

# The Ceylon Frostnightly Review

Vol. IX

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No. 22

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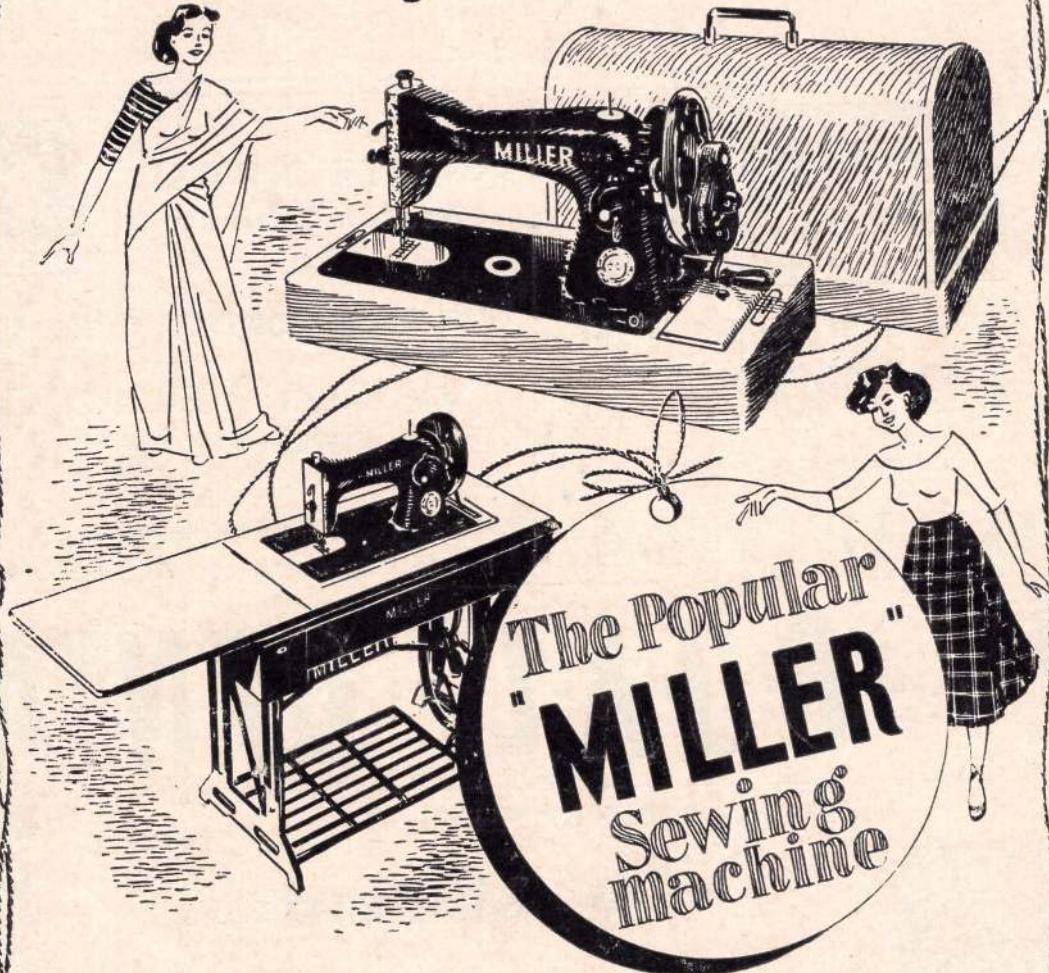
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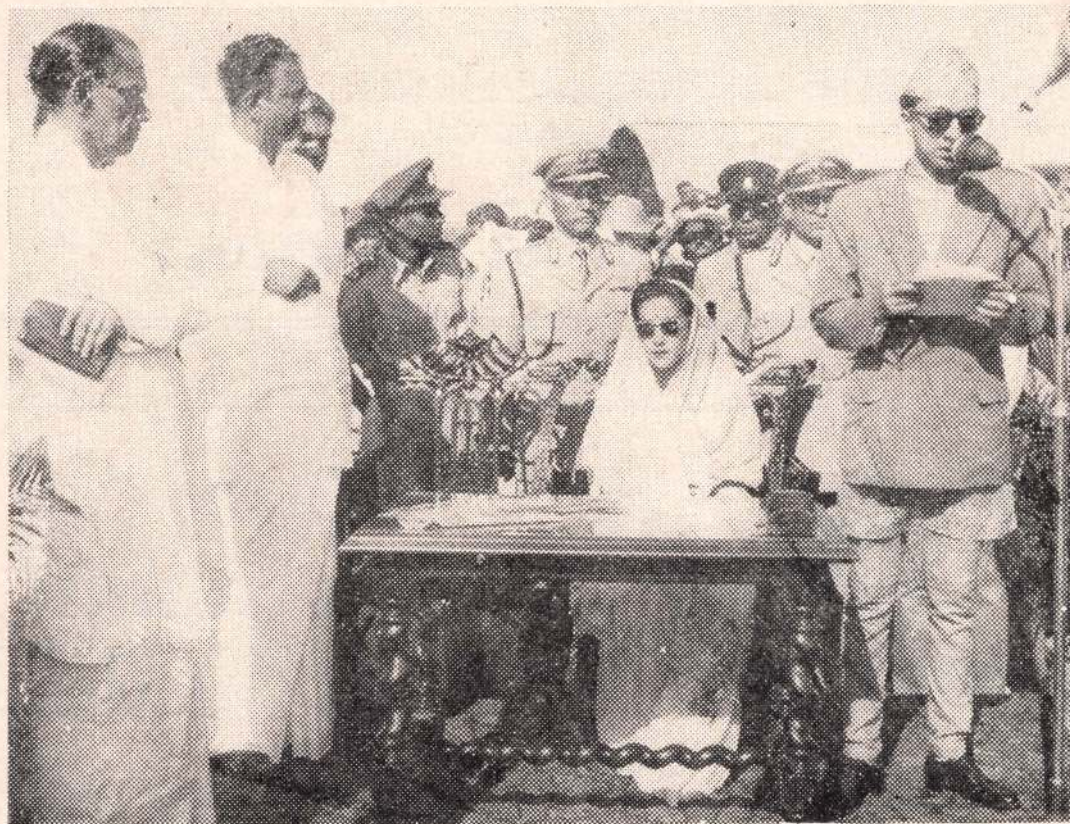
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## ROYAL GUESTS FROM THE LAND OF BUDDHA'S BIRTH



—“Times”

*The King and Queen of Nepal, who participated in the Buddha Jayanthi celebrations in Ceylon this month, were invited to the Island in appreciation of the official recognition given to Buddhism in the Himalayan kingdom as well as the fact that they represent the country where the Buddha was born and spent his early life.*

*Apart from the significance attached to their visit, the royal couple won immense popularity on their own. Though Hindus, they paid reverence to the Buddhist symbols in the institutions at which they were received.*

*The picture shows the King acknowledging the greetings on the day of his arrival. On the extreme left is the Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike.*

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## EMPLOYER – EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

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COLOMBO witnessed last week the extraordinary spectacle of five-thousand white-collar workers on strike. They were members of the Mercantile Union, and they were called out over a dispute with the Employers' Federation arising out of a strike by Union members in a company which is a member of the Federation. As an example of trade union solidarity the demonstration was certainly impressive, but there were aspects to it which were most deplorable.

\* \* \* \*

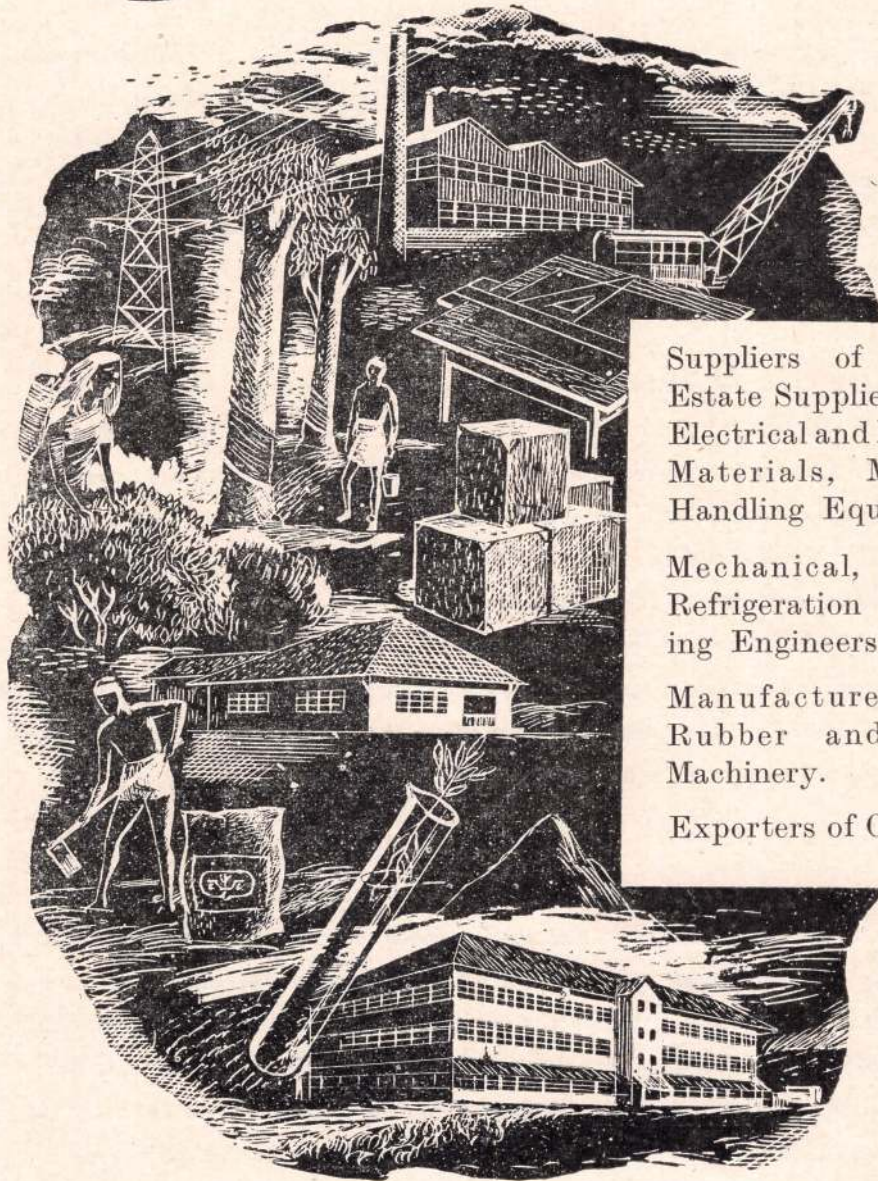
THE strikers generally conducted themselves in a disciplined manner. They picketed offices with good humour and indulged in antics while parading the streets which amused the crowd. But by evening their temper underwent a change, and they set upon non-strikers, and executives who sought to protect them, as they came out after the day's work. They daubed their clothes with ink, threw rotten eggs at them and otherwise subjected them to humiliation. Now this was utterly uncalled for, and betrayed not only lack of a sense of decency but constituted denial of the right of the individual to give his loyalty where he chooses. It is earnestly to be hoped that on future occasions a better spirit will be manifested in the interest both of trade unionism and good employer—employee relations.

\* \* \* \*

THE Mercantile Union called off the strike at the end of the second day in deference to the wishes of the Prime Minister after he failed to persuade the Federation on the issue to be adjudicated upon by an arbitrator appointed by him. The issue involved the principles that should determine retrenchment of staff by an employer. The Federation stood by the law and opted for compulsory arbitration. Was it wise to reject an offer of compromise by the head of the Government? In the event it might be that the law would be altered to give greater protection to the employee.

THE EDITOR.

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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

By BRUTUS

THE young King and Queen of Nepal made a deep impression by their modesty of bearing and simplicity of attire during their visit to Ceylon to take part in the month's Buddha Jayanthi Celebrations. It was the first time that the land of Buddha's birth had been represented at a Buddhist occasion in this country and the royal visitors were greeted with warmth wherever they appeared.

The Governor-General, the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet, and foreign diplomats were among those present at the airport when King Mahendra and Queen Ratna arrived in Colombo on March 13th. The three services mounted a guard-of-honour and Buddhist monks chanted *pirith* invoking blessings on the couple before they set out on the state drive to the City.

The King and Queen visited Kandy and from there went to the foot of Adam's Peak for the ceremony of the month.

In the course of his speech at a civic reception given to them by the Colombo Municipal Council King Mahendra said: "We are determined partisans of peace, and peace and friendship being our historical and traditional principles we have naturally approved of the five principles of co-existence, panchaseela . . ." He added that the message of the Buddha would remain a firm bond between the two countries.

The King gave a donation of Rs. 5,000 to the Dalada Maligawa and Rs. 10,000 to the Baudha Mandalaya, of which Rs. 5,000 will go to Sri Pada.

\* \* \*

THE Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, will formally open the new headquarters of the Planters' Association of Ceylon on March 29. Situated behind St. Andrew's Scots' Kirk, in Colpetty, it is a two-storey building of chaste design and modern appointments.

It is after eighteen years that the P.A. is again in occupation of its own premises. The Victoria Commemoration Building in Kandy was demolished, on condemnation by engineers, in 1939 and throughout the war the P.A. was accommodated in the Queen's Hotel. The Association

moved to Colombo ten years ago and occupied rented buildings in Steuart Place.

Old planters will be pleased to know that the first foundation stone of the Kandy building has been incorporated into the new building and the marble bust of Queen Victoria has a prominent place in it.

The construction of the building is a tribute to Mr. N. H. Wykeham-Dulling, Secretary of the P.A., who assiduously collected the requisite money and inspired many features of the lay-out of the offices and committee rooms.

\* \* \*

AT the annual session of the United National Party resolutions were adopted (1) authorising the working committee to elect a committee to prepare a revised programme of work "to suit present conditions," having in view the object of the Party to achieve a democratic socialist state, and (2) calling for public support of the party to oust "this strange and discordant administration composed of pseudo-democrats, communists and other anti-democratic

elements" and help establish a sane and stable government.

Sir John Kotelawala, who presided, was re-elected President. Mr. Dudley Senanayake sent the session a message from his sick bed which stated, inter-alia, that it should be the endeavour of the party, to re-shape and remould its policies in accordance with the lessons taught by its "unexpected" defeat at the elections. The party could serve the people best, it added, not by pandering to the forces of reaction but aiding the forces of progress whilst maintaining stability, sanity and harmony, without which democracy could not function.

\* \* \*

MR. Joseph C. Satterthwaite, former U.S. Ambassador to Ceylon, and presently Ambassador to Burma, has been named Director-General of the Foreign Service by Secretary Dulles.

Mr. Satterthwaite, who is fifty-seven years old, fills the post made vacant by the appointment of the previous Director-General, Mr. Raymond A. Hare, as Ambassador to Egypt.

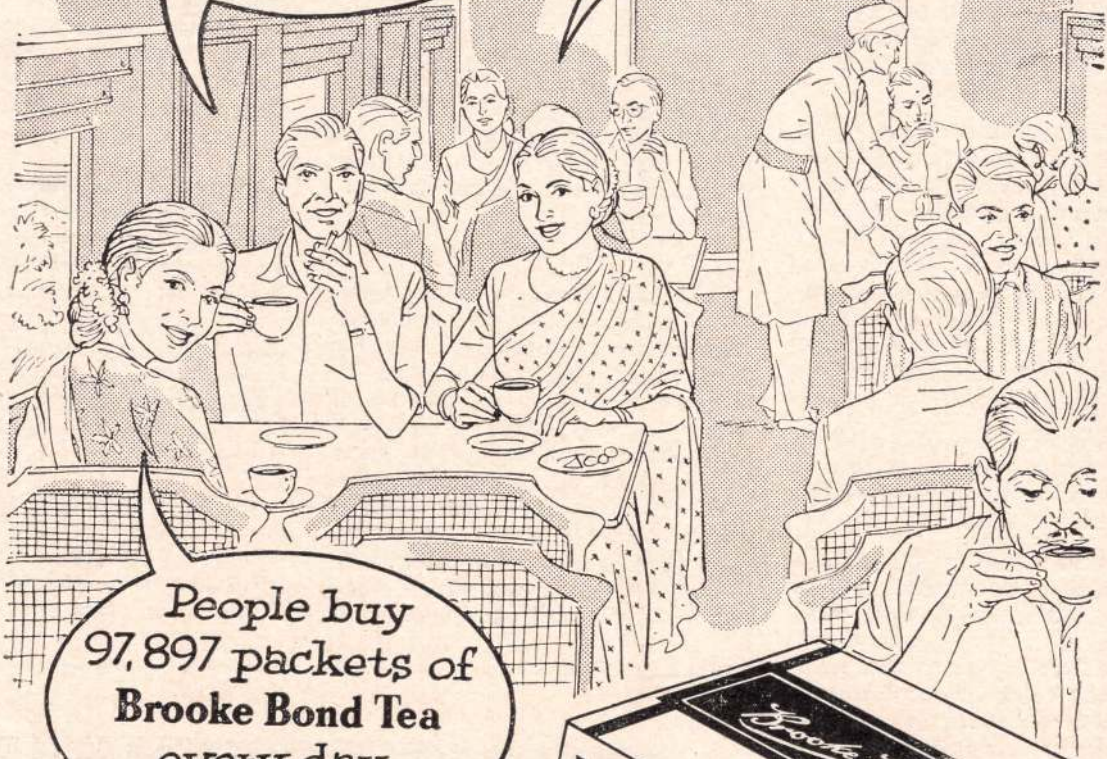
Mr. Satterthwaite, a career veteran of 33 years' service was named Minister to Nepal in 1947. From 1949 to 1953 he was Ambassador to Ceylon. In 1953 he moved to



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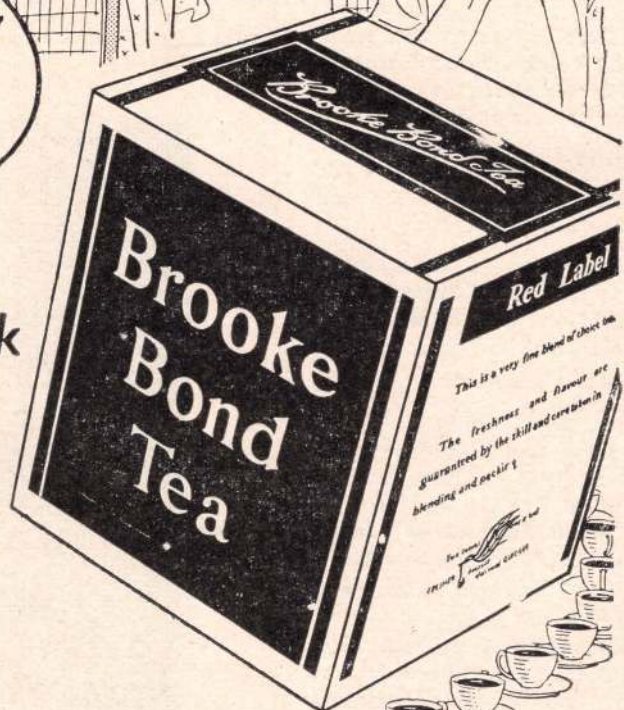


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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

Tangier as U.S. Diplomatic Agent with the rank of Minister. Since April 1, 1955, he has served as Ambassador to Burma.

\* \* \*

MR. Satterthwaite was a great success as Ambassador of the U.S. in Ceylon and enjoyed much popularity amongst all communities in the Island. Born and bred in the middle-west of the United States, after High School at Tecumseh in Michigan, he joined the American Expeditionary Force in the first World War, serving in the Artillery. After the war he went to Michigan University. There he distinguished himself, being elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most famous fraternity. At 24 he entered the diplomatic service in a minor position at Stuttgart.

After a period in the Foreign Service School at home, he served in a number of posts, which included Guadalajara, Mexico City, Buenos Ayres. His long connection with the Middle East began in the city of the Caliphs. From Bagdad he went to the Turkish capital, Ankara, in the Anatolian steppes. This period of Mr. Satterthwaite's career must have been one of the most interesting, for Iraq, Syria and Turkey hold up to the sympathetic student many brilliant facets of Islamic culture.

His numerous friends and admirers in Ceylon will join us in offering congratulations to Mr. Satterthwaite on his high appointment.

\* \* \*

PARLIAMENT gave its blessing to the first industrial venture of the Government when a vote of Rs. 9 lakhs sought by the Minister of Agriculture and Food for growing sugar-cane in the Kantalai district received the support of the Opposition as well.

It is proposed to open 8,000 acres in the crop. The expectation is that in three years sufficient cane would be grown to yield 16 to 18,000 tons of cane, sufficient to keep a factory running full time. The factory will, it is estimated, cost Rs. 20 million, and produce 19,000 tons (about 15 per cent. of the country's needs) within three years of its opening. An equal amount is the potential of

the factory to be set up in the Gal-oya Valley.

The present consumption of sugar is about 180,000 tons a year.

\* \* \*

HAS Ceylon a claim to the Maldive Islands? The Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, seems to think it has. Replying to a question in Parliament, he said there was no objection to the proposed U.K. naval base in the Maldives and added he would give his mind to laying a claim to the Islands. He was quite serious, he protested, when his statement was greeted with laughter.

At a subsequent press conference, Mr. Bandaranaike said that in making a claim for the Maldives he was not thinking in terms of territorial expansion. He had rather in mind the fact that until independence the Maldives used to pay tribute to Ceylon. He was surprised, he added, that the matter had not hitherto been seriously considered.

\* \* \*

THE biggest strike of white-collar workers in Ceylon was staged on March 12 and 13 when the Ceylon Mercantile Union called out its members in 54 establishments—members in 12 of them only for a day—over a dispute with the Employers Federation with regard to the terms of settlement of a strike at Hoare & Co.

The Prime Minister himself intervened to suggest to the Employers

Federation the issue on which arbitration should take place. The Federation preferred to abide by the decision of a court under the Industrial Disputes Act. The Union thereupon called off the strike.

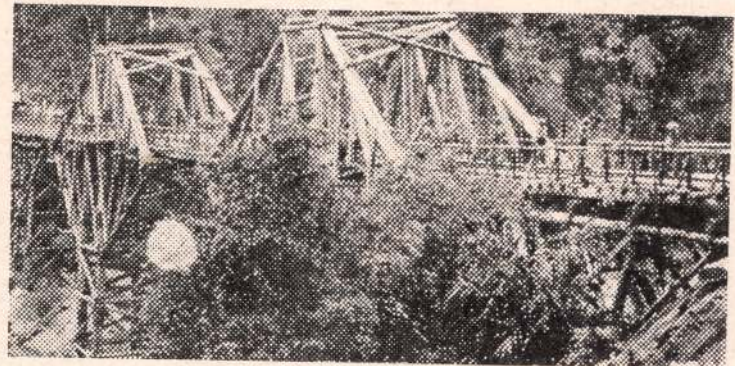
\* \* \*

CEYLON'S first ambassador to People's China, Mr. Wilmot A. Perera, sailed for Peking on March 11. The Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet saw him off at the docks. Accompanying Mr. Perera is a Kandyan dancer and drummer, who will give demonstrations on suitable occasions.

Mr. Perera, who was a member of the last Parliament, in a farewell statement said he was going on a mission of friendship, to bring together in honourable association two eastern countries that had known each other for centuries and were free again to resume the cordial relations that bound them in the past. Reference was made in the statement to the recognition of China by Ceylon in 1950, the rubber-rice agreement entered into between them two years later, and to a special clause in the Sri Palee Trust (created by Mr. Perera for the promotion of indigenous art, music and drama) calling for closer association with China.

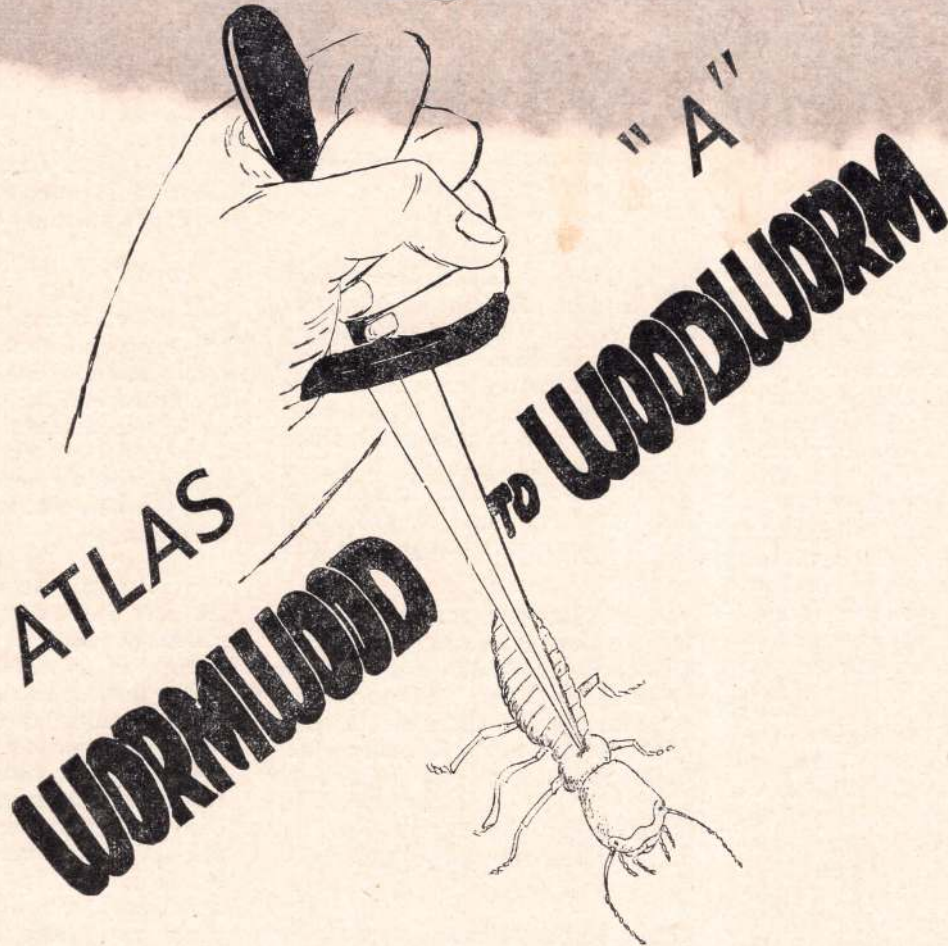
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THE decision of the Government to set up river-gauging stations throughout the Island is commended by Mr. Paul Wilson, Chairman and



—“Times.”

Last week a wooden bridge built over the river at Kitulgala by Horizon Pictures was blown up with an old K. V. engine and five coaches for a sequence in the film “The Bridge over the River Kwai” which condenses the episode from the Japanese war. The picture shows the bridge just before the charge of dynamite was exploded.



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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

managing-director of Gilbert, Gilkes & Gordon Ltd., the 100-year old British firm of water turbine manufacturers, who are represented in Ceylon by the Colombo Commercial Co. Ltd. There is scope for the development of small as well as large hydro-electric schemes, in his opinion.

At a Press conference, he said that the mountain streams of Ceylon could be put to good use with water-turbines to produce power for manufacturing tea. The Government should encourage estates to develop their private water sources to the maximum on the understanding that the surplus production would be fed into the national grid.

\* \* \*

THE death occurred on March 12, after a brief illness, of the Rev. C. E. V. Nathanielsz, Managing Trustee of the Lady Lochore Fund. He was 70.

Mr. Nathanielsz had a remarkable career. At the age of 23 he made for America the hard way and trained himself in Y.M.C.A. work. When he returned to Ceylon the first world war had broken out and he enlisted in the C.L.I. Later he did Y.M.C.A. work in India for three years. He went to America a second time at the age of 32 and graduated from the Yale divinity school. After working for some time in the Methodist episcopal church in New Haven, Connecticut, he returned to Ceylon. He was Ceylon's first Food Controller during world war II and received the M.B.E. for his services.

Rs. 3,000 given by Lady Lochore was the nucleus of the Fund by which he will be remembered. He was also the Colombo Municipal Council's first Charity Commissioner.

Like his father, who founded the boys industrial school, and other members of the family, Mr. Nathanielsz engaged himself in a variety of social activities. He was at some time or other Chairman of the Red Cross Society, Honorary Treasurer of the C.N.A.P.T., and vice-President of the Crippled Children's Aid Association (founded by his brother, Mr. A. H. Nathanielsz). A keen Rotarian, he was district governor for India, Burma and Ceylon and attended the Rotary International last year in England. It was characteristic of him that his

last wish should be that no wreaths should be sent for his funeral—the body was cremated—but that contributions should be made instead to the C.N.A.P.T.

\* \* \*

A THREE-WEEK exhibition of Czech goods was opened by the Prime Minister in Colombo on March 10th. The pavilion is itself an exhibition of architectural design, engineering principles and building materials.

A wide range of the products of Czechoslovakia is on display, from machine tool plant, agricultural machinery, trucks, cars and motor cycles, to sewing machines, household goods and trinkets. Perhaps the most attractive exhibits are the famous ceramic and glassware of the country, including chandeliers for electric lights.

\* \* \*

MR. J. L. C. Rodrigo, Professor of Western Classics in the University, leaves next month for England to take up the post of Education Officer in the Ceylon High Commission. He succeeds the Rev. J. Cartman.

At a farewell party given to him at Peradeniya, Mr. Rodrigo said that during his thirty years of very happy association with the University he had always felt that the best men and the best women students found their way to the classics department.

The spokesman for the students,

who described Mr. Rodrigo as a true friend, adviser and guide to them, expressed the view that the departure of Mr. Rodrigo might be the death knell of classical studies in the university.

Before he joined the University College, Mr. Rodrigo was Editor of the "Ceylon Morning Leader." A University scholar from Royal College, he graduated from Balliol, Oxford.

\* \* \*

A CONTROVERSY is on about the respective merits of Ratmalana and Katunayake (when it is vacated by the R.A.F.) as the national airport of Ceylon. Air-line operators are in favour of Ratmalana owing to its proximity to the City as compared with the distance from Colombo and the narrow and congested road connecting Katunayake, not to speak of the lack of hotel accommodation there for transit passengers. The Air-Ceylon directorate, on the other hand, favour Katunayake owing chiefly to the greater scope for expansion and the cost of land there.

In the meantime the Ratmalana air-port is being modernised, although the runway has not been improved to receive heavy aircraft. However, BOAC's Bristol Britannia, on its proving flight, encountered no hazards in putting down at Ratmalana. Among those who witnessed its arrival was Mr. Gerard D'Erlanger, Chairman of BOAC, who

(Continued on page 13)

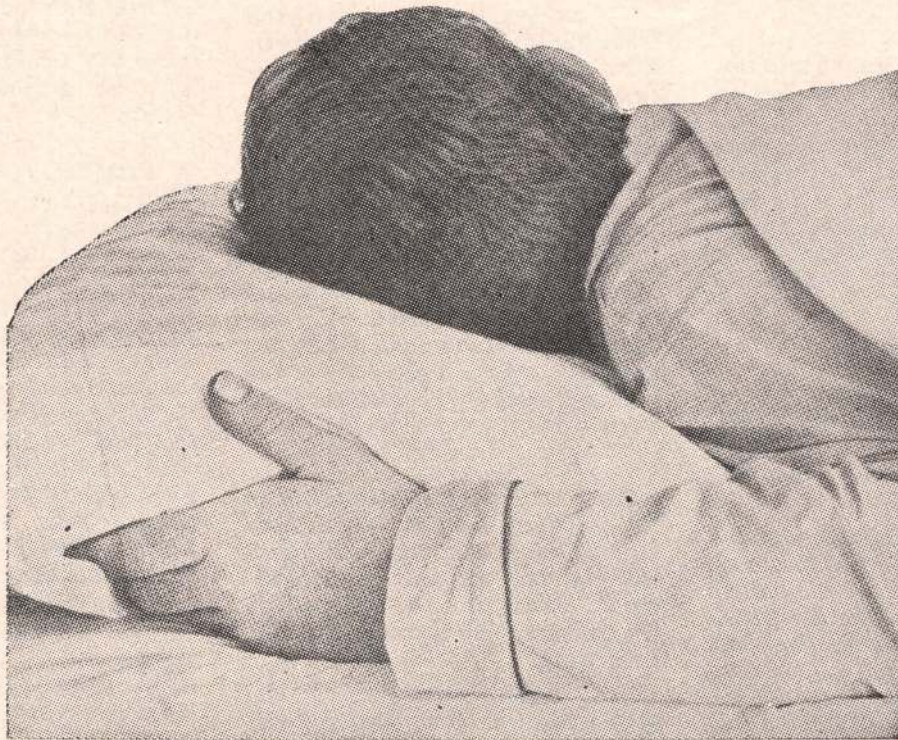


—"Times."

Mr. Gerard D'Erlanger, Chairman of B.O.A.C., and Mrs. D'Erlanger visited Colombo in the course of a tour of the Company's agencies. This picture was taken at Ratmalana.

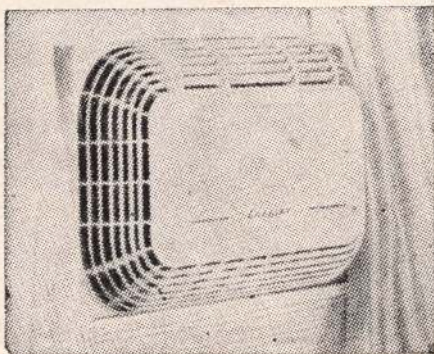
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## TRAVELLERS' VIEW

By ERNEST CHISHOLM THOMSON

(Special to the Fortnightly Review)

London, March 8.

WITH a gale howling outside and squalls of rain lashing the window panes, I enlivened a recent week-end by sitting snugly in front of a glowing fire and dipping into a fascinating survey of the holiday habits and experiences of late-summer visitors to Britain.

This survey has been prepared by the British Travel and Holidays Association, whose scouts roamed the seaports, airports and railway stations of the United Kingdom between August and October, interviewing departing guests, and concentrating this time on those from the Union of South Africa. They wanted to know how our kinsmen from overseas had enjoyed themselves, whether they had felt "at home," and what had impressed them most in the Mother Country.

\* \* \*

### Sea Voyage Popular

MANY of the findings would, of course, apply equally to visitors from other Commonwealth countries. Altogether some thousand tourists from South Africa were asked for their impressions—not more than 4 per cent. of the total, but enough to yield a fair sample. Roughly 75 per cent. were travelling by sea, the rest by air.

Why did they come to Britain? "Visiting friends or relatives", was the reason given by 32 per cent. but the pure holiday motive seems to have been even stronger, 62 per cent. saying that "vacation or pleasure" was the mainspring of their travels. About a third came by sea because they looked on the boat trip as part of the holiday.

Accustomed to wide open spaces, South African visitors travel extensively. About 20 per cent. pay calls to the Continent of Europe but spend most of their time in Britain, using it as a jumping-off ground for European excursions.

\* \* \*

### Average Stay of Three Months

HAVING come so far, South Africans make a long stay in Britain, the average time being 90 days, twice as long as Canadians, who

are within easier reach. Australian visitors stay rather longer even than South Africans.

Once in Britain, where did our guests go? Half their time was spent in London; only 7 per cent. did not visit the capital.

Percentages can be wearisome, but for those of us who live in Britain all the year round there is special fascination in percentage preferences for this or that part of the country.

Scotland was visited by 48 per cent. of South Africans. Windsor Castle claimed 39 per cent., the University of Oxford 38 per cent., the Shakespeare countryside 36 per cent., and the seaside resorts generally, 43 per cent.

\* \* \*

### Fortunate Housewives

WHAT kind of people were they—these venturers who came on this important mission to see and enjoy Britain for themselves? To me, with relatives both in Johannesburg and Cape Town, the answers provided the most exciting part of the survey.

A large proportion were middle-aged—49 per cent. over 45 and only 2 per cent. under 20. As with Canadian and United States guests, the interviewers found that the South African visitors had an above-average standard of education. Twenty-two per cent. had been to a university and 35 per cent. to secondary schools.

The two largest single groups were professional people and housewives, each making 22 per cent. of the total.

Housewives travelling without their husbands always make up a substantial percentage of visitors from all the Commonwealth countries. Many knowing theorists have set to work on this phenomenon. Perhaps the wanderlust has been instilled in women's clubs, where men enter at their peril. The widely-accepted theory is that wives are freer than their husbands to travel and choose a time for it. The fact that men are chained by their business responsibilities should not, and does not, deter their womenfolk

from travelling and enjoying the world on their husbands' behalf.

\* \* \*

### Abiding Memories

THE South Africans were remarkably spontaneous in their replies, especially about what interested them most in the United Kingdom. The beauty and variety of the scenery seems to have come easily first. Next in order of preference were the drama and music festivals and old-world ceremonies. The number of living theatres, as opposed to cinemas, made a deep impression; so did the infinite variety of concerts and entertainments. Historic buildings and the general atmosphere of antiquity and romance in the non-industrial areas captivated many tourists.

There were others who surrendered to the unfading charm of London, scarcely being able to tear themselves away from its labyrinthine streets, its weathered and time-worn buildings, the parks and palaces, and, above all, those irrepressible inhabitants, the Cockneys. "Meeting people," indeed, was judged by many to be the ineffaceable memory they would carry back to South Africa.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." For 23 per cent. of the travellers this was their second visit to Britain. More than 16 per cent. had come and come again up to ten times. And one in five of the "first-timers" had already fixed a date for another visit very soon.

Mr. Ernest C. Thomson, writing a week later, says:—

No need for television at the Windsor Horse Show in May, for I shall keep my annual tryst there in person under the battlements of the Royal Castle. I might also go in June to Glyndebourne opera to see and hear international stars in the tiny theatre built by that prince of musical amateurs, John Christie, in a fold of the green Sussex downland.

\* \* \*

### Miracle Plays

BUT, tied to London in July, I would give much for a coloured television picture of the York Mystery plays. Thousands of travellers will no doubt join with Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh to watch these traditional per-

(Continued on page 23)

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# A POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

By CROSS-BENCHER

TO those who expected indications of a movement to restore national unity, the proceedings of the annual U.N.P. conference came as a great disappointment. There was not one word about the official language controversy and no reference at all to the secession of the Tamils from the non-Marxist parties.

The theme of the conference was that the M.E.P. Government should be overthrown because it was carrying the country into the arms of international communism.

The principal resolution authorised the working committee, in order to achieve a democratic socialist state, to elect a committee of ten members to prepare a revised programme of work "to suit present conditions."

\* \* \*

IN his presidential speech Sir John Kotelawala outdid himself in blood and thunder declamation. In a characteristic passage, he said: "Death comes to all of us. For me, an old soldier, to die in bed will not be so welcome as to die fighting for my country against her enemies who threaten the religion of our fathers and the temples of our gods"! He used more violent language in his address to the U.N.P. Youth League. He called for a hundred youth volunteers prepared to sacrifice their lives for the country. He was ready to train them to capture power in two days, he said, and added that the plan would be carried out in a democratic way!

\* \* \*

ON a motion by Sir John the conference elected Mr. Dudley Senanayake to act as President of the Party when Sir John leaves the Island shortly on personal business. Mr. Senanayake was not present at the session but sent a message from the nursing home where he is under treatment. In the course of it he said that it should be the endeavour of the party to re-shape and re-mould its policies in accordance with the lessons that its defeat at the General Election had taught. "Democracy can only be sustained," he added, "by the availability to the people of an alternative democratic choice. The U.N.P. alone can fulfil that task, and in the achievement of this object it is my resolve to do my utmost as soon as my health permits."

TWO important Bills have this month been passed by Parliament—one amending the Motor Traffic Act and the other the Tea, Rubber and Coconut Research Acts. The former empowers the Government to pave the way for the nationalisation of omnibus services by revoking or suspending the stage permit issued to a bus company if it does not provide a satisfactory service. It was explained that the reason for the introduction of the Bill is that some bus services are being allowed to deteriorate. The assurance was given that a Board would be set up to hear appeals with regard to compensation.

\* \* \*

THE Government accepted an amendment moved in the Lower House by Mr. R. Singleton-Salmon (appointed member) to delete the words "or special" in the Tea, Rubber and Coconut Research Amendment Bill. The clause now provides for the Minister of Agriculture and Food giving the Boards of the Institutes only general directions. In this form the Bill was passed without a division by the Senate.

At a meeting of the Southern Province P.A., when the Bill was discussed there were some members who justified intervention by the Minister on the grounds that there was discrimination in the terms and conditions of employment of Ceylonese and European officers. The suggestion was also made that the Tea Research Institute was becoming a place where European scientists gained experience and went away to other tea-producing countries.

\* \* \*

THE strike called by the Ceylon Mercantile Union last week has laid bare the unsatisfactory state of the labour laws of the country. The Minister of Labour has indicated that he is preparing a comprehensive overhaul of existing legislation. Press comment, while granting that there are defects to be remedied, has sounded a warning. It is pointed out that what is required is machinery for expeditious settlement of disputes by negotiation, not greater compulsion than now obtains. In particular it is urged that,

it may be that the law was partial to the employer in the past, the object should be to achieve a balance and not to make it more favourable to the employee, if private enterprise is to play its part in the economy.

An Industrial Court has been elected composed of Mr. R. R. Selvadurai, former District Judge; Mr. J. N. Arumugam, retired C.C.S.; and Mr. D. E. Wijewardene, former Public Trustee.

\* \* \*

A RESHUFFLE of diplomatic staff is in prospect by reason of the impending retirement of Mr. T. B. Jayah, High Commissioner in Pakistan, and Sir Edwin Wijeratne, High Commissioner in India. Both have pleaded failing health as the reason for relinquishing their appointments. Mr. Jayah is Ceylon's oldest diplomat with the possible exception of Sir Claude Corea. He was appointed by Mr. D. S. Senanayake soon after Ceylon attained independence. He became so popular that Pakistan desired that he be retained for a second term. Mr. Senanayake ruled that he may stay on in Karachi as long as he liked. He is now in his third term.

Sir Edwin was posted to Delhi after a spell in London. Sir Richard Aluvihare, former Inspector-General, is mentioned as his successor.

In the meantime Mr. Wilmot Perera has left for Peking as Ceylon's first ambassador to People's China. His choice has been universally acclaimed and he goes with the greatest good-will of all parties.

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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

(Continued from page 9)

with his wife was on a visit to Ceylon at the time. He described his first impression of Ratmalana when he himself landed in Colombo as unfavourable, but he formed a better opinion of its amenities after being shown round the extension to the terminal building. On the Ratmalana vs. Katunayake issue he declined to comment.

The "Whispering Giant" was flown by Captain T. A. Taylor M.V.O., D.F.C. and Bar. The plane took off from Ratmalana an hour after its arrival. Back at headquarters, Captain Taylor will report on Ratmalana's suitability for the Bristol-Britannia turbo-prop.

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# I REMEMBER . . .

## CAPT. FRANCIS FENWICK LOOKS BACK

By "OLD HAND"

IT would interest our readers to know that among the old brigade of turfites in Ceylon Capt. Francis Fenwick is now the most senior among the Europeans, and will soon complete his fiftieth year in the Island. It must be mentioned, however, that for a few years, like many others, he was away on War service, serving in the Indian Army during World War I.

The writer has known Capt. Fenwick from the time he first came to the Island to take up work as a Sub-Accountant in the Bank of Madras, as the Imperial Bank and later State Bank of India, was then known. That was in 1908, when Mr. D. G. Dunbar was the Agent, and one of Capt. Fenwick's colleagues was R. A. Gray, who was then one of the most dashing Rugby forwards in the Island. Gray was a reserve for Scotland the year before he came out East and the older generation of Ceylon sportsmen will remember that he led the Colombo fifteen in the August Test match with Up-country. That was when the hillsmen were invariably too good for the Low-Country side.

\* \* \*

CAPT. Fenwick used to turn out occasionally at rigger for the C.H. & F.C., but he did not take the game too seriously. He was too interested in racing and soon after he arrived here showed that he was a most capable Gentleman Rider. Racing in Ceylon was then in a very flourishing condition, with numerous owners like Mr. E. L. F. de Soysa, still as keen as ever in the Sport of Kings, Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranaike, Sir Ernest de Silva, Mr. W. H. Figg, Mr. D. H. Williams, Mr. Kenneth J. Harper, Mr. Wilton Bartleet, Mr. A. E. Ephraums, Mr. W. B. Bartlet, Mr. Robert Meaden and Mr. George Fellowes, to mention a few of a galaxy of fine sportsmen then in the Island.

It may be of interest to recall that during that period there were two

outstanding performers—Mr. Figg's Black Buck and Mr. de Soysa's Footprint, which won the coveted Governor's Cup more than once.

\* \* \*

CAPT. Fenwick tells me that as a youth at Fife, Scotland, he attended school with his twin brother at the Bell Baxter in Gupar, Fife, doing the six-mile journey by



Capt. F. Fenwick  
—“Times”

cart, but when there were big drifts of snow on the roads they used to ride on ponies. “All my life I have been keen on riding and horses,” said Capt. Fenwick recently when I called on him.

Capt. Fenwick told me this story of the eventful early years he spent here. “There was a time when I had in my string of racehorses a good number belonging to the late Mr. Frank T. Wright, elder brother of Col. T. Y. Wright. Mr. Frank Wright was a well-known planter Up-country, and meeting my twin brother, who happened to be in Ceylon on a holiday from Sarawak, staying at the G.O.H., asked him how his horses were faring. Taken completely by surprise and not knowing anything about Frank

Wright's string of horses, he replied that he knew nothing about them. Mr. Wright was naturally upset and said: What! you don't know anything about my horses in your charge?

“The situation was duly explained to Mr. Wright, who enjoyed the joke thoroughly.”

\* \* \*

IN 1914, Capt. Fenwick joined the Indian Army Reserve and was attached to the 31st D. C. O. Lancers, at Kohat, N. W. F. P. as a 2nd Lieutenant. Three years later he was promoted Captain. He saw service in France, Persia and Mesopotamia. While on service he rode frequently in races both flat and jump. He tells me that he won a few races for the then Provost Marshal in Baghdad and also for Brigadier-General Hughes of the Inland Water Transport at Kut-el-Amara, Kurrah and Baghdad. In Ceylon Capt. Fenwick met with a fair amount of success as a Gentleman Rider, winning at Colombo, Nuwara Eliya, Peradeniya, Radella and Taldua.

\* \* \*

WHILE on leave from Mespot, Capt. Fenwick won the much coveted Planters' Purse at the big August Meet in Colombo for Mr. Wilton Bartleet on Devon. He still has a silver cigarette box and a pair of cuff links inscribed “Devon,” which Mr. Bartleet presented to him as a memento. Capt. Fenwick's record as an owner is well known to all turfites. Among his outstanding successes were two Governor's Cups, annexed by Aristook and Dark Spec, and two successes in the Robert's Cup, secured by Hero and Sea King. Racing was more of a sport in days gone by in comparison with what obtains to-day, when it has been greatly commercialised and is more or less a money-making business. “In the racing game one meets with all sorts and conditions of people,” remarked Capt. Fenwick in conclusion, “but I must say, taken by and large, they are a good lot.”

I must add that Mrs. Fenwick, who like her husband has been a prominent figure on the Ceylon turf, is an excellent judge of horses and has been a great help to one of Ceylon's most popular turfites during his long career as an owner and trainer in Ceylon.

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# FROM AN UVA HILLSIDE

- - - *Felicity*

*This simple story of one little family's experience in a far country, and what led to their speedy return "home," was given to Felicity in the hope that others who may be contemplating departure should "think again" before they leap into the unknown. Mr. Willie Winter and his wife, who are already happily re-installed on an estate in the Matale district, very readily gave permission for their names and the facts to be given, and Mr. Winter will be only too pleased to answer questions that may arise out of the publication of the story.*

\* \* \*

"**W**ILLIE gave me a present of a canary in a cage. It is a lovely present as it is the only bird-song we hear."

Thus wrote Hazel (Mrs. Willie Winter) to her mother in the New Year, and she was writing from Toronto in Canada, with the outside temperature at 6 degrees below zero. Yesterday she talked with me in my Uva garden amid a riot of bird-song. The magpie robin whistled his sweetest lay for her, the bulbuls took up the chorus. Close at hand the little fantail flycatcher proudly showed off the tune he had been practising for the past week, and suddenly from the leafy tops of the high gums two golden orioles swooped across the garden in noisy, laughing flight.

"Ceylon," said Hazel thankfully. "We had to go all those thousands of miles and spend all that money, in order to appreciate her properly. But how glad we are to be back!"

"Will you tell me why you returned so suddenly?" I asked. "For that letter you wrote in the New Year never hinted you were coming so soon. You only went away last September, didn't you? Do you think you and your husband gave Canada a fair trial?"

"We were there only in Autumn and Winter," she admitted, "and in the City all that time. We were told the Summers in Canada are glorious. But we had seen enough to know the Canadian way of life did not appeal to us. We did not want it for ourselves or for our children."

I **W**AITED expectantly and she went on.

"Canada is gorgeous—a marvellous country. We saw enough on our way to Toronto to realise that. And people were wonderfully kind to us. We went to relatives, as you know, and Willie put his name down at an Employment Bureau and did not have to wait long for a job."

Willie, an ex-planter from Galagedara, and the son of a planter, I learned, became a "packer" and "checker" in one of Canada's giant manufactories. It was all he felt equipped for after his Ceylon training, though he had thoughts of attempting work on the land when Summer came round. The pay seemed enormous for work of that type—close on a thousand rupees a month! But it did not go very far, he found, when it came to settling rent and bills for food and clothes.

"It's such a long story, I hardly know where to start," said his wife. "You know the children were our first consideration when we went away." The Winters have two small boys, Terry, aged three, and Roy, aged six and a bit.

"We were afraid for their future here in Ceylon, and we did want to do our best for them. And of course children in Canada seem to have a wonderful time. Our two revelled in it all. The everlasting cowboy romances on the television, the comics, the romps with other children in the snow. Roy was learning to skate quite nicely."

\* \* \*

**S**HE described for me the snowy landscapes, where down every little hillside you see children sliding or tobogganing. "Old people too go sleigh-riding with the children," she said "and nearly everyone knows how to skate" . . . In the Summer, those who do not go away to the woods for their holidays have always got the lake for bathing in, and sailing their boats on, or camping on the beach. That all sounds good, I know, but the children are so tough and undisciplined, and they want to be out all the time. There seems to be no family life as we know it. Then the education."

"How did that compare with Ceylon?" I asked.

"Well," she hesitated, "I can only judge by my own boy. He was just considered average in his class here, but in Canada he was much in advance of other little boys of his age. Since our return, I have tried to get him into Trinity College, in Kandy, and he failed the test. St. Thomas' Prep. School consider him backward, but they are taking into account the special circumstances and going to give him a chance. This looks as though the standard here is higher than in Canada, and others with older children have found the same. How he will get on under the new conditions, with swabhasha, remains to be seen, but my husband and I are determined to be sensible over this: we shall help both children all we can with their Sinhalese education and get them private tuition in English: it's the only way to be happy all round."

\* \* \*

"**D**ID you find the work very hard," I asked her. "Not a bit," she said. "The central heating kept us at just a comfortable temperature indoors—just about what it is here at 4,000 feet, on this sunny day. It was fun learning to use all the labour-savers, and I soon learned to do my own washing and cooking and cleaning. The shops just need to be seen to be believed. The way food is prepared makes cooking very easy, the only difficulty is thawing it out first. It comes hard as a rock from the deep-freeze, you know."

\* \* \*

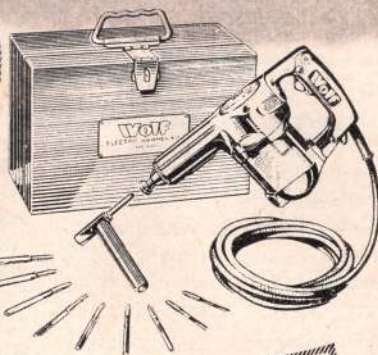
"I **S**TILL don't see why you could not have given it a longer trial," I said. It was hard to put her reasons into words, she said, but bit by bit she was able to give me the picture. First and foremost there was the question of financial security. They had been permitted to take only thirty thousand rupees with them and this was insufficient for them to set up in a house of their own. Even had they been able to do so, there was the nightmare of uncertainty of employment. Her husband had found that no employment could be looked upon as "permanent." You just worked hard for a few weeks or months, or it might be years, and then, when it suited your employers they "laid off" the workers, and a new job had to be looked for.

(Continued on page 36)

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# JUNGLE LIFE

By E. L.

OF late years a new form of sport has come into vogue, and is gradually becoming more popular. I refer to the sport of "Hunting Wild Animals with the Camera." It is worthy of encouragement, and can be depended on to provide its devotees with quite as many thrills as the older custom of hunting with gun and rifle. It has the advantage that its object is not the slaughter and destruction of wild life, which threatens to exterminate many animals which are thereby rapidly being wiped off the face of the earth; and that many others besides the huntsman, can enjoy the fruit of his efforts and share with him the excitement he experiences in securing his trophies in the shape of beautiful photographs of animals in their natural surroundings, and depicting their habits and methods.

The man who is hunting to kill is called upon to undergo many hardships and often dangers. If he is successful in securing his quarry, probably very few people outside his circle of friends and acquaintances hear about it, and few are any the better or gain much knowledge from his experiences. True he has learnt many a lesson himself, and I do not wish to run him down in any way; unless he indulges in his pastime for the mere love of killing and tuft hunting.

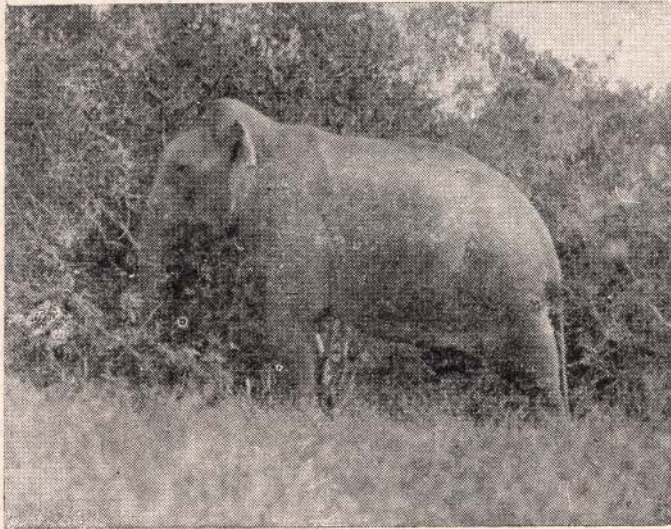
Many a fine sportsman has thrilled us all with the accounts of his adventures and experiences, and the sporting instincts are common to nearly all of us. Up to within quite recent times it is to such men that we have been indebted for such knowledge as we have gained of wild life in distant countries. But the man who hunts with the camera has to undergo the same dangers and difficulties, and is able to bring back to us photographs of what he has actually seen, and such a man hunts with the definite object of depicting animals in their natural surroundings, and bringing home to the public the results of his efforts and the know-

ledge he has gained; and I can think of no more interesting subject to study.

\* \* \*

THE study of the natural instinct of animals for self-preservation, an art shared by savages who live under very similar conditions and have to depend on their wits for their very existence, has been largely lost among civilized peoples, owing to the comparative security in which they have lived for generations, and their freedom from danger and the necessity of protecting themselves.

In the jungles of Ceylon with the exception of Elephants, Bears, Leopards and Alligators, there are no really dangerous large animals. But even these have their enemies,



Wild Elephant on the fringe of the jungle.

chiefly man, I regret to say, and I will here give two instances of the natural instinct of bears for self-preservation.

I had occasion to camp for some months in the jungle near Kantalai, being engaged in work on the railway extensions to Trincomalee. Close to my camp was a dried up bed of a river, or rather a canal, which in former days had been cut as a connecting link between the two irrigation tanks of Kantalai and Minneria. All the water in this canal, or "Ela" as it is called, had dried up during the hot weather, and I was obliged to dig deep wells for the requirements of my camp, in the bed of this Ela.

\* \* \*

IN my wanderings I came across water-holes scooped out by bears. These were not tanks or pools of clear

water as one might suppose, at which all the animals in the neighbourhood assembled nightly to quench their thirst, but merely holes scooped out by the bears in the sand until they came to a little moisture, and had to content themselves with sucking up this muddy ooze mixed with sand. I was very surprised and mystified by this, the more so, when one day on turning up the dry bed of a stream which joined the Ela at right angles, I came to a beautiful clear pool of fresh water, only about two hundred yards away, in the deep shade of the jungle, a pool about 30 yards long and deep enough for a swim, with fish in it.

Why did the bears scoop out these holes and suck up the muddy water, which oozed up through the sand, in preference to drinking at this beautiful clear pool? Then I bethought me of Kipling's "Just so Stories," and in particular, of "How the Elephant Got His Trunk." Now perhaps those of you who have read these wonderful stories can think of the explanation. The bears knew there might be alligators lurking in the pools, which might seize them by the nose and hold them down until they were drowned. This is one instance of their sagacity and instinct.

\* \* \*

ON another occasion I thought I would try and procure a flashlight photo of a bear at one of these sand scoop-outs as it drank at night. I had a *machan*, or stage, erected on a tree close to the water-hole and one night as it was growing dark established myself there with my tracker, having arranged camera and flashlight so as to command a good view of the bear as he drank. At about 8.30 p.m., we heard him approaching, and it was thrilling to hear his footsteps over the dry dead leaves as he shuffled along. He passed right under the *machan*, but to my disgust did not go down to the water-hole. He did not get wind of us, however, and shuffled away, and I was disappointed as I heard the sound of his shuffling gait receding. But my tracker assured me that he would return, and there was nothing for it but to possess our souls in patience and await events.

(Continued on page 23)

## PEOPLE

MR. William Armour Mudie, former Managing Director of Messrs. Brown & Co., Ltd., and so well-known throughout the Island, was a warm supporter of this journal from the time it was launched nearly ten years ago. He has retained his interest during the three years which have elapsed since he left us on his retirement and again we have news of this fine sportsman. He writes to us as follows from his home, "Doniford," in Brechin, Angus, Scotland :

"Your excellent *Fortnightly Review* is as welcome as ever although the closing of the Suez Canal makes its receipt late and irregular. May be in a few months the normal route will be resumed. I was down in London last week and went along to Twickenham to see the match between England and France at rugby. The newspapers maintained it would be a piece of cake for England but it did not turn out that way. England won by nine points to five and deserved to win. With only a minute or two to go, France was pressing hard and had a scrum down almost on England's line. If they had been fortunate enough to get a quick heel there was every chance of a try. Conversion would not have been difficult as the scrum was adjacent to the goal posts and it could have been 10/9 !

"That is my humble opinion. It was a good game to watch and comfortable compared with Murrayfield the same day, when Ireland beat Scotland in blinding snow.

"THERE were quite a number of ex-Ceylon people there," continues Mr. Mudie, "and I met John Neale and G. Lasbery, late of Bosanquet and Skrine, Charles Cameron, former General Manager of the Colombo Commercial Company Ltd., and his wife, Cuthbert Leefe, late of E. John, Thompson, White, Ltd., Basil Foy, late of Lee, Hedges & Co.,



Mr. W. Armour Mudie

Ltd., and my hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Gwyn Griffith. Griffith retired a year or two ago as senior partner of Messrs Whittall & Co. (now Whittalls Limited). There were also many younger people of Ceylon but I did not know them."

\* \* \*

YET another of the "Old Brigade" of Ceylon planters to leave the

Island for good is Mr. W. H. Field, who had been here for forty-five years, having arrived in Colombo on March 3rd, 1911. He had a good start creeping under Mr. J. L. Cameron, on Aberdeen estate. Mr. Cameron was later with Whittalls in Colombo, where he became a partner.

Mr. Field's first permanent billet was on Etnawala estate, Ambepussa, from 1927 to 1938. He then moved to Waharaka, Undugoda, and remained there till 1946. He has been in acting billets ever since, finishing on Kotiyagalla, Bogawantalawa, for one year.

Mr. Field was well known as a keen sportsman and figured with much success at cricket, rugger and other games. He played cricket for Up-country against the C.C.C. in the August Test in 1921 and 1925. He represented Up-country in the August week Rugger match against Colombo in 1911 as a wing three-quarter. He was also in the Up-country fifteen in 1914 and was a member of the unbeaten Uva side of that year.

\* \* \*

ON the outbreak of World War I, Mr. Field joined the I.A.R.O. and was attached to the 33rd Punjabis. He saw service in German East Africa and was mentioned in Despatches. He was demobilised in March, 1919, as a Captain. Mr. Field took a keen interest in planting politics and during the period he served as Secretary of the Kelani Valley P.A. rendered yeoman service. He has a wide circle of friends in the Island who will wish him all the best in his retirement in Launceston, Cornwall.

\* \* \*

MR. James P. Grant, Director of the United States Operations Mission of Ceylon, flew to Washington on 8th March, for consultation. While in the United States, Mr. Grant will assist in the finalizing of several contracts providing for technical assistance under the Ceylon—United States aid agreement. One of the contracts Mr. Grant is anxious to finalize is with Texas A. and M. (Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas), one of the most famous agriculture and engineering universities in the United States.

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PEOPLE

the Faculties of Engineering and Agriculture at the University of Ceylon. Mr. Grant will be away for one month.

\* \* \*

Dr. Anthony Donovan, a U.S. Public Health expert, is in Ceylon to review with the Ministry of Health projects for which U.S. assistance may be requested under the Ceylon-American Economic and Technical Co-operation programme.

Dr. Donovan has been with the U.S. Public Health Service since 1934. In 1951 he was assigned to the Institute of Inter-American Affairs. He has been associated with public health aspects of U.S. overseas assistance programme since 1951.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. O'Riordan, so well known in Mercantile and musical circles in Colombo, are leaving for the U.K. this week by air on a six months' holiday. They will spend a few days *en route* in places like Beirut and Athens and we are hoping to publish some impressions of Mr. O'Riordan in due course in this journal. In the meantime our readers will join us in wishing Mr. and Mrs. O'Riordan a pleasant holiday.

\* \* \*

THE death occurred at Batticaloa early this month of the veteran planter, Mr. D. S. Nicol, for some time superintendent of Sunnycroft in the Kelani Valley. His last charge was Passekuda estate, Kalkudah. The funeral took place at Batticaloa.

Mr. Nicol leaves his wife; Mrs. Peter Harris (Maureen) of Wales (daughter); Mr. Colin S. Nicol of Bexhill-on-sea and Mr. E. N. Nicol of South Africa (brothers); and Mrs. Hancock of California (sister).

\* \* \*

THE death occurred on Monday, 4th March, at a private nursing home in Colombo of Mrs. Mavis Brohier, wife of Mr. Guy Brohier, staff-officer of the Overseas Telecommunication Service, Colombo. Mrs. Brohier, who had been ill for some months was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Pereira of Perth, Western Australia. Mrs. Pereira returned to Ceylon to be with her daughter a few months ago. There was a large gathering at the funeral which took place at the General Cemetery, Kanatte, on Tuesday afternoon, 5th March, the Rev. R. V. Metzeling and the Rev. R. de Ridder officiating.

Mr. Arthur H. S. Fernando, second son of the late Mr. Sidney E.



Mr. Arthur Fernando

Fernando and Mrs. Myra Fernando of Frederica Road, Wellawatte, who has been on the staff of Air Ceylon, Ltd., for some years, left for America by Air Ceylon plane on the 9th instant for a special course of training in flight testing of aircraft. He has been offered more than one appointment in the U.S.A., but will not accept any of them till such time as he completes his studies there, which may take him some months.

Educated at Royal College Mr. Fernando at 17, became an apprentice at Walker, Sons & Co., Ltd. He later proceeded to Bombay to study aviation, at Air India, Ltd. He was there till 1948, when after completing his apprenticeship he worked with Air India, Ltd., before returning to Ceylon, to take up an appointment with Air Ceylon. Now

(Continued on page 35)

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# SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN INDIA

By Dr. O. H. FRANKEL, D.Sc., F.R.S.

Dr. Frankel is Chief of the Division of Plant Industry of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation. The Division has its main laboratories in Canberra and Brisbane, but its work is carried out in various parts of Australia. It is engaged in research into plant production and plant growth.

He recently returned from India, where he attended a Symposium in New Delhi on Genetics and Plant Breeding in South-east Asia, organised by the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding, and the South Asia Science Co-operation Office of UNESCO.

MY visit to India has left me with an impression of rapid, and indeed inspiring, progress in many fields. In a short span of years, India has established a large organisation in scientific research and services covering all its major agricultural and manufacturing indus-

tries. New universities have been established and the older ones have been strengthened. There is still a tremendous amount to do, but there is a new generation growing up full of optimism and vigour.

I gained the impression that our problems in Australia and those of

India, in spite of our very different ages and cultures, are in many ways akin. Both countries are making rapid progress, both are turning to science and technology for the maximum assistance, both are enthusiastic to succeed quickly.

Frequent mutual contacts, such as the Symposium to which I had the good fortune to be invited, should be made. I feel sure that Australian research workers could pay more visits to India with great profit to both countries. Many more Indian workers should be given the opportunity to visit our laboratories. We have a great deal to learn from each other. I met with not only great friendship but intense interest in Australian research.

I have never attended a Symposium in which the audience was as interested and lively as this one. This interest extended not only throughout the intense four-day programme of lectures, but into all hours of day and night.

\* \* \*

YOUNG research workers and students started appearing at our hotel at breakfast, and we rarely parted company before late in the evening. They were anxious to discuss problems in their research, overseas study, plant material or literature from overseas, etc. They showed us microscope slides, manuscripts of papers and University theses.

They were thoroughly stimulating, and many contributed a good deal of interest both during the formal sessions and outside. It was only regretted that there was no more time available.

During and after the formal Symposium I was able to get glimpses, and sometimes more than glimpses, of the work of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. This is one of the largest institutions of its kind that I have visited, and in many fields one of the best planned.

I was particularly struck with the large number of able young men in the various laboratories I visited. I saw a good deal of work which runs parallel to research work in Australia and elsewhere, and which will be of interest to Australian workers in years to come. The Indian colleagues were well informed about work abroad, and very much interested in Australian work. Australian journals are received at the Institute in New Delhi.



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to make a rapid tour of a large number of Institutions in India to as far south as Trivandrum, and was particularly impressed by the National Physical Laboratory at New Delhi. This is no doubt one of the largest and best equipped institutions in its field anywhere in the world.

C.S.I.R. Institutions that interested me profoundly were the National Chemical Laboratory, the Central Food Technological Research Institute at Mysore and the Central Leather Research Institute at Madras.

The Food Research Institute's researches into food processing and into problems of human nutrition are of great significance to health and well being, no doubt far beyond the borders of India. The Leather Research Institute, also a magnificently equipped institution, serves one of the largest industries of India and again constitutes one of the best of its type in the world.

Throughout my visit there were fleeting opportunities to see something of the countryside, of cultivation in the villages, of village life and last but not least of the interesting community projects in several parts of India. I was glad to see that impressive progress was being made by these projects.

## JUNGLE LIFE

(Continued from page 19)

After about three hours patient waiting we were rewarded by hearing the shuffling sound coming up the dry bed of the stream. The moon was up and presently Bruin came into view, but not in the bright moonlight. He kept close to the bank and as much as possible in the shadows. Our excitement was becoming intense. Nearer and nearer he came, and now he was within ten yards of us. In a few seconds he would be at the water hole, and everything was ready for snapping him at the psychological moment.

\* \* \*

SOMEONE moved, a slight cracking of the woodwork of which the machan was constructed, and . . . . . Bruin did not waste a single second in pricking up his ears, sniffing or peering round to see where the danger lay. Without a moment's hesitation he made off for the opposite bank where there was a deeper shadow, and where it was not so steep, so that he could get up and secure cover of the jungle. But this is where his natural instinct was most evident. To get to the other side he would have to cross in a bright

patch of moonlight, making an easy target for a rifle; but there happened to be a big tree leaning over the stream, whose trunk threw a broad shadow across this patch of light, and up that shadow Bruin went, and never exposed himself in the bright light for a moment. That was a wonderful lesson, and though I was disappointed and did not have the satisfaction of getting my flashlight snapshot, I had learnt a lot and had a thrilling experience.

## TRAVELLERS' VIEW

(Continued from page 11)

performances in front of the ruins of St. Mary's Abbey in early July. Dating back to medieval times, the Mystery Plays are, as ever, the highlight of the York Festival on the site of the ancient Roman city of Eboracum. One of the plays, by the way, will be paraded each evening on a waggon, in the medieval manner, through the streets of the city.

For guests too late for the York Festival there are the Miracle Plays, in mid-July, at that other old walled city, Chester, which once guarded the frontier to Wales but is now the gateway to that happy holiday ground.



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# AN HISTORICAL SILHOUETTE

By H. L.

(Fortnightly Review Special)

## II.

IN the light of later events quite unconnected therewith, the peaceful mission of Mahinda in 307 B.C., which established the teachings of the Buddha in Ceylon, seems to be but the heralding of the sword. The consolidation of the Buddhist system had hardly begun with the influence of the Pali literature and the North Indian caste system when, shortly after the death of Mahinda, in the reign of King Sura Tissa, in 237 B.C., the South Indian usurpations of Sena and Guttala started the vigorous and long continued invasions, usurpations and infiltrations from the three South Indian kingdoms that went on intermittently for fifteen centuries.

Parakrama Bahu VI, it is true, subdued the Jaffna Kingdom and reigned over a united Ceylon, but it was to an utterly exhausted nation, with its people's physical and cultural anthropology and caste system invaded, its religion and art just prevented from reversal from North to South Indian, save in localities islanded by forest and mountain barriers, and the surface of the land that had been cultivated abandoned and desolated, that the Portuguese came.

Only Kandy was able to preserve specimens of the general architectural type that probably prevailed all over Ceylon. The Dravidian powers and influences, always strongly resisted by the people, were therefore never thorough-going, save in the North, but only sporadic, local and hybrid. It is therefore not surprising that no radical or abiding changes were made in the country's institutions; and none of them was so widespread as even, say, cricket.

\* \* \*

THIS brings us to the criterions by which humanity in general judges and tends to adopt, or discard, in-

novations, whether sought after and imported, peacefully introduced, or imported and imposed by force; for Western influences, on the other hand, the works and institutions which, in Ceylon, as also over other much larger areas over the world besides, paved the way for democracy, which Ceylon was able to accept with surprising ability in such a flood, whereas it had been introduced in England itself only in slow stages over near a century, were decidedly widespread, fundamental and abiding. And this in spite of the fact that the tendency of the Portuguese, Dutch and the English was to adapt the existing institutions and administer, to as great an extent as each of them deemed prudent, through the offices of the Sinhalese people.

The headmen formed the indispensable sheet-anchor of the frame-work, and even in British times, after English had been made the official language, Sinhalese or Tamil was compulsory for every member of the Civil Service; the headmen used Sinhalese, as did most of the people in their correspondence with the government; and the employment of translators in every Kachcheri ensured it that no communication in Sinhalese or Tamil was ever to be ignored. Civil Servants even discovered to the Sinhalese some of their valuable literature.

If the Mudaliyars, the nobility and those who could be independent of government and professional employment chose English, it was not to make the language they always used at home, as they did the cloth in preference to the trousers, the kitchen language, but because of a natural democratic choice of the use of the more adequately developed instrument for other purposes. For while the Sinhalese language was the one most widely used over the country, the English language, usages and institutions were being adopted by those affected by the changes, and the English heritage, culminating in the institution of Parliament, got fixed in Ceylon, as also in every dominion and colony, which before the War extended over a third of the earth's surface.

The same influences were found also in the United States of America, and in countries of the Western part of the Continent of Europe through trade, culture and polite letters and political relations, for even if the political systems of countries of Western Europe, like those of Spain and France, were older, they were not so progressive as those of England. Voltaire's short sojourn in England made him so enamoured of the English system as the instrument of liberty that he was inclined to look upon it as the last bastion of freedom.

\* \* \*

### Socialistic Tendencies

IN the Eastern realms now free, India has adopted a constitution that is a hybrid of the American and British. The American Constitution itself is a hybrid French, British and Roman. These are nations which decided in other ways "to drill the raw world for the march of mind, till crowds at length be sane and crowns be just." Thus, a good part of the world has been influenced by the British Parliamentary system, which, but for the inevitable demands of party on individual judgment, and the exploiting of the Prerogative to unjust and ludicrous limits, which avail an administration if it is unscrupulous, is an admirable system if it is adopted and worked with knowledge of its nicer canons, written or unwritten, for safeguarding liberty, smooth working, manners and courtesy, in the proper spirit.

A tendency to work on the lines of the last Labour Government to achieve for the common man that equality in law which obtains in France, without abandoning any of the present great advantages of the English system over the French, whilst also eschewing the financial violence of the laws that by death dues and taxes impoverished the nobility and forfeited to the State lands that it could not so effectively as their owners turn to national advantage, may confirm the Parliamentary system in general acceptance permanently not only in England. The selfish tendency to win and maintain popularity by the cult of the common man must land parties on the rocks if they disregard the political axiom pointedly and pithily comprised in these words of the great Abraham Lincoln: "You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong."



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## AN HISTORICAL SILHOUETTE

## British Freedom

THE lesson of the axiom and its moral is only too well exemplified by the development during ten centuries of the British freedom and competence through changes in the British constitution. The submergence of the Mother of Parliaments, the Witangamoot, and of the English under the Conqueror, the gradual emergence and coalescing of Celt, Norman and English from the reign of Henry II together with the struggle of the King for the running of the King's writ through the Courts of Law in the teeth of clerical defiance, the Magna Charta, 1215, the Model Parliament, with wider representation, of Simon de Montfort, 1265, the Tudor management or ordering of Parliament (some call it the Tudor dictatorship; a dictatorship according to present-day connotation of the word it will not be admitted to be), from 1485 to 1588, the Great Rebellion and the Bill of Rights, 1689, the rise of Cabinet Government with Walpole in the eighteenth century, the French Revolution of 1795 which really made a much more numerous smaller nobility as in China, that exactly suited Napoleon's plans of French consolidation that made France the most competent self-sufficing country in Europe, Grey's Reform Bill of 1833 with the resulting social legislation—all these events mark the long journey to democratic freedom.

The Reform Bill of 1867, reinforcing that of 1833 went further by transferring power from the nobility to the people, leaving but little remnants of aristocratic power. The extension of household suffrage to the counties in 1884 further reinforced the reforms; and County Councils, National Insurance and Educational Reform paved the way for the grant of Universal Franchise, in 1918, when women were given the vote. This

instalmental period of reform covers a period of 85 years and six reform laws, including the Educational laws of 1832 and 1871.

\* \* \*

## Checks to Freedom

IT should be seen that all these measures up to 1918 bore the desired fruit because, inspired as they were by the desire for freedom, they did not attempt to destroy the vital leaven of democracy, did not, like the crab, destroy the parents who planned and thought and gave them the systems that needed knowledge, wisdom, patience, experience, independence of mind and body, all of which demanded nobleness and dedication, to carry to a desired end unselfishly, bravely, patriotically, loyally. Lord Tweedsmuir, that most lamented and most unfortunate genius, the prolific novelist John Buchan, says: "Democracy will succeed only if it becomes an aristocracy, in the lassical sense of the word, where the rule of the many is the rule of the best." Perhaps he intends to say the most worthy.

How true these words are is seen in the fruit of the bloody revolutions in Soviet lands, where not even election by the masses may determine who is the best. The Soviet States, born of blood and wrong in 1919, established on principles ethically wrong, imprudent, basically unsound because it discarded and despised the vital natural principles of the rights of man and the solid bedrock of the dignity of man and the natural tendencies and aspirations of human nature, have either to continue under the tyrannic force of a small oligarchy returned to power by the Hobson's choice which is named the will of the people until, if the spirit of the people remains unbroken, they can know and determine for themselves again.

If the monarchic land monopoly coupled with Rajakariya (forced labour) in Ceylon produced only a servile court and a clergy whose dogma fortunately gave them power as much over the king's mind as over the mind of the masses, and therefore a classless society, surely it should soon become apparent that the Communist Party, even if it did serve a purpose in the past, is now wasting its time. Do the revolutionary parties really intend to perpetrate again in this country a classless society of utterly dependent, irresponsible population to be pushed and ordered about and dragooned to slavery in the name of the state? Appraise him of true position and then put the question to any Ceylonese, be he Sinhalese, Tamil, Burgher, Moor or Malay; and then you will see that all these parties thrive only by reason of the mistakes, injustices, callousness, and inefficiency of those who work what should turn out to be an admirable system.

In China, in 1944, unlike in Russia, neither nobility nor middle class were utterly expropriated. Each was left a sufficiency, what was held to be a fair share in accordance with the needs and ability of each to develop the land for himself; and the rest was given to the landless and those who had not sufficient land. This procedure, in itself an injustice, and, if human nature remains the same in future, calling for periodic repetition and revision, is, however, not a whit as harsh as the system imposed by Stalin, which, after the massacre and bloodshed had abated, so compelled work without return that the people destroyed many millions of cattle and tons of grain that it would have got hold of under its system of collectivisation.

(To be continued)

STROVE with none for none was worth my strife—  
Nature I loved, and next to Nature, Art,  
I warmed both hands before the fire of life.  
It sinks and I am ready to depart.

Walter Savage Lander.

MANY and sharp the num'rous ills  
Inwoven with our frame!  
More pointed still we make ourselves  
Regret, remorse and shame!  
And man whose heav'n created face  
The smiles of love adorn  
Man's inhumanity to man  
Makes countless thousands mourn.

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noolaham.org | aavanaham.org Robert Burns.

MAN is born not to solve the problem of the Universe, But to find out where the problem begins and then to restrain himself within the limits of the comprehensible.

Goethe (1789-1832).

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# CRICKETANA

By W. T. GRESWELL

(Special to the Ceylon Fortnightly Review)

SOUTH Africa did well to halve the honours in yet one more M.C.C. tour which has now come to an end. The Springboks are a great side, young and keen, sound in batting, particularly in the early part of an innings, persevering and relentless in bowling and brilliant in the field. Above all this side has resilience in recovery and the capacity to take full advantage of any weakness in the ranks of an opponent. As witness the way the team surged back into the picture when England was two up with two to play and seemed to lose grip and rather take a successful issue for granted.

It is doubtful if the word "play" can fairly be used of the strange proceedings in the fifth and last Test at Port Elizabeth. The pitch alone held the key to victory and could any two captains have been more aware of the importance of the coin's fall as it spun skywards? For a second time it fell right for Jan Ryneveld. South Africa grabbed their heaven-sent fortune, and never did a Test pitch find its way so quickly into history. Some may contend that such notoriety may be claimed for Manchester's pitch last year which gave Laker his dazzling record bowling feat at the expense of the Australians. But the circumstances were quite different. At Old Trafford the pitch was sited as usual on the old established "square" carefully tended for years. The groundsman's efforts were directed to producing a pitch which would bring life and interest to the play and ensure a finish to the match. As pitches in England are not covered as they are in South Africa he may have made a slight miscalculation, but the Australian batsmen certainly contributed to their own discomfiture by a most ignoble performance when facing only Laker.

\* \* \*

AT Port Elizabeth, if reports are correct, a pitch was actually laid for this match and at a date so recent was the turf brought from Durban for this purpose that there was no reasonable chance of its being able to "bind" and form a firm basis. The result was a travesty of cricket. Signs were soon obvious in South

Africa's first innings when only Edean by a miracle of fortune made a score which eventually saved his side. Thereafter the pitch rapidly disintegrated like a "ladder" in a lady's stocking! The surface loosened and broke under the impact of the fast bowlers' attack and some of the world's most famous batsmen, who have reduced their art to an exact science, had to submit to the indignity of ungainly attempts to stop a series of serpentine "shooters," "squatters," "grubbers" or what have you, apprehensive the while lest a more frolicsome delivery may elevate itself to the more dangerous chin-high level. After initial surprise and indignation it is safe to assume that a sense of humour saved the situation and the players and spectators must have enjoyed their unprecedented Test joke, one in bad taste of course, for levity is frowned upon in cricket's highest sanctuary!

\* \* \*

DETAILS of this cricketing farce need not now be discussed but it may be safe to assume that if Statham had not been on the injured list and out of the side, if Loader had not contracted a sore toe during the game and if Wardle too had been able to play, remembering that the latter is South Africa's bogey man of the tour, the result of the match might have been very different. Tyson and the immortal Bailey did their best to reply to the fast shooters of Heine and Adcock while Lock tried quite successfully to match the wiles of the great Tayfield in the spinning department. For South Africa Tayfield's bowling was the victorious feature of the tour. His average was 37 Test wickets for 17.18 runs while Wardle for M.C.C. took 26 for 13.80, both excellent performances. The series will be remembered for the dominance of ball over bat. The bowling of each side was strong and varied, England's being the stronger. On the other hand, England's batting, as for so many years now, was patchy and unreliable, particularly in the light of May's astonishing Test failures. The result of the strong bowling was dull batting so that, apart from some exciting finishes, the tour produced some periods of play

of unprecedented lifelessness. If Test cricket is thus going the way of English county cricket what hope may there be for the great game? Who would pay money and look for entertainment at a funeral?

\* \* \*

THE West Indians will soon be here in England and the England selectors must be considering deeply the problem of our batting, which badly requires stiffening. Above all the long search for an opening pair goes on as it has done for years now. Some permanent and reliable partner for Richardson must be found. The stubborn fighter Bailey, who does not seek the distinction and is getting on in years, is not the answer. If only England had a Goddard! What a gem in the cricket elite of any country when it comes to all rounders!

\* \* \*

THE recent proposals of the Investigating Committee appointed by M.C.C. to consider and suggest means to discourage dull play, particularly in English county cricket, even if it is necessary to alter the rules to that end, were, and still are, the subject of discussion in world-wide cricket circles. No doubt in Ceylon too cricketers have argued matters this way and that and are prepared to go on doing so. Hasty and adverse criticism is out of place when it is considered that the committee, which met under the chairmanship of my old school captain H. S. Altham, was a very strong one of experienced and well informed cricketers who would not lightly suggest these remedies, which must have been the fruit of exhaustive enquiry and deliberation in the interest of the future of the game, which undoubtedly faces a crisis.

This month the proposals are being considered at meetings of all the County Executive Committees and their findings and comments will be reported to the County Advisory Committee, which meets at Lords on March 26th. This important body will determine the final recommendations to go before cricket's governing body, the M.C.C. Executive Committee.

So far it is apparent that the proposal to limit the on-side field meets with universal favour, but, if a personal view may be permitted, it seems a pity that the rule is not more rigid so as to fix a distance from the

(Continued on page 33)



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# A SPORTS CAUSERIE

By ITINERANT

## Club Champions

THE Nondescripts Cricket Club, skippered once again by Vernon Prins, are Ceylon's new cricket champions. Recovering from a bad batting start their bowlers tore into the Moors' batting in one disastrous hour before lunch and finally won with plenty of time and runs to spare.

Had the Moors won this vital battle on their matting wicket the laurel would have gone to the S.S.C., leading by two slender points before the game. Indeed, if it were not for Prins and C. Obeyesekere, who both reached the 60s in a face-saving stand between two batting debacles, the N.C.C. would have been in serious trouble. As it was they got to 232 an hour before lunch on the 2nd day, then snatched 6 Moors' wickets for 28 in that time. A defiant 88 by V. Perera could not avert the inevitable and eventually the Moors were out for 146—and that was the end of a wonderful season of cricket, not once marred by rain.

Runners-up for the P. Saravamu Trophy were the S.S.C., with Moors and Tamils tying for 3rd place and last year's champs, B.R.C., 5th. Then followed Colts., Ceylon University, Bloomfield, Catamarans, Kandy and Saracens together, and Kurunegala.

\* \* \*

## Champions vs. Schools

THE N.C.C. will meet a Public Schools' Cricket Association XI on April 15th and 16th on the St. Peter's College ground. No "gate" will be charged for this match and I daresay there will be a large crowd present. This should be an annual fixture—our schoolboys deserve no less. Coming as it does at the end of the school season it is a good time to assess the strength of the school cricketer and reward the best of them. Moreover, the experience of a big match such as this should fortify them for the cricket to come next season.

\* \* \*

## Tour to Malaya

IT was hoped that Gamini Goonesena of Cambridge of Nottinghamshire would be back in Ceylon to lead a team scheduled to tour Malaya shortly. Ceylonese residents

in that country have invited us to send our best youngsters and Goonesena seemed their ideal leader. It is now on the cards, however, that he will accept an attractive offer made to him by a firm in Nottinghamshire to enable him to play for that county.

\* \* \*

## Gopalan Trophy

MEANWHILE I trust the Board of Control will see that our cricketers remain in training and in practice for the coming clash with Madras for the Gopalan Trophy. This will be played in Colombo next month.



—Times

V. G. Prins

\* \* \*

## Two-Mile Sea Swim

OUTSTANDING Ceylon swimmer Geoffrey Marks won the open sea swim from Mt. Lavinia to Dehiwela and back for the sixth successive year. As expected, his brother Boris was runner-up. But the star of this annual aquatic event was undoubtedly young Miss Tara de Saram, one of cricketer F. C. de Saram's three swimming daughters. Tara, winning the women's event with ease, returned a time that was bettered by only four of the men, and shattered the record set up by Fearn Ewart last year.

Her performance then and in recent record-breaking races makes Tara a "must" for the Asian Games next year and the Olympics in Rome.

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## Tennis Title Meet

NUWARA Eliya will not, after all, be the venue of the national tennis championships to be held in July and August. The meet will be staged in Colombo. The picturesque holiday resort in the hills is a place where every prospect pleases except that of finance. Not all of our promising tennis players can afford a prolonged holiday there for the duration of the championships.

\* \* \*

## Distinguished Guest

CEYLON will shortly play host to one of the world's greatest billiards players, Walter Lindrum, who has just begun a tour of South East Asia. He will pay his and his wife's expenses, and wants all proceeds from his exhibition games to be used to help more young Asians to study in Australia. Now that's a man worth collaborating with!

In one year Lindrum established 57 world records. In 45 years he has established many hundreds more friendships and bonds.

\* \* \*

## Young Heroine

TARA'S 13-year-old sister Rhuna de Saram also achieved fame in the briny—and this, too, at Mt. Lavinia—recently when she rescued a school friend from drowning. In recognition of her courage the Ceylon Society for the Prevention of Accidents presented Rhuna with a certificate at a well-attended ceremony at which the girl's "pluck and sangfroid" were lauded.

\* \* \*

## National Tourney

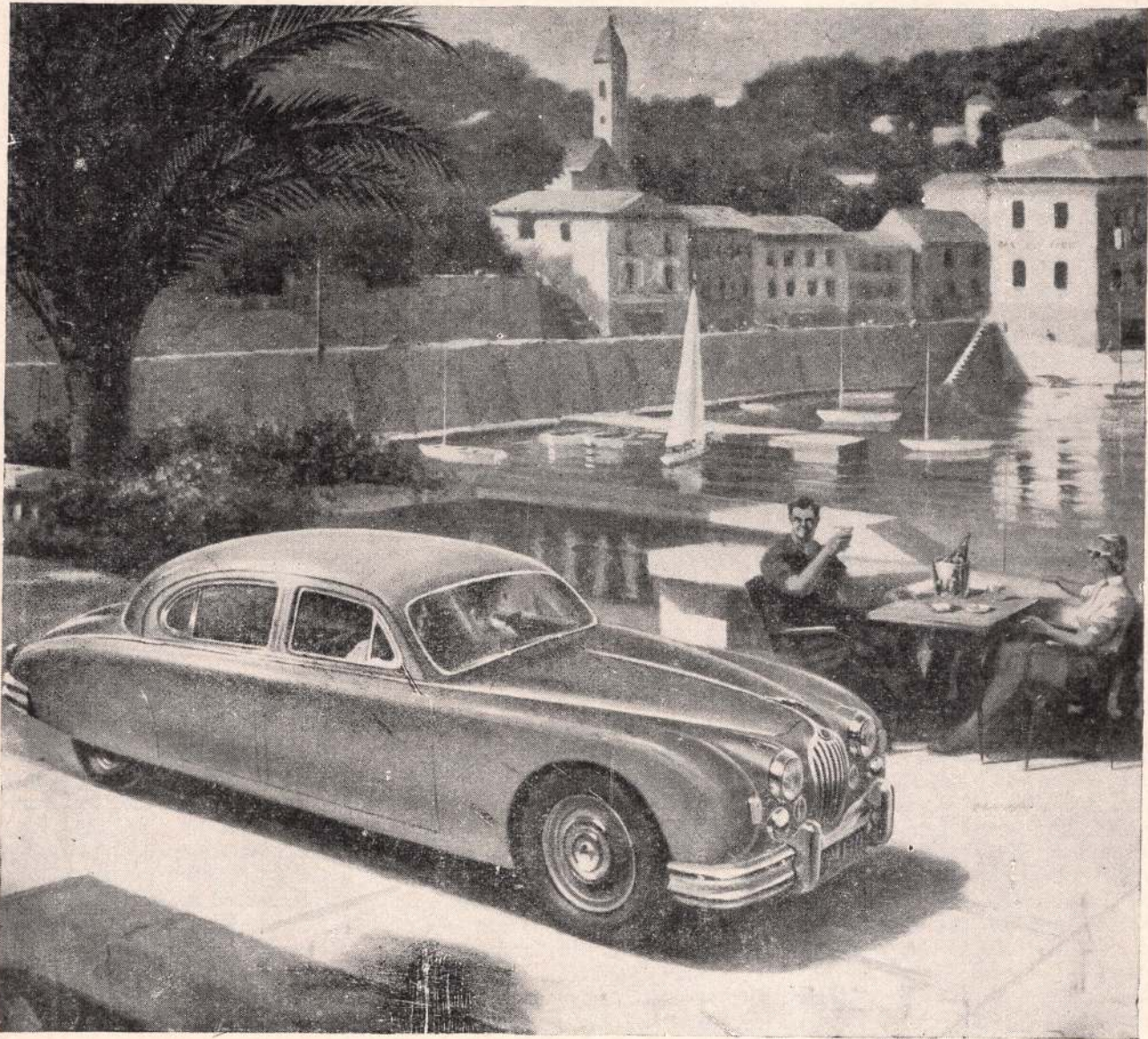
CEYLON'S second national hockey championships will be played at Matale between August 15th and September 15th, the tournament being conducted by the Matale Hockey Association. If love for the game is any criterion the arrangements should excel even those at Colombo for the history-making event last year. What is more, Matale tied with Mercantile Services for the championship, which adds all the more to "local interest."

Meanwhile the Ceylon Hockey Federation needs funds for the tour of India some time after March. Thirty "possibles" have been invited to special practices and coaching classes conducted by Mr. A. A. Virasinghe of the Tamil Union.

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## FOR THE MOTORIST

By COXON

THE hift from Ratmalana to Katukurunda is not going to bother motor racing fans (if I know my fenders) because ~~for~~ quite a number of India's ace riders are expected to compete, and for another there'll be a closer view of them at Katunayake than one would get at Ratmalana.

Yes, I think the Ceylon Motor Cycle Club's decision to hold its big meet on March 31st at Katukurunda is a wise one. No matter how diligent Club officials and police officers might be, adequate crowd control at Ratmalana is virtually impossible. And since airport regulations do not permit a barricade to be erected unless it is 350 feet away from the runway, such a distance would present the riders in miniature only.

I would, however, like to urge the C.M.C.C. to make sure that their plans are carried out. Last-minute delays, pompous officials and inconsiderate competitors can create chaos.

For one thing there should be plenty of room around the starter's post. Competitors must not wander away from their machines but be on hand in the right place and at the right time. It is also vital that loudspeakers function correctly and clearly. And finally, in case of some inevitable delay, how about a spot of music to entertain the crowd and rock their cares away?

\* \* \*

THE Speed Ace Cycle Club of Kotahena is the youngest member of the Cyclists' Association of Ceylon, but it certainly came of age at the first-ever Novices' road cycle race meet it organised so splendidly and which provided such thrilling finishes.

P. Dharmaratne won the 30-mile race for Youths and A. G. Brace triumphed in a neck-and-neck finish of the 30-mile race for Juniors. The women's race, over 10 miles, was won by a very promising young newcomer, Yvonne Parry, with Marina VanHoff second, and Maxine de Zylva third. The 5-mile route which competitors lapped was Maitland Place, Horton Place, Green Path, Galle Road, Bullers Road, Kynsey Road, Horton Place, ending at Maitland Crescent.

## SPORTS CAUSERIE

(Continued from page 31)

BOUGHT a brick yet? The Surf Live Saving Association's selling 'em in its campaign to raise about Rs. 10,000 with which to build its headquarters.

Kinross, by the way, won both the H.P.N. and Mt. Lavinia Hotel trophies for point score and team championships.

\* \* \*

## In the Wet

THE 17th annual regatta of the Amateur Rowing Association of the East, held this year on Colombo's amiable Beira Lake came to a brilliant conclusion with the final of the Willingdon Trophy Fours race, main event of the regatta, and Calcutta Rowing Club retained the trophy. Karachi B.C. had beaten Colombo R.C. "A" and Lake Club, Calcutta, had gone under to Calcutta R.C. in the semi-finals. The latter shot into the lead in the final and grand oarsmanship shoved them four lengths ahead at the finish in 3 mins. 36 secs.—the fastest time recorded at the regatta over 1,000 yards.

Lake Club, Calcutta, were out of luck. They failed to retain the Venables Bowl for the Pairs race. Madras B.C. "B," having beaten Calcutta R.C. "A" by a length in the semi-final, finished  $\frac{3}{4}$  length ahead of Lake Club in the final. In the Macklin Sculls, however, S. Nedora of Lake Club, Calcutta, was an easy winner, beating A. L. de Montfort of the Colombo Rowing Club. Colombo were at the losing end and again in the Losers' Fours, her "A" team being beaten by Madras. The latter's G. W. Hopman then triumphed in the Loser's Sculls, beating club-mate G. W. Marso.

The Schoolboys' Fours final was an all-Royal affair. Royal College "B" crew finished  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in front of its "A" crew.

Among a very large crowd of spectators was the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, who went afloat to follow some of the races. Later he distributed the trophies.

## News in Brief

FINANCE Minister Stanley de Zoysa and former Finance Minister J. R. Jayewardene were rival captains when the Colts' "Old Crocks" met the Old Royalists and Old Thomians at cricket, at a lunch and tea, and at a flannel dance that followed. I don't know to whom the honours went at the social gatherings but the O.R. and O.T. triumphed on the field of play by 49 runs. J. R. Jayewardene top-scoring for the winners with 38. Former Ceylon cricketer F. Murray made 69 for the Colts.

\* \* \*

OARSMAN Charles L. Grimes, member of Yale University's gold medal-winning Olympic crew was one of Ceylon's more charming visitors during a fortnight's stay during a study tour of Asian countries. Grimes intends to be a lawyer, and he should be a good one, judging by the interesting talks he gave here on sport.

\* \* \*

THE annual Law vs. Medical cricket match was played at the Oval this year and won by Medical in the final over. Some go so far as to say it was every bit as interesting as the Poster Parade, an exhibition which has achieved as much fame as this annual cricket battle.

## CRICKETANA

(Continued from page 29)

batsman within which only one (or perhaps two) fielders may stand.

The proposal which meets with most criticism is the limitation to 85 overs of each first innings. It is felt that this may even aggravate the disease it sets out to cure by tempting bowlers to negative tactics so as to keep down an opponent's score. This proposal needs the support of a change in the spirit of the game. This is too much to expect in these days of almost total professionalism.

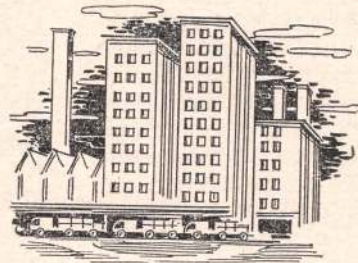
The other minor proposals, which do not need a drastic alteration in rules, are meeting with acceptance and need no comment in this letter. Speculation as to how the changes will work is natural. The real proof would be to try some or all of them for a season or two, and this may well be the final decision.

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A N E S T L É P R O D U C T

## A WOMAN'S DIARY

MOST interesting effort of the past fortnight was the Exhibition and Sale opened by Mrs. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike at Girl Guide Headquarters in aid of the Chest Hospital at Welisara. Exhibits included some 3,000 "creations," this time of dainty sweets and pastries turned out by pupils of Miss Irene Gunasekera, large cakes were purposefully excluded. An added attraction was a collection of costume jewellery, all very attractively displayed in a well-lit hall. The sweets included realistic chocolate and marzipan tortoisés, cuckoo clocks, and Chinese lanterns. The number of people crowding into the hall not only proved the popularity of Miss Gunasekera's exhibitions (this is her third) but the keen interest taken by modern housewives in the culinary art. Mrs. Bandaranaike herself was once one of Miss Gunasekera's pupils.

\* \* \*

OF great interest to women-folk is the Czechoslovakian Exhibition now being held in Colombo. Exhibits range from cookers and sewing-machines to chinaware and the famous Czech glass, unobtainable for many years and now back with renewed beauty. Lovely glass chandeliers which reflect a variety of colours from all angles, delicate vases and tumblers of varying designs, Czech fabrics, dress materials, handbags and shoes are there to delight visitors. Electric sewing-machines which stitch zig-zag and so allow varicoloured strands to be used for colour combines by the needlewoman; cookers of various types, kitchen utensils, numerous examples of ceramic ware and of plastics, for home-makers—the beautiful plastic-nylon roof of the structure which houses the exhibition, and attracts the admiring gaze of every visitor, is a product of the rapidly growing Czech plastic industry.

\* \* \*

### Institute of Social Work

THE Institute of Social Work plays a unique role in all social welfare projects. It is the only institution in Ceylon which trains social workers, enabling them to bring skill and understanding into their work for the various welfare organisations . . .

Mrs. A. E. Keuneman, Chairman of the Board of Governors of this institute makes an appeal through

the press for public support and interest on its behalf. She writes :

We are a Government approved charity, non-sectarian and non-political. The workers we have trained so far are serving in different fields pertaining to child welfare, youth welfare, welfare of the handicapped, employer-employee relations, and medical social work. At present we are engaged in giving to a group of young men and women a year's full time training in child and youth welfare, and in the welfare of the handicapped. Our next training programme will probably be in labour welfare.

Assistance to the Institute of Social Work will thus ultimately benefit all social welfare projects in Ceylon. Our funds are limited and we need help. We trust that those interested will send generous donations to the Hony. Treasurer Institute of Social Work, 171, General's Lake Road, Colombo 2.

\* \* \*

### Passing Through

VISCOUNT and Lady Stansgate spent a short holiday in Ceylon on their way back to England from China. Lady Stansgate, who is particularly interested in Church and in Y.W.C.A. work spoke to a group of members at an informal coffee-party given for her by Lady de Soysa, President of the Colombo Y.W.C.A.

Lady Stansgate explained that she was the only "non-politician" in her family. Viscount Stansgate is President of the Parliamentary Association; their son is an M.P. (Labour) and succeeded Sir Stafford Cripps when he resigned his seat.

Her husband and she had spent a very happy Christmas in China, said Lady Stansgate. She had visited all the Protestant Churches she could, and the Y.W.C.A. in Peking. It had been very interesting both to her husband and to herself to see modern China, a country they revisited after some 22 years, and it had been a very happy experience for them both. She asked for better understanding and more contacts between people to help bring about lasting peace.

\* \* \*

### Delegation from China

WITH a recent delegation from China (we have had quite a number recently) were three ladies. Two acted as interpreters in English, the third was a Vice-President of the Teachers' Association of China, and

keenly interested, as most teachers are, in the educational system of Ceylon. At a well attended dinner given to these delegates by the Ceylon-China Friendship Association, both ladies spoke expressing their pleasure at the friendly reception given them in Ceylon, and hoped that the ties of friendship between the two countries would be strengthened.

Mrs. F. B. de Mel, who was called upon to reply, said she was looking forward to visiting China with a delegation which would shortly be going to that country, and hoped to bring back to Ceylon ideas and knowledge which would help in the progress of the work here.

\* \* \*

MRS. GERARD d' Erlanger, President of the Ashford Division of the R.S.P.C.A. was in Ceylon recently. She has travelled widely in Africa, in the Americas and on the Continent. She is a great lover of animals, and like most foreign visitors wondered at the heavily over-loaded bullock-carts and the small, often emaciated, bulls struggling to draw them in the pitiless heat of the sun along crowded traffic routes, in the Fort and Pettah areas.

Here is one of the ways our newly formed Animal Lovers' Association can be of practical use. Correspondents to the local press have often pointed out that bullock-carts of the type presently used should be banned from a modern city, and that it is high time something was done to protect the unfortunate beasts of burden which draw them from ill treatment and over-work. Scenes of this sort are hardly conducive to the efforts now being made to give visitors a good impression of Ceylon.

EVELYN.

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## PEOPLE

(Continued from page 21)

after nearly 8 years and holding the position of Superintendent of Maintenance, he has decided to further his studies in America.

Mr. Fernando is a graduate of the Royal Aeronautical Society, England, and holds a pilot's licence with single and multi-engine rating. He is also a licenced Aeronautical Engineer with qualifications valid for India, Ceylon and the United States.

## A LONDON LETTER

(Fortnightly Review Special)

**E**VEN the oddest winter we in the United Kingdom have known for decades must have an end. For me, the first rustle of Spring after a January and early February, without snow, but with that almost unbelievable phenomenon in Britain—an earth tremor—came with news of the Spring music festival at Ingestre Hall.

A pocket-sized celebration, this, the first to be held in the 350-year-old mansion of Lord and Lady Shrewsbury in one of the loveliest corners of the English county of Staffordshire. But it conjures up vistas of all the other summertime delights in this "green and pleasant land" which will efface winter's memories until Christmas comes round again.

\* \* \*

### Little Opera Season

**T**HE Ingestre project has a worldwide interest. Lord Shrewsbury has announced that the little opera season there in May will herald the start of a residential centre of music with special courses for students from other countries of the Commonwealth.

A more congenial setting would be hard to find. The Great Hall at Ingestre, built in 1613, though originally intended for wining and dining, makes an intimate opera house or concert hall, seating about 250 people. My friend Jan Bussell, one of Britain's master puppeteers, will hold the stage with his Hogarth marionettes for the old-time "Master Peter's Puppet Show" during part of the May festival, with accompanying singers sitting among the audience and the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra in the minstrels' gallery. Another opera in the syllabus is "Dido and Aeneas," by the 18th-century composer Henry Purcell, one of Britain's greatest.

That all this will be going on within a few miles of the fiery furnaces of the Potteries is a reminder that, in Britain, history and drama thrive as happily in this modern industrial age as a tamer with his head in the lion's mouth.

\* \* \*

**I**T takes more than high pressure business to kill the romantic mysteries. In the 1,000-year-old Tower of London the other night, hard by the biggest trading and financial centre in the world, two husky Guardsmen on sentry duty saw on the battlements, so they said, a white, shapeless ghost. It might

have been Lady Jane Grey, for this was the 403rd anniversary, to the very day, of her beheading.

In the same Tower, visited by legions of overseas guests every summer, electronic metal detectors are being used in a search for the "Barkstead" treasure, believed to have been secreted under the Bell Tower by a fugitive Governor 300 years ago.

It is a pity the electronic detectors were not turned on the ghost.

Modern science is being used increasingly to check the validity of ancient claims, the latest instance being the new research project of the Empire Rheumatism Council. Speaking of its £250,000 scheme to combat this curse of the winter months, Sir Charles Dodds, biochemist of London's Middlesex Hospital, has said that even folk-lore remedies are being seriously examined—remedies like wearing an iodine jacket, bee stings, and absorbing the juice of the willow tree.

\* \* \*

### Some Special Occasions

**S**UCH open-mindedness speaks well for a profession that also has at its command the very latest scientific device—colour television. Viewers who are still waiting patiently for a public colour service will envy the Royal College of Surgeons, who, it is just announced, are to have closed-circuit colour television to demonstrate operations. The occasion will be a visit by distinguished Paris surgeons next May, when operations in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, more than a mile away, will be screened in colour in the main hall of the College.

Though I have no wish for surgical operations on my home screen, I sigh for colour television when I think of the panorama of events in Britain this summer.

Nothing more tantalising has come through my letter box than the list of "Special Occasions" sent me by the British Travel and Holidays Association. The Ingestre Hall opera season is only a tiny flash compared with, say, the Shakespeare season of plays in the Memorial Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon, opening early in April and continuing in the Bard's own home-town right through to November. Luckily I know my Stratford and scarcely need colour television to picture the be-flagged High Street on Shakespeare's birthday (April 23) with its pilgrims from all over the world sauntering along the Avon's willow-lined banks to the stately theatre mirrored in its still waters.

## FROM AN UVA HILLSIDE

(Continued from page 17)

**"T**HE next job," she told me, "might be miles away from the first. You can have no conception of the distances. But perhaps you can when I tell you that Main Street in Toronto is *thirty miles long*. There are buses and tram-cars, but to get to business a man often has to change three times, waiting in a queue each time—and think of that with a temperature below freezing: people often get frostbite and frequently die of exposure in such conditions. Transport is really a miserable business unless you have your own car. We soon got one."

\* \* \*

**T**HEN, although the pay seems high, everybody has such false standards of living. They must have all the so-called luxuries, everything chromium plated or plastic. They look alike, they live alike. No one seems to think of paying outright for anything. It's all obtained on the "never-never" instalment system—frigs, electric washers, furniture, radios, television sets and so on. And that means you never really have money put by for the rainy day. And that's why they seem to live so much on the surface. Kind as they were to us all, it didn't seem to mean anything. Our one thought was 'Oh, to get back to Ceylon, with its simpler, saner way of living,' and so here we are! We couldn't come fast enough. Once we'd made up our minds, we flew here."

\* \* \*

**O**N the way back, she told me, they touched down at Prestwick in Scotland, and the contrast with Canada brought tears to their eyes—"such simple, genuine people and a nice homely way of doing things: a cloth spread on the table for tea, food that looked home-made and everything so clean!"

Hazel tells me she has come back with some private resolutions of her own. While she was away, she realised that here in Ceylon she and her kind had lived a life of wasteful ease—too much spent on senseless entertaining, not nearly enough gained from the advantages of life in "lovely Ceylon."

"We need to work harder, think more, live less selfishly and far more simply, and be ready to do our best for our country," she tells me. "And that is what we mean to do."

# Oil is our way of life

The Rev. Sydney Smith confessed that his idea of heaven was eating *pâté de foie gras* to the sound of trumpets. You yourself may be a vegetarian, and not like music with your meals. You will have your own conception of a pinnacle of happiness, a flashpoint of Better Living.

It is not for the modern Petroleum Industry to interrupt your dreams. Oil is content to go on multiplying the basic amenities of your life on this earth. It makes your transport quick and safe; it speeds the plough; it lubricates the machines of factories. Oil provides ingredients for new drugs, new materials for the modern synthetic fabrics. And oil helps in your home, too. It provides an essential ingredient for the washing powder that your wife uses. The linoleum on her kitchen floor, the fluid in which she preserves her eggs, her rubberised apron and gloves, the plastic curtains in her bathroom, even the nail-varnish on her dressing table . . . Petroleum chemicals have been at work in their manufacture; which probably accounts for their high quality and low price. The name of SHELL may not be on them, but Shell Research stands behind them.

Petroleum in its crude form, dredged from the desert, marsh and jungle, is an unfriendly looking substance, dark, often sticky, sometimes smelly. But the products of its refinement oil the wheels of life: cleanly, smoothly and increasingly.



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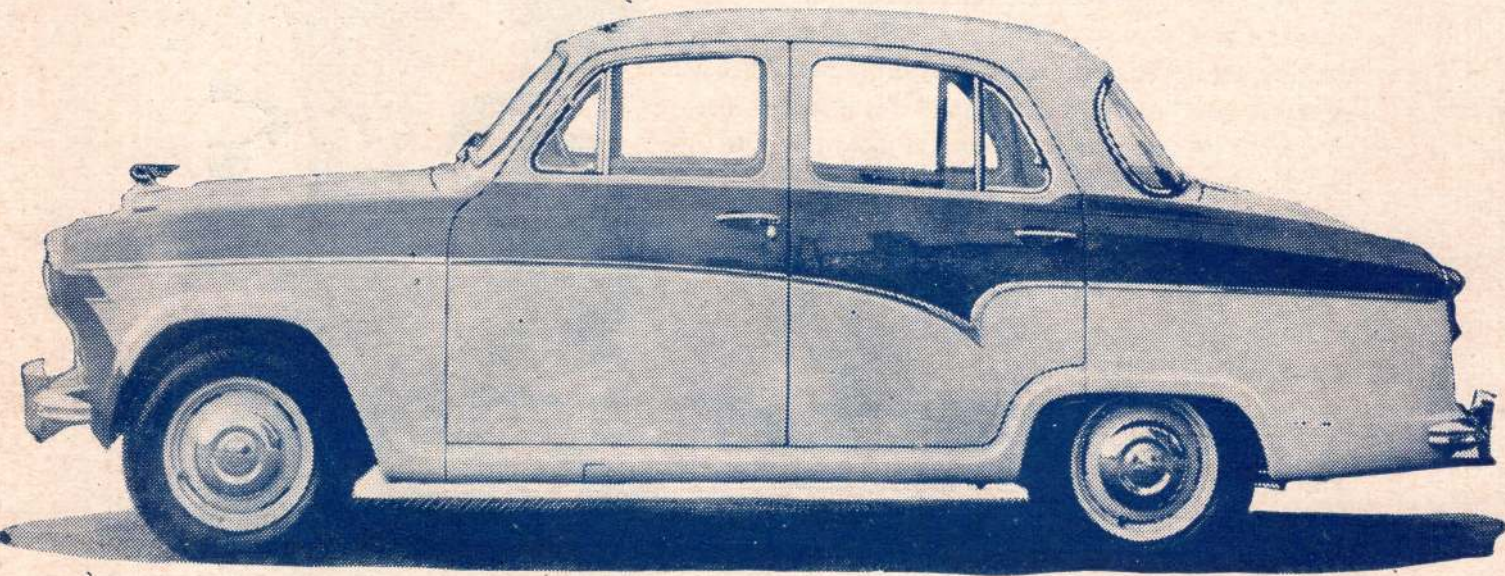




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