

The Ceylon Frost Nightly Review

Vol. X

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Registered at the G. P. O. as a Newspaper, 19th July, 1957.

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NATIONALISING HOLIDAYS

WITH the appointment recently of a Committee of four permanent secretaries and representatives of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and exchange banks, the Government has undertaken what must be regarded as the first comprehensive examination of the holiday "structure" of the country. Holidays have "just grown" in response to pressure on communal or religious grounds and the Chamber and the Planters' Association deserve praise for focussing the Government's attention on the excessive number of holidays and the lack of uniformity.

* * *

THERE are at present as many as 26 public holidays. With the half-days on Saturdays, and the Sundays, Government offices are closed for 104 days of the year. When, as in April last, they are closed for days together, the inconvenience caused to the public and the delay in the transaction of public business may be imagined.

The lack of uniformity is even more damaging. For example, banks must be closed for 16 days when shops and offices are open; estate offices are closed for eight days when estates continue to function. The closing of banks on consecutive days—banks were open for one day only in the third week of April last—not only causes inconvenience but also actual loss, for example, to shippers, who are unable to negotiate documents.

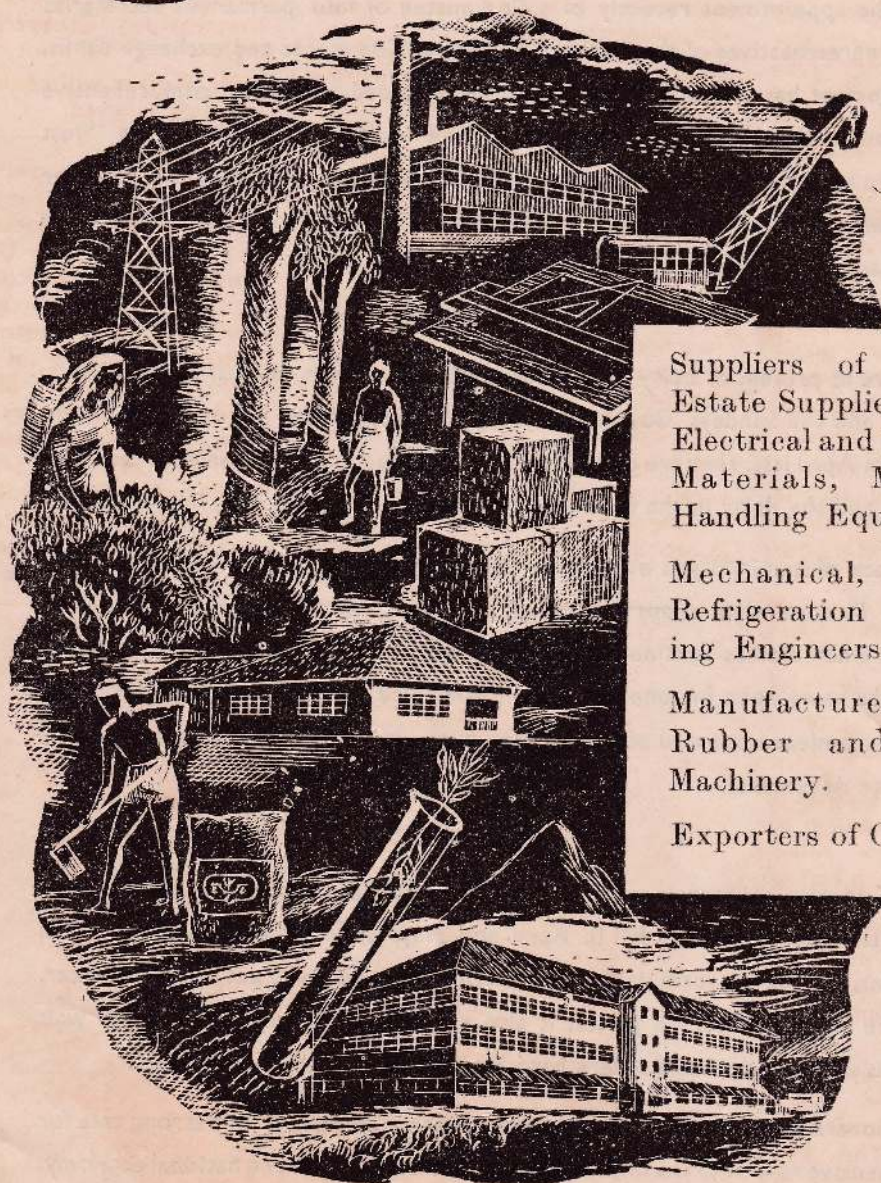
* * *

THE loss to the country is more evident when the tea trade is considered. The longest spells of holidays fall in April and May, when large crops of tea reach the auctions, leading to a formidable accumulation of stocks to be put up for sale later. Besides the adverse effect on prices, it also means that the producer has to wait long for his money, which is a severe hardship, particularly to small-holders.

The Government has done well to appreciate that there is a very strong case for a comprehensive review of the entire position in the interest of the national economy.

The Editor.

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

By BRUTUS

RESTRAINT in the extension of social services and priority for agricultural and industrial development are the features of the budget for the financial year 1957-1958 presented to the House of Representatives by the Finance Minister, Mr. Stanley de Zoysa.

The estimated expenditure is Rs. 1,460 million, including Rs. 300.5 million on loan fund account, and the anticipated revenue under the fiscal arrangements for this year Rs. 1,260.4 million. The deficit of Rs. 199.6 million is to be reduced to about Rs. 150 million by taxation.

The proposed new taxation leaves the low-income group unaffected but the middle-income groups will probably feel the raising of the import duty on cigarettes and beer, while those in the upper-income levels will be compelled to forego many luxuries with the increase in the import duty on silk and nylon garments, air-conditioners, high-powered cars, etc.

The emphasis on development is reflected in the reduction of the import duty on machinery for sugar manufacture (which is an enterprise that is to be launched during the year), the protective duty on aluminium hollow-ware (a nascent local industry) and the reduction of the duty on packing materials for the retailing of bulk imports.

* * *

THE profits tax is to be put up by five per cent. Investment is to be encouraged by tax relief in the case of "approved projects" for essential development—the expansion of existing enterprises and the establishment of new projects. The chosen projects for approved investment would be announced in the Government Gazette.

Stamp duties have been revised in an upward direction and affect receipts, share transfers, transfers of immovables and gifts. The last is designed to thwart avoidance of estate duty and the higher rates of income tax by donors, and will apply to transfers of movable property, including shares, as well as of immovable property. A new tax proposed is one-tenth of one per cent. on "every item of debit to a current account in a commercial bank."

THE taxation proposals have, on the whole, been well received except for the bank debits tax, criticism of which is perhaps best summed up by Mr. N. U. Jayawardena, former Governor of the Central Bank and now Managing Director of Vavasseurs. He holds that it would, among other things, discourage the banking habit, that it is discriminatory and that it would encourage tax evasion.

He considers it discriminatory because it does not apply to those who use coins and currency notes in their transactions. Moreover, he points out that in the past five years bank money on the average turned over 23.3 times every year which means that those having bank accounts would pay 2.3 per cent. per annum on the use of bank money. To a borrower who got bank money at 4 per cent. the tax would raise the cost to 6.3 per cent. or, if at 6 per cent., to 8.3 per cent.

Mr. Jayawardena incidentally advocates the abolition of stamp duty on cheques, which he describes as an accident (it was originally

applied to bills of exchange) and an anachronism.

* * *

MR. R. H. Wade, who succeeds Dr. Nathan Keyfitz as director of the Colombo Plan Bureau, is due in Ceylon on July 24.

Mr. Wade, who is at the present the official secretary of the New Zealand High Commission in Ottawa, began his career in the Treasury and for a short time during the war was on the Eastern Group Supply Council in New Delhi. He has served in the foreign office in Wellington and overseas in Canberra and Washington.

Mr. Keyfitz will return to Canada on being relieved.

* * *

IN the picture appearing below of the Parliamentarians attending the course in parliamentary procedure and practice in the U.K., some of those attending the course are seen on the terrace of the House of Commons at Westminster with British Members of Parliament. From left to right are Mr. J. D. Profumo, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Sayed Mohammad El Hassan Diab, (Sudan), Alhaji Shehu Ahmadu, (N. Nigeria), E. M. Duke (Trinidad), H. S. Ismail (Ceylon), A. Creech-Jones and P. V. Cherian (India).



Members and officers of nearly thirty Commonwealth and Colonial Legislatures recently attended a course in parliamentary procedure and practice in the United Kingdom. (See paragraph above).

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

CEYLON is participating in four "disciplines" in the International Geophysical year, namely—meteorology, seismology, ionosphere and cosmic rays. The Department of Meteorology will concern itself with the first two and the University of Ceylon with the two others.

For meteorological purposes seven stations—Colombo, Mannar, Kankasanturai, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Hambantota and Nuwara Eliya—have been recognised by the World Meteorological Organisation Secretariat in Geneva. Data from them will be forwarded to Geneva and to the World Data Centre at Moscow, it is announced. Seismological observations will be made at the Colombo Observatory and the results sent to the International Central Seismological Bureau in Strasbourg, France.

Ionospheric measurements will be made in the faculty of Engineering of the University and data supplied to Slough, Britain, and to Moscow. Cosmic rays measurements will be made in the physical laboratories of the University.

* * *

THE Minister of Agriculture and Food, Mr. Philip Gunewardena, has reaffirmed that the Government will introduce legislation to prevent fragmentation of estates 100 acres and more in extent.

Addressing the Estates Staffs Union in Kandy, where he reiterated the policy of the Government, he said: "It is strange that we have Rip Van Winkles in our country who believe that small units of tea and rubber are more economic than large units. Obscurantism has not passed from the face of Ceylon with the establishment of a people's government. The dark forces in the economic field have to be fought."

The Bill was directed, Mr. Gunewardena said, against the anti-social activities of speculators who had pounced on tea and rubber plantations by buying them and persuading people to purchase units at exorbitant rates, with the result that the value of tea and rubber land today had no relation to earning capacity.

* * *

A REVOLUTION in education is imminent with the proposal of the Ministry of Education to abolish the Senior School Certificate Exa-

mination (S.S.C.) and substitute for it the General Certificate of Education Examination (G.C.E.) on the lines of the practice in Britain.

Under the scheme there will be a choice of subjects to students in keeping with their aptitude and inclinations, enabling them thereby to qualify for employment more freely than at present. There will be a "common core" of three subjects (first language, second language and arithmetic or elementary mathematics) in all courses in the senior classes. There will be at least three other "special subjects" depending on whether a student is following an academic or practical course.

The scheme has been widely acclaimed.

* * *

NATIONALISED bus services are expected to operate from the beginning of 1958, according to a statement made by the Chairman of the Transport Board, Mr. Vere de Mel, at a conference of members and officials of the Board and high executives of bus companies.

Addressing the conference, the Minister of Transport, Mr. Maitripala Senanayake, gave the assurance that, legal safeguards apart, there would

be no political interference with the autonomy bestowed on the Board. Ministerial control would be exercised only in regard to general policy directives and in circumstances where it would be in the public interest to inquire into the affairs of the Board.

Mr. H. F. Adcock, of the London Transport Board, who has been advising the Government on nationalisation, deprecated the writing of memoranda and commended personal contact. He also emphasised the importance of good public relations and the value of negotiation with properly constituted representatives of the workers.

* * *

A TELLING case against the excessive holidays obtaining at present has been made by the Chamber of Commerce and the Planters' Association in a joint memorandum to the Home Minister.

They point out that, besides the statutory holidays most employees are entitled to 14 days annual leave, seven days casual and 14 days sick leave, making 35 days for the year. Any addition to the existing holidays would not be in the economic interests of the country, which already pays a heavy price in loss of production, increasing costs and delays



"Times"

The Prime Minister and Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardene chatting to Mr. J. J. Hurley, Canadian High Commissioner in Ceylon, at the party the latter gave last week to mark Canada's National Day.

I say
SCOTCH
is the drink



Yes, says the Barrister,
With my grasp of the facts,
I know Scotch is the drink
And, of course . . .



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MATTERS OF MOMENT

in the shipment of produce. If the standard of living is to be raised, people must be encouraged to work harder and so increase the wealth of the country, they state.

Drawing attention to defects in the present system, they hold it impossible to conduct business properly unless banks are open on all days on which shops and offices and stores and mills function. They suggest that for banks, shops and offices five days in the year be observed as general holidays and employees be allowed to take casual leave for festivals which are not provided for.

* * *

AN index to the improving standard of living as well as increasing population is provided by the statement of Col. O. B. Forbes, Chairman of the Board of the British Ceylon Corporation, at the annual general meeting of stockholders, that internal consumption of coconuts is overtaking exports. In the absence of reliable figures, he estimated consumption last year at 1,152.8 million nuts as against 1,361 million exported. While reporting a drop of over 10,000 tons in copra exports, though the figure was still large at 57,726 tons, he said that desiccated coconut showed a steady upward climb, achieving the new record of 63,744 tons in 1956.

Col. Forbes went on to say: "When to the export figures of nuts you add the internal consumption figures, I feel that, bad cropping weather or good, the magnificent efforts of the Coconut Research Institute and the Coconut Rehabilitation Scheme and the Coconut Fertilizer Subsidy Scheme have undoubtedly begun to bear fruit."

Estimating the local consumption of poonac for 1956 at about 63,000 tons, Col. Forbes said that, viewed from the angle of milk and food production, it would seem that copra must be made available locally to produce 125,000 tons of oil. The export of coconut oil last year was 84,092 tons and local consumption is estimated at 42,000 tons.

* * *

MR. M. Rajanayagam, Commissioner of Labour, who was released by the Government for a year to the Social Affairs Department of the United Nations, has sent in his papers for retirement.

Mr. Rajanayagam joined the department in 1936 and came to be an authority on labour. The advanced state of labour legislation in Ceylon

is owing mainly to his initiative and effort. A bachelor, Mr. Rajanayagam had numerous interests outside his official work. He was a regular member of the Radio Ceylon brains trust and he was associated with the Family Planning Association and the Mental Hygiene Society.

* * *

IN an interim report the land Commission has made an important recommendation with regard to the alienation of undeveloped Crown land to non-nationals. General policy dictates, says the Commission, that preference should be given to local capital, but if local capital is unable and foreign capital is able to put such land to efficient and productive use, the commission considers it essential, for cogent economic reasons, that the land should be alienated to the non-national.

On alienation of land to non-nationals generally, the commission says that there is much to be said on the grounds of general public policy for the view that if national capital is available for investment it should generally get preference over foreign capital, but if the only possibility of efficient development of the

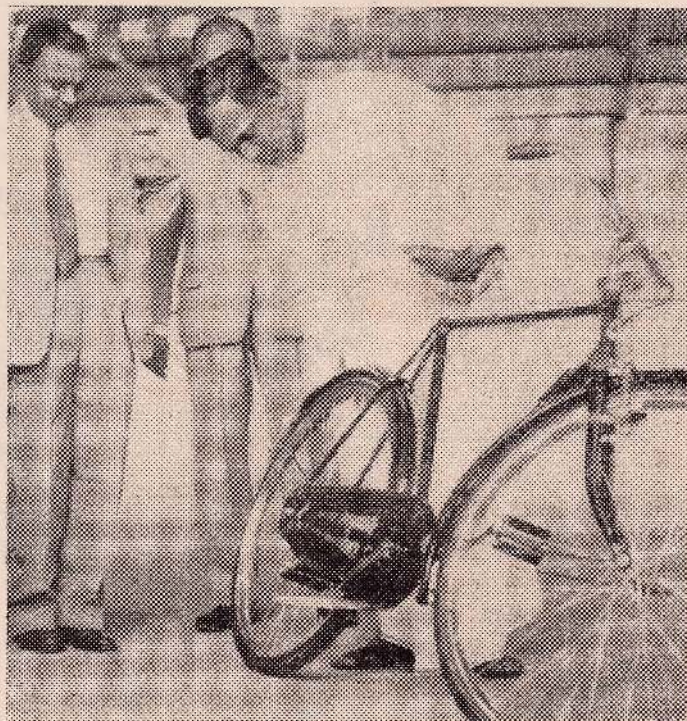
country's resources lies in the investment of foreign capital, such investment should be encouraged, "for it is essential that economic growth should take place irrespective of the nationality of the investor."

The Commission has recommended that a natural resources planning unit be set up under the Planning Secretariat to undertake islandwide and detailed planning of land use in conformity with modern ideas of development.

* * *

MR. W. Tennekoon has been confirmed as a deputy-Governor of the Central Bank of Ceylon. The other deputy is Mr. D. W. Rajapathirana.

Mr. Tennekoon began his career as a sub-accountant in the Bank of Ceylon and became an agent in 1941, rising to be deputy-Accountant, Accountant and Head Office Manager of the Bank. He has been with the Central Bank since its inception in 1950, joining it as Accountant in charge of the Banking and Currency Department. He has served as Ceylon's representative on the International Bank in Washington.



Mr. P. H. W. De Silva, Minister of Industries and Fisheries, inspecting a "Monara" bicycle assembled at the factory of Ceylon Cycle Industry, Ltd., which he opened last week. "Times"

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ON THE NORTHERN TRAIL

By ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

FOR the jaded Londoner there is no finer tonic than a trek northwards—by road, rail or air—across the border into Scotland. In next to no time he is transplanted from his city cage, or from the homely domesticity of London's nearer countryside, to the "land of the mountain and the flood."

The poet who so described this delectable region was, it is true, twanging his lyre in the days before Scotland had developed her flourishing modern industries, but the words can still stand. So can his impassioned appeal to "Caledonia stern and wild," though many a romantic valley is now a coalfield and the torrents are harnessed to Scotland's far-reaching hydro-electric power schemes.

* * *

Growth of Mechanisation

IN a week's journey I made recently through the rural Highlands after an absence of seven years, it was the growth of mechanisation that struck me most forcibly. On all sides the farm tractors were scrambling across the hill faces drawing ploughs and other appliances over ground which was inaccessible to the now almost defunct farm-horse. In the richer parts of the country mechanisation has pushed up grain production by 30 per cent. in the past twenty years. Many of the loneliest crofts now draw electricity from the National Grid. In a once benighted corner of North-East Aberdeenshire I sat in a farmhouse parlour watching yacht manoeuvres off England's south coast by television, an impossibility before the arrival of electricity.

The Highlander has convincingly disproved the notion that he is over-cautious and sceptical where new methods are concerned. A report by the new Crofters Commission commends the versatility and skill of the crofter population, whether in building with wood or stone, in handling boats, or in learning rapidly to manage the powered machines which are being used on public works contracts. Now the Highlander gets his reward with the Government decision to spend more than £19,000,000 in the coming year on Highland education, health, fores-

try, housing and services ranging from forest fire precautions to agricultural research.

* * *

THE people are playing their part.

To mention one instance, there is the world-famous Harris Tweed industry, much of it carried on in the crofters' homes. It has just achieved an all-time output record, having stamped over 6,500,000 yards of cloth, an increase of 781,000 over the previous year. Seventy per cent. of the output went to markets overseas.

Two topics of talk during my northern trek were Queen Elizabeth II's first journey by a Comet II jet aircraft to the Royal Air Force fighter station at Leuchars, in the Scottish county of Fifeshire, and the sailing of the new 22,000-ton Cunard liner Sylvania from the Clyde on her maiden voyage to Canada.

After cruising northwards at 450 miles an hour, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh zoomed down on the Leuchars runway to inspect Britain's latest guided missiles, including the air-to-air Firestreak and the ground-to-air Bloodhound. On the return flight to London the Queen sat for 15 minutes in the second pilot's seat.

* * *

Happy Coincidence

IT needed a trip through Scotland to discover the people's pride in the Sylvania. She makes the fourth of a sparkling quartet. She and her sisters, Saxonia, Ivernia and Carinthia—all four completed at the John Brown shipyards within three years—represent the biggest order ever given by a ship-owning company to one firm of shipbuilders. As one Scot was careful to point out to me, the liners, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, came from the same yard.

With Ivernia and Saxonia based at Southampton, and Carinthia and Sylvania at Liverpool, Cunard can now offer six sailings a month to Canada with brand-new ships.

Though no more than a happy coincidence, this comes at an appropriate moment with the United Kingdom Government's decision to

grant us a travel allowance of £100 a year to spend in Canada and the United States, in addition to extra amounts for business travel in these dollar areas.

* * *

MEANWHILE the Scottish newspapers seized the chance to tell of Scotland's many links with Canada. Some are based on sentiment because so many of Scotland's sons pioneered Canada's economy from the earliest days of the Hudson Bay trading posts; others are eminently practical, because Scotland, possibly more than any other country, is in a position to benefit from Canada's tremendous industrial progress, producing many of the things that Canada needs.

To extract and handle her great natural wealth in metals and other minerals Canada requires mining and similar machinery of the sort that has won Scotland a long-established reputation. Forestry equipment is another Canadian demand, and food products, too. Proof of this came from Canada the other day with the biggest-ever order of its kind—18,000 cases of the celebrated Dundee marmalade.

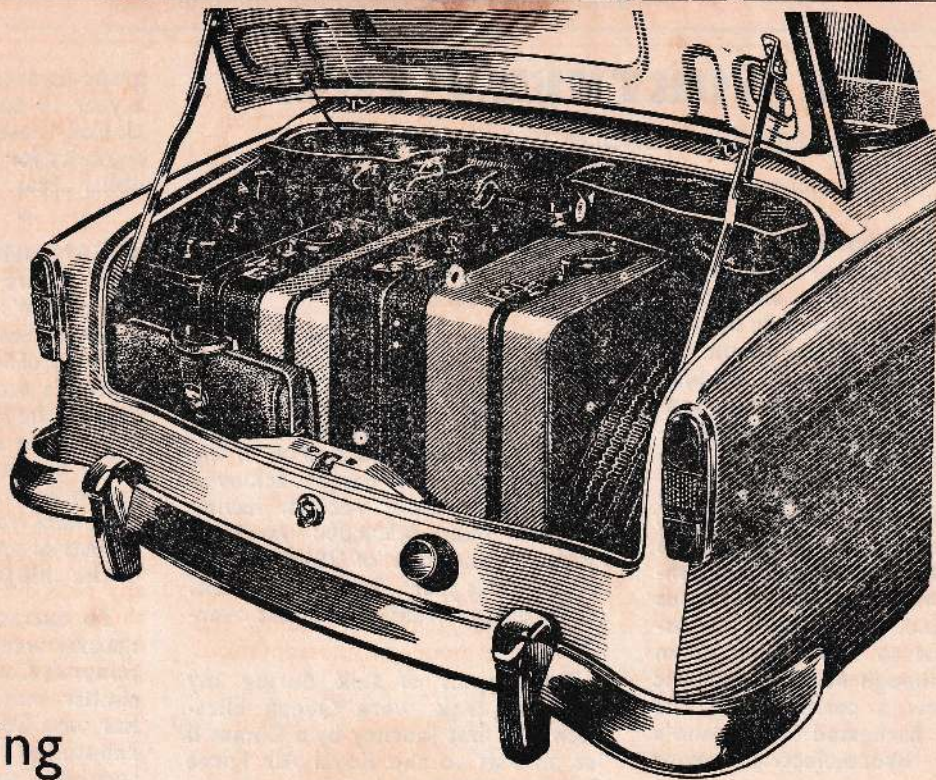
"What Scotland can do with marmalade," said the "Scotsman" newspaper, "she can do with countless other products, to the benefit of herself and that land across the seas in which so many of her countrymen have found a new life."

* * *

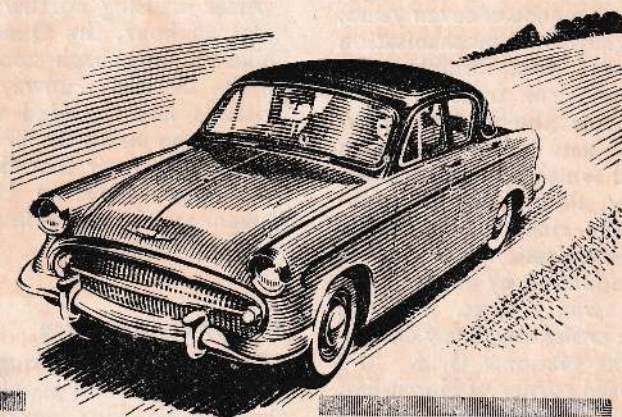
A 750th Anniversary

THE Scottish shipyards are rightly jubilant these days, but there is friendly rivalry from Liverpool, England, where the Cammell Laird shipbuilding company has just let off a warwhoop to the tune of over £20,000,000. This is for a scheme to build tankers up to the colossal weight of 100,000 tons. A new dry dock for the purpose will be ready early in the 1960s.

Liverpool, by the way, is this month celebrating the 750th anniversary of the granting of her first charter by King John. Midway through the festivities, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will visit the city on June 25. The Lord Mayor has invited every Lord Mayor in Britain to a dinner, and, no doubt, they will drink toasts to Montreal, New York, and all those other cities across the waters intimately linked with Liverpool by the invisible strands created by her shipping lines.



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PROFILE

THE 7th LORD NELSON

—By L. A. H. ARNDT—

ONCE hiked some eight miles with Henry, 7th Lord Nelson. Of course, he was then plain Mr. Nelson (with some slight prospect of succeeding to his uncle's title, and no desire whatsoever for that eventuality), or—to the friends he had made—*Henri*. We were going to spend the day with some *emigres* from Japanese-occupied Malaya, and one of the first things this versatile man did on reaching the bungalow was to repair a small water-driven lighting set.

* * *

LORD Nelson was a competent interior decorator, offering advice on colour schemes, and carpets, and himself preparing and applying distemper in the doctor's bungalow.

The years he spent in the Merchant Navy made him an entertaining raconteur and also, a restless man of action.

He could not bear to be waited upon, but must beat you to the table, and hand out the tea. He charmed with the unassuming simplicity which generations of good breeding alone can produce, in very different situations.

* * *

FIFTEEN years ago it was he who first met my mother and us. He was the favourite nephew of the then Lord Nelson, frequently summoned home to some family conference. Thus he would refurbish his stock of anecdotes about his family traditions and ancestral home, and his uncle.

Him—both an artist and a pianist—my mother and her brother visited while in England.

* * *

NOW *Henri* is the head of the family, with all the responsibilities the position entails. He takes to it a long experience of men and affairs built up mainly in India and Ceylon. Like so many younger sons of English families, he has made his way up the hard way—and is the better man for it.

Like that other well-known Ceylon figure, Sir Thomas Villiers—himself a younger son—Lord Nelson took to planting tea in Ceylon, and India. Earlier, after schooling in Belgium, he served on the training ship, *Conway*. As befits a successor of the

"Mighty Seaman, . . .

The greatest sailor since our world began,"

he served in the Merchant Navy, rising to be Captain. In both World Wars, he also served in the land forces.

His duty done, he returned to planting and the secluded life.

He has lived for months together with members of our family and has been a model of unostentatious



"Ceylon Observer"
The 7th Lord Nelson

industry—with saw and hammer, trowel and spade.

* * *

ONLY in March last, he entertained—the perfect host, though surrounded by documents pertaining to his brother's fast approaching end—my mother and her family party, who while on tour chanced to drop in on him at his recently acquired home, Boragas.

With his own hands he had improved the property, gardening and making structural alterations. Strangely enough, among the effects sold with the house, was an enormous painting of Lady Hamilton. Digitized by Noolaham Foundation. noolaham.org | aavanaham.org

WHEN, recently, I wrote to him remarking that he did not seem to have changed his attitude to title and wealth, he replied (writing from *Albion Thridda*, Boragas), "I have the former, but the latter is doubtful."

This is, of course, an allusion to the deprivation by British Governments of two political hues, of his State pension. How hard the aristocracy are finding it today can well be pictured from a reading of Dornford Yates' *The Berry Scene*.

In India, Lord Nelson was an inveterate patron of the Turf. He modestly confided that he had a keen "sense." In this sphere at any rate, he should feel at home in the future. This varied experience has moulded a mellow, lovable personage, affable and with a ready wit.

* * *

IT is not difficult to picture Lord Nelson gracing his title and his ancestral home: but it is hard to believe that he will resist for long, the call of Ceylon, which he loves and the simple life of a small planter

IAN CRAIG IN ENGLAND

MR. W. T. Greswell writes: "It was interesting to note the inclusion in the Free Foresters Cricket Club team playing Cambridge of the recently elected Captain of Australia, young Ian Craig, who must be over in England this Summer on a business or pleasure trip. Craig, as may be expected, showed his class with the bat, making 127 and 44, thus helping the Foresters to victory by 15 runs.

It is a rare occurrence for this Club to play anyone who is not a member or is not qualifying to be one. If the latter applies to Craig I wonder if he will not be the first Australian Test player to wear Free Forester colours, which are generally regarded as the prettiest of any. He must, however, bear in mind that Australian cricketers are not as a rule very tolerant of colours in cricket caps and blazers. D. R. Jardine would be able to tell him quite a lot on the matter when his Oxford Harlequin cap became as a red rag to a bull (Australian bred!).



LOOK MUMMY!

*Two more
teeth
coming
through!*

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OVALTINE *Rusks*



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A POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

— By CROSS-BENCHER —

ALTHOUGH there is a lull on the political front, what time talks are in progress between the Prime Minister and Federal Party representatives, it is an uneasy clan that pervades the country. The communique issued after each meeting has revealed nothing so far except that the Federal Party has produced its draft proposals for regional autonomy for the Tamil-speaking areas as against the Regional Councils proposed by the Government.

The lack of information is interpreted in various ways: while some are optimistic of a mutually satisfactory settlement, others fear that the talks may end in stalemate. Matters are not improved by the fact that the Federal Party and the S.L.F.P. are going on with the recruitment of "volunteers," the former for their satyagraha campaign next month and the latter to prevent a breach of the peace. It has been left to the L.S.S.P. to propose the organisation of mixed "peace committees" throughout the country, in line with their stand of parity on the language question.

The next fortnight should bring a definite indication of the outcome of the negotiations.

* * *

RARELY has a taxation proposal met so much criticism as the bank debits tax announced by the Finance Minister in presenting the budget to Parliament. As described by Mr. Stanely de Zoysa, a tax of one tenth of one per cent would be imposed on every item of debit to a current account in a commercial bank, except debits to Government accounts and debits to a bank's own account in its current account in another bank. Elaborating, he said that debits to a current account comprise all withdrawals by the account-holder, whether effected by cheque, draft, standing instruction, or other order.

Anticipating the objection that the tax would discourage the banking habit, Mr. de Zoysa said that was absurd. The tax was so infinitesimal that the individual concerned would hardly feel it—a business or person whose gross monthly turnover was Rs. 100,000 would pay only Rs. 100 in the month. The tax was fair and

equitable and not repugnant to any principle.

* * *

THE first shot was fired by Mr. N. U. Jayawardena, former Governor of the Central Bank, who was positive that the tax would discourage the banking habit and further, that it would encourage tax evasion. The Chamber of Commerce followed up with criticism based on the transactions of its members, particularly of the Brokers' Association. Other chambers of commerce have supported it.

In the case of brokers, the Chamber of Commerce pointed out that the effect of the tax would be to put a charge of 10 per cent on the gross income before any charge arising from their own expenditure, because the broker collected for his principal and passed the proceeds less one per cent. Where tea auctions were concerned, the tax would be paid three to three and half times on each transaction since the buyer paid to the broker, who paid to the agent, who paid to the individual estate account. On share dealings, brokers would incur a loss on all Government stocks over a lakh in value, brokerage being 1/16 per cent and tax 1/10 per cent. Dividend claims would be taxed three times.

To a deputation of the Brokers' Association that waited on him the Finance Minister is said to have indicated that in their case the opening of special accounts by banks could be considered. He awaits further representations from them.

* * *

AN innovation announced by the Finance Minister is decentralisation of the machinery for the collection of income tax by the use of kachcheris where low income groups are concerned and Divisional Revenue Officers to rope in those who have not hitherto been assessed for tax. He reported investment exceeding Rs. 5 million in the tax reserve certificates introduced this year and said that certificates in smaller denominations will be made available at kachcheris and

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Recurrent expenditure and continuing works would necessarily take up the greater portion of the anticipated revenue, Mr. de Zoysa said, and money available for new projects amounted to only approximately 10 per cent of the total of loan fund expenditure. He expected the picture would change in the course of time "as existing commitments are completed and a greater portion of the Government's revenue is made available for diversion into channels of our choice."

The fundamental fact that emerges from the budget is that until industrial development makes headway—production of salt for export and manufacture of sugar are the projects to be launched next year—the country will be dependent on the major agricultural industries and the economy will be bound up with fluctuations in production and the prices of the products.

NEW U.S. AMBASSADOR FOR CEYLON

MR. Dulles, Secretary of State for the U.S.A., stated last week at Washington that the United States has the best relations with Ceylon and that it was important that they be maintained. Mr. Dulles made this comment at the oath-taking ceremony of Mr. Maxwell H. Gluck, the new U.S. Ambassador for Ceylon. In congratulating Mr. Gluck, Mr. Dulles said that the new Envoy was assuming a heavy responsibility and that he and President Eisenhower were confident that he would discharge his duties honourably.

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FROM AN UVA HILLSIDE

By FELICITY

BACK to our Hills again, and, as usual, finding myself asking: However could I bring myself to leave them? The two months or more spent in Trincomalee were absorbingly interesting and I have a harvest of gracious memories to feed upon, but a deep undercurrent of disquiet is making itself increasingly felt in that once happy port, and I for one was not sorry to escape from it.

Taking my favourite walk for the last time, along the windy, spray-dampened Inner Harbour Road, I stayed to speak to a melancholy youth who sat perched on a white-painted stone post overhanging the wave-fretted harbour-wall.

In answer to the usual question as to where I was going, I replied that I was taking a last look at this beautiful harbour.

"Beautiful, yes," he said bitterly, "but plenty of bad men are waiting to spoil it." And as I waited, not knowing what to reply to this, he continued: "Plenty of bad men in this government pulling things down. Nothing to build up . . . Work here stopping, nowhere to go . . . My home is here but soon there will be war and no home any more."

War—they all talk of it, and none I have met seems to want it. Something more which the gloomy youth mentioned startled me into apprehension of a new danger.

"I am a Federalist," he said. "This part of Ceylon must be for the Tamils, not for the Sinhalese." And then he added: "It is the same in South India. The Tamils in South India hate Mr. Nehru. They too want to separate from India . . ."

"Will Lady tell me what is India?" he went on passionately. "Is it just one country? Is it not many countries as in Europe? Do we not speak many different languages?" But we Tamils in South India and in North Ceylon, we are one people."

I record this unexpected conversation just as it occurred and trust it leaves my readers, as it left me, very thoughtful.

* * *

WITH so many out of work in the area, it is not surprising that pettycrime should be on the increase. In the twenty-four hours before we left Trincomalee various trifles were

deftly pilfered—not all at once but every few hours in a manner calculated to make us wonder if we were dreaming.

First, my nice big cake of English soap vanished from the bathroom, and this was trying because it was all the soap left to us, and it happened on the local closing-day for the shops. A tin of powder used for cleaning the lavatory vanished at the same time, probably being mistaken for talcum. Grim retribution awaits the thief if he uses it upon his person, as the tin carries a warning not to let the powder touch the skin!

Next, our only remaining supply of coffee disappeared, and in searching for this we discovered the loss of the carving-knife, which I was just about to pack, not to mention other lesser items. Cruellest of all was the blow to Master when his cherished topee was found to have been taken. This discovery was made on the very point of departure and precious minutes were wasted before he disgustedly gave up the search, shook the dust of the East Coast off his feet and thankfully entered the waiting car. After half an hour had passed and we were already well out on the jungle-bordered road, heading for the Hills, he delivered this dictum:

"Never ask me to visit that place again. I have finished with the East Coast."

But I, conscious of the beauty that lay spread out so appealingly behind me, could not find it in my heart to echo his words. Now that I have seen it and made it my own, there will come times, I know, when I shall "hear the East a-calling."

* * *

OUR parting with the staff (what remained of it) on the closing of Nicholson Lodge (now handed over to the government and earmarked for a Ceylon Combined Services Club) was typical of what is going on in so many departments, as they close down and the men are paid off.

Little deputations, group photographs, presentations, speech-makings, tears; promises to "write and give the news," exchange of addresses, hopes for the future expressed where hope there is none

I did my best to find new billets for our domestics, but there

were difficulties in the way. Few, if any, wish to go to planting or mercantile employers because "the hours are not right and the pay is not so good."

Our boys, you see, all had a full day and a half-day off every week, just like any labourer, or for that matter office-worker. And wonderful were the computations made to ensure that no boy did more than his eight hours work a day. A boy working from 6.30 to 10.30 a.m. would suddenly disappear, and not be seen again until 2.30 p.m. when he would reappear again smiling, having had his four-hour rest. Perhaps in smaller households things are differently arranged, but the Navy in Trincomalee has been very careful to obey all the rules laid down by the present constitution—rules which the inhabitants of this Island still gaily overlook. No doubt there will come a time for their awakening.

Be that as it may, my well-intentioned efforts to find posts to "suit" our ex-employees all met with discouragement. The head cook, rich for the moment in the possession of a well-earned gratuity, said he was going to his home in Kandy to take a little rest. The head boy had decided not to enter service again but was preparing to establish an ice-cream and snack-bar, doomed, one fears, to early failure. The youngest of the houseboys, proud in the possession of a cutting-out table and ironing board, was going in for tailoring. Another confided to me that he was "a small doctor," whatever that might mean.

* * *

It has not sufficiently been realised that with the removal of the base the incentive for various trades will also disappear. There was more than a little heartache mixed with my own farewells, although in two months and a bit no very firm ties had been established. . . .

Still, as we mounted into the hills, my spirits mounted. The day wore on, the one hundred and ninety-eight miles were at last negotiated—and there tearing down our long flight of steps to greet us came our James, with Bastian, the house-boy-cum-gardener, close behind him. And on the topmost step our big white and grey cat opened his pink mouth in a mew of welcome.

The sun had gone but the after-glow was in the sky and from gathering shadows the beloved garden, our own land, breathed its greeting.

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ANCIENT NUWARA ELIYA-II

A LINK WITH KING DUTU GEMUNU

By JAMES T. RUTNAM

(This is the second of a series of three articles on the ancient history of Nuwara Eliya and its environs).

THE district of Nuwara Eliya consists of three divisions, viz., Kotmale, Uda Hewaheta and Walapane. Kotmale appears in the *Rajavaliya* as the place where Gamini (later Dutu Gemunu), the Sinhalese national hero, sought refuge when he fled from his father, Kavan Tissa, ruler of Ruhunurata in south Ceylon. Ruhunurata was for long a sub-kingdom paying tribute to the reigning King at Anuradhapura, formerly known as Anuradhagama. According to the *Mahavamsa*, Anuradhagama was built by Anuruddha, a follower of King Vijaya, the first Indian colonist in Ceylon's recorded history, who is said to have landed in Ceylon in 483 B.C. Three hundred years after the death of King Vijaya, another Indian, by the name of Elara, a Tamil chieftain hailing from the southern part of India, crossed over and defeated King Asela, who was then the King of Anuradhapura.

When King Elara took up the reins of Government at Anuradhapura and assumed his authority over the island, young Gamini refused to acknowledge this authority. He was determined to challenge Elara's overlordship. The *Mahavamsa* relates an interesting incident which indicates Gamini's mood at the time. One day when his mother, Vihara Maha Devi, asked him "Why dost thou not lie easily upon thy bed with limbs stretched out, my son?" he readily seized this opportunity to express the thought uppermost in his mind by replying "How could I, mother, stretch my legs when the Tamils are pressing on one side and the sea on the other?"

* * *

GAMINI now collected a force of brave and strong men, and appealed to his father to declare war against Elara's rule. Kavan Tissa was more discreet than valiant. He refused to be rushed into such an adventure. This infuriated the young and impetuous Gamini. In an act of impulse and impiety he sent his father a woman's ornament bidding him to

wear it as that would more befit the role he had adopted. The father flew into a rage and cried, "Make a golden chain! With that will I bind him, for else he cannot be protected." Gamini thereupon fled his father's house into banishment.

The *Rajavaliya* states: "... the prince, hearing of his father's resolution, fled to Gilumala (Gilimale), and having hid himself there for several days, fled from thence to the place Cotmale (Kotmale)," (Up-ham's Translation, Vol. II, pp. 203-204). A corresponding reference in the *Mahavamsa* is as follows: "Then the other (the prince) fled and went, angered at his father, to Malaya..." (Geiger's Translation, 1950, Chapter 24, page 164). The word "Malaya" was the term used to describe the "central mountain-region in the interior of Ceylon."

* * *

THE late George P. Samarasekara of Pussellawa in the Kotmale division had made some notes from oral tradition and folk-lore relating to Prince Gamini's sojourn in Kotmale. These were published posthumously in October, 1916, in the *Ceylon Antiquary and Literary Register* (Vol. 2, part 2, pp. 115-119) by his father, Mohandiram H. G. P. Samarasekara (Snr.), along with a prefatory note by W. Samarasinghe. I have since learnt that this article was earlier published by George Samarasekara himself in substantially the same form in July, 1911, in the *Ceylon National Review* (Vol. 4, No. 10, pp. 233-238). Samarasekara records a Sinhalese song, *Dutu Gemunu Vata*, about Prince Gamini that is sung in the countryside. The song is as follows:—

Rosavada kumarū ebasata tama piya rajuta
Dina ada patan oba istiriyeku lesata
Mata sondalesa hanguni pavasa matiyekuta
Eda landa handina vat yavi tama piya rajuta

Epuvata asa Kavantissa naravara
Putu veta ros vadan asanata sitinavara
Epuvata salaveta tama senaga raskara
Rosvada giyo kotmalayata egama hara

Samarasekara gives the following English rendering of the above verses in his article in the *Ceylon National Review* (p. 232).

The Prince was crying at the words of his father, the King,
"From this day Your Majesty as a woman Plainly appears to me"—These words entrusted to a minister
Along with womanly garments were sent to his father the King.

King Kavan Tissa learning this message Was angry with his son and determined to destroy him.
On hearing this, collecting his men,
With bitter feeling he left that village and proceeded to Kotmale.

"In one particular, however," Samarasekara states, "the second verse is in error; it says in the third line that the Prince departed with his men of war, whereas we know that he left all by himself" (*Ceylon Antiquary and Literary Register*, page 116).

* * *

GAMINI, it is reported, bade farewell to his mother and left his father's "palace and quickly passed out at a gate of the city of Magama, ... To the north-west he kept steadily on till one day, weary and footsore, he reached the hamlet of Gilimale where some friends protected him during the next few days ... After the sojourn at Gilimale he journeyed straight for Kotmale, set in the heart of the mountains and inaccessible withal." Gilimale is a village in the Ratnapura District, about seven miles from Ratnapura.

He ascended the mountain range near the present New Peacock Estate. It is believed he rested for some time in a cave called Halgolle-gal-lena, and then, "began to retrace his steps along the ridge of the range till he came to the lofty and mist blown peak of Monaragala ... He then descended on the Kotmale side of the mountain and hid his bow and quiver and other implements in a cave called Awudha-thiboo-gal-lena, at the same time assuming the guise of a forlorn wayfarer. Hurrying down the slope, he rounded the last spur of the mountain called Pareiyangala. No sooner had he done this than he struck the foot-path leading to the neighbouring village of Kotagepitiya ... Here it was that the valiant prince lived while he remained in banishment and outside the pale of his father's influence" (*Ceylon Antiquary and Literary Register*, Pages 117 and 118).

Kotagepitiya is a village in the Pallepone Korale in Kotmale, about three or four miles from Pussellawa. The ancient name for Kotagepitiya was Era-digata-nam-pihiti-pal-vissa. Here Gamini (now known as Dutu-Gemunu, the disobedient Gamini)

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ANCIENT NUWARA ELIYA—II

lived the life of a villager and endeared himself to all. Samarassekara records further: "On coming into the village he (Dutu Gemunu) sought shelter under the roof of a poor widow, who had a son of like age with himself. He asked for food and shelter. Having supplied his wants and taking pity on this stranger she took him in. In order to express his lasting gratitude he promised to work for her, and full well did he keep his word. She soon liked him as her own son."

* * *

THERE are several significant place-names which could be said to enshrine the Dutu Gemunu story. A paddy field is called Rajatalawa (the Royal field), the plot that was once tilled by Gamini, the royal prince who chose to be a peasant. Weehethapenahela would mean "the which steep route along the grain was carried." Dutu Gemunu is said to have worked as a cowherd, too. The enclosure in front of the traditional spot called Weerasoorigedera where Dutu Gemunu is said to have lived, is known as Pattiye-Kumbura (field of the cattle shed) and tradition maintains that Dutu Gemunu himself had made this enclosure.

Even the rock of the foot of Bindaragala (Moneragala range) named Gala-pita-gala is said to have royal associations. The rock-spouts, Ranamune and Raja (or Nagaha) Pihilla are said to have been constructed by Dutu Gemunu as bathing places for the local villagers. Adjoining Pattiye Kumbura is another field called Galaweta-Pela where a Bo tree (Bo Maluwa) is said to have been planted by the future royal patron of Buddhism. Indeed wherever you turn in this area you will note that the villager is ready to connect almost every local incident to his royal fellow-resident of yore. A term of endearment that passes current is Appai Dutu Gemunu Hamuduruwo (our own dear Lord Dutu Gemunu !)

* * *

ON the death of his father, Dutu Gemunu disclosed his royal identity to his foster-mother and fellow-villagers, and went back to regain his throne, and thence embarked on his memorable career, which is one of the proudest chapters in Sinhalese history. There is a tradi-

tion that the mamotty and metal rice-plate used by Dutu Gemunu were kept in the possession of the family of his foster-mother, the reputed descendants of whom are said to live still in Kotmale. Some, however, state that these articles are at the bottom of the tiny lake called Hedille Wewa.

A. C. Lawrie's Gazetteer of the Central Province (Colombo, 1896, Vol. 2, page 476), refers to the tradition that, during Dutu Gemunu's exile in Kotagepitiya, he lived with the daughter of Urupelelle Gammahe, a commoner. Prince Sali, who later renounced the throne for the love of Asokamala, a Chandala woman, was said to be an issue of this marriage. Lawrie's account of Dutu Gemunu's exile in Kotagepitiya is as follows:—

"The prince continued here at first as the cattle-keeper of the Gamarala, when he built an enclosure of three large stores for the protection of the calves. After some time, being tired of the menial life he led, he turned his thoughts to agriculture, and asweddumized a tract of land of about seven amunu still known as Rajatalawa.

* * *

"THE prince traced the ela from its head with his walking stick, and as he dragged the stick along the ground, the water freely flowed behind him. The ela (Maha Ma-ela) exists to this day, and the villagers say that it is the best traced ela in the Kotmale district.

"The prince (in the garb of a servant as he was then) went to a blacksmith's forge and asked the blacksmith to make a hoe. The blacksmith turned round upon him and said: 'I am not here to make hoes for the Gamarala's servants; if you want one you may make it yourself from the iron refuse (boraketa) that is lying about the place.' The prince obeyed at once, and taking some of the boraketa threw it into the furnace, and as it heated there a perfectly well-made hoe formed of itself. The blacksmith, seeing this, knew that the prince must be a great person, went down on his knees and worshipped him, who cautioning him to silence quitted the place taking the hoe with him. With the hoe the prince had little trouble

"THE prince borrowed a plough from a villager, who was very unwilling to lend it. After getting the plough he was at a loss for want of buffaloes, when two wild ones came of their own accord and yoked themselves to the plough. These two animals were called Egoda Kande-kankota and Megoda Kande-kankota, the enmity that had existed between them was so great that previous to this these two always met once in seven days and fought.

"After all the work of the field was over, the prince asked his master the Gamarala, for some seed paddy; when the Gamarala pointed out a large quantity of chaff (boll) lying on the dung hill, the prince removed it and sowed. It sprung up, and at the harvest there was not a field in the place that bore a larger crop.

"Urupelelle Gamarala, though loth to give his seed paddy, when he saw the large crop that was about to be reaped, repaired to the Kamata to take his share for the seed paddy lent, when a jackal from the adjoining jungle appeared before him and sneezed. The Gamarala exclaimed 'What is this dirty jackal doing here?' Whereupon the jackal said 'Excuse me Gamarala, I am come to get some bull milk (gon kiri).' The Gamarala smiled and said: 'When, oh foolish jackal, was there milk drawn from bulls?' The jackal in his turn cried out, 'If milk cannot be drawn from bulls, where can you get paddy from chaff?' The Gamarala taking the hint quietly returned.

"No labourers were employed to carry the paddy to the granary which was built by the prince. It is said, as the prince walked from the Kamata the paddy followed him and got into the granary" (Lawrie's Gazetteer, Vol. 2, pp. 480 and 481).

* * *

THE above is a typical example of Sinhalese folk-lore dressed in all its finest imagery. It might as well be that beneath the chaff of fancy there lies in this story a grain of historical fact confirming Dutu Gemunu's stay in Kotmale.

J. P. Lewis too deals with the Dutu Gemunu story in his article in the *Ceylon Antiquary* (Vol. 3, part 2, p. 112), on "Some Sinhalese

(Continued on page 33)

THE AUDITOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

A HISTORICAL SURVEY

By R. L. BROHIER, O.B.E.

THERE is perhaps no Public Department of Ceylon which is guided by a more onerous code of regulations than the Audit Office. The scope of activities assigned by this code might be broadly described as arithmetical accuracy and proof of payment, correctness and consistency of classification, and conformity of expenditure to the authority which governs it. It has, from times past, been the purpose of the Audit to ensure and maintain these conditions and to detect any lapses.

The origin of the Auditor's Department might be traced to the changes which were made in 1802, when the Maritime Provinces became a Crown Colony, and a new staff list was drawn up to suit the altered system of government.

But in that early confusion which doubtless existed, some names have perhaps dropped out and the first appointment to the post of Civil Auditor-General is associated with Samuel Tolfrey, who took office in October, 1806.

SAMUEL Tolfrey was among the first batch of Civil Servants to be sent out by the Secretary of State and arrived in the Island about September, 1801. He was, on his arrival, appointed a member of the Board of Revenue on £1,500 a year. He added to the literature on Ceylon an English and Sinhalese Grammar and Vocabulary, "the first that appeared, which was patronised by the then Liberal Secretary of State for the Colonies, who presented its author a donation of £1,000."

His nephew, Edward Tolfrey, who was also one of the gentlemen sent out to Ceylon in the first establishment in the Civil Service, was appointed Civil Auditor-General on the 2nd of March, 1816, in succession to John d'Oyly. It is interesting to recall that the ship which brought Edward Tolfrey back after a spell of leave in his homeland anchored in Weligama Bay.

* * *

BOTH Edward Tolfrey and the Hon. Sir John d'Oyly, served later in the Kandyan Provinces, the former as Judicial Commissioner, and the latter as Resident. They died at Kandy and were buried in the Garrison Cemetery. John d'Oyly has left as a gift to posterity his now famous diary, which throws much light on the early Kandyan war.

With the advent of the Hon. Henry Augustus Marshall as head of the Department in 1822, the designation of the post would appear to have been changed to Auditor and Accountant-General.

He is said to have accompanied the first Governor, the Hon'ble Frederick North, to the Island in 1798, and what is more, never returned to Europe. He died in the Island in his 64th year, in 1841.

An interesting link which is associated with Mr. and Mrs. Marshall and "their charming abode situated on the seashore about three miles from Colombo" is an inscribed stone, just past the bridge over "Layard's Folly," at Wellawatte.

At one time there was a toll station here and also a large banyan tree. Both these are to-day but a memory, but the inscribed stone is still there—at least, it was there till a short time ago.

* * *

PERHAPS if you pause while running past the spot you might yet find it and read from letters much worn :



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THE AUDITOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 22)

"To him whose gracious aim in mercy bends
And light and shade to all alike extends
Who guards the traveller on his weary way
Shelters from storms and shades from solar ray
Breathe one kind wish for her, one pious prayer,
Who made this sheltering tree her guardian cave
Fenced in from rude attacks the pendent roots
Nourished and framed its tender infant shoots.
O traveller, if from milder climes you rove
How dearly will you prize this Indian grove.
Pause then awhile, and ere you pass it by
Give to Sophia's name one grateful sigh."

As far as can be gathered the lady guardian of the tree was Mrs. Marshall, but Lewis, in his compilation, "Tombstones and Monuments," goes on to say that this inference is merely drawn from the date and the distance which would make Wellawatte their residence. Mrs. Marshall's Christian name is not known.

THE Hon. Mr. R. T. Pennefather came from British North America to take up the office. His appointment dated from June, 1861. He died at the early age of 37, four years later.

Mr. John Douglas, later, Sir John Douglas, Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary of Ceylon, was Auditor and Accountant-General in 1870-76. A group photograph which is in my possession is a unique memento which serves to recall his term of office.

It would take much space to make anything more than very brief references to these faded figures which peep out from a forgotten past. Undoubtedly they contributed their quota to an organization which a Colonial Secretary of the period was prompted to describe as the "brazen wheels of a service" and to which he further pays a tribute by recording—"they managed all the clerical duties of the public offices in an admirable manner . . . for there is not a public department in the United Kingdom in which the details of office and punctuality in attendance are more regularly performed than in Ceylon."

IN the group photograph I referred to, taking the figures in the first row, on the ground and reading from left to right one would pick out J. A. Foenander, J. P. Bartholomeusz, Edgar Mottau, Horace de Kretser, who later left his mark in the Colombo Customs, and E. Ondatje, who retired as Deputy Fiscal, Colombo.

In the second row (seated) there are Martin de Zilva, J. P. Siebel, F. W. Meier, R. A. Brohier, who was Chief Clerk at the time and retired as Assistant Auditor-General, C. Dickman, the Assistant Auditor-General, John Weinman, the father of the well-known Colombo Advocate and J. B. de Jonk.

Third row, from the left, F. O. van Langenburg, E. N. Soerts, J. P. Prank, R. Hofman, C. B. de Zilwa, James Meier and George M. Crozier.

Fourth row (standing) A. B. G. Loos, J. E. Dickman, F. J. Redlich, the father of the late District Judge, Solomon Seneviratne, who was later the Atapattu Mudaliyar of Colombo, W. H. S. Siebel, P. A. Wright and Simon Aldons, the father of Mr. Fred Aldons, of Vellai Oya, Hatton, to whom I am indebted for the loan of the original photograph.

(Continued on page 39)



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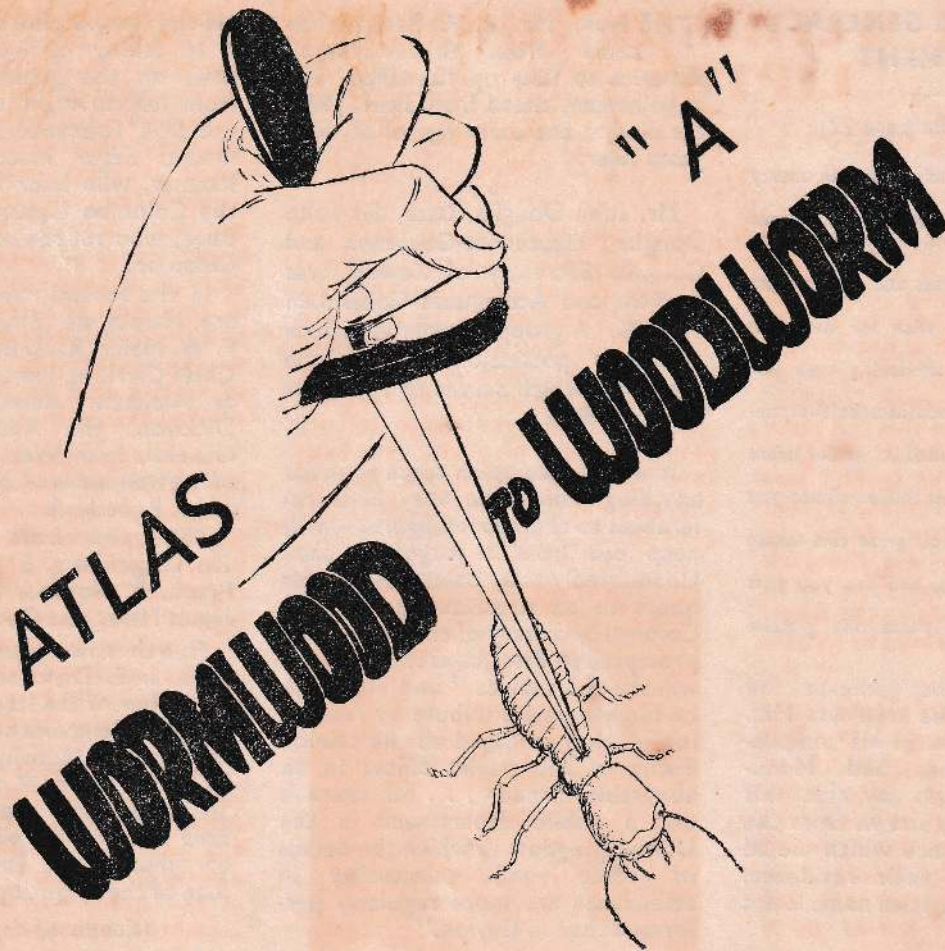
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A LINK WITH SIR THOMAS LIPTON

The Passing of Don Lewis Appu of Passekudah

By S. V. O. SOMANADER

NOT far away from my countryside residence at Kalkudah is the noted sea-bathing resort of Passekudah, where there is a large coconut estate with a fine bungalow—at present the property of Mr. R. C. Scott of Ottery, Dickoya. And, when I happen to visit this place now, I miss good old A. A. Don Lewis Appu, once the faithful servant of the late Sir Thomas Lipton, Ceylon's tea magnate. Some 12 years ago, while he was living in retirement in this locality, he fell ill and had to be removed to the Batticaloa Civil Hospital, where he quietly passed away.

Being nearly 80 years old, he really died of old age, though very few in town and the neighbourhood heard of his demise. Not many people even knew that he was a very widely-travelled and distinguished personal valet of the famous tea-knight—and that was perhaps one reason why he was buried quite unostentatiously; unwept, unhonoured and unsung.

Born at Katukelle near Kandy, and educated at the Wesleyan School there, Lewis Appu first served (as he once told me) under various officers of the military regiments in Ceylon. And then he took up service under Sir Thomas Lipton. Engaged as a valet, he accompanied his master in his cruises in Europe and other parts of the world on board the famous yacht "Erin," Sir Thomas' own vessel.

During a holiday trip at Kalkudah some 20 years ago—I was not residing here then—I came across this good old soul for the first time near the beach, where he had come to buy fish. A few days later, I met him at Passekudah estate, where I found him doing duty as a bungalow-keeper, having been appointed by the then owner, the late Mr. Mackintosh Smith of Caledonia Estate, Lindula. A man of short height, with a shining bald pate, and grey, trimmed moustache, Lewis Appu showed that old-world courtesy characteristic of servants trained in high circles in by-gone times. He spoke English well, and, as he was pleasantly chatty and communicative, I sat down to speak

to him over a cup of hot, delicious tea he served me under the graceful coconut palms bordering the sea. He was then nearly three score years and ten, and, though he showed some loss of memory and other traces of senile decay, he revealed also some intelligence and activity of mind, despite his years. His keen eyes sparkled behind his pair of the glorious incidents of the days gone by.



The late Don Lewis Appu

He first showed me photographs of himself and his family, taken in Ceylon before he went on his famous cruises. Then he showed me a picture of himself taken at Southampton while in England with his master. In this portrait, he looked young and smart with a profuse black moustache above his upper lip, and an elegant comb resting on his head. He was dressed in tweeds, with waist-coat, stiff collar and tie—and he also sported a watch and chain. The portrait looked quite different from the man I saw before me—an aged man bordering on his dotage (but with full of anecdote), and wearing a striped sarong and a crinkled Russian-collar checked coat, which matched the wrinkles on his face.

In the course of his conversation, he told me that he was retiring that month after nearly 50 years of loyal service in the domestic line. He then recalled with pride the days when his master entertained on board, at Cowes in the Isle of Wight (South of England), His Majesty the late King Edward VII, his sister, Prince Henry of Battenburg and the Empress Eugene, wife of Napoleon III, to a meal of curry and rice, and how the Royal party had a great time in the yacht—the King himself expressing that he had thoroughly enjoyed the lunch.

Lewis Appu also said that he had the honour of seeing several other notables, among whom was President Paul Kruger, the man who gave the British such a tough time during the South African War. This meeting was in Northern France, about 25 years before he spoke to me. (It may be mentioned that the famous Kruger National Park in South Africa was named after this President).

The old valet continued: "I was also present in Madrid when King Alfonso of Spain married the Princess Ena, and when the anarchists threw a bomb which nearly ended the lives of the newly-married couple." It seems that he actually saw the bomb fall, but fortunately no lives were lost. All that happened was that two horses were killed. He watched the incident from about a hundred yards away. This was during a Mediterranean cruise when the yacht put into a Spanish port, and he went with his master for the marriage.

"I am very sorry I was able to serve Sir Thomas for only five years, though it was a happy and eventful period," remarked Lewis Appu, with some emotion. "But family reasons stood in my way, and I had to return to Ceylon."

Asked what he did on his return to the Island, he said that from Ceylon he went to Malaya, where he served for 12 years under Mr. Meggill, a planter, and a cousin of the late Mr. S. K. Wickwar of Kalkudah Estate. (The latter was a brother of the late Mr. A. J. Wickwar, retired Surveyor-General). From there, he again returned to Ceylon, taking up service at Kalkudah under Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Wickwar. Thereafter, under the direction of Mrs. Wickwar, he was made bungalow-keeper on Passekudah Estate, which

(Continued on page 40)

PEOPLE

MR. W. T. Greswell, writing to us soon after the Second Test match at Lord's, says :—

"I met many Ceylon folk up at Lord's, and, as usual, we had our Ceylon gathering on the Friday. Sir 'Policeman' Dowbiggin, you will be glad to hear, was in splendid 'form' and has fully recovered from his very serious motor accident last Autumn. His spirits were as high as Mt. Everest! It was good to have Sir John Howard with us and P. R. May, complete with family.

"That evening we held the annual dinner of the Magpie Club at the Piccadilly Hotel, D. A. Wilson, in the regrettable absence of A. M. Clarke, seeing to it that we dined in regal fashion at a table superbly decorated with flowers of the Club colours.

"In the absence of 'Creeper' Fellowes, a fellow-founder member, P. R. May, filled the chair with much acceptance.

"It is good news that 'Creeper' is making good progress after a recent operation, which, if it had taken place a week earlier, would have allowed him to be with us.

"Those present at the dinner were: H. Pelham Roberts, T. Cuming, F. A. Waldock, Sir Herbert Dowbiggin, C. Clover Brown, Lt.-Col. R. D. Nightingale, C. E. Allen, W. T. Greswell, W. H. Gourlay and D. A. Wilson. The guests present were—Claude Bois, C. A. Cameron, Walter Haworth, A. D. Lintott, F. C. Rowan and T. Williams."

MR. D. F. R. MALLOWS has been appointed a director of J. D. McLaren & Co., the shipping agents.

Mr. S. M. Smith and Mr. Clifford Thomas have been appointed directors of Shaw Wallace & Co., Ltd.

* * *

MR. B. K. Billimoria, Crown Prosecutor, Attorney-General's Department, has resigned to take up the post of General Manager of Ceylon Theatres, Ltd.

Mr. Billimoria is the son of the late Mr. K. F. Billimoria, Principal of Dharamaraja College, Kandy.

* * *

THE Rev. Dr. D. T. Niles, Principal of Central College, Jaffna, and world-renowned Methodist speaker, has been invited to become General-Secretary of the East-Asian section of the World Council of Churches and International Missionary Council.

* * *

MR. Jabir A. Cader, Managing Director of Ceylon Entertainments Ltd. (New Olympia) and of the Liberty Cinemas Ltd., has left for Europe. He will visit Egypt, Italy, France, Spain, and the U.K.

Being Chairman of the Colombo Municipal Traffic Committee, he will study transport methods in London, Paris, Madrid, Cairo and Rome. In Italy he will also study film techniques in connection with productions in Ceylon.

THE Rev. C. W. and Mrs. Mutukisna left the Island last month for the United Kingdom, where their daughters Anne and Christine have been some time. They were the good Samaritans of Kotte, ever available in times of illness and sorrow. The Vicar's car was the only ambulance some knew, and it all but went to pieces at one time in this service. Recently Mrs. Mutukisna, an English-trained nurse, established and ran S. Anne's, a well-equipped Maternity Home.

"Fr. Sperry," as he was known far and wide, was a wiry boxer in his day. He brought to his priestly work some of the qualities of a fighter, and his challenges to young people were largely responsible for the early vitality of the Church of Ceylon Youth Movement, now so fruitful a source of young leaders. His contribution to Sunday Schools' work, too, is notable.

* * *

MR. CECIL Brohier, Vice-Principal of Arethusa College, sailed for the United Kingdom recently. This versatile teacher has served the school for nearly twenty years with a true sense of vocation, encouraging Scouting, Singing, Broadcasting and Dramatic activity. He tried teaching in Government Schools, but went back to his first love.

Thanks to such as he, Arethusa, run by the Consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church, though a small "school," has been able to do much for the upliftment of many less-favoured boys and girls, and afford a reasonably liberal education. Expanding from very small beginnings in what had been almost the first bungalow in Wellawatte South, the school was nurtured by Edward Anthonisz, and expanded into sizeable buildings of its own.

* * *

THE present Principal, Mr. D. R. Thomas, once President of the Colombo Teachers' Association, is faced with the so common problem of overcrowding. Among those who have been at Arethusa, are Derek Raymond, Marshal at the University of Peradeniya and well-known exponent of boxing, Hilmy Mohideen, who will shortly take his oaths as Advocate, Francis Arndt, Captain, Psychology Command, Australian Army, M. N. M. Perera, Physical Instructor, K. K. Fernando, who is on a course of training on submarines, and Kenneth Joachim, of the "Times of Ceylon," who leaves shortly for Melbourne.

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PEOPLE

All of these Cecil Brohier had a share in the moulding of. He put his dramatic training at S. Thomas' to good use, in respect of voice and presence. When, about ten years ago, the *Merchant of Venice* was produced, he made a romantic Bassanio. Mr. Brohier married Miss Mavis Brown, a teacher herself.

REV. R. V. Metzeling, senior pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church in Ceylon, and Mrs. Metzeling, who are at present on a visit to America, the former representing his Church at the Centennial celebrations of the Christian Reformed Church in America, will be visiting England and Holland before returning to Ceylon. Rev. Metzeling who will be attending the Synod of the Reformed Churches of the Netherlands, expects to be back in Ceylon towards the end of September.

THE Rev. Fr. A. E. A. Crowther, who retires from his post as Rector of S. Michael's, Batticaloa, had a brilliant record at school, which merits recalling :

- 1911—Cambridge Junior, 3rd class Honours, distinction in Latin.
- 1912—Cambridge Junior, 1st Class Honours, distinctions in Latin, Greek, Maths.
- 1913—Cambridge Senior 1st Class Honours.
- 1914—London Matric. 1st Division
- 1914—Cambridge Senior, 1st Class distinctions in Latin and Greek.
- 1915—London Inter-Arts.
- 1916—Sat for Inter-Arts Scholarship.

WE regret to record the death from a heart attack on Tuesday night of Lieut-Col. S. Saravanamuttu, M.B.E., President of the Ceylon Cricket Association. The youngest of the five well-known Saravanamuttu brothers, he was 58 years old. Almost the last thing he did was to finalise arrangements for a Pakistani team's visit to Ceylon next year and a tour of Malaya by a Ceylon team. He was planning to form a new Board of Control for Cricket when death intervened.

Educated at S. Thomas', Mt. Lavinia, and Cambridge, he practised as an Advocate. He was a Vice-President of the Tamil Union and the Colombo Colts Cricket Club and at one time a member of the Colombo Municipal Council and the L.G.S.C. We extend our sympathies to his widow and five children and his only surviving brother, Mr. M. Saravana-

muttu, Ceylon High Commissioner in Malaya.

CEYLON loses an outstanding journalist with the departure for Australia this week of Mr. Kenneth L. Joachim of the "Times of Ceylon." Mr. Joachim wrote a witty daily column on men and matters and in addition was an informed commentator on sport, being himself a cricketer of distinction and a hockey-player of no mean ability. He turned out in both games for the B.R.C. and the Times of Ceylon Sports Club.

His wife June also had a brilliant record as a hockey-player and played for Ceylon in the Island and in India.

The *Fortnightly* wishes Ken, who was a regular contributor to its columns, and June every success down under.

"BERT" Oldfield, one of Australia's best known Test wicket-keepers of other days, and Mrs. Oldfield, who have been on a month's holiday in the Island, were accorded a send-off on Thursday, the 10th instant, at the residence of Mr. S. P. Foenander, an old friend of the Oldfields. "Bert" Oldfield ought in World War I and after the end of hostilities toured England with H. L. Collins' Australian Forces cricket team which did so well and brought to light many a capable player who later figured in Test cricket. In the years that followed Oldfield represented Australia in several Test series against England.

The function was well-attended, those present including Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, the Governor-General.



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SCIENTIFIC COCONUT MANURING IN CEYLON

By H. LUDOWYK

IN 1911, Mr. R. N. Lyne succeeded Dr. J. C. Willis as Director of Agriculture, the designation of the post having been altered from Director of Botanic Gardens. He came from the Portuguese colony of Mozambique, whose agriculture, land policy and economics Lyne handles in his book *Mozambique: Its Agricultural Development* with, what is more than scientific ability, a large knowledge of human nature and of the African character. He tends to kindly sympathy not only with the circles he moved freely in as equal but with all humanity whom he considers it a duty to serve. His book shows a proper appraisal of the various peoples in their various circumstances, and a just judgment of the various systems and policies in the vexed question of imperialism and domination. Though sprung in part of Portuguese stock, Lyne was unsparing in his criticism of the Portuguese land policy and their systems of land exploitation. Long before the awakening of Africa and the East to a sense of their rights, Lyne fearlessly discussed the sweating of the Negro under Arab masters in their land where Nature, in the climate and profusion she gave, did not intend him to labour as he was made to. The book is written, besides, in chaste and forceful language, and his description of the Zambesi basin is well worthy of the best English stylist and geographer.

* * *

Institution of Experiment Stations

LYNE began his career in Ceylon with what he used to call "expeditions" and we now call circuits, all over the Island, in order to form an idea of the natural conditions and the needs of the agriculturists. Then he settled down to lay out fresh experiments at the Peradeniya Experiment Station, to establish an experiment station at Anuradhapura for varietal and yield trials of paddy and limes. Next he opened out a Trial Ground for Coconuts in the heart of Ceylon's coconut region at Chilaw, and a Trial Ground for Tobacco in the heart of the tobacco growing area in Jaffna. At

the same time he inaugurated, though in temporary buildings to start with, the Agricultural School at Peradeniya, and later tried to induce the Colonial Office to make the Gannoruwa Experiment Station at Peradeniya the site of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, which was set up much later, about 1927, in Trinidad. One of his chief steps for the benefit of the farmer was Lyne's inauguration of the Co-operative Credit Societies by Ordinance No. 7 of 1911, and his foundational organisation work in this regard as Registrar. Lyne's Administration Report for 1914 shows his clear insight into the country's needs and the breadth of his vision. That Report takes special interest in the Coconut Industry, and it is especially valuable from this point of view and from the point of water economy on the land.

Lyne had projected a systematic lay-out of plots at the Chilaw Coconut Trial Ground: and the seven years' trials there (1915-1921) gave the following results:—

1. Large increase in yields due to organic mixtures, 10 to 12 lbs. applied to each tree.
2. Manures were greatly assisted by cultivation and harrowing.
3. Steamed bone meal was the fertiliser that most steadily increased yield and helped drought resistance.
4. Irrespective of manures, better crops were got from higher land.
5. Increases in yield due to manuring were accompanied by decrease in copra in half the plots.
6. The continuous application of 4 lbs. per palm of Ammonia Sulphate in 1915, 1916 and 1917, followed by 51 lbs. per palm of Muriate of Potash, followed by 4 lbs. per palm of Ammonia Sulphate in 1919 and 1920, gave the most uniformly satisfactory results in size of nuts, number of nuts and amount of copra.
7. Lime, both on heavy and lighter soils, gave markedly increased crops, but also smaller nuts and decreased copra yields.

8. The tremendous forcing effect of lime in aiding manures was noted. Lime chiefly acts in rendering available the food resources of the soil; and perhaps the depletion of food resources in the soil by forcing with lime may require greater quantities of manure later.

Up to 1925 the manures commonly used were castor cake, bone meal and wood ash, 6, 4, and 10 lbs. respectively of each, to each tree. This almost meets the loss by removal of crops and keeps palms in good condition. But, for the varying conditions of soil, climate and location no special mixtures have been defined. Manuring trials have been found to vary and to be contradictory.

These experiments, therefore, though they do not yield the most clearcut steps to adopt everywhere, are helpful and foundational.

* * *

Nattandiya Experiments

THE experiments of Mr. P. H. Wickremasinghe on Nattandiya Estate, Horana, showed that Nitrogen, Phosphoric Acid and Potash, 41, 141, 61, at 2 1/2 lbs. per tree, at a cost of Rs. 13,235.51 for 294 acres, showed a crop increase from 55 nuts in unmanured trees to 70 in manured trees, per tree. Thus, the application of manures was found to be beneficial and paying.

Summary of Results of Both Experiments.—The chief outstanding facts from these two experiments are (1) the great value of organic manures; (2) the benefit of Phosphoric Acid, as bone Meal in particular, to increase yield and drought resistance; and (3) the importance of Sulphate of Ammonia or other nitrogenous fertiliser for maintaining the general health of the tree, and of potassic fertiliser for increasing nut number and size.

Method of Application of Manure.—The usual method of applying the manure is by running a trench around or half way around the palm. The inner edge of the palm is usually not five or six inches away from the hole. In theory the trench is to be dug farther and farther away at each successive application of manure. If that be not done, the manure being applied to the portion of soil in which the palm has the smallest number of absorbing roots, the palms do not

(Continued on page 40)

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CRICKETANA

By W. T. GRESWELL

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

WIMBLEDON and tennis, Ascot and racing, Lord's and the Test match compose the highlights of the London season. These three Meccas of our Summer sports are the annual magnets of a vast pilgrimage and attract devotees as well as many others, who, on the principle of "See Rome and die," flock to their first and enchanting experience of perfection in the entertainment world and the art of well ordered showmanship. Long experience on the part of those responsible as well as proud tradition go hand in hand in these matters, and year by year the respective events gain something which adds to their lustre.

Those who attended at Lord's for the Second Test will not readily forget a match, which, in perfect cricket weather, teemed with incident and lasted only three days.

The day before the match started the head groundsman in an interview stated that he had prepared a "fast wicket." This news caught my eye and I wondered. Those who are not wise to technicalities must appreciate that over-preparation of a pitch deprives it of life and it becomes a "feather-bed," a boon to batsmen and a cause of lamentation to bowlers. Also, and just now this is a matter of great importance, it can result in slow cricket, because the batsman has longer to play the

ball and can exercise that unenterprising caution for which there is ample scope, and particularly in five-day Test matches. Thus does cricket lose its entertainment value and set spectators yawning. On the other hand, a fast wicket or more "natural" one, like a pretty girl who scorns too heavy "make-up," which may be used by some as a tantalising barrier to normal expression, can be a free agent and none the worse for that. But here I must forsake the dangerous simile or get into trouble, for there must be still many week-old bruises to be shown by batsmen and more especially by those West Indian stalwarts who tried to become closer acquainted with that Lord's wicket. Let us call it natural but not nice.

MOST first-class cricketers know that Lord's wickets from time immemorial have enjoyed a certain (or uncertain) reputation and from some cause beyond unskilled diagnosis can "do things" if so minded. Given an "inch they may take an ell." And thus it was in that Second Test. Remember that this match took place at Headquarters, whence the edict had recently gone forth that cricket must be made more entertaining so as to attract a wider public and bigger "gate" receipts. One item advocated was the pre-

paration of faster wickets which cause the ball to come to the batsman quicker from its pitch and invites stroke play of a remunerative nature rather than fruitless defence. But for batsmen there are corresponding risks born of the need of speedy decision and quickness of eye.

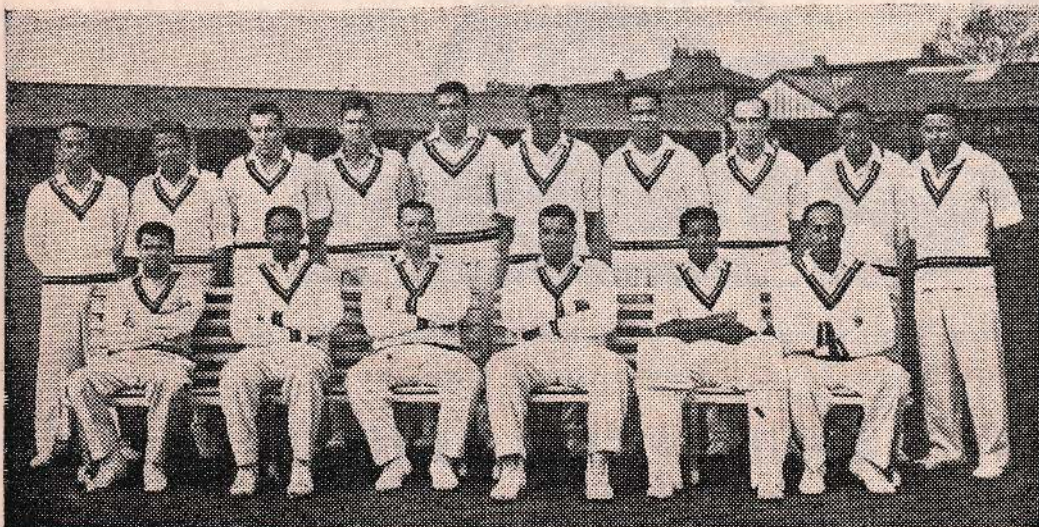
The Lord's pitch, being inherently of the character described, made the uncomfortable most of the extra freedom given to it by its nurse, the groundsman. It dictated the course of play throughout the three days, caused bruises on bodies and knuckles and lost some £3,000 in gate money which might have accrued from the 4th and 5th days. And where do we go from there, for the object of recent legislation and advice is to attract a larger public and bigger financial support, at any rate for county games.

* * *

ALTHOUGH the West Indians won the toss and Goddard could scarcely refuse to bat first, even a distant view of that all-important 22 yards of turf disclosed the thrilling fact that its shade of green was rather too bright and that things to come might well be more than interesting. England, in Statham, Bailey and Trueman, had the finest trio of fast bowlers in the world today and it must have been with light hearts that they took the field at 11-30 on that first day.

Very soon and all too soon a ball "lifted" from Trueman. To the uninitiated this means that, although

(Continued on page 33)



**THE WEST INDIES
TEAM IN ENGLAND**

Back Row (left to right) : A. Ganteaume, N. Asgarli, E. Alexander, D. Atkinson, T. Dewdney, W. Hall, G. Sobers, B. Pairendeau, R. Gilchrist, C. Smith. Front Row (left to right) : S. Ramadhin, F. Worrell, J. D. Goddard (Capt.), C. L. Walcott, E. Weekes and A. L. Valentine.



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CRICKETANA

it was of good length and should have come to the batsman stump high or thereabouts, it rose steeply and like an Olympic hurdler flew over the batsman's head. There was a lifting of eyebrows. Very soon, and once more far too soon, a ball from Statham from the pavilion end, mindful that all through history there has been a nasty object called a "Lord's shooter", conformed to tradition and with venomous humility made haste in the other fashion. Eyebrows were raised still higher. Here indeed would be cricket of value in entertainment. Do not blame the groundsman. It was not more than one ball in 10 overs that misbehaved.

But in the highest class of cricket, where batsmen are skilled artists and base that skill on perfect conditions, or at any rate, are fully expectant of what a wicket will normally do under varying conditions, it was more than enough. They were always looking for that ball and their play was influenced by anxious uncertainty.

* * *

AT this distance in time from the match and with the Third Test nearly upon us, a few comments by an on-looker are enough.

England's victory was generally expected because on form we were much the better side in all departments. For the big margin of victory, an innings and 36 runs, after May had lost the toss, the West Indians have only themselves to blame. Their fielding was so terribly bad as to constitute a sensation in Test history without precedent. No fewer than ten catches were "grassed," some of them so easy that had a small boy at school been guilty he would have blushed with confusion. In all the writer's experience of all grades of cricket, from "village" to first-class, never has he witnessed such a deplorable exhibition. One report next day announced: "The West Indians suffered from an epidemic. It was non-catching!"

The cause of this may well be found in the very poor wicket-keeping of Kanhai, who was played mainly as an opening batsman. (What an error in policy!) His inexperienced and slovenly performance in this vital position first de-

moralised the in-fielders around him, Skipper Goddard included, and then spread its baleful influence further afield until poor Ramadhin, 30 yards from the stumps, bungled two unimaginable "sitters."

* * *

THERE were two or three stand-out batting performances in the match, Cowdrey's 152, in which for part of the distance he was accompanied by the sprightly Godfrey Evans (82) with joyous abandon and shattering unorthodoxy, and Weekes' 2nd innings of 90 facing fearful odds. Cowdrey was magnificent and, in spite of all the pitch did or threatened to do, gave only one "chance," a very difficult one and not one of those 10.



M. C. Cowdrey

—Times

Weekes' innings, with the very promising young Sobers (66) partnering him for a long time, was a splendid demonstration of pluck. With every ball he suffered pain from a damaged hand and he defied England's fast bowlers almost one-handed. When he finally fell, bruised and beaten, the whole of the vast Lord's crowd "stood" to him, a signal honour well deserved.

* * *

ENGLAND'S three fast bowlers gave a superb performance of sustained and accurate attack with scarcely a loose ball between them, though it fell to the amazing and ever green veteran Bailey to do the execution with seven wickets for 44 runs in 21 overs in the first innings and 4 for 54 in the second.

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Tom Graveney as expected (by the writer!) registered yet another Test failure, this time, as though to convince Selectors for all time, he contributed a "0"!

And lastly England's "bogey" (now no longer so) Ramadhin. Goddard, as though sensing that the little man's magic spell was broken at Edgbaston in the First Test, used him scarcely at all. His one wicket, that of not-very-expert Wardle, cost him 83 runs in 22 overs with only five "maidens."

Goddard used Worrell and Gilchrist, the latter the fastest bowler in this match, for far too long spells. They stuck to it and bowled very well but they must have been very tired men after that match, for between them they bowled 78 overs in England's one innings of 424.

And now for Trent Bridge and the third encounter.

ANCIENT NUWARA ELIYA

(Continued from page 21)

Folk-lore," which he wrote in collaboration with his "narrator," George Werakoon of Matara. His account is as follows:—

"The inhabited portion of ancient Kotmale must have been a comparatively small area, and the rest of it—as far as Sripada Adawiya or Adam's Peak—must have been primeval forest. It is now tea estates. Tradition credits Kotmale with having been the site of the residence in the second century B.C. of Gemunu—and troublous times they were that he lived in.

"No one knew anything of him beyond the fact that he was the protege of an ordinary villager, who apparently played the part of Laban to his Jacob. It is said elsewhere of Gemunu that he had incurred the displeasure of his father, and had also quarrelled with his brother. Unlike his model, who had only to mind his father-in-law's sheep, our Jacob did really work hard in paddy field and distant chena. He also distinguished himself in hunting in the vast forest or in fishing in the dangerous river—the Mahaweliganga—and was a favourite among the village youths and the village people generally.

(Continued on page 40)

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A SPORTS CAUSERIE

By ITINERANT

RACING

FOLLOWERS of the money had a profitable time on the opening day of the July Race meeting, for six favourites obliged in a card of seven events, and though there were no thrills, Irish Jockey, W Tyrrell, delighted the crowd with a splendid exhibition of horsemanship.

Tyrrell had five mounts for the day and steered in four winners, while his remaining mount, Quam Celerrime was a good third. He showed excellent judgment on Cape of Good Hope to win the Ginigathena Plate (1½ miles), the main attraction, for after giving his mount (who was in the lead) a breather near the four, he pulled out a strong run up the straight to stave off a late bid by Sophocles and win by a head.

Tyrrell's other victories were gained on Exford, Mas'ud al Khair and Mansur Qassim, and associated with these successes was trainer Renga Selvaratnam, from whose yard they were sent out in splendid trim.

Half Blue once again ran a forward race and must be followed when the company is weaker, while Quam Celerrime is a certain winner over six or seven furlongs.

* * *

MR. M. Thaha Cassim's Friendly Isle staked his claim for recognition as a live candidate for the Queen's Cup to be run on Saturday and for the 'Blue Riband' in August, by winning the Chilaw plate (7 furs.) very stylishly on the second day of the July meeting.

This was the Ridgewood gelding's seventh win off the reel and in doing so he established a new record, bettering the performances of Romany Lore and Venus who had six wins to their credit.

Since he won his first race in August, 1956, in Class IV, the big bay has not looked back, and though he did not meet with much opposition last week in his debut in the top class, his run was outstanding, as he had been on the easy list for the past two months and was really far from being fully wound up.

On Saturday, he comes up against the top stayers—Joshua, who incidentally is to be ridden by an

Indian 'crack'—Ahmed Khan, Owen Grange, Anomaly, Adamant, Shell Pink and Briggs—but in what should be a grand race, Mr. Cassim's candidate is going to take a world of beating.

Judar's effortless victory which earned him promotion to Class II and Ayman Sa'ad's fourth success in a row, were other features of last Saturday's racing.



Gamini Gunasena

—Times

Cricket's Glorious Uncertainty

IF ever a match was considered "all over bar the shouting" it was the Third Test between England and the West Indies at Trent Bridge, which appeared as good as won by the former when play ceased on the fourth day. The West Indians were certainly in a desperate position with half their side out in the second innings and still needing 72 runs to avoid an innings defeat. A glorious 168 by Collie Smith aided by an invaluable 61 by Goddard helped the visitors not only to wipe off the deficit but to leave England with 121 runs to get in sixty-one minutes for victory. This was a wellnigh impossible task and England were only able to total 64 for the loss of one wicket at drawing of stumps.

Thus ended one of the most dramatic matches in the history of Test cricket and a game which will be remembered for all time owing to the extraordinary fluctuations of fortune. Tom Graveney's 255 and

Worrell's feat of going in first and carrying out his bat for 191—acknowledged to be one of the grandest ever seen in the highest class of cricket—coupled with Collie Smith's fighting knock of 168 when all seemed lost—were the highlights of a memorable contest.

This match also served to remind those who are responsible for covering the play for the newspapers that cricket is a game of glorious uncertainty and that it never pays to prophecy the result.

* * *

Hero of the 'Varsity Match

GAMINI Goonesena, the old Royal and All-Ceylon cricketer, who proceeded to Cambridge four years ago, was generally expected by good judges of the game to possess more than an outside chance of gaining a cricket blue, but not even his greatest admirers had hopes of his leading the Light Blues some day and creating history by scoring a double century on the occasion on which he actually captained the Cantabs. Goonesena was among the wickets when Oxford were cheaply dismissed in the first innings for 92 and he followed up his fine bowling by scoring a brilliant 211 out of a total of 424 for 7 wickets declared, beating the previous record for the highest individual score of 201 by A. Ratcliffe in 1931. In the end Cambridge won by an Innings and 186.

The "Daily Telegraph" acclaimed Goonesena's great feat as "a wonderful piece of tireless application, developing from a cheerful start into a devastating assault."

Goonesena has done Ceylon proud and his selection to play for the Gentlemen of England against the Players is in the fitness of things. The other Ceylonese to play for Cambridge in this match was P. I. Peiris, the former Thomian captain, who bowled well and just missed a hat-trick.

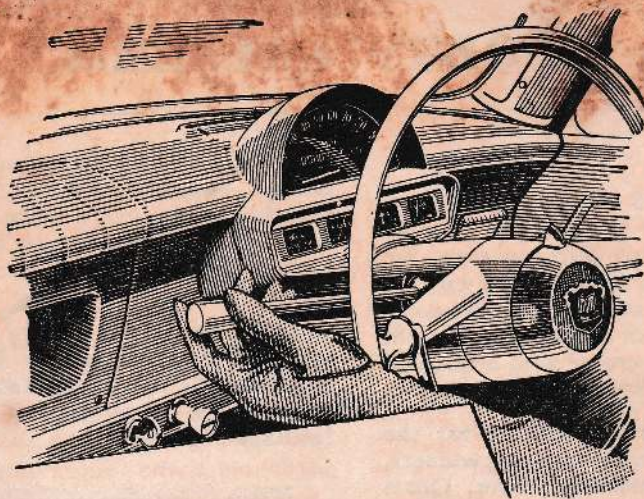
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RUGBY FOOTBALL

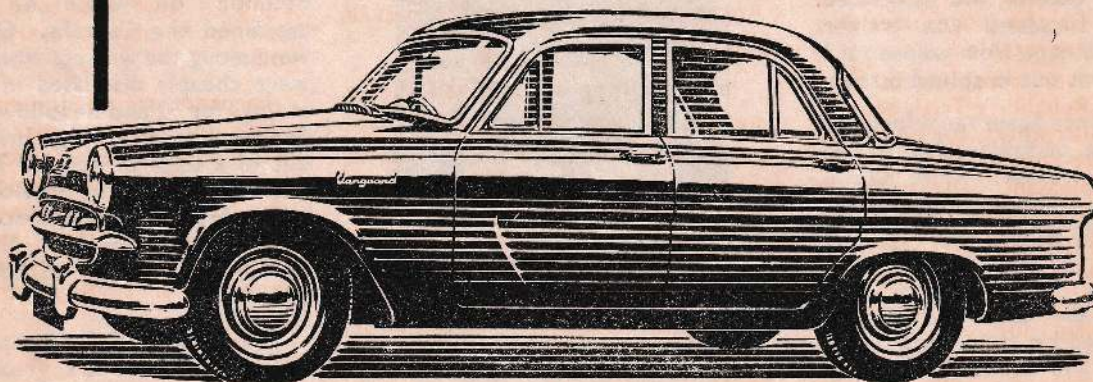
IN a match worthy of a final the C.H. & F.C., cleverly switching the positions of their key men, got the better of the C.R. & F.C. for the first time in 3 seasons by 10 points to 3 at Longden Place and scraped through to the Clifford Cup final by

(Continued on page 37)

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—By KING-PIN—

A POST-MORTEM is sometimes tedious and always distasteful, particularly when the dead body has been exhumed. To horribly mix our metaphors, we would rather let sleeping dogs lie . . . but we cannot help expressing our disapproval of the way in which the results of reliability trials are published following many days of painful suspense, and then revised, leaving to the press the unpleasant task of having to publish corrections, hitherto the prerogative of politicians.

We cannot help feeling that competitors in Trials should be allotted a week following the conclusion of a trial to lodge any objections they may have to make concerning faulty timing apparatus, ambiguous instructions, vaguely defined check-points, etc. These could then be considered and carefully weighed before the final results are arrived at. Then, for Pete's sake, let the judges' decision be final and irrevocable!

It is, however, consoling to note that Ceylon Reliability Trials are not unique in this respect, for one reads of much heart-burning and acrimony as the unpleasant aftermath of similar events in other parts of the world, one hopes with less cause!

Incidentally, we are astonished and somewhat pleased to find our youthful enthusiasm for and belief in "high-pressure," highly-coloured publicity restored. The publicity stemmed from a variety of sources but extolled the virtues of a common product. We use the word "common" advisedly. Premium petrol, from our personal experience, is all that is claimed for it—and more! One old car, converted to extra-high compression by a generous crust of carbon, has been restored to its pristine glory and we now get to work early—whistling all the way with the sheer joy of living—for a change.

One unpleasant thought remains—a horrible and ever-present fact, in fact—belching buses, which run on diesoline and sickening fumes. How about some high-octane diesoline! Or is that a laughable impossibility? The real answer, of course, is some high-pressure supervision of maintenance by 'bus company mechanics. I'd hate to think what a post-mortem examination of lungs would reveal in the foreseeable future!

A SPORTS CAUSERIE

(Continued from page 35)

the slenderest of margins—a slightly better points average.

With the ball coming to him almost monotonously out of the scrums, Leefe, playing scrum-half for the first time this season and playing well, slung out long passes to Arenhold who repeatedly found distant touch. It was really Arenhold's punting and some hard, resolute tackling that kept the speedy C.R. three-quarters at bay.

Attacking from the start, the C.H. & F.C. scored early in the first half when Clayton touched down after a good bit of work by Spark who was always dangerous when in possession. Arenhold converted. Anghie put over a penalty to reduce the lead.

In a thrilling second half, Leefe pushed his way through off a five-yard scrum. Arenhold converted to give his side those vital points. After that the C.H. & F.C. clung tenaciously to their lead.

The Longden Place Club have only themselves to blame for their defeat. They gave a pathetic exhibition of tackling—pitiful almost.

* * *

Superlative Golf?

IT can be said without fear of contradiction that "Pin" Fernando has never showed more brilliant form than he did last Sunday on the Ridgeways, when he overwhelmed J. O. Moss in the final of the Royal Colombo Golf Club Championship by the handsome margin of 9 up and 8. This remarkable victory more than atoned for the defeat Fernando sustained barely a month ago in the final of the Havelock Championship on the H.G.C. course. In putting it across Moss as he did last Sunday Fernando reached the pinnacle of his brilliant career as No. 1 golfer of the Island, for he had to play at the very top of his form to win against an opponent who has been showing really superb form right through this year. Moss

gave very little away during the opening stages of the match and it was Fernando's astonishing golf that gave him a lead of 2 up at the 9th hole. Fernando had taken only 33 to gain this slight advantage. Continuing to display magnificent form Fernando increased his lead to 4 up at the end of the morning's round. In the meantime Moss was playing excellent golf himself.

Fernando gave nothing away when play was continued in the afternoon and his superlative golf took him to a lead of 8 up at the 27th and finally a glorious victory on the 28th green by 9 up and 8. This was Fernando's fifth win in the R.C.G.C. Championship.

He first wrested the title in 1950, his opponent in the final on that occasion too being Moss. He won again in 1952, 1955 and 1956. Fernando had an easy passage in the early rounds of last week's tourney, but he had to go all out to defeat M. G. Thornton in the semi-final by 2 and 1. It was nice to see Thornton once more playing extremely good golf.

Fernando's phenomenal score which included another 33 in the first 9 holes of the afternoon's round will long be remembered by those who had the good fortune of watching him last Sunday. Hearty congratulations to Ceylon's finest exponent of Ye Royal and Ancient Game.

* * *

Swimming

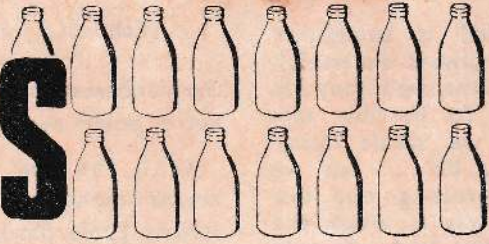
THE schools swimming championships meet, was a record-breaking affair, which augurs well for the future of aquatic sport here. The figures, indeed, are most encouraging, for no less than 2 Ceylon, 2 National and 29 Juvenile records were broken.

Conspicuous among the successful Juveniles were the Moreno brothers, sons of popular band-leader Luis Moreno, who between them lowered seven records.

President of the Ceylon Amateur Swimming Association, Mr. C. R. Arndt, in his concluding address made particular mention of Boris Marks, who was responsible for breaking the Ceylon and National records in the 200 metres Butterfly stroke event by 22.4 seconds—a tremendous achievement.

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A WOMAN'S DIARY

A FITTING prelude to August Week was the numerous entertainments and parties for the delegates to the A.C.W.W. who met in Ceylon to hold their 8th Tri-ennial Conference in Colombo last month. First came the party given by this year's Lanka Mahila Samiti's President, Mrs. T. L. C. Rajapakse. This was the first opportunity given the delegates who came from all parts of the world, some of them arriving only on the eve of the Conference, to meet and get to know each other before the sessions began. This was their first introduction too to the drums and the dances of the East, for amongst the items arranged for their entertainment that evening was an oriental ballet by Pani Bharata.

The opening of the Conference was staged with all the ceremony such an occasion demanded. H.E. the Governor-General himself declared the Sessions open. Speakers from the same platform were Lady de Soysa, Vice-President for Asia and Chairman of the Planning Committee, and Mrs. A. M. Berry, President of the A.C.W.W.

Sir Wilfred and Lady de Soysa entertained the delegates in their beautiful new home. Tables were set on the illuminated lawns, and a well lit stage accommodated Kandyan dancers and jugglers whose skill held the visitors entranced.

H.E. the Governor-General's Reception to the delegates at Queen's House was a glittering occasion of fashionable frocks and saris, sparkling jewels, and a friendly happy atmosphere despite the formality of the occasion. The guests were received by His Excellency, Mrs. Sheila Dodanwela, Mrs. T. L. C. Rajapakse, President of the Lanka Mahila Samiti, and Mrs. A. M. Berry, President of the Associated Country Women of the World.

"Ceylon Day" brought members of the A.C.W.W. into closer contact with their local branch of the L.M.S., members of which had journeyed many miles to meet them. A very crowded gathering at the Savoy Theatre rose to greet the Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike as, preceded by drummers and dancers, he walked up the aisle to take his place on the platform. They rose again to applaud Dr. Mary Rutnam who came in shortly afterwards, for it is to Dr. Rutnam that the L.M.S. owes its inception, and

to her and a loyal band of helpers its present progress and status, culminating in this Conference, the first to be held in an Asian country on the invitation of its members. Speakers on this occasion were the Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Dr. Mary Rutnam, Life President of the L.M.S., and Mrs. A. M. Berry, President, A.C.W.C. Girls, each carrying a banner representative of the nine provinces of Ceylon, brought the Island's greetings and ranged themselves at the back of the stage. Next came World greetings, brought by representative members of foreign countries, many of them wearing their national costumes. They came from Australia, Canada (which claimed Ceylon as a "daughter country"—Dr. Rutnam being a Canadian!), England and the Channel Islands, Scotland (where the next Tri-ennial Conference will be held), Germany, far-away Finland and Holland, Norway; from Kenya, Northern Rhodesia, Zanzibar, and the Philippines; from Malaya and Burma, from Pakistan and from India, and an observer from Thailand. There were representatives of 60,000 housewives, members in Norway, of the Irish Countrywomen's Association which counts 100,000 members, from Switzerland, from the Isle of Man and from New Zealand. Telegrams of greetings were read, one from Australia's Prime Minister who had found time to send them a message from the London Conference.

After the meeting delegates met members of the L.M.S. at the Sri Lankadhara School in Wellawatte; here they met many members of the L.M.S. who helped them over the intricacies of a sari, which some of them were keen to wear.

In the evening came the much looked forward to "Spirit of the Mahaveli," a historical dance ballet, presented by the Sinhala Institute of Culture, written and produced by Lorraine Senaratne.

The Tamil Women's Union entertained the delegates with another dance ballet, which was very much enjoyed.

The highlight of the sessions for Ceylon was a news flash from London which brought the news that Lady de Soysa had been elected a Member of Honour, and this is what it said:

"Today A.C.W.W. paid tribute to Lady de Soysa, Vice-President for Asia, by making her a Member of Honour.

"This is the highest honour that A.C.W.W. can confer, and only five women out of our six million membership, have received it.

"Lady de Soysa is one of the pioneers of our great international organisation, for she attended the very first meeting in 1929, and was elected one of the Vice-Presidents at the Stockholm Conference in 1933. Since then she has served the cause of countrywomen all over the world with constant work and deep and sympathetic understanding, and she is known and loved by countrywomen everywhere.

"We all rejoice that this, our highest honour, has been given to Lady de Soysa, who has so richly earned it, and who holds our undying love and admiration."

EVELYN.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 23)

THE testimonials which most of these subordinate officers carried from the distinguished officials who demanded a standard of work commensurate with their own high ability, and such evidence as there is to mark the sense of government of the value of their services, ought to be an incentive to Ceylonese generally to pitch their endeavours high.

Passing over such names as Ravenscroft, O'Brien, Swettenham and Taylor, who were holders of the office at the head of this Department, we come to the year 1907 when, with the appointment of Mr. Bernard Senior, the designation was again changed to Colonial Auditor.

To-day, however, we once again have an Auditor-General and it is heartening to think that the high office has been vested in a son of the soil.

Ceylon Fortnightly Review

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SCIENTIFIC COCONUT MANURING IN CEYLON

(Continued from page 29)

get the full or even an appreciable benefit of the fertiliser. Digging the trench farther at each successive application encourages also the development of the root system, whose study is a very important step in aids to manuring.

Coconut Root System and Aeration.—When the long, strand-like roots are extended, a number of small, hard, white outgrowths dot its length at regular intervals. These are the special organs by which the root takes air. To help these organs, the first step is to keep the lands free from weeds and grass, and to cultivate the surface before the rains and dig the land after the rains. Thus, with free aeration, the manurial components are broken up and rendered available. Cultivation breaks up the soil capillaries and thus prevents excessive evaporation.

Cultivation consists of deep forking and ploughing once a year soon after the rains.

* * *

The Roots and Feeding

THE water considerations and habit of the palm are the main guides in cultivation. The coconut palm has no tap root, but has a number of roots that radiate from the bole and anchor the tree. These roots are of uniform size, being of the thickness of an ordinary pencil and likewise cylindrical. In heavy land they seldom exceed fifteen feet in length, whereas in poor, thin soils they may extend to thirty feet. So, there can be about seventy palms to the acre. The roots of the palm reach and pass those of the adjoining palms, and the entire soil is enmeshed with roots. These primary roots give out also secondary and tertiary roots at some distance from the bole. So, the soil exactly midway between two palms contains most of the roots. This fact is of the greatest importance in manuring, for, unlike other cultivated plants, the coconut palm has no root hairs, but a cap at the tip of each root which protects the growing point and enables it to push its way through the soil. Immediately behind the root cap for two inches is a light-coloured, soft-walled portion of root which alone can absorb food and water from the soil. The remaining fifteen inches, between that and the bole, is not of the slightest use to the palm in feeding: the long strand of root merely conveys to the

palm-stem the food absorbed by the ends of the laterals.

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A LINK WITH SIR THOMAS LIPTON

(Continued from page 25)

belonged to the late Mr. Makintosh Smith, on behalf of whom she and her husband did the management, running it as a guest-house." "I had been in this post ever since," he added, "and it is not without regret that I am leaving it, on a medical certificate, after 10 years' service."

"What do you hope to do after your retirement?" I asked. "I shall live quietly in a seaside retreat close to the Kalkudah Estate-bungalow, where Mr. and Mrs. Wickwar live," he answered. "And Mr. Macintosh Smith, in appreciation of my long and dutiful service, will be giving me a monthly pension." Incidentally, he was full of praise for his past employers and others with whom he had had dealings.

Before I parted from him, he pressed into my hands a packet of good up-country tea. "Here, sir, take it as a small present from me," he said, before he bowed most gracefully when I thanked him for this unexpected but most welcome gift. I can still remember that courteous bow—it looked like the curtesy offered to Royalty to which he was accustomed.

The many European visitors who, at one time or another, had stayed at Passekudah guest-house knew that Lewis Appu excelled as butler and provided them with dainty fare. And these patrons, who had hoped that the retirement of this old servant would be a long and happy one, would doubtless have felt sorry at his passing away in so quiet a manner. His kindly smiles, his loving service and his old-world courtesy will ever remain in the memory of those who came into contact with this great soul.

I do not imagine for a moment that there is another Sinhalese valet (or even other Ceylonese servant) in Ceylon, who had travelled the world—at least in his days—as Don Lewis Appu had done. It is a great

pity that he did not, before he retired, get someone to handle his life-history, which included associations with Royalty and other high folks. It would have made fascinating reading.

ANCIENT NUWARA ELIYA

(Continued from page 33)

"THERE is a story that one day at a villager's house, he was entertained to a frugal meal of alussal (broken rice made into a sort of pulp). Being apparently very hungry, he was attacking the food 'unmethodically,' and this attracted the attention of the good woman of the house, who seems to have been of a sarcastic turn. 'Son,' she remarked, 'You should deal with your food in the same way as the Prince Gemunu would fight the Tamils' (the forces of Elara). 'In what way?' he enquired. She replied, 'You should make small balls of the rice, place them round the plate to cool and then eat them one after the other.' 'But you spoke about fighting,' said he, 'what about that?' To this she declared, 'Why, instead of subduing one stronghold at a time, our king should dare to meet the forces of the enemy at once.'

"It is said that this suggestion of a country woman set him thinking and ultimately was acted upon by him, with the result that he defeated the formidable army of Elara. His hostess too was not forgotten by him and was suitably rewarded. In the possession of a Kotmale family are some heirlooms—gold, silver, and brassware—which are believed to be royal gifts—gifts to it from King Gemunu. The narrator, who has seen these heirlooms himself, remarks that whether the Rachel of that time had any hand in the bestowal of these gifts, it is too delicate a matter to enquire!"

Fact and fiction have grown entwined in the course of centuries, and have undoubtedly been feeding on each other. The story that tradition now offers is certainly a beautiful tale and worth the telling. Its basic facts appear to be incontrovertible. From our ancient chronicles, essentially historical despite their undoubted Buddhistic bias and poetic licentious unbalance, we have known that Dutu Gemunu was a historical personage. He had an estrangement with his father. He lived a life in exile in the mountain district of central Ceylon.



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