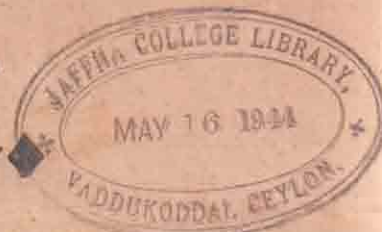


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JAFFNA, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1944.

NO. 11.

No Increase In Price Of Paddy

Position Explained To Jaffna Growers

That there would be no increase in the present price of paddy was impressed on a deputation of North-east Province paddy growers which met the Minister of Agriculture and the Civil Defence Commissioner on Wednesday. Mr. N. Nadarajah, K. C., acted as spokesman of the deputation, and Mr. J. W. H. O'Regan, Assistant Civil Defence Commissioner, was also present.

The deputation urged the abandonment of the levy in the case of smaller fields and also in cases where for unavoidable reasons the return per acre was barely sufficient to allow for seed paddy and the employment allowance.

Already Considered

The Minister explained that this point had already been covered by recent instructions. Where there was a failure of crops with the result that the yield was inadequate to allow for the seed paddy requirement and the customary allowance for feeding labour, there would be no levy. The case of each such field would be specially examined.

The deputation pressed for the removal of the 50-bushel limit in the case of producers who had one cultivation.

It was explained to the deputation that under present conditions and with regard to the requirements of the internal purchase scheme it was not possible to agree to any relaxation on this point.

Question of Price

On the question of price, the deputation urged that the price of paddy should be increased to Rs. 10 per bushel. The Minister explained how the increase in the present price of paddy as against pre war prices compared with the increased prices of other agricultural products. He indicated that even the price of Rs. 6 per bushel involved a very substantial subsidy. He held out no hope of any increase in the present paddy price.

Certain other points in the existing regulations were clarified at the interview. —The Daily News.

WOMAN "TRAMPLED TO DEATH"

A 56-year-old woman named Sinnamma is alleged to have been trampled to death at night in her house near the Perumal kovil at Vannarpannai.

Allegations are made that she resisted an attempt by certain men to take her daughter out.

Mr. J. E. A. Alles, the Jaffna Magistrate held the magisterial inquiry and ordered warrants for the arrest of two men, Tharmalingam and Alukadai Shaumugam.

THE DANCE OF SIVA



By Pandit V. K. P. Nathan

"The Lord of Thillai's Court a mystic dance performs; What's that, my dear?"—Tiruvavagam XII 14.

A great master-of-dancing (Nataraja) is Siva. The cosmos is His Theatre, there are many different steps in His repertory; He Himself is actor and audience—

When the Actor beateth the drum. Everybody cometh to see the show; When the Actor collecteth the stage properties

He abideth alone in His happiness. How many various dances of Siva are known to his Worshipers I cannot say. No doubt the root idea behind all of these dances is more or less one and the same, the manifestation of primal rhythmic energy; Siva is the Eros Protogenos of Lucretius, when he wrote:—

"It would seem that dancing came into being at the beginning of all things, and was brought to light together with Eros, that ancient one, for we see this primeval dancing clearly set forth in the choral dances of the constellations, and in the planets and fixed stars, their interweaving and interchange and orderly harmony."

I do not mean to say that the most profound interpretation of Siva's dance was present in the minds of those who first danced in frantic, and perhaps intoxicated energy, in honour of the pre-Aryan hill-god, afterwards merged in Siva. A great motive is religion or art, any great symbol becomes all things to all men; age after age it yields to men such treasure as they find in their own hearts. Whatever the origin of Siva's dance, it became in time the noblest image of activity of God which any art or religion can boast of. Of the various dances of Siva I shall only speak of three, one of them alone forming the main subject of interpretation. One is an evening dance in the Himalayas, with a divine chorus described as follows in the Siva Pradosha Stotra—

"Placing the Mother of the Three Worlds upon a golden throne, studded with precious gems, Sulapani dances on the heights of Kailas, and all the gods gather round Him." "Sarasvathi plays on the Vina, Indra

on the flute, Brahma holds the time-marking symbols, Lakshmi begins a song, Vishnu plays on a drum and all the gods stand round about."

"Gandharvas, Yakshas, Patagas, Uragas, Siddhas, Sadhyas, Vidhyatras, Awaras, Apsaras and all the beings dwelling in the three worlds assemble there to witness the celestial dance and hear the music of divine choir at the hour of twilight."

This evening dance is also referred to in the invocation preceding the Katha Sarit Sagara.

In the pictures of this dance, Siva is two-handed, and the co-operation of the gods is clearly indicated in their position of chorus. There is no prostrate Asura trampled under Siva's feet. So far as I know, no special interpretations of this dance occur in Saiva literature.

The second well-known dance of Siva is called the *Thandava*, and belongs to *tamasic* aspect as Bhairava or Virabhadra. It is performed in cemeteries and burning grounds, where Siva, usually in ten-armed form dances wildly with Devi accompanied by troops of capering imps. Representations of this dance are common amongst ancient sculptures, as at Ellora, Elephanta, and also at Bhuvaneshvara. This *thandava* dance is in origin that of a pre-aryan divinity, half-god, half-demon who holds this midnight revels in the burning ground. In later times, this dance in the cremation ground, sometimes of Siva, sometimes of Devi, is interpreted in Saiva and Sakta literature in a most touching and profound sense.

Thirdly, we have the Nadanta dance of Nataraja before the assembly (Sabha) in the golden hall of Chidamparam or Thillai, the centre of the Universe, first revealed to gods and rishis after the submission of the latter in the forest of Taragam, as related in the Kailasa Puranam. The legend, which has after all no very direct connection with the meaning of the dance, may be summarised as follows:—

In the forest of Taragam dwelt multitudes of heretical rishis, following of the Mimamsa. Thither proceeded Siva to entice them, accompanied by his consorts, as follows:—

(Continued on page 4)

CODE OF HONOUR FOR SCHOOLBOYS

In New York, a code to govern the behaviour of the city's Junior High School students, prepared by the youngsters themselves, was adopted this week by a majority vote of 83 junior high schools representing a student population of 100,000. This is the first time in U. S. educational history that a large body of school boys and girls voluntarily signified their adherence to a code of moral conduct formulated by a Committee drawn from their own number and democratically voted upon.

The code states: "(1) I will never knowingly, by word or deed, injure another person's feelings or property in any manner. (2) I will always respect the religious beliefs of others as I will respect my own. (3) I will courtesy to other people at all times and particularly to my elders. (4) I will abide by the laws and regulations of my school and community. (5) I will be honest with myself and with others and I will practise cleanliness of mind and body at all times."

SUSPECTED PADDY PLOT

Systematic and regular transport of paddy from Vavuniya and Jaffna is being suspected by the Police in consequence of a detection by Sub-Inspector Abeyakoon.

He found 50 bushels of paddy being taken from Vavuniya and Jaffna on apparently forged permit. Taking the permit from the man transporting the paddy, he went to Vavuniya and was told that the signature on the permit was not that of Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, Assistant Food Controller, Vavuniya.

The matter was turned over to Inspector A. D. Rodrigo for further investigation and it was found that the counterfoils of certain permits issued for the transport of rice from Vavuniya to Jaffna and the connected papers are missing from the Vavuniya Kachecheri.

The Police are continuing their inquiries. A clerk in the kachecheri, a clerk in the Railway Department a teacher and an overseer are suspected of a conspiracy to transport paddy from Vavuniya to Jaffna on forged permits.

MANIPAY MARUTHADY VINAYAGAR TEMPLE

We understand that at a public meeting of the devotees and worshippers of the above temple held on the 19th April, at Manipay, under the chairmanship of Mr. Kanagasabai Swaminathan it was resolved to take steps to have the temple declared a public trust under the Trust Ordinance and to formulate a scheme of management by an elected Board.

A committee has been appointed to give effect to the resolution, with Mr. K. Chornalingam as Chairman and Mr. Amrthaliam as Secretary.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, MAY 15, 1944

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

IN EUROPE, WITH THE EXCEPTION of the Russian offensive and the opening of General Alexander's offensive in Italy, the war is still confined to the preliminary stage of pounding German key-points. Non-stop attacks are being delivered on the continent day and night. Synthetic oil plants, railways, factories—in short everything the Germans need for the functioning of their war machine is being bombed. That this preliminary stage of invasion is necessary and is bearing fruit is evident from the reports issued by the R. A. F. from time to time summarising the results of the attacks. The destruction has been terrific and the Germans have now every opportunity of realising the fatal mistake they made when they pinned their faith to the air weapon and accepted the assurance of their leaders that Germany was safe from Allied air attack. The weapon itself has been virtually struck out of their hands. The number of German fighters encountered by the Allied air forces is getting fewer and fewer, while the latter is able to roam about the continent practically unchecked. There is not the slightest doubt that the pounding of Germany will continue unabated till the High Command feels that the enemy has had enough to make invasion less costly than it would otherwise be. These attacks will help to save a very large number of lives when invasion begins.

On the Eastern front the Russians have taken Sebastopol and the entire Crimea has been cleared of the enemy. As the Russians penetrate deeper into Rumania and the other territories occupied by the enemy, German resistance will grow much stronger. This is only to be expected in view of the shortening of the enemy line and the greater proximity of the enemy forces to their bases. The result of the Russian campaign shows clearly how Hitler has blundered in the direction of the Russian campaign. Experienced German generals had expressed their views against this campaign but Hitler chose to repeat the costly mistake of Napoleon. The result will be the same. The Russian campaign destroyed Napoleon. The same campaign has virtually destroyed Hitler. There has been nothing to compensate the Germans for the terri-

ble loss in men and material they have suffered on the Eastern front.

In Italy General Alexander's campaign has opened well. It has been organised well and promises to end the stalemate which has prevailed on the Italian front. In the East, the Japanese invasion of Manipur has practically fizzled out, while in the Pacific the Americans are continuing to dislodge the Japanese from the positions they have held. The outlook is certainly promising, but nevertheless, it would be a mistake to suppose that the war will be over soon. In Europe it is only a successful attack on land that will bring Germany to their knees. Similarly in the East, Japanese centres of resistance inside the outer perimeter must be reached and demolished before the war can come to an end.

Notes and Comments

Shortage of Labour

The shortage of labour in Ceylon, says the *Ceylon Daily News*, is directly due to the economic dislocation caused by the war as in other countries. It finds fault with the authorities for trying to solve the problem by the use of Defence Regulations without reference to all the contributory factors with the aid of statistical information on the nature of labour, the sources of supply, the adequacy of existing sources, any probable future variations and wage rates. It wants reliable statistical data, a survey of the man power available and a census of all existing labour and instances the scheme formulated by the Government of India to co-ordinate the use of unskilled labour throughout India by setting up Labour supply committees, Regional supply committees etc. which will lay down standards of service conditions, grain shops, temporary housing, sanitation, water supply and medical relief for all labour employed. The *Daily News* therefore, concludes that without the necessary data and an all-embracing scheme for co-ordinated action all the labour resources of the Island cannot be mobilised and the difficulties peculiar to wartime needs cannot be adequately solved.

It is all well and good to have all such statistics and every one knows that the necessary census cannot be taken during war time. It will not only require an army of specialised staff and time but a census taken at this time will be of no use later. Instead of waiting to draw up such an elaborate scheme until the war is over the common sense point of view is to ask the Government of India to lift the ban on immigration as a war-time measure, to stimulate food production and prevent starvation in this country. That will be the greatest war effort we can possibly put in under the circumstances. Why should not Jaffna take up this question with the C. D. F. during his forthcoming visit?

Italians To Help

We understand that 120 Italian prisoners of war have been brought to Ceylon for employment in irrigation works in connection with

the food cultivation campaign. Some of the men are said to have participated in the reclamation of the Pontine marshes, others have wide experience of tractors, still others have been farm hands or actual rice cultivators. Spain and Italy are places which produce from 100 to 400 bushels of rice per acre and it will undoubtedly be a great advantage to learn from these men their methods of cultivation; but each prisoner will cost, according to International law, at least ten times an Indian labourer to our Government. Why not also arrange with India to get a few thousands of South Indian labourers who have experience of paddy cultivation under conditions similar to those prevailing in Ceylon, and make the campaign a success? Our cultivators will have much to learn from them and rice will also be produced at a much cheaper rate.

Black Marketing

Despite the existence of an army of Price Control Inspectors it is a well-known fact that black marketing is flourishing in Jaffna in respect of foodstuffs and textiles. In the Grand Bazaar chillies, garlic, cummin seed and other curyrstuffs are openly offered at three and four times the controlled prices. Rice also can be bought at Rs. 1.25 per measure. We do not know what the authorities are doing. What are the Inspectors, the Police and the Headmen doing? Is the Government machinery so inefficient as not to be able to deal with the culprits and trace the sources from which the stuffs come? The North-Ceylon Traders' Union are quite right in asking the Government to hold an investigation into the doings of co-operative stores and remedy matters before it is too late. After all, a man is entitled to buy only half a measure of rice per week. Even this modicum, we are aware, was refused by a certain society last week on the ground that the Central Supply Station had not sufficient stocks to supply the required quantity to the society. Now what are the people supposed to do under such circumstances? Curyrstuffs such as chillies, pepper, garlic and cummin seed are not available at the Co-operative Stores. But, any amount is available at the private traders' stalls in the Grand Bazaar at exorbitant prices. If the Co-operative Stores cannot get these stuffs from anywhere, where do these private traders get them from? The Food Controller and his Inspectors owe an answer to this question.

Discrimination

The charge of discrimination made by the Traders' Union is a genuine one. For instance, sugar and condensed milk are supplied to Co-operative Societies only and not to authorized private dealers for sale to infants. Now there are a large number of people attached to authorized private dealers. What are their children to do? Why should their children be deprived of even the little milk available? There are also many other cases of discrimination. Instead of showing such discrimination why does not the Government plainly close down all the private traders' shops and have only the Co-operative Stores? When the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Batticaloa once made a speech to the effect that very soon no supplies

would be made to private traders and all the people would have to become members of co-operative stores and buy their requirements from them, the people of the place protested and the Minister of Agriculture was quick to clear the misunderstanding and assure the people that private traders also would exist side by side with Co-operative Societies, and that people would be free to attach themselves to either of them. But what is the use? What Mr. R. C. S. Cook, the Asst. Registrar at Batticaloa, said is literally true in the matter of milk now. When there was an attempt to cancel the licenses of dealers who had less than 400 coupons attached to them, that step again gave away the real purpose of the Department, which Mr. Cook was frank enough to tell the people in plain language.

Textile Control

The control of textiles is again another farce as Mr. Dahanayake said the other day at Galle. A month ago the writer bought a cloth at a shop in the Grand Bazaar and paid Rs. 7.00 the price demanded. When a receipt was asked for the dealer refused to give one. The writer returned the cloth and got back the money. The same kind of cloth—same in texture, colour, length, breadth etc.—the writer again bought for Rs. 5.75 at another shop and obtained a receipt as well. The writer reported the matter to the Controller of Textiles and no acknowledgment even has been received so far, though it is now a month since the complaint was made.

In India, we are told that people have saved crores of rupees after control was introduced. The latest Indian newspapers show that the Textile Controller in India has decided to take further immediate and vigorous steps to put an end to black market trading in cloth there. The orders recently issued give an indication of the proposed drastic action against black market trading. The Bombay Government has cancelled the licenses and frozen the stocks of 37 cloth dealers some of whom are prominent merchants in the city. "This is just the beginning of the new of our activities" said the Textile Commissioner in an interview. "The Provincial and State Governments have been asked to take immediate steps to put an end to malpractices in the cloth and yarn trade and I can assure everyone concerned that the steps will be drastic. I may point out that, while the dishonest merchants will be seriously dealt with the honest and straightforward ones can depend on all possible help." Can the Ceylon Controller of Textiles say how much the people have saved in the Island after the introduction of the control and how he is dealing with malpractices? Additions to the top of the staff are the only measures adopted so far!

GOVERNMENT OF CEYLON WAR PURPOSES FUND

The accounts of the above Fund on the 4th of May, 1944, are as follows: Acknowledged on 4-7-44 Rs. 5,950, 588.68; collections from general public 2513.61, social and sports clubs 34,453.46 Tea and Rubber producers 2,500.00 public services and pensioners 13,608.21 making a total of Rs. 6,003,663.92. Out of this a sum of Rs. 1,846,127.07 has been paid to local funds and Rs. 3,873,666.64 has been remitted to the United Kingdom up to May 5, 1944.

C. D. C. VISITING JAFFNA

Paddy Growers' Grievances

Unless much more paddy is bought under the Internal Purchase Scheme the rice ration cannot be continued, says the Civil Defence Commissioner (Sir Oliver Goonetilleke) in his latest appeal to the producers.

"Every bushel you sell to Government feeds over 30 fellow countrymen with rice for a week under the rice rationing scheme. If 9,000,000 bushels of paddy are bought in a year, Ceylon will be self-supporting as regards rice. You must help to attain that target."

Under the changes in the Internal Purchase Scheme brought into force as from the beginning of the "maha" harvest this year, compulsory purchase will be made at the rate of two bushels of paddy per acre for the main cultivation season in the year for all fields that are harvested, and a similar levy of one bushel per acre for the smaller cultivation season in the year.

An allowance will be made of six measures of paddy for a cultivator or an owner-cultivator and each dependant per week before the paddy is requisitioned. Rice coupons will be taken from the cultivator or owner-cultivator's book and the books of his dependants at the rate of five rice coupons for every bushel received by him. In the case of non-cultivating owners, the allowance is four measures for himself and each dependant, and the number of rice coupons to be taken away from their books is eight for every bushel received.

All producers will be entitled to receive substitute ration books and no substitute coupons will be removed from the books of producers. All paddy collected will be paid at the rate of six rupees a bushel.

Misinterpretation

Some of these recent changes in the Internal Paddy Purchase Scheme have been misunderstood by Government Agents and as a result much inconvenience caused to paddy owners and cultivators.

An instance of this nature was brought to the notice of the Civil Defence Commissioner two days ago by a deputation from the Jaffna Food Producers' Association, led by Mr. N. Nadaraja, K. C., and including Mr. J. U. Amarasingham and Mr. R. T. Chelliah (secretary). The Government Agent had issued notices to the effect that the first charge of two bushels on all fields would be made even without making allowance for seed paddy. That was a wrong interpretation of the order of the Civil Defence Commissioner, and on the representations of the Food Producers' Association the matter has been rectified. Similarly, it has now been notified to cultivators that no collection will be made from fields that have been damaged.

According to the new Internal Paddy Purchase rules no producer will be allowed to keep more than 50 bushels of paddy from any one harvest for himself and his dependants, excluding allowances for seed and any other approved purposes. The deputation pointed out to the Civil Defence Commissioner that while owners who cultivated twice a year under irriga-

KASTURBAI FUND TRUST OF 75 LAKHS OF RUPEES

A collection of 75 lakhs of rupees, to be presented to Gandhiji on his 75th birthday on October 2, to be utilised toward the memory of his wife, Kasturba, is the object of the recently-formed Kasturba Gandhiji Memorial Fund. The trustees include Mr. R. D. Tata, Sir Purushottamdas Thakurdas, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Mr. Devadas Gandhi. The trustees announced that Gandhiji had agreed to become the Chairman of the Trust. The objects of the Trust will be the welfare and education of women and children of all communities in India with a view of their social and economic advancement. In furtherance of these objects, the Trust, among other things, will establish homes and institutions in rural areas in the country.

"BLACK MARKETING BY CO-OPERATIVES"

"Dissatisfaction with co-operative stores is so widespread that the authorities ought now to enter upon an investigation into the whole system and remedy matters before it is too late", states a memorandum sent by the North Ceylon Traders' Union to the Food Controller. It complains about "discrimination" in the issue of food-stuffs to co-operative societies and individual dealers and asserts that it cannot be justified on any ground except that of caprice on the part of the distributing authority; and alleges that black marketing by individual dealers "is at its lowest whereas the fears entertained at the time co-operative stores were started here came true throughout the whole island."

It further says: "Local instances of black marketing by co-operative stores are two well-known to the public and to the officials alike to need repetition here" and that "When the new rice coupons came to be used by the middle of June the option should be given to the consumer to choose his dealer."

TRADER'S THANKS TO HOME MINISTER

At a meeting of the North Ceylon Traders' Union (Mr. S. Kulasingham presiding) a resolution was passed thanking Mr. A. Mahadeva, Minister for Home Affairs, for placing the grievances of traders before the authorities and particularly for his preventing a move to cancel the licences of wholesale dealers who had less than 2,000 rice ration book-holders and retail dealers who had less than 400 ration book holders attached to them.

The resolution added that but for Mr. Mahadeva's intervention a considerable number of shops would have had to close down and a large proportion of those employed in the trade would have been thrown out of employment.

tion schemes would get 100 bushels a year, those in Jaffna who had no irrigation facilities but had to be at the mercy of rain would get only 50 bushels a year. That was not fair.

To enquire into these and other grievances of Jaffna producers and for other reasons the Civil Defence Commissioner will, it is learnt, visit Jaffna shortly.

The "Times"

Pakistan To Be Resisted

A Conference of Nationalist Muslims was held in New Delhi for three days from May 5, and a resolution was passed asking for the formation of a National Government and setting out the fundamental considerations on which the communal problem could be solved. Over fifty Nationalist Muslim leaders from all parts of India met and considered the general situation from every aspect and put forward what was explained to be a reasonable basis on which negotiations may start in order to bring about a communal settlement. It is also proposed to draft a plan by which they hoped to popularise their Nationalist Muslims' views. Without conceding the claim of the Muslim League to represent all Muslims in the country, they would help an understanding between Congress and the League. While visualising a united country and a federal constitution for India, National Muslims would suggest that the right to secede from the All-India Federation should be conceded to every unit, after providing for the re-distribution of boundaries. This concession was intended more to allay the fears of certain sections of minority communities than as something which should be exercised forthwith.

A resolution on communal unity appealed to Hindus and Muslims to take necessary steps for achieving unity. The resolution considers that Gandhiji's release offers an excellent opportunity of which advantage should be taken and opines that the solution of the communal problem could be secured on the following fundamental considerations:

(1) India should continue to remain a united country; (2) the constitution should be framed by her own people (3) there should be an All-India Federation; (4) units of the Federation should be completely autonomous and all residuary powers vested in them; (5) every unit should be free to secede from the Federation as a result of plebiscite of all adult inhabitants; (6) the religious, economic and cultural rights of the minorities should be fully and effectively safeguarded by reciprocal arrangement.

Explaining the resolution to the Press, Messrs. S. A. Brevli, Hafiz Mohamed, Ibrahim, Dr. Shaukatullah Ansari and others said, they were against Pakistan and would reorganise Nationalist Muslims into a party. They contemplated the replacement of the Muslim League in pursuit of this ideal.

Other resolutions were also adopted.

The Conference welcomed Mahatma Gandhi's unconditional release.

CEYLON'S POST-WAR CONSTITUTION

QUESTION IN COMMONS

London, May 10.

Mr. Oliver Stanley, Colonial Secretary, told the House of Commons to-day, in reply to a question, that he had received and acknowledged the representations of the Ceylon National Congress respecting the political decisions reached by the Congress in De-

Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhiji is now feeling much better and is taking ayurvedic treatment. He left Poona for Bombay by rail in a third class compartment to which he was carried in a chair, although the Inspector-General of Prisons arranged second class accommodation, and arrived there on the 11th inst. He was received at the railway station by prominent men and the Mayor garlanded him on behalf of the citizens of Bombay. He then drove to Juhu where he will convalesce and is occupying a shack which is in Gandhigram Estate the same place where he lived in 1924 after his appendicitis operation. The owner has placed the whole estate with the main house at Gandhiji's disposal. It is a picturesque palm grove abounding with parrots and little red breasted robins. It is situated away from popular bathing resorts and is two miles from the nearest railway station. There is ample space on the sandy compound for holding prayers and Gandhiji can have his morning and evening walks on the sea beach. The shack has been fitted with electric fans and radio. He has preferred the shack as he is accustomed to living in mud houses with thatched roofs and will be saved the trouble of climbing staircases.

The Doctors say that absolute rest is essential for Gandhiji and no strain must be put on him by anybody. Though he is free from malaria, anaemia is still there. The condition of the kidneys is not satisfactory and there is lack of power in the heart. The voice is feeble and he gets easily exhausted. The capacity for mental work is markedly affected. There is also difficulty in mental concentration.

GOVT. VACANCIES

Temporary clerks—qualifications Matric, S. S. C. or equivalent, or office experience in Burma, Malaya etc. Pay Rs. 1-70—Rs. 2-50 per day for six months, thereafter Rs. 50/- to Rs. 65/- per month, according to qualifications, rising to Rs. 140/- per month (with Provident Fund benefits) if found suitable. Discontinuance without notice or reasons assigned if work ceases or persons found unsatisfactory. Personal applications or interviews or canvassing will disqualify applicant. Apply in own handwriting with statement of qualifications, experience, career and copies only of two recent testimonials to A. G. A. (E) Jaffna. Those who have been interviewed before need not renew applications. Last date of receiving applications first post 27th May.

Sgd. E. B. TISSEVERASINGHE,
A. G. A. (E)
(G. 22. 15-5-44.)

WANTED.

Wanted immediately experienced Manager for Potpathy Co-operative Stores, Kokuvil East. Cash security Rs. 500/- Apply Secretary. (Mis. 29. 15 & 18-5-44)

cember, 1943.

Mr. Stanley added that the intentions of the British Government regarding constitutional reform in Ceylon were clearly defined in the statement he had made on 26th May, 1943, to which at present he had nothing to add.—(Reuter).

The announcement referred to by Mr. Stanley stated that the great to Ceylon of full responsible Government under the Crown in all matters of internal Civil Administration is to be the end to which the post-war re-examination of Ceylon's constitution will be directed.

The Dance of Siva

(Continued from Page 1)

panied by Vishnu disguised as a beautiful woman and Ati-Seshan. The rishis were at first led to violent dispute amongst themselves, but their anger was soon directed against Siva, and they endeavoured to destroy Him by means of incantations. A fierce tiger was created in sacrificial fires and rushed upon Him; but smiling gently, he seized it and, with the nail of his little finger stripped off its skin, and wrapped it about himself like a silken cloth. Undaunted by failure, the sages renewed their offerings, and produced a monstrous serpent, which, however Siva seized and wreathed about his neck like a garland. Then he began to dance, but there rushed upon him a last monster in the shape of a malignant dwarf, Muyalaka. Upon him the God pressed the tip of His foot, and broke the creature's back, so that it writhed upon the ground, and so His last toe prostrate, Siva resumed the dance, witnessed by gods and rishis.

Then Ati-Seshan worshipped Siva and prayed above all things for the boon, once more to behold this mystic dance; Siva promised that he should behold the dance again in sacred Thillai, the centre of the Universe. The dance of Siva in Chidambaram or Thillai forms the motif of the South Indian and Ceylonese copper images of Lord Nataraja, the Lord of the Dance. These images vary amongst themselves in minor details, but all express one fundamental conception. Before proceeding to enquire what these may be, it will be necessary to describe the image of Sri Nataraja as typically represented. The images then, represent Siva dancing, having four hands, with braided and jeweled hair of which the lower locks are whirling in the dance. In His hair may be seen a wreathing cobra, a skull, and the mermaid figure of Ganga; upon it rests the crescent moon, and it is crowned with a wreath of Cassia leaves. In His right ear He wears a man's ear ring, a woman's in the left. He is adorned with necklaces and armlets, a jeweled belt, anklets, bracelets, finger and toe rings. The chief part of His dress consists of tightly fitting breeches, and He wears also a fluttering scarf (angavastiram) and a sacred thread. One right hand holds a drum (damara, udjukkai), the other is uplifted in *Abhaya Mudhra* (do not fear); One left hand holds fire, the other points downward to the lifted foot. The right foot is pressed down upon the asura Muyalaka, a dwarf holding a cobra; the left foot is raised. There is a lotus pedestal, from which springs an encircling arch of glory, (tiruvvasi), fringed with flame, and touched within by the hands holding drum and fire. The images are of all sizes, rarely if ever exceeding four feet in total height.

Even without reliance upon literary references, the interpretation of this dance would not be difficult. Fortunately, however, we have the assistance of a copious contemporary literature, which enables us to fully explain not only the general significance of the dance, but equally, the details of its concrete symbolism. Some of the peculiarities of the Nataraja images, of course, go on to the conception of Siva generally, and not to the dance in particular. Such are the braided locks, as of a Yogi, the cassia garland; the skull of Brahma, the figure of Ganga; the Ganges fallen from heaven and lost in Siva's hair; the cobra; the different earrings, betokening the dual nature of Mahadev, "whose half is Uma"; the four arms. "The drum also is a general attribute of Siva, belonging to his character of Yogi, though in the dance, it has further a special significance. What then is the meaning of Siva's dance, as understood by Saiyas? The dance

is called Nadanta. Its essential significance is given in texts such as the following:—

"Our Lord is the Wancer, who, like the heat latent in firewood, diffuses His power in mind and matter, and makes them dance in their turn".
காட்ட அனல்பொல உட்கலத்தையிரை
மெல்லாம் ஆட்டுவீக்கு; கட்டுவன் கம்
மண்ணென வெண்ணும்—Kadavul
Maamuniyar's Tiruvathuvur Puranam
Puthurai vaahil ventra Charrukkam
Stanza 75. This could also be rendered:

Like heat latent in firewood, he fills all bodies:

Our father dances, moving all souls into action, know ye! Compare Eckhart, "Just as the fire infuses the essence and clearness into the dry wood, so has God done with man".

(To be Continued)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 245

In the matter of the estate of the late
Sinnappu Sivaguru of Urumparav
Deceased.
Menadchippillai widow of Sivaguru
of Urumparav, Jaffna. Petitioner.
Vs.

1. Chinnappu Sabaretnam and wife
2. Sivapackiam both of Vannarpannai East. Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 12th day of April 1944 in the presence of Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Proctor, on the part of the petitioner and on reading the petition and affidavit of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the petitioner abovenamed declared entitled to have letters of administration to the estate of the deceased, as the widow of the deceased, and such letters of administration be issued to her accordingly, unless the abovenamed Respondents or any person or persons interested in the estate, shall on or before the 22nd day of May 1944 show sufficient cause to the contrary.

Jaffna, This 12th day of April 1944
Sgd. James Joseph,
District Judge.

Drawn by,
Sgd. K. Aiyadurai,
Proctor for Petitioner.
(O. 14, 15 & 18-5-44.)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA (held at Point Pedro)
No. 245 P. T.

In the matter of the Last will and
Testament of the late Sinnappillai
widow of Velupillai of Puloly
West Deceased.
Karthigesar Thambirajah of Puloly
West Petitioner.

1. Suppar Vallipuram and wife
2. Elledubumipillai
3. Naniar Vallipuram and
4. wife Meenadehy all of Puloly West Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva Esquire Additional District Judge on the 28th day of April 1944 in the presence of Messrs Rajaratnam and Nadarajasundaram Proctors on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 28th day of April 1944 having been read:

It is ordered that the will of Sinnappillai widow of Velupillai deceased dated 27th December 1943 and now deposited in Court be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the respondents or any person shall on or before the 26th May 1944 shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the said petitioner is the executor named in the said will and that he is entitled to have Probate of the same issued to him accordingly.

Sgd. L. W. de Silva,
Addl. District Judge.
28th April 1944
(O. 13, 15, 18)

LIQUIDATE MASS ILLITERACY

Presiding over the Seventh Annual Conference of the Andhra Teachers' Federation on the 6th inst. Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu, Principal, Pachaiyapp's College, Madras, said, "If our political freedom is to be of use, and if our economic status is to be improved, it is of imperative necessity that we should liquidate the illiteracy of our masses, and stimulate their minds to think, and think in relation to their changing environments."

Dr. Narayanaswami Naidu observed that education was just the training which enabled us to become good citizens, for it strengthened those invisible but palpable bonds, which brought all of us human together, but had been often torn asunder by exclusiveness, bigotry, or the savage lust for power and domination. Education was essentially a process by which we were taught to think, and develop our minds and become complete personalities. He added that the dictatorial methods engendered by totalitarian tyranny had helped to produce through education, so called, merely human automatons without thought and feeling so essential to ordered and purposeful human existence.

Dr. Naidu said that India had thrown in her lot wisely into the present struggle with that of the Allied nations. By her war effort India had plumped once again for the democratic principle of political organisation in human life. Thus she stood pledged, first and foremost, to the securing of individual freedom in our national life and the welfare of not only her own people but of the whole world. "As an economist, I cannot fail to see," he added, "that the immediate needs of our people—their material life—must receive the first consideration of our administrators. Greater opportunities for efficient living through optimum health, good and adequate food, comfortable housing and abundant facilities of recreation and an atmosphere as freed from restraint and fear as the world will permit, must all be provided as our immediate needs." Our education, he observed, must equip our people not only for our own self-preservation and progress but also the preservation and progress of the whole human race.

The Sargent Scheme

Referring to the Sargent Scheme, the speaker said that the Scheme had been devised as the "barest minimum for which India has to plan in the post-war period of reconstruction." The most important part of the Sargent Scheme related to Basic or Primary and Middle School Education—a system of universal, compulsory and free education for all boys and girls between 6 to 14, the instruction to be provided being in accordance with the report already adopted by the Central Advisory Board. After outlining other salient features of the Scheme, Dr. Naidu stated: "The teacher's ultimate and sole ideal is to ensure the good of humanity through education for the highest ideals of humanity, world

"SOLDIER'S PARLIAMENT"

Adopting the same procedure as that of the British House of Commons, a Soldiers' Parliament, under the auspices of the Army Education Corps, Eastern Command was to open its first session at the Y. M. C. A. Chowringhee on Wednesday, May 10 at 7-30 p. m. The first motion before the House was to be the Beveridge Report. The "Speaker" for this session will be Lt. Col O. D. Goldstream. A weekly session will be held each Wednesday and all ranks are issued a cordial invitation to attend the "Parliament" of which the only election requirement is their presence. The formation of "Soldiers' House of Commons" where any member is given absolute freedom to discuss any matter brought before the House, marks a further step forward in the Army's system of adult education.

DR. GOEBBELS ON COMING INVASION

The German News Agency quotes an article on the coming invasion by Dr. Goebbels in the weekly journal *Das Reich*. Declaring "we know that the enemy's preparations for invasion are on the whole complete" Goebbels continues, "The difficult trip to the European coast will be the signal for a whole host of surprises which the enemy simply cannot have taken into account."

Goebbels concludes, "We still have a few trump cards up our sleeves. On a sober judgment of the chances on either side, we find we have reason to be confident."

EMPLOYEES IN INDIAN FIRMS

A Bill entitled the "Bengal Commercial Firms Bill" the object of which is to regulate the security of service, provident fund, gratuity, pension and life assurance of persons employed in commercial firms has been given notice of by Mr. K. O. Roy Chowdhury for being introduced in the present session of the Bengal Council. Establishments in which the business of advertising, publication of newspapers and magazines, etc. are conducted come under the purview of the Bill.

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Hon. Secretary.
Co-operative Union
Hospital Society, Ltd.
Tholpuram.

(Mis. 27, 11, 15 & 18)

citizenship through national citizenship and human welfare through house-membership professional skill, health and a worthy use of leisure—all objectives which have been carefully considered and provided for in the Sargent Scheme of Post-war Education."

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