

SRI LANKA



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TRAINING OF MORE TEACHERS ENVISAGED

FIRST VOLUME OF SINHALA ENCYCLOPAEDIA READY

THE first volume of the Sinhala Encyclopaedia is scheduled to be out next week.

Work on the Encyclopaedia started in 1956. The first volume consists of 764 pages.

The Department of Cultural Affairs has organised a function to mark the event. A copy of the first volume will be presented to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, by the Editor-in-Chief of the Encyclopaedia, Prof. D. E. Hettiarachchi.

Other copies will be presented to the Minister of Cultural Affairs, Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, Mr. A. Ratnayake, a former Minister of Home Affairs, the Government Printer, and the Vice-Chancellors of the Vidyodaya, Vidyalandara and the Peradeniya Universities.

THE Department of Education will provide new and up-to-date buildings to a number of Training Colleges with a view to take in more teacher trainees to meet the shortage of trained teachers in the country.

The Department has also drawn up a scheme to increase the number of trainees at the Musaeus, Nittambuwe, Eswatte and Dambadeniya Training colleges.

The Training Colleges that will be provided with new buildings are Polgolla, Uyanwatte and Mirigama. In addition to these new buildings the Department has also constructed a new science block at the Maharagama Training College at a cost of Rs. 2,700,000.

Last year the number of Training Colleges increased to 26 with the establishment of a Training College at Hingurakgoda. This year over 2,500 teachers will pass out of the Training Colleges. This is an increase in the output of trained teachers by over 1,250 than in 1956.

During the year 1961, 5,052 teachers were under training representing an increase of 142 over the number in the previous year. All these trainees were on full pay study leave. The number of Specialist teachers in English, Science, Mathematics, Handicrafts, Commerce and Agriculture was 112 more than in 1960.

Provision for the training of teachers is also made at higher levels. The University of Ceylon grants a post-graduate diploma in teaching and also higher degrees. The Privena Universities have included education as a subject for the first degree and this is a popular choice among those who are swabasha trained teachers in the final classes.

Besides regular training in Teachers Colleges, provision is also made for various types of in-service training courses and refresher courses. In-service training courses on a mass scale

was introduced by the Vocational Guidance Branch, which undertook to train every classroom teacher in the methods of maintaining and using of cumulative records. This branch has also organised a year's course for first class trained teachers and trained graduates leading to the teacher counselors' certificate examination. In-service training courses have also been organised for science teachers and English teachers. While the in-service training course aims at teaching something new, it is also designed to impart new skills, knowledge and abilities to the teacher. The refresher course on the other hand adds to what the teacher already knows. Such courses have regularly been conducted in Physical Education, Home Science, History, Geography, etc.

Agreement for avoidance of double taxation

AN Agreement for the avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Tax on income and Property between the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Government of Ceylon was signed on February 16th in the Ministry of Finance. The Hon. P. B. G. Kalugalla signed on behalf of the Government of Ceylon. His Excellency Mr. A. Bogh Anderson, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, signed for the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark.

Under this Agreement the income arising in a country will be taxed by the Government of that country; relief or exemption from tax on such income will be given by the country in which the recipient is resident.

The Agreement will become effective in law after ratification and the necessary Exchange of Instruments of Ratification in New Delhi and when a resolution approving the Agreement is passed in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

MANY PUBLIC OFFICERS DONATE A DAY'S PAY TO GOVT.

The following press communique was issued by the Minister of Finance last week.

Many trade unions and a large number of Public Officers have offered a day's pay or fixed monetary contribution to the government towards meeting the situation created by the suspension of U. S. aid. I thank them sincerely for their offer of help and I have caused a circular to be issued authorizing Heads of Departments to deduct these sums in the pay abstract.

I am sure employees in the Private Sector will not be lagging behind and would themselves be anxious to help the government. Instructions are being issued to the Kachcheries, to the Bank of Ceylon and to the People's Bank to accept these contributions from the employers or trade unions in the private sector or from other individual contributors. Receipts for these payments will be issued by the Kachcheries or by the Treasury.

TRADE BETWEEN CEYLON AND PAKISTAN TO BE EXPANDED

AT the invitation of the Government of Ceylon a Trade and Goodwill mission led by the Hon. Mr. Wahiduzzman, Minister of Commerce of the Government of Pakistan, visited Ceylon from the 19th to 24th February, 1963. Trade talks between his Delegation and a Ceylon Delegation were held in Colombo during the period 20th to 23rd February.

The two Delegations reviewed the progress of trade between Ceylon and Pakistan in the context of the Trade Agreement signed between the two Governments on 24th May, 1955, and the developments that have taken place in the recent past. It will be recalled that a review of mutual trade was made when the Hon'ble T. B. Ilangaratne, Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping visited Pakistan in January last year. The occasion of the visit of the Pakistan Delegation to this country was utilised for assessing the extent to which trade has expanded since the last review of January, 1962, and for considering the possibilities of further development of trade.

Both Delegations were satisfied with the pace of the expansion of trade and discussed measures necessary on both sides to promote its further development in the context of their developing economies. Besides the discussions of the need to maintain the trade in traditional items of special interest to either country, the possibilities of trade in new items for export from either country were also considered. In this connection the Ceylon Delegation noted with satisfaction that Ceylon's coconut oil exports to Pakistan have not only been maintained but also increased in recent times and that Pakistan would buy about one million lb. of Ceylon tea this year compared to about 200,000 lbs. in 1962. There is also a likelihood of Ceylon increasing the export of betelnuts (arecanuts). At the same time, the Ceylon Delegation was able to give an understanding to purchase about 20,000 tons of Sindhi Rice and about 4,000 tons of potatoes. The difficulties that have arisen in the trade in Dried Fish with Pakistan were discussed in detail and arrangements agreed upon to the satisfaction of both parties.

The Ceylon Delegation was led by the Hon. T. B. Ilangaratne, Minister of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, and was assisted by Mr. K. Alvapillai, Permanent Secretary, and Mr. G. R. W. de Silva, Director of Commerce, and other officials of the Ministry.

The Minister of Commerce of the Government of Pakistan was accompanied by the Hon. Kazi Abdul Cader, Provincial Minister of Food and Agriculture, East Pakistan, Mr. M. M. Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan, and Messrs. I. A. Khan, Hadji Pir Mohamed and Haji Mohamed Iqbal.

WORK ON TYRE, TUBE FACTORY COMMENCES

THE Minister of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs, Mr. Maithripala Senanayake, laid the foundation stone for the Tyre and Tube Factory at Kelaniya on February 21st.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Senanayake said that it was the fervent hope of the Government to produce tyres to meet the Island's requirements once the factory was in operation and thereby to improve the economic standing of Ceylon. He observed that in the future, Ceylon as one of the chief rubber growers in the world, would be able to export tyres manufactured at this factory to other parts of the world.

The Minister thanked the Soviet Government for its co-operation and the services rendered in sending engineering personnel to Ceylon to train local skilled workmen in tyre manufacture.

Mr. Senanayake added that the project cost 51 million rupees and that he hoped to invite the Prime Minister in May this year to unveil a commemorative tablet when the foundations were completed.

The Ambassador for the U. S. S. R. in Ceylon, Mr. Tarananov, said that this venture once in operation would step up the country's economy. He said that the Soviet Government had given assistance to Ceylon in this

connection under the agreement signed between the two countries.

NEW STAMP TO MARK ANNIVERSARY OF AIR MAIL SERVICE

A new fifty cent stamp will be released for sale tomorrow, to mark the 25th anniversary of Ceylon's Air Mail Service. The new stamp is in blue, grey and black.

The Postal Department has made arrangements for the cancellation of first day covers at any post office or sub-post office in the Island for the benefit of philatelists. Fifty thousand stamps of this variety have been printed by the postal authorities. A special counter will be opened at the Central Post Office, Colombo, for the servicing of covers with the special hand date stamp cancellations in Sinhala or English. A special letter box will also be provided for the posting of all "First Day Covers" intended for hand date stamp cancellation and delivery through post.

Social Service staff trained in up-to-date methods

THE attention of this Ministry has been drawn to a news item in the "Ceylon Daily News" of 29.1.1963 and the Editorial of the same date, states a press communique issued by the Ministry of Industries, Home and Cultural Affairs.

It is indicated there that "a record number of 150,000 applicants for Public Assistance in addition to 17,000 cases for monthly T. B. Relief had piled up". This information is totally incorrect. These figures are, however, approximately correct in respect of those who are at present in actual receipt of Public Assistance and T. B. Assistance. Obviously the newspaper reporter has mistaken those in receipt of assistance for those whose applications for assistance are under investigation.

While there are always a few applications both for Public Assistance and T. B. Assistance under investigation there is certainly no "piling up" of such applications. The Department is quite conscious of the need for prompt disposal of applications and has always taken prompt action in this direction. In spite of certain limitations in funds, staff and other facilities (especially limited travelling allowances to field staff) and in spite of a constant and increasing stream of applications the Department's staff assisted by the District Administration has succeeded in dealing with them with such despatch that the number awaiting investigation at any time is comparatively few.

The practice of utilising District Revenue Officers and Village Headmen referred to in the news item is by no means a new practice started "due to lack of adequate staff to tackle this on our own". This practice has existed ever since the inception of the Public Assistance Programme many years ago.

This news item has also provoked a mischievous Editorial in the same Paper entitled, "Is the Social Services Department really needed?" The inaccuracies in the news item have been used as the basis for drawing unjustified

conclusions in this Editorial. There has been no complaint by this Department that "it is desperately short of staff". "The sad state of affairs" complained of in the Editorial of the large number of applications awaiting investigation is a non-existent one.

There is no doubt that "speed should be the keynote in administering Social Services". This is precisely what the Department has always aimed at achieving and to a considerable extent has achieved in administering its Assistance Programmes. It is totally incorrect that the Department "now merely dispenses relief" and "that the whole scheme of Social Services is reduced to relief payments". The Department's services are today increasingly oriented towards enabling those helpless citizens who come within its purview to rehabilitate themselves by enabling them both to develop their own latent strengths as well as to make the fullest use of the community's resources and thus regain their rightful and useful places in society. These tasks are pretty complex and require both adequate knowledge and great skill to handle effectively. Therefore in recent years the Department has, in addition to its other tasks, been increasingly directing its energies towards equipping its staff with more knowledge and skill in working with individuals and families. Very great emphasis has been placed on training in up-to-date methods and techniques of Social Work for the Department's staff so that the public can be even more effectively served by them. Side by side with training its staff to do a more "service oriented" job the Department has also been steadily incorporating more and more "service components" into its Programmes.

It is astonishing indeed that the Editor has thought it fit to criticize the Department on the basis that "it can make no T. B. payments on its own for Doctors have to certify to the need". It is a basic requirement of the Scheme—and no sensible person can criticize it on that score—that an applicant for T. B. Assistance should be certified by a Medical Officer that,

- he or she is actually suffering from T. B., and
- that he or she is taking the necessary medical treatment.

Unless these basic requirements are fulfilled this Department would not obviously be justified in expending its time, energies and money in proceeding to investigate further into the application. This Department certainly makes no claim to be competent to diagnose and render medical treatment to T. B. patients. That is the task of the Health Services. The task of the Department of Social Services is, on the other hand, to render other essential assistance to T. B. patients in economic need. Nor does the Department merely "act in the nature of a Post Office, between giver and receiver" as made out in the Editorial. The Department carries out further investigations in regard to means and resources of the patient and his family and it is only when these other criteria are adequately met that it renders financial assistance. Needless to say, not every one certified by the Medical Officers qualifies for financial assistance. Nor does this Department rest content with merely rendering financial assistance. It proceeds, in addition, to render the patient and his family the necessary advice, guidance and support to help the patient to get well as quickly as possible and assist him in every possible way to regain his rightful place in society, of which his illness may have temporarily deprived him. The work that this Department does is thus essentially complementary to that done by the Health Department. The Department deliberately promotes this team work approach by all concerned in preference to each Department working in a water-tight compartment, as it is fully convinced that such action enables speedier and more effective rehabilitation.

The criticism that the Public Assistance Scheme is administered by the Revenue Officers can hardly be considered valid or fair. What is there inherently wrong about the Department utilising the services of the District Administration for performing a function which it is both competent and equipped to perform, namely, to investigate and report on the means and resources available to applicants for assistance? Has not this ensured the utmost possible economy in administration? Further, it is a basic principle of Social Work that all available resources be used fully in helping people.

It has, however, been realised that there was need for a greater degree of accuracy and uniformity in the administration of the Government's Programmes of Assistance and for this purpose the Department has provided the District Administration with the services of a nucleus of administrative and field staff equipped with the requisite Social Work knowledge and skill. This close liaison and collaboration between the District Administration and the Department has been working quite satisfactorily.

Everywhere, throughout the world, it has been increasingly appreciated that the many and complex problems with which Social Work deals require a high degree of technical knowledge and competence. The field of Social Work extends far beyond merely "engaging in charitable work like buying school-books and providing relief" and even providing custodial care in institutions. The participation of volunteers and local bodies in Social Work is certainly considered extremely important. It is further granted that love for fellowmen is necessary for the Social Worker. But certainly this alone is insufficient. For there is no field of human activity which demands more of its practitioners in the way of knowledge, attitudes and skill than Social Work.

Kaolin Factory to be set up

THE Ceylon Ceramics Corporation will shortly set up a kaolin refinery at Borasagamuwa near Colombo, at a cost of 30 lakhs of rupees.

The kaolin will be used not only in the manufacture of ceramic ware, but also in the textile and paper industries and in the manufacture of insecticidal dust.

More Donations to Govt.

DONATIONS from persons in the private and public sectors are being freely received to help the Government meet the situation created by the suspension of United States aid.

List of such donors are being issued from time to time by the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury.

WORK BEGINS ON NEW MAIL SECTION

THE P. W. D. has begun preliminary work in a modern Mail Room for the General Post Office, adjoining the Fort Railway Station.

A six-storeyed building is to be erected to house the Mail Room and the Registration Branch at a cost of Rs. 7,000,000.

The new mail room will have observation galleries from which mail workers could be supervised. Foreign mail brought by ship will be conveyed into the new mail room premises via the Canal.

Meanwhile, arrangements have been made by the G. P. O. to provide a new Parcels Room behind the new C. T. O. building.

C. I. F. Ceilings for Petroleum products

A press communique issued by the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, today states:

The Government has had under consideration various measures that would be necessary to safeguard the foreign exchange position of the country. The rise in the international prices of certain items of the country's essential imports also calls for urgent action to economise in the expenditure of foreign exchange. The Government today took an important step in this direction by prescribing ceiling C. I. F. prices for imports of bulk petroleum products. The prices of petroleum products has been dropping in recent times. It is well-known that the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation which imports a substantial share of the island's requirements of these products has been making its purchases at considerably reduced prices compared to those charged to the three International Companies engaged in distribution here. The Government has fixed the C. I. F. ceilings at a level which represents a maximum margin of 5 per cent over the prices at which the products are available to the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation from different sources of supply.

From tomorrow the importation of all bulk petroleum products will be subject to individual licences which will be issued by the Controller of Imports and Exports. An import control notice in this connection is being published in the Gazette tonight.

More for your money

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION
SWEEP

210 PRIZES

EACH MONTH

Draws held Fortnightly beginning

from 14th February, 1963

BUY A TICKET AND WIN A PRIZE

Commerce Ministry's reply to Oil Companies

"THE World Oil Market today is a buyer's market, in which prices have come tumbling down. The situation in Ceylon, now, is that the Petroleum Corporation is reaping the benefits of the world competition in oil and importing products at prices much lower than those paid by the Companies" states a communique issued by the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Food and Shipping, on Monday.

The communique adds: "A significant feature of the present World Oil Market is that Soviet oil prices are not the cheapest available. The Corporation has received offers for the supply of substantial quantities of petrol from India, as well as from Europe, at a price eight cents per gallon below the Soviet prices."

The full text of the communique is as follows:—

In press statements issued yesterday by Shell and Esso, the companies claim that—

- (1) the present low prices at which the Petroleum Corporation imports products will not be available for long.
- (2) the Petroleum Corporation is not in a position to ensure continuity of supply.
- (3) if a c.i.f. import ceiling on bulk petroleum products is imposed by the Government, the Foreign Exchange saving would not be as much as the Government anticipates.

'Actual prices'

It is generally admitted that the World Oil Market today is a buyer's market in which prices have come tumbling down.

The actual prices at which independent buyers obtain oil are very much less than the official posted prices. There are a number of reasons for this situation. The primary reason is the situation of over-supply prevailing in the market today. In the past when the major companies monopolised both supply and distribution, the prices payable were fixed by the companies at a level determined by them.

The past few years have witnessed the emergence of a number of independent producers of oil who do not possess captive markets as outlets for their oil. These independent suppliers of oil were earlier forced to sell to the companies at bargain prices determined by the companies. The emergence of State marketing organisations and other independent marketeers has now provided an outlet to the independent producers of oil. The prices at which oil is bought and sold between these independent producers of oil and free buyers are very much below the prices at which the major companies transfer oil to their affiliated marketing organisations.

The other factor in the present World Oil Market is the re-entry of the Soviet Union as a major exporter of oil. Last year the Soviet Union became the world's second largest producer of oil. Recently a study was made by the National Petroleum Council of the United States at the request of the Department of the Interior regarding "the impact of oil exports from the Soviet bloc." The Chairman of the Working Sub-Committee which produced this report was the Executive Assistant to the President of Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, which is the parent Company of ESSO.

This report the Committee points out that "in the absence of corrective action (Soviet) Bloc exports to the free world would reach 51 million tons by 1965". The annual imports of Ceylon amount to 1,000,000 tons. They further point out that "tankers will be available to the Soviet Bloc in sufficient quantity to move all the oil that the Bloc has available for export in 1965". It would, therefore, appear that the fear of shortage of Soviet oil expressed by the local companies is not subscribed to by their Parent Companies in America. What the American Companies fear is that in fact Soviet Oil will be available in plenty unless deliberate steps are taken to keep this oil out. It would be pertinent to point out at this stage that even the U. K. Government which has the major share in British Petroleum Ltd. is now contemplating the import of Soviet Oil.

5-year contract

The Petroleum Corporation has signed a five-year contract with the Soviet Oil Export Organisation to import all the oil the Corporation chooses to buy from that source. The Petroleum Corporation can import oil at the prices contracted for till January, 1967. The Government is already taking steps to establish a Refinery and long before January, 1967 the Refinery should be in operation. Therefore, there is no justification for the fears expressed by the oil companies.

The Petroleum Corporation has not, however, confined its purchases to the Soviet Union. It has current arrangements to purchase bulk petroleum products from the U. A. R. and Rumania on terms which are not less favourable than those offered by the Soviet Union.

A significant feature of the present World Oil Market is that Soviet Oil prices are not the cheapest available.

The Corporation has received offers for the supply of substantial quantities of petrol from India as well as from Europe at a price .08 cents per gallon, below the Soviet prices. The Corporation, however, is not in a position to take advantage of these offers due to inadequate storage facilities. The Corporation will use the first available opportunity to take advantage of these offers from non-Soviet sources.

'Much lower'

The situation in Ceylon now is that the Petroleum Corporation is reaping the benefits of the world competition in oil and importing products at prices much lower than those paid by the companies.

In a situation of competition one would expect the Major International Oil Companies to face this competition and lower their prices to the level of the Petroleum Corporation. Instead of taking that step the companies expect

protection from world competition and the licence to continue high cost import of petroleum products.

Ceylon is one of the few countries which has, up to now, not regulated the importation of oil. Many countries have Foreign Exchange allocations for oil imports. Some countries have import restrictions with regard to the source of imports. Even the United States Government does not permit the Oil Companies to freely import oil into the United States. Imports are permitted only on a quota basis so as to protect domestic production of American Oil.

ESSO has made a point that the Foreign Exchange saving resulting from the imposition of c.i.f. ceilings on petroleum products would not be as much as the Government anticipates. The calculation made by ESSO is based on "c.i.f. prices from available price sources". We are not aware of what these price sources are.

The Ministry calculation is based on the difference between the company c.i.f. prices and the Petroleum Corporation c.i.f. prices. The total Foreign Exchange saving if the Petroleum Corporation were to import the entire requirements of the country would be Rs. 22 million in 1963 and even more in the subsequent years.

Salary.—Salary scale attached to the post is Rs. 15,000 per annum rising up to Rs. 16,200 per annum by annual increments of Rs. 600.

LAND COMMISSIONER'S DEPARTMENT

Post of Assistant Storekeeper (Temporary), Hedigalla Highland Colonization Scheme

APPLICATIONS are invited for a post of Assistant Temporary Storekeeper in the Hedigalla Highland Colonization Scheme.

Salary Scale and Terms of Engagement.—The post is temporary and non-pensionable.

The Salary.—Rs. 2,50 per day for the first six months. Thereafter Rs. 888—17 of 72—Rs. 2,112 per annum. Cost of living allowance, special living allowance and rent allowance are payable according to Government rates.

Educational and other qualifications required of candidates.

(a) Applicants should be Ceylonese between 25 and 40 years of age.

(b) Applicants should have passed—

(i) Senior School Certificate (English) Examination with a pass in Sinhalese Language, or

(ii) Senior School Certificate (Sinhalese) Examination with a pass in English Language.

(c) Previous experience in stores work.

Conditions of Service.—(a) Selected candidate should be prepared to furnish security in Rs. 500 in cash and Rs. 2,500 through a fidelity Guarantee Company. If necessity arises, this amount is liable to be increased.

(b) Selected candidate will be required to comply with any rules already made or that may hereafter be made for giving effect to the Language Policy of the Government and in particular for implementing the provisions of the Official Language Act, No. 33 of 1956.

Applications drawn by the candidates in accordance with the specified form should be addressed under registered post to the Government Agent, Kalutara District, and not personally to any officer in the Kachcheri. Applications must reach this office on or before March 15, 1963. Late applications and those not in accordance with the specimen will be rejected.

Applications will not be acknowledged.

Reference is invited to the general conditions applicable to appointments to posts in Public Service published at the beginning of Part I: Section (II) of this Gazette.

W. PATHIRANA,
Government Agent.

The Kachcheri,
Kalutara, February 14, 1963.

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

Posts of Authorised Officer (Temporary)

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above posts in the Department of Immigration and Emigration. Closing date March 15, 1963.

Salary.—The salary scale attached to the post is Rs. 1,980 per annum rising up to Rs. 5,160 per annum by 16 annual increments of Rs. 120 and 7 of Rs. 180. Efficiency Bars operate before Rs. 2,580, Rs. 3,180 and Rs. 4,620.

Qualifications.—Applicants (a) must have passed the H. S. C. Examination or its equivalent. (In the case of a Public Officer he should have the Senior School Certificate or its equivalent, and five years satisfactory service).



DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

Post of Assistant Architect

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of Assistant Architect, Department of Town and Country Planning. Applications close on March 8, 1963.

Terms of Engagement and Conditions of Service.—The post is permanent and pensionable. The appointment will be on probation for a period of 3 years.

Salary and Allowances.—The salary scale attached to the post is as follows:—Rs. 5,160 rising to Rs. 13,200 per annum by 9 annual increments of Rs. 360 and 10 annual increments of Rs. 480 with a 2-year halt on Rs. 11,280 and efficiency bars before Rs. 8,400 and Rs. 11,760.

CEYLON TECHNICAL COLLEGE DEPARTMENT

Post of Lecturer in Chemistry—Institute of Practical Technology, Katubedde, OR the Award of a Scholarship for training for the Post

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of Lecturer in Chemistry, Ceylon Technical College Department, OR the award of a Scholarship for training for the post. Closing date:—March 8, 1963.

Terms of Engagement and Conditions of Service.—The post is permanent and pensionable. The appointment will in the first instance be on probation for a period of 3 years.

Salary and Allowances.—The salary scale attached to this post is as follows:—

Rs. 8,400—6 of 480—Rs. 11,280 per annum. Candidates with post-graduate qualifications may with Treasury concurrence be appointed on a suitable point in the scale.

CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY

Posts of Engineers (Temporary), Chief Engineer's Department

APPLICATIONS are invited for two posts of Engineers (Temporary), in the Civil Engineering Department of the Ceylon Government Railway. Closing date: (a) on March 8, 1963. (b) Overseas applications March 15, 1963.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Post of Deputy Superintendent (Medical Officer, Deputy Administrative Grade), Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign, Colombo

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of Deputy Superintendent (Medical Officer, Deputy Administrative Grade), Anti-Tuberculosis Campaign, Colombo, in the Department of Health. Closing date:—March 8, 1963.

Salary and Allowances.—The salary scale—Rs. 11,760—3 of 480 and 2 of 600—Rs. 14,400 per annum together with the following non-pensionable allowances:—Rs. 1,800 per annum for 12 years, Rs. 2,400 per annum thereafter.

POST OF FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

APPLICATIONS are invited for one post of Assistant Secretary to the Ministry of Justice. Closing date: March 8, 1963.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

| | Price | Postage |
|--|-------|---------|
| A Forest Inventory of the Attavillu Forest Reserve and Proposed Reserve, Ceylon | 7.00 | .35 |
| A Forest Inventory of the Kantalai Forest Reserve | 5.50 | .35 |
| A Forest Inventory of the Kumbukkan Forest Reserve | 7.00 | .35 |
| A Forest Inventory of the Madhu Forest Area | 10.25 | .35 |
| A Forest Inventory of the Nuwaragala and Omunagala Forest Reserves and the Ratkarawwa Proposed Reserve | 11.50 | .35 |
| A Forest Inventory of the Panama Proposed Reserve, Ceylon | 8.00 | .35 |
| A Forest Inventory of the Teravil-Oddusuddan Forest Reserve | 7.00 | .35 |
| A Management Inventory of the Kanneliya-Nakiyadeniya, Dediyaigala Forest Area | 13.25 | .35 |
| A Management Inventory of the Morapitiya-Runakanda-Delgoda Forest Area | 13.00 | .35 |

(All are Canada-Ceylon, Colombo Plan Projects)

Obtainable from

SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS BUREAU,
GALLE FACE SECRETARIAT, P. O. BOX 500, COLOMBO 1.

New scheme of land alienation for youths

GROUPS OF 50-100 TO HELP RESTORE
TANKS, CULTIVATE THE LAND

THE best features of peasant colonization projects, electoral farms and the Samadana movement are to be combined to make a success of a new scheme of land alienation to groups of youths who are to be settled under small tanks and encouraged to restore them and cultivate the land fed by such tanks co-operatively.

In formulating this scheme the Minister of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation and Power, has directed that groups of youth about 50 to 200 in number should be selected for settlement in these projects depending on the size of the tank and area fed by it.

He has suggested that a unit or group of youths should be selected from each electorate and settled as close as possible to their homesteads.

Government will give various forms of assistance to these young men and

in fact a camp would be built for them under the tank with the usual amenities by the Land Development authorities. The selectees would also be given food and clothing and paid a small allowance (not wages) until they restore the tank and harvest their first crop at which point it is envisaged they would be on their own feet.

In the work connected with restoring the tanks they will be assisted by the Agrarian Services Department and the Irrigation Department technical officers.

The Finance Ministry has informed the Minister of Agriculture, that all funds required for the working of this scheme would be made available under the votes of the Director of Irrigation, Land Commissioner, &c.

The Minister has appointed a Committee consisting of the Director of Irrigation, Surveyor-General, Land Commissioner and Director of Land Development to go into this scheme and set up the organisation necessary to get the scheme under way.

COLOUR SIGNALS AT KELANIYA

WITH a view to cutting out delays to road traffic, the level-crossing barriers at the Colombo-Kandy Road level-crossings and the Kelaniya Station Road level-crossing, which are now hand-operated, will be converted to automatic working with Colour Light Signals similar to those installed at Kompannaveediya (Slave Island), commencing from Sunday, 24th instant. These barriers will close the level-crossing for road traffic with the approach of a train and go up just after it has passed the level-crossing.

It is dangerous for any motorist to attempt to pass the barriers when the Colour Light Signals are against him.

This conversion of barriers to automatic working will reduce the time taken in operating them manually and thus minimise delays to road traffic.

The first two barriers of this type brought into operation in April last year at the Glennie Street and Bridge Street level-crossings at Kompannaveediya, have been working very satisfactorily.

The National Service Work camp at Waduressa was inaugurated on the 1st of October, 1961. Over 750 students from schools in Kurunegala District have worked as volunteers, in teams of 40 to 80. This is the first National Service Project to be manned almost exclusively by Youth. All students and teachers participating in the Waduressa Project have been granted special permission by the Director of Education to work for week-long periods during the school term. These volunteers have cultivated nearly 10 acres of new land with vegetables, chillies, yams, &c. A sum of over Rs. 2,000 has already been realised from the sale of agricultural produce, and this amount has been credited to the Waduressa Development Fund administered by the Government Agent.

The Department of Land Development has cleared about 100 acres of jungle land out of the 150 acres alienated to 50 families selected from the Rodiya hamlets of Kanatolowa, Manawa, Diganwela, Watuyaya and Watagoda. The basis of selection was landlessness and participation in Work Camps and self-help activities organised under the Backward Communities Development Scheme of the Department of Rural Development. Each family has been allotted 1 acre of paddy land and 2 acres of highland. More than 25 colonists have already settled on their allotments and begun to construct their temporary huts.

Later, student volunteers will be associated with colonists and skilled workmen in the construction of 50 Type Plan cottages, a school community centre, co-operative store and wells and latrines for the 50 families. They will also work in teams to restore 3 minor irrigation tanks, cultivate 50 acres of paddy land and 100 acres of highland with subsidiary food crops, coconut, etc. The project will take at least 5 years to complete.

The Programme of Community Development which will be carried out concurrently with the construction of buildings will help free the present and future generations of Rodiyas from economic servility to other communities on whose charity the former had been obliged to exist for generations. Intensive agriculture and development of their traditional crafts and skills (e.g. rattan work, rope and broom making, etc.), through co-operative methods, and better marketing facilities will give the Rodiya community economic independence and stability, which is the surest means by which they could secure their social emancipation.

THE NATIONAL SERVICE

(Continued from previous issue)

SCHEME

The Work Camp has been developed as an effective technique in Social Work, Community Development, and after natural calamities such as floods, earthquakes and avalanches, by the Service Civil International which is the most experienced and reputed work camp organisation in the world. The founder of this non-political, non-sectarian organisation was Pierre Ceresole, a Swiss Pacifist who conducted a Work Camp in 1920 on the battlefield of Esnes-Verdun. At this Camp, French and German volunteers worked together and helped to rebuild houses, roads, schools and hospitals destroyed during the First World War.

Since then, the activities of the Service Civil International have expanded considerably, and Work Camps have been held in 20 countries. Swiss, American, British, French, Indian, Pakistani and Ceylonese volunteers of this organisation have participated in several Work Camps in Ceylon, since 1960, and helped to broaden the vision and enhance the spirit of our own camps.

The Asian Secretariat of the Service Civil International in New Delhi, has been impressed by the rapid expansion of the Work Camp movement in this country and especially with the encouragement and support given to it by the Government.

International Teams of experienced work campers have already been sent to Ceylon by the Asian Secretariat to train our officers, teachers, students, and other volunteers in Work Camp methods under the National Service Scheme. Action is being taken to conduct more International Camps such as this, with the assistance of the S. C. I. to train our volunteers as Work Camp organisers.

Pilot Projects

PENDING a decision by Cabinet on the Report on National Service, submitted by the Committee, the Hon'ble the Prime Minister authorised the Director of Land Development to organise a Work Camp Branch, with the assistance of experienced Work Camp Officers of the Department of Rural Development and to implement following pilot projects according to the Work Camp method:—

(i) Restoration of a Minor Irrigation Tank near Galewela in Matale District.

This project was completed within 3 months. A few hundred teachers, students, workers and peasants responded readily to the appeal of the Government Agent, Matale, who organised the project with the assistance of the Work Camp Section of the Department of Rural Development, and the Department of Land Development. On account of the free labour provided by these volunteers who worked during weekends, a sum of Rs. 8,000 was saved on this project. With

this experience, the Government Agent, has restored a second tank at Galewela, and is now engaged in restoring a third at Karawilahena on a voluntary work camp basis.

(ii) Construction of the Hiniduma Road.

In order to make it possible to open up 12,000 acres of virgin jungle land for the settlement of 5,000 landless families and the cultivation of tea, rubber, coconut, paddy and subsidiary food-crops, the Department of Land Development has been engaged since 1957, in the construction of a new trunk road connecting Pasdum Korale East, with Hinidum Pattu and Morawak Korale. The estimated cost of this road which will connect Galle, Matara and Karutara Districts is Rs. 4½ million. About 13 miles of the road has been completed departmentally, at the cost of Rs. 50,000 per mile, using the traditional method of contract work, &c.

The remaining 13 miles are now being constructed by the Work Camp method. Since the 2nd of September, 1961, 3 camps have been established at Neluwa, Kalubovitiyana and Pelawatte. Nearly 11,000 volunteers drawn from the Labour Unions of the Department of Land Development, Rural Development Societies, Young Farmers Clubs, Community Centres, Estates, Schools, Training Colleges, Planters' Associations, the CARE Organisation and the Service Civil International, have worked with remarkable devotion and completed the earth work on nearly 3½ miles of the road. Volunteers provided their own food, while the Department of Land Development supplied implements, technical guidance and supervision, transport and camping facilities.

One hundred and fifty-six thousand man-days of voluntary labour are required to complete the tasks of cutting and filling earth, turfing and graveling. The skilled work of rock-blasting, metalling and surfacing is being done by paid labour, departmentally.

This is the first major economic development and capital formation project undertaken in Ceylon on a Voluntary Work Camp basis, and the estimated saving to the country thereby is in the region of 1 million rupees. The road when completed, will

shorten the distance from Deniyaya and Hindiduma to Colombo by 15 per cent. to 20 respectively, and reduce the cost of transport of tea, rubber and other agricultural products from Morawak Korale and Hiniduma Pattu to Colombo by 15 per cent. to 20 per cent.

(iii) Establishment of the first Exclusive Colonisation Scheme for Backward Communities at Waduressa in Kurunegala District.

This is not only an agricultural extension programme, but also a significant stage in the development of the Work Camp Movement in this country. It is also the material advancement of a Backward Community, achieved through a social revolution which began 4 years ago in the poor Rodiya hamlet of Kanatolowa. From 1952, the Government Agent of Kurunegala had tried, unsuccessfully, to settle the landless families of Kanatolowa at Waduressa, 6 miles away, under a village Expansion Scheme which he had planned for them.

On account of the routine methods of resettlement used, and the ignorance, poverty, and apathy of this Backward Community, no real progress was made under this Scheme. In 1956, however, a few enterprising Rodiya families attempted to clear the jungle on the lands already alienated to them by the Government Agent. But, on both occasions, they were intimidated by the so-called high caste communities (in and around Waduressa) who opposed the establishment of a colony of outcasts in their neighbourhood.

One of the many objectives of the first co-ordinated Work Camp conducted in December, 1958, at Kanatolowa (under the Backward Communities Development Scheme of the Department of Rural Development and Cottage Industries) was to give these helpless Rodiyas the confidence and support of governmental and voluntary agencies that was necessary to help them settle at Waduressa. This objective was pursued further by conducting a series of 22 week-end and vacation work camps. As a result of these concerted efforts, the intolerant attitude of the neighbouring communities towards the Rodiyas has weakened, while the confidence and strength of the latter have increased considerably.

The success of this project was due largely to the sensitive and humane approach of the volunteers who lived, ate and worked with the Rodiyas at these camps, and also on account of the persistent and co-ordinated efforts of the Department of Rural Development, Land Development and Education, and the Government Agent. This Project is now being implemented as a Colonisation Scheme with enhanced subsidies and amenities to the colonists.