

Subscription.

Inland: Rs. 50/- year

For Advertisement

Apply to:

The Manager,
'The Morning Star',
182, First Cross Street
JAFFNA.

THE MORNING STAR

Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office, Sri Lanka

under No. Q/J/104/News/89

Established: 1841: A Christian Weekly: Published Every Friday

Vol. 149 Jaffna, Friday, 19 SEPTEMBER 1989 No. 38

RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTBETH A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE

News and Articles in
Tamil and English.

Please send form to

THE EDITOR,

'The Morning Star',

182, First Cross Street,

JAFFNA.

175 Years of Methodism in Sri Lanka.

The Methodist Church in Sri Lanka is celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the first Methodist Missionaries from Britain arriving in the Southern Port of Galle in 1814. The celebrations have been arranged on an island wide basis and it was Jaffna's turn during the week-end of the 9th and 10th of September. St. Peter's Church, Jaffna was the venue of the special meetings to commemorate the event. The Rev. George Good of Northern Ireland, a former Methodist Missionary in Ceylon returned to the Island for these celebrations. His mission meetings were popular and drew large audiences. The climax of the celebrations in Jaffna was the Public Meeting on Sunday the 10th of September at 10-00 a.m. at St. Peter's Methodist Church. The President of the Conference, the Rev. Harold Fernando chaired the meeting and welcomed the guests. The Rev. Dr. Kingsley Muttiah the Secretary of the conference was also with him. The Rev. Harold saw some signs of hope in the growth of the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka and in the North as well. New centres of work he said have been started in Jaffna like Tholpuram and Anaicoddai. He also said that the Conference which had 31 Districts in the past can now boast of 32 Districts. The Rev. A. Jeyakumaran gave the greetings of the Jaffna Diocese of the CSI. Fr. Jeyaseelan of the Roman Catholic Church expressed the greetings of his Church. The Rev. J. Sarvananthan, Chairman of the Jaffna Christian Union and Vicar of St. John's Chundikuli gave greetings of the ICU and of the Anglican Church.

The Rev. Sam Thampoe Memorial Service at Chavakachcheri.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of the late Rev. Sam Thampoe, Presbyterian of the Jaffna Diocese of the CSI was arranged by the Diocese on Tuesday the 12th of September on the day of his first death anniversary. The Service took place in the Chavakachcheri Church at 3-00 p. m. and was led by the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar. Dr. S. Jebenesan paying the tribute referred to the Rev. Thampoe's unflappable cheerful disposition. He was one who with patience and dedication carried out his pastoral ministry. His family was an exemplary Pastor's family. He was for many years the

ST. THOMAS' DAY (06 - 10 - 1989).

AND

DIOCESAN FESTIVAL (07-10-1989).

FRIDAY, 6TH OCTOBER:

7.30 A. M. Holy Communion and Thanksgiving Service at St. Thomas' Church, KONAVIL.

10-00 A. M. Holy Communion and Thanksgiving Service marking ten years of the J. D. C. S. I. Mission work South of Elephant Pass at the Church of Christ the King, KILINCHCHI.

12.30 P. M. Fellowship Lunch.

SATURDAY, 7TH OCTOBER:

ANNUAL DIOCESAN FESTIVAL at the CATHEDRAL CHURCH, VADDUKODDAI.

8.30 A. M. Holy Communion Service

11.00 A. M. Mission Meetings and Cultural Programmes

1.00 P. M. Fellowship Lunch

2.30 P. M. Public Meeting.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

THE REV. A. JEYAKUMARAN.
Secretary J. D. C. S. I.

Secretary of the Diocesan Council and for some years the Evangelistic Officer of the Diocese. He was Vice-Chairman of the Jaffna Christian Union and life wife of the Jaffna Christian Provident Society. The Rev. D. R. Ambalavanar preached the sermon based on the text in Isaiah 52: 7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings, who publishes peace...". The Uduvil Girls' College Choir and the Chavakachcheri Choir rendered special songs. Joyce Thampoe, the daughter and Noel Suresh a son read the Bible lessons.

At the close of the service the Bishop unveiled a memorial tablet erected by the members of the family. The family gave a fellowship tea to those who joined the service.

At The Uduvil Church.

A Service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr. Winslow Thambiah Heyes Suthiratharathnam a senior churchman at Uduvil was held on Sunday, 17th of September at 3 p. m. in the Uduvil Church.

The Rev. D. R. Ambalavanar conducted the Service. Associated with him was the Rev. D.C. Ratnasingham who led the Litany of Thanksgiving.

The Lessons were read by Mas. D. Spenser and Mr. M. N. Suthiratharathnam. Mrs. K. Bava-singam sang a Thevaram.

The Tribute was paid by Mr. C. E. Rajasingam, a contemporary of Mr. Suthiratharathnam at Jaffna College. The Rev. D.R. Ambalavanar preached the sermon.

The children of the family rendered a special anthem "The Lights of Home".

At the end of the service, the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar unveiled a memorial tablet in the Church to commemorate the life and work of Mr. Winslow Suthiratharathnam.

The members of the family entertained those present at a fellowship tea at the Uduvil Girls' College Hall.

Jaffna College Alumni Association U. K. Branch.

The annual dinner of Jaffna College Alumni Association was held on Saturday 22nd July '89 at the Acton Town Hall. There were about 220 people who participated. The evening programme commenced at about 7-30 p. m. with the president Mr. A. Selvarathnam who welcomed the participants and asked for a two-minute silence in remembrance of all the relations and friends who have passed away. In his speech the president mentioned about the letter he received from the new Principal of the college and read a major portion from that letter. The principal has mentioned how the school is being continued in spite of major

obstacles due to the current situation. The president thanked the committee for being supportive and the members for having given him the privilege to be their president. Then, the election of office bearers for 89/90 took place. The undermentioned list shows the names with the respective offices.

President — Mr. J. Ratnarajah
Vice President — Dr. P. Jeyaratnam, Mr. N. J. Rajaratnam
Secretary — Mr. K. Kandasamy
Treasurer — Mr. C. P. Ilamurugan

Committee Members —
Mr. J. Solomons, Mr. Karunakaran, Dr. Thuraiathnam, Mr. Anandarajah, Miss S. Jeevarajah, Mrs. R. Kadigamar, Dr. Somasegaram, Dr. Chandrabalan, Dr. Jesudasan, Mr. Jeyapalan.
Afterwards the dinner was served which was enjoyed by everyone and the event came to a close with the singing of the College Song.

Nursery School at Thaniyoottu.

The Church of Ceylon is to establish a Nursery School at St. Mathias Church, Thaniyoottu in the Mullattivu District at a cost of Rs. 200,000/- donated by the Canadian High Commission. Dr. T. W. Jeyakularajah, Chairman of the Nursery School Committee along with Dr. E. S. Devasahayam, Principal, St. John's College and the Archdeacon of Jaffna were responsible for negotiating this project. A building is to be constructed to house the Nursery School.

Obituary.

The death occurred of Miss Myrtle Pushpamalar Rajaratnam, a Retired Teacher of Chundikkuli Girls' College on Monday the 18th instant at her home at Rasavinthotam Road, Jaffna. The funeral took place on Wednesday the 20th of September at her home, and the burial at St. John's Church Cemetery, Chundikkuli. Miss Rajaratnam is the sister of Clara Poopalasingam, late Dr. Prins Rajaratnam, late Mr. Bright Rajaratnam and late Mr. Victor Rajaratnam.

Vacancy— NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

A Vacancy exists for an experienced Project Officer to monitor social service projects in all parts of the island. Travelling essential. Salary and emoluments negotiable.

Apply with copies of testimonials and references in writing to

Chairperson,
NCC Relief and Rehabilitation
Committee,
490/5, Havelock Road,
Colombo 6.

ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG (Continued).

'Alcoholism is a suicide', said Melanie Klein, as it leads to a total personality destruction. Chronic cases lead to such psychiatric problems like Delirium, dementia, paranoia and even psychosis. An alcoholic lives in a world of severe tension and self-torture. Loss of self-esteem, feeling of intense torture, sense of powerlessness and alienation from everyone close to him lead to a total emotional deprivation. He is almost a loner suffering from a sense of self-condemnation and guilt. Frequent breaking of repeated promises makes him more and more guilty. Full of anger, hostility and resentment, he may turn to aggressive attacks or sometimes drift into a dreadful silence. Employing intellectual arguments he may want to rationalise his own actions.

'Denial' is very common defence-mechanism an alcoholic, would resort to and that is a safety-valve from his total mental breakdown. His own actions are justified and the whole blame is thrown on someone else. Suspicion (of the spouse) is often presented as an excuse for excessive drinking.

These actions are usually, looked upon by the society as 'bad', or 'wicked' or 'evil' behaviour of an Alcoholic. In fact alcoholism is a disease, expressed in such symptoms as described above. It is an illness which has to be treated and can be treated, and prevented. It is also to be understood as a health problem.

Alcoholism is not only a personal but also family problem. The family also begins to lose hope and behave neurotically, but without the use of alcohol. The whole network of relationship between the husband and wife, parents and children and between the siblings is disrupted. The family suffers from a sense of social ostracism and would want to contain the total misery, as far as possible, within the family itself, upto the breaking point, for fear of the stigma.

The causes-factors that contribute to the disease.

There is no one, single, clearly identified cause that contribute to the development of problem—drinking. Living under the same potentially depriving and frustrating environment, one may end up on alcoholism while another living under the same situation need not. So the causes are multi-factorial; there is an interplay of more than one factor, sociological, biological, psychological and environmental. The problem can be identified symptom-wise, but prognosis is never clear. The causes are so complex and often include the following:

1. Change in the sociological pattern, a fast changing society amounting to severe competition and confusion of roles and conflict of values; restrictive parents and freedom-loving children; conflicting parental authority producing confusion and anxiety among the children; lack of recreational facility, not only to the young, and opportunities for creative use of leisure.
2. Easy availability of substance; increase in the supply resulting in an increasing demand. The alluring effect of mass-communication and advertisement. Transnational companies competing each other in production, distribution, and marketing; subtle influence of drug-pushers; growth of illicit brewing as a cottage industry; governments finding it impossible to check on production and enforce existing law, wanting the support of big barrel guns.
3. Genetic factors are seen to play a part in some instances.
4. Personality factors; alcoholism is an anti-developmental activity. Non-conforming personality seems to drift into more easily.
5. Psychological factors: lack of love, sense of insecurity, feeling of inadequacy, depression and frustration; disorganisation and depression within the family; a dominant spouse.
6. No particular socio-economic group is more prone to addiction. The neo-rich seems to want to imitate those up in the social ladder; sudden economic growth and possession of power.
7. Certain groups seem to be more vulnerable to addiction, the last born or first born; persons with early parental loss; young or middle aged; men more than women (8 : 1 in India, 3 : 1 in the West).

Findings of a study identifies the following factors which lead to addiction :

- Pleasure
- Peer-pressure
- Curiosity
- Drifting away from God/religion
- Imitation of friend or adult
- Initiation by a friend, a 'well-wisher'

Alcohol is an answer, an alcoholic has found for his pent-up emotional tensions, continuous deprivation and uncertain future.

Any attempt to counteract the onslaughts of these influences has to be inclusive and eclectic.

SECOND DEATH
ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of
Packiyadevi Jesudasan

Born : 27-09-1944

Died : 23-09-1987

Years may pass and fade away
But thoughts of you will
always stay.

Affectionately remembered by
your loving husband, Rev. A. V.

Yesuthasan, and children, The-
vananth, Jeevananth, Baban-
nanth & Thayananth.

J. D. C. S. I. Church,
Parsonage,
Karainagar.

First Death Anniversary

in

Everloving Memory of



VETHAPARANAM

THARMASEELAN

29. 09. 1988.

Fallen tears and heartache
Are things we have to bear
Losing you the way we did
Always seems unfair

You had a smile for everyone
You had a heart of Gold
You left the sweetest memories
That we could ever hold.

Fondly remembered by your
ever sorrowing wife and rela-
tions.

Church Lane,
Karainagar.

In Ever loving Memory of
of our dearest
DADDY & MUMMY.



ALFRED DURAISINGHAM
THAMBIAH.

Born : 24-3-1921

Died : 09-1-1986.

JESSIE SUGIRTHAMALAR
THAMBIAH.

Born : 25-7-1925

Died : 23-9-1988.

"..... he that believeth in me,
though he were dead, yet shall
he live"

JOHN. 11: 25

Fondly remembered by your loving
son, daughter & son-in-Law.

New Road,
Karainagar.

Demise of
Mrs. Hilda Somanader.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the late Mrs. Hilda Beatrice Thilagasunderam Somanader was held on Saturday, 12th August, 1989, at 4p.m. at the Puliyantivu Methodist Church, Batticaloa.

It was largely attended by a good number of relatives and friends. The Service was conducted by Rev. Ariam Vythilingam. Tributes were paid by Mrs. Ratnam Chinnaiyab and Miss Rosalind Canagaratna. A special Hymn "Through the Valley of the shadow" was rendered by the members of the family.

Mrs. Hilda Somanader, affectionately known by young and old as "Hilda Acca", was a very active and earnest Christian with a lot of zeal and enthusiasm and lofty ideals, to please the master. She was always ready and willing to help everybody. She inspired them to be true witnesses for Christ. She was keenly interested in all the women's activities in the Church and was a shining light, not only to the members of her family, but also to her wide circle of Christian friends.

Mrs. Hilda Somanader was

the daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. J. N. Setukavalar and wife of the late Douglas Somanader. Her eldest son Kingsley Somanader, preceded her in May 1988. She leaves behind Mr. Leslie Somanader - the Vice - President of the Sri Lanka Methodist conference, Mr. Ashley Somanader (Australia) Mr. Shirley Somanader-Vice President of the National Council of the YMCA of Sri Lanka, Mr. Indran Somanader of the Paper Corporation, Valaichenai, and Mrs. Vimala Arnold (Botswana) to mourn her loss. She was greatly Blest as she was the proud grandmother of 14 grand-children and 2 great grand-children. She was an old girl of Vincent Girls' High School, Batticaloa, and was the Chairperson of the Pupils' Association of this school.

We're sorry she's left us and will miss her dearly. Her memory will still live on though so far removed from us. We claim the Blessed Assurance that we'll meet her some day on that Beautiful Shore.

We praise the Lord for her life and loving service to GOD.
May her soul Rest in peace.

The Laws of Life.

The world operates on spiritual principles just as it does on physical laws. These laws are important for our welfare. We are all God's creatures; we are fallible, we make mistakes. To grow within ourselves, to reach our full potential as human beings, we need help. The laws of life will help us to achieve more happiness, usefulness and success.

(to be continued)