

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

U. S. Pacific Naval Drive

The Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, indicated that American naval might in the Pacific was about ready to undertake a drive for the positions from which Japanese industrial centres can be brought under a direct and devastating attack. "We are now at the crossroads of the Pacific campaign", he said in a radio broadcast.

U. S. Casualties

The number of announced casualties of the United States armed forces from the outbreak of the war to date is 66,399, the office of War Information reported on Sunday. The total includes those killed, wounded, missing, interned in neutral countries and prisoners-of-war.

Fifty More Hospitals

The conversion of 50 central dispensaries into rural hospitals in the course of the current financial year, as part of the Health Minister's scheme for 250 such institutions, will be undertaken shortly. The Board of Ministers intend, it is understood, introducing a supplementary estimate for the purpose.

Mr. Willkie to Contest Presidency

Mr. Wendell Willkie has decided to campaign actively for the Republican nomination in the 1944 United States Presidential election, says an "authoritative" report in the "New York Herald Tribune". He will enter his name in the key primary election, it is stated, in his drive to capture sufficient delegates to control the Party's National Convention.

Soviet Makes Allowance For Weather Factor

The Soviet High Command has made full allowance for the weather factor, Major-General Zaiter told Reuter when questioned about the coming Spring fighting. "Both frost and thaw were taken into account in planning our winter offensive", he declared and added that he anticipated more frost in the first half of March. "I expect a prolonged lull in the military operations owing to the thaw," he declared. General Belov said: "The real thaw, when it comes, will affect tanks only slightly, though transport will be affected to a greater extent."

RURAL DEVELOPMENT WORK IN CEYLON

DEPARTMENT SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS MADE

THE rural development work as carried out by the Rural Development Branch of the Department of Commerce and Industries at present is in accordance with a complete programme in all aspects of rural development, with special emphasis on economic development, especially the establishment of cottage industries says, the Report on Rural Development for the period April 1941—March 1942, issued by the Department of Commerce and Industries. The work is carried out, says the Report, by special officers appointed for the purpose, called Rural Development Officers, who have been stationed in villages specially selected for this work and called Rural Service Centres. The Officers live in the village under village conditions, and are in daily contact with the activities of the villagers, and show by precept and practice simple remedies for the evils from which the villagers suffer. A copy of the full programme is annexed at the end. It will be seen that the Rural Development Officers are expected to make a direct and concerted attack on five fronts, namely: social, physical, mental, economic and spiritual. The whole work has to be done in a missionary spirit, the movement being maintained on a basis of self-help.

Rural Service Centres

Nine Rural Service Centres were started at the beginning of 1940. Three were added on in the course of the year. Six new centres were established last year (1941). Thus, in all, there are 18 centres working at present. Each centre is manned by 2 or 3 of our Rural Development Officers. The officers use their discretion in planning out the lines of attack for their own centres, and in working them out, but they work under the general guidance and supervision of the Supervising Officer, who visited the centre at the start once a month, and now, visits them at least once in two months. The Deputy Director of the Department, who is in control of the work, vi-

sits the centres about once in three or four months.

Private Organizations

We have attempted to advise private organizations doing rural development work, but our experience is that there have not been many organizations which have a complete scheme of rural development. The conditions in Ceylon are unfortunately such that private organizations cannot carry on on their own unless they are actively helped by the Government. Though this Department has a vote for rural development the use of that vote is restricted, and we are unable to make contributions and thus help private organizations in carrying on their work in their own way.

General Principles

This Department has followed the general principles of Rural Development as enunciated by experts in India. It is not the scheme followed by Mr. F. L. Brayne, C. C. S., in his original experiment in the Gurgaom District of the Punjab, where pressure was brought to bear from above on the villagers by Government Departments in a concentrated effort to improve their conditions. That experiment was not the success expected by Mr. Brayne. When his direct influence was removed, the efforts gradually dwindled in intensity and the villagers more or less fell back to their original condition. But the lessons learnt from the experiment were useful. Mr. Brayne modified his views later as a result of the work done at Gurgaom.

Our efforts are more on the lines of Dr. Spencer Hatch at Martandam, namely, to raise up the villagers from their existing conditions. By a process of expert and intimate counsel we are trying to awaken the peasant mind to a vision of life good in all directions, to a foretaste of its needs and wants, creating thereby a taste in him, a will for self-betterment and a high endeavour to make the vision a

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SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENTS

CO-OPERATIVE UNION'S WORK

"If only the Food Controller can pass an order that none of the agricultural produce grown in Jaffna shall be exported out of the Jaffna peninsula, except through the Union and its affiliated Societies, the black market on chillies and other grains could be stopped at once", observed Mr. V. R. Murugasu, the Secretary of the Northern Division Agricultural Producers' Co-operative Union, Ltd. in his annual report of the work of the Union presented at the first annual general meeting held at the Co-operative Buildings, Jaffna.

Muhandiram M. Krishner, President, took the chair. Mr. G. de Soyza, the Acting Registrar of Co-operative Societies, was present. The Secretary, Mr. V. R. Murugasu, read the first Annual Report of which the following are extracts.

"Just at the start the work of the Union was not an easy one. There were several difficulties which the Union had to overcome, before it could be of any service to any one".

"The nett profits realized by the Union and its affiliated Societies for the year 1942 has been Rs. 39,574.36 compared with the profits of Rs. 12,673.00 for the year 1941. The actual nett profit of the Union is Rs. 8476.07 and if all go well the Union will be in a position to build up a capital of Rs. 100,000/- in a period of 10 years, after which the Union may be in a position to do almost free service to the affiliated Societies, as its maintenance cost can be paid for from the income of its own capital.

"The work and the responsibilities entrusted to the Union in carrying out its object need a great deal of spade work if the Union has to be of real service to the farmer and the consumer as well.

(a) As far as the farmer is concerned, we are not yet in a position to compensate him when his crops go bad due to unforeseen circumstances. The Union must organize some form of an Agricultural Insurance Scheme which will take care of those who lose heavily by attack of insects and bad crops.

(b) The Union and its affiliated Societies must formulate

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AN APPEAL

The occupation of F. M. S. by the enemy has deprived the "Hindu Organ" of the contributions of many of its public spirited subscribers. The inordinate rise in the price of newsprint and printing materials has added to the difficulties of the financial situation of the management. The reduction of the number of pages of the "Hindu Organ" as a retrenchment measure, while causing some displeasure to the subscribers, has not brought any appreciable financial relief. The paper is 54 years of age and in its policy there has always been approval by the public. It is the only paper that voices the sentiments, yearnings and aspirations of the Tamil-speaking public of Ceylon. It reflects the tolerant, broad-minded, all embracing out-look of the Hindu faith and maintains an attitude of impartiality in all things. It is felt that the intensification of its mission is an urgent need of the time.

The Saiva Paripalana Sabha hereby appeals to the present subscribers of the "Hindu Organ" to assist the management by (1) influencing their friends to join as subscribers (2) paying up the arrears where due.

By doing so they will be helping in a national cause.

Donations will be thankfully received and acknowledged.

1-3-43.

MANAGER.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1943.

SHORTAGE OF LABOUR

THE MINISTERS SEEM TO BE determined to ignore the shortage of labour which is being experienced by almost every branch of agriculture. Even members of the State Council have gone to the length of asserting that there is no such shortage. The reasons for this obtuseness are not far to seek. After the disclosure made by Mr. Venkatarama Sastri, the public of this island can no longer be in doubt as to the motives that have inspired Ministerial policy in this matter. Whatever the consequences may be, the Ministers are determined to make no concession likely to persuade the Government of India to lift its ban on the emigration of Indian labour to Ceylon. As long as they persist in this attitude, we see little hope of any appreciable improvement in the food position. The Board of Ministers have, in some measure, tried to avert the consequences of their own policy by fixing the price of paddy at four rupees. Scarcity of farm labour was bound to be reflected in

the increased price of paddy which would, in its turn, lead to much heart-searching among the people themselves as to the wisdom of the policy of exclusive Singhalese nationalism which the Ministers have evidently made up their minds to cultivate at any cost. Even the Singhalese people may not feel disposed to support such a policy under these circumstances. The only course open to Mr. D. S. Senanayake, consistently with his declared policy, was to keep the price of paddy down to the lowest possible level, so that none might complain that his policy was leading the country to the verge of starvation.

In the conference had at Jaffna with the landowners under the Karachehi Irrigation Scheme, Mr. Senanayake put forward a strong plea for their co-operation in keeping the price of paddy down to a reasonable level—a plea with which we strongly sympathised. If, however, the control of prices is the only contribution the Board of Ministers are making towards the solution of the problem of food, without trying to ascertain fairly and fully the real reasons for the present unsatisfactory state of production and trying to meet them at least half way, the result may for the present avert the consequences to the Ministers themselves of their ill-considered policy but it will not help the cause of food production. Food sufficient for the people of this island cannot be produced with the labour available at present, and the fixation of prices without any regard for labour conditions and the steep rise in the prices of all other commodities will retard production instead of increasing it. We regret that at the present juncture the Ministers should have thought it fit to experiment with a policy which is bound to affect adversely the production of food. We fail to see how members of the State Council, whose capacity for managing their own estates is open to question, can give the country a wise lead in this matter.

Do the Ministers know that all this talk of cultivation by the State of lands belonging to owners who fail to cultivate them will be regarded as nothing more than foolish bluff unless they are in a position to find the labour needed for the purpose? Have they tried to find out whether labour is available in sufficient numbers and quality to meet this demand? What is the actual strength of farm labour they have mobilised for this purpose? Often we have urged in these columns that, if the Ministers are determined to exclude imported labour, they must mobilise the labour available locally. With a good percentage of the population doing nothing in the matter of producing more food, and utterly disinclined to help in this direction, the only alter-

native for any Government mindful of its duty is to use force. But the Ministers have reserved the use of this weapon exclusively for landowners, while in every village in Ceylon there are more loafers than labourers. Here again it is politics that is responsible for Ministerial inactivity. Even the loafers have votes: this is where the shoe pinches.

A COW FOR EVERY HOUSEHOLD

It is reported that the Milk Committee has decided to encourage the keeping of one or two cows by every household in Ceylon for the purpose of drawing the family's milk supply and thereby increasing the milk supply of the country with a view to popularising the consumption of fresh milk. This is a laudable project which should certainly go to improve the health of the population if the authorities can successfully work out a scheme whereby at least fifty percent of the households in Ceylon could be persuaded each to keep a cow to draw its milk supply.

To buy a cow is not a difficult proposition, but maintaining it is really a problem. The scheme might seem practicable in the wet zone of the country, but it is an economically difficult problem in the dry zone, particularly in North Ceylon where green fodder is difficult to obtain at least during half the year, and even if it were available its cost would be so prohibitive as to be beyond the means of the average household. The wet zone, on the other hand, is so lavishly favoured by nature in this respect that grass can be had throughout the year. Grass is the staple food of the cow. Other foods such as bran, poonac etc are costly supplements which no doubt help to increase the milk yield of a cow.

In the North, for more than six months in the year, the cow will have to be fed at a cost that would hardly be compensated for by the milk it yields. If the authorities can solve the problem of fodder and make it available at an economic price there need then be no farther inducement for the people to keep cows for their family's use. Tradition enjoins on every Hindu household to keep at least a cow and to look upon it with all reverence. Though it may not be so widely prevalent in Jaffna as in the past, this custom can still be observed in some rural households of the peninsula; the cow is looked upon as a sacred object of the household, the members of which worship the cow and feed it before they themselves take their meals. This ancient custom is to this day observed in the several Hindu villages of India where the cow receives all attention and veneration at the hands of unsophisticated villagers who are adequately repaid in the form of milk and milk products

which form an essential part of a Hindu's diet. With this traditional background and circumstances made favourable, every one will naturally welcome the idea of being enabled to keep a cow in one's home and to enjoy the milk drawn from one's pet cow.

As we pointed out, the chief difficulty which the authorities will have to tackle, in their milk drive, is the ensuring of an adequate supply of grass and other cattle fodder. If the extensive waste lands in the country can be converted into rich pasture lands, and some of them into grass fields cultivated with the help of irrigation to provide grass for the dry months, the problem of feeding the cow, we believe, can be solved to some extent. If the cost of maintaining a cow were made as low as possible, the campaign which the Milk Committee has decided upon should certainly meet with appreciable success.

The problem of finding a means of disposing of a householder's surplus milk, when the scheme begins to work well, seems to worry the Milk Committee. This problem, according to the scheme, will not be felt acutely at the start either in towns or in rural areas. Let the Committee, therefore, first help the country to produce as much milk as possible with the village cows, as they propose to, leaving the problem of surplus milk to be tackled when it actually arises. As things are, there cannot be a surfeit of milk in this country. The Committee would be well advised to increase production and create a demand as well by popularising the consumption of fresh milk. The economic law of supply and demand will solve the problem automatically. Let the Committee aim at larger and cheaper supply of milk. That should be the ideal to be aimed at. We shall watch with interest the activities of the Milk Committee in the direction they have decided upon. It is a scheme that deserves all support and encouragement from the public on whose behalf and for whose benefit it is to be launched.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CHANGES

Dr Ian Sandeman, First Assistant Director of Education who has been for some time engaged in censorship work, has now reverted to the Education Department and assumed duties as acting Director of Education.

Mr. S. L. B. Kapukotuwa is acting as First Assistant, Mr. R. J. F. Mendis who has been recalled from his A. R. P. work, is acting as Second Assistant and Mr. K. Arulmandhy, as Third Assistant.

Mr. C. J. de Saram, who was acting as Third Assistant, will continue to function as an additional Assistant Director until the retirement of Mr. J. Bleakley who is now acting as Superintendent of Examinations.

Mr. J. C. Wijekoon, who was acting as First Assistant has retired from service.

THE DOWRY SYSTEM TO ALL CONTEMPLATING MATRIMONY

By A. Arulambalam.

Dowry is the property which a woman brings to her husband upon marriage. It has been the practice and a tradition among all people, with a few notable exceptions, to grant a dowry to a bride at the time of her marriage. The reasons for the giving of a dowry, as far as we can gather, have been the desire for helping a newly married couple in the fresh responsibilities which they undertake and also the manifestation of the love which the bride's parents have towards their beloved daughter who from hence is to leave their family—her old home—and become a member of the husband's family. But a tendency which was always present has now greatly developed among certain class of people to demand a dowry from the bride's parents in consideration of marriage, and sometimes the bride's parents vie with one another, in giving considerable property as dowry to their daughters. One does not really know the reason for this. It may be that there are more girls than boys in a certain country and therefore the young men are able to pick and choose among many marriageable girls. (The war is creating such a problem in many countries.) It may be that the number in either description of sex is equal but many men prefer to be bachelors. Perhaps it may be that the quality of young men as compared to young girls is comparatively poor and therefore anxious parents are only too eager to seize the opportunity of securing the few excellent young men that are available as husbands for their fair daughters by paying a large prize. Perhaps the real reason for the demanding of a dowry, from the standpoint of young men, is that they consider the majority of young ladies as merely beautiful ornaments which are only fit to decorate the drawing room, requiring constant and considerable polishing, and therefore expensive items in the family budget. It is worthwhile examining these and other matters further.

Female Education

The education which is imparted to girls in schools today is more ornamental than useful. They are taught to enunciate correctly, to speak with a refined accent, to dress fashionably, and to play the piano—or some other musical instrument—to perfection. All this is good, but the matter should not end there. Girls should also receive more and more technical training for motherhood and should receive instruction in useful house-keeping. Otherwise they will be a mere decoration to the home and will fail to be of any valuable assistance to their young husbands battling their way through life, and the irresistible demand for receiving a fat dowry to pay the servant, the cook, and the ayah will ever remain.

The Spirit of Democracy

An ornamental education presupposes a class with plenty of money and leisure with little or no need to work. The privileged class is taught to employ its leisure in ways most agreeable to itself and one finds the members of this class often in garden parties and club functions. On the other hand, the working class is taught to employ its labour in ways that are useful to others (the privileged class), and we find the mem-

bers of this section attending to the duties of the rich housewife. The spirit of democracy demands a more balanced education which will give all equal opportunities, giving the ornamental class more useful knowledge and the working class more delightful knowledge.

Evils of a Sophisticated Society

Such a balanced education has its virtues even from a practical point of view. Fine ladies are charming to contemplate, but the war has been an eye-opener to most ladies & gentlemen. During the air raids in Colombo and elsewhere when the servants and cooks deserted their houses the ladies and gentlemen were left in a serious predicament. They were for the first time initiated into the mysteries of cooking and house-keeping and were convinced more than ever, that the best accomplishment for both parties was to know something by which one could help one self without depending on the services of another, to cook, nurse the child, wash the clothes and even prepare the bed. To an artificial and sophisticated society most people are victims and the dowry system is an 'evil necessity' in such a society. The working classes do not attach much importance to dowry, for, according to their standards the capacity for manual work is of prime concern and by itself a satisfactory method of acquiring money for the needs of life. In this connection we may note certain customs and practices prevailing in some parts of South India where the young man woos his wife by paying her parents something for the services which he expects from her thereafter. Though this is not the ideal form of marriage, the fact remains.

The Golden Mean

A happy solution to the dowry system may be found by striking a golden mean. A girl should be accomplished according to the true standards of democracy by acquiring a knowledge which is more useful than ornamental and thus be a source of assistance to her young husband. To achieve this end parents and teachers should exert themselves. Unless this is done young men will demand a dowry and more of it—for they know that it is rather expensive to rear a parrot. But a word of 'advice' may be addressed to young men as well—'do not exploit the situation arising in an artificial society by actually living on a scholarship founded on dowry.' Such attempts have been the curse and ruin of married life. The young man should make his own contribution to the expenses of a married life—and perhaps the greater share of it—in spite of the craving for sex equality asserted more and more by the modern woman. Marriage means a union and a united effort on the part of both parties—husband and wife—will make marriage a pleasant success.

LAW SOCIETY OF CEYLON

The Inaugural General Meeting of the Law Society of Ceylon will be held on Saturday 20th March at 10-30 a. m. at the District Court, Colombo. (By kind courtesy of the District Judge)

Mr. S. J. C. Kadigamar will preside.

By Order of The All Ceylon Proctors Council.

VALENTINE S. PERERA,
Hony. Secretary.

(Mis. 209. 4-3-43)

Letter to the Editor

TEMPLES IN JAFFNA

Sir,—In your editorial of the 11th February, 1943, you have very rightly pointed out the unsatisfactory condition of our Priests who officiate in our temples and the misdeeds of our temple managers. The reference to the state of affairs in Baroda, a Hindu State, should be an eye-opener to our Hindu Councillors and Hindu Organisations interested in the welfare of Hinduism. The only sure way of enforcing discipline among the Priests and the Managers is to bring into existence a legally constituted body which could supervise all Temples and religious organisations. A Hindu Temporalities Ordinance should be passed and all temples should be brought under its control. At present the temple managers and priests are free to act in their own way and the congregation do not possess the necessary means to enforce discipline on them. Hindu religious bodies like the Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabai, the Vivekananda Society, Colombo, the Saiva Maha Sabai, Kandy, and other similar bodies should take up this matter and agitate for such an ordinance.

The custom of permitting Brahmins to officiate in temples purely on the principle of hereditary rights known as பூசு அந்தி should be abandoned, and the congregation should insist on the managers employing only priests who satisfy the conditions of the Agamas. Sri - Li - Sri Arumuga Navalar has, in his writings, very clearly pointed out the type of Priests, who should be employed in temples. Is it too much to expect the managers to follow his advice? It is time that the Hindu community in Ceylon awaken itself from its slumbers and try to reform its institutions in such a way as to meet the changing conditions of the times in which we are living.

Thanking you for the space,
Urumpirai, Yours truly,
Chunnakam, S. NAGENDRAN.

SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENTS

Continued from page 1

a Scheme which will assist the Credit Societies to recover their loans from those members who sell their produce to us and utilize the excess on some other object profitable to the members.

(c) Most important of all the immediate problem which we have to tackle is to free the cultivator from the temptation of the black market and make arrangements to collect all that he can spare and sell to the actual consumer through the regular channels which are open to us.

If only the Food Controller can pass an order that none of the agricultural produce grown in Jaffna peninsula except through the Union and its affiliated Societies, the black market on chillies and other grains could be stopped at once."

The report and the statement of accounts were duly adopted.

It was resolved to allocate a sum of Rs. 12,000 as bonus to the producers in proportion to the amounts of goods they had brought into the respective Societies, pending the approval of the Department.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—President Muhandiram M. Krishner, Vice President, Mr. T. N. Appadurai, I. S. M.

THIRUVALLUVAR DAY IN COLOMBO

St. Thiruvalluvar Day was celebrated under the auspices of the Vivekananda Society, Colombo, at the Saiva Mangaiyar Kalagam Hall, Wellawatte on Monday the 22nd February 1943 at 6-30 p.m. Mr. A. Sabaratnam, Acting Chief Accountant, C.G.R., presided. The president said that St. Thiruvalluvar was the greatest poet of the Tamil Nad, and one of the greatest poets of the world, and that the Post's Day should be celebrated for 3 days in a fitting manner. He emphasised on the need for celebrating the day throughout the length and breadth of Tamil Nad, and on the duty of every Tamil to honour and revere the memory of the great poet. He regretted that while the Tamils were particular to build several Temples for 'Kannagi' both in India and Ceylon, they have signally failed to build Temples to St. Valluvar, to whom more temples ought to have been built in every village.

Dr. K. Kanapathippillai, lecturer in Tamil, Ceylon University, paid glowing tributes to the memory of St. Valluvar with appropriate quotations from the Saint's immortal 'Kural' and said that 'Kural' had been translated into several European languages such as Latin, French, English etc and that he had seen the French translation of the 'Kural'.

Mr. Soma Saravanapavan said that 'Kural' had been freely quoted by the Saiva Santham Acharayas like Unapathisivaraiar, and added that many Saivaites are of opinion that St. Valluvar's religion was Saivism, though he has not made any mention about any religion in his work.

Mr. S. Nadarasa, in his speech, remarked, that though many people believed that the poet was a great saint he (St. Valluvar) was devoid of worldly wisdom and humour, and illustrated them from the Saints' sacred 'Kural'. Mr. Arul Thagarajah, thanked all those who were present on behalf of the Society. The meeting was concluded at 9 p.m. with the singing of Thevaram. (Cor.)

JUDICIAL CHANGES IN JAFFNA

Mr. T. Quentin Fernando, Jaffna Magistrate, has been appointed District Judge, Trincomalee.

Mr. V. Manikavasagar, the Mallakam Magistrate, succeeds Mr. Fernando.

Mr. W. Gunam Spencer, Advocate, has been appointed Magistrate, Mallakam.

NEW M. S. C.

Mr. Bernard Jayasuriya has been returned at the State Council by election, for Avisavella, caused by Mr. D. P. R. Gunawardene's seat falling vacant owing to absence.

Sale of Toddy Rents, Mannar District, 1943-1944

Sales of the above rents will be held on Tuesday the 16th March, 1943, at 10 a. m. at the Mannar Kachcheri.

Prospective tenderers are referred for further particulars to the full notice at page 298 of part I of Govt. Gazette No. 9,090 of February 26, 1943.

C. SITTAMPALAM,
Assistant Government Agent,
The Kachcheri,
Mannar, February 22, 1943.
(S. 51. 4-3-43)

Members of the Board of Management, Mudaliar K. Chinnathamby, Mr. S. R. Sathaseevan, and Mr. R. U. S. Cooke, Secretary and Treasurer Mr. V. R. Murugasu. (Cor.)

RURAL DEVELOPMENT WORK IN CEYLON

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reality. Generally our efforts are based on the principles and practice of Rural Development as enunciated by Dr. Spencer Hatch at Martandam, by Mr. Brayne in his later views, by the work that is being done by Mr. Ishaque, I.C.S., in Bengal, by the work that is being done now by the Special Department of Rural Development in the United Provinces, and by the views expressed by Sir F. H. Sykes, when he was Governor of Bombay, in his booklet on Rural Development—modified, of course, to suit the needs and requirements of our villagers and the organisation of our Government Departments.

Trained Officers Necessary

Special emphasis must be laid on the fact that it is considered by the experts on rural development that the officers doing this work should be full-time officers of the proper missionary type, trained for the purpose in all aspects of rural development, living in the village under village conditions and carrying on the work on a basis of self-help. The work cannot be tacked on to the work of officers who are already overburdened with their own duties. We cannot expect our technical officers, for instance our Textile Demonstrators, to go into the villages and do a full programme of rural development work in addition to their own duties.

Work Done Hitherto

A perusal of the reports sent by the Rural Development Officers at the various centres will indicate how far we have succeeded in the object we are aiming at. The work must necessarily be slow. The habits of a lifetime cannot be altered in a day. Hitherto departments have attempted to give instructions and, if necessary, bring pressure from above by various means to get the villagers to adopt the schemes or the methods the departments wanted them to. It is generally agreed that this method has not been effective. The new principle, which is now generally accepted, is to rouse up the villagers, jerk them out of their apathy and make them realize that they themselves benefit from the efforts of Government, and it is therefore to their interest to follow the advice given.

By associating our officers with the villagers in their activities we are gradually trying to make them see that, by adopting other methods than what they were used to, their living standards can be raised. We have worked now for 2 years on our rural development scheme and it is necessary that we should continue this good work for a few more years before we can rest satisfied that we have achieved our object, namely the attainment of a position when our officers can leave the centres and the movement will go in their absence carried out by the villagers themselves.

The main expenditure at a centre is on the salary of the officers, which is at present for Senior Officers Rs. 75 per mensem and for Junior Officers Rs. 50 per mensem, with commuted allowance for travelling at Rs. 24 and Rs. 16 per mensem respectively. A labourer may be employed at Rs. 15 per mensem. Total expenditure

for a centre may be taken as an average Rs. 200 per mensem. Advances made are recovered from the villagers in suitable, small instalments. Occasionally small sums are contributed towards any scheme of development or for the construction of buildings on condition that free labour is given or substantial private contributions are made. Where there is available in the votes of other departments funds for purposes of making any grants of timber, seed, food crops, squatting plates, &c., application is made to those departments to make suitable grants. But generally the fundamental principle that the movement should be worked on a basis of self-help is followed as much as possible and the villagers told right at the start that the officers are not there to make free grants, but merely to help them in their own activities by their advice and instructions.

The four Fundamental Principles

The four fundamental principles on which the work of the Rural Development Officers are based are:—

(1) to set themselves, their cottages, their gardens, and their activities as models for the villagers to follow;

(2) to search for carefully, and select public-spirited villagers to co-operate with them and spread the gospel of proper village development both in and outside the village;

(3) to foster a healthy spirit of co-operation and mutual assistance in the village community and to create welfare societies to carry on the full programme of development in the village;

(4) to call in and obtain the full assistance and co-operation of all Government Officers, private individuals and bodies whose work deals with different aspects of rural problems in the village. The whole work has to be done in a missionary spirit and the Movement maintained on a basis of self-help.

We are satisfied with the work done and the progress made hitherto at our Centres. Applications are coming in for similar work at other places in the Island, especially from villages adjoining our centres—an indication of the appreciation of the work that is being done. Owing to this pressure some of our centres have had to be extended to include adjoining villages. In three of our centres extension services have been started, our officers going out to certain villages near the centre where the villagers are keen on this work and giving advice as to how they should proceed.

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 62
In the matter of the estate of the late Selliah Samuganathan of Anaicottai Deceased.
Somasundaram Subramaniam of Anaicottai Vs. Petitioner.
1. Ledchumiamma widow of Kovin. thar Sinnathamby of Manipay.
2. Sinnamma widow of Kovindar Sithamparappillai of do
3. Nannithamby Alagaratnam and wife
4. Sivagnanam both of Anaicottai
5. Vaithilingam Nedarajah of do
6. Somasundaram Nadesan of do
7. Somasundaram Shanmugasunthe-

ram of do
8. Chellachippillai widow of Sinnathamby Thambinathan of Navaly South Respondents

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambiah Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 14th December 1942 in the presence of Mr. C. C. Somasegaram Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner. It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner as one of the heirs of the abovenamed deceased, unless the abovenamed respondents appear before this court on the 8th day of February 1943 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 14th December 1942
Sgd. G. C. Thambiah
8-2-43 District Judge
Order Nisi extended for 8th March 1943
Intd. G. C. Thambiah
District Judge
(O. 100. 1 & 4-3-43)

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

(Held at Point Pedro)
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 191/P.T.
In the matter of the intestate estate

of Sivapakiam wife of V. Kanapathipillai of Puloly West. Deceased.
Sinnapillai widow of Subramaniam of Puloly West. Vs. Petitioner.
1. Kanapathipillai Sellathurai (Minor)
2. Vinasithamby Kanapathipillai
3. Subramaniam Maniccam G. A. L. of 1st Respondent all of Puloly West Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying that she be declared entitled to obtain Letters of Administration to the intestate estate of the deceased Sivapakiam abovenamed and that Letters of Administration be accordingly issued to her coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva Esquire Additional District Judge, Jaffna (sitting at Point Pedro) in the presence of Mr. S. Pasupathy Proctor for Petitioner and the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 15th day of February 1943 having been read.

It is ordered that the Petitioner be and she is hereby declared entitled to obtain Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Sivapakiam deceased and that Letters of Administration do issue to her accordingly unless the Respondents shall on or before the 12th day of March 1943 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 18th day of February 1943.
Sgd. L. W. de Silva.
Drawn by Addl. District Judge.
S. Pasupathy, Proctor.
(O. 99. 1 & 4-3-43)

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FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

S. KANAGASABAI,
(Y. 164, A. 21-11-41—20-11-42.) (T's) Shroff.