

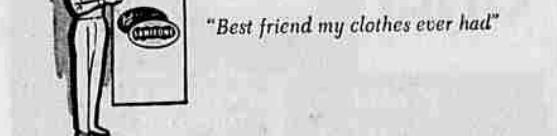
FIRST LADY PRIME MINISTER — Ceylon has produced the world's first lady prime minister. She's Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, shown here with her son, Anura. Widow of the late Premier of Ceylon, she won the high office in a general election. (UPI Telephoto)

NEW AIR TREATY
 Mexico City—UPI—Talks on a new bilateral aviation treaty between Mexico and the U.S. ended Friday with an agreement to include several new concessions for both sides. A spokesman for the Communications and Transport Ministry said the agreement will be signed "in a few days." The provisional 1957 treaty expired last June 30 after one renewal. Talks were resumed here July 25 after a stalemate was reached last May 13 by representatives of both nations in Washington.



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Ceylon, Violating Tradition, Has Lady as Prime Minister

Colombo, Ceylon—(UPI)—Ceylon, jewel-like island nation of contrast, in a startling turnabout on Oriental tradition, has produced the world's first lady prime minister.

For its choice, Ceylon picked a woman of amazing paradox. Educated at exclusive St. Bridget's Catholic convent, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike is Ceylon's chief advocate of birth control. During her adult life the widow of former Premier Solomon West Ridgeway Dias Bandaranaike has been a devout Buddhist. Yet when she chose a school for her three children, it was Catholic.

Born to one of Ceylon's oldest and wealthiest landowning families, the new prime minister has been accused of being a Marxist. Indeed, she entered into an agreement with the Ceylon Communist party and the Trotskyite Lanka Samaaj Samaj party prior to last month's elections. Mrs. Banda used funds from her rice paddies to further her late husband's political career. But when he tried to appease a Marxist cabinet minister, she quietly opposed him.

Wouldn't Have Job
 Two years ago, the 44-year old mother and retiring wife of Ceylon's "benevolently leftist" premier firmly declared she wouldn't have the job if it was offered to her. But less than a year after her husband died at the hands of an assassin, she began campaigning for his post.

During the early stages of the campaign, when a victory for her Sri Lanka (Freedom) party was a dream, Mrs. Banda pledged to cooperate with the Communists and Trotskyites in forming a new government. When the time came to hand out the 10 minister's posts, she ignored them. And, apparently, she is getting away with it.

But the greatest paradox of all is in turning the head of government over to a woman. While the distaff side in the western political world remained content with occasional

seats in the senates and lower houses, their Asian sisters have plunged ahead with a revolutionary vigor never dreamed of in pre-war days.

No one will dispute the world has had its Cleopatras and Josephines. Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, it is frequently said, is a powerful influence in Nationalist Chinese affairs. It was never denied that Austrian-born Mrs. Syngman Rhee was a power to be reckoned with in the former South Korean administration. (Madam Chiang's sister, Mrs. Sun Yat Sen holds a high post in the Peiping Communist regime. But this appears to be largely ceremonial. She probably has less real power than the most shrinking violet wife of any free Asian leader.) Even Japan, traditional holdout land of, by and for men, has produced a lady minister.

How did it happen?
 Let's go back to last September.

Died Asking Forgiveness
 Prime Minister Bandaranaike, in traditional Buddhist humility, knelt when a saffron-robed monk called on his office. The monk fired a bullet into Banda's stomach. His reason: he felt the prime minister should not support scientific medicine over traditional religion and herbs. Bandaranaike died asking forgiveness to his assassin.

For several months, the widow Banda mourned, keeping to her home and wearing white sari robes of death. She remembered her pledge to a women's group she had made in 1958:

"Knowing full well the responsibilities that devolve on a prime minister, and how difficult it is for a human being to cater to all the requirements of a nation and to satisfy them, I would not accept the post of premier, even if it were offered to me."

She consented to appear as a tearful widow in elections called for last March. But the Sri Lanka party managed only to win a splintering of seats. Dudley S. Senanayake, a 49-year old right-wing lawyer, took over as caretaker premier. New elections were inevitable.

Still, the widow Banda was reluctant to change her mind. "My place is at home," she murmured. Then suddenly she changed from the tearful widow, faithful to tradition. "I will run," she declared.

Picture Changed
 At first Senanayake laughed. But when he saw the Sri Lanka party being an all-out, if emotional, campaign, the picture changed. Senanayake, pointed to his United National party's record (1948-1956) in skyrocketing Ceylon's rubber, tea and coconut economy to double that of the per-capita income of mainland India.

The Cambridge-educated attorney charged Mrs. Banda would change all this.

Senanayake pointed to her alliance with the leftists. His party rallied against her promise to "carry out my husband's program," a program which

Gates Says No More Funds Are Needed Now

Washington—Defense Secretary Thomas S. Gates told Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson Saturday that no additional defense funds are needed now and he could not predict whether extra money would be used if Congress should provide it.

Gates' stand appeared to rule out any chance that Congress would appropriate more defense money at its pre-election session. Democratic leaders have contended that it would be pointless to provide money that might not be spent.

Gates wrote Johnson that he would "carefully consider" any defense actions that Congress might take.

"But we cannot now predict whether we could prudently utilize additional funds which the Congress might appropriate," he added.

The letter, made public by Johnson, replied to his request for recommendations of any additional funds that could be used in the present fiscal year to strengthen defense.

Gates said present defense funds assure "a continuing military strength second to none," but promised to ask for more, regardless of the amount, "should we conclude that additional programs are required."

"We may in due course need a modest additional sum for military personnel and operation and maintenance in connection with readiness measures we are taking," he said.

Johnson repeated his charge that the defense department has frozen \$621.3 million of funds previously appropriated by Congress. He told the Senate that the department has no plans to release these funds for use during the current fiscal year.

In addition, he said, the department has temporarily frozen \$978.7 million but expects to spend this amount after it finishes current reviews of a number of programs.

Minimum Wage Too High for Demos
 Washington—(UPI)—Senate Democratic Whip Mike Mansfield, Mont., has moved quickly to squelch any possible charges of "free-spending Democrats."

When Sen. Stephen M. Young, (D-Ohio), unintentionally described the proposed federal minimum wage increases as \$1.25 an hour instead of \$1.25 during debate on the measure Mansfield rose to correct him.

"That's a little too high for the Democrats," Mansfield said.

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What Is The Law?

This column is prepared as a public service by the College of Law, Willamette University, Salem, to explain basic legal principles, not to provide legal advice. The reader is cautioned not to apply these cases to his own problems without an attorney's advice, for differing facts may change the outcome.

Child May Bring Action For Prenatal Injury

Dan Deadeye, driving under the influence of liquor, drove his car into the rear of one driven by Mary and John Jones, who had stopped for a traffic light. Mary was pregnant at the time, and as a result of the collision her child was born prematurely. The child died a few hours after birth, allegedly from injuries suffered en ventre sa mere.

Two causes of action were brought: one laid under a survival statute for "pain and suffering" during the child's short life; and the other under the wrongful death statute (in which recovery would be for the benefit of the parents).

Since, in the state where the accident happened, the right of the administrator to sue for wrongful death is determined by whether the deceased would have had an action for injuries had he lived, the question was the right of the child to maintain an action for a prenatal injury.

Reasons Held Unsound
 Deciding in favor of the child, the South Carolina Court concluded that "the reasons assigned by the courts for holding that a child after birth may not maintain an action for prenatal injuries are

unsound, illogical and unjust." In supporting its conclusion, the court cited cases from various states including a recent one in Oregon.

The Oregon case was an action for injuries to an unborn viable child, that is, one sufficiently developed to live despite premature birth. The child survived; but the prenatal injuries caused cerebral palsy, a condition commonly known as spastic.

In concluding that the plaintiff child had a cause of action, the Oregon Court stated that "We do not think that the difficulty of determining the existence of a causal relation should be a bar to recovery inasmuch as the establishment of proximate cause is not insurmountable."

Further, "In Oregon we have recognized by statute the separate entity of an unborn child by protecting him in his property rights and against criminal conduct, and we can see no logical reason why a viable child should not be protected for injuries sus-

tained through the tortious acts of another." The court concluded that "our Constitution provides for remedy by due course of law for every person for injury done to him in his person."

Washington—(UPI)—Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy said Saturday night it now looks like Congress will stay in session beyond Labor Day and he therefore may have to delay the start of his White House campaign.

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