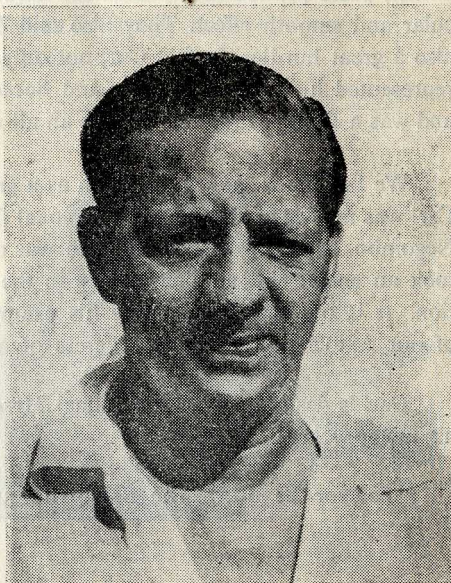


'AN APPRECIATION'

CARL T. VAN GEYZEL—(1902-1971)

Carl Van Geyzel is dead and with his death the Coconut Industry has suffered a heavy loss. He was one of the most practical planters of the Chilaw District. He was a member of the Chilaw Planters' Association from the time he took to planting and he served on several committees of the Planters' Association and on Government Boards. His knowledge of planting was phenomenal and he assisted the C.R.I. considerably with advice and mature judgement. Apart from his work as a Visiting Agent he never failed to assist his co-planters and the small holder. The Chilaw Planters' Association of which he



was a life member owes a great deal to him, and the Hon'ble Dr. Colvin R. de Silva when he visited Chilaw and addressed our Association paid him a fitting compliment. Carl was offered the Chairmanship of the Chilaw P.A. on more than one occasion but he refused it in characteristic style. He was always humble, unassuming and reluctant to assert his rights. He had studied local politics keenly and had his own views on politics and politicians.

Although Carl was much my Senior at the Royal College, all of us students at Royal used to Hero worship him as a cricketer and an athlete. To us in College his cricket was the greatest attraction. He and his brother Kritz were extremely popular as cricketers. I have seen Carl score a double century besides scoring several scintillating centuries in inter-collegiate Cricket. My father the late Mr. C. E. Corea served under Dr. Van Geyzel's Captaincy and played over five years for the Royal Team. Both of them figured, in the famous 'Nine Run Match' with St. Thomas College. The Van Geyzels were always popular. We still have his younger brother Len, a man of wit and charm, living quietly and hiding his talents in self imposed obscurity on Kirimetiya Estate in the Chilaw District. Much has been said of Carl the athlete in the press. He won international fame and

brought much credit to Ceylon. At Cambridge, during the Golden age of Cambridge athletics, Carl shone and proved to be far superior to his British and other foreign colleagues. He represented Great Britain in the Olympic Games of 1938. Lately we read in the papers that Carl has to his credit many a first. He was the first Ceylonese to win an athletic Blue at Cambridge, and was the first Asian to represent the Cambridge-Oxford Universities Team in athletics. In his day, he was Great Britain's best High Jumper. In fact, he evolved style of his own and the British press praised his "Corkscrew and shimmering Twist" as a most spectacular and smooth effect. They also said "his style may be set to music". He was also a great hurdler. In fact Carl not only shone in cricket and athletics but he represented his Club in Rugger and Soccer and played a good game of Tennis and was a Boxer of repute. He was an all-round athlete and a great sportsman.

We in Chilaw mourn his death as a great calamity to the Coconut Industry. Carl was my friend and he was a personal friend of many members of the Chilaw-Negombo Planters' Association. He was a life member, and until his death he took an active and abiding interest in the welfare and progress of our Association. It is our duty to emulate his example and give of our best to the work of our Association, and the progress of our Motherland.

Carl is dead. He was a National Hero and a Great Gentleman. Long may his memory last!

"Toll for the Brave, the Brave that are no more".

Shirley Corea.
Proprietor Planter, Chilaw, Ceylon.

ECONOMICS OF FERTILIZER USE IN COCONUT LANDS

As far as the economics of the use of fertilisers is concerned, a simple calculation shows that it is beneficial for the cultivator to use them even at full cost without any subsidy. If the cultivator supplies the full dosage as recommended by the Coconut Research Institute, an acre of coconut land would require about 400 lbs. of the mixture which at the prevailing prices would cost less than Rs. 65. According to the available estimates, this much use of fertilisers results in giving an increased output of 1000—1500 nuts per acre depending on the agro-climatic conditions at the estate. If the price of coconut oil is calculated at Rs. 1200 per ton, the cultivator has a net profit of a minimum of 600 nuts equivalent to roughly Rs. 70 even on an average soil. But on the basis of a 50 per cent subsidy already in operation, an investment of a little more than Rs. 30 would bring a safe return of a minimum of Rs. 70, more than 200 per cent profit. This should be quite an attractive proposition for any cultivator.

Bansil, P.C. 1971 *Ceylon Agriculture—A Perspective*
P. 223. Delhi: Dhanpat Rai & Sons.