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LECTURE UNDER THE DONA ALPINA RATNAYAKE TRUST

No-Soul Doctrine of the Buddha

DR. MALALASEKERA'S OBSERVATIONS

IN THE third of the series of lectures on the teachings of the Buddha under the Dona Alpina Ratnayake Trust, Dr. Malalasekera, speaking before a large gathering at King George's Hall, University College, on Friday last, said that among the religions of the world Buddhism stood alone in its doctrine of Anatta.

The vigour and originality of the Buddha's thought was more evident in that matter than with regard to anything else. It was that particular doctrine which made the champions of other established religions in India call the Buddha's followers arrogant Nihilists. The very great difficulty which students of Buddhism, especially in the West, found even today in understanding the doctrine showed how decisive and far-reaching was the step the Buddha took in philosophy and religion at so early a period in the history of human thought. There was a formula which expressed very shortly the essence of the Buddha's teaching and that was that the Buddha discovered the cause of existence, its nature and how the cause could be removed. The Buddha always asserted that His was a practical doctrine, the purpose of which was to show the way of escape from the round of births and deaths which necessarily caused degradation and suffering.

In finding a way out of it He proceeded first of all to analyse a human being into the elements of which he was composed and as a result of that analysis the Buddha came to the conclusion that man was composed of two parts—body and mind. He further subdivided the mind and also made the astonishing discovery that the universe and all that was in it represented an infinite number of separate and

impermanent elements in a state of ceaseless activity. Those elements were only momentary flashes of energy without anything stable in them. That was to say that they were not in a state of being but in a perpetual state of becoming.

Nothing Enduring

Thus the phenomenal world was a flow or flux of what were called existential moments, consisting on the one hand of what they saw and smelt around them and on the other of a mind accompanied by feelings etc., but neither in them nor outside them was there anything enduring or substantial.

Continuing, Dr. Malalasekera said that three systems of philosophy seemed to have influenced the Buddha in the formulation of His doctrine. They were the Upanishads, the Jaina system and the Sankhya system. The Upanishads taught that the universe represented a unity and that it contained an immanent soul and knowledge of that fact was the highest knowledge. The Jains had a theory of existence which attributed souls even to plants and inanimate things. The Sankhyas talked of a primary matter which was eternal and existence was the result of a voluntary process by the play of cells upon it.

Minute Elements

Buddhism was opposed to all those systems. It declared as against the Upanishads that there was no real unity in the world and that everything was split up into an infinity of minute elements and that the individual represented a complex of physical and mental elements without soul or personality and the external world, an assemblage of impermanent elements without any abiding substance. The Buddha de-

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EDUCATION FOR ALL

The Wardha Scheme Its Possibilities

MR. JOHN SARGENT,

Educational Commissioner, in a Broadcast Talk.

THE following is a summary of his talk:

When the authors of the original Wardha scheme envisaged the idea of a free and compulsory system of education for all Indian boys and girls, they prescribed an age-range of 7-14 years. The Central Advisory Board of Education, when they examined the Wardha Scheme, felt that the lower age limit should be dropped from 7 to 6. The reasons for fixing this lower limit at an age which on educational grounds most of us would regard as unduly high, were largely economic. It is true that neither body ignored the importance of the earlier stages but both hoped that the need would be met by private enterprise, with comparatively limited financial assistance, from public funds. I sincerely trust, but am not altogether confident, that this hope will be realised, for my experience has left me in no doubt as to the extreme importance in the life of every child of the years between 4 and 7. During that period good habits can be formed and physical defects, minor in many cases but still important in their possible results, can be detected and remedied.

Women Teachers for the Young

The problem of educating these very young people turns one's thoughts naturally to the importance of the woman teacher at this stage of education, I am one of those who believe that all small children, at any rate up to the age of 7, ought to be taught by women. Mr. S. H. Wood, who visited India two or three years ago with Mr. Abbott and wrote a very interesting report on certain aspects of Indian Education, told me shortly after his return to England that one of the things which had struck him most forcibly out here was the lack of women teachers, and particularly of qualified women teachers, in the earlier stages of the Indian educational sys-

tem. There are not sufficient women teachers at any stage of education in this country. Even if some people feel that the reverence for and influence of women may be weakened should they be encouraged to turn from the home to other occupations, the imperative need for women of the best type to come and teach in our schools is in my opinion a still more urgent and essential consideration.

School Medical Service

Another thought arising from the Infants School is the great importance of the physical side of education in the widest sense. Most of us grown-ups when we are feeling physically uncomfortable, even if not actually ill, find it difficult to give our whole attention to what we are doing. Why then should we expect children, who are ill-nourished or have tooth-ache or ear-ache or are suffering from any of the many childish ailments, to concentrate on their work when we cannot do so ourselves in similar circumstances?

I want to see a much wider development of the school medical service and a much closer co-operation between the school and the home. I emphasise the need of this particularly at the early stage because experience has shown the surprisingly large proportion of children between 4 and 7 who are suffering from some physical defect usually not serious in itself but likely to cause serious trouble later on if neglected.

We shall never plant the seeds of sound learning or the love of knowledge in small boys and girls, or in bigger boys and girls for that matter, unless we make our schools places where it is easy for them to work happily, play happily and become conscious of the joy that comes from co-operative tasks successfully performed.

Nursery Schools

I am doubtful whether it is possible to exaggerate the im-

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1940

EXCESS PROFITS TAX

THE STATE COUNCIL REJECTED at its second reading on Thursday the Excess Profits Tax Bill, even without a division. The tax was called for in view of the increased expenditure due to the War. As an emergency measure it can be justified on the ground that those who make profits in excess as a result of the War should contribute a share of their income towards war expenditure. The fact cannot be gainsaid that, while the War has necessarily and unexpectedly increased the Government expenditure, it has also contributed towards profits in excess in several trades. It stands to reason, therefore, that those who make excessive profits out of the war could well contribute towards its expenditure. All right-thinking men could justify this tax as an equitable war measure.

The Excess Profits Tax has been successfully tried in many a country on the principle of taxing one's income to meet the necessary expenditure of the State. In recent times many a Congress Government in India resorted to this measure as a reasonable means of meeting the loss of revenue incurred by enforcing Prohibition in accordance with the Congress programme. As was to be expected, stout opposition was raised against this measure by persons and interests directly affected by it. In this Island where the people bear a heavy burden of direct and indirect taxes the Excess Profits duty may well be tried as a temporary measure to meet the needs of the War. Mr. HUXHAM rightly warned the State Council against the rejection of the Bill on the ground that additional taxes had to be imposed on some necessities to avoid financial crisis.

This Island cannot hope to escape the strains and stress of the War in financial matters. The policy of the Government in this respect should be largely conditioned by this fact. They have also to contribute their share towards the war expenditure, following the pre-

cedent created by the last Great War. Ceylon contributed in terms of money alone £ 2,000,000 to the British War Exchequer in the last War. It is therefore imperatively necessary that the Government should adopt all possible ways of retrenchment and saving so as to secure the financial stability of the Island. We are conscious of the fact that the rejected Bill was subject to serious flaws which would have vitiated its successful operation. It is a fact that the Excess Profits duty can prove a more effective measure in an industrial country. True it is that the Bill was not comprehensive enough to be free from the charge of discrimination. It is to be hoped that a better and more comprehensive Excess Profits duty will be introduced before long to avoid further taxation on necessities, which would fall heavily on the masses who can ill afford to bear it. In any case, the Financial Secretary's warning, if it means anything, signifies that the country cannot avoid additional taxation.

REVIEW

The Tamil Men of Letters of Ceylon. இழந்தமிழ் அறிஞர் வரலாறு. By Vidwan S. Ganesha Iyer.

The above book by the distinguished Tamil scholar Vidwan S. Ganesha Iyer, supplies a long felt want. There are a few works on the lives of Tamil men of letters, notably the one by the late Coomaraswamy Pulavar of Chunnakam, but none dealing exclusively with the men of letters of Ceylon. The book contains all the available biographical details of the various men, a critical appreciation of their works and passages illustrative of their chief characteristics. It is written in that terse and elegant diction which is already familiar to the readers of the author's *Tholkappiam*. The book reveals a good deal of patient attempt to collect material, judicious selection, critical acumen and catholicity of taste. We feel no doubt that the Vidwan has laid the Tamil public under a great obligation by bringing out such a compendious account of Ceylon's contribution to Tamil letters. The get up of the book is all that may be desired and forms a good bargain for its price. We heartily recommend it to the Tamil public of Ceylon.

Kokuvil Hindu English School

Nine out of eleven students presented from the Hindu English School, Kokuvil, were successful in the last J.S.C. examination, the results of which were recently announced. Mas. E. Palenthiram who was reading in the Pre J.S.C. class last year has entered the Royal College, Colombo, this term as a Governor's Scholar.

THE TELLIPPALAI MURDER CASE

Police Inspector Cross-Examined

BANGLES IN BOTTLE

ON the request of Mr. F. W. Obeyesekere, Counsel for the third accused, the Judge, Mr. Justice Moseley, inserted the bangles produced into the bottle, in the course of today's proceedings in the Tellipallai triple murder trial.

The Judge remarked, in doing so that when Inspector John Attygalle put them into the bottle yesterday, at the request of Mr. N. Rajaratnam Counsel for the first accused, he noted that the bangles entered the bottle not without difficulty, and Mr. Obeyesekere submitted that the bangles had lost their shape.

Inspector Attygalle was cross-examined the whole of today; the case for the prosecution will be closed probably on Monday.

Why Recording of Statement Was Not Delegated

Cross examined by Mr. N. Rajaratnam (for the first accused Karaly Muttiah), Inspector Attygalle said that he did not delegate the recording of the statement of the second accused to anybody else, as he wanted to do it himself, he being the officer who was inquiring into the case.

He said that on that morning he got up about 6.30 or 7 o'clock, and had other work to do and inspect a motor garage.

Mr. Rajaratnam: Surely the recording of the second accused's statement was more important than the inspecting of the garage?—Had I divined that the second accused was going to make the statement that he made I would not have gone to the garage.

The accused had to be produced before the Magistrate before 4.30 p. m. that day, said the witness. If the accused had made any other statement, he would have been produced before that time. The recording of the accused's statement was concluded at 3.15 or 3.30. It was to a great extent the same as the confession produced in the case.

Mr. Rajaratnam:—You still had time to produce him before the Magistrate at 4.30—Yes.

What then prevented you from doing what you had already decided to do?—I had to search the house of the second accused.

Couldn't you have searched the house without him?—No.

What did you expect to find in the house?—Money.

The witness said that it was his intention to take the accused before the Magistrate and bring him back

Made No Suggestion

Mr. Rajaratnam:—I put it to you that you felt it necessary to take him before the Magistrate and record the statement that he had made so as to use it in evidence and therefore you suggested to the accused that he should make a statement?—I made no suggestion to the second accused.—I took him before the Magistrate and said he wanted to make a statement.

You know that when a confession is made to a Magistrate under the Procedure Code it is admissible in evidence?—Yes.

The witness said that he took the accused to the Mallakam Magistrate because it was the Mallakam Magistrate who had jurisdiction in the case.

The Magistrate in Jaffna at that

time was a Tamil speaking Magistrate.

Mr. Rajaratnam:—You did not think it better in the interest of the administration of justice, more prudent, to have taken him before a Tamil-speaking Magistrate?—I only wanted to take him before the Magistrate having jurisdiction in the case.

Journey to Mallakam

It did not strike you that the journey from Jaffna to Mallakam under Police custody might evaporate some of his thoughts?—I did not know what he was going to say to the Magistrate.

Your innocence is perplexing?

The witness said that he recorded the statement by Kurunathy near the jail on returning from Myliddy, after Kurunathy had unearthed the tin containing money. Normally it would have been improper for him to have recorded the statement when he was in Fiscal's custody, but in the circumstances he was justified.

The witness said that Jayamanne had nothing to do with the case. He was merely the driver of the motor patrol car and had no connection with the case.

Mr. Rajaratnam:—He was not taken into secret Councils; he did not know the next move till the attack was made?—That is so.

The witness said that when the third accused was arrested he had a copy of the confession made by the second accused to the Magistrate.

Mr. Rajaratnam:—You did not whip it out before the third accused and say, "tell us all about it"—I am not so dramatic.

The witness said that immediately he told the third accused that he had arrested him in connection with the Tellipallai murders, he said, "I want to tell the truth to you and to the Magistrate."

He decided not to proceed against Kurunathy and Rasacutty, as there was not sufficient evidence. The finding of the money with Kurunathy was not sufficient to connect him with the tragedy. He was contemplating action against him as a receiver of stolen goods.

Pawn Tickets Found

Cross-examined by Mr. A. D. J. Gunawardane (for the second accused), the witness said that though he had had information that Rasacutty had been given money, he did not search Rasacutty's house after the second accused was arrested. When he took the second accused to his house he searched the house; nothing in criminating was found. He found some pawn tickets.

At the Magistrate's Court the second accused cross-examined his mother about his having told her that he went with Karaly Muttiah (the first accused) and got a portion of the money. She denied it.

The witness stated that on the second date of the hearing of the case in the Magistrate's Court the second and third accused did not want Mr. Masilamani to appear for them and conduct their own defence. It was his first experience of such an incident.

When Tin was Dug Up

Cross examined by Mr. F. W. Obeyesekere (for third accused) the

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WAR AND INDIA'S FUTURE

Goal of British Policy

CONFERENCE METHOD ADVOCATED

By Sir Mirza M. Ismail,

(Dewan of Mysore, in Time and Tide, England)

(Continued from our issue of 22-1-40)

IT has been stated on behalf of the British Government that the goal of British policy with regard to India is the attainment by the latter of 'Dominion Status' of the type contemplated in the Statute of Westminster, and that, while steps for introducing suitable constitutional changes at the Centre would be taken soon after the close of the war, the proposed formation of a consultative committee is intended for securing Indian co-operation in matters relating to the prosecution of the war during the time that it lasts.

For its part, Congress demands that the independence of India should forthwith be recognised by the British Government by conceding to this country the right to draw up its own constitution by means of a Constituent Assembly to be summoned at the termination of the war, and that such constitutional changes as are immediately feasible should be introduced at the Centre pending the close of the war.

The scheme which I have ventured to put forward takes into account the essential and reasonable elements in the points of view both of the British Government and Congress. I believe it is quite possible by proceeding on the lines I have indicated to end the present impasse in a manner which would at once be peaceful and reasonable and would result in a lasting settlement satisfactory to all concerned—the British Government, Congress, the Muslims and other minorities and the Indian States.

Expansion of Viceroy's Council

I am afraid that the mere constitution of a Consultative Committee would not adequately meet the needs of the situation. It should, I think, be accompanied by the introduction of certain changes in the composition of the Governor-General's Executive Council. It must be remembered that, had it not been for certain difficulties which unluckily delayed the inauguration of the Federal scheme embodied in the Government of India Act of 1935, we should have had a Federal Government functioning in India when the war broke out. It is inconceivable that the British Government would in that event have put the clock back and scrapped a Federation which had actually come into being. It would therefore be not unreasonable to suggest that, in the present circumstances, non-official gentlemen drawn from British Indian public life and a representative of the States may be associated with the Government of India by increasing the strength of the Governor-General's Executive Council from six to ten. The additional four members may

include two representatives of Congress, one of the Muslim League and one of the States. It would also be desirable to secure a predominantly Indian personnel in the Executive Council, and I would, therefore, suggest that there should be not more than three European members in the Council for the present.

I would go further and appoint an Indian as Member in charge of Defence. When it is recalled that one of the strongest points of criticism against the Federal part of the Government of India Act concerned the reservation of 'Defence and External Affairs' by the Viceroy and Governor-General, it will be readily recognised how much more acceptable the scheme would be to Indian opinion if 'Defence' were placed in charge of an Indian Member.

War Advisory Council

At the same time, a Consultative Committee—a War Advisory Council, as I should prefer to call it—should be constituted to advise the Government of India on all matters relating to the prosecution of the war, the character of the Council demonstrating to the world India's oneness with the democracies in their war against Germany. The membership of the Governor-General's Executive Council should, of course, be quite distinct from that of the Advisory Council.

While these, to my mind, are steps that might possibly be taken to meet the immediate needs of the situation, I see no reason why the permanent solution of the problem of the future constitution should await the termination of the war. It is of interest to recall in this connection, as the *News Chronicle* has done, that the first pledge of self-government to India was given in 1917 and that the Montagu-Chelmsford Report was drawn up while the last war was still being waged. I would, therefore, urge that the British Government should announce their intention to summon as soon as possible a small conference of the representatives of the principal parties in India, Congress, the Muslim League, the Indian States and other important interests, to frame a constitution which would place India on a footing of equality with the Dominions in the British Commonwealth of Nations on the basis that the British Government undertake to give effect to the recommendations of this conference to the maximum extent possible. This Conference should meet in India and should be presided over by an experienced parliamentarian from England.

The Conference Method

I am aware that the Conference method of evolving the

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Lloyd George on Britain's Food Policy

Urges Every Bit of Land to be Conscripted

London, Thursday.

"Every scrap of land ought to be conscripted in the fight for freedom," declared Mr. Lloyd George, in the course of a debate in the House of Commons on agriculture, in which Mr. W. S. Morrison, the Minister for Food, justified the Government's policy in concentrating on the storage of wheats.

He stated that supplies of feeding-stuffs for animals had now been raised to 66 per cent. of the normal requirements and added that he did not think it reasonable to expect that full pre-war supplies of feeding stuffs could be maintained in war-time. Mr. Morrison also urged the utmost economy in overseas feeding-stuffs.

Mr. Lloyd George, declaring that British agriculture and the carrying capacity of British ships had largely declined compared with 1914, urged the Government to organise our resources on the assumption that it was going to be a very long struggle. He added that if it were a short one, we could gain by saving two or three years.

Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, the Minister of Agriculture, said that the good harvest from the 2,000,000 extra acres which they were utilising next year would be a matter of major importance in the conduct of the war, as it would be equivalent to a very great addition to our merchant marine and go a long way to relieve the strain at present put on the Royal Navy in conveying.

Jaffna Association's Plea for a State Farm

Flood Outlet and Irrigation Scheme

A resolution requesting the Minister of Agriculture and Lands to secure the establishment of a state farm of at least a thousand acres under the Iranamaddu Scheme as at Ridiyagama, was passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Association, held at the residence of the President, S. Kanagasabai, who took the chair. The matter was taken up on a motion by Mr. V. S. Karthigesu, seconded by Mr. N. Selvadurai.

A communication from Mr. V. Poopalapillai, of Mirusuvil complaining of the heavy damage to paddy crops caused by floods in the areas of Usan, Mirusuvil, was considered.

A sub-committee consisting of Messrs V. S. Karthigesu, C. K. Swaminathan and C. Arulampalam was appointed to visit the locality and to report to the committee what steps had to be taken to ameliorate the situation permanently.

The question of a combined flood outlet and irrigation scheme for Jaffna was discussed. It was resolved on the motion, of Chevalier P. Moses, seconded by Mr. C. K. Swaminathan, that the Minister of Agriculture and Lands be communicated with to inquire regarding the steps taken to carry out a resolution passed by the Central Board of Agriculture on the motion of Mr. C. Arulampalam, the Jaffna representative.

SETTLEMENT OF THE INDIAN DEADLOCK

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED

COALITION CABINETS NOT SUGGESTED

New Delhi, Jan. 24.

Mr. Jinnah's outburst to-day "warning" the British Government against a settlement with the Congress which would take no account of the position of the Muslims and other minorities is perhaps a better indication than anything one can obtain in Delhi itself, that the forthcoming conversations between Gandhiji and the Viceroy may result in the termination of the deadlock. Gandhiji's two recent articles have undoubtedly improved the prospects of a satisfactory understanding being reached, but it would not do to believe that everything is going to be smooth sailing.

Gandhiji himself, it is recalled, has expressed misgivings about all differences between the British Government and the Congress being removed and referred to several snags in the Viceroy's statement. To what extent will the principle of self-determination be made applicable to the Indian problem, whether through a Constituent Assembly or any similarly constituted body? Will Britain accept a short time-limit?

A Formula Suggested

In this connection a close student of the Indian problem in Delhi suggests a formula on the following lines: India will have Dominion Status in accordance with the Statute of Westminster two years after the establishment of peace, subject to certain agreements as regards the protection of minorities and British interests being reached. If need be the Hague International Court may decide whether those conditions have been fulfilled and, on an affirmative answer being given, Parliament should immediately undertake the necessary legislation.

But there are also immediate problems whose solution may give trouble. The Viceroy has spoken of "local adjustments in the provincial sphere" between the Congress and the Muslim League in order to ensure harmonious working at the Centre. This has been interpreted in certain quarters as implying the formation of Coalition Ministries in the Provinces and Anglo-Indian papers have been repeating the suggestion in the belief that it had the Viceroy's approval. I learn, however, from authoritative sources that His Excellency never intended to convey any such definite suggestion. All he meant, it seems, was that, without some understanding between the two organisations, whatever its nature and details, harmonious working of the Central Executive would be difficult. This factor must be borne in mind since the expanded Executive Council would function in fact as a responsible cabinet.

Executive Council's Functions

That brings up the question what functions would be assigned

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EDUCATION FOR ALL

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portance either of the nursery or of the infants schools. Apart from being the place where the foundations of education can be well and truly laid, it is the place where the functions of the mother and the teacher coalesce and where learning by doing things must be the principle on which the instruction is based. For older people also it is a place of inspiration. I know that on occasions when I have felt tired or disheartened, I have visited a good infants school and speedily recovered my confidence in the value of education. Unfortunately the nursery or infants school is expensive. The classes cannot be large and very little financial return can be expected from the sale of articles produced by these beginners.

The Wardha Scheme

This economic consideration leads me to say a word or two about the new basic system of education which has developed from the original Wardha scheme. Its main features have already been most clearly explained in this series. When I first read about the Wardha scheme some two years ago now, what struck me most was the similarity of several of its main ideas to those which many of us had been trying to work out for the last 10 years in England, e.g. the emphasis on learning through activity, on the underlying idea which should unite the various subjects of the curriculum, on the importance of relating education to the environment in which the child lives, on the danger of education being regarded as, or being allowed to become, a means of converting country people into townspeople on the connection between education and the hard necessity of earning a living and above all on the essential dignity of manual labour. On my way out from England last year I studied the scheme in greater detail as well as the explanations given by Gandhiji and its other prominent advocates and I realised that there were in it things new to me as well as familiar ones. I then understood that certain features to which exception might be taken on educational grounds like the late age of starting, the idea that education could or should be made to pay for itself, what seemed like an almost contemptuous ignoring of all other forms of education, really arose quite naturally from certain compelling ideas relating to the spiritual and economic needs of the Indian people ever present in the minds of its protagonists.

Gandhiji's Influence

I have neither the time nor the wish to comment on those aspects of the scheme, which have aroused controversy in educational circles. The promoters of the scheme have shown themselves quite exceptionally ready to modify their ideas to meet reasonable criticism and I am sure they will be equally willing to be guided by the outcome of the practical experience which is now being obtained in many parts of the country. Those

of us who want something big to happen in education and want it to happen soon will be conscious, over and above all difficulties and controversies, of the extreme value of having Gandhiji's interest and influence behind this Movement. I must, however, add one word on the economic issue involved by this scheme. If democracy is a good thing and if people in this country really believe in democracy, can any of them expect a Democratic state to survive which fails to provide for its members at least the minimum education which will enable them to realise their potentialities as individuals, citizens and workers? Such a minimum education must be universal, compulsory and free

Cost of Universal Education

It seems to me that the basic system of education, even in its present experimental stage, embodies many of the characteristics which this compulsory system should possess. What is it going to cost to bring it into being? Even if we accept the necessity that it may be many years before it can be introduced all over India, this does not absolve us from the immediate necessity of counting the cost. If we may assume that the sale of articles produced in the schools will cover a third of the total cost of the scheme, the net cost will remain in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2 per head of the population per annum. If there are 35 crores of people in India, this means an expenditure of Rs. 70 crores every year. This is a staggering figure and it does not take into account all the other branches of education which must still be provided if the needs both of the individual and of the community are to be fully satisfied. It is not for me to say how the money is to be found. I can only express the opinion that, in some way or other it has got to be found if India is going to overtake and hold her own with other nations which have already shouldered a similar burden.

The Teacher

This brings me by natural turn to the teacher because educational costs, like educational progress, depend very largely on the teacher. His or her salary will probably account for three-fourths or more of the total cost. I have been in close touch with teachers for many years and unless the Indian teacher is much more different from his western colleague than I have any reason to suppose, I shall expect to find among teachers in this country the same spirit of enthusiasm, service and self-sacrifice as I have found elsewhere. But after allowing for all that and for the fact that no sane man or woman would ever enter the teaching profession with the object of becoming wealthy, I still see the necessity of paying teachers reasonable salaries, if only that they may be free to devote their whole energy to their work in school without being distracted by financial worries at home.

Apart from the question of pay there is also the question of status. The teacher used to be held in great honour in olden India; why does he not enjoy as high a place in public esteem today?

Lecture Under the Dona Alpina Ratnayake Trust

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clared that any thought of eternal matter was a fiction of the imagination. He thus fundamentally repudiated the God of the theists and the eternal matter of the Sankhyas.

There were in the world two kinds of realities, continued Dr. Malalasekera, one pure reality without any position in time or space, and the other empirical reality consisting of various images with a position in time and space and with various qualities. The Buddha explained how the illusion of a material world was produced, and promulgated the doctrine of *Paticca Sammuppada* or dependent origination, which declared that although the separate elements were not connected with each other their manifestations in time and space were subject to definite laws, the laws of causation, and that everything that appeared only for a single moment depended for its origin on some other thing going before. There was thus no cause and effect but only fundamental interdependence. There was no destruction of one thing and no creation of another, but only a constant, uninterrupted and infinitely graduated change.

Modern Thought

It was interesting to note that some of the latest developments of Western philosophy very closely agreed with that view as shown by the writings of Mc Dougall, Bertrand Russell and Bergson, who maintained that life was a succession of instances and that the world was kinetic like a cinema.

The Buddhist teaching on that point was what was known as the doctrine of no soul. The use of the word "soul" was unsatisfactory because it was a very ambiguous word. Ordinarily, the soul was assumed to exist as a spiritual substance in sharp antithesis to material substances, thus giving rise to the contrast of soul and body as the constituents of a man with the assumption of their separability. It was generally regarded as something definite and having in it latencies of bliss and omnipotence. Where the soul or spirit was taught as a thing different in kind from the rest of the individual, Buddhism opposed such a view as being in fundamental antithesis of its view of life. The individual being entirely phenomenal there could not be to him a super-phenomenal "athman". There was no thing in man which could be called an unchanging, undying essence. Everything was wholly impermanent. That did not mean that Buddhism taught annihilation of body and mind at death. For, besides the teaching of "Anicca" and "Anatta" there was also the teaching of "Karma," the doctrine of action, bodily and mental.

Action and Retribution

There was another aspect of "Anatta" which deserved consideration. It was said that "Anatta" took away the sense of moral responsibility on which was based the whole fabric of social morality. That question had been discussed by Buddhist commentators, who held that there was no contradiction at all be-

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 753.
In the matter of the estate of the late Sittampalam Veluppillai of Araly South

- Deceased.
Sithamparabchy widow of Sittampalam Veluppillai of Araly South
Vs. Petitioner.
1. Sittampalam Chellappah of Tholpuram.
 2. Arampoo Sanmugam of do.
 3. Arampoo Mailyaganam of do presently of District Office, Tamerlau, Pahang in the F.M.S.
 4. Subramaniam Muttukumaru
 5. and wife Theivanaippillai of Tholpuram.
 6. Muttachchy widow of Subramaniam of do.
 7. Kandiah Appiah.
 8. and wife Sivakamippillai of do presently of Railway Dispensary, Chief Accountant Office, Railways, Kuala Lumpur in the F. M. S.
 9. Muttukumaru Murugesu of Singapore
 10. Muttukumaru Chittampalam of Tholpuram

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 24th day of July 1939 in the presence of Mr. V. Nagalingam Proctor, for petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the said petitioner having been read; it is ordered that the abovenamed petitioner as the widow of the deceased be granted Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased unless the said respondents shall appear before this Court on the 31st day of August 1939 and show cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 5th day of August 1939

(Sgd.) S. Rodrigo

District Judge

Extended to 31-1-40

(O. 67. 29-1-40 & 1-2-40)

tween the denial of a real personality and the fact that former deeds engender a capacity for having a consequence. The Buddha's teaching was that there was action and retribution but there was no agent. It passed out of one set of momentary elements into another set maintaining a consecution of those elements.

The ignorance of the elements and nature of birth and death produced the run of phenomenal life which was called "bondage", and when those elements disappeared the ensuing state was called "deliverance". Similarly, with regard to the question of free will it was asked if nothing arose without a cause could there be free will. There was a tradition that the doctrine of "Paticca Sammuppada" was established by the Buddha in defence of free will and against the theory of determination. The Buddha singled out for special censure one of His contemporaries who maintained that all things were unalterably fixed and nothing could be changing. The Master called that the most pernicious of doctrines. The Buddha declared Himself to be an upholder of free action. The law of "Karma" said that for every action to have a consequence the action should be produced by an effort of the will. That so-called free will was nothing but a strong will.

In more aspects than one the Buddha's was a unique teaching but the doctrine of "Anatta" was the most significant of them all. The doctrine of Anatta with its base in the teaching of the "Paticca Sammuppada" was the finest flower in Indian thought, concluded Dr. Malalasekera.

War and India's Future

(Continued from page 3)

future constitution of India is not favoured at present by Congress politicians who have, in all seriousness, mooted the idea of convening a Constituent Assembly based on adult suffrage. But the convening of such an Assembly, as it has been pertinently pointed out, presupposes either the successful termination of a revolt against the Ruling Power, the British Government, or the voluntary divestment of sovereignty by Parliament and the abdication of its responsibility for the shaping of the future constitution of India. No realist would suppose for a moment that the former is a possibility any more than that the latter is anywhere within the region of probability.

Again, what about the stupendous practical difficulties inherent in the proposal? Was ever a Constituent Assembly convened in the case of a country with a population of 400 millions? Is this idea at all likely to find favour at the hands of the ninety million Muslims with whose accredited organisation Congress has already many and quite serious differences? Even if some kind of indirect election were adopted, could the Constituent Assembly possibly be a business-like body of manageable proportions and fit for deliberations? Was ever a constitution framed by a mass meeting? It is unfortunate that Congress should have come to set so much store by his new slogan. We have enough of discordant and mutually exclusive claims already. Let us refrain from adding a new factor which might well be disastrous to the best interests of the country. Let us not, in unyielding insistence on a particular means, lose sight of the end itself.

Besides, it has been stated by the protagonists of the idea of a Constituent Assembly that the Indian States, as such, have no place in the Assembly. An Assembly with the States left out may be able to hammer out a constitution for British India, certainly not for all India. It is no concern of the Indian States what means British India adopts to evolve a constitution which does not touch them. But who can deny that such a constitution would only take India back by one full decade, back to the days when the Federal ideal seemed shrouded in the misty twilight of a remote future?

Political Fanaticism

I cannot help referring in this connection to the attempt that has often been made in the past—and has been repeated in the discussion on the question of the Constituent Assembly—to suggest that to some extent the interests of the Ruler—of the Indian States and the interests of their people are opposed to each other. Such an attempt can only be dismissed as disingenuous. To criticise the States' political system, which for reasons historical and other is different from that which governs the rest of India is to betray an intolerance which is most assuredly inimical to harmony and unity in the country.

No one can fail to see that even the most backward of the

Settlement of The Indian Deadlock

(Continued from page 3)

to the reformed Executive Council. Would it have at least the powers for instance which the Government of India despatch on the Simon Report recommended? They would, of course, be utterly inadequate for the present requirements but with the Executive Council reduced to the position of a collection of departmental heads with no joint responsibility for anything and all important matters being dealt with by the Governor-General through his own Secretariat, its transformation into a responsible Cabinet will not be a simple or easy process.

And of course, the rumblings of the Muslim League's thunder, heard through Mr. Jinnah's statement cannot be ignored. That the Muslim League is Britain's best friend in India and should not be let down is a view which is not without its supporters in Delhi, though those gifted with longer vision do not look on the prospect of the situation deteriorating with no settlement of the political or communal problem with any confidence or joy. Fortunately, these are indications that permanent suspension of the constitution does not appeal to men in authority and among Muslims themselves [are leaders like His Highness the Aga Khan who deplore recent developments.

—(Hindu)

Auction Sale

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA
No. 14644

Sellappah Sinnadurai of Tholpuram

Vs. Plaintiff.

Jool Morris Tharmanayagam Cooke of Vaddukodai, presently of Jaffna.

Defendant.

Under and by virtue of the Commission issued to me in the above case, I shall sell by public auction the undermentioned mortgaged property for the recovery of the amount stated therein.

On Tuesday the 20th February 1940, from 1 p. m. at the spot.

PROPERTY REFERRED TO.

Land situated at Periaranthan in the parish of Paranthan Karachchy Division, Jaffna District, Northern Province called "Periyaranthan-kadu" in extent 36 acres. Out of this on the Western side the extent of 25 acres is bounded on the East and North by the Kamarikudaaru, West by lot No. 33 A; South by the remaining portion of this land and the land reserved for the road, the whole 25 acres hereof:

V. S. AMBALAWANER
Commissioner.

Vaddukodai 22-1-1940.
(Mis. 257. 29-1-40)

Indian States have attempted to respond to the new forces and new environment, and to modernise their political institutions against the background of their own tradition and history. In matters secular there is no one truth and no one light but many truths and many lights. No one is so absolutely right that he is entitled to compel others to his views. Fanaticism is as bad in politics as in religion. The States can learn from British India and British India can learn from the States; the radical can learn from the conservatives and vice versa.

The Tellippalai Murder Case

(Continued from page 2)

witness said that when Kurunathy dug up the tin in the compound of his house, he did not open it on the spot, as he wanted to do so in the presence of his superior officer. Mr. Muttucumaru was present, but he wanted to open it in the presence of Mr. Krisnaratne.

Kurunathy said that the tin contained coins. He himself shook the tin and there was a sound as of coins.

Mr. Obeyesekere:—How did you know that Kurunathy was not going to practise a hoax on you?—

The witness remarked that Kurunathy was not going to put coins out of his pocket.

The witness said that the jeweller, Lewis Singho, said on December 7 that he was to deliver the attiyal he was making for Cecilia in one or two days. On the 13th he took it for granted that it had been delivered and searched the house; he did not find it.

The Judge (Mr. Justice Moseley): You would have looked rather foolish if you brought those people from Vavuniya, and found that the attiyal still reposed with Lewis Singho?

The witness: But I guessed right.

The witness said that when he went to the house of the third accused with him, the third accused's mother produced the bottle containing jewellery with reluctance. He did not terrorise her, he said.

Counsel: Where is she now?

Witness: She is dead and gone.

Counsel: No wonder (Laughter).

Bangles in Bottle

Counsel desired the Judge to insert the bangles produced into the bottle. Doing so, the Judge remarked that he had noted that when the witness put them into the bottle yesterday, at the request of Counsel for the first accused, the bangles entered the bottle not without difficulty.

Mr. Obeyesekere said that the bangles had lost their shape.

The Judge enquired if they were not sometimes oval, and whether it was suggested that the bangles were not in the bottle.

Mr. Rajaratnam said that it was the conclusion.

The Judge suggested the Police could have got a larger bottle.

The witness stated in reply to Mr. Obeyesekere that the third accused was kept more than 24 hours in Police custody before he was produced before the Magistrate. He expected to complete his investigations within 24 hours, he said. He denied that pressure was brought to bear on him to make a statement.

Mr. Obeyesekere had not concluded his cross examination when the Court adjourned.

Mr. Loos said that he had one more witness to call before closing the case for the prosecution.

The Northern Province Teachers' Association

The annual general meeting of the Northern Province Teachers' Association was held in the Jaffna Hindu College Hall on Saturday the 27th inst at 9-30 a.m. A large number of teachers were present. As part of the business of the day six resolutions in connection with current educational matters were passed.

Earlali Young Men's Shaiva Association

The above association which has been in existence for the last sixteen years was organised on a well defined basis on January 20th, 1940. About forty members met at the Earlali Shaivite School Hall at 7 p.m. to elect the officers for the current year. After the meeting began with the singing of Thevaram, Mr. C. Sinnathurai was voted to the chair. Mr. N. Thambu, Headmaster Earlali Shaivite School was elected Secretary Protem. The Chairman explained the objects of the meeting. Then the election of office-bearers for the year resulted as follows.

Patron:—Mr. A. Ponniah

President:—Mr. M. Sittampalam

Vice-Presidents:—Messrs. N. Eliathamby, A. Perampalam, C. Sinnathurai and N. Thambu.

General Secretary:—Mr. M. Gnappiragasam B. Sc.

Religious Secretary:—Mr. M. Kandiah

Secretary:—Mas. S. Ambalavanar

Joint Treasurers:—Mr. S. Ponnuthurai and Mas. S. Kumaraswamy

Auditor:—Mr. E. Kuaratnam.

Executive Committee:—The above office-bearers including the following persons Messrs. S. Velupillai, N. Velupillai, S. Rajah and S. Shiva-Rajah were elected as members.

Then Mr. M. Gnappiragasam B. Sc. delivered an interesting address on "The Work Before us".

(Cor)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 764.

In the matter of the intestate estate and effects of the late Sinnatankam wife of K. Subramaniam of Maviddapuram Deceased.

Gnanasekarampillai Arumugam of Maviddapuram

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Subramaniam Nadarajah
2. Subramaniam Kanagarayer
3. Subramaniam Theivanaipillai
4. Subramaniam Rukkumany
5. K. Subramaniam all of Maviddapuram

The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th respondents are minors by their guardian-ad-litem the 5th respondent

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 11th day of December 1939 in the presence of Mr. K. E. Thambu Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed petitioner be declared entitled to letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that the same be issued to him accordingly unless the abovenamed respondents or any other person shall appear before this court on or before the 2nd day of February 1940 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 9th day of January 1940.

Sgd. G. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 69, 29-1-40 & 1-2-40)

Order NisiIN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 769.
In the matter of the intestate Estate
and Effects of the late Kanagam-
mah wife of Marimuthu Tharmal-
ingam of Kandarmadam in Van-
narponnai East Deceased.
Rasammah widow of Subramaniam
of Kandarmadam in Vannarponnai
East

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Tharmalingam Kausgaratnam
and
2. Marimuthu Tharmalingam both
of do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for final
disposal before C. Coomaraswamy
Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on
the 25th day of August 1939 in the
presence of Messrs. Aiyadurai and
Thambyrajah, Proctors on the part of
the petitioner and the petition and
affidavit of the petitioner having been
read:

It is ordered that the 2nd respond-
ent as the father of the minor the 1st
respondent be appointed Guardian-
ad-litem over the minor to represent
him in the testamentary proceedings,
that the petitioner as the mother of
the deceased be declared entitled to
take out Letters of Administration
to the Estate of the deceased and that
Letters of Administration be issued
to her accordingly unless the res-
pondents or any other person shall
on or before the 1st day of Novem-
ber 1939 appear and show sufficient
cause to the satisfaction of this Court
to the contrary.

Jaffna the 25th day of August 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended for
the 31st day of January 1940.

Intd. C. C.
D. J.

(O. 68, 29-1-40 & 1-2-40)

Order NisiIN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA (held at Point Pedro)
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 105 P. T.

In the matter of the intestate estate
of the late R. Selvaduraisamy of
Valvettiturai

Deceased.

Veluppillai Mailyaganam of Val-
vettiturai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Selvaduraisamy Ramasamy
2. Thangeswary daughter of Sel-
vaduraisamy
3. Rajeswary daughter of Selva-
duraisamy
4. Alageswary daughter of Selva-
duraisamy
5. Puvaneswary daughter of Sel-
vaduraisamy
6. Kannikaparameswary daughter
of Selvaduraisamy

7. Mailyaganam Thurairajah all
of Valvettiturai

Respondents.

This matter coming on for dis-
posal before S. Rodrigo Esquire Addi-
tional District Judge on the 30th
day of November 1939 in the
presence of Mr. K. Rataasingham Pro-
ctor on the part of the Petitioner and
the petition and affidavit of the Peti-
tioner having been read:

It is ordered that the 7th Respon-
dent be appointed guardian-ad litem
over the minors the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th
and 6th Respondents for the pur-
pose of the above Testamentary pro-
ceedings and that the Petitioner as
the father-in-law of the deceased be
declared entitled to take out letters
of administration and that letters
of administration be issued to the
Petitioner unless the Respondents or
any other person shall appear before
this Court on or before the 11th day
of January 1940 and show sufficient
cause to the satisfaction of this Court
to the contrary.

The 6th day of December 1939.

(Sgd.) S. RODRIGO,
Addl. District Judge.Extended and reissued
for 1-2-40.

(Initialled) S. R.

A. D. J.

11-1-40.

(O. 66, 22 & 29-1-40)

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[Mis. 242, 4-1-40 to 31-5-40]

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