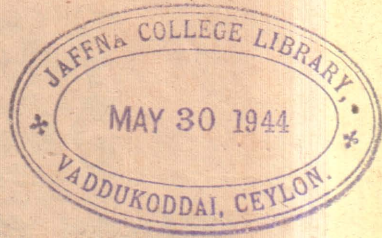


THE Hindu Organ.



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JAFFNA, MONDAY, MAY 29, 1944.

NO. 15.

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION, WELLAWATTE

A Lecture on Saiva Siddhanta

Under the auspices of the Ramakrishna Mission, Wellawatte, Mr. S. Somasundara Bharathiar, formerly Professor of Tamil at the Annamalai University, delivered a lecture on "Principles of Saiva Siddhanta" on the 17th instant at the Saiva Mangaiyar Kalagam Hall Mr. Thickam C. Chelliah Pillai presided.

The learned lecturer presented in an admirable manner the essential points of Vedanta and Saiva Siddhanta as propounded by Sri Sankara and Sri Meikandar and discussed them in a very interesting and instructive manner. He stressed on the necessity of a deeper study of Saiva Siddhanta and also a comparative study of other systems of thought.

Mr Thickam C. Chelliah Pillai praised highly the learned speaker's capacity of dealing with such an abstruse subject in such a clear way. Swami Siddhatmananda drew attention to a few essential points of Vedanta and made an attempt to harmonise the apparently conflicting points of Vedanta and Saiva Siddhanta. The function ended with a Thevaram.

Wesak Day

Wesak Day was celebrated at the Ramakrishna Mission, Wellawatte, on Sunday last. Pirith Chanting, Music and speeches on the life and teachings of the Buddha formed the items of the programme. D. C. R. Gunawardana Esqr., C. U. S. presided. Among those present were a good number of Buddhist Monks of different sects who performed Pirith Chanting. Misses N. Sabaratnam, Nandani Wakwella, M. Chinnappa and Sri Kanti Wakwella sang devotional songs.

Rev. Bhikku W. Rahula, Miss P. Chinnappa, Mr. S. Natarajan and the president spoke emphasising on the universal aspects of the teachings of the Buddha. Swami Siddhatmananda pointed out the common points of agreement between Buddhism and Hinduism and stressed on the necessity of the Brotherhood of all Religions.

FREE MILK CENTRE, MANIPALAY

The Free Milk Centre at Manipal organized under C. D. C's Scheme was declared open by Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Chairman V. C. on Friday 19th inst. at 8 a. m. Several ladies (volunteers) were present and helped in the distribution.

RURAL HOSPITALS

In answer to a question in the State Council last Tuesday the Minister of Health replied that there were 86 rural hospitals in course of construction at the moment in the Island, and that the estimated cost of each was Rs. 17,000.

INIQUITIES OF PRIVATE TRADERS

How Co-operative Stores Fight Profiteering

Abuses Exist Even In Bodies Of Higher Standing

Mr. V. Veerasingham, the President of the Northern Division Co-op Federation addressing a meeting of the Thenmaradchy Co-op. Union on "The Co-operative Movement" exhorted the members to give serious consideration to the efforts of the traders to bring disrepute to the Co-operative movement and said that the organised opposition of the traders as shown in a memorandum submitted by their Union was a sign that the Co-operative Stores movement is proving a success. Traders and vested interests had always been against consumer Co-operatives and industrial Co-operatives in all countries. Co-operative movement intended to bridge the gulf between Capitalism and Socialism but the opposition of the traders to the Co-operative movement threatened to hasten the death of Capitalism.

The Co-operative Stores came into existence to check the rampant profiteering of the traders. There was plenty in our midst but all had to starve on account of the iniquity of traders who flourished by profiteering and black-market. Every control regulation made the traders invent a loophole and the black-market flourished. Money can do mischief in many directions and it baffled the efforts of sincere Control offices to check black marketing till the organisation of Co-op. stores was reluctantly decided upon by the Co-op. Department. Continuing he said that the Co-operative movement was a free democratic movement. It first educated and then built. Men of character only were entitled to become members of Co-operative societies of any kind. That was the reason why the Co-operative movement was reluctant to enlarge its scope to the establishment of Co-operative stores but there was a necessity and the response from the Co-operators and the intelligentsia of the land had been great and praise worthy. They were glad that the necessity had brought into the fold of Co-operation many gentlemen of leisure and culture who were hitherto indifferent towards Co-operative activities. Many such were giving free service to the various Co-operative stores all over the Island. They were not out for profit but for service. Their co-operation had effectively checked the profiteering of the traders who in retaliation accused Co-operative stores of profiteering. He toured some districts of the Eastern and Northern Provinces and inspected the books of some Co-operatives. Some Stores run by the unsophisticated villagers of little learning in remote areas with the help of the Co-operative Inspectors were a model to other Co-operative

Stores for honest service and business. There were shortcomings and defects and there were blacksheep. It was a matter for regret and called for the effort of every Co-operator in the Island to keep the fair name of Co-operation above suspicion and sham. It ought to be a matter for satisfaction that the Co-operative stores which came into being before their time, and before the people were prepared for it, had achieved considerable amount of success in checking profiteering. There might have been some Co-operatives which brought disgrace to the Co-operative movement, certainly the abuses in them were more easily and more promptly checked than in the ordinary boutiques and shops which were run by one man or body of men solely for profit. There were the Control Inspectors who frequently visited the store, the Co-op-sub-Inspectors who checked the accounts almost daily, the committee members and the food-proof-system of accounting. Their democratic bodies of higher standing were not all free from corruption. It was too much to expect complete freedom from abuse from all the Co-operative store societies.

Co-operative stores could not function properly under abnormal conditions caused by war. A free institution which was run for the members and by the members for the benefit of the members could not thrive well under control. Buying was controlled, selling was controlled, and quality was controlled at present. Consumer Co-operatives could not confer on its members under these controls any advantage which they could get from the ordinary traders. Complaints from the Co-operative stores were a legion and the ordinary traders were able to supply to their customers better facilities than the Co-op. stores were able to provide. How every body asked? He was told that some importers of bran employed women in their stores to separate rice from bran in bags full of that mixture. There were ways and means of supplying those things and greater efforts were made to allure the customers from the Co-op. Stores.

There were some Co-operative stores, the speaker continued, in outlying villages very far from the Wholesale depots, which lost by selling the articles of controlled prices. A private trader in such places would sell his goods far above the controlled price while the control price only was exhibited on the notice board. The Price Control Inspectors would find it extremely difficult to charge the trader. Simple arithmetic would tell anybody that in such places it was impossible to buy the

THE NORTHERN DIVISION CO-OP. FEDERATION LTD.

The training class and the annual general meeting of the Thenmaradchy Co-operative Union was held at Drieberg College, Chavakachcheri on the 20th inst. Mr. K. S. Saravanamuttu, the President of the Union presided over the morning session and Mr. F. A. Sandrasegara, the Assistant Registrar of Co-op Societies, N. D. presided over the afternoon session. Over 150 delegates were present. The Union provided lunch for all delegates and entertained all with music. Among the speakers were Messrs. V. Veerasingham, the President of the Northern Division Co-operative Federation, R. Rajaratnam, C. Naganathan, Dr. T. Visuvalingam, Messrs. A. Arulambalam, V. S. Karthigesu, S. K. Thiravianayagam, T. Kandasamy and V. Balasundaram.

RACE AND CREED AT THE VARSITY

Figures are given in the annual report of the Ceylon University Council to show how far the University is providing for all sections of the population. Of 904 students, 509 are Sinhalese, 307 are Tamils, 52 are Burghers, 21 are Muslims and 15 others. Buddhist students number 318, Hindus 193, Catholics 119, other Christians 245, Islam 25, and others 4. Any Agnostics or Rationalists? Perhaps they are to be found among the tiny minority of "4 others".

—The "Catholic Messenger."

articles from the Wholesale stores and sell them at control prices after paying for transport. If the Committee decided under such circumstance to sell the article a little above the control price to its members and publish the selling price on the notice board, very little practical commonsense exhibited in charging such societies of profiteering. It was not the letter of the law but it was the spirit that counted. The Price Control authorities had been very considerate and had altered the control prices on representations made by Co-op. Stores. Then black market agents were up in arms against Co-op. stores. It was very necessary that there should be no violation of either the spirit or the letter of the law. Even honesty might come to grief when law was not satisfied. The Co-op. stores did not ask for special privileges, but they wanted the co-operation of the authorities in safeguarding their sincere efforts to do honest business without involving the society in any loss that could reasonably be avoided with forethought.

Co-operative stores were working under great hardship. It was not sufficient that wholesale stores were established in different places. It was essential that the wholesale import must be done direct from the area of production without intervention of so many middlemen. An article for two-rupees in India was sold for five-rupees in Ceylon. Where went the three rupees?



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, MAY 29, 1944

THE CONSCRIPTION ISSUE

REPENTANCE IS A GOOD thing even if it is somewhat belated. Mr. D. S. Senanayake's frank avowal, in the course of the discussion in the State Council last week, of the difficulty of securing labour for food production, does not come as a surprise to those who have been in touch with the trend of events in this island. The Minister of Agriculture is obstinate but he is sincere. There is all the more reason, therefore, that he should take the public into his confidence and tell them what his difficulties are. The public and the members of the State Council have been hitherto fed on the notion that there is no such thing as shortage of labour in this island. All complaints of shortage in the past, from planters and farmers, were put down to mere obtuseness and ignorance, if not worse. As for the Board of Ministers including Mr. Senanayake, they went on merrily with their programme of undiluted Ceylonese labour for Government work, with the result that, as Mr. Freeman pointed out some time ago, urgent work in the tank districts had to be stopped. Not satisfied with this achievement, the Ministers persuaded the planters to experiment with Singhalese labour. The results are now widely known. And they are quite evident in the field of food production too. According to Mr. Senanayake, a quarter of the last Maha crop was lost because sufficient labour could not be obtained at the proper time.

The State Council, however, is not convinced. It has still faith in the principle of voluntary service. The members of the Council are under the impression that the Ministers have only to form an Agricultural Corps, 15,000 strong, for the food to come in and everybody to be fed. The fact that the Ministers themselves are to a very great extent responsible for this dangerous and erroneous impression should not deter one from emphasising the futility and danger of the policy which now finds favour with the Council. It is a policy of "wait and see". The Agricultural Corps is being formed on the voluntary principle. Let the Ministers see what this can do to alleviate the situation before the Ministers proceed to talk about compulsion.

We are convinced that this attitude is a greater menace to

the country than Mr. Senanayake's failure to give the people more rice than they are receiving. His failure is in a great measure due to those very faults of our people which may again bring about the failure of voluntary service in the Agricultural Corps. In these columns we have even expressed the fear that even conscription may not prove the success it is expected to be. The plain truth of the matter is that the great majority of the people of this island have always regarded imported rice as a boon and a necessity. They have always refused to waste their money in producing this commodity which could be had so cheap from the traders. This outlook still persists and we are afraid that even the Board of Ministers will find it impossible to eradicate it.

The remedy is not conscription. It would be sheer waste of time and energy to conscript men for work which they do not understand and for which they are not suited. It would be far better to get labour from South India and open up the dry zone. This unfortunately is what the Ministers and the majority in the State Council do not want to do. If we support conscription, we support it merely as a desperate remedy in a desperate situation. In view of the attitude of the State Council, there is no other way out of the difficulty, but even this does not find favour with the majority in the Council. We are afraid that the Councillors do not fully realise what they are doing. They are in fact trifling with a very serious situation.

It is rather difficult to understand the theory of some of the Councillors that, if Ceylon were an independent country, there would be no objection to conscription. Under present circumstances, this is about the same as saying that, only in the event of Ceylon being independent, her people would be permitted to eat rice. The opinion of the Councillors rests on the assumption that, as long as Ceylon is not independent and there is not enough food to go round, it is the business of somebody else to feed the people. If they only considered Mr. Senanayake's warning with some care, they would find that this is a vain hope. Nothing is a greater certainty than that the people of this island should look to themselves for their food. If they do not want Indian labourers, they ought to conscript Ceylonese labour. If they do not want conscription, then they ought to come to a settlement with the Government of India and get the ban on Indian labour lifted. They cannot reject conscription and at the same time hug the delusion that, without Indian labour, they can produce enough food to meet present needs.

It is high time that the Ministers and the State Council

gave up their policy of drift. They cannot afford to ignore the warnings of the Minister of Agriculture and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Notes and Comments

Hoist With His Own Petard

The Minister of Agriculture and Lands, exclaimed in the State Council on the 20th inst:

"With regard to the money that was said to have been wasted and the lack of organisation and neglect by Government, about which statements were made in the Press, he did not know what was in the minds of some of the editors when they spoke of the Government. Did anyone expect the Minister of Agriculture and his Committee to cultivate all the food necessary to feed the people of this country? A quarter of the last maha crop was lost because sufficient labour could not be obtained at the proper time."

The editors surely are not so foolish as to expect the Minister and his colleagues cultivate all the available land in the country themselves. They plainly ask, why should there be a shortage of labour? Why not give Indian labourers their rights of citizenship and ask the Indian Government to lift the ban? If the Ministers will give up their death-bed fighting attitude and think of the famine that is threatening the country they will be doing the greatest service to the people whom they had used as their ladder to ascend to high places. Having driven the unwanted Indian coolies out of the country by providing free passages and alluring compensations, the Ministers now find themselves hoist with their own petard.

Allowances to Councillors

An interesting question concerning the privileges of the House was raised in the House of Commons on the 20th inst. by Sir Herbert Williams (Conservative) who said that Mr. W. A. Robinson, M. P. had been threatened with "economic sanctions". It appears that Mr. Robinson's trade union, the National Union of Distributive Allied Workers, asked him to resign his seat, and on refusal informed him of its intention to withdraw the special allowance of £200 per annum plus postage and secretarial expenses.

Mr. Will Lawther, President of the Mine Workers' Federation, which is represented in Parliament by more representatives than any other Union said: "In our Union the M. P.'s are expected to carry out the Federation policy. If they did not do it we would certainly cease supporting them. We pay their election expenses plus £150 per annum and would certainly stop payments if we thought it advisable."

In the face of the above revelation one should wonder whether the allowances received by Messrs H. E. Newnham, H. F. Parfitt and E. C. Villiers from the Chamber of Commerce, the Ceylon Estate Propriety Association and the Planters' Association should have been regarded as illegal gratification by the Bribery Commissioner, Mr. L. M. de Silva, K. C., and whether it was right on his part to have brought them under the terms of reference just because they were considered 'representatives' of the

bodies which made them certain payments.

War Allowance To Pensioners

It is not clear why the Government has not yet announced its decision on the demand made for increased pensions to retired Government servants and widows of public servants. The same reasons that justify the grant of war allowances to the present employees of the Government hold good in the cases of pensioners also, since the cost of living has gone up for one and all. In Great Britain an increase has already been given to pensioners, and when members of Parliament asked the Secretary of State for India whether he would ask the India Government also to follow suit, Mr. Amery told the Commons on the 17th inst. that he was already communicating with the Government of India regarding the Government of India pensioners. Why is our Financial Secretary keeping silent?

Minorities Not To Protest

Reforms Procedure In Whitehall

It is understood that the Members of the State Council representing minority interests met in conference this week to consider the desirability of forwarding a protest to the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding the procedure proposed to be adopted at Whitehall in considering the reform proposals submitted by the Board of Ministers.

The Conference took place in a Committee room of the State Council and all the "minority" members except Mr. A. R. A. Razik (Muslim Nominated) were present including the European Nominated Members.

Telegram that was Spiked

It is learned that the conference was called as the result of certain correspondence between the Governor and Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam concerning a telegram of protest he had recently forwarded to the Governor to be deputed to the Secretary of State on behalf of himself and some other minority members of the State Council.

It would appear that on receiving the copy of the telegram, the Governor wrote to Mr. Ponnambalam asking for an explanation of certain points raised in it.

Mr. Ponnambalam replied.

The Governor, however, it is learned, refused to telegraph Mr. Ponnambalam's protest to the Secretary of State but informed him that he was sending it to Whitehall with his own observations by air mail.

Not To Be Sent

It is learned that at the conference Mr. Ponnambalam urged that a strong protest from the minority Members of the State Council should be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

In the course of the discussion it is learned that a demand for increased representation for the Northern Province was also urged, one of the reasons for the proposal being the large number of Indians in Ceylon at the present moment.

Mr. S. P. Vytilingam, the Member for Talawakelle, it is learned, refused to agree to the proposal.

After further discussion, it is learned, the conference decided not to forward the proposed protest to the Secretary of State.

—The Daily News.

Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhiji is not yet out of the woods. The latest bulletin issued by Doctors Gilder and Miss Sushila Nair says that he had a restful night and he is feeling a little better. Dr. R. C. Roy who is touring with the Health Survey Committee is daily kept informed of Gandhiji's condition. It is explained by the Doctors that Gandhiji is still very weak and gets easily exhausted at the slightest mental or physical exertion. His anaemic condition still persists. The doctors, anxiety becomes greater because he does not usually take drugs and believes in nature cure. Hence the progress is very slow. Several young men have offered their blood in case Gandhiji needed transfusion. Doctors declare that he is not yet out of danger.

During his period of rest one day he insisted on going to see the areas devastated by the recent fire in Bombay. Without any notice to the public, to avoid a crowd, he was taken in a car accompanied by two doctors to see the places.

His friends demonstrated to him the twelve-reel show of "Mission to Moscow" at Gandhigram on the 21st inst. and he was too polite to refuse the pressing request. His blood pressure slightly rose after the strain of sitting up and seeing the film show. The doctors discount the impression that his visit to the devastated areas and attending the cinema at his own shack, had retarded progress.

The self imposed silence for a fortnight had done Gandhiji much good and he was to break it last Saturday. He is not likely to go to Sevagram as the temperature there is very high now. His diet is goat's milk, fruits and boiled vegetables only. The need for complete rest is still emphasised and Mrs. Sarojini Naidu is doing her duty of sentry at the gate admirably. He reads the morning papers regularly, hears devotional songs and attends prayers, every evening, to which hundreds gather.

Mrs. Naidu's severe watch over visitors is well-spoken of. A multi-millionaire from somewhere in India is said to have offered to subscribe Rs 50,000 for the Kasturibai Memorial Fund if he was permitted to see Gandhiji for 15 minutes. Mrs. Naidu sternly said that under no circumstances she would relax the rule and he was free to subscribe to the Memorial Fund, and would not be allowed to see Gandhiji except during prayer time. Another friend phoned that he was leaving for England and wanted to get Gandhiji's blessings. Mrs. Naidu gave no consent. Lady Thackersey who was Gandhiji's hostess at Poona, after release, cheerfully accepted the iron discipline enforced by Mrs. Naidu and went to see him only at prayer time. So also did Mr. R. D. Bhirla who was Gandhiji's host in 1942.

It is understood that the Mahatma has expressed his desire to the Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayaker to meet him to discuss the present political situation. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, although he is anxious to meet Gandhiji, is too considerate to do so before he is declared absolutely fit.

Monday, May 22, marked the completion of the third month of the death of Kasturibai Gandhi and after the evening prayer that day, Mr. Nagindas Master, Mayor of Bombay presented an oil portrait of hers to Gandhiji.

Battle of Official Language for Ceylon

Mr. J. R. Jeyawardene, Member for Kelaniya, moved in the State Council on the 24th inst.:

"That with the object of making Sinhalese the official language of Ceylon within a reasonable number of years this Council is of opinion—(a) That Sinhalese should be made the medium of instruction in all schools; (b) That Sinhalese should be made a compulsory subject in all public examinations; (c) That legislation should be introduced to permit the business of the State Council to be conducted in Sinhalese also; (d) That a Commission should be appointed to choose for translation and to translate important books of other languages, into Sinhalese (e) That a Commission should be appointed to report on all steps that need be taken to effect the transition from English into Sinhalese."

Mr. Jeyawardene sought the permission of the Council to amend the motion by adding the words "and Tamil". This was refused as he was the mover and should have given notice of amendment. He said that it was very appropriate that they should pass this motion at this stage in view of the very far-reaching proposals of the Minister of Education which would come before the Council. If it was the desire of the Tamils that Tamil should also be placed on an equal footing with Sinhalese, he did not think that there would be any objections.

No less than 17 speeches were recorded off and the motion was finally passed with the amendment of Mr. V. Nalliah by a large majority. The amendment of Mr. T. B. Jayah "that a commission should be appointed to report on all steps that need be taken to effect the transition from English into Sinhalese and Tamil" was defeated by 25 votes to 12. Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike declined to vote and those who voted for the Commission were Messrs. D. S. Senanayake, Mahadeva, Black, Dharmaretnam, Griffith Jaya, Ka'ee!, Oldfield, Ponnambalam, Rajakulendran, Razik and Tyagaraja.

The following views expressed by different speakers will be found interesting to show how the wind blows:

Mr. Geo. Wille (Nominated) was of opinion that that the motion was not at all practical and that it would if passed, create disruptive effects and make the Sinhalese predominant. Major Oldfield (Nominated) opined that the whole object of the mover was to eliminate the English language from this country. Mr. B. H. Aluwihare (Matale), contended that the fundamental need for national unity was a single national language. He did not want the effect of the motion to be weakened by the addition of Tamil. Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardene asked whether the European members would like Sinhalese or Tamil to be the official language where English is the language of the people, and Mr. Dud'ey Senanayake (Dedigama) said that if they could have so long tolerated English as the official language the same measure of tolerance could be extended to Sinhalese as the language of the majority of the people of this country.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike (Minister for Local Administration) said that he did not think that a change in the official language of the country was going to make any very serious difference as the languages of the country were more or less freely used to-day. On the

point whether there should be one or more languages there was no doubt that just as the Sinhalese language had an important literature the same could be said of Tamil. It would be ungenerous on their part not to give due recognition to Tamil. Mr. A. R. A. Razik (Nominated) held that the language of the Ceylon Moors, numbering 4000,000 was Arabic, and he created spontaneous applause when he agreed that in the best interests of the country Sinhalese should be the official language.

Counter-Offensive

Mr. J. Tyagaraja (Mannar-Mullaitivu) opened fire from the other side, in his maiden speech, and said that the attitude that Sinhalese should be made the official language of the country was unreasonable. He asked how national cohesion could be achieved by suppressing a language spoken by two million people in this country. He cited the case of Switzerland which had two official languages and the practice had worked satisfactorily. He opposed the motion as it stood. Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam pricked the bubble by saying that some time ago the Leader of the House referred to the era when there would be one language and one community. Underlying the motion was the idea of one official language and one medium of instruction in all schools. It was symptomatic of the cry of "one race, one language and one religion". That was the idea they should kill. Then, recently they had seen a Minister's bust on the reverse of a medal issued for "meritorious service". The motion appeared to be a natural sequence to those utterances and incidents. He opposed the motion as it stood. Mr. V. Nalliah (Trincomalee) moved as a further amendment the addition of the words "and Tamil" to the motion wherever appeared "Sinhalese". He said that it was ridiculous for them to ask for independence while their official language was not their own and was not understood by the majority of the people. The amendment was passed.

SIR D. B. JAYATILAKA ILL

Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Ceylon's Representative in India, is seriously ill with heart disease. He was staying at Mussoorie, a health resort, and the place being too cold for him he has been taken to New Delhi by ambulance car. Arrangements are being made for a suitable plane to bring him to Ceylon.

WANTED

Wanted for a well established firm of book-sellers in Jaffna.

1. A well experienced accountant with knowledge of correspondence and typing.

2. A salesman with good knowledge of English.

Salary according to experience and qualification. Applicants please apply in your own handwriting to:

X 123

C/o The Hindu Organ,
Jaffna.

(M. 41. 29-5-44 & 1-6-44)

FORTH-COMING MARRIAGE

Perampalam - Thirunavukkarasu

The marriage of Mr. R. Perampalam of the General Treasury with Miss Yogamma Thirunavukkarasu daughter of the late Mr. A. K. Thirunavukkarasu and sister of Mr. A. K. T. Thanagayagam will take place on Saturday, June 3, 1944, at 12 noon at the bride's residence at Koddady, Jaffna. Friends and relations are cordially invited.

45 "Thanagsham",
Koddady, Jaffna.

(M. 40. 29-5-44.)

EXAMINATIONS IN CEYLON

The *Catholic Messenger* writes thus in its issue of the 21st inst.:

"We have not forgotten the leakage of question papers in Ceylon before the examinations, some years back.

In the recent S. S. C. examinations a large percentage of students failed. The results of the Matriculation were a little better than the S. S. C. Yet the S. S. C. standard, the candidates had been told, were lower than the Matric. But, after the examinations, the examiners seem to have been instructed to maintain the Matric standard in correcting the S. S. C. Papers.

In certain schools in the Tamil districts all the candidates failed, and it was more surprising, all the candidates failed in Tamil and on account of Tamil, although the teachers expected some candidates to secure distinction in Tamil. And now the Education Department is sending out names of candidates which have been added to the list of passes.

Obviously the examiners have not been infallible. And these are the people, and such are the examinations which are going to decide infallibly the life careers of the boys and girls by means of the "capacity" test."

MATRIMONIAL

VYRAMUTTU—

KANITHASINGHAM

The marriage of Mr. M. Vyramuttu, Assistant Civil Defence Commissioner, with Miss, Poomahledchumy Kanithasingham, daughter of Mr. S. Kanithasingham of Manipay, Jaffna, took place at the bride's residence, according to Hindu rites, on Wednesday the 24th inst. The wedding was largely attended and at a reception held in the evening Mr. V. Veerasingham, Principal, Manipay Hindu College, proposed the toast of the bride and bride-groom supported by Mr. C. Thiagarajah Chairman, V. C., Manipay. The bride-groom suitably replied and Mr. Kanithasingham thanked the guests on behalf of his wife and himself.

OBITUARY

We regret to record the death of Mr. S. Vythianathar, the famous Ayurvedic physician of Naranthanai which took place at his residence on 15-5-44. Mr. S. Vythianathar was 84 years old at the time of his death. He was a good Tamil scholar and was well versed in the science of Ayurveda. He was a specialist in snake-bite. He led a religious and pure life which accounted for his longevity. Mr. V. Balasingam of the staff of the Manipay Green Hospital is his son.

GOVERNMENT VACANCIES

Supervisors to check re-measurement of rice at Food Control Supply Stations, Jaffna.

Applications confined to Pensioners retired from Class II and above of the General Clerical Service or an equivalent service.

Employment—casual and sporadic. Terms Rs. 5/ per day. Travelling allowance at rates payable to officers at the time of retirement.

Applications close 5th June, 1944.

E. B. Tisseverasinghe
for D. F. C. Jaffna.

Jaffna, 25th May, 1944.

G. 28. 29)

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

(By Newsmonger)

That the "Hindu Organ" Office was besieged by a crowd of people one day last week, the telephone was constantly ringing, and the whole office was astir.

That people went to inquire where rice was selling at Rs. 1.25 a measure as appeared in that paper on the 15th inst.

That an explanation had to be given that it was a printer's error and that the ruling price in the black market was Rs. 2.25 per measure.

That black market in Jaffna is a very thriving industry, the Price Control Inspectors are having an easy time and profiteers are rolling in wealth.

That the Local Assistant Committees and Anti-Profitteering Societies established under the aegis of the Government all over Jaffna are all dead.

That prosecutions against profiteers and black-market dealers are few and far between in Jaffna and the people want to know what the reason is.

That several Supreme Court Judges and Inspectors General of Police have said that Jaffna is a place where it is hard to get evidence even in murder cases.

That the proverbial 'mild Hindu' would rather bear up any amount of hardships and grumb'e than complain to the authorities.

That the Jaffna man would rather send anonymous petitions and lead a quiet life.

That the Minister of Agriculture wants immediate reports made to him in cases of delinquencies on the part of officials.

That the present Controller of Textiles is a very strict and energetic official, but who will bell the cat?

That the "Hindu Organ" has not sufficiently exposed the vagaries of the Education Department.

That the Department has done many other interesting things in the past.

That, for instance, it has prescribed text books in English for the S. S. C. examination, not available anywhere.

That only a few copies were available in some Colombo shops and they were sold in the black market at Rs. 25.00 per copy.

That when representations were made it was promised that alternative books would be prescribed.

That there are only six months more for the examination and the alternative books have not yet been announced.

That it is doubtful whether, even when announced, such books would be available.

That there is no sense in prescribing books that are not available in the market.

That there would be at least a thousand five hundred candidates

for the examination and it is the duty of the Department to prescribe only such books as are easily available to students.

That a Manager of Schools like Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan is required to teach a lesson to the Department.

That some years ago, in Sir Ponnambalam's time, there was a rule in the Code that there should be at least two trained teachers on the staff of every English school.

That they were days when Trained teachers were scarce.

That the Department of Education once wrote to Sir Ponnambalam that the grant for his College was liable to a deduction since there was only one trained teacher on the staff in a certain year.

That Sir Ponnambalam immediately sent a blank cheque signed by him to the Director of Education.

That Sir Ponnambalam asked the Director to give him not two but even three or four trained teachers for his College.

That he authorized the Director to fix any salary that he thought reasonable and draw from the Bank an year's salary in advance if necessary.

That the Director took the blank cheque and went all over Colombo to fetch at least one trained teacher for Sir Ponnambalam's College.

That the Director went to the Teachers' Training College and tried to book at least one from the students who were to leave at the end of that year.

That he found that every one had already been booked for various other schools.

That, helpless, the Director returned the blank cheque and wrote to Sir Ponnambalam regretting his inability to get a trained teacher for him.

That Sir Ponnambalam wrote back and asked what was the point in having a regulation that two trained teachers should be employed in every school when the Department was unable to provide even one such teacher to a school.

That within a couple of weeks not only Sir Ponnambalam received the full grant for his College but that capricious rule also disappeared from the Education Code.

That it is only a Manager or Principal like Sir P. Ramanathan who can now bring the Department of Education to its senses by sending the money in advance and asking the Director to supply the necessary number of text-books for him.

That the price of cigars in Jaffna has gone up to thirty cents per bundle of ten.

That smoking is no doubt a luxury, and the Government need not protect smokers according to some Puritans.

That all the same the Government must have an eye on the profiteers just as it regulates the supply

and price of arrack.

That, every time, the price of cigars is raised on the pretext of paying better wages.

That it needs to be looked into whether the extra tax now passed on to the consumer-smoker really goes to the workmen or to swell the profits of the factory owner.

That in the end it would be a case of killing the goose that laid golden eggs, if the Government would not take early steps to regulate the prices.

That cigar-making is an industry which maintains many workers and families in Jaffna.

That the Minister of Labour and Industry has failed to take this into account when he appointed Wages Boards for several other industries.

That the cigar-making industry is as important in the North as tea-making or rubber-making is in the South.

That if a Wages Board is established for cigar-making also it will be good not only for the workmen but for the industry as well.

That similarly a Wages Board for toddy-drawing also will be found useful as contractors exploit the toddy-tappers now a good deal.

That adulterated milk is sold very freely in Jaffna boutiques.

That nobody seems to worry about it, although it is well-known that milk is a carrier of enteric, dysentery and other bacilli.

That people do not see whether Sanitary Inspectors are existing in the Jaffna town and villages.

That it is to them that they entrust the safety of their health.

That they also seem to be taking their responsibilities as lightly as Price and Textile Control Inspectors.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 251
In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sellappah Nagalingam of Alaveddi Deceased
Nagalingam Sellappah of Alaveddi Vs. Petitioner.

1. Nagalingam Sellammah of Alaveddi being minor by her Guardian-ad-litem
2. Kasippillai Thamotherampillai of Alaveddi Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph Esqr. District Judge, Jaffna on the 5th day of May 1944 in the presence Mr. S. Canagasabai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read, it is ordered that letters of Administration be issued to the Petitioner over the estate of the aboveramamed deceased

ZENITH OPTICAL Co.,

11 MAIN STREET, JAFFNA
FOR EVERYTHING

OPTICAL

Mis. 199.

WANTED

1. An Assistant Medical Officer, salary according to merits. No private practice allowed.

2. One Apothecary. Salary according to merits.

3. One Nurse with registerable qualification. Salary Rs. 75/- per mensem plus 25% war allowance.

4. Two midwives (Salary Rs. 35/- per mensem plus 25% war allowance.

5. Two pupil Nurses. Salary Rs. 17/- per mensem plus 25% war allowance.

For further particulars please write to the undermentioned.

K. Sabapathipillai,
Secretary,

Co-operative Union Hospital Ltd.
Tholpuram,
Chulipuram.

(Mis. 34, 25, 27-5.44 & 1-6-44)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 236.

In the matter of the intestate estate of Subramaniam Tharmalingam of Inuvil, Jaffna. Deceased.

Gunapooshanam widow of Tharmalingam of Inuvil. Petitioner.
Vs.

1. Sellamuttu widow of Sivagurunathan Subramaniam
2. Saraswatby wife of Sinniah Rajanayagam and her husband
3. Sinniah Rajanayagam all of the Railway Station, Singapore
4. Subramaniam Nadarajah of Singapore
5. Tbangaratnam wife of Vairavanathan and her husband
6. Poothappillai Vairavanathan both of the Railway Station, Epoh, F. M. S. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 23rd day of March 1944 in the presence of Mr. S. Thirunavukkarasu Proctor for petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the Letters of Administration in respect of the estate of the said deceased be issued to the Petitioner, unless the said Respondents or any other person shall appear before this Court on or before the 12th day of May 1944 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this to the Court contrary.

The 23rd day of April 1944.

Sgd. James Joseph,

District Judge.

12-5-44

This Order Nisi is extended for 30-6-44.

Sgd. James Joseph,

D. J.

O. 17. 25 & 29-5-44.

and that the second-named respondent be appointed Guardian-at-Litem over the first-named respondent minor to watch the interest of the minor in the testamentary proceedings unless the respondents shall on or before 2nd day of June 1944 appear before this Court and show sufficient cause to the contrary.

This 5th day of May 1944

Sgd. J. Joseph

District Judge

Drawn by

S. Canagasabai

Proctor for Petitioner

O 16. 25 29)