

u.n.p.



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VAVUNIYA M.P. DEPLORES RED ATTITUDE TO QUEEN'S VISIT

"Tarnish Not the Constitution" —Mr. Suntheralingam

WHEN the vote for expenses in connection with Public Ceremonials was discussed in Parliament part of which is intended for the Queen's visit, members of the Opposition raised objections and even suggested that the Royal visit be postponed indefinitely.

The Member for Vavuniya disagreed with the suggestion and said that the royal visit was only a postponed visit, a visit that should have taken place in 1952 but which could not take place owing to certain unfortunate events. In any case on that occasion the invitation to the Queen was renewed and the House was aware of the fact. That renewed invitation has been accepted as part of a general invitation extended to the Queen not only from this part of the Commonwealth but also from other parts of the Commonwealth.

ALLEGIANCE TO THE CROWN

Continuing, he said: "Whatever our personal views may be in regard to the position of the Crown, today our Constitution as it stands, provides for the Crown, for allegiance to the Crown, and by a recent Act we have provided for the amendment of the title of the Queen. The Queen in her turn, in the Oath taken solemnly on the occasion of her Coronation, referred specifically to Ceylon as one of the countries which she was in duty bound to rule according to the laws and customs of this country. As long as these conditions continue,

and as long as the invitation has been extended and accepted, so long are we bound to honour it. It is unfortunate that certain events have transpired recently which make the people feel that this invitation is out of time.

OUR TRADITIONAL HOSPITALITY

"But all that I can say is this, that the people of this country, from time immemorial have been noted, have been famous for their hospitality and generosity. I think it would not be in keeping with our traditions if we act in any way that may make people feel—certainly may make our distinguished guest feel—that she is not quite welcome. I have had occasion to have ordinary conversation with ordinary people of this country—apart from all political differences, apart from all conflicts and ideologies—and I may say that the people of this country as a whole are looking forward to the visit of the Queen. Let it be stated here and now that if the invitation is accepted, this country is not going to behave in a way which, to say the least of it is ungentlemanly.

I have made this statement without any reference whatsoever to the fact that you (Mr. Speaker) and I happened to be guests at the Coronation. That has nothing to do with this question, but it has everything to do with our Constitution, and I do not want our Constitution, as long as it continues to be tarnished in any respect.

The Minister of Home Affairs said that an invitation was extended to the Queen when she was Princess Elizabeth to visit this country. She

herself had expressed a desire to do so. She is visiting Ceylon as Head of the Commonwealth of which this country too was a member and has sworn allegiance to the Queen. Being a small country it was of immense benefit to them to belong to the Commonwealth, and the advantages accrued therefrom were numerous. There were persons who want this country handed over to a certain foreign power. In order to preserve our independence this country must remain within the Commonwealth. This country cannot maintain armed forces to meet any aggression of certain powerful nations in the world. The protection of the Commonwealth enabled this country to preserve her independence.

Assistance to the tune of Rs. 25 million was received from other

members of the Commonwealth, such as America and Australia. The former had provided equipment worth Rs. 2½ million; the latter had sent a gift of tractors which were being used with success in the North and North-Central Provinces. They were not loans but gifts. "Surely our people must have a sense of gratitude to those countries. With one breath we say that we are prepared to accept gifts from other members of the Commonwealth and in the next we say we are not going to accept the head of the Commonwealth as our head. Surely we must have certain human qualities. I know that the Government is now faced with certain financial difficulties but it must be remembered that this two lakhs of rupees is going to make very much of a difference when you consider the enormous benefits that we would derive, quite apart from the Rs. 25 million I referred to," added the Minister.

LET ARRACK BE MADE BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Consumer Must Have Choice Says Mr. Singleton Salmon

DURING the budget debate in committee on the salaries and expenses of the Ministry of Home Affairs, reference was made to the excise policy of the Government by the Appointed Member, Mr. Singleton Salmon.

"I am not sure whether I am quite in order in regard to my own point, that is, whether I should bring it under the Minister's vote or whether it should come under another head. I am referring to the excise policy of this Government," observed Mr. Singleton Salmon; "I should like the Hon. the Minister of Home Affairs to seriously consider the excise policy of this country. It is a relic of Colonial administration with the Government having a State monopoly of arrack. I think it would be a very good thing if they consider marketing arrack under the distiller's own name. Then each distiller would be marketing under a brand name and competing for

the custom of discerning connoisseurs. As I remarked during the second reading debate, drinkers of whisky or beer have two or three hundred different brands from which they could choose, but the drinkers of arrack have only the Kelaniya brand—as you know, part of it is Kelaniya water! I should like to ask, whether the Hon. Minister would at least consider the suggestion.

The Minister of Home Affairs commenting on the question whether Government would abolish the present monopoly on arrack and allow distillers to market it under their own brands, said he was not aware of any proposal in regard to abolition of the monopoly for the sale of arrack, but he was considering a proposal for allowing various distillers to have their own brands. The suggestion by the Appointed Member was a very useful one. The matter was being pursued.

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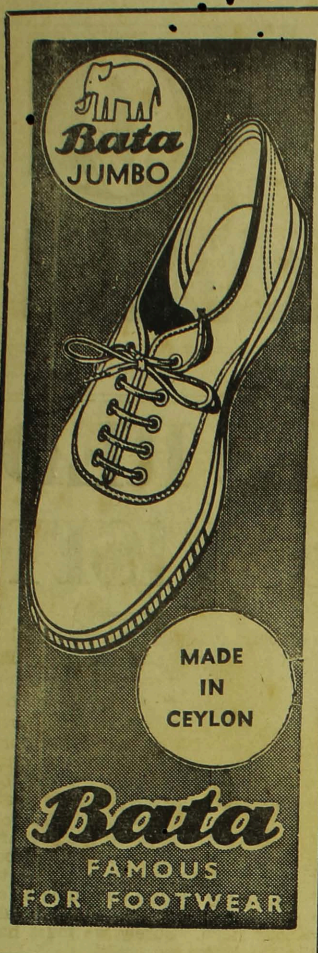
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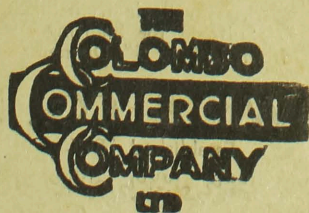
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"Tax on Earned Income Is Too High"—Says Nominated European Member

A NUMBER of points were brought forward by the Appointed Member, Mr. R. Singleton-Salmon in connection with income tax assessments, during the Budget debate. These points were raised last year by Mr. Murray but they were raised too late for consideration in the Budget last year. Mr. Singleton Salmon said that he took the precaution of reminding the Finance Minister early in January this year so that they might be in time for the current Budget.

The points raised were matters affecting the individual tax-payer. There was the question of greater relief to earned income which at present is one-fifth of one's earned income, with a maximum fixed at Rs. 4,000. That was fixed in 1931 when the rupee, he thought, was worth three times what it is at present. There were quite a number of companies who were giving some sort of dearness allowance to offset the cost of living. But the Finance Minister had not increased the earned income allowance and therefore the Government was getting possibly a third of that dearness allowance and the employee was getting the other two-thirds.

Then there was the question of the personal allowance of the taxpayer which was fixed at Rs. 2,000 in 1931, and not increased since. The next point was with regard to the depreciation of plant and machinery, carry forward of losses, etc.

FOREIGN AND LOCAL COMPANIES

As one who had a great deal to do with the Income Tax Department, the Member for Vavuniya said that the Department should go into the question of the assessments so far as non-resident persons and resident persons, as well as foreign companies and local companies.

"It is necessary to go into the question of incomes because in our crisis, we must look after our interests and get money from con-

cerns which are functioning in this country and to go into the matter carefully" he added and emphasised the need for the officers of the Department to "perform their duties equitably as between the State and the citizens."

NEED OF CENTRAL HOME

Mr. L. L. Hunter (Appointed Member) raised a point, about a home for the Income Tax Department which was housed in three buildings separate from one another and consequently there was a lack of constant supervision and control. Some of the branches were housed in Icicle Hall, other branches were in Galle Face Flats and the rest in Galle Face Courts. "In these circumstances they are working under very very adverse conditions. I have been going round the offices with a view to helping the Ministry of Finance in this matter and I found that the conditions under which they work are impossible. I would say again to have it on record on this occasion, that the question of one house, one central accommodation either in Icicle Hall which can be converted for the purpose, or elsewhere should secure consideration" he said in conclusion.

FINANCE MINISTER'S REPLY

"Some of the suggestions made by the Appointed Members have already been implemented" replied the Minister of Finance, "and the others were awaiting the report of the Taxation Commission which will be appointed in the course of this year. With regard to the foreign companies concerned, it is a question of double tax relief because under the agreement, the British Government pays tax which that company has to pay. There is no question of any foreign company paying more in tax in England than they pay in Ceylon."

TAX DODGERS

To a matter raised by the Second Member for Kadugannawa, the Minister of Finance said: "I might tell him that we are trying our best to get in every person who is liable to pay income tax, by sending out assessment forms to all those people who buy estates, motor cars, who have telephones and so on. All the information we receive is always utilised for that purpose. But if there is any other method whereby we can rope in people who should pay income tax, I would like to know it. If the hon. member has any information, I should like to have it."

More Rural Courts Is Policy of Justice Ministry

"It is the policy of the Ministry to establish rural courts and even additional circuit courts so that it may not be necessary for the rural population to travel long distances. That is the policy of the Ministry, but sometimes difficulties have arisen because we were not able to get suitable buildings."

The above remarks were made by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice in response to the comments made by the Member for Vavuniya on the vote for Rural Courts during the debate on the budget in Committee. He wanted the rural courts to be as near the villages as possible and that these courts should be held in different parts at different points of the area, over which a particular court has jurisdiction.

TROUBLES AND DISPUTES

Continuing his reply the Parliamentary Secretary said: "I myself, have from time to time gone round the country to find out the conditions prevailing in rural courts. I have known that, in places where we have arranged to use school buildings, trouble has arisen between the headmasters of the schools and the Presidents, so that there are certain difficulties with regard to buildings. Sometimes we have had to use the buildings of even Rural Development Societies. Even there disputes arise between the office-bearers and the Presidents. When difficulties of that nature arise we are necessarily prevented from providing circuit courts in those areas. If representations are made asking for circuits to be held, and the volume of work warrants Presidents sitting in those areas, arrangements will be made to do so. The object of a rural court is to try and settle disputes and not compel the parties to go to trial, which sometimes creates further bitterness and ill-feeling between them."

U.N.P. Ex-Co. Member Appeals To Party President and Cabinet Ministers

THE following copy of a letter addressed to the P.M. and the Cabinet has been sent to us for publication:

Dear Sirs,

It is a matter of deep regret that steps were not taken to summon an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee of our Party to discuss the present national emergency. Since this has not been done I have decided on my own to communicate my observations to you for what they are worth:

- (1) Rightly or wrongly it is apparent that the people who are resorting to violence are smarting under a grievance.
- (2) We are not faced with foreign aggression. We are adopting security measures against our own people. Therefore, at this moment we must not neglect the principle of appeasement whatever security measures we might adopt to protect and safeguard innocent and law-abiding citizens.
- (3) The appeasement must come from our Prime Minister and other members of the Cabinet and the most appropriate medium for this is the radio. May I suggest that a number of broadcast talks be put on the air appealing to the people and seeking their co-operation at this crisis urging them to desist from violence. They must be made to realize that they are destroying their own property when they attack the Railway; that they are preventing the education of their own children when they burn down schools; that they are depriving their brothers and sisters of food when they burn down lorries carrying food or when they make traffic carrying food impassable by obstructing roadways; that they are ruining their own trade when by their actions when they intimidate traders by making it impossible for them to open their shops and carry on business. They must be made to realise that this is in their own country and in-still in them a sense of patriotism and point out that their own country is faced with a problem not due to foreign aggression but ag-

gression from fellow country-men.

- (5) The Government is fully aware of the great hardships imposed upon the poor by the difficult financial situation which faces the country today. It is extremely advisable for the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet to give the people an assur-

"There Are Kandyan Moors"—

Sir Razik Fareed

During the debate on the Vote for Salaries and Expenses of the Ministry of Home Affairs, a question was raised regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Kandyan Peasantry Commission and the claims of a community described by Sir Razik Fareed as Kandyan Moors.

"I should like to bring to the notice of the Minister a great wrong that is being done", began Sir Razik "for under the guise of giving effect to the recommendations of the Kandyan Peasantry Commission, land belonging to one community is being taken and given to another community. I think that is most unfair. I had reason to see even the Hon. Prime Minister and lay a case before him, where about 180 acres of land, belonging to a certain community in the Prime Minister's constituency itself, were dealt with in this way. This land belongs to a family of some fifty-one persons. These are Kandyan Moors. Just as there are Kandyan Sinhalese there are also Kandyan Moors. Their land was taken and given over to about fifty-four others. I do hope the Minister will see to it that nothing like it happens in the future."

The Minister of Home Affairs replying, said that Government did not act on communal lines with regard to the acquisition of estates. "In fact," he asserted "most of the estates acquired are estates of non-nationals and if in a rare case we have had to acquire the estate of a national, that shows that we make no distinction between one community and another. I will look into the facts of the case mentioned by the hon. member.

ance that they will without further delay re-examine the problems in the light of the hardships they have to undergo and do all in their power to relieve these burdens. These steps can only be undertaken in a peaceful and quiet atmosphere. He appeals to them for co-operation in their own interests and in the interests of others to restore peace and

quies to enable them to take up these matters.

I have briefly outlined the lines on which the broadcast talks ought to take. I do so in the firm belief that this will have a far more desirable effect than the display of the power of Government, to repress internal aggression.

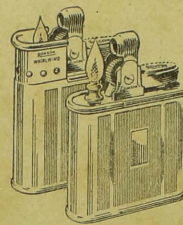
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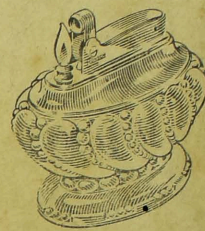
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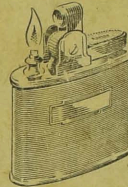
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POST STRIKE REFLECTIONS

NOW that the heat and hatreds aroused by the strike and the "non-violent" hartal have subsided the governing party can sit down and reflect coolly about its responsibilities to the people in every important sphere of activity. No one can deny that, as a result of the capital made out of the rice subsidy issue by the Leftists, the U.N.P. has lost a great deal of popularity in the country and that the task of rehabilitation will be a hard and a long process. But fortunately it has four years ahead of it in which to prove to the country that it is genuinely interested in the upliftment of the common man.

But in order to do this the Prime Minister, who as Minister of Agriculture and Lands in his father's regime, left behind him a magnificent record of service to the peasantry in the Dry Zone, will have to give that kind of progressive leadership which the country expected of him when he became Prime Minister. It is unfortunate that the first year of his premiership should have become so badly saddled with financial difficulties. However, it would be fatal if the Government were to wait until better times come in order to tackle the grave problems of poverty which the Leftists and their S.L.F.P. stooge promise they would solve in 24 hours. I appeal to the Prime Minister to devote urgent attention in the coming days to the twin problems of slum clearance and unemployment. A resolute attack on these problems will do more to win over the masses to the side of the Government than any other act of the Government's.

If the price of rationed rice is reduced it should not be reduced below 50 cents unless the world price drops below this rate. On the other hand, the unemployment should be put on to the cultivation of manioc and sweet yams on an intensive scale in order that huge quantities of these foods may be available at very cheap rates to the masses as a substitute for rice. Such a programme would have the advantage that a large number of unemployed would be gainfully employed and that our rice imports could be cut down. The sooner this country learns to depend upon its own home-grown foods the better for its whole economy. Let the Government not be stampeded into appeasing the Leftists by hasty measures for the reduction of the price of rice. The leftists would hail such action as a victory for themselves. While it is the duty of the Government to keep down the price of rice as much as possible, it is also its patriotic duty to encourage by every means the consumption of locally grown foods other than rice in order that the country may build up its external balances and achieve a favourable trade balance, so that funds may be available for more hydro-electric power, for the development of an efficient system of cottage industries, and for more schemes like the Gal Oya scheme.

May I emphasise again and again the imperative need to grow on an island-wide scale manioc and sweet yams, which up to forty years ago formed the staple diet of a large section of the village population? There is not the slightest doubt that if the Leftists

come to power in this country, they would compel the people to get accustomed to home-grown foods and would treat with contempt the perverted taste of the people for the vast quantities of imported starch

which goes under the name of rice. I challenge any dietetic expert to prove that Chinese rice contains a single vitamin or has any protein value whatever. It is pure starch or what the scientists call carbohydrates. On the other hand, manioc (not to speak of sweet yam) does contain some of the essential vitamins, while the introduction of calciferous manures into the soil in which it is grown would enrich the manioc with calcium, which is a serious deficiency in the diet of the average Ceylonese. Besides, as I have repeatedly pointed out in these columns before, the magnificent physique of the giant Fijian Tongan and Hawaiian and other Pacific islanders is a physique mainly nourished on manioc and sweet yams.

I still cannot understand why the authorities responsible for food production neglect this prolific source of food and go on spending vast sums on paddy production, when any un-instructed man or woman could grow yams on almost any soil in this country and in such quantities as to dwarf the production of rice.

By skilful propaganda the Government can change the food habits of the people and thereby save an enormous sum of money, which could be used to develop our still untapped agricultural resources, our water-power, and our fisheries (both fresh water and sea fisheries).

To change the food habits of the people requires courage on the part of the Government. It also requires propaganda on a mass scale. I am sure that, if the people are told the advantages of altering their food habits and consuming yams and other non-rice foods more freely than they do at present, the people would respond.

If this country were a Communist country the people would be compelled without question to adopt a new diet.

But it is not beyond the powers of persuasion of a democratic government to win the people to new food habits by propaganda through attractive posters, illustrated booklets and coloured films.

The people could be shown how much money could be saved if they will cut down their consumption of imported rice and how the sums of money thus saved could be utilised to develop the agricultural resources of the country and to set up State-aided industries (so opposed to State industries whose losses and inefficiency only make the people more desperate). I am sure the masses are not so stupid or wrong-headed as not to see the advantages of such a policy if the Government would only bring it home to them attractively and truthfully. Let the Government eschew all window-dressing on the food front. Tell the people the truth. Make them enthusiastic about the need to change their food habits. Show them how it will create a great deal of new employment and how the whole standard of living of the masses will rise thereby. Let the Government do all these things and every decent man and woman will respond.

The plain fact is that the Government has up-to-date failed to capture the imagination of the people. If the Government is to fulfil its election promise that it would make this country a Welfare State, it must capture the imagination of the people or see some other party take over the government at the next elections.

Eardley Gunasekera

Writes on the

Shape of Things To Come

IT is a natural phenomena that all incidents have a prelude. It is out of history that one could gather the causes, results and perhaps the remedies of a particular event. No remedy would be efficacious without disintegration and analysis of its causes. No remedy would be successful without observation of the course and development an event has taken. Social upheavals, therefore, are the inevitable result of the gathering momentum of social forces. They are more accurately the fruit of various forces acting on society and as society is an aggregate unit of human beings, a social upheaval is the outcome of social forces influencing innumerable human beings acting differently. It cannot obviously be expected to maintain absolute secrecy in matters where all human beings react differently to social problems.

The hartal of the 12th August has afforded the entire country ample evidence of the shape of things to come. From what was originally intended to be a token of disapproval, a manifestation of country-wide opposition to a matter for which the individuals who participated in that ignominious hartal never deemed it fit to think twice. Instead they followed blindly like cattle being driven to a slaughter-house the "gentle and reasonable" persuasions of those who sponsored and engineered this so-called "token strike." They have attempted to fool the Government only to end up by fooling themselves. They have resorted to arson and

sabotage to bring down the cost of a measure of rice. With what results have all these events taken place and to whose detriment? The damage has to be repaired by the taxpayer, that is you and me, the taxpayer that is every Cabinet Minister and worker. It is certainly not those who manoeuvred this strike who will bear single-handed the cost of all this destruction. They will only stand and wait for opportune moments of this type to fan the flames of discord and discontent. No leftist leader could honestly divorce himself from the responsibility of all that has happened to this country during the past few days because it is obvious that if they were responsible for the organization of a strike then they should be equally responsible for all the untoward behaviour resulting from what was purported to be a token strike.

The Marxists in this country have committed a fatal mistake. It has been proved convincingly that the Marxist would never for a moment fall to resort to the most ghoulish methods in order that Marxist rule is established. The public can no longer be fooled and these past events have gone to support this view. The country has been given the first taste of all that is embodied in this seemingly elevating doctrine of Marxism. We in Ceylon had never before been familiar with the ways of the Marxist except for the fact that we had some idea of the liberal fallacies it exploded. Today, without the slightest hesitation the people could crystallize in their own minds as to what Marxism stands for. If perhaps this vulgar exhibitionism had not occurred then it might have been possible to continue to keep the common man in the hope of living in the utopian world Marxism promises to give to all of us. There is yet one more point which needs clarification. One would ask oneself that if all these machinations are employed merely as an

(Continued on page 8)

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Gal-o-ya looms large in the agricultural horizon of this country, and justifiably so, since it is the biggest irrigation project ever undertaken in this country. The hydro-electric scheme when completed, will give a tremendous impetus to the development of industry, transport and agriculture and will help to raise the living standards of the people. Our's is a Social Service State where the Government is making every endeavour to improve the living conditions of the people.

Therein—in this uninterrupted peaceful economic development of the country and steady advancement of the living and cultural standards of its population—lies the essence of the internal policy of the U.N.P. Government. It is the policy of a genuinely democratic state with a Government of the people. To achieve this it was necessary to take a leaf which has no precedent in history. But the U.N.P. Government did it!

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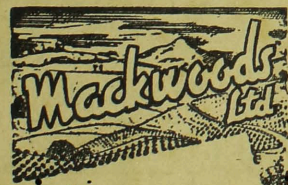
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u.n.p.

Friday, August 28, 1953

GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE

WHENEVER violence is used in an argument with a Government it is the duty of that Government to overpower such violence with firm, prompt, unhesitating action. The private views of any of its leaders with regard to the moral issues involved must be set aside for the duration of such violence because there are thousands of non-partisans who have a right to demand the freedom to live their lives without the fear of injury or harrassment from either side.

We are glad to observe that the whole country stood behind the Government in the recent action it took to put down mob violence. That same vision and firmness must characterize the actions of the Government from now on. For one thing, we are prone, in this country, to join the majority. Whoever wins, most people are on the winning side. In that context we shall soon witness a campaign by the Reds for a Commission of Inquiry into the various incidents of the 12th and 13th of August. And we will not be at all surprised if some of our strong democrats fall into that trap. There was a fool of an A.S.P. who is said to have held up a military guard for six hours on the 12th (when trains were being set on fire) to hold an inquiry into the shooting of some hooligans! We are told the matter

was settled only when the military commander threatened to withdraw his men from the area. Such a situation can well arise to demoralize those who took action to overpower the mob. It would be fatal to hold a Commission of Inquiry into the conduct either of the Police or of the Military. Such commissions, in the past, contributed to making the police an ineffective body and gave every rowdy in Ceylon an idea that he could defy authority at will. Such commissions would be in keeping with countries like England where long established traditions have made the arm of the Law strong enough to silence even gun-toting killers. Out here where there are quite different backgrounds from area to area such a Commission will destroy the prestige of the police and their capacity to act swiftly and effectively in the future. An inquiry might well be made, however, into the circumstances prior to August 12th. Who was responsible for mis-informing the Government? Is there a political Intelligence Service available to the Government? Was the Government told that bridges would be blown up; transport stoned, and trains attacked? Did the Government know that trees would be felled across the roads?

If the Government was not made aware of these plans, then there is something very alarmingly wrong in our Intelligence Services, and a probe into this would be timely and necessary. Else, the people will lose faith in a Government which knew these things would happen and did nothing to prevent the people from exposure to the terror of mob violence.

Pros & Cons

By O. N. Fernando

A little under a month ago, the Government of Ceylon removed the subsidy on rice, with the result that an increase in the price of rice could not be avoided. Since the day of this removal of the rice subsidy, many incidents have occurred, none of which have been helpful to the people except to make them wiser.

It has already been reported how people who went out to buy rice at the increased rates were harassed. This was because the people refused to agree with the anti-government forces which opposed the change. These attempts were foiled and peace restored.

On Thursday 23rd August, a mass the Communists, the N.L.S.S.P. and so-called Opposition was held at the Galle Face Green. At this meeting the flaming oratorical debuts of the Communists, the N.L.S.S.P. and the refereeing S.L.F.P. was thrown at the dry haystack of a protesting mass. The speakers encouraged, and incited the peoples to engage in violence as a sign of protest. The incidents that occurred after this meeting were a true indication of what could happen if the "rule of the mob" was accepted.

And the 12th, a day that will go down in the pages of history, as the beginning of the end of the Leftist Doctrines in Ceylon. The proposed strike was supposed to be in the way of a protest against the removal of the subsidy. The manner in, which the strike was rejected

throughout the Island speaks for itself. Both, mercantile as well as Government employees rejected the strike because of its "purely political nature". The anti-government forces, when they discovered the failure of their attempts tried other means of disturbing the peaceful equilibrium of the peoples. They threatened to punish, and spread wild rumours of what was in store for those who refused to participate in the strike. But the people of Lanka were wiser than they were thought to be. They were determined to pit the attempts of these ruthless leaders who sought to gain their own ends while playing on the future of the helpless masses.

And now to the subsidy itself. Criticism has been the order of the removal of the subsidy. Criticism of a solution to a problem is a very acceptable thing if it is accompanied by alternative solutions. The only solution that has been offered is to ask the Government to resign. It is as clear as crystal that if the Opposition which invites the Government to resign, so that it may take over the reins of Government (and then clear the present problems) is working for the people (which they pretend to do), it would offer a solution that would be practicable and hence benefit the masses. Instead of this, they go about causing damage, doing harm and trying to fool the very masses they pretend to work for.

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THE debate in the House of Representatives on the Public Security (Amendment) Act lasted from 10 a.m. on Tuesday, the 18th instant, to 3.27 a.m. on Wednesday—a 17½-hour sitting—the longest since the inception of Parliament.

The task of the Hansard reporters was a most unenviable one, divided between eleven of them, each taking a five minutes' shift. During the Budget debate on the Second reading and in the committee stage on the allotted days long periods are

spent in debate, from 10 o'clock in the morning till 8-30 in the evening and sometimes later. The uncorrected proofs, however, are invariably available the following day, but not always, the delay it is said being on such days when Sinhalese speeches are made in the House and there has been a spate in swabasha of late.

The cost to the State for recording these long-winded speeches must be considerable. This fact was emphasised by the Appointed Member, Mr. A. C. Tutein-Nolthenius, when he commented on the second allotted day. He spoke for ten minutes. He began his speech thus: "Mr. Deputy Speaker, I shall take little time because I do not want to waste public money which has to spend at the rate of about 15 cents per spoken word in the House. I feel that the overtime for these debates too will run into five figures and I hope that the necessary example in essential austerity we hear so much about in this House will be set up by the House

Why Not A State Lottery

THE question of State lotteries was raised in the House of Representatives by Mr. R. Singleton Salmon during the budget debate in the committee stage. He asked the Minister of Finance whether he could give consideration to the question. He raised this question last year, he said, with the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs who said he was personally against gambling of any sort. So he hoped to address this year to "possibly a mind that is a little more receptive, a little more keen in getting money into the coffers of the country."

He would like the Minister of Finance to consider seriously whether he cannot divert the money that is now going to the Turf Club, the Galle Gymkhana Club and various other places into State lotteries. The question has now become a handy annual.

"I shall consider, along with the other members of the Cabinet the question of having a national sweep," replied the Finance Minister who declared that it involved a major question of policy. It will be remembered that Government did run a national sweep during the Colombo Plan Exhibition. It was done although it was against the policy of Government. Of course whether it should be a regular affair has not yet been decided.

Senator Miss Cissy Cooray In America

SENATOR MISS CISSY COORAY, who is touring the United States under the auspices of the State Department's Exchange of Persons programme, attended a Press Conference in Washington. There she answered several queries regarding Communism's power in Ceylon. She answered as follows:—

"I feel that our religion—Buddhism—(and we are 75 per cent Buddhist in Ceylon) cannot see eye to eye with the ideologies and policies of Communism."

Evolution, not revolution, is the teaching of Buddha, according to Miss Cooray. She put it simply: "Our religion teaches tolerance. Our religion teaches that if we have self-reliance, and self-respect, if we lead righteous lives, we ought to be able to raise our standards in this world."

"Ours is a great faith and a great philosophy. If we all follow it, we need not fear Communism or anything else."

During her three months' stay Miss Cooray availed herself of the opportunity of observing the rural welfare educational activities in the States. She visited Cantor, New York, where she stayed a week living in a farm house and observed the work of county agents and the 4H Clubs. She visited Dayton and Columbus, Ohio where she studied various types of social services. Her itinerary included visits to the States of Kentucky and Colorado. She is returning to Ceylon via Francisco.

Ceylon Army's Discipline Complimented

THE "Passing out" parade of the 10th intake of recruits for the Ceylon Army, which used to be held in Diyatalawa, was taken in Colombo this year by Lt.-Col. A. M. Muttucumaru, Chief of Staff of the Ceylon Army. The function took place last Sunday evening at the R.N. grounds, Gale Face. There was a very large number of spectators who were much impressed by the show.

A smart march past headed by the band, both in slow and quick tune, before the presentations and the address by the Chief of Staff.

Recruit Piyadasa, M. P., was the winner of the best recruits' cane. The shield for the best section was won by No. 1 Section and received by Section Commander Cpl. Ahmed, C.L.I.

The Shield for the best Platoon which won by No. 1 Platoon was handed to the Platoon Commander, Lt. A. P. R. David.

TRIUMPH OF DISCIPLINE

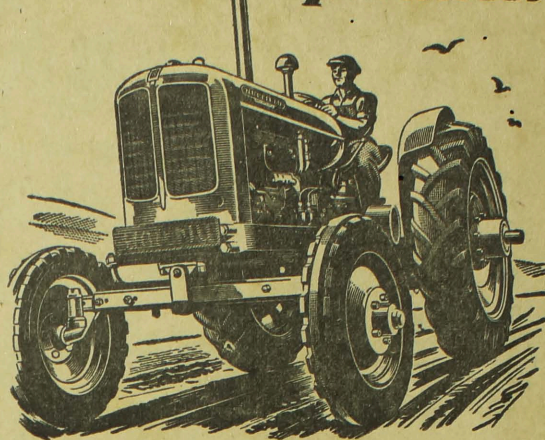
"The need for self-discipline is more than ordinarily necessary when the Army is engaged in operations connected with civil disturbances. In these circumstances, what you have to contend with is an unarmed body made up of citizens of your own country who obviously cannot be shot down in the same way as you would shoot down the enemy forces in war."

These observations were made by Lt.-Col. A. M. Muttucumaru, Chief of Staff, in the course of his address to the men assembled. He added that during the recent emergency the tremendous powers given to the armed forces, and the fact that there were numerous occasions when troops were sorely tried might well have resulted in a large number of deaths. He was proud to note, he said, that the innate sense of discipline of the troops operating during the recent emergency asserted itself, and the casualties caused by the Army had not exceeded three.

Continuing he said that the people of this country were busily engaged in establishing those institutions which make for freedom. He could not believe that this "country of ours, which a benevolent Providence has so richly endowed with charm and grace, and which has hitherto enjoyed a tranquillity not found in many other parts of the world is destined to become a trouble spot in which free men would live in fear."

(Continued on page 9)

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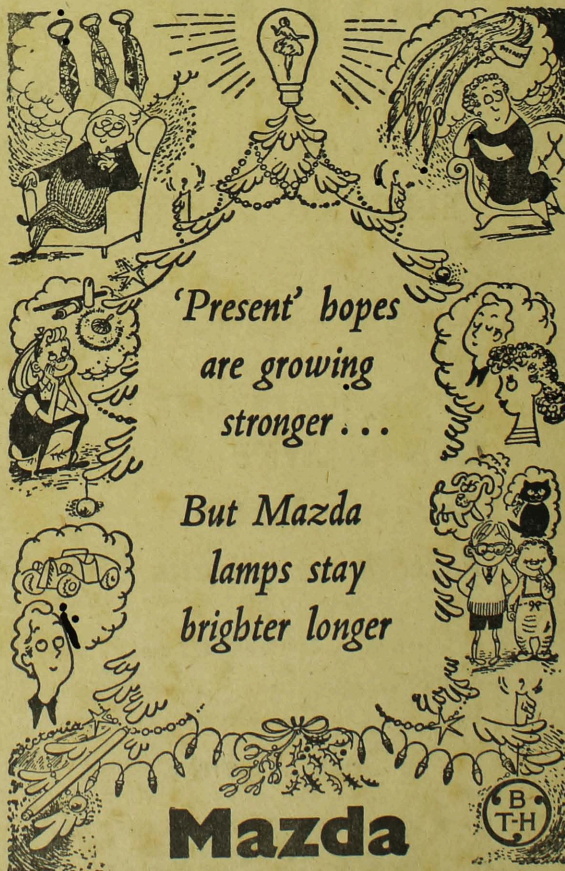
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Exclusive To U.N.P. Journal

World Commentary

Questions Leaders Must Answer

By

Elizabeth Barker

Diplomatic Cor. of the B.B.C.

THE Bermuda Conference, planned for July 8th, has had to be postponed because of Sir Winston Churchill's ill-health. But the necessity remains for a meeting of the leaders of the three Western Powers. For it is clear that the whole course of relations between the West and Russia has reached a turning-point. The Western leaders have to decide whether the time has come to try to create a real improvement in these relations, or simply to continue to build up Western strength without paying much heed to the twists and turns of Soviet policy.

When the Western leaders meet to make this decision, they will have to weigh up two vital factors. One is their own military and political strength, compared with that of the Soviet bloc. The other is the real meaning of the various conciliatory gestures which the Soviet government has made since Stalin's death.

UNITY OF THE FREE NATIONS

These two factors are closely connected. It would be foolish to imagine that any Soviet government would abandon the ultimate aim of bringing the whole world under Soviet control. It is, however, possible that Soviet Russia, faced by a strong coalition of non-Communist countries, might decide to postpone fulfilment of this aim to a more or less remote future.

Today, by building up the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the Western Powers have made sure that there can be no more easy Soviet aggression. The Soviet leaders have also to reckon with the American lead in atomic weapons, and with the United Kingdom Supply Minister's recent announcement that there are to be new tests of Britain's atomic weapons.

But the military strength of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation depends on the political unity of the member countries, and the solidarity of all the free peoples. Just because the N.A.T.O. countries and their friends are free countries, there are bound to be differences of opinion between them. So their unity has had to stand many tests in the last few years, particularly over the Korean war. It has stood all tests most successfully—most recently, the crisis in relations between President Syngman Rhee, and the United Nations.

The new Soviet leaders may reckon, however, that this unity was forged largely by Stalin's open and unrelenting hostility to the West. They may think that if they, speak softly and sweetly to the free countries, this unity may crack and finally break. Or, on the other hand they may have begun to see that the fundamental unity of purpose of the free peoples is something much greater than Stalin could ever create.

RIDDLES OF MOSCOW MOVES

In order to find out what the Soviet leaders really think, the

Western leaders will have to look carefully at Moscow's recent moves. The Soviet government says that it gives up its claims on Turkish territory, and wants to settle with Turkey the question of the Dardanelles. Does it really want to be a good neighbour to Turkey, or merely to trick Turkey into loosening its ties with the Atlantic Pact?

The Soviet government, after using every method short of war to bring about the downfall of Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, now offers to send a Soviet ambassador to the Yugoslav capital. Has it really given up hope of overthrowing Marshal Tito, or does it just want to divide the Yugoslavs from the West?

Again, Moscow has softened the Soviet occupation regime in Austria, and promised—after eight years—to send home hundreds of Austrian prisoners. It has also done something to ease hardship in the Soviet zone of Germany; and the Soviet authorities repressed the recent uprising of the people of East Berlin less brutally than might have been expected. Does this mean that the Soviet leaders have realized that harshness and oppression cannot crush free peoples, but only make them hate the oppressors? Or are they playing a clever game, to prevent the German Federal Republic from joining the Western community of nations?

Finally, there is the question of the Korean armistice. Does China's changed attitude owe anything to Moscow? If so, does Moscow regard a Korean armistice as a first step towards a wider settlement—or as a first step towards breaking Western unity and resolution? Or perhaps as a prelude to a new campaign against South-East Asia?

These are some of the questions which the Western leaders will have to answer when they meet to plan the future.

Shape of Things to Come

(Continued from page 5)

initial step to instal the Marxist regime, how much more would be required to maintain peace, order and good government once Marxism has consolidated her position?

We have also been given sufficient warning of all that is to happen in time to come with the publication of a document in the local Press under the caption "Army of liberation for the Central Province." On going through it one could safely imagine all the Marxist hopes to do. It has revealed the most unscrupulous methods without respect for life or property. It has shown the public what ghastly and slimy methods it would employ.

We have only to thank ourselves that we have been given adequate warning and that the Government must take all possible precautions to preserve the liberty of the individual. There is only one more thing that could be done by our Marxist gentlemen—condemn the actions of the strikers, divorce themselves from all responsibility and deny flatly the authority to the liberation army document. They could do this but how far they could convince the people is a matter of opinion.

Joe Karunaratne On

MOB VIOLENCE

THE much-planned, pre-conceived, pre-meditated leftist-sponsored hartal was laid to rest. The people of this country have had a foretaste of what the Dictatorship of the Proletariat means. They have come to learn that this dictatorship which will culminate in the ushering of that golden millennium which has not seen the light of day even in Russia which is the home of Communism is nothing short of the personification of ruthless force. That is the reason why Communists never talk of winning power but always of seizing it. The reason is quite clear. It is because they cannot win the willing consent of free men with their pseudo scientific theories.

The Prime Minister in his reply during the course of the Budget debate emphatically declared the circumstances that had necessitated the taking of such a drastic step and he went on to state that if the future generations of this country were to live a life worth living then the food subsidy must be removed and Capital development proceed apace. A large slice of Government Revenue was being drained to maintain the subsidy which was a boon conferred on the masses for the last five years. It was now time to cry halt to this expenditure and divert the money thus saved along more fruitful channels of development and profitable investment. It may be argued that the Government of this country is directly responsible for the Economic predicament that is facing this country and the financial crisis which is looming large around our shores, but it should also be borne in mind that the present crisis is the logical result of an agricultural export economy which is undiversified and subject to external factors in the International market. The Prime Minister's statement was a patriotic appeal to the country to rally round the Government and help it to tide over a difficult period. The majority of the people of this country responded whole-heartedly to this appeal and agreed to bear the brunt calmly and patiently with resignation. But there were however the revolutionary elements who were dissatisfied. Ever since their crushing defeat at the polls at the end of last year they were smarting under this humiliation and in the removal of the subsidy they perceived in it their opportunity. The leftist leaders thereupon went about the country attempting to incite dissatisfaction against the Government, and seeking to exploit an inevitable situation that had arisen to gain their own personal and political ends. They indulged in exercising their freedoms which only a Democratic type of Government would ensure. The freedom of speech, the freedom to criticise the government in power, the freedom of Public meeting. Those very freedoms the Russian people would yearn to possess and fondly cherish. At these meetings open denunciation against the Government was carried on. Vociferous and vituperative critics ascended political rostrums. The gift of the gab a very adventitious quality which all of them possess was extolled to the basest and meanest advantage. In certain areas the course of action the people were to take, the methods they should employ were enunciated by the revolutionary ranters and ravers. The illiterate masses easily gullible were duped by their laudatory epithets, phrasemongering and pernicious bunkum.

It was heartening to see the withdrawal of the S.L.F.P. from the token strike in spite of the fact that its leaders participated at protest meetings organised by the revolutionaries.

The Government however pledged to preserve the Democratic way of

life was fully prepared to meet the situation. The preservation of public peace and the maintenance of law and order conducive to the peaceful life of the community demanded that the Government took security measures to safeguard the peace of the land and to protect the life and limb, the person and property of the individual. The Police force and the Special Police reserve units, the volunteer detachments of the army and the navy and other military forces rendered yeoman service in suppressing this spasmodic rising. There was no simultaneous rising or open fighting. Just a few of the red electorates like Ambalangoda—Balapitiya, Galle and Avissawella witnessed attempts by hysterical mobs to overthrow established authority. While even in Colombo stone throwing, intimidation, hoodliganism, rowdism thuggery and looting were indulged in. Nevertheless the Public Servants did not participate in the strike and the threats of intimidation did not deter them from reporting to work. Some of the starving, depressed workers, seething with discontent, dissatisfaction and fear ran riot and a few buildings were gutted with fire. Transport services like the bus and rail services were disorganised but yet at great inconvenience the literate clerk walked to his office to discharge his daily duties. A colourful extravaganza was witnessed in the evening where a number of Bhikshus clad in Saffron indulged in a sit down strike and endeavoured to offer passive resistance to the Government by having recourse to a Satyagraha campaign. It is a sad commentary on our times that the disciples of the great and noble light of Asia Siddhartha Gautama should have participated in this leftist organised demonstration. The great day at last ebbed on to its close, night shadows fell on the bleak dark day and the rebels took to their homes after a hard day's work. Thus the last convulsion of mob violence and reactionary demonstration led to the firmer establishment of the Government yoke.

Nevertheless the hartal organised by these mighty saboteurs of Democracy has its significance. Perhaps the absence of the worker from his days work might have resulted in starvation at home and it is a most point whether the left leaders would have supplied the necessary copper in that direction. The people on the side of Democracy must have strengthened their loyalties after witnessing the sordid and ugly scenes of brute force and the law of the jungle that prevailed on the 12th. The Revolutionary leaders must have hung their heads in shame at the failure of the hartal which is a premonition to these demagogues that the last nail to their coffin has been driven fairly and squarely and that they cannot fool all the people all the time.

Ceylon Army's Discipline Complimented

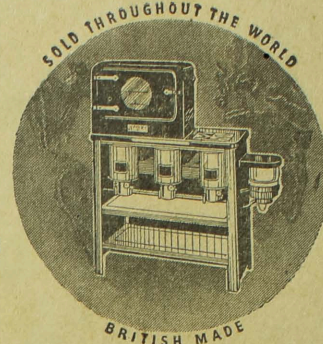
(Continued from page 7)

It was the function of the Army, he declared, to come to the assistance of the people in combating any threat to its security, whether external or internal. The Army should not carry out that function unless its members were imbued with a deep sense of loyalty that they owed to the country.

He repeated that every single action of the members of the Army during the recent emergency had indicated to him that there was that loyalty in abundant measure. It was therefore not necessary for him to remind them of the oaths they had taken when they enlisted as soldiers. The country may need their loyalty again in the days to come. Therefore they must be vigilant and vigorous in action.

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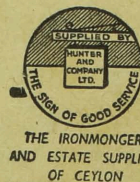
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T. B. Herat Analyses—

What The Commonwealth Means Today

IT is difficult to give a perfect definition of the Commonwealth but it could be explained by naming certain of the the countries embodied in the Commonwealth. It is a family of nations living together exercising the fundamental freedoms, like freedom of conscience, association and speech. There are two groups of countries which belong to the Commonwealth. The first group consists of Independent States such as Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Union of South Africa and United Kingdom. The second group consists of semi-independent and subject colonial states like Malta and Malaya. Thus all these countries combined form the Commonwealth.

These independent states have their own governments and have external and internal powers of administration. Their conformity of government, pattern of administration and the whole body politic may differ according to local conditions and the political outlook of the people. Yet one outstanding feature of these independent states within

the Commonwealth is the common allegiance to the Crown. India for instance has become a Republic, yet she has agreed to remain in the Commonwealth and regard the Queen of England as the head. Monarchy is indeed a remarkable feature of British Parliamentary traditions. As Sir Ivor Jennings remarks "kingship in England does a valuable function, it breaks away the monotony of dull British life and further says there is nothing more vivid than Royal purple and imperial scarlet." It was clearly evident during the time of the Coronation of Elizabeth II when the Dominions too shared the pomp and pageantry of such a vital occasion.

The next feature of the Commonwealth idea is the getting together by mutual understanding, free association and free partnership of the Independent nations for solving their own problems. Some countries today are politically unstable, economically crippled, and there is a sense of anxiety and frustration due to such evils playing havoc with the smooth working of Parliamentary democracy. The Asian

countries are economically not well off due to the lack of resources technical skill, and lack of production by scientific methods. Population is increasing by leaps and bounds, food production is deplorably low, thus the result is disease and malnutrition which hinder a nation's progress and prosperity. In these countries Communism with all its attendant miseries is spreading spasmodically and is a great threat to all freedom loving nations.

Thus the task before the Commonwealth is intrinsic. It should be the ray of gleaming light amidst these dark clouds of encircling gloom.

The Commonwealth could play an important part in establishing world peace and getting rid of war hysteria among certain war mongering nations. It is good will, real understanding, harmony of work, free association, and equal partnership in all its deliberations among this comity of nations, that will go a long way to make an ideal Commonwealth.

APPOINTMENT OF VILLAGE HEADMEN

THE Minister of Home Affairs, defined the policy of the Government with regard to residence as a qualification for appointment to a post of Village Headman in response to a question raised by Mr. Beligammana, M.P. for Mawanella.

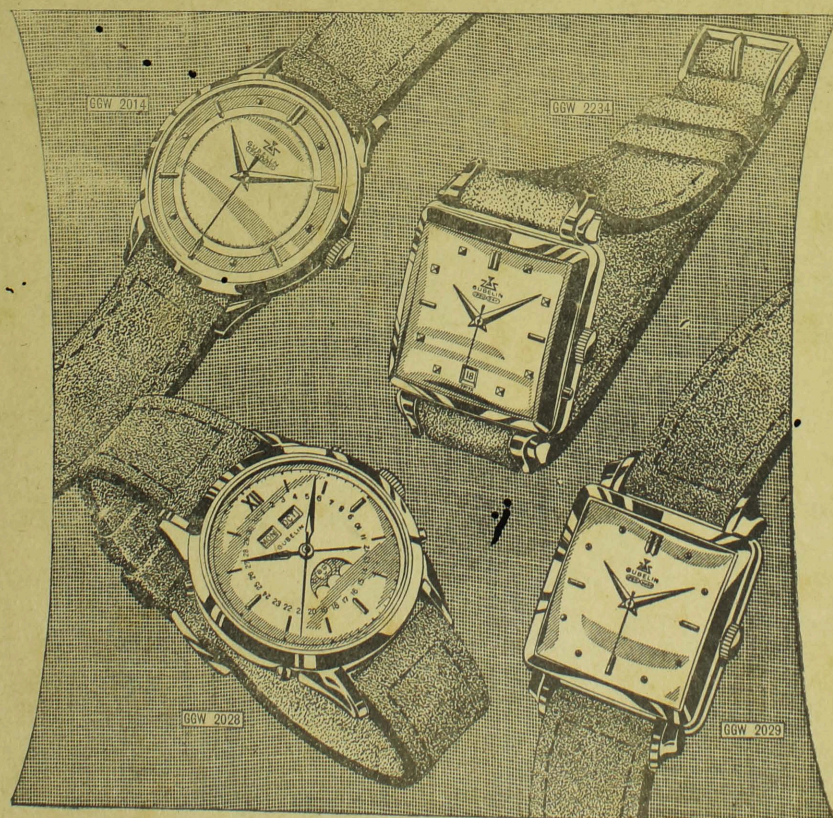
In the approved scheme for the appointment of Village Headmen, he said, the candidates should possess the residential qualification, namely, they should be residents of the division, born and bred there, or having taken up permanent residence there, should have acquired sufficient interests to command the necessary influence in the division. Applicants, who though natives of the division, owing to employment elsewhere or other reasonable cause, but who have interests in the division, should not be overlooked merely because they are absent from the division.

In very exceptional cases this qualification may be waived with the authority of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Where such authority has been granted the candidate should take up residence in the division before his appointment.

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Kashmir Premier Warns U. N. Observers

ACCORDING to the Press Trust of India, a spokesman of the Kashmir Government, on August 11, issued a warning that diplomatic immunity granted to United Nations observers might be withdrawn if they continued to take an undue interest in the internal affairs of the State.

The spokesman alleged that some certified United Nations Observers in the Kashmir Valley, instead of patrolling the cease fire line, had now come to Srinagar. The observers' headquarters had become a centre of intrigues and their jeeps were going around the city, often inciting the people to indulge in anti-State and pro-Pakistan activities.

It had come to the notice of the State Government that United Nations observers were paying money to some malcontents and agitators in order to incite them against the State, the spokesman said.

Authorities had no instructions to seize United Nations jeeps if they were found in quarters where they had no business to be and to apprehend the occupants.

The spokesman said it had come to the knowledge of the Government that 18 observers held a meeting on 10th August and later went round the city.

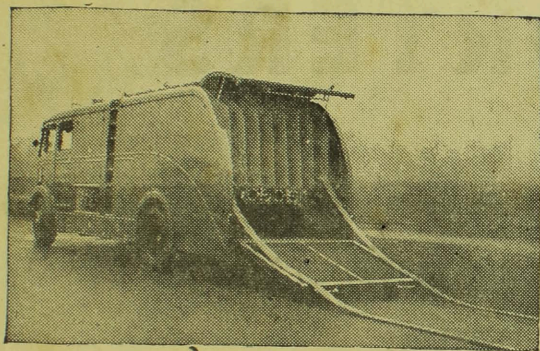
"SITUATION WELL IN HAND"

Law and order situation in Kashmir was well in hand on August 11; except for some small processions, there were no incidents. The National Conference workers conferred with the Prime Minister Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed to take stock of the situation.

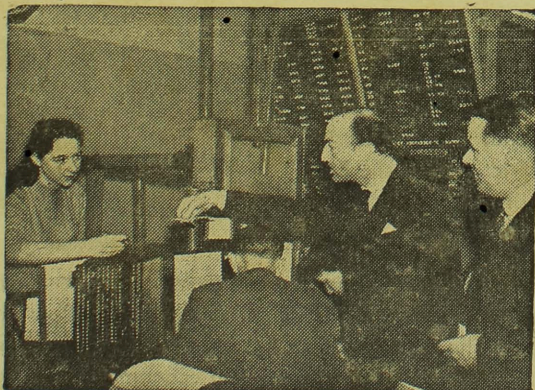
According to the Press Trust of India, the Kashmir Government had ordered a monthly allowance of Rs. 1,000 each for Begum Abdullah and Begum Afzal Baig whose husbands are under detention. In addition to the monthly allowance, they have been authorised to use the present official residence till they secure alternative accommodation.

Shri R.C. Raina, Private Secretary to the dismissed Prime Minister, was released from detention. Shri Raina was arrested at Gulmarg on August 8 along with Sheikh Abdullah.

According to agency reports, numerous telegrams are pouring in from public organisations including National Conference Committees, labour unions and commercial organisations from all over the State congratulating Bakshi Gulam Mohammed and pledging their support and cooperation for the betterment of the economic conditions of the people. The next session of the Kashmir Legislative Assembly will begin on October 5.—(I.I.S.).



HOSE LAYING FIRE ENGINE FOR TRINIDAD—British fire-fighting appliances are playing a large part in Trinidad's programme of fire service expansion, which when complete will give adequate fire cover to the busy industrial cities, small towns and villages on the islands of Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean. A recent addition to the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Brigade is this new British hose-laying fire engine capable of carrying over a mile of 3½ inch rubber-lined canvas hose.



NEW AIR CONTROL CENTRE OPENED—Britain's Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Mr. J. D. Profumo, M.P., formally opened the new civil aviation communications centre at Croydon recently. The centre is the focal point of the United Kingdom's part of a network of teleprinter, radio teletype, and wireless telegraph circuits radiating to all parts of the world, within the International Civil Aviation Organisation. At present the centre can handle up to 1,000 messages an hour over 30 circuits, but it can be expanded to deal with peak traffic of 3,000 messages an hour over more than 60 circuits. The speed with which the centre works was demonstrated by the fact that before the Parliamentary Secretary left he had received replies to messages sent to Canada, Iceland, the United States and Eire. This picture shows Mr. Profumo (fifth from left), seen in the message handling room of the new centre.



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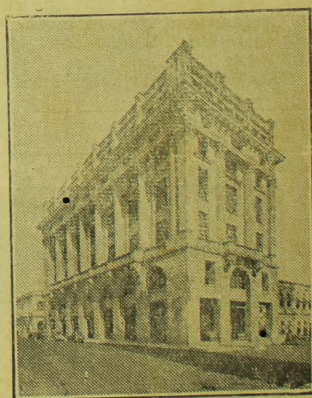
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One well-known British Journal writes of the Association as follows: "The contracts of the Association are liberal to the Assured. Its premiums are low and its financial resources second to none. In a word the National Mutual of Australasia is an Office which can with confidence be recommended to intending assurers."

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