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NO. 1.

ALCOHOL IN RELATION TO HEALTH

Its Effects on Human System

THE DUTY OF DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS

(Text of Radio Talk by Dr. J. H. F. Jayasuriya)

A FEW months ago I was urgently summoned to see a patient bleeding profusely from his nose. He was a handsome man of forty, well educated, of good social standing and of fine physique. He said to me "Doctor, I have been drinking fairly hard for about 20 years almost from the time I left College." He presumed, and quite rightly too, that his present plight was the result of his drinking habits. The man had a very high blood pressure, and it was indeed fortunate that he had bled from his nose, for otherwise it was almost certain that he would have burst a blood vessel in his brain with fatal results. He further confessed "Doctor, I could take any number of drinks without getting bowled over". Such a man, who is apparently enjoying himself, is not only a danger to himself, but a serious menace to society. This apparent tolerance to alcohol is only a deception; for, when illness comes to a man of this type, it is found that his tissues show signs of a general lack of resistance in spite of his naturally good endowments in the way of health. Moreover, the real condition of an apparently very strong and robust man who habitually takes large quantities of alcohol will be often demonstrated by the decadence of his children, and grandchildren, who are frequently epileptic, mentally defective or vicious, or of impaired vitality.

Belongs to the Narcotic Class

Alcohol belongs to the class of drugs known as narcotics, the class which also includes the well-known anaesthetics chloroform and ether. If chloroform or ether be inhaled there is a pleasant feel-

ing of warmth and sensation of vigour followed later by drowsiness and a desire to sleep. If given in larger quantity, a short stage of exhilaration, garrulity and loss of mental control, is followed by a stage of deep sleep and loss of sensation. Alcohol acts in precisely the same way. It is an interesting historical fact that in the first published case in which an anaesthetic was employed, alcohol was the drug used. In 1839 Dr. Collier performed a surgical operation on a negro who was rendered insensible by breathing the fumes of alcohol. The anaesthetic properties of ether and chloroform were actually discovered later.

Alcohol when taken by the mouth is readily absorbed and rapidly enters the blood-stream. It is well-known that the effects are greater when the alcohol is consumed on an empty stomach. The cocktail before dinner owes its popularity and its hazards to this fact. Alcohol is eliminated through the lungs, kidneys and skin and its presence has also been demonstrated in the milk of nursing mothers.

Dangerous

The feeling of warmth following the drinking of alcohol is illusory, being due to the dilatation of the blood capillaries in the skin. This leads to the loss of more heat from the body and therefore causes actually a lowering of the body temperature. It is therefore dangerous to drink alcohol during exposure to cold as there is a special liability to the catching of chills and the development of pneumonia.

In the matter of age, alcohol is especially injurious to the growing structures of young children. Although the custom

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WARDHA SCHEME OF EDUCATION EXPLAINED

Mr. and Mrs. Aryanayakam's Lectures

UNDER the Wardha Scheme of Education, a boy learnt a useful productive craft, gathered a good deal of knowledge on several things and learnt to be useful to himself and to others, said Shrimati Asha Devi Aryanayakam, speaking on the Wardha Scheme at a public meeting in Bezwada last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Aryanayakam, educationists of Wardha, were given a warm welcome at Bezwada where they spoke on the Wardha education.

Mrs. Aryanayakam addressing in English, said that they were anxious to carry the message of the Wardha education scheme to every part of India and to enlist the sympathy and co-operation of the people in the work of educational reconstruction. It was a fundamental duty of elders to give proper and suitable education to their children, who were the future citizens of the land. It was a notorious fact that Indian children were the worst fed, the worst educated and the most unhealthy children in the world. It was their bounden duty to see that the children were properly brought up. Gandhiji had been thinking about the welfare of the children in the lakhs of villages in India. It was an agony to him to witness the present miserable plight of the children in the villages. For years he had been thinking out a solution for this great national problem. As a result of several years of thinking he had evolved his scheme, now famous as the Wardha scheme. She said that she and her husband considered it a privilege to work this scheme. They had discovered its great possibilities and wanted others to share in their discovery.

Defects Of Present System

Srimati Asha Devi went on to refer to the defects of the present system of education, its huge costs and its tendency to draw the the educated from the villages to the towns. It was necessary to devise a system of education suited to the

conditions in the villages. It should not be costly; it should draw out all the faculties of the children. The Wardha education scheme, which was called the Basic National Education Scheme, was framed with these fundamental principles in view.

Explaining the scheme, Mrs. Aryanayakam said that under it a child would be taught a craft which would fit in with his environment. With the craft as the basis, all necessary knowledge would be imparted to him. By the process, a boy learnt a useful productive craft, gathered a good deal of knowledge on several things and learnt to be useful to himself and to others. He would not feel education a burdensome thing as he did at present; he would feel the joy of creation. He learnt how to use his hand, eye and brain. Incidentally, he would be earning something to pay for his schooling.

Concluding, she appealed to the public and the local bodies to give the scheme a fair trial and help in the regeneration of the villages.

Dr. A. Lakshmipati translated the speech into Telugu.

Mr. Aryanayakam, speaking next, said that he regarded basic education as really a woman's work. The services of women could be enlisted for the task of educating the children in the villages. Under Gandhiji's scheme, a great opportunity had been afforded to women to take their proper place in the building up of a regenerated Indian nation.

"Best Suited to India"

Proceeding, Mr. Aryanayakam said that after a deep study of child psychology and after experience of the working of several educational institutions in India and on the Continent, he had come to the conclusion that the scheme evolved by Gandhiji was best suited for this country. Out of his abundant love for the Indian masses and his great desire to

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A SHORT STORY

WHO DID IT?

By B. N. Triksha

Gordhandass has reached the biblical age of three score and ten. He had everything that man of his age could wish except money and money too he would have enough, if not in plenty, if only he had followed the common path. But he had his own creed that it is wiser and more generous to offer voluntarily your possessions to your sons and relatives when alive rather than part with them at your death. The result was that within less than ten years neither he nor any of his three sons had any significant proportion of the possession left.

The eldest son, Kanti, a man of about thirty eight had wasted his share in gambling. Gambling to him was the life and blood of his existence. 'It has its own charms which those who have never gambled cannot dream of' he would say "winning or losing does not matter much. It is the actual play that counts"

Charan the second son had spent his share at the university where he passed the ten years of his life as a prince. "I am surely destined to be a rich man" he would say. "A great pandit predicted this at my birth and the prediction of a great pandit cannot be falsified even by God himself. Then why not try to cultivate a princely habit from the beginning?" After leaving the university he was obliged to accept a job of Rs. 50.

Hem the third son was the victim of bad investments. He became shareholder of every concern whose advertisements loomed large in newspapers and other periodicals and when he could not pay the full amount, most of his shares were forfeited.

The youngest Sivji a lad of twenty had his full share safe and he guarded it with as much care as the virgins guarded their honour in the ancient days.

In his own small city Gordhandass was the most 'beloved' and the 'respected' person. It was not because he was thought a rich person for respect and love offer their humble homage at the feet of wealth: but because he was considered too simple, too honest and too straightforward for this crooked world. No one had ever seen him frown, no one had ever heard a harsh word escape his lips and above all he was a generous father and an envy for the younger element. Now and then he would be seen passing through the streets carrying packets and bundles of various purchases made. It seemed he was a servant rather than the master and head of the house.

That time had passed now and Gordhandass with his wife Rukmani and Shivji had come to stay with Charan at Cawnpore. The old days were gone, the chain of purchases broken. A man cannot sit idle. He must do something to spend the time and Gordhandass like a true man turned to religion. Getting up in the morning he would recite a cheap edition of Bhagwat Gita for about two hours while Rukmani as a true disciple would sit near by listening intently and interfering now and then for explanation of the obs-

cure passages. The rest of the spare time was spent in the reading of the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and narrating some of his interesting episodes from his own life, how a Director who was pleased with his calculations told him that he was most fitted to be an accountant rather than an unimportant employee of the Revenue Department and how he once forced an insolent Patwari to tender humble apologies.

It was a December morning. The family sitting in the verandah was trying to absorb the mild warmth of the sun. Gordhandass was reciting the Gita as usual when a Tarwalla approached the house. The sight of a Tarwalla irrespective of the vastness of the telegraphic communication is still usually regarded an ominous sign for average houses. Gordhandass stopped reciting and approached the man. Rukmani began to chant the popular slogan 'God Save Us', 'God Save Us'. With trembling hands the telegram was taken and handed over to Charan who demonstrating that he could rise to such occasion opened the envelope with an air of dignity and read the contents 'Congratulations, case succeeded court not giving cash except you come at once.' The lines were read a second time and then the third. The whole family waited anxiously for the verdict. 'Can't make out, what he exactly means' murmured Charan with a gesture of disapproval. "The telegram is from Kanti. He offers congratulation, says the case has succeeded but which case, father, I do not think you have instituted any suit." No he has not, and what does he say further. He says the court is not giving the cash unless you reach there at once. The slogan of 'God save us' was still going on. "Mother" cried Sivji, "stop that now, there is after all congratulations and money coming." Rukmani now sensed the situation. "Get the eleven O'clock train," she said "or you will miss the money." "Just see the time Sivji, I think it is 9.30. Ample time for the train, get my meals ready" ordered Gordhandass. "But father" broke in Charan, "it is no use leaving now. You can reach there at the same time even if you leave by the evening train. By the way, father, have you got the whole thing." Gordhandass shook his head in disappointment, "Not yet but I think that pre-emption suit filed by Piarelal has been lost and the court is not returning his deposit unless I reach there. Now I will force this man, to sell over the other portion of the bungalow at reduced price. The man has been dishonest all through his life and now I will teach him a lesson." "Bad drafting" interrupted Charan "Kanti should have substituted 'Immediately' for the two words at once and insterted his name. That would have been clearer" Gordhandass nodded "yes, the language is obscure, but still one thing is clear that money is coming and it is not a small sum or else Kanti would not have spent Rs. 1-4. By spending the amount he has established his share. Yes, I would give him something." "But father" interrupted Charan again, "how can it be the pre-emption suit? The bun-

REGISTRATION OF DOCUMENTS

Amendments Gazetted

Last Friday's Gazette publishes the draft of a Bill to effect the following amendments in the First Schedule to the Registration of Documents Ordinance, No. 23 of 1927:—

(1) the increase to Rs. 20 of the fee charged by item 9 of Part 1 for the registration of an instrument presented to the Registrar General under section 29 of the Ordinance;

(2) the repeal of the Proviso to item 2 of Part III; the effect of this repeal will be that the fee charged under that item for the inspection of any book or index will always be Re. 1 and that no reduction will be made in any special case;

(3) the addition in Part III of a new item 2A under which a fee of 50 cents will be charged upon any application for a copy of or extract from any deed or folio.

galow was purchased in the name of Hem and Sivji and as such the court would have insisted on their presence and not yours."

The whole family was now baffled by this new argument. There was a silence for a few minutes broken by the thoughtful murmuring of Gordhandass.

"What can it be, what can it all be about" and then as if he had sensed a snake crawling over his feet he jumped up bursting "I have found it out. A fool not to think of it before it is all about Jamshedpore. The pre-emption suit that I was requested by those people to institute and the land I sold them in return as a bargain. The rogues, they paid me rupee one per yard and now selling it at rupees three per yard. Now I will settle things with them. The court has found some defect in the proceedings and through some legal issue I have been declared the rightful owner of some money deposited by them with the court."

"But father" Charan's voice was a bit pleading and taunting this time "do not stay there a minute after receiving the amount. The money which the court is giving to you belongs by equity to some one else"

"Yes, yes, I know all that, no sermon now. Did you see the time Sivji."

"But father," replied Sivji, "are you sure, that the telegram is from Kanti. Can't it be from Paras Ram as well? He is employed at the same station."

The simple words had the effect of a bomb-shell upon Gordhandass. His face turned pale as if he had seen a ghost, his fist clenched and the whole body trembled. "Curse him, curse him it is the same fellow." Uncontrolled words were involuntarily rushing out of his mouth. "He asked me to institute a suit in his name and it is decided in his favour and now he desires me to draw his money."

(Roy's Weekly)

CANNING OF FRUIT

DEMONSTRATION OF METHODS

JAFFNA MANGO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

METHODS used in the domestic canning of fruit were demonstrated by Dr. A. W. R. Joachim, Chemist of the Agricultural Department, at a largely attended meeting of the Jaffna Mango Growers' Association held at Farm School, Jaffna, on Wednesday.

Adigar Naganathar presided.

Dr. Joachim said there was a great future for that industry in Ceylon for home consumption as a cottage industry. He said that plantains found ready market in Europe. He detailed the process of canning pineapples.

He urged the people to adopt bottling of fruits for home consumption, as cans were expensive and the bottles and the lids might be used for years over and over again. Bottling again did not require any machinery and could easily be handled by any one at home.

Dr. Joachim answered many questions put by the audience.

Proposed Show

Mr. S. K. Thuraisingam, sub-Divisional Agricultural Officer, reviewed the work of the Mango Growers' Association for the past year.

He urged the members of the Association to take a keen interest in the working of the Association and make an endeavour to enlist all mango growers to join the Association.

The proposed Mango Show was to find out best varieties that were grown in Ceylon for internal and external trade. He proposed that the sales of mangoes both in the South Ceylon and in foreign countries should be undertaken by a Co-operative Association.

Mr. Lewis Subramaniam, Managing Director, Jaffna Co-operative Bank, seconded the proposals.

KATARAGAMA PILGRIMS THONDAR SABHAI

Annual Meeting

The 13th annual general meeting of the Kataragama Pilgrims Thondar Society was held at the Society's hall, No. 66, Forbes Road, Maradana, Mr. K. Rasanayagam, Vice-President, presiding.

After the adoption of the report, the accounts and the revised rules, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—

President: Mr. A. Mahadeva; vice-Presidents: Messrs K. Rasanayagam, K. Nagalingam, K. Mathyaparanam, V. T. S. Sivagurunathan, and S. Somasundaram; Secretary: Mr. K. Gnana-selvam; Assistant Secretary: Mr. V. Sadasivam; Treasurer: Mr. V. T. Suppiappillai; Assistant Treasurer: Mr. V. Ponnusamy; Committee: Messrs. T. Suppiappillai, A. Kandiah, A. Sinnatambay, A. Kandiah, S. Saravanamuttu, S. Saravanamuttu, K. Chellappah, A. V. Nagalingam, V. Nallasegarampillai, S. Saravanamuttu, V. K. Sundarampillai, K. Sithamparapillai, E. Rasanayagam, S. K. Sanmugampillai, and P. Kanagaratnam; Auditors: Messrs. K. K. Ratnam and K. Vaitalingam.

Non-Acceptance of Suggestion for Round Table Conference

Mr. Natesan Appeals for a Settlement

Sinhalese Members Attack Tamil Members' Views

MR. S. Natesan (Kankesanthurai) concluding his speech (which took more than nine hours) on the Reforms proposals, regretted that the suggestion for a Round Table Conference had not been accepted and appealed for an effort towards a settlement even at this stage.

Mr. Sri Sripala Samarakkoddy (Naramala) who followed Mr. Natesan said that if the Governor's proposals were adopted, far from these being an increase of power passing into the hands of the representatives of the people there would be a diminution of power. It was for the House to decide which of the proposals they should adopt and which they should reject. His Excellency's Despatch contained several home truths, which would become unpalatable to unscrupulous politicians. The whole pathetic story of certain members was that His Excellency had been unduly influenced by the Board of Ministers. His Excellency had given the opportunity not to one community but to all the communities to make their representations on the matter. The member for Point Pedro himself had led a deputation of the minorities. Why did he go to the Governor instead of asking for a Royal Commission?

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam: Might I know how the member presumes that we did not ask for a Royal Commission?

Mr. Samarakkoddy: I say here and now that the idea of a Royal Commission has come in because His Excellency's proposals did not meet with their approval.

Mr. Samarakkoddy, continuing, said that of all the people, who led deputations to the Governor with regard to the reform of the constitution, the Member for Point Pedro had been given special preference by the Governor in that he was allowed to lead two deputations. Even on the basis of population the Tamils were over-represented in Council at present whereas the Muslims were unrepresented. Besides, some of the Northern constituencies were smaller than the electorates in the Low-Country. The cry of balanced representation or weightage was the Tamil demand for a few more seats. To add some strength to their cry they now tried to speak on behalf of all the minorities. If it was only a question of seats the Sinhalese leaders could be more generous but, if any more seats were given to the Tamils, it should be clearly understood that it was not at the expense of any other community.

Pan-Sinhalese Ministry

Mr. Samarakkoddy, referred to the feeling against the Sinhalese, which, he said, had grown because there was not a single minority member on the Board of Ministers. As a Sinhalese he was the first to denounce the action of the leaders for that state of affairs. Recounting the events that led up to the formation of the Pan Sinhalese

Ministry, he said that the member for Point Pedro had stated in a Press interview that, when Sir W. Duraiswamy approached him for support for the Speakership, he demanded an undertaking that he would support the Tamil demands, but, as Sir Waitialingam was not prepared to do that, he did not support him. Mr. Ponnambalam had wanted members of a group formed, after the last elections, to take an oath to oppose Sir D. B. Jayatilaka and Mr. D. S. Senanayake in the Ministerial elections. The Member for Point Pedro had, therefore, directly contributed to the formation of the Pan-Sinhalese Board of Ministers.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam rose to make a remark.

The Deputy Speaker: You always appealed to the courtesy of the House when you were speaking. You must extend the same courtesy to the Member for Naramala.

Mr. Samarakkoddy, continuing, said that it was necessary to have those things in the Hansard so that the Secretary of State and Members of Parliament reading the marathon speeches might not be misled.

Mr. Ponnambalam: On a point of order is it right for a member to charge another member of deliberately misleading Members of Parliament?

The Deputy Speaker: The member did not state that the statements were made to mislead this Council.

Mr. Ponnambalam: To mislead the authorities in Whitehall.

The Deputy Speaker: I think that is in order.

Mr. Samarakkoddy, continuing, said that among the charges of discrimination made was the administration of the Buddhist Temporalities by the Public Trustee, which was a charge on the revenue. Queen Victoria had repeatedly and in unmistakable terms declared, by means of Despatches, that the clauses of the Convention of 1815 would be adhered to and honoured. The Buddhist clergy, however, were prepared at present to pay the exact cost of the administration of the temporalities.

"Plum of Office"

Mr. Samarakkoddy, continuing, said that those who tried to make out that the Sinhalese were selfish and dealt unfairly by the minorities, ignored the fact that in spite of the State Council consisting of a majority of Sinhalese members, the plum of office—that of the Speaker—was given by them to a Tamil gentleman.

To show that there was no racial feeling in the Executive Committee of Local Administration and the Sinhalese Maha Sabha, he quoted the number of minority members nominated to the various Urban District Councils in the Island. The

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WILL SUPPORT POLAND AGAINST GERMANY

Mr. Chamberlain's Statement of Policy

ANGLO-FRENCH PLEDGE TO POLAND AND RUMANIA

London, Friday.

Anticipating the fuller statement which he hopes to make when the present consultations with other Governments have reached their conclusion, the Prime Minister made an important statement just before the House of Commons rose this afternoon.

The statement was designed to dispel the anxieties arising from the rumours which were in circulation yesterday and to satisfy the growing desire in Parliament for an early indication of the Government's position relative to the situation in Europe.

It was directed to the immediate situation and to those areas with reference to which speculation is, at the present time, most active. It dealt with current rumours and, as the Prime Minister emphasised in a supplementary answer was meant to cover the interim period until the consultations, now in progress, have been completed. There is as yet no indication when the Prime Minister will be in a position to make a fuller statement.

Force Unjustified

Today's announcement fell into three parts: It began by denying that there was any official confirmation of the rumours of a projected attack on Poland and by disclaiming the idea that the British Government was inclined to assume that the rumours were true. It went on to restate the belief of the British Government in the method of discussions and peaceful negotiation for a settlement of the differences between the nations and, therefore, by implication, of any differences between Germany and Poland.

"In the opinion of His Majesty's Government, there should be no question incapable of solution by peaceful means and it sees no justification for the substitution of force or threats of force for the method of negotiation," declared the Premier.

Finally came the declaration of Anglo-French support for Poland during the period before consultations with other Governments are concluded, in case the Polish Government decided to resist any clear threat to Polish independence.

The vital passage—to which Mr. Chamberlain added the intimation that he has been authorised to state that the French Government stood in the same position as did the British—was as follows:—

"In order to make perfectly clear the position of His Majesty's Government in the meantime, before those consultations are concluded, I now have to inform the House that, during that period in the event of any action which clearly threatened Polish independence and which the Polish Government, accordingly, considered it vital to resist with its national forces, His Majesty's Government would feel itself bound at once to lend the Polish Government all the support in Britain's power. The Polish

Government has been given an assurance to this effect."

The question to which the Premier's statement gave rise afforded him an opportunity of elaborating it in respect of the consultations with the Russian and Polish Governments. As regards the first, only this morning the Foreign Secretary had another very full discussion with the Soviet Ambassador. M. Jean Maisky, in London, the Premier said he had no doubt that M. Maisky's Government fully understood and appreciated the principles on which the British Government was acting. As regards Poland, Colonel Beck, the Premier pointed out, was arriving in London next week and there would be further discussions.

The Object

Taking a phrase from Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Chamberlain described the object of such discussions with other Governments as discovering means to accumulate maximum cooperation in putting an end to aggression, if aggression should be intended, and the substitution for force and the threat of force of more reasonable and orderly methods of discussion.

As to a conference of the Powers concerned, the British Government approached that matter purely from the angle of what was the most effective and practical way of achieving the objects the Powers had in view.

"The question of a conference is simply a matter of expediency," said Mr. Chamberlain. "We have no theoretical views about conferences. If they do not prove to be the best way and there are other more effective ways of achieving our object, we might dispense with conferences."

The Prime Minister also said that he had no knowledge of any approach by the German Government to Poland with a view to discussions.

The whole statement and supplementary questions and answers occupied 17 minutes. That period ended in dramatic fashion when a Labour member, Mr. Bellenger indicated that as an Opposition speaker he would reserve the right to express doubt on whether Mr. Chamberlain was the most suitable man to lead the new policy. Immediately Mr. Thurtle (also Labour) rose and said; "There may be another Prime Minister who can take charge of the affairs of this country at this hour but, if the present Prime Minister is now genuinely and sincerely convinced, without any mental reservations, that it is necessary to pursue this new policy of rallying the friends of peace, then I think that, in view of his world reputation as a man of peace, he is probably the best man for the job".

Loud Ministerial cheers and some Labour cheers greeted this statement. The House then adjourned until Monday.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1939

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S STATEMENT

THE CONSIDERED STATEMENT which the British Premier made in the House of Commons last Saturday, unequivocally pledging British assistance to Poland and Rumania in the event of German aggression will go a great way towards easing the tension which has prevailed for some time in Europe. During the past week the centre of world interest shifted from Czechoslovakia and Rumania to Poland, from where reports came pouring in of military preparations and troop movements on either side of the German-Polish frontier. The Poles were in fear of a German aggression in the near future. Although authoritative quarters have scouted the suggestion of any demands having been made by Germany, yet the fact that Colonel Beck, the Polish French Minister, is going to London on a diplomatic mission is significant as pointing to the existence of some sharp differences between the Reich and Poland. The German press has been for some time pursuing the tactics which usually preceded all German coups in the past, the circulation of exaggerated reports of oppression of German minorities in Poland and the failure of the Government to do them justice. Unlike Czechoslovakia, Poland is a great military power with vast material resources and a population of 32 millions. She is not in a mood to tamely submit to German dictation and has made no secret of her determination to resist any aggression with all the resources at her command. Poland might be induced to come to an honourable understanding as regards Danzig and the Polish Corridor, but any attempt on the part of Germany to force the issue by threat of force is bound to fail as things now are. Although fear of Germany's might and uncertainty of foreign assistance compelled Rumania to agree to a commercial Pact which places her vast material resources at the disposal of Germany, yet her entering an anti-aggression Pact with the Democracies clearly indicates that her sympathies are with them and she will not submit to German might. Germany's bad faith towards Czechoslovakia has led to a considerable hardening of world opinion against her. MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S policy of tacit acquiescence in the aggression of the Dictators has bred an

intense dissatisfaction which expressed itself very recently in a resolution tabled in the Commons demanding the formation of a National Government to cope with the threatening situation in Europe. It is partly to assure the British public of his Government's determination to stand up to the Dictators and to resist all further aggression that the Premier has made his historic pronouncement in the House of Commons. The statement has had the effect of allaying all fears of a vacillating policy and of rallying all parties to the support of the Government. It further gives an unmistakable proof of Britain's preparedness for a war with the Totalitarian states. France and Britain are fast filling up all gaps in their defences. Britain is already in a position to put 32 divisions on the continent in the event of a war. British and French diplomacy are already busy forming a solid anti-aggression bloc which will be shortly announced. The American fear of a second Munich becomes unfounded in the light of these facts. The statement, we feel no doubt, will go a great way to create that confidence in the minds of the small States which the events of the past year entirely destroyed. What is more important, it may also help to cry halt to the vaulting ambitions of the Dictators, or at least make them hesitant.

Civil Service Transfers

The following transfers will be made in the Civil Service today: Mr. K. Kanagasundram, Assistant Government Agent, Badulla to be Assistant Government Agent, Ratnapura. Mr. L. Jeyasundara, Office Assistant, Batticaloa Kachcheri, to be Assistant Government Agent, Badulla. Mr. C. Subramaniam, Extra Office Assistant, Batticaloa Kachcheri, to act as Office Assistant.

Seven New Doctors

Seven doctors are listed in the results of the Medical College examinations held last month. The pass list is:— Final Examination.— First Class (in order of merit): S. E. Seneviratne, V. Sandirasegaram, H. C. H. Soysa and J. A. L. Nelson, Second Class: H. Z. G. O. Senanayake, Ordinary Class: B. T. Jayasekera. H. A. Mendis completes the examination. The abovenamed candidates have fulfilled the requirements for the licence in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery. The following pass in the subjects stated:—K. Supramaniam, Midwifery; T. Visvalingam, Surgery and Midwifery.

CONGRESS AND MINORITIES

COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE

TAMIL LEADERS LEAVE FOR COLOMBO

Colombo, Sunday.

After a lengthy discussion yesterday the Executive Committee of the National Congress decided to accept, in an amended form, a notion brought by Mr. Stanley de Zoysa proposing negotiations with leaders representing minority interests, in order to secure their support for the Congress policy.

In the course of the discussion on Mr. Zoysa's original motion an amendment was suggested and this was unanimously passed.

The following is the amended motion:—

"That whereas the Ceylon National Congress is, and has always been, anxious to ensure for the peoples of this country, their due share in the government of the country, and equality of opportunity in public affairs the Executive Committee of the Congress appoints the following sub-committee to negotiate with leaders and organisations representative of minority interest and to secure their support for the Congress policy:— "Sir D. B. Jayatilaka, Messrs. D. S. Senanayake, C. W. W. Kannangara, E. A. P. Wijeratne, J. N. Jinendradasa, J. R. Jayawardene and Stanley de Zoysa (Convener)"

Memorandum to Whitehall

A motion by Mr. V. C. Perera suggesting that a memorandum should be sent to the Governor and the Secretary of State for the Colonies embodying the resolutions passed at the special sessions of the Congress was adopted and the following were appointed to draft it:—

Sir D. B. Jayatilaka, Messrs. C. W. W. Kannangara, E. A. P. Wijeratne, Victor C. Perera and Stanley de Zoysa.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Congress was held at "Treleaven," Union Place. Mr. D. S. Senanayake presided in the absence of Sir Baron who is ill.

Sir Baron's Illness

Sir Baron Jayatilaka, was taken suddenly ill yesterday afternoon.

Owing to this the Conference on the Reforms question between certain Jaffna Tamil leaders and a group consisting of Sir Baron, Mr. D. S. Senanayake and Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, which was to have taken place at the residence of Sir Baron at 7 p.m. yesterday did not take place.

The Conference has therefore

NO CINEMA SHOWS DURING DISTRESS

Batticaloa U. D. C. Stops Licence

Batticaloa, Thursday.

Owing to the distress prevailing in the town, the Batticaloa Urban Council decided at its last meeting that no licence should be issued for holding cinema shows in the town during the months of April, May and June. This decision was arrived at by the Council after considering a letter from Mr. K. Santhiapillai regarding the cinema shows being held daily in the town by a talkie company.

Treatment For Opium Addicts

Calcutta, March 30

A doctor from the School of Tropical Medicine at Calcutta, will shortly leave for Assam in connection with the treatment of opium addicts.

The School of Tropical Medicine has evolved a successful line of treatment for opium addiction and succeeded in helping addicts to get rid of opium and morphine habits.

been postponed till 10.30 this morning, when it is expected that Sir Baron will be enough to attend.

Leaders Leave for Colombo

Jaffna, Saturday

Mr. Sam Sabapathy, Chairman of the Urban District Council, and Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Advocate, Joint Secretaries of the Jaffna Association, and Mr. N. Chelvadurai, Secretary of the first All Ceylon Tamil Conference, left Jaffna this morning by car for Colombo for an informal conference on the subject of Tamils and the Reforms with Sir Baron Jayatilaka, D. S. Senanayake and Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike.

The conference is fixed for tonight between seven o'clock and nine.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai, Vice-President of the Jaffna Association, seen by the "Observer" correspondent, declined to make any comments, adding that it is too premature to make any statement.

It is learned, however, that Sir Baron Jayatilaka telegraphed early last week to Mr. Kanagasabai inviting representatives of the Association to exchange views on the Reforms. Mr. Kanagasabai placed the telegram before the Committee.

In the meantime Mr. Sabapathy and others decided to proceed to Colombo in their individual capacity to confer and ascertain the proposals of the Sinhalese leaders, which may be placed before the Committee of the Jaffna Association.

Mr. A. Mahadeva arrived in Jaffna this morning. Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam is expected on Monday.

HOW FREEDOM COULD BE WON IN THE STATES

**"By Suffering Service of
the Poor"**

GANDHIJI'S ANSWER TO CIVIL RESISTERS

Bombay, April 1.

THOSE who lightly talk of freedom in the States and hope to attain it through civil resistance do not know what they are talking about", writes Mr. Gandhi in the "Harijan" today, answering certain civil resisters who were disappointed over the suspension of Jaipur civil disobedience and "who are not as enthusiastic to tackle a constructive programme."

Mr. Gandhi says, "swaraj within the States will not be obtained by any non-violent trick. It will be won if it is to be won by non-violence of the strong and by hard work, patient, mute, and suffering service of the poor hungry forsaken of society."

HOW EGYPT WON INDEPENDENCE

Indians Asked to Unite

Bombay, April 1.

"We hope the Indian would do his best towards his country irrespective of his caste or creed," said the leader of the Egyptian delegation, in the course of a reply at a reception accorded to them by the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee.

The junction was largely attended, including the Premier of Bombay and other Ministers.

Premier Kher in a speech hoped that the present visit of the delegation would be a precursor of many more visits by representatives of Egypt. He requested the delegation to convey to Egypt the good wishes of India.

No Minorities

Later addressing a meeting of the Muslim Students' Union, the delegation declared, "We Egyptians have achieved independence mainly because of the unity of Egyptians. We did not think in terms of minorities as Muslims or Christians. We are only sixty million people, but we stood as one man and fought for our freedom."

"India will be free on the day that all her people unite. Indian freedom will be the freedom of all Indian and Arabic countries."

District Judge, Batticaloa

Mr. N. Sinnathamby, the Galle Magistrate, has left for Batticaloa as District Judge.

Broadcasting

**AKASH-VANI,
MYSORE**

This Week's Programme

Wavelength: 70.2 Meeters. Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

CALL SIGN: V. U. 7. M. C.

Monday, the 3rd April, 1939

6 p.m. Hindustani Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6.40 p.m. Child Welfare: "Value of Early Training"
7 to 8-30 p.m. Karnatic Instrumental Music

Tuesday, the 4th April 1939

6 p.m. Nagaswaram
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6.40 to 7 p.m. Kannada Talk: "Var-nashrama Dharma" by Mr. A. S. Viswanatha Sastry (By the courtesy of Mysore State Parliament)
7 to 8-30 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music

Wednesday, the 5th April 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Veena Recital by Vidwan Narayana Iyer and Party

Thursday, the 6th April 1939

6 p.m. Comic Selections
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Radio Play: "Utharagograhana" by Sri Saraswathi Prasadika Nataka Sabha conducted by Mr. M. V. Sivappa

Friday, the 7th April 1939

6 p.m. Orchestral Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6.45 p.m. Hindusthani Music
7-30 p.m. "Qirat"
8 p.m. Selections from (Urdu) Humorous Poetry by Mir Noor Husaine, Esq., B.A.

Saturday, the 8th April 1939

6 p.m. Violin
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements
7 to 8-45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Vidwan K. Venkatasubba-Avadhani, and Party

Sunday, the 9th April 1939

No Broadcast.

THE NORTHERN ASSIZES

Ninth Case

The ninth case taken up for trial at the Northern Assizes was from Irupalai in which Arumugam Ponniah stands charged with the murder, by stabbing, of Vallipuram Kandiah.

Case Proceeding.

Ministers' Congratulations to Re-Converts

No Breach of Neutrality, Says Madras Premier

At question time in the Madras Assembly Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai enquired whether it is a fact that some Ministers recently sent messages of congratulations to certain Christian families re-converted to Hinduism at Devakotta and what steps the Government proposed to take to allay the fears of the members of the Christian community in regard to the neutrality of the Government in religious matters.

The Prime Minister replied as follows: Certain Harijan families in Devakottai taluk, who had recently adopted Christianity as a result of caste oppression, known by the name of Nattar-Harijan trouble, went back to their old forms of worship and prayer. A formal public ceremony was gone through to mark the re-union of their families with their relatives who had continued in Hinduism.

"On this occasion a message was asked of me and I sent one. I presume this would have been asked of me even if I had not been Premier. I do not think my message could possibly amount to a breach of the Government's neutrality in regard to religions. My attachment to Hinduism and my desire for the removal of Untouchability are consistent with the greatest regard and love for Christianity and those who profess it. My worshipful attitude towards Christ and His teaching was not inconsistent with the message I sent on this occasion, which was not sent as from a Premier but from a Hindu. I framed my greetings in words, which particularly emphasised that the change over should not be in expectation of any material gain or advantage. I assure the hon. member that he need have no apprehensions that liberty of faith will be jeopardised by me in any way.

"A copy of the message I sent is placed on the table. It embodies my personal opinion and has nothing to do with the Government. The same may be said of the other messages."

The following is the text of the message: "I am pleased to learn that so many Harijan families feel that they should go back to the faith of their ancestors. Our ancient Dharma is the clearest and shortest way to the Divine. If the heads of these families have felt the call and responded without thinking of any worldly profit, it will be a great blessing and event for rejoicing."

In a supplementary question, Mr. Appadurai Pillai submitted that the latter part of his interpellation as to the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to allay the fears of the Christian community, had not been answered.

The Prime Minister: The answer I have just now given ought to allay the feeling.

"DIFFERENCES SUPERFICIAL"

"NO ROOM FOR DESPAIR"
SAYS SPEAKER

IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION

"I COME from the north to south, but personally I do not make any difference between north and south, west and east, for we all come from the same Mother Lanka, one country," remarked Sir Waitalingam Duraiswamy, speaking at the prize distribution of Mahinda College, Galle, on Friday.

He added: "The different points of the compass should be ignored. I consider that the difference in race and language is also superficial."

He said that it was a great pleasure to visit that beautiful town and that beautiful college.

They worked on the same soil, he said, and adopted the same methods of agriculture, and all other work of theirs was almost identical. He could not, therefore, conceive any difference between the people of this country. There might be differences in views and work and colour and form, but those were all, as their great teacher Buddha taught, impermanent.

It is a great satisfaction for him to see the ideals of the great founders of the college being carried on there. As long as devotion to religious and moral teachings existed there was no fear of communal strife. As long as those ideals were brought to practical life (it was no doubt a difficult thing to achieve) there was no room for despair.

Sir Waitalingam paid a tribute to the great work Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya was doing for education. He also paid a tribute to the Principal and Staff of the College and invited them to his "Alma Mater", Jaffna Hindu College. He exhorted the boys to give the benefit of what they learnt at school to their country.

Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya, in proposing a vote of thanks said that Sir W. Duraiswamy was the greatest living son of the North today.

INDISCRIMINATE USE OF BICYCLES

Restriction on Use by Under-aged Boys

Mr. H. S. Ratwatte (Member for Kegalle) has given notice of the following motion in the State Council:

"In view of the large number of accidents occurring in towns by the indiscriminate use of push bicycles, this Council is of opinion that restrictions should be imposed to prevent bicycles being used by under-age boys and inexperienced persons."

Non-Acceptance of Suggestion for Round Table Conference

(Continued from page 3)

member representing the Muslim interests in the State Council. Mr. A. R. A. Bazak, had openly acknowledged the generous treatment accorded by the Sinhalese members to his own community.

"A Campaign"

Continuing, Mr. Samarakkody said that there was ample evidence in the Governor's Despatch to prove the effectiveness with which His Excellency had discovered the selfish considerations that underlay the communal cries. There were minority members, who said one thing inside that House and a different thing outside. The Member for Mannar, for instance, had informed him that he did not believe in the fifty-fifty cry of the Tamil community. But that same member came to the Council and made a different statement in order to join hands with the Member for Point Pedro. At present the Member for Point Pedro was carrying on a certain campaign in this country and on that account the other members from the North were afraid of what the Member for Point Pedro might do against them. The latter could go to the other members' constituencies and tell those people that he had gone even as far as England to get more seats for the Tamils but the other Tamil members did not support him.

Mr. Samarakkody said that he admitted that, on a numerical basis the Muslims were quite under-represented in the State Council. He next went on to condemn the Committee System and quoted the views expressed editorially in the Jaffna Hindu Organ, a periodical representing Hindu public opinion in this Island, in which, too, the Committee System was condemned.

Mr. Siripala Samarakkody, continuing, said that there was no distrust on the part of communities since the introduction of the Constitution. Those statements had been made by a few disgruntled politicians to achieve their own ends.

Mr. Samarakkody said that an attempt had been made by the Europeans and the Minority Communities to ask for a Commission on the ground that the country was heading for financial bankruptcy, on account of the ill-considered schemes financed by the Board of Ministers.

That was engineered by the European Association and some capitalists, and the signatories were Messrs. R. L. Pereira, C. G. C. Kerr, Sir John Tarbat, Sir Mohamed Macan Markar, Messrs. E. G. Adamaly, F. Chandiram and several others.

The Secretary of State carefully considered those accusations and they now knew what reply the memorialists received.

"A few irresponsible and discredited leaders of various Communities were inveigled by the Europeans to sign that memorial. They thought their bluff would go down with the Secretary of State.

The only hope therefore was a Royal Commission, which was raised by that ablest advocate of communalism in this country, the member for Point Pedro.

It is clear as daylight that the only way to get the Commission was on the ground that the Finan-

cial stability of the country was heading for disaster.

Mr. Samarakkody said that the desire of the Sinhala Maha Sabha was not to bring about disaffection among the various communities.

Not A Word

He himself had attended 30 or 32 propaganda meetings of the Maha Sabha and not a single word had been uttered to bring about disaffection. The proceedings of the meeting at Anuradhapura had been deliberately misrepresented in the local newspapers.

Mr. Ponnambalam: Not contradicted.

Mr. Samarakkody said that contradictions had come. They were not being unmindful of the higher unity of every section of the people of this country.

It had been represented by Mr. Ponnambalam that the Executive Committee system was a necessary safeguard to the interests of the minorities, but public opinion, as reflected in the "Hindu" was against it.

Mr. R. Sri Pathmanathan (Mannar) on a point of personal explanation balanced representation was incorrect.

Mr. Dudley Senanayake (Dedigama) said that he did not intend to make a other marathon speech. He blamed the Minister of Education for not having extended proper educational facilities to the North, to teach their representatives how best to express their thoughts in the minimum of words.

After listening to the "people George" and the "pugnacious French poodle" from Point Pedro he was a little afraid to enter that arena. They knew what a poodle was and what it did.

The phenomenon of a poodle barking for the moon had been enacted in that House.

Mr. Sri Pathmanathan (Mannar) Is it parliamentary to call a member of the House a poodle? (Laughter).

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam (Point Pedro): I do not object, Sir, because I call them puppies.

Mr. Dudley Senanayake: People know who the puppies are.

NOT PROPER

It was a miserable experience, Mr. Dudley Senanayake said, that he underwent in listening to the speech of the Member for Point Pedro.

He was not in any way trying to defend the Governor but it was not proper for members to criticise his conduct as unjust.

Referring to conditions in India, he said that they were in no way similar to conditions existing in the country. The communal conflicts between the Muslims and Hindus were, he said, fanned by the British themselves following their maxim, Divide et impera.

He next quoted from Professor Barjeda Keith and from "white Sahibs of India" and from Subas Chandra Bose to illustrate British policy in India. Communal demands in India were not spontaneous; they were created by outsiders for their own political ends and ambitions when the conditions existing at the time did not warrant communal representation.

Weightage was one thing and balanced representation was an-

other. The arguments of Mr. Ponnambalam regarding weightage did not apply to balanced representation.

They should not blindly exaggerate the conditions prevailing in other countries, he said, after referring to the Muslim and Hindu representation in several towns in India.

The member for Point Pedro had time and again pointed out that the interests of the minorities were not properly looked after by the Executive Committees. The same Member at the next turn had said that the Committee system protected the interests of the minorities. Was that not a political somersault?

He could not conceive how any right thinking Indian could criticise the conduct of the Ceylonese leaders in regard to their attempts to prevent exploitation on the part of foreigners.

He hoped that the members would bear in mind that the foremost issue to be considered in the reform proposals was the question of the Governor's powers. The question of balanced representation did not arise at all.

Mr. Rajah Hewavitarne (Matara) said that on behalf of the Sinhalese he took that opportunity to thank Mr. Ponnambalam for waking up the Sinhalese who were in a state of lethargy.

Sinhalese are not Communal Minded

Mr. Hewavitarne said that as Sinhalese they did not think on communal lines as the Tamils did.

"I wish we were not as tolerant as our religion demands of us. We must think more of ourselves in the future."

Referring to the Indian question, he said that the nominated member Mr. I. X. Pereira had acted the part of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde as regards the Indian Community. But his utterances had done much harm to the country.

When he (Mr. Hewavitarne) was in India last January, he found that those utterances had provoked the people of India. He had been asked to address an assembly about the Indian question. He told them that it was not a racial or communal question but entirely an economic one.

"We must think of our thousands who are unemployed. We ask for a restriction of immigration to enable the people of the soil to obtain employment. Is that asking too much?"

Referring to the Governor's powers, Mr. Hewavitarne hoped the minority members would support them in taking away the powers of the Governor.

Sympathy Wanted

Mr. R. C. Kannangara (Morawaka) said that the minority communities should establish more sympathetic understanding with the other communities, not on a communal basis but by co-operation.

Religious or communal considerations did not enter into the minds of the Sinhalese during elections. He referred to Mr. Freeman's election and his own.

He could not understand why one of the Tamil members had stated that they owed their allegiance to India. If the Jaffna people owed allegiance to India they should get back to India.

"Here is the man (pointing to Mr. I. X. Pereira) who was earning his money from the Sinhalese and has lived for generations in Cey-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

OCCULTATION OF SPICA VISIBLE IN CEYLON

Sir,—There will be an occultation of Spica (Chitra Nakshatra) by the Moon on the 5th April 1939 visible in Ceylon.

The times of Immersion and Emersion for Jaffna are as follows:

Time of Immersion: 1-50 a.m.

Time of Emersion: 2-42 a.m.

Angle of the point of first contact from the North: 169°

Angle of the point of Last contact from the North: 240°

(The hours and minutes are given in Ceylon Standard Time).

Yours truly,

K. S. MAHESASARMA,
(M. B. A. A.)

Karainagar,
30-3-1939.

Auction Sale

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Case No. 5561

Ponnammah widow of Kanthappar Vallipuram of Kokuvil Plaintiff.

Vs.
1. Sithamparanathar Chellappah and
2. wife Thangammah both of Van. East.

Under by virtue of the Commission issued to me in the above case I shall sell by public auction the undermentioned property on Saturday 6th May 1939 commencing at 10 A.M. at the spot.

PROPERTY REFERRED TO ABOVE

(1) An undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ share of all that piece of land situated in the parish of Vannarponnai in Van. East called Manaiyanthari in extent $9\frac{1}{2}$ Lms. V C with stone built house, well cultivated plantations and palmyrahs and bounded on the east by the property belonging to the heirs of Peranpanayagammudaliar Ponniah, North and West by lane and South by the properties belonging to Sinnammah widow of Sabapathipillai and Sinnathamby Thambo and shareholders.

V. SELVADURAI,
Commissioner of Sales,
Valvetty.

1st April 1939.
Mis. 1. 2-4-39.

lon. He owes his allegiance to India. I consider him as a son of the soil where as he says he is not"

Referring to the visit of Mr. Satyamurthi, Mr. Kannangara said that the Member for Hattton had deliberately prevented him from talking to Mr. Satyamburthi. As a planter of thirty years, he would have been in a position to let Mr. Satyamurthi know about the conditions of the Indian labourers.

In regard to the communal cry raised by the members for Point Pedro and Kankasantu Mr. Kannangara said that it was the hand of Jacob and the voice of Esau. They knew from where the cry came.

Mr. Kannangara next referred to the exploitation which he said was being carried on by the Indians.

At 5 p.m. Council adjourned till 2.30 p.m. on May 9th.

ALCOHOL IN RELATION TO HEALTH

(Continued from Page 1)

of giving alcohol to children is not so prevalent in Ceylon as in some European countries, certain well recognized facts may be mentioned. The liver is the organ peculiarly susceptible to damage. Sir Thomas Barlow mentions of a boy of ten with well marked evidence of gin-drinker's liver with dropsy. He had for a long time carried to his father his daily meal of which some spirit was one of the constituents. The father had given the boy little sips of spirit. Again a boy of 4½ years suffered from dropsy and enlarged liver. He had been given little beer for several months. The beer was dropped and suitable remedies given and the boy recovered. Many cases of defects of growth, mental deterioration and paralysis have been recorded from the deleterious effects of even small doses of alcohol when taken by children.

A cause of Evil Habits.

Further all parents and teachers ought constantly to bear in mind that one of the most frequent causes of evil habits and sexual immorality among young people is the taking of alcohol. This is due to the action of even small quantities in damaging self-control, in perverting ideas and thoughts, and in exciting the emotions. The same warning applies to young and still growing men and women when of College age, and for the sake of national morality as well as physique it is clear that in no form whatever should alcohol be used by the young either in childhood or adolescence.

It is a matter of supreme importance to every human being, that he or she should enter the world with a normal body and healthy nervous system. Dr. C. F. Still, the famous Consulting Physician, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, writes as follows:—"Clinical observation suggests that where, before the conception of the child, there has been recent alcoholism in either parent, there is risk of faulty development of the unborn child, and it seems likely, that frequent indulgence in alcoholic drinks, without actual drunkenness, during pregnancy may be prejudicial to the child. I have found as a result of my own observations, as others have from theirs—that sometimes mental deficiency, that most deplorable of developmental failures, occurred in the child through alcoholic indulgence in one parent or in both.

Fundamental Facts

It is the duty of every nation to take steps to enable the new born child to start out upon the adventure of life with a well-built body and a vigorous constitution and particularly to prevent the handicap of deformity and the tragedy of a damaged or ill-developed brain and therefore the fundamental facts should surely be known.

It is a common clinical observation that drinkers are less able to withstand severe infections, particularly pneumonia than are

abstainers. In a series of 3500 cases, the mortality of pneumonia was 50% among excessive drinkers, 35% among moderate drinkers and only 25% among occasional drinkers and abstainers.

Apart from lowered vitality from alcoholism, it has been found that even a small dose lowers immunity or the body's power to resist infection. In a series of patients it was found that the blood of the drinkers however little they drink showed less power to kill typhoid organisms. The resisting power in tuberculosis and streptococcal infections was reduced even more. About 10% of epileptics owe their condition primarily to alcohol taken either by themselves or their parents. According to Garrod gout would be practically unknown with absence of alcohol in any shape coupled with an absence of hereditary predisposition derived from alcohol drinking ancestors.

Workers in lead e. g. printers, plumbers and others, seldom die from lead poisoning if they remain total abstainers.

Lowers Resistance

In the tropics alcohol appears to have a particularly harmful effect in lowering the resistance to disease.

Although there is no definite scientific evidence that alcohol taken in strict moderation has a damaging effect on the body; at the same time, it is impossible to say that any given minimal amount of the drug is quite harmless to our tissues. It is however definitely established that the habitual use of alcohol in frequently repeated, so called moderate doses or in intermittent bouts of drunkenness or prolonged excessive indulgence leads to marked degeneration in the various tissues and organs of the body. Thus may result for example: chronic gastritis and dyspepsia; serious liver damage inducing Cirrhosis an invariably fatal condition, disease of kidneys, arterial degeneration and changes in the heart muscle leading to cardiac failure. Above all, it may lead to permanent mental enfeeblement and gross types of insanity.

Unfortunately quite a number of people of perfectly stable nervous system have after a period of moderate drinking lapsed into inebriety.

There are certain drugs that have a curious tendency to induce a craving for repetition. Although alcohol is one of these, its use by the public generally is so common that it is not regarded as it should be namely, as always a possible danger.

Habit-Forming

We are such "creatures of habit" that we readily become accustomed to any routine, and it is found that a few weeks may afford sufficient time to form the foundation of a deeply rooted habit. It always implies less expenditure of energy to crave than to control. Very many people entirely lack this high faculty of control. The effect of habit upon ourselves and its hereditary influence upon our children, are matters that no person of thought and intelligence can ignore. When taken as a daily drink,

alcohol causes sensations and effects which are soon imagined as a necessary part of life. The stomach becomes dependent on the 'daily dose and disinclined to work without it. When this happens it is time to recognise both the true facts of the case and our bondage to the habit rather than falsely regard alcohol as a 'food' because it induces certain sensations to which we have become accustomed.

It is one of the most prominent characteristics of our modern civilisation that it exerts itself to create "artificial" needs in all directions, physical and mental, and each one of these enlarges the area of human desire. Such needs and desires soon become hereditary. We feel the need of them because our fathers created them.

Admitting that the drunkard is a social misfit, our interest still lies in those users of alcohol who do not become irresponsible or guilty of anti-social acts. Such individuals are to a large extent ignorant of the basic facts about alcohol, that alcohol decreases resistance to infection, such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, that it causes well recognised degenerative diseases in many organs of the body, and that it even predisposes to faulty development and mental deficiency in their offspring.

"Our mental and moral characteristics also," as Darwin remarks, "are the direct outcome of preceding generations, and we, the living generations, are like the living fringe of the coral reef, resting on an extinct basis formed by our forefathers, and shall, in our turn, form a basis for our descendants."

The latest and most authentic statistics in England show that over 10% of all mortality is due to the abuse of alcohol, and fully 20% of all diseases is traceable to this cause; also that 50% of insanity, idiocy and pauperism springs from this source. All authorities agree that 75% of all criminality is caused by the abuse of alcohol.

The prevention of disease is the most notable contribution of the present generation to civilisation. When one considers the weight and implications of the recorded facts about alcohol it becomes the serious duty of Departments of

WARDHA SCHEME OF EDUCATION EXPLAINED

(Continued from page 1)

see that all the children in the villages received education, Gandhiji had evolved this scheme.

Leaky Boat

Mr. Aryanayakam went on to say that the Congress had assumed power in several provinces and the Ministries were bound to work for the regeneration of India. Borrowing the Premier's simile of the leaky boat and the safe boat, Mr. Aryanayagam said that the present system of education was a leaky boat which should be replaced immediately by trusty boat furnished by Gandhiji. Some might ask how this leaky boat had been able to keep afloat for several years. His answer was that it was kept floating by the departments of the Government, which emptied the accumulated water from time to time.

The speaker admitted that the Wardha scheme was not the last word in educational reform. Yet it had great potentialities in it. He, therefore, appealed to the Government and the public to adopt the Basic Education Scheme which was Swadeshi in letter and in spirit. He appealed to the local bodies and the public to create the atmosphere necessary for the introduction of the scheme by the Government.

Messrs C. Rajagopalachari and T. Venkateswara Rao thanked the visitors for their clear elucidation of the Wardha scheme and promised to consider the question of starting a school on the lines of the Wardha scheme, provided the Government had no objection to it. They hoped the Government would do what they could to make the scheme a success.

Public Health and social organisations to use their powers of education to reduce to a minimum the use of beverage alcohol in the cause of national health.

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(M)

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பரிக்கறைப்புக்க காதை)

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Order NisiIN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 710

In the matter of the intestate, estate
and effects of the late Ampala-
vanar Murugesoe of Karaitive
West Deceased.Theiwanaipillai widow of Murugesoe,
Karaitive West Petitioner.

Vs.

Minors
1. Murugesoe Thillainathan
(2. Murugesoe Shanmugalin-
gam
(3. Nageswari daughter of
Murugesu of Karaitive
West Respondents.This matter coming on for disposal
before C. Coomaraswamy, Esquire,
District Judge, Jaffna, on the 6th day
of March 1939 in the presence of Mr.
P. Sabaratnam Proctor on the part of
the petitioner and the affidavit of the
petitioner dated the 23rd day of
February 1939 having been read.It is ordered that the abovenamed
1st respondent be appointed guardian-
ad-litem over the 2nd and 3rd res-
pondents who are minors and the
petitioner be declared the administra-
trix of the estate of the deceased and
that letters of Administration be
issued to her accordingly unless the
respondents or any other person in-
terested shall on or before the 15th
day of May 1939 show sufficient cause
to the satisfaction of this Court to
the contrary.

This 21st day of March 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 97. 30 & 3-3-39.)

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