"It is my duty to entry into the life of the nation laid down by my husband and to see that the people of this country have achieved not only political freedom but will achieve freedom from ignorance as well," said the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike in a broadcast to the nation on Sunday.

The following is the text of the broadcast:

THE 1st of December 1960 will long be remembered as one of the most important days in the history of our country. From this day onwards, the system of education has been rejuvenated and the Government has taken the management of a large number of schools which up to now have been under the management of various religious and private educational authorities. After lengthy discussion and debate in the House of Representatives and after the Senate this Education Bill has been given the assent of the President. The vast majority of the people of this country, as I believe, will realize what it means to the future of this country. It is the intention of my Government to effect this transfer wisely and smoothly with the co-operation of all concerned. We are aware of the importance of the change that is to be effected and the need for proper education of the children. Up to now many classes of people have enjoyed the best of education at the expense of the vast majority of the poorer children throughout this country.

Asset to the Nation

“I have had contact with the rural areas of this island, perhaps more than anyone else in this island has had, and I know that there are millions of children in the rural areas who do not have the privileges of a good education and thousands suffer from education all over the country, and we must in a democracy do what is best for the country as a whole. The Government of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party has plunged into a state of education, every welfare state throughout the world vast changes are taking place. One such change is all over the world is the transfer of responsibility for education from religious and private educational authorities to the Government. It is the intention of my Government to effect this transfer wisely and smoothly with the co-operation of all concerned. We are aware of the importance of the change that is to be effected and the need for proper education of the children. Up to now many classes of people have enjoyed the best of education at the expense of the vast majority of the poorer children throughout this country.

NEW ERA BEGINS IN EDUCATION

Equal opportunities for all: P.M.

ON-TOP marks the beginning of a new era, the era in which I sincerely hope every child that comes from the poorest home would be given the same education that I would like to give my son Anura," said the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike at the graduation ceremony of the Royal Primary School held on December 1st.

The Prime Minister said:

“I am very happy to be among you today and to the Headmaster of this institution and to the parents of all the children of the school. We are told that to the pupils of this school, have always been known as 'Anura' and I hope I would be so to them.

Today marks the beginning of a new era, the era in which I sincerely hope every child that comes from the poorest home would be given the same education that I would like to give my own son Anura.

It was the long cherished ambition of my late husband, Mr. Bandaranaike, to establish a system of education enabling every child to have their education free. His dream could not be implemented in his lifetime due to circumstances. But the Government has taken it a step further with the establishment of the Royal Primary School.

This education is not only for the children of the rich but for the children of the poor as well. The Government has taken it upon itself to ensure that every child in the country has the right to education.

The government has been working towards ensuring that every child has access to education, regardless of their background. The Royal Primary School is a testament to this commitment.

The Headmaster of the school, Mr. Mark Fernando, said:

"The school was started with the aim of providing education to children from all walks of life. We believe in the power of education to transform lives."

The education system under the new government has been designed to provide equal opportunities for all children, regardless of their background. The Royal Primary School is a symbol of this commitment to education for all.

In Sinhala.

THE Minister of Justice, the Hon. Sam P. C. Fernando, has approved the Cabinet for the Sinhala translations of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance and the Courts Ordinance.
THE SCHOOLS ISSUE

GOVERNOR-GENERAL PUTS THREE POINTS TO OBJECTORS

'You will not lose by collaboration'

The Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke said at the Royal College repealing ceremony on December 2: 'Let us on this great occasion of the centenary of Royal College begin once again the great work of education, a work that is a minority: boys of their depots in the field to do these things.

'Firstly, please persuade the parents who are having it necessary to go to their sons to return to their normal life.

'Secondly, please collaborate fully with the Director of Education Schools and Training Colleges (Special Provision) Act. Each school will have its peculiar preconditions. You will not lose by collaboration.

'Thirdly, we will be able to share the joint responsibility of the Commission of the Government work by which we might be appointed.'

'In German proverb which runs as this :

'Es wird nichts so hellen Gegenstand, denn man hat sie noch nicht genug gesucht.'

'Nothing is ever eaten as hot as it is cooked.'

'Three months in six months to those who control the all schools that have decided to be outside the National System may decide that in their own interests, they should not lose the opportunity of continuing their education in this country.'

The Governor-General said during the course of his address:

'I am very grateful for the Governor-General who is present here today. I agree with all of you the pleasure and privilege of the very special circumstances connected with the occasion. This is the 125th Anniversary of the founding of this institution. It is the time of our country to remember our glorious past and to face the future of education in this country. I shall look forward to the day when the hope and confidence you have for the future of this institution as a model national educational institution, will come true.

'May I begin by congratulating you, Mr. Principal, your Staff and your Students in the most encouraging report of work for 1969. The results of the College in its academic activities have continued to be of a high level. And so too are the results of the wide range of extra curricular activities undertaken by the College. I am particularly aware of the great contribution that both you and your Staff make towards the progress of the College by giving your valuable services at all times and with great devotion to duty. With over forty societies and groups to oversee it is necessary that the work is done well that is done after a long and toil and circumstances of the day. Should be able to do so.

'In German proverb which runs as this:

'Es wird nichts so hellen Gegenstand, denn man hat sie noch nicht genug gesucht.'

'The time is never hot as it is cooked.'

'Royal College in 125 years old. There is a lesson to be learnt from this. The institutions in our land, in all branches of our education, in the rule of Parliament, in Justice, in Medicine, in Education, in Public Services are too deeply entrenched to be easily disturbed or disrupted.'

Principal Dudley de Silva: 'At least 150 marks to Mr. Banke, Todd, Howard, Hartley, Reid, Seneviratne, Rajendran and Cooré—great Principals, great men, who have trained to many of our students through the years. They have been the inspiration to Royal College.'

'My Principal Ministry: Royal College, as you see it today, is certainly not the unattainable goal of the Colonial era. It is an institution which has made vast changes in its character and program and has been a great influence in the life of the nation. It is an institution which has made vast changes in its character and program and has been a great influence in the life of the nation.'

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'NATIONAL SYSTEM WILL NOT HARM ANY RELIGION

"I make this appeal to people of all denominations in Sri Lanka. It is my privilege to be able to address the parents of this country in my capacity as the Acting Minister for Education on this occasion, when we are about to take the first step to establish in our country a National Education system, by taking over all assisted schools under the control of the Director for Education. According to the system of Education we have in our country today, most of the young men and women on leaving school—whether it be an Assisted School or a Government School—spend the rest of their lives without any type of employment. Whether these persons have passed their BSc or even a higher exam, it is difficult to find jobs for them in this country to get the education they have obtained," said the Acting Minister of Education, Mr. V. T. G. Karunaratne, on the occasion of the schools take-over on December 1st.

Continuing the Minister said:

"This should not be because there are enough jobs in our country for all. Apart from the type of employment that we see as obvious, there are many other jobs not so obvious which can not only provide opportunities to earn one's own livelihood but which also enrich the society in which we live. It is for this reason why we have established the system of education we now have does not provide adequate preparation. To illustrate this point let us take the case of the Director for Education as the present system. How many of these children are fitted with the aptitudes to give of their best to society?

"The purpose in establishing a national system of education is to put a stop to the growth of unemployment in this country and to train people to be useful. It is to be regretted that when we are about to embark on this scheme a handful of selfish people through fear for their personal gain and for the future gains have tried to mislead the masses by ascribing a religious character to this scheme."

False rumour

"One false rumour we often hear is that the National Denominational Schools are to be taken over. Our Government will remove from the premises the religious statues, and other symbols that have been erected.

As your Acting Minister for Education I can give my assurance that no such thing will be done by the Government once the schools are taken over. To illustrate further let me state that if a Christian School is taken over by the Education Department, any holy symbol such as the Holy Cross or the Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary found in the premises will not be removed or tampered with. Similarly in the case of Buddhist Schools or Buddhist Statues found in the premises will be removed by the Government. Whatever is found in the school premises at the time of takeover will be allowed to stay there. I like to emphasize on this occasion that we do not contemplate in any way to cause harm to any religion or race by introducing this national system of education in our country."

"Under the present system there are thousands of children among us who do not receive any religious education at all. This number probably exceeds 100,000, therefore our purpose is to bring forth from our schools a generation which will be faithful to their religion, their country and their nation and not one which is indifferent and indifferent. My reply to those who say falsely that religion is not to be taught is that the Education Department is a non-religious and compulsory subject for the I.G.C. The problem we are faced with is whether the free religious liberty accorded in the Constitution really allows the rich and the poor, to get an education according to the system we have today.

"The position we have in mind in discussing the national system of education is, to discover the right religious education, whether among the children who come from the town or from the villages. We are trying to train them while they are in school, in vocations suited to their aptitudes. For this purpose provisions have been made to offer 2,000 scholarships.

"Therefore we respectfully ask for your full co-operation to help us in this venture the primary object of which is to stop the growth of unemployment and to train in this country a set of young men and women who will be loyal to their country and faithful to their religion."

"By introducing this national system of education we will remove the growth of employment ceaselessness. We have set the national system of education!"

A section of the exhibits which will be on view at the Festival of Arts to be held next week.

(Continued from Page 1)

NEW ERA BEGINS....

In Safe Hands

"I know the future of our educational institutions will be in safe hands if we could have at the helm of other schools men like Mr. Sugathapala and women like his wife, and a loyal band of co-workers that is on the staff of this school. Through personal experience I have realized that there are on the staff men and women, who have dedicated their lives to the cause of education."

"It is not instruction alone that they impart here, but the personality of each child is developed and the individual truly educated. The teaching profession, needs, not hirings but men of sacrifice. For the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep."

"I appeal to you parents who are present here today to realize the significance of the changes that are taking place in our midst, and to be conscious of the fact that we are today taking the most important step in the nation's battle for happiness. It is the bounden duty of every patriotic citizen to give every co-operation to the Government in these crucial days. Let us have Institutions like Royal College and Royal Primary in every part of the Island. After all, Royal College in the premier Government School. It has produced men of culture, men of learning, men of character above all, men of religion, of all religions, if I may say so, many of whom bear honoured names in this country. Let us hope that the atmosphere of discipline that pervades Royal and Royal Primary will pervade some other institutions as well."

Scheming Men

"I am sorry that I had to dwell today on what may be said to be a political question. But as it is an educational question and so topical, I thought I must take reference to it. I am indeed glad that I came here today. I feel very happy in the company of so many children. It has given me immense relief after a very arduous and anxious day's work. Sometimes, we think that children create great problems for us parents.

"But such problems are not so disastrous as the problems created by scheming men who even use innocent children to further their sinister efforts to achieve selfish ends."

"I take this opportunity to congratulate those of you who are the prize-winners of today, and those who have not had the good fortune should redouble your efforts and be among the fortunate ones next year."

"In conclusion, today, Sir, is an important day and as it is you said a memorable day. The Government will consider making it a commemorative day but the children here will remember this day only if you compensate them in an appropriate manner on a future day for having brought them to school on this day."

The Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, inaugurating the fourth regional technical conference on water resources development at the Galle Face Hotel on Monday.
GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S PUL.

(Continued from Page 2)

Three more textile workshops to be set up

The Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries is taking steps to establish three more Art Line Textile Workshops and a Screen and Block Printing Workshop which will print designs on locally produced textiles.

In addition to these Centres and Workshops run by this Department, Units and Co-operative Societies will be encouraged to set up their own workshops in the future.

In view of the increasing mechanisation in the Textile Industry, handloom workers will have to concentrate on special items of Textiles like high class furnishings, sashes and other art line coverings.

Even if all the art line textiles required in Ceylon are produced on handlooms, a greater portion of the loomage will continue to produce utility materials like sarongs which can be produced on a mass scale cheaper on powerlooms. Ultimately handloom workers must be confined to the weaving of fabrics which are exclusively suited to handlooms.

In view of this it would be necessary gradually to encourage handloom weavers to take up the decentralised powerloom as existing now in India. The Department is already operating decentralised powerloom workshops in various places that should be encouraged but thorough training of powerloom workers is necessary.

According to a recent survey carried out by the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries there was a total of 7,075 powerloom workers and 23,920 looms, totaling 18,980 looms, and producing about 500 lacs of yards in 1956. It is assumed that the number of powerloom workers has increased to about 2,000. Proposals are now in the hands of Government for setting up powerloom workshops in the next 30 million yards by 1963 as against the 15 million yards now being produced per year.

An indiscriminate expansion of the number of looms will result in the creation of problems that may be harder for the Government. Since the survey of December, 1959, referred to the number of handlooms, it has increased by 35,000. The Government has therefore decided to set about 2,000, Proposals are now in the hands of Government for setting up powerloom workshops in the next 30 million yards by 1963 as against the 15 million yards now being produced per year.

WE MUST ACHIEVE...

to a broach of the peace and that lawlessness which the Government will not be tolerated by any Government. If this is the kind of education that these schools have imparted to their children the Government must take notice of a lack of discipline in these schools.

Acted with restraint

"I am most grateful to the Buddhist and Moslem Leaders who have acted so far with a great degree of magnanimity and restraint by not compelling them to act with the same restraint and show tolerance towards those whose conduct may seem provocative. In order to explain to the people of both the sects the denominations that the Government would like to have their fullest co-operation I summoned a meeting of the various religious dignitaries at Temple Trees and after explaining the situation these religious leaders signed a document, which was very carefully considered in regard to every single word that appeared in that document. Everyone of these religious leaders signed the official communication which was released to the Press. The Government does not intend to explain to the people of both sects by any word that is in that document. The Government is most grateful to the Abrahamitians and the Methodist Church, to the Baptist Church and the Roman Catholic Church for their rational approach and the fact that they have assured of their co-operation in full measure to the Government. I am aware that they were not altogether in favour of this legislation but they have quite rightly accepted the democratic legislation but they have quite rightly accepted the democratic legislation and are willing to co-operate. I am also deeply grateful for the assurance of Roman Catholics, who have pleaded with this Government that their support and relief from prejudice, for which I am deeply grateful.

"The Buddhist clergy of this Island have appealed to the people to withdraw themselves not to other people in a spirit of kindness, pity and mercy. However, I am very sorry to say that it has been very difficult for me to meet with the Buddhist clergy, even if I agree with them, to influence the Government to withdraw from the Bill for the protection of the Burghers. However, I am very sorry to say that it has been very difficult for me to meet with the Buddhist clergy, even if I agree with them, to influence the Government to withdraw from the Bill.