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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

ON THE COVER we have a comely rubber tapper blissfully ignorant of the fact that the bottom has dropped out of the international rubber market. Soon she will feel the impact of falling prices. Owners, producers and even the Government bemoan the doldrums into which rubber has slipped. Export duties have been reduced to keep our rubber competitive. Some say that the country might have bypassed the consequences of global price drops if the rubber component of the China-Sri Lanka Trade Pact had been maintained at the old level. But Sri Lanka did not need as much rice as before, and many free-trade enthusiasts felt that this country would do much better by selling the rubber in the open market rather than get other goods from China. But such hopes have not materialised. Rubber prices continue to slide. Even Malaysia, the largest producer of rubber in the world, says that it cannot see any reason for the price tumble. But, the reason is not hard to find. A handful of multinationals (bankers and produce merchants) who control the world rubber market and the governments in their grip have decided to increase their profits through the well-known device of increasing interest rates. Already prime lending rates on the international markets have topped 20 per cent. In poor (borrowing) countries, like Sri Lanka, de facto lending rates range from 25% to 45%. At this level, profitability disappears as productive activity cannot sustain a rate of profit proportionate to the above-mentioned interest rates. The slump in commodity prices is closely related to the unprecedented rise in the cost of credit. For many years after the Second World War the developed capitalist states pursued a policy of "cheap money". It was believed that low interest rates including "deficit budgets" would act as a spur to economic growth. But it was precisely this policy that generated proliferating inflation. A "moderate" and "controlled" inflation was thought capable of stimulating economic activity, but when inflation became double-digit and when a whole arsenal of cures and antidotes become ineffectual, the result was the destabilisation of economic and monetary structures. Then policies changed. The price of credit was raised in order to limit the money supply in the hope that it would contain inflation. Tight money and "balanced budgets" have become the order of the day. Differences in inflation and interest rates in western markets resulted in transfers of money from one country to another and from one currency to another. And to cover the financial or commercial losses from such transfers, interest rates were further whipped up. The need to check the outflow of capital and to increase inflow from abroad has turned the cut-throat interest rate race into a real war. This has undermined economic growth. Some western countries now say that reduction of interest rates is the only way to economic recovery. The Reagan administration however is determined to follow its tight money policy based on high interest rates. This has strengthened the dollar vis a vis all other currencies and has induced an inflow of capital into the US that has adversely affected even the rich industrialised countries of Western Europe--let alone the poor developing nations. At the recent Ottawa Summit of the seven richest industrialised nations, the high US interest rates drew sharp and bitter criticism from West European participants. But the US was unwilling to budge. The economic war within the capitalist system goes on unabated and threatens to become sharper every day. And the US-UK diversionary strategem of a cold war and an arms race against the Soviet Union may bring profits to arms manufacturers but will not stop the growing economic confrontation between the US and other leading capitalist countries nor the even greater confrontation between a few rich in the North and the many poor nations in the South. The fall in the prices of Third World export commodities like cocoa, coffee, tea, rubber etc. etc., also stem from the tight money and high interest policies of the US and a few other countries.

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Media Again

COLOMBO, July 6: Judging by the way the media conducted itself in the last fortnight, there is not the slightest doubt that Sri Lanka is still a "little bit of England". We do not say this because of the increasing demand by the multitude to learn English and more English. This is a legitimate desire to be acquainted with a world language (for knowledge and employment) and something which has been denied to several generations of our youth by the short-sightedly ultra nationalist policies of some political parties which should have known better than restrict the study of a world language. They did not even attempt to foster the study of any other world language--if English savoured too much "imperialism". The irony of it all is that the JVP, a by-product of the revolutionary Left, when it came back into the mainstream of political life, wanted English restored as an official language. Nor do we regard the overwhelming and almost universal urge for more and more cricket (including Test status) as symptomatic of "Englishness". Cricket, like many other sports, has become internationalised--though Cricket is still confined to the British orbit of her Commonwealth and other ex-British possessions like Pakistan. Except for the undue amount of space and importance given to Cricket in our media--news papers, radio and TV--to the detriment of other matters of great national significances, no one can complain about Sri Lankan interest in Cricket. But the emotions and sentiments evoked by **The Royal Wedding** and the time, space and importance attached to it is hard to understand except if we accept the fact that after thirty years of Independence, the British Royal Family is still very much in the hearts and minds of large numbers of people in our country. The big national dailies had special supplements. The **Sun** paper's special supplement sold for Rs. 10 in the black. It was a much sought after publication. The SLBC relayed the BBC coverage in full. Sri Lanka TV similarly had the full coverage for 3 hours and 20 minutes via Satellite and video-tape (sponsored by British Airways) and a repeat of 2 hours odd. a few days later, on ITN a/c owing to many requests. Many people, we know, want it shown again. They regret the 'cuts' which were only from the long trail awinding through the streets of London and the repeated encores to see the Royal couple (and other members of the family) on the balcony at Buckingham Palace. Compared to this, the coverage in India and Pakistan was minimal. In fact, the race riots in UK which had adversely affected Indians and Pakistan's most had roused hostile sentiments against the British, and the Royal wedding was very nearly blacked out.

UNDERSTANDABLY, the Soviet press and television gave scant coverage to the British royal wedding,

and contrasted it with the country's social and political woes. Soviet commentators said that the detailed press coverage of the Royal Wedding had the political aim of distracting the attention of the British public from the serious crisis England now faces. They also said on the eve of the wedding "the celebrations would drown out the sound of gunshots in Ulster and the shouts of young people being mercilessly beaten by the police in Liverpool". In the altitude to the Royal wedding, Peking saw more or less eye-to-eye with Moscow. A **Reuter** message from Peking said: "China's Communist Party newspaper, the **Peoples' Daily**, today told the nation that the the wedding of Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer yesterday cost Britain one billion pounds sterling. The paper printed a long article today by its London correspondent, and pointed out at the end that it was taking place when Britain faced serious economic difficulties. Unemployment had reached more than 2.8 million, and the rioting in various cities--which it dubbed a "social crisis"--had not yet ended. Some British personages have raised all kinds of criticisms about the cost of the wedding of the heir to the throne, which was one billion pounds' the article concluded. It gave no source for the figure." **The euphoria** created by the British propaganda build-up was so great than even Monarchy-baiters in UK adoted a low profile during this period. An **AP** message from London dated July 25 (not published in Sri Lankan papers) said: "The British politician who once said the royal family was destined for the garbage can of history is lying low while his countrymen intoxicated themselves with the royal grandeur of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer's wedding. For 30 years William W. Hamilton, a Labour Party member of parliament from Scotland, has denounced the royal family as parasites and called for the creation of a republic. A slight, bespectakled man, Mr. Hamilton, has earned an international reputation for attacking the throne at every chance. Barely a beep has been heard from Willie lately. In a recent interview with the Associated Press, Hamilton, who has sought the widest audience for his anti-monarchist view in the past, demanded to know if it would be a cross examination. Asked why he opposed the monarchy, Mr. Hamilton said, 'its too costly and out of date and unaccountable to anybody and I think its time it went away'. With that, he hung up. Mr. Hamilton, once, described Queen Elizabeth II and her family as our only living musuem--the human equivalent of the London zoo but giving much less pleasure than the champanzee's tea party. He also said he believes the British monarchy will be dumped in the garbage can of history by the end of the century."

THOUGH THE CHINESE put the expenses of the wedding at 1 billion, the **UPI** suggested that the cost was somewhere between 5 and 8 million pounds "depending on how you calculate?". Some additional items of expenditure personally incurred by the members of the Royal Family were also metioned:

"Queen Elizabeth's personal expenses are about 25,000 pounds and Prince Charles is said to have spent 28,500 on the sapphire and diamond engagement ring. The Queen is estimated to have paid 8,000 pounds for the church music, 2,000 for flowers, another 5,000 for printing invitations, and about pounds 7,500 on a reception for distinguished guests at Buckingham Palace. The bridesmaids dresses and pageboys costumes cost some 5,000 pounds and the wedding cake probably a further 5,000." Many international journals seem to accept the figure of 1 billion pounds as the amount the wedding cost the British taxpayer, but this amount is unbelievable. In an opinion poll, the British paper **Guardian** suggested the amount was one million pounds.

But one billion pounds is something in the realm of fantasy. In Sri Lanka rupees it is forty billion rupees. With this money, Sri Lanka can build two full Mahaweli schemes at the current inflated cost and still have plenty left over. Speaking about Mahaweli, Minister Gamini Dissanayake has started a welcome innovation in press and media relations. On Thursday, July 30, he invited to lunch editors, journalists and others concerned with developmental journalism together with some of his officials. Before, during and after lunch, there was a free and frank discussion about the achievements, setbacks and shortcomings about work in the Mahaweli. The Minister pinpointed some urgent problems of the day and the discussion that followed was interesting and revealing. This kind of dialogue and rapport between Ministers and the press will contribute a great deal towards a better relationship between the Government and the Fourth Estate. It would be good if even editors and columnists of the political papers are also brought into these meetings and discussions. This will be especially welcome because the biggest and most important section of the media is state-owned i.e., Lake House, Times, SLBC and the TV. A willingness on the part of the Government to meet the critical and hostile press and establish a rapport with them will help to controvert slanted news and even falsehoods, and help the growth of a healthy and democratic press.

IN THE PAST, and even at present, the Ministerial style of press relations has been to have one or two "catchers" in each of the papers and in the SLBC to push "personalised" propaganda to boost them. What was published or broadcast was and is undiluted "praise" and very soon such propaganda loses all credibility and turns counter-productive. The "catchers" are easily identified not only by the journalistic fraternity but by all serious newspaper readers. There appears to be an attempt now to overwhelm the TV with this kind of personal propaganda deluge. It will be a pity if the TV is reduced to what the SLBC had been reduced to for a long time. Whilst current attempts to give the SLBC a little more credibility by cutting down the monopoly of the broadcast time for Ministerial pronouncements and activities

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has gained a slight momentum, practically the entirety of the "local news" on the TV (ITN) centres ground Ministers and their doings which tend to bore viewers and tax their patience to the limit. When the TV was inaugurated, there was a reference in the press to a Presidential decree that government VIPs, including himself, should not be screened on the TV except (rarely) on "national occasions". Has this rule been cast into the waste-paper basket?

If only Ministers and other VIPs know what members of the public say about their frequent appearance on the TV—whilst other newsworthy items are kept out—they would avoid getting into the TV news magazine. The President should call for a review of the way his decree has been observed. In regard to the TV, Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis should come to the rescue of TV viewers and save them from the "faces" of some news announcers. Those in de facto charge do not seem to be able to act rationally and sensibly. Two weeks ago we drew attention to the need to have a new team of news commentators and announcers who can be professionally trained for the TV. Those who are too old to be trained or refused to be trained for TV (they may be too ingrained in radio broadcasting techniques) should be eased out slowly. In the meantime, as a measure of urgency, the guillotine should fall immediately on some of the announcers.

If political pressures makes it necessary to satisfy Ministers' ego by appearances on the TV, why not have 15 minutes every week (or even every other day) for an item entitled "Ministers and the People". This item will certainly be better than some afflictions like **France Today** on local TV audiences. Why the ITN has persisted with this item, week after week, for nearly for two years now, is a mystery. TV audiences have suffered the poor quality **France Today** too long. It should have been cut out a long time ago. We only hope that this series of total mediocrity has not been shown to earn a trip for some VIP to France. If this kind of programme to earn foreign trips becomes a habit, Sri Lanka TV may become a travel agency just as the ABU (Asian Broadcasting Union) has been one for SLBC top-notchers. And the ABU, we believe, inflicts the **Eurovision** satellite news which have little or no relevance for Third World TV audiences.

Whilst these apprehensions about Rupavahini haunt those in touch with media trends in the country one can only have praise for the work of the State Printing Corporation which is under the purview of the Ministry of State. A few days ago we received three Tourist Board publications, entitled-- SRI LANKA-A WELCOME CHANGE; SRI LANKA, KANDY; and WELCOME SRI LANKA--July/August/September 1981. **Tribune** has not received Tourist Board publications for a long long time. We had occasionally seen some striking publications in Hotel lobbies and Resthouse verandahs, but such opportunities were

few and far between as we could not afford the rates these hosteleries charged even for tea or lime-juice whilst waiting to meet someone. The three we received this week were superb publications printed with unexceptionable excellence. In the past, as far as our memories ago, such publications had been printed in Japan, or Switzerland, or somewhere abroad. We thought that these had also been printed abroad, but when (out of curiosity) we looked for the imprint we saw that they were all done at the State Printing Corporation. And this made us curious about the progress of Tourism itself in this country. We have had and still have reservations about Tourism, but with so much done and so much new information available, we propose to examine afresh the dynamics as well as the mechanics of tourism in Sri Lanka afresh. As a **Tailpiece** or a **Postscript** it would be only fair to mention that the News Magazine last night (Wednesday July 5,) was one of the best ever produced. It had the latest world news including events that took place that morning in different parts of the globe and two local items which (Thank Heaven) did not have any Ministerial presence. The interview with Gamini Corea was a scoop. The netball match telecast could have been shorter. The News Announcer, who still displays the unmistakable hangover of radio broadcasting, was at least unobtrusive.



DDC ELECTIONS N6

LSSP's Reactions

IT WILL BE RECALLED that the Lanka Sama Samaja Party (LSSP) had at first wanted to contest the DDC elections as a partner of the SLFP. It had refused to join the boycott proposed by the CPSI. But the LSSP had difficulties in coming to terms with the SLFP. The LSSP had wanted about 3 districts out of the 17 to be set apart where the combined list would fight under the LSSP "Key" symbol. The SLFP had rejected this demand outright. The LSSP was then in a mood to field its candidates under the SLFP "hand" symbol. But even this did not materialise because the SLFP was not able to agree on its own candidates—and then decided to "boycott" the elections giving various specious excuses to support this decision. The LSSP did not hide its unhappiness about this decision, but had to go a long way with the SLFP boycott. **After the elections,** Mr. Anil Moonesinghe, Deputy Secretary, issued a statement on the DDC elections results on behalf of the LSSP. It read: "The most marked feature of the District Development Council Election results is the collapse of the UNP vote from the heights reached in 1977, when it secured 52 per cent. In the 16 district Development Council areas where elections were held, nearly 4.5 million were eligible to vote. Yet only 1.4 million voted for the UNP. The percentage

it obtained, 33.3 is the third lowest polled in the UNP's electoral history. It polled less than that proportion only in the anti-UNP landslide of the 1956 General Elections when it obtained 27.4 per cent and again 29.6 per cent in the March 1960 General Elections. Another feature of these elections is the mass abstention from voting in the areas where the SLFP and the LSSP have a predominance. Of the 4.5 million eligible to vote, nearly 2.25 million did not cast their vote. It is only in the areas contested by the TULF that a percentage near 80 per cent is recorded. It is ironic that on 50th anniversary of the establishment of Universal Franchise for the first time in our history more have stayed away than have come to vote. They saw no contest worthy of their vote, and rightly rejected the UNP's covert ally the JVP--which masquerades as a left-wing party. Wherever a viable independent group contested, as in Kalutara and Puttalam, the anti-UNP vote is significant. In Puttalam the UNP was nearly defeated by the Independent group. It is also true that the vote received by the JVP was partly anti-UNP as many wanted to vote against the UNP and found only the JVP list available to them. These elections results show a clear rejection of the UNP's policies since coming to power in 1977. These policies have resulted in steeply deteriorating standards of living of the ordinary mass of people. Both in the cities and the rural areas, people are suffering from runaway inflation with massive price increases, making life almost impossible. It is the UNP's policy of the deliberate and massive devaluation of the rupee, the dismantling of the state welfare system, the cruel withdrawal of food subsidies in which the children and infants have taken the worst beating, the high prices of medicines (most of them are not available in the hospitals) that has been rejected. In addition, the UNP Government has cruelly dismissed those who went on strike and withdrawn the income support given to unemployed young people in the midst of rising unemployment. It is a rejection of the UNP policy of rich growing even richer and the poor even poorer. "It is clear from the election results that the alliance of the SLFP, TULF, LSSP, MEP and the Ceylon Communist Party, if it had contested as a united force, as the LSSP proposed it would have scored a massive win. This is specially demonstrated by the Kalutara results where an independent group won two seats fighting against the UNP and JVP election machines. The JVP lost its deposit. A splendid opportunity to defeat the UNP decisively has been missed because of the SLFP's unfortunate last minute change of mind not to contest the elections. The TULF, which is part of the five-party alliance has not only shown its predominance in the Northern and Eastern districts but has increased its vote since 1977. And that has been achieved despite the UNP government's resort to emergency rule in some of those areas. The unifying force of the Five Party Alliance has thus a tremendous role to play in the coming period in advancing the aspirations of the mass of the people to end UNP rule.'

THE LSSP MAKES THE SAME POINT as the other Opposition parties did that the UNP had failed to muster public support and that its vote had dropped drastically from what it had received in 1977, and placed much significance on the fact of the 4.5 million eligible to vote, 2.25 million did not cast their votes. The LSSP's explanation for this low vote in the districts, where the TULF did not contest (where the voting around 80%) was that voters "saw no contest worthy of their vote, and rightly rejected the UNP's covert ally, the JVP, which masquerades as a left-wing ally..." It will be seen that the LSSP continues to have a sneeringly patronising attitude to the JVP, and stressed that "it was clear" that an alliance of the SLFP, TULF, MEP and the CPSL, if it had contested as a united force, "as the LSSP proposed, it would have scored a massive win". But, unfortunately, the "alliance" the LSSP wanted was not a workable or realistic proposition. The CPSL did not want to have any truck with the SLFP as long as Mrs. B was its leader. And, she shows no desire of giving up her "leadership" and was even willing to throw out all those (including her son and 13 members of the Politubureau) who refused to toe the line and accept her unconditionally as leader.

As THIS GOES TO PRESS, the crisis within the SLFP hierarchy has reached explosion point. The **Ceylon Daily News**, 3/8/81, reported thus "Officials of SLFP party organisations who met at Sri Sangabo Vidyalaya, Nittambuwa, yesterday decided to ban totally from party activities 13 politbureau members including Mr. Maitripala Sennayake, Vice-President and parliamentary leader and Mr. Anura Bandaranaike, 2nd MP for Nuwara Eliya. A resolution to this effect was passed at the meeting. Former Prime Minister and leader of the SLFP Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike presided. The other members who came under this total ban included Mr. R. P. Wijesiri MP, Mr. Haleem Ishak, MP, Mr. P. G. B. Kalugalle, Mr. Stanley Tillekeratne, Mr. Sumathipala Jayewardene, Mr. Basil Rajapakse, Mr. Kumara Balasuriya, Mr. Mangala Moonesinghe, Mr. Alavi Moulana, Mr. H. W. Dickson de Silva and Mr. J.B.P. Sooriapperuma. Another resolution demanded an apology from the 13 members. Mrs. Bandaranaike was given the authority to nominate the organisers of the SLFP till the reorganisation of the party is effected. The 13 politbureau members had issued a statement on Friday describing yesterday's Horogolla meeting as unconstitutional." **In her speech**, Mrs. Bandaranaike had "accused a group of senior SLFPers, including deputy leader Maitripala Senanayake and her son, Anura, of conspiring to oust her from the party leadership. She alleged that this ("conspiracy") had the connivance of the UNP and voiced the suspicion that the taking away of her civic rights had been done after consulting at least some members of this group... In the course of her speech. Mrs. Bandaranaike said that she was sorry her son, Anura had been misled by this group and appealed to him

in the name of his father to join her and save the party from ruination.... Mrs. Bandaranaike pitched her speech yesterday against the 13 Central Committee members who had sent her a letter protesting at what they called an illegal and unconstitutional meeting she had summoned. These SLFP leaders who said they had not been asked to Nittambuwa yesterday despite Mrs. Bandaranaike's claim that she had personally ensured they had been invited, did not attend the meeting. Mrs. Bandaranaike said that this 13-member group in the SLFP was playing into the hands of the UNP who wanted to break up the party. Their tactics made her wonder whether the deprivation was in consultation with at least some of the members in this group. She also had a strong suspicion that some of these members had been promised Ministries in the next UNP government.... Some of the members in the 'oust Sirima' group in the SLFP had had been saying that since she had lost her civic rights she could not legally hold the party presidency and that Mr. Maitripala Senanayake should take over the leadership. She had consulted legal opinion on this point. She had been told that the legal position about her civic disability was that she could not contest any election or address any election meeting. But there was nothing illegal in her holding the SLFP presidency. She said she had summoned the meeting to get a mandate from the branch heads to take appropriate steps to meet the threat to the party that had arisen because of the activities of the 13-member group. She wanted the meeting to empower her to take action against any members in the party involved in any activity likely to disrupt the organisation. She also sought approval of the meeting to appoint her nominees to all party branches until elections to these branches are held according to the new constitution. All branches should co-operate with these nominees in organising future party activity. Resolutions embodying these proposals were placed before the meeting and approved".

THE MAITHIRIPALA GROUP had held a counter SLFP meeting at Wariyapola. The **CDN**, 3-8-81, reported as follows: "The Deputy Leader of the SLFP and MP for Medawatchchiya, Mr. Maitripala Senanayake claimed on Saturday that there had been a subtle campaign to oust him and a few other stalwarts, including Mr. Anura Bandaranaike, from the SLFP since October last year. He said he was politician with 34 years experience. He would never run away from the SLFP or betray the trust and confidence placed in him by the people. The people of Medawatchchiya and no one else could drive him away from the political field, he said. All 13 senior members of the SLFP who had signed a letter to Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike protesting at the meeting of officials of party organisations she had convened at the Sri Sangabo Vidyalaya Nittambuwa, on Sunday attended the rally..... The 2nd MP for Nuwara Eliya, Maskeliya and SLFP youth leader, Mr. Anura Bandaranaike said their struggle was not against

his mother. Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike, but against reactionary elements and imperialist agents in the party. His father, the late Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike never wanted the SLFP to be come a family property or concern.

The Sun 3-8-81, report referred to certain other aspects Mrs. Bandaranaike had stressed in her speech: "The Sri Lanka Freedom Party moved closer towards a fiaco as its leader Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, proceeded to hold a meeting with all presidents and secretaries of SLFP branches at Nittambuwa last morning. Addressing a massive gathering of around 15,000 persons at the Old Sangabodhi Vidyalaya premises, she said that they had to identify the enemies within and outside their ranks. After playing a tape of an alleged conversation made by the wife of a prominent member of the Politburo to an outsider she stated that it was very evident as to who was responsible for attempts to split the party. She pointed out that it was ridiculous for the husband of that person to disclaim any connection with the alleged conversation, as the details could only have been divulged by him. Speaking of the action taken by her son, Anura in this matter she said in the name of his father, S. W. . D. Bandaranaike, efforts should be made to make him understand that he had been led astray and bring him back to the correct path. . . . Felix Dias Bandaranaike, T. B. Illangaratna, Chandrakka Bandaranaike, Vijaya Kumaranatunga, H. Kobbe-Kkaduwa, Vernon Tillekeratne, P. R. Ratnayake and D. M. Jayaratne were among those present at this meeting. The resolutions passed the meeting were: (1) The authority to lead a powerful struggle to defeat the UNP from today eliminating opportunities for unnecessary clashes within the party; (2) To select groups of members who could understand the aspirations of the people; (3) Until Organisers are selected in accordance with the Constitution on an electoral basis, representatives will be nominated to take the message of today's meeting to the people and to resist the attempts to disrupt the work of the party. The party should work in collaboration with these representatives; (4) As was done during the tenure of my office as President in the past, to select representatives from among party members only (5) To prepare a system of action totally dedicated to full socialism; (6) We condemn all antil party action and seek power to take action against any such persons whatever position he occupies and (7) To condemn those attempting to obstruct the struggle against the UNP."

The LSSP's reactions to this new development are not yet known. If the SLFP splits into two-- as it seems very likely--what will the LSSP do? It is known that in the LSSP hierachy, there are some who favour Mrs. Bandaranaike's sole leadership and others who prefer Mr. Maithiripala Senanayake as leader (with Mrs. Bandaranaike kept as a charismatic showpiece in a glass chamber to act as a kind of magnet to attract the crowds). Will there be a split in the LSSP as well? *NextWeek--CPSL's Reaction.

MALAY HOUSE--4

Climatic Environment -- Ventilation And Lighting

By Lim Jee Yuan

This working paper was prepared within the framework and as part of the Project on Sharing of Traditional Technology (STT) of the United Nations University's Human and Social Development Programme, and is intended to serve the internal needs of the University. The views expressed in the paper are those of the author and not necessarily those of the United Nations University. This is the fourth article in the series. The concluding part will appear next week.

THE FULFILMENT OF CLIMATIC NEEDS is one area where modern housing in Malaysia has fared badly. Many reasons can be cited. The low priority given to the fulfilment of climatic needs by designers, the profit-making motives, had climatic design, inappropriate building by laws, inappropriate training given to designers, inability to resolve the more complex needs and constraints of modern housing, inappropriate use of materials, and the modern values and "needs" of people all lead to the inadequate fulfilment of climatic needs in housing in Malaysia. To achieve bodily comfort, heat from our bodies generated by our various metabolic processes must be dissipated into the atmosphere to maintain a constant body temperature of around 37°C. The air temperature in Malayia is continually very near to body temperature and so allows negligible dissipation of heat from the body through convection, conduction, and radiation. Evaporation is the only effective way of dissipating heat from our bodies here. In our humid environment, the evaporation of moisture from our body would quickly form a saturated air envelope, effectively preventing any further evaporation, thus stopping the last resort of heat dissipation for comfort. Only ventilation can remove this saturated air envelope. Ventilation (the exchange of air) and air movement are thus the only natural means to relieve climatic stress in our climate. Ventilation decreases the build up of temperature and humidity in interior spaces. Fans can only provide air movement but not ventilation; they cool by evaporation but do not decrease the humidity build up and increase of fresh air intake into interior spaces.

THE ELONGATED OPEN plans of the traditional Malay house allow easy passage of air and good cross ventilation. There are minimal interior partitions in the Malay house. Plans of housing-estate houses are of more complicated shapes, and the partitioning of the house into different rooms and areas restricts air movement in the house. Cross ventilation in the house is usually minimal, even virtually non-existent in badly designed houses. Traditional Malay houses

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are randomly arranged ; this ensures that wind velocity in the houses in the latter path of the wind will not be substantially reduced. Rigid patterns in the arrangement of housing-estate houses create barriers that block the passage of wind to the houses in the latter path of the wind. The velocity of wind increases with altitude. The traditional Malay house on stilts captures winds of higher velocity at a higher level. This is especially vital in areas where there is plant cover on the ground. Ground cover creates steeper with gradients, thus reducing air, movement considerably near the ground. The housing-estate house at ground level receives winds of lower velocity. Hedges and solid fences built to provide privacy to the houses often block and create steeper wind velocity gradient. The body level is the most vital area for ventilation for comfort. The traditional Malay house allows ventilation at the body level by having many full-length fully openable windows and doors at body level. Ventilation in the housing-estate house is often only directed at the upper part of the body because windows and other openings are located at higher levels to provide privacy. Louvre windows which close in a particular direction also tend to direct air movement towards the ceiling. Roof spaces in the traditional Malay house are properly ventilated by the provision of ventilation joints in the roof construction. Roof ventilation can reduce temperatures up to 20°C without any construction charge. Roof spaces in the housing estate house are insulated by trapped air instead of being ventilated. A ceiling is used. Such construction requires more materials and is less effective.

THE USE OF COCONUT TREES to provide shade in the kampong not only provides good shade but also does not block the passage of winds at the house level. Often, because of the limited size of the yard of the housing-estate house and the needs to provide privacy, only hedges and small trees are planted. Thus the passage of winds at the house level is often reduced considerably. Large overhangs and the low exposed vertical areas (windows and walls) in the traditional Malay house provide good protection against driving rain, provide good shading, and allow the windows to be left open most of the time for ventilation. The higher and larger exposed vertical areas (windows and walls) of the modern housing-estate house make sun-shading a more difficult task. The exposed vertical areas of the windows are often penetrated by direct sunlight and cause considerable discomfort. The walls which act as direct sun-shading devices get heated up and in the evenings reradiate heat into the interior areas.

TRADITIONAL MALAY HOUSES are always oriented to face Mecca (i.e., in an east-west direction) for religious reasons. The east-west orientation minimizes areas exposed to solar radiation, thus minimizing solar heat gain in the building. For profit motives, the orientation of housing-estate houses just becomes a jigsaw puzzle of fitting the

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most units into the least area (within the densities permitted by the by-laws). Traditional Malay house use lightweight construction of wood and other natural materials. The lightweight construction of low thermal capacity holds little heat and cools adequately at night. The attap roof is an excellent thermal insulator. Glazed areas are not found in the traditional Malay house. Modern housing-estate houses are bricks, tiles, concrete, and other materials of high thermal capacity. These materials store up heat and reradiate it during the night, causing considerable discomfort - Glazed areas are abundant in these houses and if these areas are badly designed, they allow direct sunlight into the house. Daylighting in our climate is a more complex matter because daylighting is accompanied by thermal radiation. Daylighting sources in our climate should not be direct sunlight. Indirect sources like reflected light (internal and external) and diffused or sky light are more suitable. Internally reflected light is the best daylighting, as heat is excluded and glare is minimized. Slight underlighting rather than overlighting is recommended for our climate, because overlighting is likely to cause over-heating by the accompanying thermal radiation. Furthermore, a slightly underlit room is psychologically more acceptable, as light is often mentally associated with warmth and reduced lighting with coolness. Glare in the traditional Malay house is controlled by large roof overhangs and low windows which exclude the open skies from the visual field. Glare from the ground and from the walls of other buildings is lessened by the vegetation ground cover and the use of wood in the other houses. Glare is more evident in the housing-estate house because the open skies are normally not excluded from the visual field, because of the higher windows, though it can be controlled by the use of curtains and other physical means. Glare from paved concrete areas and brightly lit exterior walls of other houses also causes considerable discomfort. The traditional Malay house tends to be under-lighted. This gives the psychological effect of coolness. The under-lighting however, can be remedied by artificial lighting. Lighting levels in the housing estate house are generally higher than the lighting levels in the traditional Malay house because of the use of lighter coloured paints and the location of windows at higher levels. In fact there is a tendency towards overlighting and uncontrolled glare. **Any unwanted sound** may be considered noise, but this definition as one person's sound may be another's noise. In kampong life, noise pollution is rare. There are fewer noise sources here than in urbanized areas. Urbanized housing estates have more noise sources such as industries, traffic, aircraft, radios etc. The traditional Malay house lightweight construction with large openings cannot effectively control noise penetration, but noise is controlled instead by distance, which also provides privacy. The housing estate house of heavier construction and with lesser amount of openings controls noise penetration better, but the heavier density of the houses greatly decreases the

distance between noise sources and the listener. There are also potential noise sources in the housing estate.

To be Concluded

SRI LANKA FESTIVAL

Press Relations: Did Someone Bungle?

LONDON, JULY 31 : The twenty-million rupee question being asked in journalistic circles is why London's leading dailies--the **Times**, the **Guardian** and the **Daily Telegraph** gave no space to the opening by the Queen on 16 July of the Sri Lanka Festival at the Commonwealth Institute. The purpose of the Festival is to commemorate fifty years of universal adult franchise in Sri Lanka and to make known Sri Lanka's achievements to people abroad. The Festival is excellent, offering many peeps into Sri Lanka's life and culture, theatre, arts and crafts, books. There was colour and spectacle at the formal opening: the Queen saw a mini perahera in which about a hundred drummers, dancers, flag and **seysath** bearers took part. The Commonwealth Institute was decorated with **rallipalam** by experts in this great and ancient art who were specially flown to London from their homes in Kandy. The Festival goes on till mid-September 1981. The programme includes performances by the Sri Lanka State Dance Ensemble, lectures by distinguished scholars, seminars, an exhibition of books on Sri Lanka. The London **Sunday Times** has published an article on the Buddha Statues of Sri Lanka in its magazine section and made passing reference to the Sri Lanka Festival. But the question remains: **Why did the opening of such an important event go unnoticed by the London press?**

WAS IT BECAUSE OF POOR PRESS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS? Was it taken for granted that just because the Queen was opening the Festival, the press would be there in full force to give it the coverage it deserved? Did someone think that it was enough to send out invitations to the press but offer no background information? If background material was sent, what was the quality of the material? Was the material written in a style to make hard-boiled newspapermen sit up and take notice? Finally, is the Festival being promoted so as to draw not just the Sri Lankan expatriate population but a cross section of this great city's white population and at least a small segment of the visitors as well? The night I went to see the State Dance Ensemble, the theatre was only about sixty-five per cent full; the majority of the audience was made up of Sri Lankan

expatriates. It is good for Sri Lankan expatriates to be able to see something of their motherland's, culture, but that is not the main objective of the Festival. Has the Festival been publicised in schools and service organisations within a five-miles radius of the Commonwealth Institute? Has anything been done to draw persons from these institutions to the Festival, e.g. essay contests with prizes for the best ten, and so on? There are a number of ways in which the Festival could be promoted without incurring much expenditure. An essay competition is one. Distribution programme notices through selected hotels and theatres is another. The Ceylon Tea Centre in London could do much more to publicise the Festival than stick a programme on a wall; photographic blow-ups of the Sri Lanka dancers would have been more arresting. The successful practise of press and public relations requires many talents and skills. There are of course many persons who though they have no idea how newspapers function think they can carry out publicity campaigns. It is to be hoped that when Sri Lanka mounts important image-building projects in future, people with proven skills will be chosen to do the publicity work. The best show is lost if people do not hear about it and therefore do not go to see it in large numbers.

From A Correspondent

Govt.



Notices

The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No: 28 of 1964

((Notice Under Section 7)

Ref No. EA/387/J 77E440

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below for a public purpose. For further particulars please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No 154 (Part III) of 14-08-1981.

K, Parameswaran

Acquiring Officer and District Land Officer
Amparai District

The Kachcheri,
Amparai.
22 July 1981

SCHEDULE

1. Situation, In the village of Pandiruppu North Division 1 in Karavahupattu AGAs Division in Amparai District.
2. Name of land; Paththar Thoppu Valavu
3. Extent Acres Rood 19.5 Perches
4. Plan No. PP AM 698
5. Lot No 1 and 2

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Farmers Association

By Vijaya Chari

THE EIGHTIES are poised to emerge as the decade of the Indian farmer with this traditionally docile plough-pusher poised to dominate the national scene. After being dormant all these years, he has stirred himself and is now moving to the centre of the political stage, stridently demanding his fair share of the national cake. Tamil Nadu has been the cradle of what agriculturists describe as the "economic revolution" they are ushering in, the first effective agriculturists' organisation having been started in Coimbatore district under the name Vyavasayigal Sangham (Agriculturists Association). A study of the agriculturists' movement in Tamil Nadu holds the key to a proper understanding of the thrust and import of the new ferment on the agricultural front in the country. The formation of the India Farmers Association at the all-India convention of Agriculturists Association at Hyderabad two months ago was an important landmark in the agriculturists' movement, which had been steadily and surely gaining momentum in several states. It marked the beginning of a new era of articulation of agriculturists' aspirations at the national level.

The emergence of an all-India organisation was a logical step needed for the purpose of co-ordinating the varying forms of struggle reflected in the various demands in various states—the demand for a reasonable price for onion by the Shetkari Sanghatan of Maharashtra, for higher cotton price by the Kapus Utpadana Sangh in Vidarbha region of that state, for higher sugarcane price in Karnataka, for higher wheat price the Kheti Bari Union in Puniab, lower electricity tariff for pump-sets by the Tamil Nadu Vyavasayigal Sangham, and so on. Agitations of one kind or another are going on in Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Punjab, the main demand of the agriculturists being higher price for their produce. The reason for agriculturists in other states turning to Tamil Nadu for inspiration is not far to seek. Tamil Nadu's story is a saga of spectacular success in a series of struggles, in which 27 people lost their lives in police firings, including two women and two teenagers, and thousands of agriculturists courted arrest. The Tamil Nadu Agriculturists Association, headed by Mr. C. Narayanaswamy Naidu, who has since been elected President of the India Farmers Association, has succeeded in getting the State Government to write off long-term co-operative loans amounting to Rs. 42 crore and government short-term loans amounting to Rs. 16 crore in respect of farmers owing less than five acres of land. The total loans outstanding from agriculturists in the state is estimated at about Rs. 300 crore. The

Association is mounting pressure by suggesting new formulae aimed at getting the bulk of the loans written off.

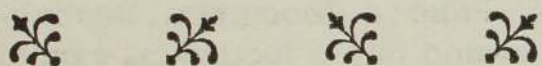
IN THE NORMAL COURSE the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) Government of Mr. M. G. Ramachandran, notwithstanding its weakness for populism, a weakness which it shares with several other state governments would in all probability have refused to countenance the demand for writing off of loans. But an astute strategist that Mr. Narayanaswamy is, he neatly cornered the ruling party prior to the last State Assembly Elections leaving it with no option but to concede all his demands in return for its crucial support. Many eyebrows were raised when M. G. R. on coming to power announced in the last budget his Government's decision to write off co-operative loans. The Reserve Bank made no secret of its apprehension that it would deal a fatal blow to the concept of institutional finance. When the State Government realised that it could not expect the cooperatives to write off loans and still continue their operations, it decided to redeem the farmers' loans with funds from the State exchequer.

The Association had made out a plausible case. It maintains that the loans had been thrust on the agriculturists by the Government in its anxiety to bring about a green revolution in the country. The loans had been advanced not for the benefit of the agriculturists but to enable them to use better seeds, fertilisers and pesticides for the purpose of increasing yields. The agriculturists co-operated and made the revolution a success. From a foodgrains importing country, India had swung into a foodgrains exporting country. But the beneficiaries were the industrialists who provided the inputs. In the absence of remunerative prices for the agriculturists' produce, they were neither in a position to pay the principal nor the interest. Eventually, a situation came in which the only solution was writing off the loans. An important factor that has contributed to the success of the Association is its "non-political character", of which it makes a fetish. Under the constitution of the Association the office-bearers are barred from becoming members of any political party.

THE "VYAVASAYIGAL SANGHAM" owes its birth to the agriculturists' struggle for a reduction in the electricity tariff for pump-sets. Tamil Nadu accounts for one-third of the country's land under well irrigation. Except for delta areas in Thanjavur District, which are irrigated by Cauvery waters, the common mode of irrigation in the state is irrigation from wells often as deep as 60 metres. Thus electricity tariff had always been the most sensitive issue and practically every agitation of agriculturists in Tamil Nadu was triggered by hike in electricity rates. The last major agitation was launched by the Association in 1977 when the electricity rate was raised from twelve

paise per unit to sixteen paise. Now a number of new demands have been added, including remunerative price for produce, writing off of loans and removal of penal provisions in law relating to agriculturists. For the first time agricultural labour has also been brought within the purview of the agitation through a demand for higher wages to them on par with those of industrial workers besides other social security measures.

Mr. Naidu, President of the Association, and Dr. M. R. Sivaswamy, who is the next in command, being the Convenor of the Action Committee (the Association has no secretary), have travelled extensively in several states in the country, which has resulted in the formation of the powerful Indian Farmers Association. Several attempts have been unsuccessfully made by all the leading opposition political parties to get into the bandwagon of farmers' agitations in several states and wrest the initiative from the non-party association. The ruling Congress (I) has also tried to blunt the edge of the growing movement by organising a gigantic farmers' rally at New Delhi early this year. The prime mover of this stage-managed extravaganza was none other than Rajiv Gandhi and Mrs. Indira Gandhi was naturally the star attraction. But all these moves to politicalise the massive thrust of the India Farmers Association have been frustrated. The agricultural labour, comprising 85 per cent of the total work force in the country, has become wise to the chicanery of the politicians. He is simply up in arms and is like a giant awake and flexing his muscles all on his own. Little wonder then that State governments and the Centre have been showing signs of capitulation.



LETTERS

Communal Harmony

Sir,

All those who are interested in Sri Lanka being a happy united land where all her people feel contented and secure must congratulate the well known journalist Gamini Navaratne for his bold and timely contribution, titled "FOSTERING RACIAL HARMONY" (**Sun**, July 20, 1981). Has this excellent article been published in Davasa and Thinpathi, if not, may one urge that this is done without delay and that it also reaches all sections of the English press? In his thought-provoking analysis of the events of the last decade, he traces the origin of the militant youth movement and of the TULF. He laments the fact that the former Prime Minister failed to "forge national unity" and he is equally concerned that the present Government has not succeeded in creating racial amity, in spite of declaring Tamil as a National language and of including certain safeguards against discrimination in the 1978 Constitution. During the 1977 election campaign and on many occasions, afterwards, we

heard much talk of a Round Table Conference to solve any outstanding problems of the minorities but this has not yet taken place. Many will undoubtedly agree that some other basic errors have been committed. For instance, why was the efficient and much-liked Lionel Fernando replaced by a Tamil who had been rejected at the polls? Lionel Fernando was sent to Jaffna as the Government Agent after the 1977 violence. He had a challenging task but he was successful from the outset. He promoted good relations between the communities and during Sinhalese and Tamil year 1979 there was a relaxed and happy atmosphere. Yet, that same year, 1979, he was transferred, after less than two years service in Jaffna. Why was that? What was the motive for this move by the Government? The people of Jaffna were sad and concerned and they demonstrated this by flying black flags and closing some of their shops.

It has been said that although Sri Lanka has many societies for fostering friendship between Sri Lanka and foreign countries, there are few or none "fully dedicated to promote racial amity". May I mention a few groups or movements that are active in this field to the extent that they study breaches of civil rights, whatever the community: they, investigate instances of injustice or harassment and of racial discrimination, and their findings are invariably reported to the relevant authorities and made known to the general public through their own publications and where possible through the press. These movements are: (1) **Citizen Committee for Communal Harmony**—founded in July 1979--Meetings at the Centre for Society and Religion--271, Deans Road--Telephone No. 91933. Has some office accommodation in the Marga Institute, Isipathana Road, Colombo 5; President-Sir Senarath Gunewardene; Vice Presidents--Dr. Godfrey Gunetilleke, O. L. Kretser--Former Supreme Court Judge; Joint Secretaries--Rev. Dr. Hewanpula Ratnasara Thero Father Tissa Balasuriya. (2) **Council For Communal Harmony** through the Media Publication--NETRA--Published by Reggie Siriwardene, P. O. Box 601, Colombo. Office accommodation at the Marga Institute. News letter No. 1 January 1981 (an interesting publication with Features on Other People's Religion: Tamil Culture: Family Planning and Communalism: Films and Communalism); (3) **MIRJE-Movement for Interracial Justice and Equality** President Paul Casperz, 30 Pushpadana Mawatha, Kandy, Publications available at 6 Aloe Avenue, Colombo 3 Tel. 34742--34748; (4) **Civil Rights Movement of Sri Lanka**, 16/1, Don Carolis Road, Colombo. Secretary, Desmond Fernando, Chairman Rt. Rev. Lakshman Wickremasinghe. The name of the organisation explains its range of activities. The publications "The People's Rights" covers the period 1971--78. C.R.M. is specifically concerned with political and civil rights. All letters and other documents are sent to every section of the press in Sri Lanka and to individuals who join CRM Service Civil International Sri Lanka Branch. (6) There is a

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sixth group working from the **Coordinating Secretariat for Plantation Areas**, 30 Pushpadana Mawatha, Kandy. Publication **VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS**, Edited by Paul Caspersz. This leaflet draws attention to the needs of the estate workers and their children with respect to health, education, housing etc. It is well documented and published, an interesting bibliography, which is not confined only to books on Sri Lanka but also lists of books on Racism in School Text Books in other parts of the world. The leaflet would interest all who believe in Justice for the 5000,000 "Stateless" Estate workers, who still do not exercise the vote in this 50th Jubilee of **ADULT FRANCHISE**, and (7) **Service Civil International, Sri Lanka Branch**.

All these organisations are very concerned about the danger of slanted and distorted news items, as well as the folly of listening to rumours, spreading rumours and acting on rumours. We know that in 1958, 1977 and even in June this year, rumours caused damage, distress and unnecessary misunderstandings. Finally, may we ask the press and government parliamentarians to drop the word Eelam from their vocabulary, and whenever possible, drop the word Tamil from press headlines--unless the word is being used in a situation that will foster communal harmony.

20, Park Road. **Dr. Florence Ram Aluwihare.**
Colombo 5.
25.7.81.

Smallholders' Travails

Sir.

I am one of the 128,000 Tea Smallholders who supply tea green leaf to State as well as Private owned tea factories. Unfortunately, we are not organised as the Tea Manufacturing interests are--who have a powerful lobby to look after their interests in "the corridors of power"--which are populated by many with vested interests in Tea Manufacture. The **Tribune** in its edition No. 43, details the background for the officially permitted increase of manufacturing charges of green leaf from Rs. 4-60 to 5-40 and now to Rs. 6-40 per kg.--as presently levied by Tea Factories. I know of State owned Tea factories whose manufacturing costs are much lower, and indeed one State owned factory in Matugama averaged Rs. 3-21 per kg. as manufacturing costs for 1980 and Rs. 3/10 for the first quarter of this year. It would, therefore, appear that Tea Factories are making a profit of perhaps 100% on the rates they are officially permitted to levy as manufacturing charges for green leaf, and it is to be hoped that Government would subject these charges to a hard scrutiny with a view to reducing them to a realistic level and so afford some relief to the Smallholder.

Colombo 4.
29.7.81.

Tea Smallholder.

"... It is to the credit of the people of Ceylon that during two thousand years and more they obeyed this decree and continued to pay their homage to one who was a brave man and a just and humane ruler".

--G. P. Malalasekera in The Pali Literature of Ceylon, Colombo, 1928 p. 25.

THE TOMB OF ELARA

at

Anuradhapura

with Appendices and Notes

by

Dr. James T. Rutnam

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MINISTRY OF NEW SUBSIDIES FOR SUBSIDIES FOR FISH FARMING IN PONDS & TANKS

The Ministry of Fisheries will provide subsidies for fish farming in ponds & tanks

WHERE FISH-FARMING CAN BE UNDERTAKEN: SUPPLY OF FINGERLINGS:

Natural ponds or specially constructed ponds
Tanks in tea, rubber and coconut estates
Village tanks (including seasonal tanks)
Minor irrigation tanks,

Fingerlings will be supplied free to those participating in this Scheme. The following are the varieties available in the Breeding stations

TO WHOM SUBSIDIES CAN BE PAID:

Individual farmers
Village level organisations
Schools
Estate owners
Welfare Societies
Private and Public Institutions.

Tilapia mossambica
Tilapia nilotica Big-Head carp
Tilapia melanopleura Grass carp
Chanos (milk fish) Common carp

THE RATES OF PAYMENT:

50% of the total cost of construction, improvement equipment etc. will be subsidized. The maximum amounts payable as subsidy are:

Extent (Acres)	Maximum amounts payable
2 and over	10,000/-
1 " "	8,000/-
3/4 " "	7,000/-
1/2 " "	6,000/-
1/4 " "	5,000/-
1/8 " "	4,000/-
1/16 " "	2,000/-

PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE SUBSIDY CAN BE UTILIZED:

Excavation of new ponds;
Lining of the side walls;
Deepening of the pond or tank;
Removal of obstacles from the tank bed;
Improvements to the bunds, sluice gate's spills etc.
Erection of fish screens and drainage pipes;
Purchase of fingerlings fish feed, manure etc.
Purchase of water pumps, fishing, gear and other equipment.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Individuals or institutions should own the land or water body or else have a valid permit for utilisation
Minimum size to qualify for payment is 10 perches i.e. 1/16 of an acre.
Regular water supply.
Suitable soil-preferably a clayey bottom in order to retain water.
Those who have been paid subsidies under the Plot Scheme operated in 1980 will not be eligible to apply again.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Technical assistance and advice can be obtained from the Aquaculturists attached to the inland Fisheries station in the following

matters:-

Site selection
Pond management
Suitability of fish species
Culture techniques
Feeding
Harvesting

INQUIRIES AT HEAD OFFICE

Further particulars can be obtained from the following at the Ministry of Fisheries, Galle Face, Colombo 3:

K. Thayaparan Telephone No.
Director of Inland Fisheries 20521
27431 Ext. 75

Keerthi Vishwanatha
Deputy Director of Inland
Fisheries 35370

S. C. Jayanthasiri
Asst. Director of Inland Fisheries 27431
Ext. 70

A. M. Jayasekara
Asst. Director of Inland Fisheries
27431 Ext. 67

ANURA WEERARATNE
SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

FISHERIES

INLAND FISHERIES

SUBSIDIES FOR BOATS & FISHING GEAR

Subsidies for the purchase of non-motorised boats & fishing gear used in Inland fishing will be provided by the Ministry of Fisheries through the following scheme.

- X 90% of the total cost of boat & fishing gear will be subsidized by the Ministry.
- X The fisherman will contribute Rs. 600/- or 10% of the total cost for the use of the boat.
- X First issue of fishing gear will be given free.
- X The boat will remain the property of the Ministry of Fisheries for 2 years and thereafter on proof of satisfactory production and performance it will be transferred to the user.
- X Only those who are members of the Fishermen's Extension society of the area and over 18 years of age are eligible to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Application forms are available with all Officers-In-Charge of Inland Fisheries Station. Please obtain your requirements from the OIC of your area. Particulars regarding the Stations and their areas of operation are given below:

Name of Station	Address	District Covered	Telephone No:
Fresh water Fish Breeding & Experimental Stations			
1. Polonnaruwa	Polonnaruwa	Polonnaruwe & Trincomalee	Polonnaruwa 2402
2. Udawalawe (New)	Udawalawe	Moneragala	Thimbolketiya 23
3. Udawalawe (Old)	Udawalawe	Ratnapura	
4. Ginigathena	Ambagamuwa, Ginigathena	Kandy & Kegalle	Ginigathena 804
5. Inginiyagala	Inginiyagala	Batticaloa & Ampara	Inginiyagala 2207
6. Panapitiya	Kalutara	Kalutara	Kalutara 2326
7. Rambodagala	Panagamuwa, Kurunegalla.	Kurunegala & Matale	Rambodagalla 808
8. Bambarakelle	Nuwara-Eliya	Nuwara Eliya	Nuwara Eliya 817
9. Muruthawela	Weeraketiya	Matare & Hambantota	
10. Padaviya	Galkulama	Medawachchiya	
	Padavi-Siripura	Electorate	
11. Beragala	Haldumulla	Badulla	
Brackish-water Fish Breeding & Experimental Stations			
12. Pitipana	Negombo	Colombo & Negombo	Negombo 2590
13. Pambala	Kakapalliya	Gampaha	
Inland Fisheries Extension Centres			
14. Anuradhapura	C.F.C. Bldg., Anuradhapura	Puttalam Anuradhapura	A'pura 584
15. Mankulam/ Mullativu	Fisheries Office, Mullativu	Jaffna, Mullativu Vavuniya & Mannar	Mullativu 32
16. Galle	Pittigalawatte, Galle	Galle	Galle 2908

Johnsonese, Journalese And Officialese

By Dr. H. D. Wallbeoff Jansz

AS A PROSE WRITER the great Dr. Samuel Johnson gave us a style that was highly Latinised in vocabulary; it was pompous and heavy. Macaulay wrote of him as follows: "When he talked he clothed his wit and his sense in forcible and natural expressions. As soon as he took his pen in his hand to write for the public his style became systematically vicious It is clear that Johnson himself did not think in the dialect in which he wrote. The expressions which first came to his tongue were simple, energetic and picturesque. When he wrote for publication he did his sentences out of English into Johnsonese. "His letters from the Hebrides to Mrs. Thrale are the original of that work of which the **Journey to the Hebrides** is the translation; and it is amusing to compare the two versions. "When we were taken upstairs", says he in one of his letters, "a dirty fellow bounced out of the bed on which one of us was to lie." This incident is recorded in the **Journey** as follows: "Out of one of the beds on which we were to repose started up, at our entrance, a man black as a Cyclops from the forge."

NEWSPAPERS today provide plenty of instances of a style that deserves to be condemned--in the Macaulayan phrase--as 'systematically vicious. Here is a specimen that is hard to beat: "This new scheme which envisages a boost for regional tourism is definitely an objective solution to the menacing deficit which is detrimental to Lanka." The writer's meaning would have been conveyed clearly to readers, and grasped instantly by them, if he wrote a shorter and simpler sentence such as this: "This plan to promote regional tourism would surely help to correct Lanka's unfavourable trade balance."

Here is another: "The unavoidable postponement of urgent surgical operations was due to the non-availability of oxygen." In this the meaning is clear but the expression is artificial. The language in which the writer probably thought was this: "Urgent surgical operations were unavoidably postponed because oxygen was not available." But saying that wasn't good enough for him. He chose an unnatural mode of expression in the belief that it was more elegant.

Here is another instance of this type of artificial expression--once again taken from a newspaper: "Identification of the body had been made by the family only four days later." It would have been more natural for the writer to have simply stated: "It was only four days afterwards that the body had been

identified by the family." Would any judge in a court of law speak the following type of language? "When was identification of the body made?" Would he not inquire in this fashion--"When was the body identified?" The trouble with some newspaper writers is that when they take up their pen to write for the public their style becomes 'systematically vicious'.

Next listen to this: "The CID are now attempting to ascertain as to whom he left with." Would it not have been much simpler and more natural for that newspaper writer to have stated: "The CID are now trying to find out whom he left with." The writer would have probably had the phrase 'trying to find out' in his thoughts, but in writing he translated this into something high-sounding--namely, 'attempting to ascertain'--in his desire for what he thought was more elegant. What is even worse is the ugly insertion of the compound proposition 'as to'. It is quite unnecessary and should have been left out of that sentence.

We have many instances of this type of 'journalese' where longer words are chosen in preference to words of one syllable. One more example would suffice to illustrate this unfortunate tendency. Here it is. "Israeli Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian President Sadat cannot be categorised in the same class." 'Categorise' is a high-sounding and unnecessary substitute for 'to class' or 'to classify'. Now to say 'categorised in the same class' is merely a disguised way of saying 'classed in the same class', which the writer would never have dreamed of saying. If only he had simply stated "Begin and Sadat cannot be **placed** in the same class" or "cannot be **put** in the same class", he would have conveyed his meaning effectively and in a manner free from objection. It was his contempt for simplicity of expression and his craving for elegance that led him to this inelegance. More words which illustrate this deplorable tendency are **assist** for 'help', **proceed** for 'go', **purchase** for 'buy', **endeavour** for 'try', **request** for 'ask', **attired** for 'dressed', **approximately** for 'about' and **sufficient** for 'enough'.

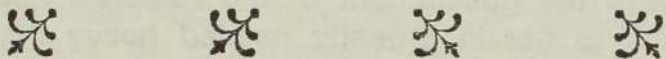
BUT EVEN WORSE than inserting a polysyllable for a monosyllable is the substitution of a long stream of words for something that is terse and crisp. Here is a typical example of the English written by Government officials--what is called 'officialese'.

When a Government department was asked to supply a book for official use the reply was as follows: "As we are not in a position to accede to your request, you are hereby authorised to acquire the article in question by purchase through the ordinary trade channels." That verbiage could easily have been expressed concisely in this form: "We don't have it. Buy it." Something short and to the point was despised as being not good enough. It was translated into language in which the writer did not think.

It was in order to improve the standard of English written by Government officials in Britain that the eminent authority, Sir Ernest Gowers, was invited by the Treasury to write for their benefit his guide to the use of English. This famous guide was originally published in 1948 as a small book of 94 pages under the short title **PLAIN WORDS**. Gowers also had the honour of producing in 1965 the Second Revised Edition of H. W. Fowler's well-known Dictionary of Modern English Usage.

It is noteworthy that the expression 'plain words' had been previously used by Macaulay in his famous essay on Johnson. It appeared in this sentence: "It is well known that he (Johnson) made less use than any other eminent writer of those strong plain words, Anglo-Saxon or Norman French, of which the roots lie in the inmost depths of our language."

Readers will also be interested to know that the expression 'the king's English' appeared a little lower down in the same paragraph of Macaulay's essay in which the phrase 'plain words' appeared. But Macaulay was not the first writer to introduce the expression 'the king's English.' It was introduced much earlier by the prince of poets and playwrights, William Shakespeare, in his play **The Merry Wives of Windsor** (Act 1, Scene 4, line 5).



SRI LANKA CHRONICLE

July 26-31

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA AND THE WORLD COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; **CDN**—Ceylon Daily Mirror; **CO**—Ceylon Observer; **ST**—Sunday Times; **SO**—Sunday Observer; **DM**—Dinamina; **LD**—Lankadipa; **VK**—Virakesari; **ATH**—Aththa; **SM**—Silumina; **SLDP**—Sri Lankadipa; **JD**—Janadina; **SU**—Sun; **DV**—Davasa; **DP**—Dinapathi; **CM**—Chinthamani; **WK**—Weekend; **RR**—Riviresa; **DK**—Dinakara; **EN**—Eelanadu; **IDPR**—Information Dept. Press Release.

SUNDAY, JULY 26 : About 50 Sri Lankans, most of them domiciled abroad, are in jail in UK and Australia for drug offence, police officials in Colombo have been told by two senior Australian Narcotic Board detectives who flew into Colombo last Friday hard on the track of the powerful dope syndicate which uses Colombo as its key centre of operation--**SO**. The Government will shortly study two proposals by Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali, Minister of Trade and Shipping, to stabilize prices of rice, flour, sugar,

Lakspray and Vitamilk; one proposal will be for Government-owned banks to subsidise the interest paid by the CWE and the Food Commissioner on loans taken for the purchase of these commodities; the second proposal is for a two-tier pricing system for the five items in which the rich will be called upon to subsidise the poor. The President and Mrs. Jayewardene left last night for London to attend the wedding of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer at St. Paul's Cathedral--**ST**. Detailed dossiers are being compiled by the Government on "asylum seekers" returning from West Berlin; the idea, is to ascertain how the organised exodus had begun and to compile evidence to bring to book the masterminds behind it. Several nurses picketed outside their hospitals in Colombo yesterday afternoon. Sophisticated high-frequency telecommunications network linking Customs checkpoints at all entry points is to be established shortly--**WK**.

MONDAY, JULY 27 : Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali called for a mass movement to combat the threats of "tigers", terrorists and separatists. The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation's new Nylon Six plant at Sapugaskande threatens to be a huge white elephant according to data placed before the Development Secretary's Conference; the Rs. 760 million plant which was commissioned for test runs last February can lose Rs. 160 million a year according to current projections, Industries Ministry sources said.--**CDN**. A major theft involving goods worth several lakhs of rupees had taken place at the Victoria Dam site in Adikaraigama recently; prompt action by the Kandy police headed by Mr. Mahinda Balasuriya ASP has enabled the Police to recover goods worth Rs. 200,000 two lorries and two other vehicles which were used in the theft--**CDM**. Infrastructural development of Sri Lanka's second investment promotion zone in Biyagama will be undertaken by foreign developers; the 500 million rupee project is expected to get under way shortly and the Greater Colombo Economic Commission has invited international bids for this purpose--**SU**. Six persons belonging to one family--mother, children, mother-in-law and son-in-law--were all brutally shot dead; this pathetic incident took place last night at Kambarmalai in the North--**DP**. TULF Members of Parliament will also be absorbed into the working committees of the District Development Councils in the Northern and Eastern provinces; necessary action is being taken in this connection with government approval--**VK**.

TUESDAY, JULY 28 : Over 180 soldiers have deserted the Sri Lanka Army during the last four years, an army spokesman said yesterday; "they were lance corporals and privates who not satisfied with their pay, deserted the army in search of lucrative jobs in West Asia and the private sector here", the spokesman said. All armed service personnel from

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private to Commander will receive substantial salary increases from September 1, following the recommendations of the J. W. Subasinghe Committee which were approved by President J. R. Jayewardene last week. A 13 percent decline in Sri Lanka's rubber production in 1980 together with bleak projections of future performance in the next five years is causing the authorities here great concern--**CDN**. The Customs has taken steps to bring to book all importers who undervalue goods to enable them to make exorbitant profits, after paying lower customs duties. Career guidance and counseling will be introduced in schools according to the White Paper on Education prepared by the Minister of Education, Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe--**CDM**. The interest rates on all advances made by banks are to be increased; this follows the credit restraints imposed on the banks in June this year by the Central Bank where the accommodation made to commercial banks by the Central Bank was drastically cut. Carpentry, an exclusive male domain, will soon be invaded by women; the Ministry of Labour is to shortly set up a carpentry training centre for women, Labour Ministry sources revealed yesterday. Parliament's Deputy Secretary-General, Nihal Seneviratne, has been appointed Secretary-General with effect from August 1. He will take over from Sam Wijesinha who is retiring--**SU**. The Appeal Court of Colombo ordered the Commander of the Army and the Inspector General of Police to produce before court the four suspects in the Neerveli Rs. 81 lakhs robbery who have been arrested and remanded at the Panagoda Army Camp--**VK**.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29 : The national political leadership acted swiftly yesterday to ensure that a midnight terrorist attack on the Anacottai police station where one constable was killed and three more wounded has no backlash anywhere in the country; the terrorists who appeared at this police station six miles out of Jaffna at 0030 hours yesterday had hijacked a Hiace van a couple of hours before they struck; the police, caught unawares by this terrorist gang which decamped with the station firearms including 17 rifles, 2 shot guns, a sub-machine gun and a thousand rounds of ammunition after the shooting, had little chance against the armed bandits who were believed to have come to the station on legitimate business--**CDN**. The President of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Mr. M. Sivasithamparam and the Secretary General of the Front Mr. A. Amirthalingam yesterday deplored the attack on the Annaicottai police station--**CDM**. Of 142 Sri Lankans currently held in pre-deportation detention by West Berlin Police, all are to be repatriated except those applying for political asylum, the City Government decided today. A massive fraud in the printing of bus tickets has been uncovered by the Police Fraud Bureau--**SU**.

THURSDAY, JULY 30 : About 700 teachers recruited recently have submitted bogus certificates;

this was revealed after a survey conducted by the Educational Services Committee--**CDM**. As the Army moved in, to bolster security in the northern peninsula, the government was yesterday examining the introduction of tough laws to curb the illegal possession of firearms. Police Stations in several isolated areas in the Jaffna peninsula were evacuated yesterday, and Army soldiers posted in them; the measure was taken, police sources said, to counter any attacks by terrorists on these stations--**SU**. The Army and Police sources said yesterday that calm has been restored in Jaffna resulting from the tension created by the attack by terrorists on the Annaicottai Police Station--**VK**.

FRIDAY, JULY 31 : The Treasury will once again be compelled to use a sharp pruning knife on the budget estimates for 1982 that are now being submitted by the different Ministries. The World Bank has strongly advocated that Sri Lanka adopts a less energy intensive development strategy; a report now being studied by senior bureaucrats has made the point that Sri Lanka cannot and should not allow the unprecedented power use growth the Ceylon Electricity Board has reported; with relatively cheap hydro-power on the way from the Mahaweli development, the bank has said it was unwise to permit the intense growth of power use in the interim. The Mahaweli Ministry hopes to conclude negotiations with the government of the People's Republic of China to obtain urgently needed heavy machine operators for the Mahaweli project within the next fortnight, Mahaweli Minister Gamini Dissanayake said yesterday--**CDN**. Police are to insist that the public carry their national identity cards at all times; a proposal to this effect has been forwarded to the Defence Ministry by the Police Department; this step is to be taken to enable the Police to check the identity of any person particularly in the north, where an intensified manhunt has been launched for members of a terrorist organisation. Police yesterday offered a 200,000 rupee reward to any person who provides information leading to the recovery of weapons lost from the Annaicottai Police Station. Horse racing is to be reintroduced to Sri Lanka from next month; twenty foreign-bred and trained through-breds will be brought down from Singapore, Malaysia and Pakistan shortly, for the revival of this sport; the first races will be held on Saturday, August 22 at Nuwara Eliya. The Treasury will not impose drastic cuts on the budgetary allocations for the Mahaweli, education and telecommunications programmes next year; officials are now working out details of the estimates for the new year, which are expected to take a drastic turn for other projects--**SU**. Strict security arrangements have been made in the Jaffna district to curb violence in the area--**VK**.



July 26 - 31

The mass media gave wide coverage for the Royal Wedding in Britain. Prince Charles married Lady Diana Spencer this week and London went gay and merry. The Soviet media gave little prominence to the British Royal Wedding. It described the royal wedding as a ploy to drown the riots in the UK. The youths in Liverpool continued their protests against the police, while in Ulster, the Irish Republican guerilla prisoners stood steadfastly to their fast unto death plan of action to gain political status. In Jerusalem, Mr. Shimon Peres, the leader of the opposition Labour Party in the Israeli Knesset condemned the bombardment of Beirut and other places in Lebanon as a serious mistake. President Anwar Sadat of Egypt said that Sudan and his country will offer military facilities to the US to counteract Soviet moves in the region. This does not mean that Egypt will provide any bases or enter into any pacts. The Israeli military authorities have forbidden Palestinian leaders in the West Bank territory from expressing public support for the P.L.O. The ceasefire effected last week was opposed by the splinter groups of the P.L.O. The guerillas who interpreted the ceasefire to a suspension of cross-border raids attacked a bus inside Jerusalem, while Israel claimed the right to fly reconnaissance planes over Lebanon sky. There is widespread belief that the resignation of Mr. Neuman, US Ambassador to Saudi Arabia was caused by the delay in finalising the sale of AWACS planes to that country. The sale of two billion dollars worth AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia will be decided by Reagan only after consulting the Congress.

In Iran, Mohammad Ali Rajai emerged victorious in the Presidential election with 12.2 millions of the 14 million votes cast in his favour. The former Iranian President Bani Sadr has sought assylum in France. Bani Sadr will continue to inspire Iranians against Khomeini. Bani Sadr was in the company of Mosoud Rajavi, Head of the Iranian left wing radical Islamic People's Mujahedin which is also opposed to Khomeini. The earthquake in South-east Iran appeared to have claimed nearly 8,000 victims. Iranian Government has made official requests for the extradition of Bani Sadr. Iranian Revolutionary Judge Ayatollah Khalkani blamed the new President Mohammad Ali Rajai for not being vigilant enough to prevent the escape of Bani Sadr. It is quite possible that US hostage drama may now be replayed with the French Embassy staff. Afghan President Babrak Karmal returned to the capital after his visits to Czechoslovakia and Russia. He had been away for a month. Thailand began a radio campaign to deter boat refugees from leaving Vietnam. Thailand now feels that they are not real refugees but seekers after good postures.

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United States will spend, 1,460 billion dollars on defence over the next five years. This will not have any adverse affects on US economy as it would be only 6.8 per cents of the GNP in 1985. The US House of Representatives has approved President Reagan's three-year 5 per cent tax cut bill. The "Canadinisation" of the energy industry in Canada, which caused the outflow of capital as compensation has led to the sharp drop in the value of Canadian dollar. Poland was hit by fresh wave of food protests. US will offer 60.5 million dollars to Poland to purchase US maize. This will help her to overcome grain shortage for livestock herds and poultry flocks. In Portugal more than 36,000 acres of pine and eucalyptus forests were destroyed by wild forest fire. Mr. Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister said in an article that Soviets wish to see "India strong and capable of successfully defending its independence and furthering the cause of peace in Asia and of international security". As such Soviet Union cannot stand aloof of the proposed US plans to provide arms for Pakistan and China. West Berlin city Government has reversed its decision to deport Sri Lankan Tamils without any Court decisions. West Berlin Government has yielded to the request made by the Amnesty International Human Rights group that they should not be sent back as it had evidence for harassments.

In India Presidential Ordinance gave wide powers to government to ban strikes in essential services. The Trade Union and opposition parties have denounced this measure. Relations between India and Bangladesh continued to deteriorate over the New Moor Island issue. India has also rejected Bangladesh's request to refrain from operating the Farakke barrange until an agreement is reached on a new water sharing treaty. The talk on the supply of enriched Uranium to India between US and India ended in a dead-lock. It is unlikely that there will be any agreement.

Ugandan President Milton Obote has released 1,400 of Idi Amin's ex-soldiers from jail, President Dawda Jawara of Gambia was overthrown in a leftist coup while attending the Royal Wedding in London. On a request made by the deposed President, Senegal has sent in troops to Gambia to crush the rebellion. South African forces appears to have captured seven Angolan towns. These force were operating from Namibia bases. But South African government has denied this. Foreign Ministers of 22 States will meet in Cancun, Mexico for a preparatory meeting for a North-South summit scheduled to be held in September-October this year. The theme of the discussion will centre round Willy Brandt report on international development issues. Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Ustinov offered to reduce the Soviet Nuclear missiles at Western Europe in return for NATO's guarantee to drop plans to deploy Cruise and Pershing-2 missiles aimed at Soviet Union.

A Valuable Contribution

By T. Duraisingam

LENIN AND ASIA Published by the Council for Socialist Studies, 31 Wilson Street, Colombo 12 - Rs. 10 : The significance and vitality of Lenin's teachings have not diminished over the years. On the contrary, they have grown as the years passed by, Lenin's grandeur stands out clearer and more vivid as the world moves further away from the time in which he lived and worked. The theory and practice associated with his genius gains wider support throughout the world. Today, the working class and the progressive people turn to Lenin his works and his teachings for guidance in the understanding and assessment of the revolutionary changes that are taking place in the world. It can be said that no human being has influenced world developments so much with such great impact on the lives of working people as Lenin has done in a brief life time. Books on Lenin and his teachings can never lose their value and significance if they are based on correct facts and a true understanding of his great creative activity. They can help us to evaluate present day developments that are radically changing the face of the contemporary world.

Mr. T. Duraisingam has collected and presented to us a great deal of material in summarized form in one little book that runs into 125 pages (in Sinhala). He deserves our sincere congratulations for undertaking a difficult task under the conditions existing today that do not encourage people to write books--least of all on a serious political subject. Mr. Duraisingam is a prominent worker in the Peace Movement as well as the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement and is well qualified to write a book on Lenin and Asia. He has attempted to give us a brief account of the developments in Asia before and after the Great October Revolution, its impact on the nationalities question and the non-capitalist path of development. He has also tried to give us some idea of the principles of Marxism and the history of the international working class movement along with a large number of quotations from Lenin's works published as appendices. The topics discussed range over a wide field and it would be difficult for any writer to summarize all the material in a few pages. It appears that the author wanted to cover a wide field in order to provide the reader with a broad horizon that would encourage him to do further reading. In doing this, it is obvious, he has met with some difficulty in the presentation of ideas in a form in which could readily be understood by the ordinary reader not very conversant with some of the terms appearing especially in a translation (from the Russian). It becomes particularly obvious when we take into consideration the Sinhala reader for whom the book is written.

Some criticism may be made in regard to the discussion of the nationalities question and the path of non-capitalist development, two very important components of Lenin's teachings. No book on Lenin and Asia can be complete without some reference to the great contribution made by Lenin to the development of Marxism in these two fields under the conditions of the world-wide struggle between capitalism and socialism. Such criticism, however, can only be of a minor nature. The reader has the possibility of referring to Lenin's own writings appearing in the Appendix, and that should help him to understand what the author tried to convey. In the framework of a short publication, Mr. Duraisingam has succeeded in giving us an account of the great contribution made by Lenin to the scientific analysis of the struggles of the Asian peoples for national independence, social and economic progress. It required the genius of Lenin to see the role and place of the national liberation movement, appreciate its revolutionary potential and show the oppressed peoples the path of development open to them in the conditions created by the emergence of the first socialist state that has the power to give not only moral and political support but also material support in the struggle against imperialism. Lenin theoretically substantiated the inevitability of the struggle for national liberation merging with the struggle for social liberation opening up broad prospects for building socialism in backward countries by-passing capitalism.

It may, however, be said that some countries in Asia and Africa have taken the path of capitalist development after the achievement of national independence. This does not in any way belittle the validity of the fundamental principles put forward by Lenin in regard to the future of these countries. He noted that the newly free countries would face many serious problems as a result of the oppressive heritage left by colonialism manifesting, among other things, in the absence or the lack of maturity of working class organisations and the existence of a huge mass of people with petit-bourgeois views. He foresaw that in countries where petit-bourgeois elements prevail, the road to socialism "... will not be straight, it will be incredibly involved." He also said, "All nations will arrive at socialism--this is inevitable, but all will do so in not exactly the same way, each will contribute something of its own to some form of democracy..." Many newly free countries have now broken away from the capitalist orbit and entered the path of men-capitalist development with a clear socialist orientation. Their historical experience as well as the experience of other countries clearly testify to the vitality of Lenin's ideas. It is hoped that the book will be made available in English and Tamil also, so that a wider public will have a chance of reading it.

L. Ariyawansa

Colour Films

The other day, neatly wedged in as a trailer between the shorts before the main English film feature was a brief introduction to the Sinhalese film "Suryakantha" and I was amazed at the excellence with which the colour camera had been used. Since this film is reviewed below, I would move on to the dilemma of Producers who are nervously looking forward to the day, when they could have their films processed in Sri Lanka. This column is aware of the publicity that preceded the arrival of equipment for a colour laboratory at Dalugama, but what has happened since, remains a mystery. The lid on the position has been partly lifted by film-maker Amarnath Jayatileka who was recently in India attending a film festival and also laying the foundation for a couple of Indo-Sri Lankan Productions titled "Vijay in Sri Lanka" and "Pooja". He has stated that "with a colour boom in Sri Lanka, producers are now rushing to Hong Kong for processing work which could be easily done in India and also save foreign exchange for the country, if the Customs in India liberalises their policy and remove red tapism and delays". In Hong Kong he says there are neither any delays nor are there any restrictions. It is on record that a local film sent to India for colour processing work was with the Customs for as many as six months--which would be a depressing exercise when added on to another queue in Sri Lanka before its release for exhibition. Returning to square one, this column is curious to know what is holding up the film processing in the laboratory at Dalugama and the state of the equipment already in hand.

SURIYAKANTHA (SINHALESE): Actress Nita Fernando of Duhulu Mahlak and Mangla fame, who migrated to Canada after marriage has co-produced and acted in this delightful colour film which pleases both the eyes and the senses, as the camera in the expert hands of Sumith Amerasinghe, has laboured hard to embrace the salubrious and scenic beauty of Nuwara Eliya. Directed by Wijaya Dharmasiri, the film flits evenly between a crispy and tender story and capturing the breathtaking environments around--both efforts bearing ample fruits. The simple story is of a loving and affluent family in the hills which loses the mother (Sriyani Amarasena) at a childbirth unexpectedly, leaving the husband (Henry Jayasena) grief-stricken and two children left forlorn but tended affectionately by a sister in law (Nita Fernando) who had already lost her heart to a handsome mobiker (Vijay Kumaratunga) at the time of the unbearable loss of her sister. She is confronted with a heart stretching conflict between the kids who cry for her care, and her lover, and whom she settles for is for you to see in this excellent film. Veteran actor Henry Jayasena has re-entered the local film

scene and has enriched some recent releases by his expressive histiionics. Sriyani and Vijay do just what is necessary while Nita is clearly retaining the touch that shot her to stardom, but with tons of confidence. Suriyakantha is an excellent family film that is a booster to Sri Lanka's scenic splendour as well. Do not miss it.

ORU KAI OSAI (TAMIL): Today Bhagyaraja is a big name in Tamil films in South India. His versatility on the film scene is beyond question and clearly comes through in this production, where the story, dialogue, Direction and above all a very difficult role as a dumb villager, have all been woven by him with a rare skill, that illuminates the entire story. The net result is an excellent film, that vies with the best that has reached our shores to date. The story unfolds with a pretty lady doctor (Aswini), whose charm and expressive eyes are cloaked in an impish and elegant silence, running away (by bullock cart) from apparent tragedy in quest of fresh rural pastures. She repeatedly crosses the path of a suicide bent dumb (Baghyarajah) who clumsily fails in his repeated attempts, with all the methods in the book, to snuff himself out. The doctor's healing hands delight him sensuously, and many scenes of animation are let loose from that moment, which pleases the eye. A secret and one-sided romance reaches out for response and sympathy from the inarticulate and veers the story on to a sentimental course and a surprising climax. While Bhagyaraja's guttural dialogue with hands was a rare treat to watch, in actress Aswini we have a pretty face, that breathes potential for the future. Then there was the depressed character Sangili, who shed some dignity into his role as an extortioner, but remaining righteous in a crisis to be martyred with the cause of his oppressed people on his dying lips. It was sheer class that shies and spills over this production throughout its run, and its realism, too will have you in a spell. See it.

THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN GUN (ENGLISH) This United Artists release which is the ninth of the series of James Bond films based on the novels of Ian Fleming, mixes once again the familiar cocktail which the indestructible Secret Agent 007 (Roger Moore) churns with all the polish and modern sophistry, before he stirs our the villain to the surface. In this instance, it is a more cool and collected Christopher Lee who roles the dangerously sharpshooting Scaramunga, who sets up in an islet off Hong Kong, a kingdom charged and energised by Solar Power to eliminate his foes, Bond being right on top of the list. He webs his victims viciously before gunning them down with his smartly assembled golden gun. The Secret Agent is assigned by Scotland Yard to track down Scaramanga from his hideout and is assisted by the beautiful Mary Goodnight (Britt Ekland). To Bond, Sex is part and parcel of his weaponry when on the hunt, and he uses it in measured doses, that keep him on the trail. There is a surfeit of

action, but I am inclined to conclude that although Roger Moore is sufficiently tall, debanair and suave, he is less swift in his knockouts, particularly in the Karate sequences--a field in which Sean Connery shone more, in the past. Quite surprisingly, Christopher Lee appears to have deserted his Dracula characterisations and settled down for more meaningful roles as in this film. The camera has traversed over water and land between Hong Kong, Macao and Thailand with eye catching ease. While the Director of this film Guy Hamilton was also behind the camera in Bond films such as Goldfinger, Diamonds are Forever and Live and Let Die, his pace has slackened a trifle in this film which is certsinly not the best in the series, although the moneys worth is assured, in fair measure. The succulence of the Fleming-Bond combination is its parallel pace with modern scientific achievements and like technical trends, but tends to take a couple of steps beyond which extension probably keeps such films ticking at the Box Office.

AMERICA AT THE MOVIES : Film Focus was pleased at the special invitation it received from the Press Attache of the American Embassy to a viewing of this film which traverses the best corners down memory lane of American films in the last four decades. It touches several memorable and tender moments, both in black and white, interspersed with coloured releases, drawn from nearly 80 films during its 116 minutes run, with fleeting glimpses of the famous film stars who strode the American film scene. It effectively portrayed the diversity of the American movie experience in five parts, covering The Land, The Cities, The Families, The Wars and The Spirit with reference to the cine-media in the United States. A plush, carpeted and air conditioned mini cinema at the American Center Auditorium contributed much to the enjoyment of this film.

James N. Benedict



NOSTALGIC LONGINGS

Of A Septuagenarian

By K. Kanapathipillai

SHALL I who has reached the ripe, old, mellowing age of seventy and odd ever enjoy those marvellous days! When, I as a youth in his teens, sailed out on a moonlight night in the cuttle fish season, in frail fishing craft of the Sinhalese fishermen from Dodanduwa who had encamped on the sea beach of my native village on the East coast of Sri Lanka, and having spent the live-long night netting a bumper catch returned home in the morning brimful of the energy and the vigour of the salt spray and the whispering night air? When I went in search of

Sri Lanka in the company of a boon companion of mine, Bibile Banda, and having enjoyed the rare, rural hospitality of his parents who belonged to an ancient aristocratic community of tillers of the soil. went about on foot, criss-cross across the Uva Dawns, in search of ferns and wayside weeds and wild flowers?

When I, having been tired of a monotonous life on the hot steamy grilling coastal plains of the East coast, went and bivouacked with a surveyor friend of mine--Mr. K. S. C., a man so dear to my heart and so full of the true zest of life--often taking shelter when the weather chanced to be inclement under his surveyor's tent in the Spring talley in the Bogowantalawa Hilly Region, and are like a bull and slept like a dog, and imbibed all that was exhilarating in the mountain air? When I learnt a lot about the simple lire of the unsophisticated and innocent rural folk and got into their way of thinking and their style of living? When, during my college days, after having had a heated discussion on the merits of the drama and the dialogue as pieces of literary art, my friend, Mr. Festus Mendis of Moratuwa and I stole out of the college hostel past that hour when the rest of the city seemed to be locked up in the grip of a calm and slumbrous night, and sauntered out to the nearby beach, and sat on the boulders and dreamt of long hours of peace that went trickling by tranquilly?

WHEN. IN MY FIRST YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT as a pedagogue--those were the trade depression days--1930s when there was acute unemployment among school masters--I wandered all over the Island from Pottuvil to Panadura, from Dondra Head to Point Pedro in search of a job and eventually found a suitable haven in the village of Ambalangoda where I was received with open arms by the entire community; where one Mr. Sinnadurai of the North and I of the East, were perhaps the only Tamils; where life was all aglow; where hospitality was plumpy and galore; where in my mad enthusiasm to collect specimens of rare plants--Ugarasa, Lovi Inthuru and Nepenthes, etc., I ventured out on the treacherous muddy flats of the Madampe river and sank in the sucking quagmire chest-deep, and was rescued by a village cultivator who chanced to come that way with a long-handled mammoty and a dry stalk of coconut frond; and after dusk--I could not have gone through the urban area in broad daylight in my mud-soiled clothes--he took me to my land lady's house, one Mrs. Fernando, who on seeing me in my pathetic and despicable plight, and having been intimated of what had happened, began to shed tears and raise cries of alarm exclaiming: "Ayoh Putha! Imagine what would have happened if you had got sucked into the mire got entangled and died in it." Then, in the same vein of deep concern shown by Aunt Betsy Trotwood to David Copperfield, she prepared hot water for me to bathe, and brewed the lovingest

cup of coffee, with a dash of brandy in it, that ever I had in all my life; treated me, to cap it all, to an excellent dinner redolent with seasoned bread-fruit crisps, salted tuna fish and peppered 'pol kudu' sambol ?

When once, when I went collecting in the company of my friends riding in a single bullock cart we came to the village of Padagoda, beyond Amparai, where we were greeted by the Udayar of the area, a genial Sinhalese gentleman who came with his son and accosted us, employing the most endearing language to his cottage and gave us a right royal treatment. He not only fed us and gave us all the best that he could possible give, he also placed at our service his men, and instructed them to go with us into the jungle and help us in collecting some very rare specimens of plants, one such specimen being *Inophyllum Oenoplia*. This species, I was told, was worth its weight in gold since it was almost becoming extinct ?

WHEN I HOLIDAYED IN KANDY in the company of my friend Mr. Pinto Jayawardene who had the kindness and courtesy not only to arrange for my stay in Kandy for a rather protracted period of time, but placed at my disposal all the facilities that he could obtain to make my stay there very comfortable and profitable, for I made the best use of my time in ransaking the luscious Udawattegala jungle while making a study of the plant and animal lore of that rare "Sanjeevi Malai"--the hill of rare medicinal herbs and trees and shrubs that Hanuman, according to a Ramayana legend, was reported to have deposited somewhere among the central hills of Sri Lanka ? When I was the head of a school, we the teachers and the pupils celebrated the Thai Pongal, the Wesak, the Christman Eve and the Hadji Festival when Suppiah and Joseph and Galagoda and Haniffa--Hindus and Christians and Buddhists and Muslims, quite irrespective of caste or racial or religious considerations, enjoyed ourselves in supreme eclat and a spirit of sheer abandon ?

When, be it night or be it day, be it any season of the year one could have gone on foot or on a push bicycle to any nook or corner of the Island and sought shelter under any roof, tiled or thatched, and received the warmest of hospitality and experienced a rare feeling of security, happiness and joy ? When there was no question of Sinhala or Tamil, Muslim or Burgher; when those divisive and incursive issues were not there, having not been raked out by power-seeking politics ? When there prevailed only the supreme motion of man and his belongings; and, and his deserts ? When man went about with a large heart, receiving what he deserved and when his deservings were proffered to him in a very sumptuous measure--hospitality, good-will, sympathy, compassion and companionship ?

WILL THOSE DAYS RETURN ? Those good old days ? In the inimitable words of Amiel : "Will those
TRIBUNE, August 15, 1981

reveries ever return to me, those grandiose immortal cosmogenic dreams in which one seems to carry the world in one's breast, to touch the stars, to possess the infinite ? Divine moments, hours of ecstasy when thought flies from world to world, penetrates the great enigma, breathes with a respiration large, tranquil, and profound like that of the ocean, and hovers serene and boundless like the blue heavens?" What days! What hours! What memories! Won't those profound feelings and benign sentiments, blessings of yore, return to the inner depths of our being ? And won't peace and amity and good-will and good-sense prevail over this lovely island home of ours once again as of yore ? Let us, hope they will.

52. Angle Road,
Batticaloa,
June 10, 1981.



SPAIN

Refuses To Have....

Washington, July 28: Spanish Foreign Minister Jorge Pedro Perezllorca has indicated that the agreement on the use of military bases in Spain by the United States would be renewed before its expiry on 21 September. He said the new agreement must gain "a character different" from that of the one which is currently in force. Mr. Perezllorca told the USI leaders that Spain wanted neither the US "euromissiles" nor other nuclear arms on its territory after his country enters NATO. He said Spain wanted the opening of US-Soviet negotiations on reduction of nuclear arms on European soil.

He said that Spain was no longer willing to be only a "giant aircraft carrier" for the United States and what it sought was a more active role and a right of vote in the West's defence plans. The Spanish Foreign Minister, who ended two days of talks here with Secretary of State, Alexander Haig and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, discussed questions related to Spain's joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) purchases of US armament and the country's adverse trade balance with the US. Meanwhile in Spain, the municipalities of Torejon and Zaragoza urged the closure of US military bases stationed near these towns under an agreement signed by former US president, late General Dwight D. Eisenhower and late Spanish dictator Francisco Franco. An anti-NATO meeting was also held in Madrid attended by 50,000 persons who demanded the closure of four US military bases in Spain.-**Tanjug.**



TENDER NOTICE

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

PUTTALAM INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
(Fisheries Sector)

**MODIFICATIONS & IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING
BUILDING FOR OFFICE & QUARTERS AT MAHAWEWA**

Tenders are invited by the Chairman, Tender Board, Ministry of Fisheries for the modifications and improvements to the existing building for office and quarters at Mahawewa, which is to be constructed under the Puttalam integrated Rural Development Project.

Tender forms will be issued only to Contractors registered with Government Departments for construction of buildings at a value not less than Rs. 500,000/-

Tenders should be made on prescribed forms. The Tender documents may be obtained commencing 13th August 1981 at 9.00 a.m. up to 12.00 noon 24th August 1981 from Director (Development) Ministry of Fisheries, P. O. Box 1707, Sir Mohamed Macan Markar Mawatha, Galle Face, Colombo-3, on payment of a non-refundable deposit of Sri Lanka Rupees One Hundred (Rs. 100/-). The Tenders will be close on 28th August 1981 at 2.00 p.m,

ANURA WEERARATNE
Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries
& Chairman, Tender Board

Ministry of Fisheries,
P.O. Box 1707,
Sir Mohamed Macan Markar Mawatha,
Galle Face,
Colombo-3.

VACANCIES IN THE MAHAWELI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka possessing requisite qualifications for the following post.

POST: ANIMAL HUSBANDRY OFFICER (EXTENSION)

Qualifications & Experience :

Graduate in Agriculture/Veterinary Science with 10 years experience in the field of Animal Husbandry 5 years of which should be Executive capacity.

OR

Diploma in Agriculture/Animal Husbandry/with 15 years experience in Animal Husbandry 3 years of which should be in Executive capacity.

Ability to converse in Sinhala, Tamil and English and have discussions with members of the public in Animal Husbandry Extension methods in all three languages

Ability to handle and direct qualified technical and supervisory field staff.

Age :

Over 35 years.

Willingness to serve in difficult and remote areas.

Salary Scale :

Rs. 1850 - (5 x 50) Rs. 2100/- per mensem. Govt, approved allowances are payable.

Selected candidates could be considered for placement on a salary point in the above scale depending on qualifications and experience.

Applications indicating age qualifications and other relevant particulars should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 19th August, 1981. The post applied for should be written on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Applications from persons in the state sector will be considered only if the head of the department/corporation institute certifies that the candidates can be released if selected.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,

Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka,
248, Galle Road,
Colombo 4.

Warnings About Food

IS IT NOT A FACT that warnings have been issued to Third World countries by many journals of international standing about the activities of certain multinationals that threaten to undermine the basic economy of these countries? That the **Lumea**, the Romanian Foreign Policy journal, had an interesting comment on one aspect of this kind of danger? That this is what it said; "Milk powder--which has earned the infant formula producers huge profits in developing countries despite its being a bigger killer of their newborns than cannons are--remains nonetheless a minor aspect in the transnational's responsibility for the present magnitude of undernourishment and famine. One figure suffices to prove the affirmation: in addition to local croplands, the industrialized world is exploiting 20 percent of the world arable area. The expanses which the transnationals purchase in the developing countries are planted to early vegetables and fruit and to fodder destined to foreign consumers. The American company Del Monte, for example has purchased the most fertile plots in north-east Mexico where beans, the locals' staple, has to surrender to asparagus, grown for being exported to Western Europe. From the Philippines, De Monte is reaping pineapples and bananas which it sells at high prices in London and Tokyo. Another transnational company, Cargills, had forced Brazil to renounce growing crops that were the poor's food in favour of soy beans which fattens cattle in the United States. A recent FAO-sponsored meeting in Nairobi has warned against a newly looming danger--that the transnationals spread their tentacles over another highly profitable sector, i.e., the marketing of choice seeds. For the moment, Shell unchallengedly leads the list but two giants of the pharmaceutical industry, Ciba-Geigy and Sandoz are closely running up. Is the day indeed near when the Third World will have to buy its seeds from the industrial North? --asked the magazine **Jeune Afrique**. It also remarked that this concentration in private hands of an important part of the production and research sectors entails the risk that a system of plant licences very much like that in use in industries, become a standard practice. So, after arms, technologies and capital, food is yet another area which the multinationals are exploiting in their power-boosting lust. They do not scruple from grabbing even the global green heritage which is the common property of mankind."?

THAT AMONG THE PRODUCTS that displace food crops is tobacco? That tobacco smoking is more dangerous to human health than alcohol and certain herbs (like ganja or marijuana) wrongly termed narcotics? That over a century ago, plantation crops like tea, rubber and coffee, pushed food crops out of our lands and Sri Lanka became dependent

on food imports? That this country has still not got over this dependence, although it is nearing self-sufficiency in some items like paddy? That it would be a sad mistake to go in for purely export items like oil palm, tobacco and the like without having sufficient land (in reserve also) for food crops? That another article in the same Romanian journal had another warning entitled. **The Export...of Hunger?** That this is what it said: "Well nigh quarter of the world population is afflicted by food shortages; close to 500 million people are underfed and the toll of those yearly dying of starvation is 50 million. It's no hard nut to crack and see that the overwhelming part of the hungry and malnourished are people living in the developing countries. Why? Of course, the causes possible to enumerate can refer to the backwardness of the respective countries--and therefore, primitive exploitation of soil, to natural calamities insufficient assistance from the developed countries and many others. Yet, a prestigious French magazine showed that it is the multinationals dealing in agri-food that are the first ones to be taken to the dock because they grab vast croplands--commonly the most fertile--in the developing countries and exploit them for their own benefit, which makes the host countries unable to produce enough food for their own people. With their best cropland taken away, the developing countries must buy food from abroad and this simply means that the giant corporations overseas are exporting famine to the poor. For solving the world food question, an important problem of the new world economic order, Romania considers that each country with food deficits should shape and carry out a coherent strategy of agricultural development, part and parcel of the overall process of economic and social advancement, with heavy stress laid on one's own effort. Firm measures are also needed at the international level, channelled with priority towards such objectives as substantially bigger and diversified outputs in developing countries, homegrown industries manufacturing the requisite farming machinery, rural development, implementation of modern irrigation and draining system, development of agro-industries, training of manpower development of infrastructure and non-agricultural activities in the village, scientific and technological research oriented to agriculture, free transfers from the developed to the developing countries. Provided that the world food issue finds its solution this way, there will be no more export of famine to other countries." **Those who are clamouring for Free Trade Zones for agriculture to enable multinationals to grow crops solely for export--whether fruits, oil palm, or any other product--must be careful not to usher in a new imperialist economy where this country will once again be completely dependent on imported food?**



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MAHAWELI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

APPLICATIONS are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the following posts in the Progress Control and Plan Co-ordination Unit of the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka.

POST : ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PLANNER

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE :

- (a) A good Degree in Economics with a Masters Degree in Business Management or at least a Diploma or equivalent qualification from a recognised business management Institution.
- (b) At least 5 years experience in Economic and Financial Analysis.

SALARY : Negotiable.

POST : HUMAN RESOURCES PLANNER

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE :

- (a) A good Degree in one of the Social Sciences. with a Post Graduate qualification in Public/Business Management.
- (b) A minimum of 5 years experience in evaluation and planning of human resources is required.
- (c) A high degree of proficiency in both spoken and written Sinhala and English is also essential.

SALARY : Negotiable.

Applications indicating age, qualifications, experience and other relevant particulars should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 21st August, 1981. The post applied for should be clearly indicated on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Applications from persons in the State Sector will be considered only if the Head of the Department/Corporation certifies that the candidate can be released if selected.

**SECRETARY-GENERAL,
Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka,
500, T. B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.**