and headmasters and teachers should have the freedom for research and experiment. The right thing should not be attempted the wrong way, he said.

* * *

ALTHOUGH the annual meeting of the Planters' Association of Ceylon has lost some of its glamour since the meetings ceased to be held in Kandy, it is still the occasion for a

good deal of plain speaking on the major agricultural industries of the Island. Mr. W. R. Vander Kiste was re-elected Chairman at last week's meeting, a tribute to the excellent work done by him in that responsible position. Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, the Minister of Agriculture and Food, honoured the meeting by making at the meeting one of the most important speeches made by any Minister in recent months. If the scheme adumbrated by him can be carried out, the speech will be a landmark in the history of the planting industry. If all goes well, in ten years from now, the Ceylon rubber industry will be infinitely stronger to meet the shocks which



Sir Oliver Goonetilleke
—Times Photo

periodically assail it. The Minister's assurances on residence permits for European planters and the policy of not acquiring estates for settling landless peasants are to be welcomed by those who have the best interests of the tea and rubber industries at heart.

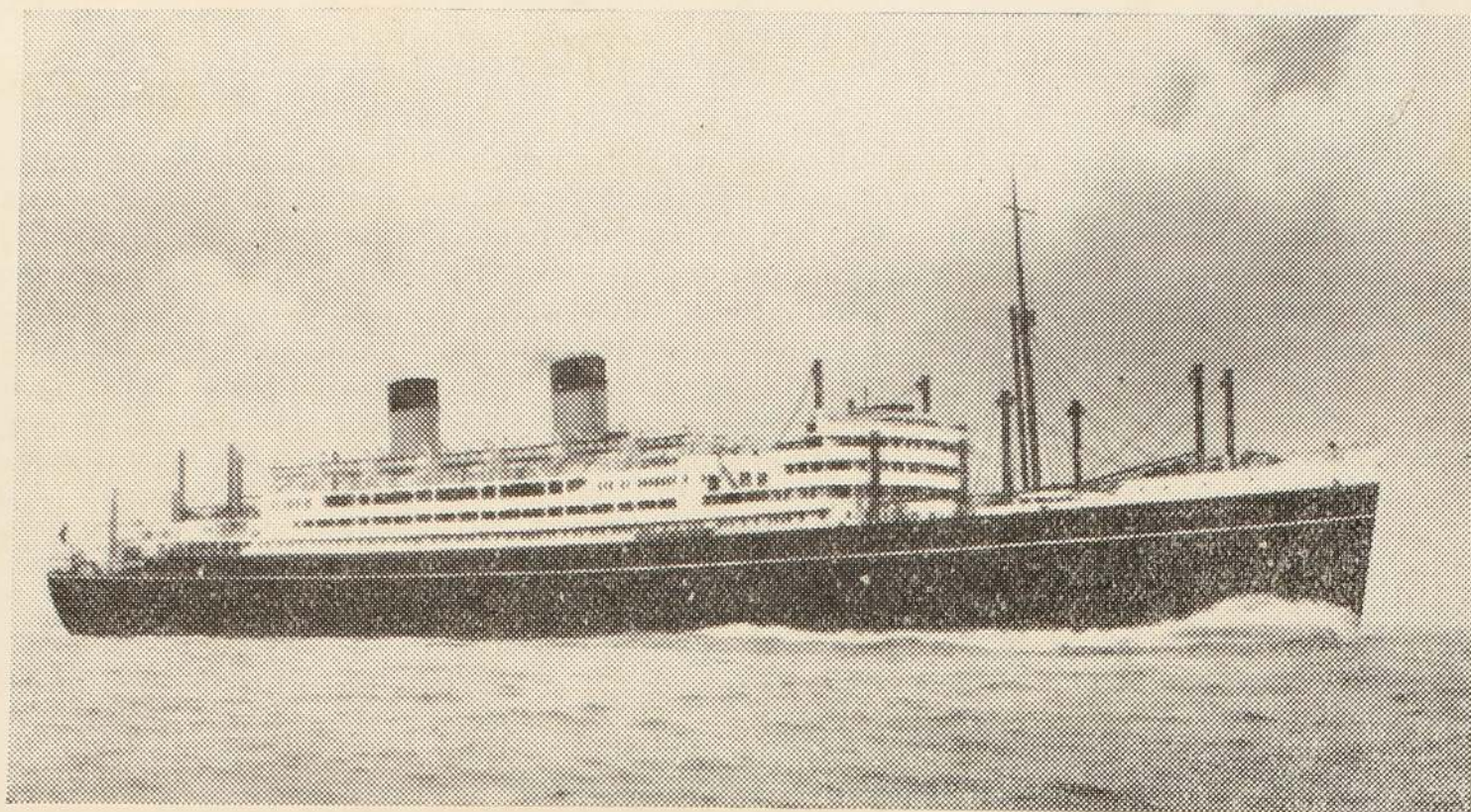
* * *

MR. CYRILE S. Perera, M.P., who took his oaths recently as a Queen's Counsel, started life as a teacher. Born in Kandy and educated there, he joined the Training College where he distinguished himself. Then he went to Malaya and worked for some time as a free lance journalist. Next he proceeded to

London where he was called to the Bar passing his final examination in the first class. On his return to Ceylon, he first practised in Kandy but later sought a wider arena in Colombo. Mr. Perera is a man of many parts. In his younger days, he played cricket, soccer, rugby football, hockey and tennis and boxed. He was a pioneer in insurance and banking and speaks half a dozen languages. His life has been a true success story and is an inspiration to young men with ambition who wish to climb to the top.

* * *

THE recently conducted general census a continuing steep upward movement of Ceylon's population graph. The population is now 8,103,648, which reveals an increase of 21.7 per cent. over the last (1946) census figure of 6,657,339. If the present rate of increase, 2.85 per cent. per year, is maintained, the population will double itself every 25 years. The Superintendent of Census, Mr. K. Williams, has pointed out that "demographic experience of other countries gives no instance where any country has maintained such a high rate for any length of time," but warned that "one should not be complacent about the matter and leave it to Nature to make its own adjustment. Nature's way of bringing about this adjustment, unless it comes through a pronounced drop in the birth rate, will not be a very pleasant one to contemplate." One remedy that has been applied elsewhere for tackling inconvenient population growth is family planning. But as long as we have undeveloped resources, it would be the weak way out of the situation to depend only on limitation of numbers. We must make a great endeavour to make the most of the few millions of acres of land that remain to be cultivated and also strive to get better yields from land that is already under the plough. How we set about handling our problems in the next ten years will set the course of our progress or decline for decades after that. We are now building up a body of data which is so necessary for our guidance in national planning. It would seem that what we now most require is just the courage to make firm decisions and apply all our energies to bring them to a triumphant conclusion.



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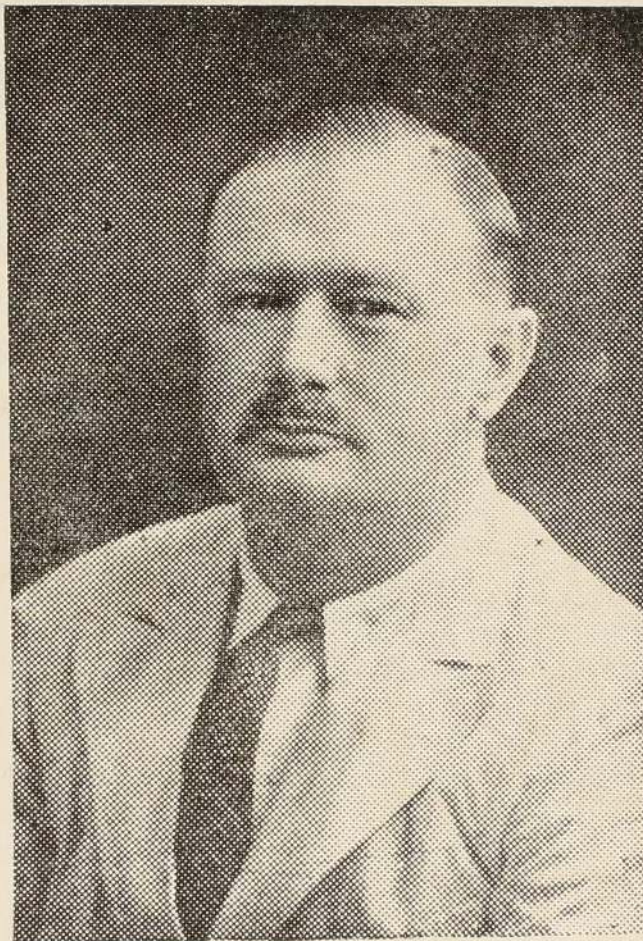
MATTERS OF MOMENT

A WARNING against certain features of the Government's Ceylonisation policy was uttered by Mr. John R. Murray, Chairman, in his address delivered at the recent annual general meeting of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Murray pointed out that originally the Government's policy was to allocate all imports from "new areas" exclusively to Ceylonese importers, but that of late the scope of "new business" had been extended to embrace the trade with China. One result of this had been the Government's intention to reserve shipments of sheet rubber for Ceylonese shippers. "This," said Mr. Murray, "is a matter of the gravest concern to the non-national firms included in that important section of the Chamber's interests which has always participated in that trade, and at their request the Chamber has added its support to the representations they have made to the Prime Minister calling for a reconsideration of the Government's decision. The sound commercial structure on which the economy of the Island depends has been built up over many years on the principles of private enterprise and unrestricted competition. To remove the entire trade in a major export commodity from established shippers solely on the academic grounds of citizenship and to place it, or anyway a good part of it, in inexperienced hands is gravely to imperil the safety of the structure by cutting away the roots of an organisation of shippers which it would be difficult, if not impossible to restore, should the trade ever again revert to its old channels—a possibility which cannot be ruled out." Mr. Murray's plea that in the national interest the Government should strive to combine encouragement to Ceylonese traders with continuing facilities to long established commercial firms of repute to carry on their lawful avocation is worth careful consideration by a cabinet which professes to pay more than lip service to the ideal of equality for all communities who dwell in this Island.

* * *

THE policy of all-out Ceylonisation may have a vote catching value. But even voters are subject to economic laws and a policy that will make them poorer in the long run is to be condemned. In his address to the

annual general meeting of the European Association, Mr. C. F. H. Edwards, the Chairman, criticised the policy of Ceylonisation as operating against the Island's financial stability and frightening away capital. He said: "Europeans are leaving Ceylon faster than Ceylonese are taking over their jobs, and, considering that there are only some 2,000 jobs left—at least half of which are technical jobs in the engineering and allied fields for which qualified Ceylonese are not available—there seems to be a great fuss made over the policy of Ceylonisation which seeks to place some 500 University graduates in employment, and not at



Mr. C. F. H. Edwards

the bottom of the tree, every year." Mr. Edwards went on to give instances where the Government had acted contrary to the spirit of the Order-in-Council which lays down that no laws should be passed which place any community or communities at a disadvantage, or any religion or religions at a disadvantage, or grant to one community or religion some advantage which is not accorded to others. Indeed, the Government has laid itself open to the charge that it does not always apply economic solutions to economic problems. But it is the economic solution that is really effective. Immense harm has been done in the fields of education and health, for example, by

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more with an eye to the next elections than as means of meeting educational and medical requirements in the most economical way. That surgeon is not the most successful who carries politics in his bag of instruments. As a nation we rather resemble a youth who has lately begun to earn his own living. Unless we learn to be realistic and profit from the experiences of others we shall find independence to be a most costly possession.

* * *

THE Comrades of the Great War (Ceylon), Association Dinner will again be held this year on Wednesday, 24th June, at the East India and Sport Club, St. James's Square, London. The evening before the Ceylon "At Home" takes place, while the Second Test match between England and Australia starts the same day at Lord's. It is expected that there will be a good attendance at the Comrades Dinner this year as there will be so many Ceylon men on leave in England during the next few months. Those wishing to attend should write early to Major Cyril Gilliat, whose address is as follows: "Brooklyn," Sunnyfield Lane, UP Hatherley, Gloucestershire.

* * *

ANOTHER annual general meeting held recently was that of the L.C.P.A., presided over by the Chairman, Mr. S. Pathmanathan, who called for stern measures to save the country from economic disaster. Mr. Pathmanathan said that the "principal cloud on the economic horizon is the way in which the government expenditure has continued to rise, brought the country's finances into difficulties and made it necessary for the government to borrow. The balance of payments is, in the long run, a question of living within one's income and the deficit of Rs. 200 million in the past year is a matter for serious concern." It was essential, pleaded Mr. Pathmanathan, that measures, such as restrictions of imports, should be rigidly enforced and drastic action taken to conserve the country's foreign assets. Until there was a marked improvement in the balance of payments, there should be no relaxation of these efforts.

(Continued on page 36)



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OUT OF TOWN

— By ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON —

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

IF London ever suffered from stage-fright, now should be the time. With Queen Elizabeth's Coronation less than three months off, the capital is already being made-up and costumed for the great event, and the eyes of the world are already peering in at the stage door. The Town is being photographed, televised, talked about and written about to such an extent that the ten million people who call themselves Londoners are in grave danger of becoming spoilt. Such adulation might well turn the heads of a population whose city had not been witnessing Coronations for the past 1,000 years.

To me, a Londoner born and bred, the temptation to strike a romantic attitude and declaim on London's greatness and majesty, its tradition, its wealth and industry, was becoming irresistible. And then there arrived unexpectedly by post this week an orange-coloured volume that switched my thoughts to regions outside London and restored a sense of proportion. It was the Automobile Association's Coronation Year Guide to the hotels of England, Scotland and Wales.

With London still in my mind I flicked the pages. "Abbotsbury, Buckfastleigh, Farnham, Melton Mowbray, Sandown, Stratford-on-Avon, Windsor . . ." and if it had suddenly rained sunflowers, my distraction could not have been more complete. How could I chain my thoughts to the vast metropolis when tantalised with names like these? Each of them, and hundreds like them, spelt enchantment.

* * *

LIKE A TAPESTRY

WHERE on earth, I asked myself, will you find so much treasure parcelled into so small an island? Where else do the monuments of history and romance, the tokens of industry and craftsmanship, the

beauties of architecture and nature, mingle so closely and in such endless variety? The automobile guide unrolled Britain before my mind's eye like a tapestry.

And yet I had very much wanted to write about London. On the television screens this month London has been the subject of a searching enquiry. Not the London whose pavements, as the countryman thinks, are paved with gold, nor London as the seat of United Kingdom Government, the scene of Commonwealth conferences, the home of pageantry and spectacle. It was London the Problem: its crowds, its traffic jams, its queues, its housing difficulties and shortage of open spaces, the intense concentration of its industry and commerce.

Television viewers, many of them all too familiar with the jostling scenes in the picture, were nevertheless fascinated. We love to see and hear what we know already. What we had not fully realised was the progress of the methodical campaign—it may take 20 years or more—to make London a better place for workers, housewives, children and the million office and factory workers who swarm in and out of the city every day.

Experts faced the television cameras to tell of new high-speed subways, new arterial roads, new parks and playgrounds and new community centres, all bound up with the County of London Plan designed to create a finer capital.

* * *

HOUSEWIVES AS GUIDES

THESE were the things I would have written about if that automobile guide had not arrived. I would have mentioned, too, the more immediate problem of dealing with the Coronation crowds. Between 12,000 and 15,000 Metropolitan police will line the processional route, and crush barriers will help to form corridors for people wishing to reach particular sections. At points near Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey spectators with seat tickets must be in their

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If my thoughts had not been transferred to the English countryside it was my aim to praise the British Travel and Holidays Association for training hundreds of official London guides, among them housewives, school-teachers and taxi-drivers, to give overseas visitors the correct answers. Without hesitation, they will now tell you that the missile which killed Nelson is at Windsor Castle, that the Imperial State Crown contains 3,000 diamonds, and that Chaucer was the first poet to be buried in Westminster Abbey.

But as I began my article my eye strayed from the typewriter to the Guide. "Hereford!" So the old Mitre Hotel stays open still, with 18 bedrooms, hot and cold water, and garage. You can still bring children, and a dog, too, subject to certain restrictions. And over the way I could see the grey old cathedral and alongside it the River Wye hiding beneath its gentle ripples a down current fit to break an oarsman's heart.

* * *

MULTI-BEDROOMED SPLENDOUR

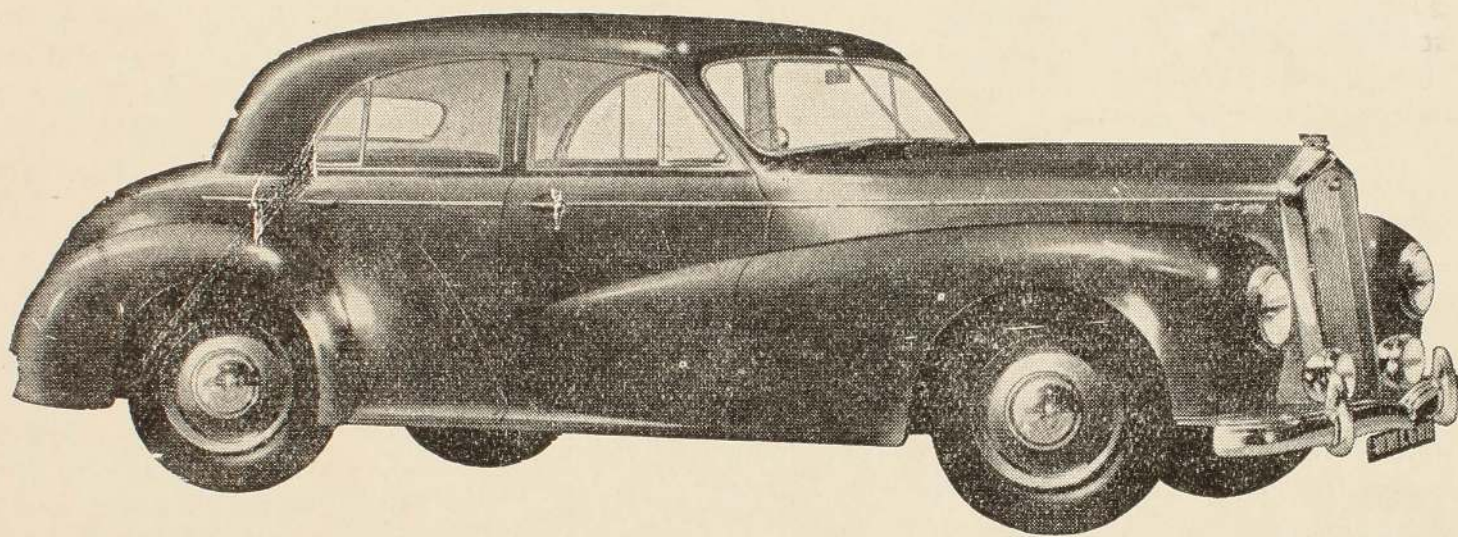
SKIMMING the pages, my eye took in Brighton, Bournemouth, Torquay—the great and gay resorts with their Hotels Magnificent fronting the sea in multi-bedroomed splendour, with elevators, night porters, television, and every other amenity that the guest could wish for. And I "called" at Ludlow and Lulworth, Lutterworth and Lydd—all the little sleepy places where the visitor can find solace and refreshment in a peace as ancient as the hills.

"Some may find joy in crowds or in turning night into day," said Lord Wise at a country town conference recently. But we who live in the quiet atmosphere of country surroundings live at a more leisurely pace. . . . Every day we meet our neighbours and acquaintances in our market places, streets and roads. We are not digits among teeming millions.

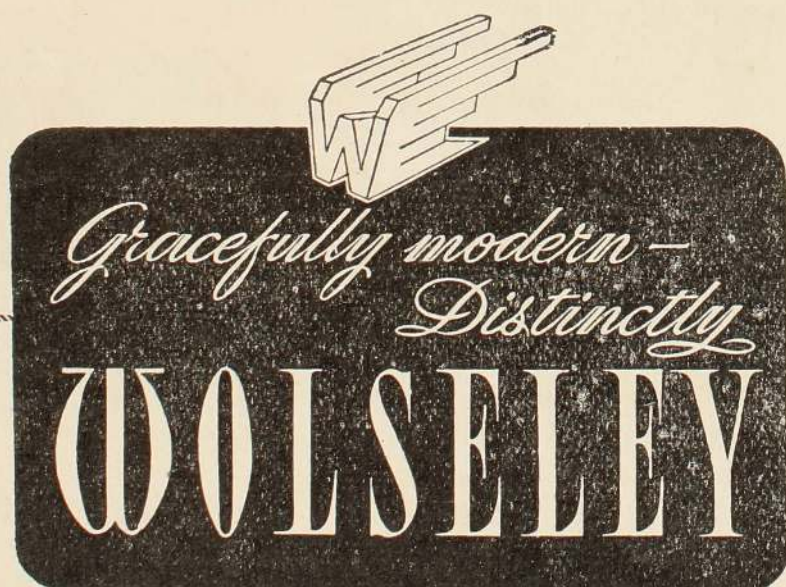
It is our pride in the United Kingdom that our island caters for all. Just as the sea is nowhere more than 70 miles away, so, wherever you are, the peace of the countryside and the bustle and gaiety of the city, are never far over the horizon.

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THE PASSING OF QUEEN MARY

"SHE HELD A UNIQUE PLACE IN THE AFFECTION OF THE BRITISH PEOPLE"

(Communicated)

It was announced from Marlborough House, and by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons, that, "while sleeping peacefully, Queen Mary died at 10.20 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24th."

HER Majesty Queen Mary was eighty-five last May. It was on 26th May, 1867, that Her Serene Highness Princess Victoria Mary was born at Kensington Palace, daughter of H.H. the Duke of Teck and H.R.H. Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck. The Duchess was the younger daughter of the Duke of Cambridge, 7th son of King George III. Queen Mary is thus not only the grandmother of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II but also great-granddaughter of King George III.

"Princess May," as she was known to the British people, was brought up in London and in Italy, where she spent two years with her parents, and laid the foundations of her great interest in and connoisseurship of art. In 1893 she became engaged to Prince George, Duke of York, the eldest surviving son of the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII). They were married at the Chapel Royal, St. James' Palace, on 6th July of that year.

Princess May spent the early part of her married life at York Cottage, near Sandringham, where her six children were born. As Duchess of York, Princess of Wales and Queen Consort she accompanied her husband on many important overseas tours. They visited Ireland in 1899, and in 1901 carried out an important Commonwealth tour. They sailed in the "Ophir" in March, and in May the Duke of Cornwall and York opened the first Federal Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia; Their Royal Highnesses went on to New Zealand, and returned home by way of South Africa and Canada. In

1905 they visited India, and many visits to foreign courts and Commonwealth countries followed during King Edward VII's reign.

* * *

A HELP AND INSPIRATION

KING GEORGE V, who had been created Prince of Wales in November, 1901, succeeded his father in 1910, and Queen Mary was crowned with him in Westminster Abbey on 22nd June, 1911. Following the Coronation, the King and Queen paid State visits to Ireland, Wales and Scotland, and later in the year to India, where the King held the Coronation Durbar at Delhi.

Constant references in letters, and in the diary of King George V bear witness to the help and inspiration which he derived, throughout his career, from his marriage. Her children, and the whole Royal Family, have always looked to Queen Mary for counsel and guidance.

The reign of King George V reached its climax with his Silver Jubilee, when with his Queen and other members of his family he drove through the London streets, between the ranks of his loving subjects, to the thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral. The next year he died, in January, 1936.

Throughout her life Queen Mary has taken a prominent part in social work, showing special interest in all that concerns the welfare of women and children, in the work of hospitals and in the nursing profession. She has given a lead to the nation in its efforts in two world wars. In August, 1914, she inaugurated the Queen's Work for Women Fund, to provide employment for women who had been thrown out of work by the outbreak of war; the fund provided employment for thousands of women until the expanding war effort absorbed them in munition work and other forms of war supply. She also founded the "Queen Mary's London Needlework Guild," to

supply clothes for those who had suffered through the war. She visited hospitals and munition factories, inspected regiments, and accompanied King George V when in 1917 he visited the troops in France.

* * *

ENTERTAINED THE TROOPS

IN the second world war, though over seventy years of age, Queen Mary undertook similar activities. She went to live with her niece, the Duchess of Beaufort, at Badminton in the West of England, where she organized a local salvage drive, supervised the clearance of timber on the Duke of Beaufort's estate to meet a local fuel shortage, and visited factories, airfields, hospitals and training camps, talked to the people and got to know their problems. She provided film entertainments for the troops stationed at Badminton and took a friendly interest in their welfare. Many an overseas soldier stationed in Britain wrote home proudly to tell how he had been given a lift in her car by Her Majesty.

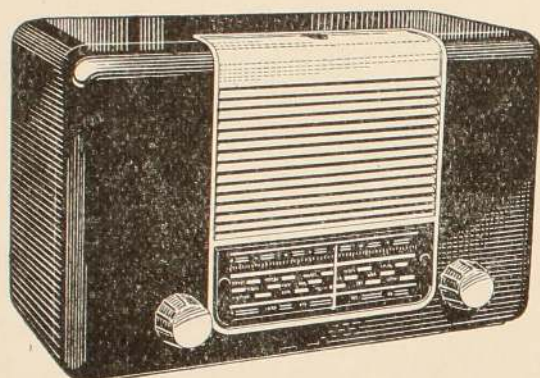
After the war Queen Mary returned to her London home, Marlborough House, which like the homes of many Londoners had suffered damage during the bombing. Londoners gave her a tremendous demonstration when she made her first post-war appearance in the capital and accompanied Their Majesties the King and Queen to the Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's. Last year they offered her their deepest sympathy in her grief at the death of her son, his late Majesty King George VI.

Queen Mary was a Lady of the Garter, of the Order of the Star of India, of the Royal Order of Victoria and Albert, and of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India, Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, and Grand Master of the Order of the British Empire, and she held the Royal Victorian Chain. She also held the Red Cross Decoration and was Dame Grand Cross of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. She was Colonel-in-Chief of several regiments including the 13/18 Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own), the Queen's Royal Regiment, and the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. She had been for many years President of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Colonel-in-Chief of the reorganized Queen Alexandra's

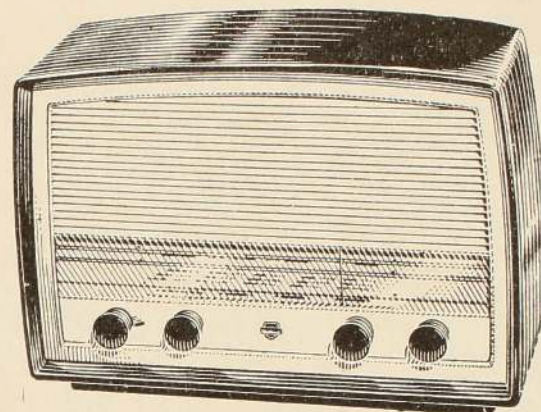
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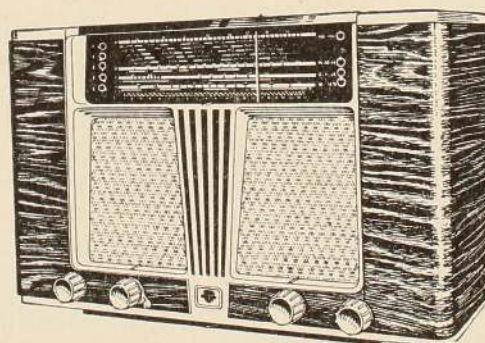


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POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

By CROSS-BENCHER

NO declaration by a leading member of the Government has reassured the planting and business community in Ceylon so much as Sir Oliver Goonetilleke's speech before the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

In recent years the vagueness and uncertainty of Government policy in the commercial and financial fields have undoubtedly undermined confidence. Restrictions on private enterprise, discrimination, haphazard taxation, acquisition of estates for parcelling out among the landless, all these measures seemed to ignore the vital fact that the eight million people of the Island are solely dependent on the Island's agricultural asset.

The tea industry as everyone knows, is the sheet anchor of Ceylon's economy. Its stability is proverbial. The coconut industry brings sustenance to a large segment of the middle classes. With rubber, it is rags or riches.

* * *

IF Sir Oliver's scheme for the rehabilitation of the rubber industry can be carried out, the Government will have made a solid contribution to the economic good health of the country.

Much of the rubber in Ceylon is not yielding more than 350 pounds per acre annually. If by replanting the yields are raised to a thousand pounds per acre, the prosperity of the industry will have been increased more than three times because the overheads will be the same.

This surely is the best and only way to raise the standard of living of the rapidly increasing population of Ceylon. If the yields from the principal industries could be increased appreciably, and I am not forgetting the paddy industry, the country need not despair. After all, the Dutch created the cinchona monopoly by increasing the quinine output by vegetative methods. Production could be increased every-

where by attention to scientific principles.

* * *

SIR Oliver Goonetilleke's scheme reads well on paper and it remains to be seen whether the executive capacity for implementing it is forthcoming.

The replanting of a hundred thousand acres of rubber in five or six years is a formidable undertaking when the units vary as much as they do and Government grants will have to be made to thousands of owners. The weakness of the scheme is that it is entirely dependent on the Chinese trade agreement. Anything which dislocates the agreement will upset the plan. If the scheme gets going for two or three years, it could succeed, for no one who has a replanted area will want to neglect it wantonly.

Sir Oliver's statements on two other matters have given satisfaction. He assured the planters that residence permits will not be withheld from those who are in the industry and new entrants whose services are required for administrative purposes. He also said that in future estates will not be acquired for settling landless peasants.

* * *

IN the past the planting and commercial interests were able to order their affairs on a suffrage of their own. The Planters' Association and the Chamber of Commerce made the rules and saw that these were observed. Experience has shown that they acted prudently and ever mindful of the fact that their interests coincided with the economic progress of the Island. They made the largest contribution to the State coffers. They adhered to practices which had proved their value, while keeping the control and direction in the hands of a small class of persons whose knowledge of their jobs was extensive and whose judgment was reliable.

To-day, however, a different outlook has become necessary. There are many educated Ceylonese anxious and able to learn, and willing to devote their lives to work on estates or in commerce. Not all of them possess the stamina. Ultimately the

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strength of commerce and industry in Ceylon will depend on a proper partnership between those who created the enterprises and eager and hard-working men of the country who are able to follow their example. No doubt it will take time before an ideal state of affairs is reached. The last word must always rest with those who own the estates or business houses.

Young Ceylonese must be encouraged to learn the jobs from the bottom rung of the ladder. But the ladder must always be there, and the rungs should not be different for Ceylonese and Europeans. Relations between the two sections have improved so much during the past few years that a foundation of trust and mutual understanding is not something which cannot be attained in a single generation.

* * *

IN the United States, and to a lesser degree in the United Kingdom, large corporations undertake propaganda to show that they are owned by hundreds of thousands of small investors.

The American Telephone Company, the Standard Oil Company, the Shell Company, General Motors, Imperial Chemical Industries and such other large business are owned by millions of men and women of the country. This makes for stability of the industries while encouraging people to save and help in economic development. In Ceylon many small investors buy shares in public companies but the majority get very little help or encouragement. Tropical agriculture is notoriously fickle, and industries which depend for their prosperity on its fortunes also have their ups and downs. But so do most other forms of investment, except possibly house values in large towns.

The Central Bank should examine the whole question of investment in equities by persons with limited means. To advise everyone to buy Government stock and savings certificates is no doubt an excellent thing but many people like a little risk with the prospect of a better return or some capital appreciation. The advantage of hundreds of thousands of small investors owning plantations and industrial enterprises as a stabilising element in the country's economy should not be neglected.

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EXAMPLE OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

By PHYLLIS DAVIES

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

IN an age when too many young people are restless under the training and guidance of parents and teachers, Queen Elizabeth II is a shining example of what such influences can mean in the forming of character.

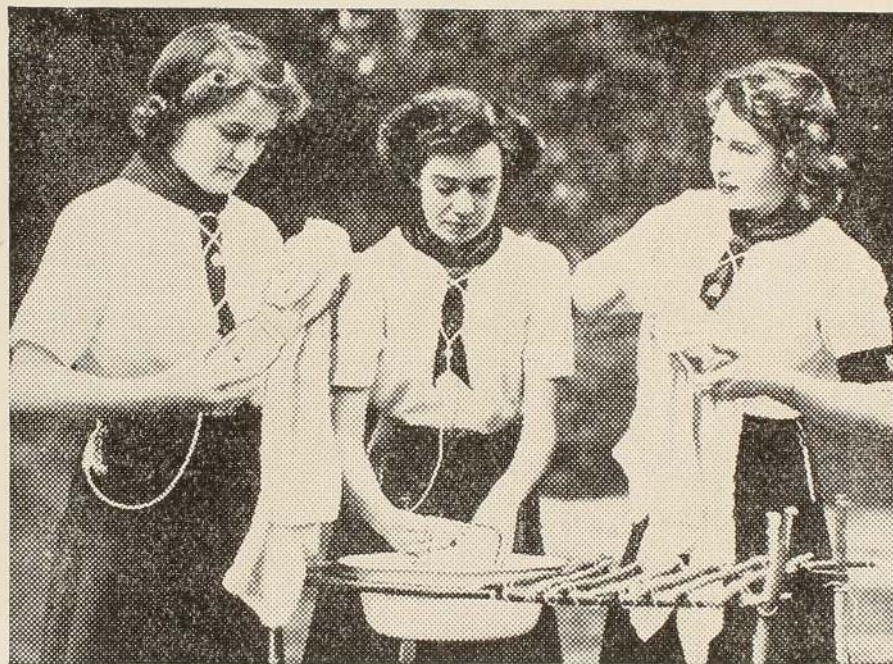
When she was born, on April 21st, 1926, in a London house with a street number like that of ordinary citizens, it seemed no more than a possibility that one day she would rule as Queen at Buckingham Palace. For her grandfather, King George V, was on the throne and his heir was her young uncle, the Prince of Wales. It is fortunate for the entire Commonwealth of Nations that, although in her earliest years her accession to the throne seemed unlikely, her training was from the first designed to develop ideals of service and qualities of leadership. In her nursery at 145, Piccadilly, she learned her first lessons in obedience, courtesy and consideration for others.

Under her governess, Miss Marion Crawford, an honours graduate of Edinburgh University, Scotland, she learned, with her sister Princess Margaret, much about the lands and people of the world-wide Commonwealth family and of the duties towards them which her Royal rank imposed. History and geography were never dull subjects for Princess Elizabeth. Where the Commonwealth territories overseas were concerned, they were matters of deep personal interest, made more so by the stories she heard of travels among them by her grandparents, her parents and uncles. Buckingham Palace, where she went so often to visit King George V and Queen Mary, was rich in souvenirs of their

travels among their people and gifts brought by them on visits to Britain from their distant homelands.

AN ABIDING QUALITY

THE ideal of service, which grew to be the greatest abiding quality in her character, was imbued in Princess Elizabeth at her Scottish mother's knee. She was eleven when she joined the Girl Guides, and



Queen Elizabeth II. with two Girl Guides.

as the years went by she associated herself more and more with organisations for the welfare of the young, of the sick, of men and women serving in the Forces of Britain and the Commonwealth. She herself during World War II joined up with the women of the Army, shared their life and training and became a qualified motor driver and mechanic like many of the daughters of her father's subjects. She took a wide interest, too, in cultural pursuits as president or patron of many leading organisations of music and the arts.

As she grew older she learned how Parliament works, how justice is administered, and acquired an intimate knowledge of how the people of her father's kingdom lived

and worked. Accompanying her parents on their South African tour in 1947, she celebrated her 21st birthday in Capetown, where she made her broadcast, a "solemn act of dedication" to the service of the Commonwealth, which is still a treasured memory.

It is no less fortunate for the nations whose Queen she now is that her husband, like herself, was also trained from early childhood in the highest traditions of service. When he was a schoolboy in Scotland, and later an officer in the Royal Navy, in which he distinguished himself on active service during World War II. Prince Philip's own character, awareness, and sense of duty were formed,

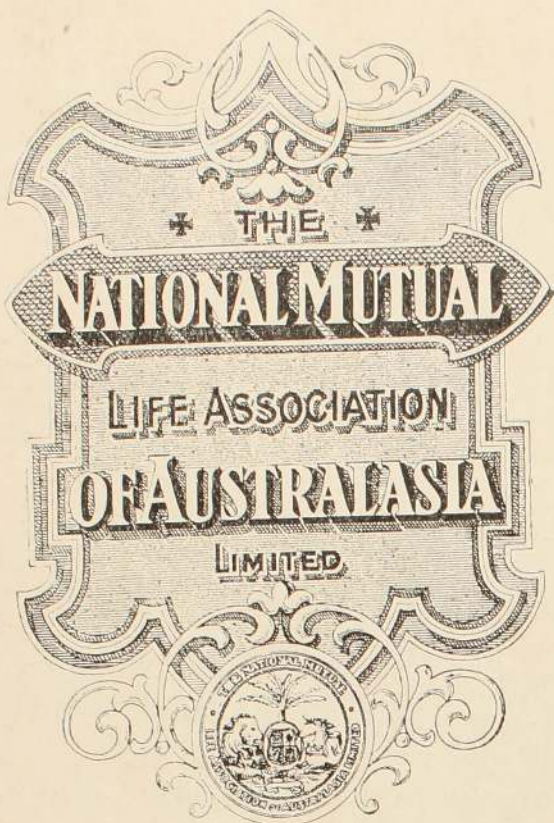
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AND A WORTHY CONSORT

OF royal descent, the grandson of a famous Admiral of the Fleet and First Sea Lord and nephew of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Prince Philip was hailed as a worthy consort of the heiress to the throne. They were married amid great public rejoicing in 1947, and now Elizabeth is Queen, and her husband, as Duke of Edinburgh, has taken on a great variety of public duties, high among which are his interests in the welfare of youth, education and the encouragement of the arts and sciences.

Increasingly, the Duke has shown himself to be a young man of high acumen and with wide interests in Commonwealth and national affairs. Their partnership is a source of great pride to the Queen's people, crowned as it is with the happiness of parenthood. Four years old Prince Charles, a sturdy, merry boy with the good looks of both parents, is already displaying that lively interest in the world about him that they, too, developed at an early age. Princess Anne, who will soon be three years old, shows every promise of beauty when she grows up.

This background of love of him, with its equally high standard of public life, endears the Queen to her people far more than her exalted rank. For they know that the best in a nation rests on the inherent tradition of family life.



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IS SEEING BELIEVING ?

—By L. M. D.—
(Fortnightly Review Special)

" I SAW it with my own eyes ! " A sentence, commonplace, but solid with confidence and indisputable correctness. Here there is no question of impending discussion nor that doubt could be possible under any circumstances. Two eyes have functioned. Thus, as far as their owner is concerned, the reason for eyes has been confirmed.

Perhaps a Flying Saucer has been seen, or the birth of a butterfly ? Whatever it was, a particular pair of eyes has seen it, as large as life, and that is truth.

Horace, writing in a language dead and gone but still proclaimed as the vehicle of truth by wise men, knew all about the infallibility of the eye, and qualified his knowledge thus : " Things communicated by the ear impress the mind less than things which have been witnessed by the un mistaking eyes, and which the spectator himself testifies to himself."

* * *

EVERYONE believes in the truth of what is seen with his or her own eyes, but here such self-assurance may be rudely shocked. In order to live freely one must accept anomalies which signify truth in the eyes of others, but of course one rarely finds such complete tolerance ! For instance, my own visions of beauty differ entirely from those of artists who interpret the human body in forms which, in my eye, resemble shapeless lumps or bits of unsorted jigsaw puzzles. In this case charity might overcome revulsion—after all, *normal* people see the human form as it really is.....but what is this ? My five-year-old niece has presented me with a piece of paper covered in scrawls and blobs. It is a portrait of me. That round black thing, I am informed in a voice of forced tolerance, is the neck. My legs come a long way up the page ; they are shown as three green loops with a dot denoting the shoes. At the bottom, in the right-hand corner, is a purple square : my hat. This is how the child, whom I had hitherto regarded as normal, saw me with her own eyes !

* * *

SOME months ago I was in a group of visitors being escorted through the gardens of a very famous house. We stopped to

admire a particularly beautiful bed of massed antirrhinums. " Oh ! " cried the lady on my right, " It is like a pink carpet ! " " Yellow," corrected her young man. " Yes, yellow," the guide said, as an elderly tourist, bending low beside the border, murmured : " Pink." I remained silent, seeing with my own eyes that the flowers were white, quite definitely !

" There is a good time coming ! I can see it with my own eyes and feel it in my bones ! " I over-heard someone say that yesterday. What on earth is the connection between eyes and bones that they should see and feel similarly ? Is Horace wrong in his dictum regarding eyes and truth ? Our bones are supposed only to carry our bodies about and to perform certain actions as directed by the brain. But if they can feel as an eye sees, can we trust their infallibility as we would do our eyes ? Do we really see the light of love in another's eyes, or the depth of deceit, or deep pools of

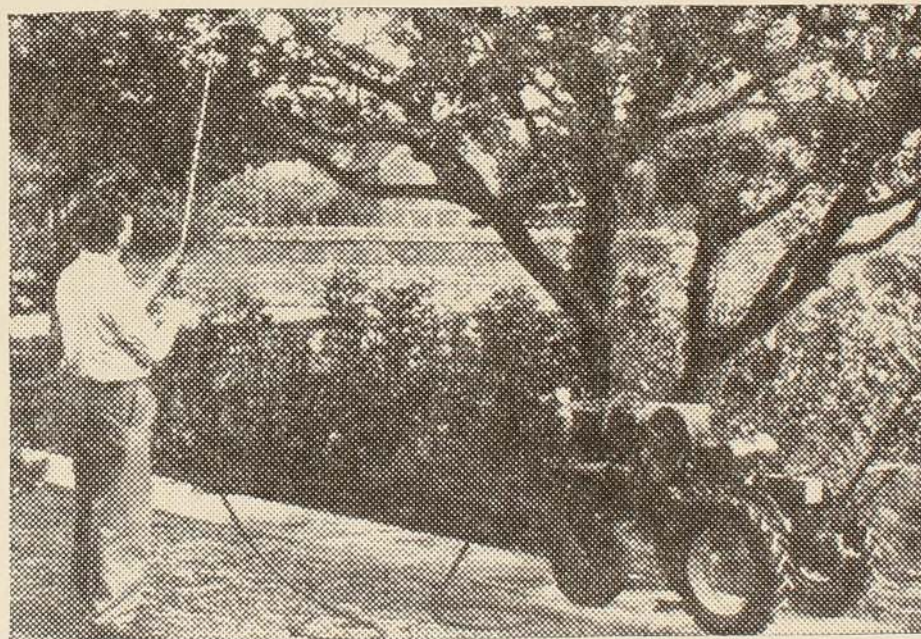
sorrow ? Cicero, in his far-off day said : " The countenance is the portrait of the mind, the eyes are its informers."

Truth, then, after all has little part in what our own eyes see, and even in blindness one could cry with certainty : " I saw it with my own eyes ! "

THE LATE MR. FRANK CUNNINGHAM

HIS wide circle of friends in Ceylon must have heard last week with much regret the news of the death of Mr. Frank Cunningham, for many years a Director of Messrs. Bosanquet & Skrine, Ltd., which occurred in England exactly a year after he had left the Island on retirement. He came to Ceylon shortly after World War I, to join Messrs. Thompson, Tetley & Co., and two years later became an Assistant in the firm of Bosanquet & Co., Ltd. Some years after the amalgamation with Skrine & Co., Mr. Cunningham became a Director. Of a charming disposition he was a popular figure in Colombo Mercantile circles.

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WHO ARE THE CROWN AGENTS?

—By PEGGY SHOLTO—

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

WHO are the Crown Agents and what exactly do they do?

These are questions which many people in Ceylon must have asked from time to time when reading of the handling of important Government transactions. The Crown Agents are, in fact, only two men—Sir John Alexander Calder, Q.C., C.M.G., and Sir Harold Frederick Downie, C.B.E., C.M.G. But they work at the head of a highly specialized staff numbering about 1,300—a staff which carries out a vast amount of complicated overseas business in an impressive block of offices alongside the Thames in London. And what do they do? The Crown Agents act as commercial and financial agents for the Governments of the Colonies and Protectorates and by special arrangement, for the Governments of Ceylon, Iraq, Jordan, Tripolitania and certain other territories in North Africa. They receive instructions direct from the Governments of these territories and are supervised—in the very widest sense only—by the British Secretary of State for the Colonies.

* * *

THE Crown Agents' Office is, therefore, a cross between a business house and a Government department. That is why its staff resemble civil servants and yet are not civil servants in the generally accepted sense of the term. The number of orders placed is about 100,000 a year, representing between 40 and 45 million pounds' worth of goods. These goods range from pins and needles to ships and floating docks. There are consignments of marine craft and railway tracks interspersed with pigs, dangerous drugs, currency, explosives and a host of other items. No order is too big for them and none too small. Sometimes they are asked for rare books, the finding of which entails widespread enquiries. One request for a pound of pig-nut seed grew into a file reading like a detective chase. The Office does not deal with commercial requirements but only with

purchases and transactions on behalf of Governments.

* * *

WHO pays for all the multiple services undertaken by the Crown Agents? It is the customers themselves—the Governments of the countries which employ the Crown Agents for their transactions. But because the aggregate of business handled is so great, costs are low and some of the work—arranging passages for some twenty-thousand newly-appointed officers or officers going on leave each year, and the paying of nearly ten thousand pensions—is, in fact, done free of charge. Though supplies and finance provide the most impressive figures there is a human side and, some would say, a more important side to the Crown Agents' business. A steady stream of visitors come to their office in Millbank from every quarter of the globe, some to draw pay, some to book return passages, some to seek advice on engineering problems, others to seek assistance with staffing difficulties.

* * *

TO help solve the latter, the Crown Agents have an appointments department whose task is to select men and women for a wide variety of appointments under overseas administration. "Permanent-way inspectors required by the Government of Nigeria," "Sub-Inspectors of Police required by the Government of Hong Kong," "Fitters and turners required for instructional work in the High Commission Territories of Bechuanaland and Swaziland." Such advertisements appear every day in the national Press in Britain and all of them have one thing in common—the heading over them which reads "Crown Agents for the Colonies." Selection for these appointments has to be made with great care. In 1951 it was estimated that some 25,000 people applied for appointments through the Crown Agents. Over 10,000 of these people were investigated in detail, 4,600 were interviewed and only 1,460 ap-

pointed.
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AND what other tasks do the Crown Agents undertake? They dispose of unwanted Government equipment—regular sales of scrap metal are diversified by such items as elephants' tusks, milk bottles and an occasional dredger—and they stock and sell Colonial Government publications ranging from dull ordinances at a few pence to profusely illustrated volumes on birds. A stamp bureau sells some hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of new issues to dealers in Britain and North America. So long as it is Government business, no matter what, the Crown Agents take it on. Sometimes they have the oddest request, like the quantity of rope received from a small Protectorate. The Agents asked "What kind of rope?" and back came the reply by telegraph: "The usual type for hanging criminals."

THE PASSING OF QUEEN MARY

(Continued from page 11)

Royal Army Nursing Corps, and President of Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service. Her Majesty was a Senior Bencher of Lincoln's Inn, and held honorary degrees of several universities and a number of foreign Orders.

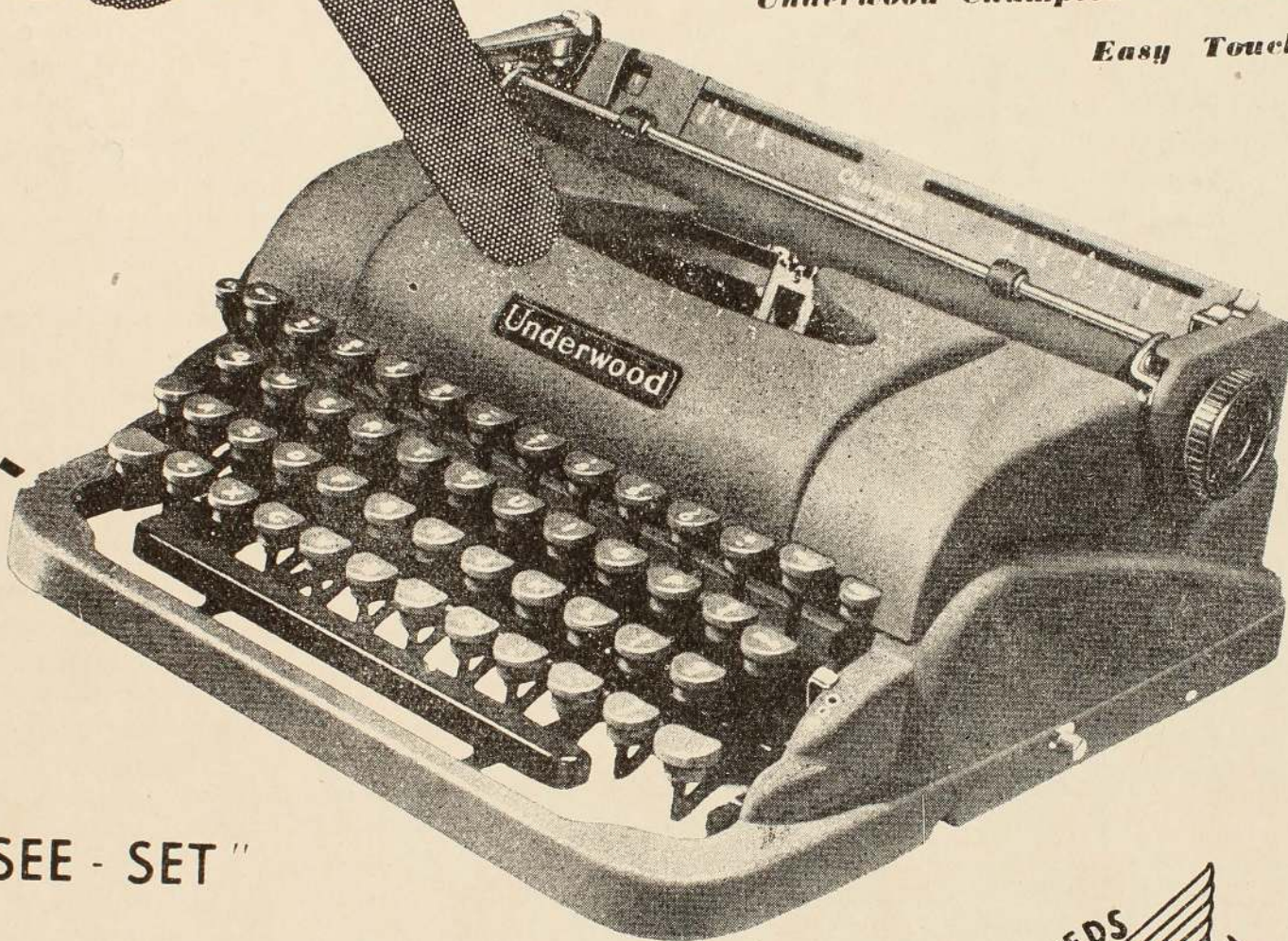
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"QUEEN MARY'S CARPET"

HER love of art was a constant interest in her life. She regularly visited the important London art shows and made the rounds of its most noted antique shops, and had a fine collection of Chinese porcelain and 18th Century jade. In 1938 she accepted the Albert Medal of the Society of Arts. She was a tapestry-worker of renown, and during the war made the magnificent "Queen Mary's carpet" which she gave in 1949 to earn dollars for Britain. After exhibition in the United States and Canada it was bought for the Canadian nation and officially presented by Her Majesty the Queen when as Princess Elizabeth she visited Canada last autumn. Queen Mary has been an assiduous reader all her life; as a girl she used to study for six hours daily. She is also interested in the theatre and cinema, and visited most of London's notable productions.

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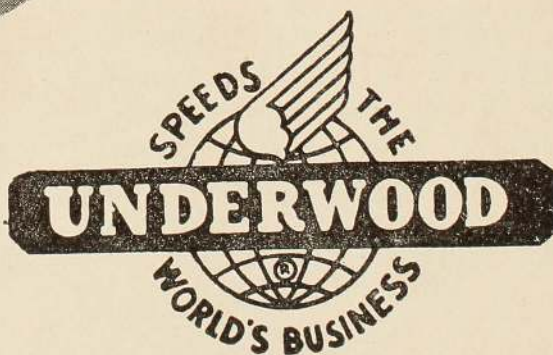


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A LOOK ROUND

By PERISCOPE

I HAVE made the point before that complementary to the periscopic view there is the listening post. There are some good things I have heard these past few days which, I take leave to think, are worth passing on. The B.B.C. is certainly making people articulate and there has been an abundance of felicitous expression which one feeds on with the greed of a starving man.

Unpardonably, I missed Churchill's tribute to Queen Mary. I was actually awake at 2.30 a.m. but preferred to wait for the repeat, which I failed to catch. "A rock of steadfastness," however, is the solitary gem I picked up: I have a weakness for that old Roman *constantia*.

* * *

JOHN Freeman, M.P., speaking in that *chic* model in little of a perfectly executed broadcast programme "London Calling Asia," used this sentence: "The nation is diminished by the death of any of its titular figure-heads." Paying plain Mr. Attlee the compliment of hailing his words of condolence as the best-spoken in that brief ceremonial half-hour in Parliament, he said Mr. Attlee always speaks for the common man. Which was rather a shock to me, who had in my mind demanded "A Muse of fire," and the buskin and the sounding mask of Greek tragedy. A good woman had earned her discharge from the vale of tears.

* * *

MY stories, however, are of ordinary people in the village of Badminton in Gloucestershire, Queen Mary's retreat during the war; three of them were interviewed by the B.B.C. The first was the mother of a child for whom the Queen had conceived a great affection. She wrote to the mother: "I have kept two of the seven photographs of your adorable child."

The second was the leader of a Women's Institute whose work-sessions the Queen never missed, doing her knitting or embroidery while she talked with them.

The third I like best, it was at such a low level of humanness. A labourer of sorts (I did not quite get the precise description) related his exchanges with the Queen. And we heard this. "We always came back to Hitler, and the Queen said: 'Oh, that man. If I could only get to him I'd beat him with this'"—as she brandished her rolled-up umbrella like any common shrew. The simile is mine.

* * *

CURIOUSLY, there has been running a serial feature with a title relating it to the Coronation. (Any good listener could supplement my lack of precision). It was in Queen Victoria's reign, and there were dramatised extracts from her diaries. She was furious with the Russians, "those barbarians." She could not get action by the Government. "Oh, how I wish I was a man. I'd beat them....."

* * *

WHAT Ceylon household, cherishing pleasant memories of the days when the "boys" had free entree, and it was a delight to watch them fall upon our familiar choice dishes and our favourite puddings, but must thrill to be told that Queen Mary made it a point to have the service-men to tea as a regular routine and she was particularly insistent on the visits of men from the Commonwealth and America. She made them bring with them their photographs of the folks at home. "A woman of extraordinary human sympathies, and great kindness," John Freeman said.

* * *

ON the eve of the Boat Race, since well won by Cambridge, a doctor in England wrote a letter to the Press to say that vitamins would not contribute anything to the energy of the competitors.

He took the opportunity to denounce the boosting of vitamin products and the great amount of wasteful propaganda that we are seeing. He said no vitamin preparations are of any use unless they are taken to supply any known deficiency.

As one of our own doctors has been
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heard to say: "You cannot add any water to the contents of glass already full."

VALETUDINARIANS, take note. Only valetudinarians, however. Most of us are below par, and not all of us know it until we fall into the hands of the medical practitioner. "To supply any known deficiency:" there is the operative phrase.

In a tropical land under the wearing sunshine we have had to bear in recent months, a deficiency of Vitamin B is a commonplace. It is even said that what we take is used up in 24 hours. Soon after the war one of the largest items imported by the Medical Stores was a vast quantity of this vitamin for distribution throughout the country. That was not enough, we are not doing enough. Our toddy is known to be very many times richer in vitamin content than any other sources. It is being "extracted" in small quantities, all of which is being absorbed by the Children's Hospital. That at any rate is the information I was given a few years ago.

* * *

THE doctor, who wrote to the Press on the eve of the Boat Race, further said that there is nothing to be done for the common cold. It is astonishing to learn that the great research act of recent times, with so many willing guinea-pigs being noble, did not try what I have myself successfully tried on medical advice (at second-hand). I have had for the greater part of my life an affectation (I said affectation) of the throat and at the moment of writing I am coping with what can only be described as post-influenzal depression. But a certain proprietary Vitamin A product has unexpectedly arrested any bronchial trouble, prevented fever, and completely cured the throat affection.—*Verb. Sap.*

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RESULTS OF THE BONUS AWARDS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1953, FOR USERS OF SWADESHI SOAPS.

We give below the names and addresses of those to whom the awards were made during the month of March, 1953:—

1st Award	Rs. 500/-	Mr. G. P. Wakista, Katupotha Farm, Bathuluoya.
2nd Award	Rs. 250/-	Mr. H. D. Abeysena, Heiyantuduwa, Kelaniya.
3rd Award	Rs. 100/-	Mr. K. V. Siripala, C/o W. P. C. & Co., Main Street, Kurunegala.
4th Award	Rs. 50/-	Mr. A. D. Gammanpila, 31, Hedges Court, Maradana.
5th Award	Rs. 40/-	Mr. K. M. G. Geeris Appuhamy, 22, Gampola Road, Nawalapitiya.
6th Award	Rs. 30/-	Mrs. J. A. Karunaratne, Westover, 33rd Lane, Bagatelle Road, Colombo.
7th Award	Rs. 20/-	Mr. S. Pitchi Nadar, Makawita, Ja-Ela.
8th Award	Rs. 10/-	Mr. N. Marimuthu, Thunali North, Karavadi, P.

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By "KAREN"

THE glistening Gates of Paradise were shattered into myriad sparkling fragments and flung far and wide when they crashed together with forceful finality as Adam and Eve were driven forth by the Angel with the Flaming Sword to be Wanderers upon the face of the Earth. Thus runs a lovely legend from the Orient—and so to-day excavated from the bowels of the Earth and Ocean, cleaned and polished by Master Craftsmen these fragments come to tempt the Human Race as jewels with their shimmer of wondrous rainbow tints.

The dazzling gleam of jewels seems to vie with the bright sparkle in a woman's eyes at the mere sight of their beauty. At times their very splendour and fabulous worth have roused the passions of men inciting them to crime and bloodshed. While yet again their lure and witchery have had their own romantic share in many a tender Romance. Here is legend and lore which have come down to us from the Past connected with precious stones :—

* * *

AMONGST the State heirlooms which have come to Queen Elizabeth II to-day figures the famous Kohinoor of India which apart from legend is first definitely heard of in the Memoirs of Sultan Baber in 1526. "It is so valuable," he remarks, "that a judge of diamonds valued it at half the daily expenses of the whole world."

At one time this magnificent jewel scintillated from the famous Peacock Throne. Then came Nadir Shah's invasion of India in 1739 when he obtained its precious possession by means of a wily ruse. Having heard of its secret whereabouts he suggested to the Mogul Emperor that according to ancient Hindu custom and as a gesture of friendship the two of them should exchange turbans.

As he carefully unwound the prisoner's turban the glorious jewel flashed into view. And involuntarily he cried out in admiration and

surprise "Koh-i-Noor!" (Mountain of Light). And this name has clung to it since. During the annexation of the Punjab, through the East India Company the Kohinoor was gifted to Queen Victoria. To-day it shines resplendent from the central cross of the Queen Mother's Crown and it is valued at £140,000. Tradition has it that only a woman can wear it with impunity.

"I should have kicked it aside as a lump of glass if I had seen it on the road," observed Edward VII of History's largest diamond—the Cullinan—which before cutting was 3,106 carats.

* * *

OFTEN it has been stated that this great Cullinan was only a portion of a much larger stone which was stolen and smuggled out of the Premier Mines by a Kaffir. The man was later prepared to sell it for a thousand pounds in gold. Fourie, a Settler, reached his rendezvous and gave the correct pass word but the Kaffir holding the lantern closer discovered he had been duped with a bag containing leaden discs with just a few gold sovereigns on top.

Sadly disillusioned the man extinguished his lantern by dashing it on the ground and vanished completely into the dark African night. And since then no one has set eyes upon the rest of the giant Cullinan Diamond though Africans still talk about it. The Author of "The Seven Lost Trails of Africa" has reason to believe there is some truth in the story as Fourie was too unimaginative a person to make up such a tale.

At present this 516½ carat Cullinan Diamond named the Great Star of Africa and held in position by four gold clasps blazes from the head of the Sceptre with the Cross found amongst the Regalia. It is a flawless gem of the purest water and thought to be the largest cut diamond in the world. The stone, however, can be removed for Royal use as an ornament when so desired. Queen Mary is said to have used it on many a State occasion.

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AMONG the jewels found in the Imperial State Crown are to be seen a sapphire from a ring which once belonged to Edward the Confessor, the "Black Prince's Ruby" and large pearl ornaments of Elizabeth I.

During early times it was the East which enticed many a traveller and trafficker in precious stones. Jean Baptiste Tavernier, a French Geographer once brought back from his travels a huge blue diamond from India. Louis XIV bought this blue Tavernier in 1668. It was cut and re-set to form part of the French Crown Jewels. In 1792 the stone disappeared to re-appear later much reduced in size as the Hope Diamond. As such, tradition has linked this stone with several violent deaths and tragedy in two Royal houses. At one time a magnificent Fire Opal designated the "Burning of Troy" glistened amidst the French Crown Jewels and the Empress Josephine was its proud possessor.

Once upon a time, Nur Jehan, the favourite wife of Jehangir, "Conqueror of the World," dared to brave his august presence when he was engaged in his favourite pastime of quaffing innumerable cups of wine with his boon companions.

She gently railed at him for drinking his wine from the same type of gold cup as his subjects. Then skilfully extracting a promise from him that in future he would only drink from the superior cup she offered him, an exquisitely fashioned cup from a single Colombian crystal was then presented to him. The Emperor was much overjoyed and flattered till he noticed the vast difference in capacity between the gold and emerald cups!

* * *

GODS and Goddesses too are not immune from the glamour cast over them by glistening jewels. It seems Chandra, the coy Moon Goddess was once upon a time wooed by the temptuous Sun God Indra. He, however, soon grew tired of her fickle nature and left her for ever having severed her in two as punishment. She is only allowed to regain her full shape and beauty just once a month. And then she sails resplendent in the sky as the Full Moon. Legend has allotted to her as her favourite gem the lustrous pearl from the ocean depths.

(Continued on page 31)

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PEOPLE

MR. J. AUBREY Martensz, Ceylon High Commissioner in Australia, arrived in the Island towards the end of last month for consultations with the Government. He said that Australia had speedily granted all requests made under the Colombo Plan. The finest quality of a diplomat is the ability to inspire confidence and this quality, which comes naturally to him, Mr. Martensz possesses in generous measure. Ceylon owes more to Mr. Martensz than most people are aware.

* * *

SIR CHARLES Jones, C.M.G., former head of the Public Service in Ceylon, now lives in retirement with his family in Cheltenham. He is in a very nice area close to the Gloucestershire County cricket ground and has enjoyed watching all the important County and other games played during the last season. Sir Charles mentions that several ex-Ceylon civilians and planters are residing in Cheltenham and they include the former Kalutara planter and sportsman, Cyril Gilliat, who did so much for Ceylon Lawn Tennis and Rugby Football and whose wife was at one time Lady Champion of Ceylon. C. R. Lundie, Ceylon's former champion sprinter, Rugby three-quarter and hockey forward has been living in Cheltenham for many years. He retired from the Survey Department nearly twenty years ago, while holding the post of Assistant Surveyor-General. Other names mentioned by Sir Charles are R. H. Basset, who retired last year while holding the office of Permanent Secretary (Ministry of Industries and Fisheries), and C. Astley Roberts, formerly of the Ceylon Police.

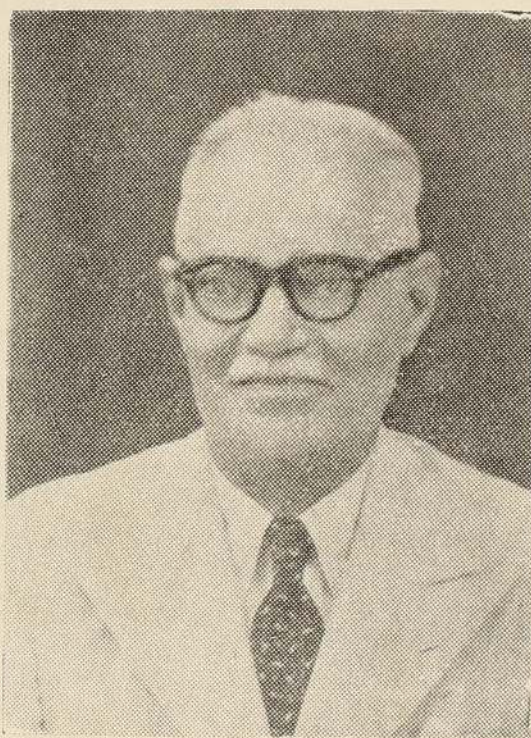
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MR. R. L. BROHIER was elected President of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon at its annual meeting last month. He succeeds Mr. C. A. Speldewinde whose three-year tenure of office was marked by useful and energetically rendered service to the community during a difficult period of changing values, new trends and new problems. With one so experienced and zealously devoted to duty as Mr. Brohier at the helm, the Union can be confident that its best traditions will continue to be maintained and the scope of its activities extended. We need hardly mention his many well-known contributions to historic-

al and topographical research or attempt to assess the value of his services to the country as a member of the Gal Oya Development Board.

* * *

DR. and Mrs. Frank Bartholomeusz of Colombo, left for the U.K. by the "Otranto," last week on a six-month's holiday. They will stay with their son and daughter-in-law in Essex. Dr. Bartholomeusz, who is keenly interested in Cricket, will enjoy watching two forthcoming Tests at Lord's and the Oval, and also the League games in which his son will be playing for Romford, a leading Essex Club. Last season Ridley Bartholomeusz was easily the outstanding batsman in the Romford side. It will be remembered that he was a former Captain of the Wesley College eleven.



Mr. Wm. C. de Zylva

This much-travelled Surveyor, one of the oldest in Ceylon, and famous in his day as a first-class marksman, will be eighty years old to-morrow (11th April). He was a member of the Coronation Contingent in 1902, representing the C.L.I. Cyclist section, and while a youngster spent some years in British Central Africa, being employed there as a Surveyor.

TO few people is it given to attain the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. One of these is Gordon Edward William Jansz, who closes the fiftieth year of his marriage on the 22nd of April. The son of Gordon Edward Jansz of Galle, who married Eliza Frederica Balkhuyzen, Gordon Jansz is the eldest of sixteen children. Educated at St. Thomas' College, Gordon entered the Railway Department at the age of twenty. Serving in almost every department, he shewed a special aptitude for accounts, and ended his career as Chief Accountant, being the first

Ceylonese to occupy that post. Compelled to retire at the age of sixty years, Gordon Jansz found other scope for his phenomenal activity. A staunch Churchman, he undertook the duties of Treasurer of the Diocese and did much useful work in this capacity; while as Treasurer of the Sri Chandrasekera Fund, an office which he still holds, he takes the liveliest interest. He was also Treasurer of the Friend-in-Need Society, and is now serving on the Committee.

But it is not only in work that Gordon Jansz excels. His tastes are catholic, and he was for many years President of the Havelock Golf Club, while he is also a Member of the Board of Governors of St. Thomas' College. He is a staunch member of the Dutch Burgher Union, and is also Patron of the Burgher Association of Ceylon. He married Charlotte Elizabeth de Lile and has two sons, both of whom are doing well. Gordon Jansz has friends among all the Communities, who will rejoice with him on this auspicious occasion.

* * *

A London correspondent writes.— "I have recently met on Home Guard duties Mr. (and Mrs.) C. E. A. Worsley, the ex-Ceylon all-round sportsman. He was planting in Ceylon both before and after World War I and has now retired to the Exmoor country. He arrived in Ceylon a year or two before I left in 1927 and I did not meet him then. He reminds me in appearance very much of M. K. Foster, who spent a few years in Ceylon as Manager of the Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd. Worsley like Foster was brilliant at all games but substituting Rugger for Soccer."

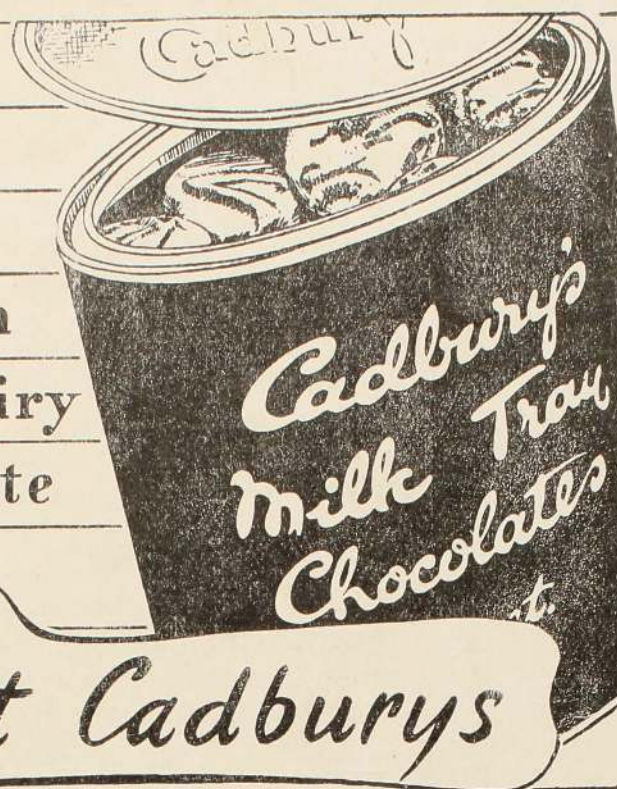
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THE death of Mr. George Johnston, J.P., U.M., Proprietary Planter, Nawanagalla, Urugala, at the age of eighty, will be mourned by all who were privileged to know him. He was indeed a great planting personality and was looked upon as one whose knowledge of the cardamom industry was unique. He was its acknowledged authority. Mr. Johnston was among the last survivors of the old brigade of proprietary planters who laid the foundations of our agricultural industries. He was reputed a very wealthy man and his fortune came out of planting. In the district he lived for such a length of time he was extremely popular and was looked up to by everybody. He used to be referred to as the "Laird of Urugala."

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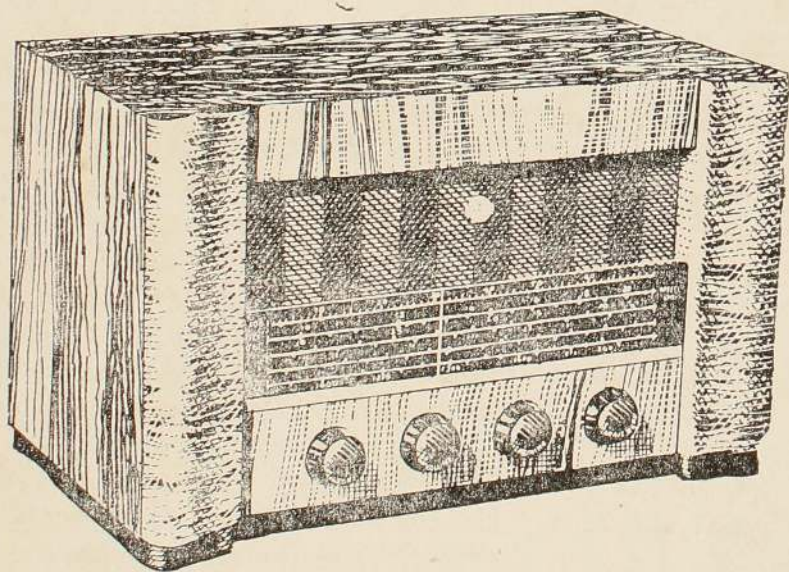
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CRICKETING DAYS—XII.

By W. T. GRESWELL

(Fortnightly Review Special)

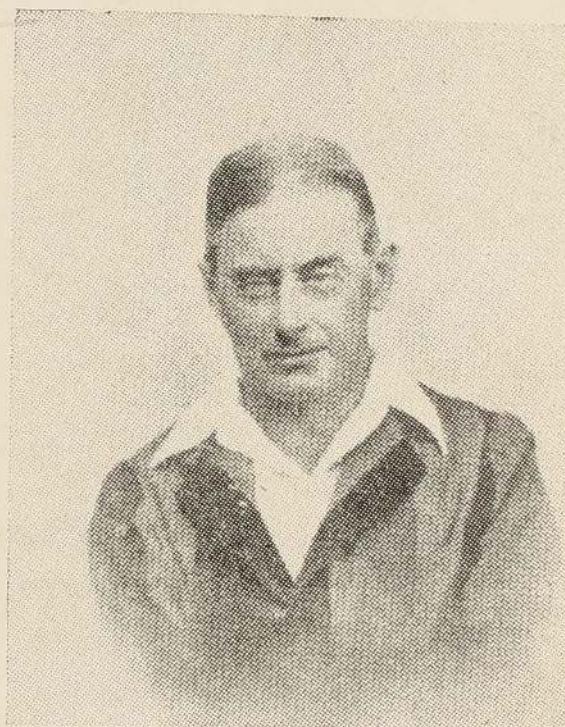
MY second spell of cricket in Ceylon covered the period extending from late 1912 to early 1915 when I returned home on War service. It was about this time that the annual Test match between Europeans and Ceylonese, fully revived after being in abeyance for some years, attracted increasing interest. It was a great contest fought out in the best spirit. The Europeans reinforced by such fine players as V. F. S. Crawford, P. R. May and A. L. Gibson scored a "hat-trick" of successes in 1911, 1912 and 1913 thereafter, I believe, never again to taste the fruits of victory. The reason for this was most certainly the steady improvement in the Ceylonese standard of play in the face of an opposition which inspired them through experience to higher achievement. Though details of these games are now obscure in the mist of years, I shall always associate with them the smiling presence of that stalwart Ceylonese captain Douglas de Saram. I can say without hesitation no captain impressed me more than he. Possessed of a personality at once masterful and modest he seemed moulded for the leadership and inspiration of his team and he claimed the affectionate regard of his opponents as well.

* * *

REFERENCE to this series of matches reminds me that one of them was responsible for my name appearing in "Punch". I surprised myself even more than the batsman by taking a one-handed and rather satisfying catch in the "slips" to dispose of de Saram. Next morning a Colombo newspaper (I think the Ceylon Independent) reporting the incident, said:—"de Saram was out to a *devotional* catch by Greswell in the slips." Punch inserted this item with the comment "Picture Greswell on his knees!"

Many of Ceylon's great cricketers were tried out in those big matches and made good, but I think the Ceylonese owed much of their ever-increasing efficiency to M. K. Albert's stolid batting and the constant

brilliance of C. Horan's tireless bowling with its accuracy of length. This does not mean that there were not others equally talented (V. S. de Kretser, E. Kelaart, C. H. Gunasekera and S. Saravanamuttu readily spring to mind) but I personally always scented danger in the direction of the two I mention. It was a relief to see Albert's back as he walked back to the pavilion and one breathed more freely if Horan were given a rest from bowling, a welcome but very rare occurrence.



A. L. Gibson,

who led the Europeans to victory on all three occasions.

IN December, 1913, a Ceylon-European side visited Calcutta and played three matches there. The mainstay of our side was Frank Crawford. The team also included A. L. Gibson, J. L. S. Vidler, C. B. Rubie and B. J. A. Fawcett. Apart from Calcutta's delightful Christmas entertainment of us, a matter of lavish hospitality, what has remained most in my memory, strange to tell, was the long train journey thither from Colombo. We were five days and nights in the train or rather four trains as we changed railways four times. It was interesting as a novel experience and youthful spirits, especially Vidler's, ran high! We were not even depressed by the vast quantity of dust and grit which in those days gained access to the compartments and filled mouth, eyes and hair.

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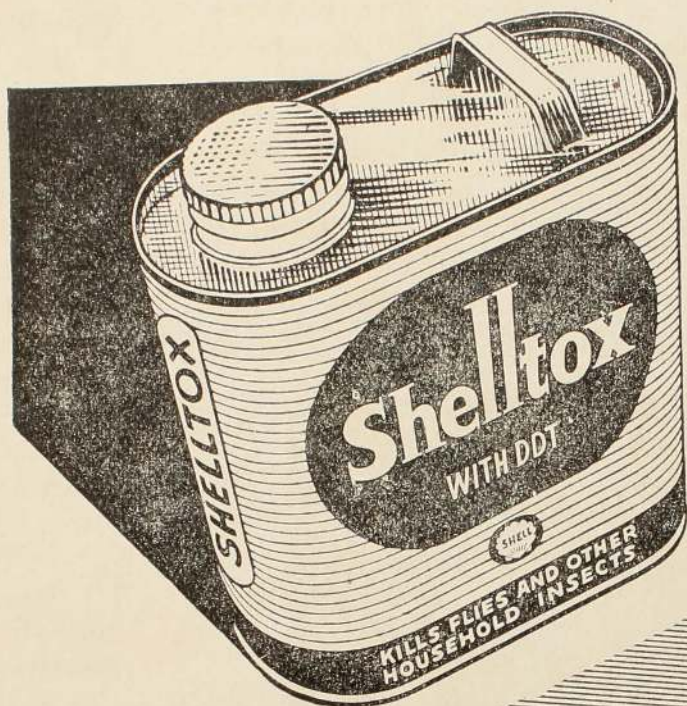
Our last match was against the Maharajah of Nattore's Indian XI at Nattore Park, a beautiful little ground just outside Calcutta. This ground was edged with flower beds with statues here and there of classic line and beauty within dangerous range of a hard hit cricket ball. On the second morning Fawcett arrived very late, in fact, he had to put on his pads and bat at once. After "taking guard" in a great hurry he seemed to be unaware of quite a lot and in particular that a very fast bowler (Baloo I think) was facing him. Baloo was a little man and wore a beard. Also he took only four or five steps, a "surprise packet" indeed! The first ball was straight. It removed the bat from Fawcett's hands and propelled it through the stumps which were suitably "spread eagled." Fawcett's reaction was one of helpless mirth. For quite a while he was so weak with laughter that he could not pick up his bat and walk off!

This incident reminds me of a similar one when Somerset were playing Notts at Trent Bridge some years ago. Somerset had a very stolid and unattractive batsman, an amateur who was so intense and serious minded that he was the object of much leg pulling by the rest of the team. Facing fast bowler Larwood he had his bat struck out of his hands and all three stumps knocked down. Covered with confusion he seized the first bit of timber handy and only discovered when half way to the pavilion he was carrying a stump!

* * *

BUT to revert to Ceylon it was in those days that some leading Kalutara sportsmen founded the Magpie Cricket Club. To "Creeper" Fellowes, Phil May and George Moser belongs the credit of this happy conception. From its birth this "baby" was nursed on certain high principles of sporting endeavour on the field and good cheer off it. It flourished exceedingly. The first match the Club played in Colombo was against the Colombo Brokers. I forget the result of the game but remember that I must have played well enough (for the Brokers) to merit the honour conferred on me that same evening of being made a Magpie. I was, I think the first Colombo member of the Club. In later years

(Continued on page 31)



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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

By ITINERANT

CRICKET : AUSTRALIA vs. CEYLON

ONE can say unreservedly that Lindsay Hassett and his touring Australians, aided and abetted by Bartels, C. H. Gunasekera, Prins and C. I. Gunasekera of Ceylon, gave us a tremendously entertaining day's cricket on the Oval on March 29th. I say again, it was delightful cricket, and Hassett's sporting gesture—forcing the pace because of the few hours of play possible—was greatly appreciated.

The Aussies gave us quick runs, and except for those who fell to Bartels and Gunasekera, they gave us their wickets, too. As a result we were privileged to see all of their batsmen in action—a rare occurrence, indeed.

On the field, too, the Australians belied their reputation for ruthlessness. While not detracting from the merits of our opening batsmen, as well as Prins and Ivers Gunasekera, the accurate (and trained) reporter cannot say that Lindswall, Johnston and Miller extended themselves, although they certainly did not give anything away on a plate! In fact, Makkin Salih told me Johnston was the most troublesome of the trio!

When Archer and Benaud were brought on it immediately became obvious that if England can master the pace attack the Ashes are theirs for the asking. The best bowling one saw that day was that of Bob Bartels. Not only did he bag half of the eight Aussie wickets that fell but—a still greater achievement—he definitely had them worried.

Bartels, with his fast leg cutters and wily off-breaks, is our best bowler today—and a brilliant fielder as well. Let us take good care of him.

* * *

TO return to the game. The bowling of P. I. Peiris, the schoolboy "cap," was innocuous and first Hassett and then a delightfully carefree Morris thrashed it as it well deserved to be thrashed. Wijeyesinghe, too, was toyed with and thumped, mainly by Morris who leaned elegantly on his square drives, tipped one's going away well over the leg slips' heads, and hoisted one vast

six considerably higher than half-mast. By the time Hassett, Morris and Miller had called it a day it appeared that no tactics were necessary on the part of F.C. de Saram, and that anyone could have got a wicket so long as he kept bowling until the batsmen had had enough.

Then Bartels came on. The Aussies were still slugging "with both fists." Only now they were throwing punches that were more defensive than offensive—and some of them were missing their mark by



C. H. Gunasekera

—Times Photo

yards. Hole, who hit a stylish 54 scoring freely all round the wicket, suddenly became muscle-bound and Bartels got him caught, rather ridiculously, off a hook that developed tennis elbow and writer's cramp at the moment of execution. Ian Craig, a slip of a boy, with the poise and grace of a ballerina, and just that much of the unorthodox in him to have mastered Bartels' leg cutters, stayed in long enough to convince one of the genius that is his; then fell in a definite attempt to be cagey. De Courcey, another diminutive figure but built more like Harvey than Hassett or Craig, played what the book taught him. Only the book had never heard of Ivers Gunasekera who, trundling his leg

spinners with great gusto, bowled him neck and crop.

Enter Benaud, broad in the beam, not very elegant; and just when I thought Gunasekera would get him Bartels did, caught and bowled, and very neatly, too. Bartels had now, in 9 overs, taken 3 wickets for 45 runs. Then Tallon also fell to him, neatly stumped by H. I. K. Fernando whose keeping was exemplary and an indication that Ben Navaratne's long day is now over.

Meanwhile B. Claessen, the other schoolboy "cap," accommodated a grateful Archer with a series of full tosses, and so, with something over 200 for eight came lunch, a declaration, and the heavy roller which did its bit under the suspicious gaze of the Navy, some squadrons of schoolboys, and two tiny tots in blue.

* * *

LINDSWALL: Shortish, bunched figure; tremendous shoulders; long, lovely run-up, sudden tigerish stretch, a flash of the arm and the ball, well, not exactly hurtling but nevertheless as fast as anything we've seen here in a long while. Lindswall bowled in 2nd gear only, but with the engine ticking over nicely. Johnston: Two leaps and a bound; bending the ball in from his great height. Later, Miller: Glorious energy, but leashed; tossing his mane, twisting his wrist, now hurling it, now turning it in, and sometimes out. But Makkin Salih for a while, and C. H. Gunasekera till the drawing of stumps, batted so confidently that Ceylon's aspirations to Test status sneaked up another couple of rungs.

Prins, replacing Salih, for once forgot to put up the shutters and we saw in his shop window a magnificent array of sparkling straight drives and hooks made with the abandon of one of Thorne Smith's low-planed spirits. Jayasinghe went looking for runs and a snick was immediately surrounded by Miller. C. I. Gunasekera exploded as forcefully, merrily (and as briefly) as a Chinese cracker. The reason, of course, was that Benaud was bowling—some fearful tripe, I am afraid. Archer too, fast-medium, struck neither length nor terror. And so, with Hole, and even Hassett and Morris coming on (more, I admit, in jest than in earnest the match ended merrily—exactly as it had begun.

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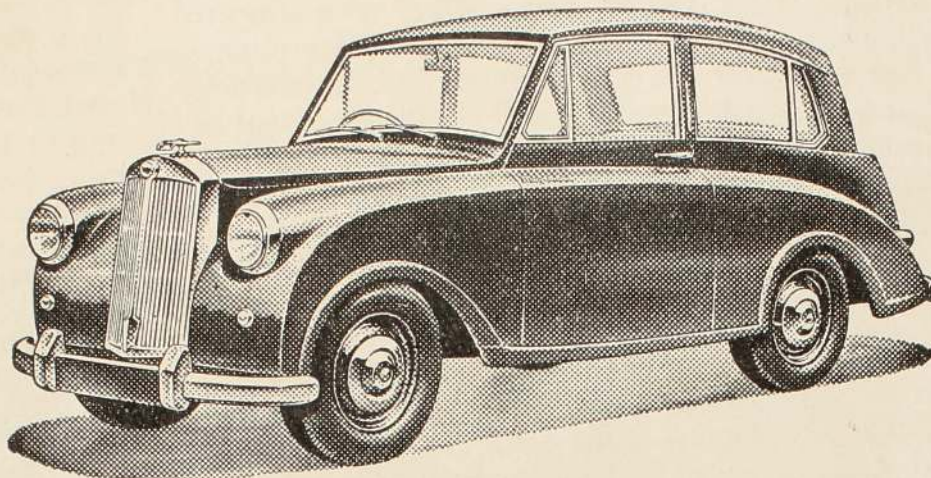
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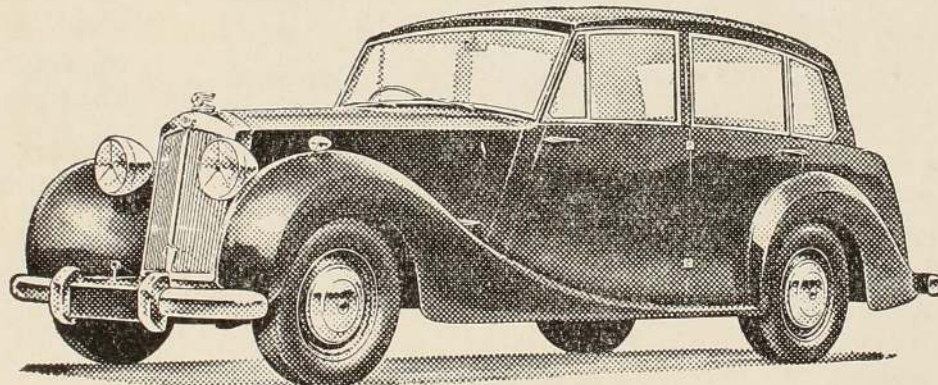
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FOR THE MOTORIST

By COXON

WALLY de Zylva, who is still, as he has been for many years past, one of Ceylon's most accomplished speed stars, made a welcome return to motor racing when, in his new Peugeot, he won the event for stock cars up to 1,500 c.c. beating no less than a Riley driven by M. S. M. Mohideen. Wally, who represented Ceylon at the Isle of Man, is now through with motor cycle racing, but not, I hope, with motor car racing in which field he has few peers.

Ideal weather conditons prevailed throughout the Ceylon Motor Cycle Club's meet at Katukurunda and the racing was of such a high order that the crowd quite forgot the good manners cultivated in recent meets, invaded the track, and wasted much time before getting off it again.

Talking about manners, the participants, too, should realize that, however elated they might be, taking both hands off the steering wheel while a vehicle is in motion just isn't done.

* * *

APART from Cedric Seneviratne's splendid victory over Filby and the latter's M.G. Special, and S. G. Bilton (Cooper)—incidentally Seneviratne's handling of his own Cooper was par excellence—the outstanding feature of the meet was the promise shown by the novices. They proved that the "baby" of Ceylon's sports has sturdy limbs.

Other pleasing aspects of the meet : Graham's intimacy with his Jowett Jupiter ; Tony Brooks coaxing such response from his M.G. ; and the first appearance here of the D.K.W., a twin-cylindere, forward drive, smooth little job stylishly handled by A. L. Amarasinghe who won two stock car events.

Incidentally, why does not the Government Film Unit pay a visit to one of these meets ? The material available for filming would surely be more welcome than some of the Grade C "shorts" with which cinema audiences are afflicted and, as in the case of the Sports and Racing Cars (Handicap)—the last event—would even be worth exporting.

SPORTS CAUSERIE

RACING

THE annual Nuwara Eliya meet opened last Saturday in ideal racing weather, but the attendance was disappointing. The day's sport was notable for a series of upsets, only two of the fancied ones obliging in a card of eight events. Marjon paid the best dividend—Rs. 108 for a win—in the second division of the Kandapola Plate. The two favourites who won were Pantomine Star and On and Off. The former won comfortably ridden by Cook in the Hakgalla Plate over seven furlongs beating Pelican's Pride by two lengths. This was the principal race of the day.

* * *

AFTER a long interval the starting left no room for any complaints. Major Gulliland, the Club's new Starter, proving that the reputation that preceded him here was more than justified. The starting in all eight races was most satisfactory. Marjon's victory in the Kandapola Plate was, as already mentioned, a real surprise. This victory was due largely to the clever manner in which the animal was ridden by Samarawira who was hotly challenged at the finish by Topside. Sawyer rode a well judged race to win the Oliphant Plate on Ingabel.

* * *

CRICKET

An S.S.C. "Over 40" XI, led by Sir John Kotelawala will meet a Kandy side of the same vintage on Sunday, April 19, at Asgiriya.

The visiting side will have the assistance of hardy annuals like H. B. Kannangara, C. H. and Sammy Gunasekera, B. E. R. Cooray and "Bing" Wijeratna. Derrick de Saram and Sago Jayawickrama are also taking part.

Dr. G. W. Karunaratna will lead the Kandy team with R.L. Kannangara as his "Vice." Others included are :—P. A. Buultjens, H. Mant, Dr. P. C. Wickramasinghe, J. C. A. Dunuwille, Dr. H. B. Sangakkara, Dr. V. H. L. Antonisz (a doubtful starter in an active capacity, but a valuable support in other respects).

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CRICKETING DAYS—XII.

(Continued from page 27)

that fine sportsman Douglas de Saram was admitted a member together with that ardent supporter of Ceylon cricket, F. L. Goonewardena. Once a year they had arranged a match against the Club at Kandy on the Asgiriya ground and it was little enough we could do for them in return for their kind hospitality and friendly interest in us.

GEMS HAVE "TALES"
TO TELL YOU

(Continued from page 23)

In days of old when Merchants from Arabia, Rome, and Greece traded with Ceylon for spices and precious stones, the pearls of Ceylon were much in demand for they were of a far superior quality than those found elsewhere. According to the "Rajavaliya" in the reign of Kelani Tissa a devastating tidal wave following upon a gigantic earthquake is said to have wiped off completely four hundred villages where the chief industry appears to have been Pearl Fishing. This substantiates to a certain extent Travellers' Tales of Lanka's fabulous wealth and glory.

Apart from the valuable jewels in Museums are the treasures of the *Dalada Maligawa* or Temple of the Tooth gifted by pious devotees, among which may be seen an emerald Buddha, the hair ornament of the Princess Hemamali who hazarded a perilous journey in ages past when carrying the Tooth Relic to Ceylon secreted in her raven tresses, an exquisite emerald unguent jar and gem set pendants once worn by King Kirti Sri.

* * *

IN Ceylon the fortunate possessor of jewellery with the *Navaratne* setting may be envied. These nine Ceylon gems have to be inset according to auspicious times, seasons and ceremonial observances according to planetary movements and horoscopic detail if good fortune is to be ensured for its wearer say the initiated. Unfortunately its price is prohibitive so that it is not available for common use.

These are but a few "tales" that gems have acquired from the Past to delight us to-day.



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HOLLYWOOD BEAUTY SECRETS

By MAX FACTOR, Jr.

Famous Make-up Advisor to the Screen Stars

BEAUTIFUL TERESA WRIGHT GAINS SOME EXTRA KNOWLEDGE ABOUT FOUNDATION MAKE-UP

JUST the other day there was occasion for me to mention to one of Hollywood's loveliest actresses, Teresa Wright some facts about foundation make-up which she later declared she hadn't previously known about.

It occurred to me that this could be the case with many other women, too. So here, briefly, are the observations which I made to Teresa Wright :

Foundation make-up was created to provide your complexion with a smooth and evenly toned finish. It will do this, beautifully, but only if you take care to apply it smoothly and evenly. If you don't, there's no beauty point in using it.

Foundation make-up protects the complexion against dust and dirt becoming imbedded in the pores. It forms a protective surface which can keep crime from even toughing your complexion. Remember this the next time you have a morning of dusting scheduled.

Dark shadows under the eyes can be concealed with foundation make-up. Apply the make-up, in the shade you usually use, over the entire face, including the dark under-eye area. Then touch a second coat of foundation make-up, one shade lighter than the first, to the dark area alone. Use extreme care in blending this second application over the first, so that an obvious "patch" effect doesn't result.

If you have applied foundation make-up to your arms and shoulders, and it has smudged the neckline edge of your dress, don't blame the foundation make-up. It wasn't



Lovely TERESA WRIGHT discovers some interesting pointers on the use of foundation make-up from Hollywood's noted beauty authority, Max Factor, Jr.

meant to be used on this edge-of-the-dress skin area. Make-up blender was, so use it instead. Make-up blender won't rush off on your clothes.

(In next week's "Hollywood Beauty Secrets," make-up expert Max Factor, Jr., gives pointers to women with white or light blond hair.)

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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

ATHLETICS

IF you notice a springier gait and much polishing of "spikes" and airing of track suits in Peradeniya you will know you are trespassing on 'Varsity ground. The undergrads are becoming track—and field-conscious in preparation for one of the biggest athletic meets ever to be staged in Ceylon. About 600 men and women, representing universities in Burma, India and Ceylon—about 25 in all—will vie for honours in Peradeniya late in December this year, and in the nine months between then and now everything possible will be done to convert the campus there into one of the most up-to-date tracks in the world.

It will be, in ceremony and pageantry, little short of Olympic standard.

* * *

RUGGER BREWING

CHUNKS of brawn pawing the turf, trotting around with high knee action, kicking tan leather high into the air, hurling each other deep into the ground; the hoarse, tattered shouts, the smart of embrocation in the palpitation atmosphere of the dressing-room; and the endless plans and post-mortems: ah, rugger's brewing. Soon we shall be invaded by the "tootle-oo" and "Come on, Kay-Vee." Soon we shall be grawing our knuckles and westtering "Pass, down it, pass!" And soon countless husbands will be incurring the wrath of countless wives by converting cushions over the mantelpiece.

The Colombo sides have already got into the swing of things. Walker's skippering the C. H. and F. C. and their first official trials will be held on April 7th. Good news for other clubs is that Nick Dewing, St. John Davies and John Collins are on furlough, but there are many in the running for their places as we shall see, particularly on April 9th when the C. H. play New Zealanders from the ship H.M.N.Z.S. "Black-Prince."

Hookes Alan Driberg leads a young Havelocks side this year—young, but I warn you, tough as they come. The C. R. and F.C., led again, I believe by Ceylon's captain, Mahes Rodrigo, will this year, too, be a formidable side, combing speed, guile and brawn.



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Night & Day

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UVA DIARY

6. OUR Miss PEREIRA

THERE must be so many thousands of Miss Pereiras in this Island, answering to the general description of our particular Miss Pereira, that she cannot possibly be afforded any embarrassment by her inclusion in my Diary. Indeed it would be difficult to exclude her, now that she is here !

She has come on a visit long talked of and frequently postponed, and although we had planned it as a small return for services rendered, it appears that she is determined—whatever happens—to leave us still in her debt. She had not been with us two hours of the day following the night of her arrival, when she demanded “sewing” and seemed so genuinely distraught and unhappy without it, that something was found for her to do.

Periodically we drive her out into the sunshine, but she finds walking in the Hills too tiring (though to my knowledge she trudges many miles a day in Colombo) and the up-country buses altogether too frightening. So we let her be, and she finds her greatest pleasure working by the open window of her primrose-coloured bedroom with the white painted furniture.

* * *

OUR Miss Pereira first came to our rescue in the darkest days of the War, soon after the big Easter air-raid. Our cottage occupying the highest spot near Colombo, strategically placed between a Naval and a Military Camp, became immediately listed as a danger area, and not a servant, garden cooly or driver could be persuaded to live there. Petrol was strictly rationed and travelling on the narrow-gauge railway from the nearby station halt was anything but comfortable.

But we clung to this place of our own, hotly contesting the suggestion (when it came) that it should be commandeered for war purposes ; and willing to cook, clean and garden in addition to our respective war-time occupations, rather than consent to live in a huddle with others of our species in Colombo. We had three acres of garden and orchard, poultry, and—quite without seeking for them—a stray village cow and her calf ; in spite of the black-out, life

remained normal so long as we could contrive to preserve our rural paradise.

The real snag was our little Aussie terrier, who objected to being shut up all day when we were out. Also it was rather a business getting the cleaning done in the early mornings and evenings and in our precious week-ends.

Our Miss Pereira, who had come to do some sewing, viewed with concern my rather sketchy attempts at housework and volunteered to come every day, for a microscopic fee, to “clean round for us,” as well as feeding the dog and the chicks. She was not, she was careful to explain, of the servant, or even the Nanny, class : indeed no-one could have thought her to be. But she had been brought up “European fashion” and there was nothing in our housework she would think shame to do.

* * *

SO come she did, walking in all weathers every day for three long years, arriving at 7.30 a.m. and leaving at 5.30 p.m. as regularly as clock work. If we had not returned at that hour she walked out leaving the door open and the little dog chained in the doorway. Soon she became quite clever at using our electrical cooking appliances. Once a week we ourselves performed wonders with the Dover stove, laying in a good stock of food in the refrigerator to last us through the week ; and many a time we have looked longingly back to those days and thought how simple and uncomplicated life then was, despite all the shortages and annoyances and anxieties of war conditions.

I can remember now our Miss Pereira on the first day she came to the cottage, standing on the verandah and sniffing the fresh breeze that came to her over the tree-tops below us from the distant sea. “It’s just like up-country !” she kept exclaiming, and certainly there was that feeling of being uplifted from the surrounding country, a quality which made everyone who visited us say : “How did you find it ?”

When we moved to the real “up-country” we had visions of persuading our Miss Pereira to accompany us, since we suited each other so well, but alas, “up-country” appealed to her as something to dream of, rather than to dwell in : she was a confirmed suburbanite.

Further, we discovered that Miss Pereira alone in her glory was a rather different person from Miss Pereira surrounded by a staff of slightly supercilious bungalow servants. The experiment was abandoned as quickly as it was begun.

Yet she never let herself be forgotten. The Christmas gifts, the birthday cards so carefully chosen, the letters laboriously written, all served to remind us of a friendship that is faithful to a memory of hardships shared.

* * *

OUR Miss Pereira, like ourselves, is growing older. Her piquantly pretty face, out of which the black eyes twinkle cheerfully, is framed in white hair though the figure is still that of an undeveloped girl of fourteen. She wears a woolly cardigan over her usual spotless printed cotton frock and swears she is “warm enough.” Nevertheless we know she is already aching to return to hot and steamy Colombo with all its excitements—the Talkies, the parties, the gossip, the church-going.....

She is an ardent Anglican and never misses her Church-service on Sundays, but “the priests don’t care for us poor people,” she says. “I was christened and confirmed in my Church, but if I was sick and dying, do you think the Vicar would trouble to come and see me, or even the Curate ?”

“Oh, don’t say that, my dear,” I expostulate. “The Church surely makes no difference between rich and poor.”

“But the poor are so many,” she says, as though that settles the argument. And perhaps it does.

The whirr of her sewing machine in the next room matches the tattoo of my typewriter as she adds to the collection of new curtains, cushion covers and the like, which she has elected to make for us. In years to come, as these are replenished, we shall say : “It’s time we got new ones : we had these that time, do you remember, when Miss Pereira came to stay with us. If only we could persuade her to come again !”

Reading this over, I realise that the title is really a misnomer. She is not anyone’s Miss Pereira except

(Continued on page 36)

MUSIC & DRAMA

By ETUDE

APRIL 23rd, as every schoolboy knows, is Shakespeare's Day; and preparations are afoot to mark this year's celebrations with more than usual distinction. The President of the Shakespeare Society, Travis Pieris, has spent much effort towards this end.

The various dramatic groups in Colombo, therefore, have been called upon to assist in organising a Shakespeare Festival, to be held at the King George Hall at 6.30 p.m., on April 23rd, and the public are invited to attend. The festival will take the form of a competition for the best performance of a scene, or group of scenes, from a Shakespeare play.

The dramatic groups that have responded so far are the CADC, the Dramateurs, the Players, and, naturally, the Shakespeare Society. The Thespians have not yet quite decided whether they will or they won't; but there is every reason to believe that they will.

As Robert Speaight, well-known British actor and who has judged on similar occasions in Canada, will be in Ceylon about this time on the invitation of the British Council, it is hoped that he will be persuaded to act as judge. If this is not possible, a panel of local judges will take his place.

The scenes will be played in costume, and a time-limit of not less than 15 and not more than 25 minutes has been set to each performance. While the moving spirit in this venture is the President of the Shakespeare Society the organisation of the festival itself will be the joint responsibility of all the groups taking part.

A nominal entrance will be charged—actual rates will be advertised later—and the proceeds will be donated to the Lionel Wendt Memorial Fund.

* * *

WITH memories of the Cassado concert still recent in our minds we have had the good fortune to entertain in Colombo another musician of world quality, Louis Kentner, who gave a pianoforte recital at the Savoy Theatre on March 30th, with a representative programme which included Bach, Beethoven, Schumann,

Daly-Austin, and Chopin. A repeat performance was given two nights following.

The response at these three concerts augurs well for the accomplishment of what is still only a dream, that with the completion of a properly constructed concert hall in Colombo it may come true that Ceylon also will have regular concert seasons in the future. To that end alone, if not for lesser needs, it is to be hoped that the Lionel Wendt Memorial Fund will get, and quickly, the support it so greatly deserves. It is our loss in Ceylon that we never, or very seldom, hear musicians other than ourselves.

MATTERS OF MOMENT

(Continued from page 7)

CEYLON representatives to the Coronation will be leaving mostly about the middle of May. Sir John Kotelawala, Minister of Transport and Works and Leader of the House of Representatives, one of the guests specially invited by the Queen, will leave towards the middle of May with his mother, Mrs. Alice Kotelawala. Sir John will also be one of the delegates representing the Ceylon branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at the Coronation. Other delegates representing the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association are the Speaker, Mr. Albert Peries, the President of the Senate, Dr. Nicholas Attygalle, and Mr. Ralph St. L. P. Deraniyagala, Clerk to the House of Representatives. Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Minister of Food and Agriculture, and Mr. and Mrs. C. Suntharalingam, also special guests of the Queen, will leave towards the end of May. As stated earlier, the Prime Minister, accompanied by Sir Kanthiah Vaithianathan and Mr. N. W. Atukorale, will be leaving for U.K. on May 25.

* * *

MR. C. H. Z. Fernando, presiding over the prize-giving of St. Bridget's Convent, criticised several undesirable trends in the Government's educational policy, but at the same time said that "we Catholics face the future with confidence." Other schools, he said, had their endowments in cash, but the only endowments St. Bridget's had were the members of the Order of the Good Shepherd who had dedicated

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their lives to the cause of education. Mrs. C. H. Z. Fernando distributed the prizes.

* * *

THE Y.W.C.A. has launched a drive to collect Rs. 35,000 to help it to maintain the services it already affords to women and girls as well as to widen the scope of its activities in the coming year. The Y.W.C.A. has been rendering so much service regularly for so many years that we are apt to take organisations like it for granted. But they cannot function unless they receive adequate financial support. Well organised concerns like the Y.W.C.A. deserve every support and we hope the Y.W.C.A. will hit the target very soon. Cheques in support of the fund should be made payable to the "Y.W.C.A. Finance Campaign."

UVA DIARY

(Continued from page 35)

her own. Lucky Miss Pereira, enjoying so few of this world's goods but preserving her independence over many years and carrying with her an unquenchable interest in all that is going on around her.....never asking favours but sturdily set upon conferring them.....leaving us, as soon she must do, saying: "If only she would come again!"

FELICITY.

NOTICE

In the District Court of Gampaha

I. Pattivilage Julis of Pasgammuna and three others.

Plaintiffs.

No. 1464
Partition

Vs.

II. Albert Weerasekera of Dambuwa and others.

Defendants.

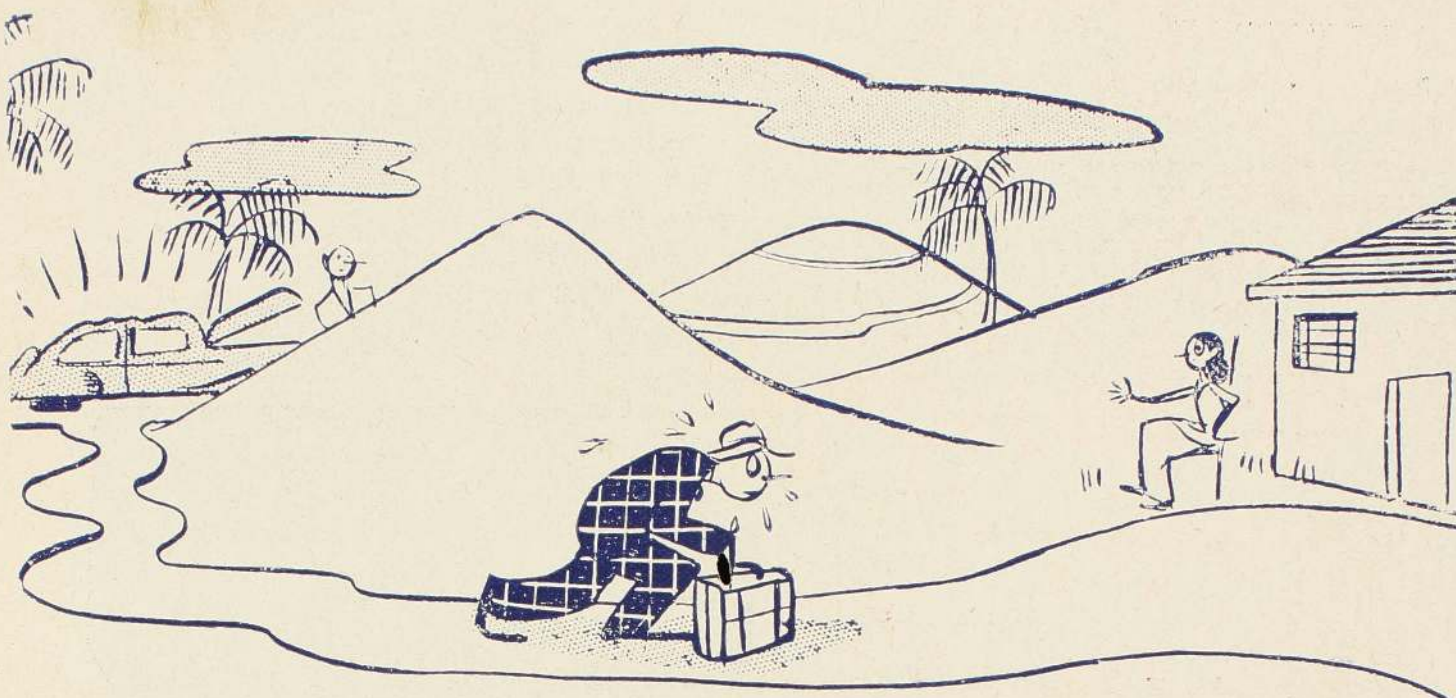
Whereas the above styled action has been instituted for the partition of the land called Pallemarawe Kumbura situated at Malwathu Hiripitiya, in the Meda Pattu of Siyane Korale in the District of Colombo.

And whereas in terms of the Interlocutory Decree entered in the said action the said land was partitioned amongst the said parties and Lot No. 6 was allotted to the 11th defendant.

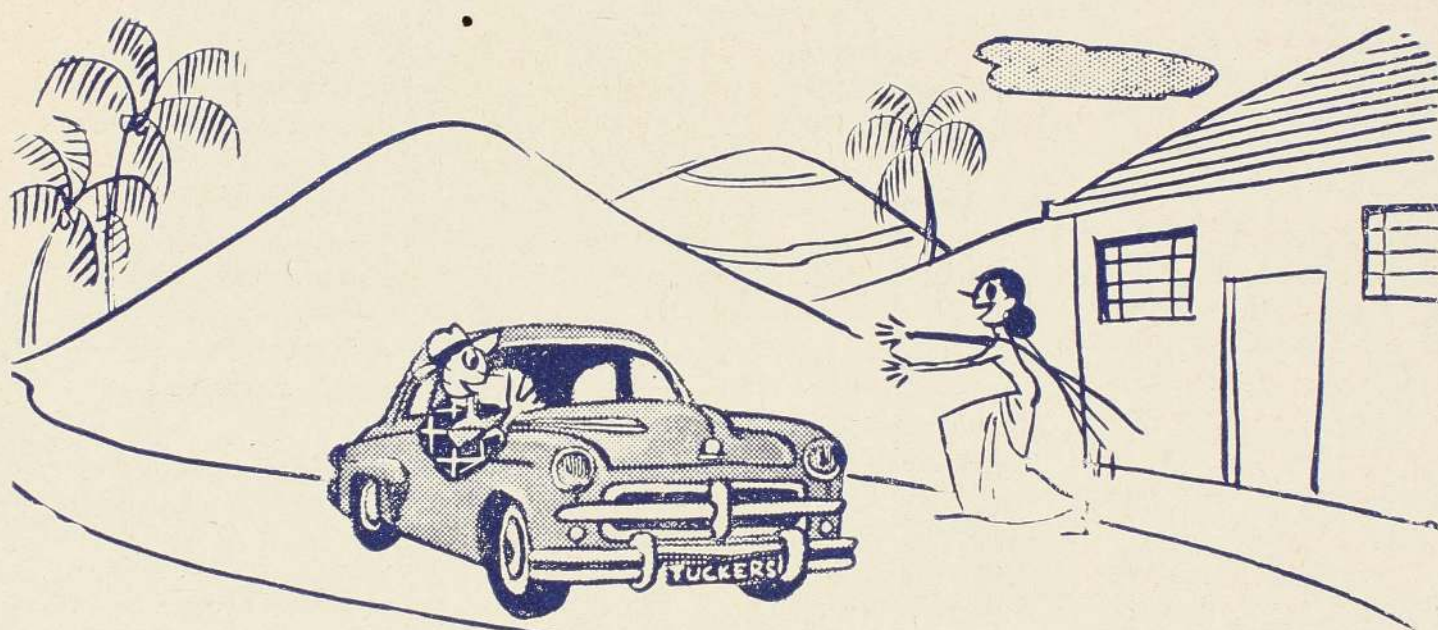
And whereas notice to confirm scheme of partition was issued on the 11th defendant but the same could not be served on him as he is away from the Island. It is hereby ordered that if no cause to the contrary is shown on or before the 21st day of May, 1953, by the 11th defendant the said partition will be confirmed.

(Sgd.) .. W. De SILVA,
District Judge.

Gampaha,
24th day of March, 1953.



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while this wise man **Vauxhalls** the way home

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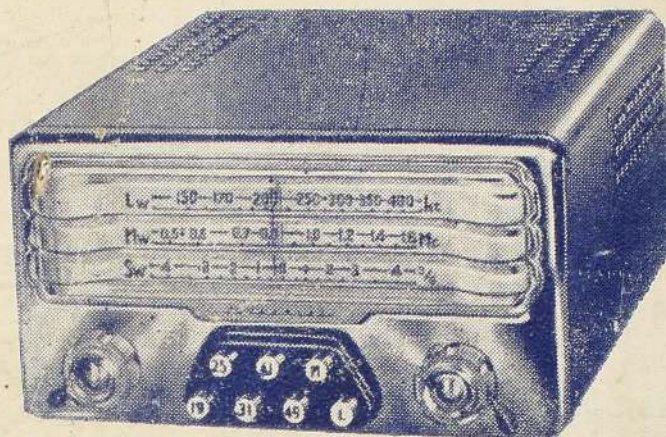
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