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A BETTER WORLD

(BY SWAMI, YOGESWARANANDA)

Man's real problem is not in the physical world but in his physical nature. The lack of inner goodness and understanding is the chief source of trouble in his private and public life. Wealth, position, beauty, power, rank, learning, practical efficiency, etc., singly or jointly, cannot ensure peace if human nature is debased. Peace is a state of mind. When you have peace within, you can find peace without. Do you not believe that the same basic cause—selfishness, lack of fellow feeling—that starts quarrels in the family starts world wars? It does. To love others as ourselves, disinterestedly, is the cornerstone of peace in family, in society, in nation, in race, and in the world at large. There cannot be a better world unless there are at the same time better individuals, better families, better societies, better nations, better races. They are inter-linked.

Moral Goodness Needed

The world must progress as a whole. Better world basically means better relationships among men all over it. Scientific achievements, industrial developments, high standard of living, administrative efficiency, military strategy, astute statesmanship, international organizations, laws and agreements, any one or more of these, however glamorous, should not be considered as the mark of progress unless human relationship improves correspondingly. The seekers of peace and progress must direct their efforts above all to the establishment of cordial relationship among men. Only moral goodness supported by a spiritual outlook on life that sets aside all odious distinctions between man and man can accomplish it.

Character Building

To awaken the moral and spiritual consciousness of men is therefore the surest way to lay the foundation of world peace. Whoever of you is convinced of this should start to work right now. First try to build your own character and then help others to do the same with serviceful attitude. Do not force your ideas on any body. Do not bother about who joins or leaves you. Before long you will find around you some who will share your views and co-operate with you. Believe me, there are everywhere in the world men and women who want to see moral and spiritual truths regulate all human affairs but do not find any way to work for the cause. So a movement in this direction can readily gather strength and make its influence felt by many. It can work simultaneously in different parts of the world. When a sufficient num-

ber of its people will be drawn to the movement, it may be possible for any nation to assert its moral and spiritual forces through appropriate instruments. As, for instance, a peace council may be formed with picked moral and spiritual personalities of the nation, who are public-spirited but hold no official position. In the beginning the council will function as the nation's monitor. It will just watch the national affairs and candidly express its views on them, without caring whether its voice is heeded or not. Gradually it will be able to arouse the moral sense of more people and secure greater public support. In course of time it will establish itself as the moral sanction for the nation if the work is carried on in the right spirit. Men at the head of public affairs will no longer be able to set aside its verdict. Following the same procedure, nations can by their combined efforts, form a world council for peace to function as the moral sanction for all of them. This may perhaps be an expeditious way to gather together the scattered moral and spiritual forces of men and bring them to bear upon the political world. However, this is only a suggestion.

Conform to the Supreme Ideal

Anyway, the most important part of the peace program is to develop man's moral and spiritual consciousness. That being done the rest will be easy. Capable persons with highly developed moral and spiritual nature will in course of time be at the helm of all affairs, national as well as international. When this will happen, everything will go on smoothly. No more will there be any need of the moral sanction. It is then that all human institutions, social, cultural, political, economic, and religious will be so regulated as to serve the one common purpose—helping men and women to proceed towards the ultimate goal of life. The best way to co-ordinate the various organizations and movements of man is to make each one of them conform to the supreme ideal. This will bring order, harmony and peace everywhere. As mankind will move towards it, peace will progressively reign upon the earth.

'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men.' Luke 2: 14.

'May there be peace in the world. May the wrongdoers give up evil ways. May all beings think of mutual welfare. May the minds of all be blissful. May we all have selfless devotion to God.' *Ehagavata*, V 18,9

SETTLEMENT AT KNAVESMIRE

A settlement has been made in the Knavesmire dispute and the labourers who refused to quit the estate so far will leave it before Friday next. The Government has undertaken to provide employment for these labourers. All prosecutions filed against the labourers will be withdrawn and a free pardon will be offered for those already convicted. The Government has undertaken not to proceed with its village expansion schemes and to forcibly eject labourers from other estates until a settlement is arrived at with the Indian Government on the outstanding issues.

More Burma Rice Coming

The S. S. *Jalaputra* arrived in Colombo with 6000 tons of Burma rice. This is the second consignment of rice that has been received in Ceylon from Burma.

BANK CLERKS' STRIKE

The Bank Clerks' Strike has been called off, and the clerks affected returned to work yesterday.

"HEIL HITLER"

Nazi Leaders' Last Moments

It is learned that the bodies of the German Chiefs who were hanged last week have been taken out to sea for secret burials; no details regarding the burials were released. This was done to prevent Nazi fanatics from making future pilgrimages to the graves of their dead leaders.

Reuter reports that the condemned Nazi Chiefs were not repentant even in their last moments. They believed that what they did were perfectly right.

"God protect Germany!" said Ribbentrop, just before the noose was put round his neck and in a ringing voice which resounded through the building he concluded: "My last wish is that German unity should remain and that understanding between the East and West will bring about peace for the world."

Julius Streicher cried "Heil Hitler" as he mounted the steps and a split second before he fell his muffled voice through the backhood cried "Adole, my Darling wife."

Keitel and Jodl died as Prussian officers to the last stiff-lipped chin up, and arrogant—Jodl crying "I salute you, my Germany."

WHITE DOMINATION OVER BLACKS

Mrs Pandit Speaks Out

Pointing out that the South African Indian issue formed a test case, Mrs Vjaya'akshmi Pandit, Leader of the Indian delegation to the United Nations Conference in New York, said just before she embarked for New York that the issue contained in it the seeds of World War III.

It was a question of the domination of the white over the black. It was a fundamental human issue and it must go before the bar of world opinion. No one individual, however great, should deal with it.

She continued, "India stands for complete equality between the peoples of the world and between the nations of the world and as such India would take up the cause of any nation or any people whose fundamental human rights are denied. When those people happen to be from the mother country India naturally shows more interest than in the cause of others."

Mrs. Pandit claimed that the delegation was fortunate in having the entire people of India behind it in the matter of the South African Indian issue. It would be its endeavour to place before the United Nations the basic issues in which all oppressed peoples were involved

Indian Diplomatic Missions

The first sign in foreign capitals of the emergence of India as a self-governing nation is expected 'within a few days' in an announcement raising the Indian Diplomatic Missions in Washington and Chungking to embassy status.

Informed circles say that a simultaneous announcement to this effect in Washington, London, New Delhi and Chungking, together with the news that the United States and China similarly will elevate their diplomatic representation in New Delhi, could be expected in the coming week.

His Majesty King George, two weeks ago, approved the change in principle and the Indian Government has now informed the United States and China to this effect

and to demand the implementation of the United Nations Charter in favour of fundamental human rights.

The proposed Pan-Asiatic Conference convened by Pandit Nehru, she said, would also discuss questions dealing with the Asiatics under white domination. She hoped that leading women of Asia would attend the Conference.



Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1946.

CULTIVATION UNDER THE IRANAMADU TANK

A NOTICE HAS BEEN ISSUED by the Government Agent of the Northern Province announcing that the meeting of the cultivators under the Iranamadu Tank will be held at Kilinochehi on the 27th instant to consider matters incidental to the Kalapokam cultivation for 1946-1947. We trust that land-owners and cultivators will muster strong at the meeting and obtain an assurance from the Government Agent and others concerned that the bungling which resulted in the destruction of the *sirupokam* crop will not be repeated. We understand that, as urged by the *Hindu Organ* repeatedly, regulators are being provided with planks and locking-bars. Much more remains to be done. Field channels show little sign of improvement. Even the main channels have become silted up in spite of the fact that the tank has been closed from time to time for the express purpose of enabling the Irrigation Department to have these channels repaired.

It is hardly necessary to point out that the remedy is in the hands of the landowners themselves. At the proposed meeting, the landowners will elect Kama Vidhanes for several areas. It is imperative that honest men with sound knowledge of cultivation should be appointed Kama Vidhanes. Part of the responsibility for the *sirupokam* debacle rests with those men who accepted bribes and supplied water, whenever it was available, to the highest bidder. It is the duty of the landowners to avoid electing men of questionable character to these posts.

It is equally the duty of the Government to exercise more control over the activities of the Cultivation Officer at Kilinochehi. This officer contributed not a little to the failure of the *sirupokam* crop by doling out water in a manner more suited for dry grains than for paddy. When the *Hindu Organ* protested against it and an attempt was made to rectify the error with whatever resources the Iranamadu Tank afforded at the time, it was too late. The paddy plants had been seriously damaged already by the erratic and inadequate supply of water. This officer has also the habit of closing the tank on the slightest provocation. At the least sign of rain, the tank is closed, leaving the fields high and dry, and it takes at least ten days and many applications for water before the tank is re-opened. This sort of thing must stop and it is the duty of the landowners to say so.

STRIKE OR REVOLUTION? To Prevent Rowdysm

By The Editor

The strike of nearly 30,000 workers in Colombo and elsewhere must have come as a shock to many. Already the transport services are disorganised. Food ships have been diverted from Colombo harbour. At the moment of writing mails from Colombo and other places have not reached Jaffna. One immediate result of the strike is the deterioration in the supply of food-stuffs. The food position was serious enough before the strike. It is bound to become worse now. Shops and stores were not expected to have stocks sufficient to last more than a week. Unless the dispute is settled in time or unless the Government provides alternative means of transport without loss of time the people are going to find themselves in serious straits. It would be a mistake to suppose that the strike is confined to Colombo. Even here in the North it is feared that some of the motor transport companies may suspend their services.

It is not denied that the workers have certain legitimate grievances which the Government should have met in a spirit of justice and fairness. The Ministers, with their eyes on the elections, preferred to nurse what may be called the middle classes. It is a matter of common knowledge that the more vocal and influential section of the Public Service had it practically all their own way in the matter of salaries and other emoluments, while those in the lower rungs of the ladder had to content themselves with whatever they got and this was nothing much. There was grave disparity in the treatment meted out to the two sections. It is not therefore surprising that the workers decided to seek justice in their own way.

But the strikers have not confined themselves to their own legitimate grievances. They have also put forward demands of a political nature. They seem to think that the strike weapon can be used to bring about political changes. In-

stead of trying to persuade the electorate to exercise its rights in this matter, they are trying to force the electorate, through the medium of the general strike, to accept changes dictated by them. Their position is utterly indefensible. They would substitute the tyranny of the workers for that of the capitalists. They have gone further and overstepped the limits of the law by intimidating those who have not joined them and by resorting to sabotage of public property. The recent accident to the night mail from Colombo seems to have been planned deliberately. It is a crime which will alienate all public sympathy from the strikers.

What is the Government doing? Apart from the broadcast by His Excellency the Governor no information is so far available as to what steps are being taken by the Ministers to prevent the paralysis of the public services and consequent starvation. While loyal employees on the Railway were being stoned and assaulted, the Ministers seem to have done nothing. They will do well, even at this late stage, to take the public into their confidence and prevent the country from going to the dogs. I have no hesitation in saying that they are responsible to a great extent for what is happening. They have allowed the Public Service to get completely out of hand. They have truckled to powerful private interests in a manner unworthy of any Government. The result has been that the workers have come to think that one turn of the screw will make the Ministers truckle to them.

Whatever happens, one thing is clear: Mr. D. S. Senanayake and his colleagues have demonstrated their utter unfitness to govern. They are entirely out of touch with public opinion and the sooner they are got rid of the better it will be for workers and the public alike. A weak Government like the present, utterly lacking in principle, is a grave menace to public safety.

Notes and Comments

Leagues' Entry

The reception accorded to the announcement of the League personnel in the Indian Interim Government is not a cordial one. In fact there are certain misgivings as to the real outcome of the League's entry. Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, the Frontier Congress Leader sometime ago told the world that the Viceroy and his henchmen in the Civil Service were not at all happy at the trend of events in Delhi and that they would be only too glad to enter into a conspiracy with the Muslim League to stem the tide of nationalism that has been of late cleansing the Augean stables of British Imperialism. The Viceroy and other diehard imperialists should however, find now that the currents set in by Nehru and his colleagues would be too powerful to stem, however much they wished to do so. A new era has set in. Nehru has vigorously converted the Interim Government into an instrument of political emancipation and social progress—ideals which the League, or for that matter any such reactionary body, cannot afford to flout or disown in public. It would be well for the Leaguers to note the writing on the wall. It would be well for the Leaguers who have been selected to participate in the Interim Government to ponder over this fundamental truth before running after the will of the wisp of dilatory or destructive tactics. In

Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, the League contingent has a leader, who, in spite of his past vociferous vituperations, is capable, we believe, of taking a statesmanlike and sober view of things when it comes to a question of practical handling. We earnestly hope with the rest of the world that Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan will come to a working understanding with Nehru through which and through which alone the emancipation of India's teeming millions including the Muslims, will be achieved.

The U. C. Lights

With the exit of the previous electrical superintendent, we were told all would be well with the lighting arrangements in the Jaffna U. C. area. But we are sadly disillusioned and once more the entire town is plunged into darkness, and especially so during these times when nights are abnormally dark and often rainy. The situation, however is not without its humour. While there are no lights at night, it is no uncommon sight to see the electric bulbs in the lamp posts flickering in broad day light. Surely something is radically wrong with the lighting affairs of the U. C. This is not the first time our Power House has failed to perform its functions. To say the least, it is a disgrace to the whole U. C. administration. The Chairman and the entire body of City Fathers owe an explanation

A Police Post For Grand Bazaar Area

The recently organised Jaffna Merchants Welfare Union at its first Committee Meeting held last week has unanimously resolved to request (1) the Hon'ble the Minister of Home Affairs (a) to open out a Police Post at a suitable spot in the Grand bazaar area consisting of a Sub-Inspector or Sergeant and about 6 sturdy constables, with telephonic connection to attend to urgent calls and put down rowdysm and thugery in the Bazaar area,

(b) To cause the provisions of the Ordinance relating to the possession of Kris and certain classes of knives, applicable to the Jaffna District as well.

(c) To appoint about 6 suitable nominees of this Union as Special Police Officers.

It is hoped thereby, the rowdies and re-convicted criminals could be considerably brought under control, to request 2) the Hon'ble the Minister of Communications and works, to take early steps to widen the Kankesanturai—Stanley Road junction, which has been remarked as "a veritable death trap"

to request (3) the Chairman U. C. Jaffna to install a powerful mercury vapour lamp at the junction of Kankesanturai and Stanley Roads. It is hoped that, if such a lamp is kept lit throughout the night, the nocturnal activities of the burglars of that area, would considerably diminish.

Sub-Committees were appointed to enroll members and collect funds for the union.

Draft rules of the Union were passed with certain amendments.

to the ratepayers for this sorry state of affairs.

Central School for Muslims

The decision of the Jaffna Urban Council to recommend to the Central Government for the establishment of a Central School for the Muslims, is in our opinion a belated one. The councillors in their anxiety to placate the Muslim member who sponsored the resolution have overlooked a glaring fact. There are, at present in Jaffna quite a number of schools which are in close proximity to the Muslim area: these schools are sufficient and quite competent to cater to the educational needs of the Muslim community. What is very urgently required for the Muslims of Jaffna is an up-to-date Girls' College. In the matter of education the Muslim girls are very backward: the few girls' colleges which are in the Peninsula are far away from the Muslim area. A girls' college is an urgent necessity, and it is for the Muslims and the general public to agitate for it.

Pandatherippu Hindu Board English School

We are glad that this school has been registered as a grant-in-aid school as from October, 1946. The irony of it is that, though the Hindu Board of Education obtained a transfer of the school from the American Mission authorities, it has taken two years and nine months to get the school registered as a Hindu School. The American Mission was running this school for over 25 years as an aided school and closed it in January 1944. At the request of the people of the place to help their young ones, the Hindu Board went to the rescue and managed the school from January, 1944. This school, we are glad to find, is the 108th. Government aided school under the Hindu Board of Education.

STOP THAT RAGING BEAST

TUSHAR KANTHI GHOSH
in Amrita Bazaar Patrika.

THE *Navarathri Puja* is over. The Divine Mother, devoutly invoked, has departed for Her snow-capped home in the fabled heights of the Himalayas. We have consigned Her clay image to the running waters and have returned to our daily chores with the chastened feeling of one who views "some banquet-hall deserted." We have greeted with friendly embraces those we love and also those we do not, for that is the spirit of *Vijaya*, or "the celebration of victory", as it would stand translated into English. The mythological significance of *Vijaya* hangs on the precedent of Sri Ramachandra achieving victory over the *Rakshasa* King Ravana.

The Animal Passion

There is, however, a far more profound significance, a spiritual one. *Vijaya* is the celebration to mark the victory of the human soul over the base animal passions that exist, and sometimes, rule our minds. It is the victory of knowledge over ignorance, of the forces of good over those of evil. It is the triumph of all that is godlike in us over all that is demoniac. That is not easily achieved. No great thing can be easily achieved, or can, in the present state of evolution of civilisation, be achieved by all. Yet all history points the way to that painful climb to the goal of all-knowledge, which means all-power. As man-kind progresses in that quest it divests itself of its baser nature as of a tattered garment too long worn. *Vijaya* is a reminder of that endless pilgrimage, that trek through unknown forests of human nature where the only trails are those that can be distinguished by prophets and saints and where the only guiding light is the illumination of the soul. We pledge ourselves annually to the great task of delivering ourselves from ourselves, of conquering our own animality by the force of our moral being.

False Gods

As we look about ourselves and at the world in general, we realise how man has strayed from his straight upward path. We have allowed ourselves to stray into the byways of narrow interests and ephemeral gains. We have created false gods out of these and are sacrificing ourselves and our fellow human beings at the altar of greed, ambition and lucre. We have given our hearts away. Not even the holocaust of two World Wars and the bloody shambles of brother killing brother out of blood-hatred over chimerical objectives have sufficed to lay the raging beast in many of us. The education of mankind into ethical sobriety and social morality may take long, long years to accomplish. Yet we must realise that this is no hopeless task.

Human Evolution

Man's march to moral and spiritual maturity is a historical fact. Its pace is uneven through time. Sometimes it is fast, at other times it is slow. Every time it slows down into chaotic disorder there is a breaking of nations and empires and social orders and an unleashing of the beast in the hearts of men. But out of the chaos there arises, every time, a new social order, a new integration of human relations, that harnesses the latent goodness

of the inner being into more harmonious activity than ever before. Such is the pattern of the relentless march of man to that goal of universal morality to which he is fated. Such is the inexorable trend of human evolution—call it the forces of history or whatever you like.

Spirit of Victory

The great day when *Vijaya* can be truly celebrated is the day when all humanity, from the submerged enslaved brothers to those who enjoy culture and liberty but no real morality, will rise to a common high standard of ethical excellence. Coming nearer home, we notice a violent conflict in our motherland between two forces—those in favour of a new social order based on equality and freedom and those in favour of the outworn creed. Such conflicts have occurred before in the world. They are the birth-pangs of a new order. There is no doubt as to the outcome of this conflict, intolerable as it may appear now. The demoniac forces are doomed to dissolution. To quicken its pace the godly forces—those we call progressive and equalitarian—must fight with the weapons of knowledge, understanding, love and patience. We must not allow ourselves to forget that whosoever stabs his neighbour wounds his brother. The spirit of *Vijaya* is the abjuration of malice, for as the battle ends there is no more any enemy, but only friends and brothers. We greet all our friends, well wishers and critics in that spirit. *Jai Hind!*

END OF THE WORLD

(By FRANK CAREY)

The end of the world could come to-morrow, says Dr. Robert R. Coles of New York's Hayden Planetarium.

"A Nova-like flare-up of the sun might happen to-morrow or in 50 years or in 100 million years", he says. "And if it did, the earth and its neighbour planets would almost immediately suffer the most terrible consequences".

"In an article published Coles says that such an outburst of the sun would undoubtedly mean the end of all life on earth".

A nova is a star that for some reason suddenly flares up to thousands of times its former brilliance, Coles says.

"All evidence, geological and otherwise, points to the conclusion that the sun has been functioning as a very normal star for hundreds of millions of years. But no one can predict that it will continue that trend for ever".

If red-hot destruction has no public appeal, Coles has another theory—that the earth could freeze up. He said this could happen if the sun's radiating energy believed to be produced by sub-atomic forces deep in the sun's interior should cease to function.

"And with the release of that final spark of energy the sun will become a cold, dead star... the earth will have turned into a frigid world with its atmosphere frozen".

Dr. Murle Curti an outstanding American educator and Historian is expected to arrive in Ceylon shortly.

WHITHER JINNAH? IMPLICATION OF LEAGUE MOVE

The special correspondent of the Madras "Hindu" writes from New Delhi:

The names of the Muslim League nominees who are to take office in the Interim Government have not met with a favourable reception in nationalist political circles here.

The first criticism heard here is that with the probable exception of Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, who ranks second to Mr. Jinnah among League leaders and who attempted co-operation with the late Mr. Bhulabhai Desai to achieve Congress-League settlement, the other Leaguers represent the vocally extreme section of the League and who, therefore, are bound to attempt to disrupt the harmony of the Interim Government in as many ways as they possibly can. It is rather significant that Mr. Jinnah, in his choice of the League nominees, should have left out such persons as Khwaja Nazimuddin and Nawab Mahomed Ismail. It is presumed that League leaders who have stood for settlement with the Congress have been studiously omitted.

The second criticism and in many ways a very serious one is that the League nomination of a Scheduled Caste representative should have been accepted by the Viceroy and His Majesty's Government. The League, unlike the Congress whose membership is open to all Indians without regard to their community, is a purely com-

munal organisation and it has no moral right to nominate anyone other than a Muslim and a Leaguer. By nominating Mr. Jogendra Nath Mandal, at present a Minister in the Subaward Ministry and President of the Bengal Provincial Scheduled Castes Federation, the League apparently seeks to create a position in which it could claim to represent the interests of the Scheduled Castes as much as the Congress.

Political Pawns

Besides this, it is an extraordinarily clever move by Mr. Jinnah to whittle down the Congress hold on the Scheduled Castes of Bengal. Whether the interests of the Scheduled Castes are going to be safeguarded by the League or not Mr. Jinnah has used them as political pawns to wage war on the Congress. In Bengal, where Scheduled Caste voters have thirty representatives in the Provincial Legislature according to the terms of the Poona Pact, and who could send at least seven Scheduled Caste representatives to the Constituent Assembly, the Congress won in the last elections about twenty-six seats, only four going to the Scheduled Castes Federation. With the appointment of Mr. Mandal as Minister by Mr. Suhrawardy, about six Scheduled Caste members who had been elected with Congress backing went over to the Ministerial side. With the transfer of Mr. Man-

INTER NATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN INVITATION TO CEYLON

The October Meeting of the Council of The Law Society of Ceylon was held on Saturday 12th October at Trinity Place, Hulftsdorp. Mr. S. J. C. Kadirgamar, President, presided and members from Kandy, Balapitiya, Kalutara, Hatton, Matara, Gampaha and Colombo attended the meeting.

The President informed the Council that an invitation had been received from the American Bar Association inviting the Law Society of Ceylon to send a representative to a Conference of National Law Associations to discuss the formation of an International Law Association at New York City, New York, on Tuesday 8th October 1946. The objective of this conference will be to draft for consideration and subsequent ratification by the Law Associations therein represented the Constitution and Bye-laws for an Organisation of the National Law Associations of the World so that through the creation of a mutually acceptable organisation the Lawyers the world over may be brought together into a powerful instrument for peace through Law and Justice. The President stated that though tentative arrangements had been made for him to represent the Law Society of Ceylon on account of shortness of time and other difficulties the project had to be abandoned, but a suitable letter was air-mailed expressing agreement with the objects of the Conference and wishing it success.

The President informed the Council that as a result of representations made the Minister for labour, Industry and Commerce had informed him that the principle had been accepted that the next appointment of Registrar General should be from among Proctors and that he was leaving a Minute to that effect.

Among the other matters considered was the creation of a Benevolent Fund towards which a contribution had been received.

dal now to the Centre and further ministerial jobs likely to be offered by Mr. Suhrawardy in his province, attempts may be made to win more Scheduled Caste members of the Bengal Legislature to the Ministerial side.

The Hindus of Bengal at whose expense the Scheduled Castes of Bengal were given thirty seats in the Provincial Legislature far in excess of what they would have been entitled to are now not sure of their support and they are apt to feel rather let down that neither a Bengal Hindu nor a Bengal Scheduled Caste representative should have found a place within the Congress quota. Apart from immediate consequences to the Hindus of Bengal, they (the Hindus) seem to be more worried as to what may happen to them inside Group C of the Constituent Assembly where the Muslim League representatives together with such Scheduled Caste members as may be won over by the League, will be in a decisive majority. The inclusion of Mr. Mandal in the League list is obviously aimed at securing a clear majority for the Muslim League in Group C.

SERIOUS LOSS of STORES

Rs. 148,087 Involved

Further extracts from the report of the Auditor General showing the grave irregularities perpetrated by the C. D. C. are given below:

IN my last report I stated that the inventory and stock books at the A. F. S. Stores had not been maintained properly nor balanced at any time, that unnecessary books and registers had been opened resulting in duplication of work, that adequate store accounting regulations had not been drawn up although a very large quantity of stores was in the custody of the A. F. S., that a verification of stores as at September 30, 1942, had not been carried out and that although a survey of stores in hand on September 30, 1943, was made, the Board of Survey had not made its report. I also stated that when these unsatisfactory features were brought to the notice of the Civil Defence Commissioner, he had replied that owing to the emergency, the normal procedure laid down in the Financial Regulations could not have been observed without seriously interfering with the quick despatch of work, that elaborate stores accounting regulations were considered superfluous for the A. F. S., that the different units were instructed on broad lines in regard to the procedure to be followed in the accounting of stores that the re-organisation of the A.F.S. Stores was receiving the attention of a storekeeper newly appointed to work under an Accountant and that a further communication after his investigation would follow. No such communication was received.

Huge Shortage

At the Audit inspection of the A.F.S. Stores in April, 1946, it was observed that although disquieting shortages of stores were detected at the stock-taking held on July 1, 1944, when the new storekeeper assumed duties no action had been taken either to recover the value of the missing stores from the officers responsible or to obtain authority for their write-off. The approximate value of the shortage in uniforms alone amounted to Rs. 148,087. I called for the explanation of the C.D.C. on this matter in May, 1945, but no reply has been furnished up-to-date in spite of the fact that the Treasury also pressed the C.D.C. for an early reply to my letter.

Queries Unanswered

The queries on other matters issued to the Asst. C.D.C. (Fire Services) after the audit inspection of April, 1945, have also not been answered. The C.D.C. whose attention was drawn to the matter, has informed me that the Fire Services had been closed down and it was doubtful whether any replies would be forthcoming.

Cement Muddle

It was observed that the value of cement issued to contractors by C.D.C. for use on A.R.P. construction works had been recovered at a flat rate of Rs. 4 a bag which was less than the cost plus Departmental and other charges recoverable under the Financial Regulation for such issues. When this was queried the C.D.C. explained that the rates tendered by the contractors and agreed upon provided for the supply of cement by the Department at Rs. 4 a bag and that any increase in the rate charged for

cement would have resulted in a corresponding increase in the rates paid by the Department for constructions.

C. D. C. Evades

The connected contracts were therefore called for to verify that there was provision in them for issue of cement at the rate mentioned, but the C.D.C. replied that the contracts would be made available at his office. When my officer called for the contracts at his office only one contract was produced and it contained no stipulation as regards supply of cement at Rs. 4 a bag. As the other contracts were not produced they were again called for officially and this time the C.D.C. replied that the contracts had been handed over to another officer of my Department. When it was pointed out to the C.D.C. that his reply was not correct he stated after a long delay that the contracts were filed of record and might be inspected in his office.

Unsatisfactory Replies

The files produced in his office in pursuance of this reply did not however contain the contracts called for or the agreed rates. In view of the unsatisfactory replies furnished and the failure on the part of the Department to produce documentary evidence in support of the position that there was agreement between the Department, and the contractors for payment for cement at Rs 4 a bag, I have surcharged the difference amounting to Rs 8,939 recoverable from the contractors on the basis prescribed by the regulations.

STRIKERS' DEMANDS

LIST OF GRIEVANCES SUBMITTED

THE train service was paralysed from Wednesday last following a general strike of all the daily paid Railwaymen all over the island.

The authorities state that that the strike was called in suddenly without any previous notice. "We do not know what the grievances of the men are" the General Manager of Railways is stated to have said to a Press representative.

The strikers who number nearly 13000, on the other hand emphatically deny the allegation that the strike was called on suddenly without previous notice. They state that they have on September 15 forwarded a memorandum to the Chief Secretary, through the Government Trade Union Federation enumerating 31 grievances. The grievances have not been satisfactorily settled, nor have they received any satisfactory reply; and hence their strike.

Workers Demands

The following were among the demands:

- An increment of 75 per cent to all workers;
- Free lodging or house rent to all workers;
- Casual leave to be granted unconditionally;
- War allowance to be included in the pay;

Workers dismissed during the Japanese raid in 1942 to be given work;

The minimum wage to be 2/50 per day;

Free midday meal to workers

Public holidays with full pay. After ten years' service all workers to be recognised as fixed workers;

After 25 years' service all workers to be given a pension;

Workers to be granted full liberty to participate in political activities;

28 days' medical leave to be given with pay;

All workers who participated in March and November strikes to be given their pay;

No workers to be dismissed till they get their pensions;

Permission to be granted to the Federation to publish a workers' organ;

Free letters and telegrams to be allowed to the Government Trade Unions;

Permission to be granted to the workers to announce Trade Union and other workers' messages at the Broadcasting Station;

Heads of Departments, who do not appear to have been informed of these grievances, are stated to have made attempts to get in touch with the strikers but failed,

What is Seditious?

Nigerian Newspaper Defines Empire Day

A copy of a "seditious" article alleged to have been published by the editor of a Nigerian newspaper which has resulted in him and some of his colleagues being charged with sedition has been published in this week's *Socialist Leader*, "We are honoured", says the *Socialist Leader*, "to reprint this article in Britain, the heart of British Imperialism so that the British people may understand just what 'freedom' means to Britain's Colonial slaves. We think this is an article of which the author and the publishers should be proud. These are noble words—they are a call to liberty. We salute men and women who are carrying on this struggle in Africa. We express our shame that such repression should be permitted by Britain which has a Labour Government."

"Here is the article for which these Africans are charged with sedition. The case is still before the Judge at the Supreme Court of Lagos. Those in Britain who really believe in free speech will express the strongest condemnation of this tyranny".

The article headed "Whose Empire Day?" reads: "Ever since the British Empire reached its acme, makers of the 'Commonwealth', whatever that word may mean have fixed May 24 as Empire Day. On such an occasion flag-waving, speeches and platitudes feature very highly; African schoolboys and girls don their best clothes and their minds are filled with glory of the Empire on which the sun never sets.

"If we know the planet sun for what it is, set it eventually must. Whether we like it or not the British Empire must one day come to

wards an end too. Despite the claims of Whitehall and British Colonial Office (meaning thereby the Government of the United Kingdom) as regards the aims of that Empire we the colonial peoples, regard our countries as occupied territories just as France, Belgium Holland and Czechoslovakia were occupied by the German Reich even though the British may not be Fascists.

"Empire Day is not a joy to those countries which are being governed by an immigrant Interim Government (meaning thereby the Government of Nigeria among other colonial Governments) but to those who control the destiny of these occupied territories. We say interim from the point of view of the progressive colonial who does not adore the idea of worshipping a flag and a Government which is not truly of his own choice. The wave of nationalism surging in India, the West Indies and West Africa, is proof of the desire of colonials to end the foreign occupation of their countries.

"If the British were Japanese subjects they surely would very much resent the idea of having to honour the Japanese flag for ever and ever. In the same way too just as the occupied countries of Europe resisted the German occupation, some of us are willing to die too that our countries may be free.

"Empire Day has no meaning for renaissance Africans. What we want is Freedom Day when British Government (meaning thereby Government of the United Kingdom) will decide either voluntarily or otherwise that the various Colonial Governments (meaning thereby the Government of Nigeria among other Colonial Governments) must return to London and let dependent peoples depend upon themselves. Recent riots in India and Egypt are proof of the longing for freedom. Empire Day is a minus in the new African philosophy."

WANTED

Wanted graduates and specialists for the J/Karainagar Hindu College to teach one or more of the following subjects:—Sanskrit, History, Physics, Commerce, Music, and House-craft. Apply Manager, Jaffna Hindu College & Affiliated Schools before 1-11-46. (Mis. 194-22-10-46 to 8-11-46)

Auction Sale

OF MOTOR VEHICLES FOR SCRAP at No. 306, V. B. D. TRINCOMALEE (situated at Upawalli approx 5 miles from Trincomalee Town) On instructions received from the Owners I shall sell by Public Auction on Monday, 21st October, 1946, and Tuesday, 22nd October, 1946, and Wednesday, 23rd October 1946 at 9 a. m. each day. The following vehicles for scrap:—Chevrolet & Ford 3 Ton Civilian Type lorries, 15 Cwt. & 8 Cwt. Chevrolet & Ford Station wagons, Humber Car, Dodge & Bedford 3 Ton & 15 Cwt. lorries, Motor Cycles, Trailers, Salvage Scrap Metal comprising M. T. Parts, Metal scrap, & other assorted mixed scrap. NO PERMITS REQUIRED. On view on the 19th & 20th inst. between 9 a. m. & 5 p. m. J. G. VANDESMAGT, Auctioneer & Broker, 20, Baillie Street, Fort, Colombo. Phone 4985. (Mis. 197-22-10-46)

30,000 MEN STRIKE

A'Pura Tragedy

7 people died and 47 were injured in the tragedy that occurred in the early hours of Friday last to the Jaffna Mail train at Anuradhapura. It is feared that the incident was due to sabotage carried out by the labourers of the Railway who are now on strike.

Foodships Return Without Unloading

The S. S. *Ja'atutra* which came to Colombo on Sunday last with nearly 6000 tons of Burma rice was diverted to other ports without unloading its cargo as there were no labourers to do the unloading. Altogether 12 ships with food and other cargoes have been similarly diverted, it is now disclosed, to other ports, since the strike began.

Acting Governor Appeals

The officer administering the Government, Sir John Howard in a broadcast appeal issued on Saturday last drew the attention of the citizens of Ceylon to the serious nature of the strike which was a misguided one and which he stated was bound to have terrible repercussions in the food position of the country. He appealed to all patriotic citizens to co-operate with the Government to put down lawlessness and sabotage which have unfortunately become manifest in some instances. He assured the public that the administration would do its utmost to restore law and order, and ensure that free flow of foodstuffs to the different parts of the island was maintained.

Strikes Spread

The strike situation has deteriorated for the worst. Harbour workers, scavengers of the Colombo Municipality and a section of the labourers in the Central Telegraph Office have also struck work. According to an unofficial estimate the total number of workers now on strike is 30,000.

Military to Guard

It is understood that the Government have decided to post military pickets at strategic positions in Colombo to prevent sabotage and intimidation of willing workers by strikers.

The Acting Governor who returned from Nuwara Eliya on Saturday last conferred with the Board of Ministers for nearly 4 hours, and the whole situation was discussed.

Shipping Agencies Warn

Colombo Shipping Agencies have warned their principals not to send

ships to Colombo at the present time as there would be no tankering and coaling facilities in the port due to the prevalent strike.

Railway Disaster Inquiry

The inquiry into the Anuradhapura Train disaster was begun by Mr. N. Krishnadasan, Additional District Judge Anuradhapura on Friday last. It was stated in the course of the inquiry that the disaster occurred owing to the removal of the fish plates and nails which fixed the rails together.

Four men from the Ratmalana workshop have been arrested. It is suspected that they had a hand in the sabotage of the Railway lines at Anuradhapura.

Telegraph Wires Cut

Telegraph wires were found cut in 22 places between Kandana and Ragama. The entire railway line between Ja'ela and Ragama is now guarded by the Police and Military.

No Flour in Jaffna

Due to the prevailing unsettled conditions, the Deputy Food Controller in Jaffna has instructed the Co-operative Whole Sale Union not to issue flour to the Co-operative Stores for the current week. The sugar ration has also been reduced to quarter lb. per individual.

Petrol Scarcity in Jaffna

There is petrol scarcity in Jaffna now due to its non arrival since last week. The authorities are perturbed over this and have advised the Bus Companies to reduce their journeys to the barest minimum possible.

Train Movement

The Railway authorities have made arrangements to run a skeleton train service to and from Colombo from today. The train from Jaffna will leave the station at 9.45 a. m. and reach Anuradhapura at 3 p. m. from where, passengers to Colombo will board another train to Colombo.

Trade Union Leaders Condemn

Trade Union Leaders who are today conducting the island-wide strike of the workers have condemned those responsible for the sabotage in the railway lines. In a statement issued, they have appealed to the workers to desist from such terrorist activities which only hinder their "just cause."

TEXTILE FAMINE

Situation Serious

The textile supply position has deteriorated to such an extent that fears are expressed of the possibility of a textile famine in the Island unless the utmost austerity is immediately exercised and all concessions now allowed to certain individuals and establishments stopped.

The textile position was the subject of lengthy discussion at last week's meeting of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce. It is gathered that the Deputy Controller of Textiles, who was present at the meeting, stated that the textile position was highly unsatisfactory. Twenty-seven million yards of cloth were still due from India for 1946 with only ten weeks to go. Of the monthly quota of 3 million yards it had not been possible to get even 1 1/2 million yards.

Biggest Co-op Institute Elects Mr. Kanagaratnam A. Its President

What is acknowledged to be the biggest and the most unique Co-operative institution in Ceylon—the Tholpuram-Moolai Union Hospital Society has unanimously elected Mr. K. Kanagaratnam (Retired Auditor-General), to be its president for the ensuing year at a meeting of its general body held on Saturday last.

The Congress President

Moulana Azad having withdrawn, Acharya J. B. Kripalani has been duly elected the Congress President. Acharya Kripalani was for a very long time connected with the Congress as its General Secretary.

Three merchant ships have been sunk secretly in the Atlantic with 2000 tons of German and British poison gas.

INDIAN NEWS FRONT

Jinnah's Somersault

The talks between the League and the Congress have failed: however, the Muslim League has decided on the advice of Mr Jinnah to enter the Interim Government on its own right and at the invitation of the Viceroy.

The League has nominated the following to be its nominees in the Interim Government: 1. Liaquat Ali Khan (League Secretary) 2. Mr. I. I. Chundrigar, Bombay) 3. Mr. Abdul Rab Nishtar (Frontier), 4. Mr. Ghaznafar Ali Khan, 5. Mr. Jogen-dranath Mandal (Scheduled Castes Federation).

It is significant that the Muslim League has in its quota included a member of the Scheduled Castes too.

Mr. Jinnah will not serve in the Interim Government.

In order to make it possible to reform the Cabinet, the following members have tendered their resignations;

Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose, Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan and Mr. Syed Ali Zaheer.

The members of the present Cabinet who will continue to serve are the following: Pandit Nehru, Sardar Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Mr. Asaf Ali, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. John Matthai, Sardar Baldev Singh, Mr. Jagjivan Ram and Mr. Hormushi Bhabha.

The distribution of portfolios will be settled early and the members will then be sworn in. Meanwhile the Viceroy has asked the resigning members to continue in charge of their portfolios.

The Resigning Ministers

Sir Shaafat Ahmed Khan, and Syed Ali Zaheer who have now resigned from the Indian Interim Government with the entry of the League, are believed to be marked out for important diplomatic assignments abroad.

Madras Govt's Lead

The Government of Madras have decided to grant financial assistance in deserving cases to the dependents or relatives of those detainees or convicts who died in jail during their detention or imprisonment in connection with the individual Satyagraha campaign of 1940-41 and the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1942. The number of persons who died in prison during the two periods is, it is learned 16.

Salt Duty to Go

The abolition of the salt tax which is expected to serve as the first tangible indication to the masses of India, of the *de facto* transfer of power to a popular Government at the Centre has been decided by the Nehru cabinet. The cabinet is also understood to have approved of a scheme for the nationalisation of the salt industry with necessary safeguards for small-scale producers of salt in the coastal areas.

Nehru Among Tribesmen

Pandit Nehru the Indian Premier accompanied by Dr. Khan Sahib and Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan made his first official visit to the Tribal areas in the Frontier. Though a large section of the tribes welcomed him and accorded him a rousing reception, some tribesmen, inspired by Leaguers made black flag demonstrations. Attempts to shoot Nehru have also been reported. These attempts proved futile. Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan the Frontier Leader in a statement issued has charged the India Government's Agent at Waziristan with secretly inciting the tribal men against Nehru.

Stalin was 'Banished'?

British Military Chief's Story

Sir Gifard Martel, head of the British Military Mission to Moscow in 1943 expressed the opinion that Marshal Stalin was "banished to the Crimea", while other Soviet leaders developed a "tough" foreign policy. "I had many talks with Stalin and I think he would have been content to take up a friendly attitude with most countries, but he lost the day", Sir Gifard said in a speech at the Royal Empire Society, Bristol Branch.

He added: "I think he was banished to the Crimea for a bit and then he came back and found Molotov, Vyshinsky, and company had won the day to push forward and control those outside—Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia—as though they were a part of Russia."

Sir Gifard Martel, who recently retired as Lieutenant-General, gave no particulars for the banishment theory, nor did he say on what his theory has based.

"In Russia, I knew everything the Ambassador knew, and I can assure you he had not the slightest idea of what was going on", Sir Gifard said.

Sir Oliver to be here on Oct. 26.

Sir Oliver Goonetilleke had an interview lasting one and a half hours with Mr. A. Creech Jones, the new Secretary of State on Monday last at which Sir George Gater, Permanent Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office, and Mrs. J. B. S. de Silva, head of the Ceylon Department, were present.

Sir Oliver is hoping to see Sir Stamford Cross, President of the Board of Trade and Mr. John Strachey, Minister of Food.

Sir Oliver Goonetilleke had a long telephone conversation with Mr. D. S. Senanayake after his interview with the Secretary of State.

He now plans to leave by air for Colombo on Saturday, October 26. Originally he hoped to be back in Ceylon on October 20.

TENDER NOTICE

Case No. 269 Guardianship District Court Jaffna.

Applications are invited for the purchase of all that piece of land called "bengalunecrodai, Thandikulamkarai and Aninchilady" comprising of lots 2, 3, 4 and 5 depicted in Survey Plan dated 14th September 1942 prepared by Mr. V. Arumugam Licensed Surveyor aggregating in extent 2, 13 Lms. V. C. situated at Vannarponnai East Jaffna with godowns and bounded on the East by road on the North by the property of Velupillai Jayaretnam and the heirs of Ganeshapillai on the West by the property of the heirs of Ganeshapillai and others and on the South by the property of Meera Mohideen. The said property belongs to the heirs of the late V. Ramalingam of Vannarponnai Jaffna.

Applications should reach, within 21 days from the date of publication hereof either the Secretary, District Court, Jaffna or Messrs Saravananmattu and Nadarajah Proctors and Notaries, 25 Chapel Street, Jaffna, (Mis. 198, 22)

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[Mis. 248. 15-3-46 to 14-3-47.]

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 603.

In the matter of the last will and
testament of Isaac Kumaraswamy
Jesudason of Kopay North.

Deceased.

Lucy Ponnammah widow of Isaac
Kumaraswamy Jesudason of Kopay
North.

Vs. Petitioner.

1. James Ba'singham Jesudason of
Kopay North presently of 1st
Chapel Lane Wellawatte, Colombo
2. Edw n Cangasingham Jesudason of
Kopay North presently of Y.M.C.A
Batticaloa. 3. Alfred Rajasingham
Jesudason of Kopay North presen-
tly of 1st Chapel Lane, Wella-
watte, Colombo. 4. Robert Ku'a-
singham Jesudason of N. valar
Road, Nallur South Jaffna. 5. John
Thambirajah Jesudason of Kopay
North presently of Municipality
Colombo.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal
before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire
District Judge, Jaffna, on the 9th day
of September 1946, in the presence of
Mr. W. Muttukumarawamy Prctor
on the part of the petitioner and the
affidavits of the petitioner the N. t-
ary Public and the attesting witnesses
having been read and filed of record:

It is ordered that the last will and
testament executed by the deceased
abovenamed and filed of record be
hereby declared proved and that prob-
ate be granted to the petitioner
abovenamed as executrix named in
the last will and testament of the
abovenamed deceased, unless the re-
spondents abovenamed or any other
person show sufficient cause to the
court on or before the 31st day of
October 1946.

This 9th day of Sept. 1946.

Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai

District Judge.

(O. 85. 22. & 25)

Accused Discharged

Vallipuram Senathirajah of Koku-
vil was acquitted and discharged
by the Jaffna Assize Judge on Fri-
day last. He was charged with
the murder of Muttuvelce Nadaraja
an Inspector in a Bus Company.
Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam defended
the accused.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 608

In the matter of the intestate estate
of the late El'athamby Veluppillai
of Chulipuram late of Kuala Pilah
Deceased.

Cbellammah widow of El'athamby
Veluppillai of Chulipuram

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Thana'edohunmy daughter of E'
Ve'u pillai, 2. Ve'uppillai Sitham-
b-ranathan, 3. Veluppi lai Nara-
yanamortby, 4. Veluppillai Tha-
motbe'ampi'lai and 5 Nanniar
El'athamby all of Chulipuram

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposa-
before R. R. Selvadurai Esqr, Dis r-
Judge Jaffna on the 21st day of Sep-
tember 1946 in the presence of Mr.
R. Candiah Prctor for Petitioner
and the affidavit of the Petitioner
having been read

It is ordered that the abovenamed
5th Respondent be appointed Guar-
dian-ad-litem over the minors 1 to 4
Respondents for the purpose of pro-
tecting their interests and of repre-
senting them in these Testamentary
proceedings and that Letters of Ad-
ministration to the estate of the said
deceased be issued to the Petitioner
as his lawful widow, unless the said
Respondents or any other person
shall appear before this Court on the
29th day of October 1946 and show
sufficient cause to the satisfaction of
this court to the contrary.

The 21st day of September 1946

Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai,
District Judge.

(O 84, 18 & 22)



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