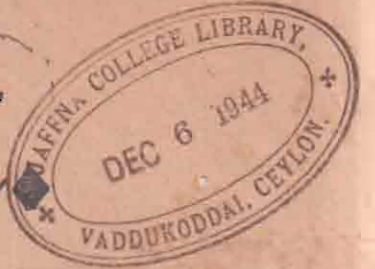


# THE Hindu Organ



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## REMEMBER NAVALAR!

### The Father of Tamil and Shaiva Shiddhanta Renaissance

(By Yogi Sri Shuddhanala Bharatiar)

The life of a nation like that of the individual is a constant struggle for freedom against grim opposing forces. The ancient Tamil Nation had the grimmest battle to wage against the crushing impacts of strange forces. But its indomitable tempo had never waned before the crush of the sweeping opposites. It was the mother of nations once—a nation that out romed Rome and out athensed Athens. It had often hurled the most defiant challenge to the invading forces and kept its glory shining even up to the eighteenth century. A gloomy mantle of despair covered its glory at the beginning of the last century. Tamil, fostered by Valluvar, Ilango and Kamban was slowly losing its voice. The Vedas and the Agamas which are the two lungs of our spiritual civilisation were losing their breath. The language of the sly invader and his religion were gaining ground. Our young men were fast becoming apes of foreign manners, from head to foot. The traditional genius of the nation suffered from a wanton block out. We had *Kural* and *Periyapuranam*; but none cared to value them above Nesfield and Royal readers which can bring a job. English and Christianity, the gilded trinkets held in whitish hands, attracted our young worthies more than the native gems and diamonds tarnished a bit by the dust of ages. The nation was undoing what ages of labour had created. It was heading towards a dangerous self oblivion.

A superman rose with a mighty tempo to win back the nation to itself. Who does not know the defender of our faith and the saviour of our mother tongue? Who does not lift his hands in homage to the great soul, that Mahatma **ARUMUGA NAVALAR?** Two supermen came forward in the last century to defend our religion and civilisation—Dayananda in the North and Navalar in the South. The former started Arya Samaj to propagate the Vedic lore; the latter started Shaiva Samaj to propagate the Agamic lore which is *Shaiva Shiddhanta*. Dayananda was an iconoclast and bold critic. Navalar a critic as he was never an idol-hater like his compeer; he explained to us the meaning of form worship in temples. Navalar's *Saiva Vinavidai* and the last *Bala padam* challenge Dayananda's *Satyartha Prakash* in expounding the pure truths of the Vedas and essentially of the Agamas. Navalar was one of the peerless gems of Mother India.

Profound scholarship, self-abne-

gation, sacrifice fearlessness, truthfulness, heart felt sincerity, a burning faith in the supreme Shiva, devotion to true devotees, thundering oratory, invulnerable logic, powerful penmanship, perfection in work—these are the striking qualities of our Navalar. He came to us like the flaming trident of Shiva to kill ignorance and kindle knowledge. He brought light and boldness in an atmosphere wrapped in dark smoke and bitter despair. His thoughts sprang from the depth of sincerity and shaped his word-sparks, and his words were acts.

He was a gentleman from top to toe, a straight thinker and actor. He was all love and devotion to what was good, and genuine. But his fearless tone came like a sledge hammer upon hypocrisy and falsehood, upon anything out of tune with the Shiddhantic principles. He was not afraid of foes, not even of the highest authorities. He called a spade a spade: a humbug never escaped his hammer! Navalar had two things to do. The first was the destruction of all that was rotten in society; the other work was to reconstruct the nation in the light of *Kural* and *Meikandar*.

Navalar was born with his mission. He had the intuition to prepare himself for the same. He carefully studied the Bible and Shiddhanta Shastras, and knew this picture and that. He was born rich but never possessed riches; his brothers held prosperous and influential position in life; though he had sufficient English knowledge he never sought a Government job. Rev. Percival paid him a good salary and would have paid still more if merely asked for. He kicked off that prospect. His brothers tried to bend his head under a golden yoke of wealth. "Hush up: leave me free," said Navalar. "You must not indulge in your anti-Christian propaganda," threatened his enemies. "It is my duty," retorted Navalar. He was a true answer to the missionaries that threw mud upon Hindus and made much of their form-worship. He was a challenge to the missionaries in every sphere of religious activities. He started a college, a press, a publishing house, a course of lectures, and many other things to popularise Shiddhanta which was the passion of his life. He was the first man to start a press in Jaffna and Madras to propagate religion and literature. He was the pioneer editor of ancient works. He was the first author of illuminating prose works in Tamil. He has given a

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## UNIVERSITY'S TRUE FUNCTIONS

Nagpur University Convocation

Address By Mr. C. Rajagopalachari

The suggestion that the internal differences regarding the Princes and the Muslims—which had been advanced by British propagandists as standing in the way of Britain fulfilling her pledge to India to transfer power—might be submitted to an Allied tribunal for arbitration was made by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari in his address to the Convocation of the Nagpur University on Nov. 25. "We shall accept," he said, "any just and fair award that will end these difficulties at once."

Sir Henry Twynam, governor of the C. P. and Chancellor of the Nagpur University, inviting Mr. C. Rajagopalachari to deliver the Convocation Address, paid him a tribute, describing him "as an outstanding lawyer, prominent politician, skilled administrator and notable because of his untiring efforts to find a way out of the many difficulties which beset us in the achievement of those ideals which all of us have at heart."

After congratulating the Nagpur University on its progress, Mr. Rajagopalachari said: "The total number of students undergoing university education in India is about one and three fourths lakhs. You hold nearly 5,000, that is you are responsible for three per cent of the total number of university students in India. Universities play a supremely important part in the system of education in any country. Their standards, their methods and their requirements have a large share in the shaping of the system of education right through to the bottom. Universities should serve to raise the intellectual tone of society as a whole, to cultivate the public mind and to purify the national taste. They should enlarge and at the same time give sobriety to prevailing ideas. They should, by producing men with trained minds and well equipped understanding facilitate the exercise of political power by the people. It is only if people can elect enlightened representatives to act on their behalf that democracy can do good and flourish. Apart from these utilitarian functions, universities should refine the intercourse of private life. Applying these tests to universities in India, the Sargent Report arrives at a disappointing conclusion. Let us remember that the report is not the production of ill-disposed and discontented nationalists. It is the considered official report of a committee guided by a very capable and conservative English adviser who must be inclined to justify the policy and work hitherto pursued

in the field of education in India. The report says that much remains to be done before the Indian universities can be regarded as fulfilling their true functions.

### University Education And Employment

The Committee is of the opinion that the activities of our universities have not been duly related to the practical needs of the community as a whole. This is very severe condemnation. The political and economic condition of the country is mainly to blame for the deplorable state of unemployment among university graduates in India. Twenty per cent of them, it is estimated, are wholly unemployed; 50 per cent are in jobs for which an ordinary high school education should have been enough. Only 30 per cent, it is calculated, can be said to have secured employment of a type in keeping with their attainments or commensurate to the time and money spent on their education. When we enquire into any evil, specially a social or economic evil, we come up against a multiplicity of causes and generally discover a vicious circle. Dealing, however, with a particular institution it is well we examine the defects in that institution although there may be collateral causes and defects elsewhere. If we followed true and equitable principles of national expenditure, the output of the universities should be limited to the actual absorption-capacity of the community. Otherwise, the waste involved would be most unjustified. Our Universities are largely dependent on college and examination fees. They are unwilling to take any step which must mean a drastic reduction in fee income. They do not, therefore, feel inclined to reduce admissions and bring them to the level of the suitable employment available in the country. They may talk about planning, but they have no mind to plan their own outturn to suit the actual requirements of the nation. On the other hand, students and parents of students have become the victims of what may be called a new gambling habit. A few prize-jobs are available and everyone who has acquired the necessary previous equipment seeks to invest time and money in order to qualify for the mere chance of obtaining one of these prize-jobs. The lucky ones are not necessarily the best, for communal considerations also come in when the allotments are

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## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1944

### THE PRESENT SITUATION

A FRIENDLY CORRESPONDENT writes to us to say that we had written often in the "Hindu Organ" in support of moderation and reasonableness, and that the present situation is such as to call for all our efforts in the same direction in order to enable the Ceylon Tamils to present a united front before the Royal Commission. We are glad that our correspondent appreciates our advocacy of Tamil interests on the lines of moderation and reasonableness, and there is, therefore, all the more reason why he should understand and appreciate all that was written afterwards in these columns regarding the implications of the present situation. We wrote that these implications are obvious from the claim of the Ministers, put forward in their letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that they, and they alone, are to be the final arbiters of the destinies of the minorities including the Tamils. This view has been rejected by the Secretary of State. We have no hesitation in saying that the decision of the Secretary of State is the only thing possible under the circumstances. If the Ministers had said that they and the minorities were prepared to come to an agreement in regard to the position of the latter under the new constitution, we would have welcomed such a declaration as evidence of their willingness to negotiate a settlement. What the Ministers, however, did was to tell the Secretary of State that they alone should decide the future of the minorities, and in the same breath to tell the minorities that they had better settle all disputes forthwith. The insincerity of the Ministers' attitude in this respect should be obvious to all except those who are determined to believe in the possibility of a settlement regardless of the fact that there must be two parties to a settlement. Fortunately for the minorities, the Secretary of State has decided that the British Government is not prepared to surrender its responsibilities towards the minorities in Ceylon into the hands of the Ministers.

Take, again, the latest instance of the Ministers' benevolence towards the minorities. The Tamil Congress wanted a few gallons of petrol. It applied to the Minister for Local Administration for a few coupons for this purpose. This

was refused by Mr. Bandaranaike on the ground that he did not wish to create a new precedent. As pointed out by the "Times of Ceylon" gallons of petrol were available for Ministers and others to travel by car to see the sights of the kraal, but, in the estimation of Mr. Bandaranaike, the Tamil Congress was nowhere near this interesting precedent. It was left to the Commander-in-Chief to order the issue of the necessary coupons. The Ministers were not wise enough to leave the matter here. They must needs protest against the action of the Commander-in-Chief. The result of their protest has not been quite gratifying to them, and so, the "Ceylon Daily News" proceeds to console them by reading a severe lecture to the Tamils and the promoters of the Congress about the foolishness of the cry that the Singhalese are trying to dominate the others.

In these circumstances, what is the duty of the Tamils, moderates as well as extremists? Their duty is to unite and protect the future of their race. This is our advice to our correspondent, to Mr. Mahadeva, and to others in his position. Our correspondent reminds us that the "Hindu Organ" had urged Mr. Mahadeva to bring about a settlement with the Singhalese. Our correspondent is right, but he and Mr. Mahadeva will recognise the utter futility of further negotiations for a settlement in the present atmosphere. We do not even now question Mr. Mahadeva's sincerity. We believe that he can be a great asset to the Tamils. But, Mr. Mahadeva will bear in mind two things: The Tamil Congress is going to be a great factor in the future of this island and any attempt to sabotage the Congress with the aid of the Singhalese Ministers will be regarded as an act of positive disloyalty towards the Tamils as a community. Secondly Mr. Mahadeva should recognise that no useful purpose can be served by carrying on, behind the scenes further negotiations for a settlement. We are glad to acknowledge that his rider to the Ministers' Scheme of Reforms was largely responsible for the very wide terms of reference in the appointment of the Royal Commission, but Mr. Mahadeva will, we trust, realise that his place is now by the side of his own people.

#### NEW GOVERNOR DUE TO-DAY

His Excellency Sir Henry Moore, Governor-Designate, arrives in Colombo to-day and will take his oaths of office at the Reception Hall of the State Council at noon.

#### NEW PUISNE JUDGE

Mr. Alan Edward Percival Rose, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Palestine has been appointed Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Ceylon.

## Notes and Comments

### Grow More Food Campaign

The food problem of our country is the biggest we have to face for years to come. Australia, which was generously supplying us with flour for the last two or three years, is not going to do so always. There has been a great failure of crops this year there on account of weather conditions, and we do not know whether Ceylon will get from there next year as much as she got during the present year. Moreover, England has to feed the occupied countries also on a large scale as the advance of the Allies progresses. Mr. Churchill says that one can never say when the war with Japan will end even after Germany collapses. Even when Burma is recaptured we cannot hope to get rice from there on the pre-war scale for reasons we have already given in these columns. In the face of such a gloomy future, are our leaders giving sufficient thought to the subject? Merely to start a "Grow More Food Campaign" and offer prizes is not going to touch even the fringe of the problem. The Government is opening jungles, repairing old tanks, organising labour corps and introducing tractors. These are all well and good for new enterprises. But are our leaders, or even officers of the Agricultural Department, in any way attempting to educate the farmers and show them by demonstrations if necessary, how best they can increase their yields by intensive farming even while sticking to their old customs and traditions which cannot after all be despised. Granting that dominion status is going to drop like an apple from above for the mere asking or threats people must first eat and live to enjoy that status. Contrast the apathy of our leaders with what Indian leaders are doing. There are District Agricultural Committees in every district of the Island and Local Assistance Committees in every parish. We hear very little of what the members of these bodies are doing.

### Co-operative Farming

Presiding over the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Mysore Agricultural and Experimental Union, Bangalore on November 25, Pradhanasiramani N. Madhava Rau, Dewan of Mysore, said that the "Grow More Food" campaign could at best help to increase the acreage under cultivation to a limited extent only. For the generality of ryots the existing shortage of labour and bullock power were real handicaps. But what was beyond an individual ryot of limited means might well be accomplished by organised groups of earnest and experienced landowners pooling their resources and working together. Government, the Dewan stated, were therefore anxious to encourage genuine effort in this direction by joint-stock companies, co-operative societies and bodies of educated young men ready to take to an agricultural career. Some obvious and tried methods of improving yields must be brought home to all ryots by demonstration and propaganda. Government, for their part, the Dewan stated, realised that inten-

sive efforts should be made to the same end by the agricultural staff.

Speaking at the third annual meeting of the Madras Provincial Agricultural Association, on November 26, Rao Babadar Dr. B. Viswanath, Director of Agriculture, Madras, suggested that Co-operative Farming which was a golden mean between capitalism and socialism could be adopted in India with advantage for improving the agricultural production in the country. They should also aim at a happy and judicious blending between agriculture and industry in the country. They had now reached a stage at which "mass action and mass attack" were necessary for the rapid improvement of agriculture. Those who suggested collective farming should remember that in India they could not easily set aside tradition and practice. The yield per acre, he learned after a study of the agricultural methods adopted in Europe, America, and Soviet Russia, did not increase as a result of large-scale tractors. Collective farming was also not possible in the province of Madras where nearly 75 to 80 per cent of the holdings were small. Between collective and small-scale farming co-operative farming which would not impose too much strain on the existing method; and systems of cultivation, would be useful in India. It would reduce the cost of production without upsetting their traditions and conditions was his opinion.

### Research Work

Pradhanasiramani N. Madhava Rau, also observed, in the course of the speech referred to above, that the fundamental problems of agriculture were fairly well-known. On the technological side there was a vast field for research and the organisation was nowhere adequate. In another aspect agriculture was not only an industry but a mode of life and any large development must depend upon far-reaching changes in the economic and social structure and outlook. The agricultural developments in India, including those in Mysore, which had done pioneer work in many directions, had accumulated scientific knowledge of great value. A part of it had already been translated into agricultural practice and the immediate task was to see that this process was steadily extended.

Sachithothama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer, Dewan of Travancore, who is the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Travancore and Chairman of the Travancore Council of Research, delivering the inaugural address of the Travancore Research Association, on November 23, made a fervent appeal to the Universities of India to co-ordinate their research activities, organize them on a practical and utilitarian basis and avoid wasteful overlapping of effort so as to enable the country to catch up with other competing nations of the world. A few days ago he emphasised the importance of carrying on research work in relation to the agricultural and industrial requirements of Travancore and announced a grant of Rs. 50,000 to the Travancore Research Association by the Government of Travancore, and a further sum of Rs. 50,000 if ne-

cessary. What has the Government of Ceylon done in this line? **Cassava Cultivation**

When food shortage threatened Ceylon two years ago, there was a vigorous cultivation of cassava all over Jaffna and it formed a good portion of a large number of the people's diet. Seeing that there was a surplus of production in 1942, people reduced its cultivation in 1943; and a good supply of flour in 1944 from Australia seems to have reduced the production still further. Did our Government do anything to maintain the production of 1942 by stabilising the price level and finding other uses for the extra production? What the Travancore Government has done should be an eye opener to our country too. The area under cultivation of cassava was recently extended in Travancore considerably and at the present moment it has been found possible to release a certain quantity of tapioca for conversion into sago, flakes, glucose and other food materials, and for the manufacture of starch required for the manufacture of textiles. The Government takes particular care to see that the manufacture and export of these articles is regulated and controlled by them strictly so that people who use the tapioca root as food may not find any scarcity or dearth. There is already a Controller of eggs in Travancore and now a Controller of tapioca also is going to be appointed. This is another instance where neither the leaders in Ceylon nor the Agricultural Department has paid any attention to the encouragement of tapioca cultivation which can be carried on in every compound and garden with very little expense and trouble.

**District Agricultural Committees**

The above-mentioned apathy brings us again to the subject of District Agricultural Committees. It is members of these committees who should put their heads together and find out what should be done in their respective districts to help cultivators in the matter of increasing the food supply. The Dewan of Mysore suggested the other day to the members of the Mysore Agricultural and Experimental Union to form District Agricultural Committees, each with a definite programme, adequate funds voluntarily raised in the first instance and with a proportion, however small, of live members to carry on demonstrations and propaganda in the villages. Such committees, he said, would supply a liaison between the Government and the local agricultural population and, if they functioned well, they might, in time, prove to be the nucleus or important branches of properly constituted District Economic Councils which would have a voice in the shaping and execution of measures for promoting the economic welfare of their districts. Of voluntary associations in the North we know that the Karachi Farmers' Association is somewhat lively but only to protect the interests of the farmers in Karachi. It does not do any propaganda or demonstration work as envisaged by the Dewan. As we said before, the District Agricultural Committees, and Local Assistant Committees all over Jaffna,

**Letters to the Editor**

**Irrigation Scheme for Mullaitivu**

Sir.—Mr. Tyagaraja, the member for Mannar-Mullaitivu has given notice in Council of a motion for the early restoration of an ancient major tank called "Raja Maha Wewa" and popularly known as "Tannimurioppu" situated about thirteen miles to the south of the Mullaitivu town, which according to the Assistant Government Agent, Vavuniya, if restored can bring under cultivation about 12,000 acres of paddy lands.

The people of Mullaitivu have made and continued to make representations for restoring this tank but the Minister for Agriculture and Lands does not appear to take them seriously. The Minister for Agriculture and Lands perhaps does not know that the lands under this abandoned tank are exceptionally fertile. A very backward district as this should no longer be neglected and the Minister would be doing a great service to the people of this district by launching this project without any further delay.

The question of cost ought not to deter the Minister from carrying out the work as it is well known that in matters relating to the agricultural development of the country he seldom stints public money.

The restoration of this tank will go a long way towards solving the food problem in this Island and will at the same time afford ample opportunity for the people of this part of the district to do cultivation at least twice a year where paddy cultivation is essentially (Manavari) rain-fed.

When public money is spent on costly and fruitless ventures it is anxiously hoped that the Minister will take immediate action in this vitally important matter.

Yours etc.  
C. M. Thammalingam

**FOOTBALL IN JAFFNA**

The finals of the Jaffna Inter-Collegiate Football 1st and 2nd Team Championship Tournaments were played last Saturday before a record crowd in the J. S. S. A. ground. By beating Urumparai Hindu College by one goal to nil, Jaffna Hindu College won the 2nd Team Championship. Since the 2nd Team Championship was started some years ago, Jaffna Hindu College has always been either runners-up or Champions and this year they made the record score of 22 goals to nil in one of their matches.

Jaffna College and Jaffna Central College by scoring one goal each became joint winners of the first Team Championship.

formed under the aegis of the Government seem to be doing very little. Men of the type of the Dewans of Mysore and Travancore and the Madras Director of Agriculture are required to guide them and give constructive ideas besides infusing some spirit and enthusiasm. Neither the Central Board of Agriculture at Peradeniya nor our Department of Agriculture seems to be of any help to them.

**Extensive Black Market In Rice**

**Main Difficulty Of Purchase Scheme**

"One of the chief factors that militate against the success of the Internal Purchase Scheme is the black market in country rice and paddy, and this black market is very extensive and in some places well organised," said Mr. J. W. H. O'Regan, Assistant Civil Defence Commissioner, addressing the members of the Low-Country Products Association of Ceylon on Thursday on the Internal Purchase Scheme.

It was necessary that public opinion should range itself against this but so far public opinion had, at best, been lukewarm and at worst, actively in favour of it. There seemed to be too little realisation that to buy rice illicitly was to steal food from one's fellow-citizens.

He said that in 1933 over 500,000 tons of rice were imported into Ceylon, but after the fall of Burma requirements for the Food Control Scheme had been brought down to approximately 125,000 tons of rice a year.

The fact that the requirements of the non-producing and partially self-supporting population of the Island has been so reduced was in itself a great achievement of which Ceylon should be proud. The supply from outside sources however, even of this small quantity, was very difficult, and Ceylon had undertaken to meet as great a proportion as possible of food control requirements from her own resources—from the paddy that was surplus to the requirements of the producers in the Island. For this reason, the Internal Purchase Scheme was started in March, 1942, and its importance had grown with the increasing difficulty of securing rice from abroad.

**Serious Position**

In 1942 between March and the end of the year, approximately 630,000 bushels of paddy—equivalent to 9,000 tons of rice—were purchased under the Internal Purchase Scheme. Conditions became increasingly serious, and at the beginning of 1943 the compulsory requisitioning of paddy was brought into force. This tightening up of the Internal Purchase Scheme resulted in 1,853,000 bushels of paddy being bought during the year—a great increase over 1942; this was equivalent to approximately 26,000 tons of rice.

At the beginning of this year, however, conditions became even more serious and there was a grave fear that by May there would be insufficient rice to meet the requirements of the rationing scheme: it therefore became necessary to make drastic alterations in the Internal Purchase Scheme.

As a result, the rate of purchases considerably increased for 1943 and the quantity of paddy purchased between January and October this year was 2,759,793 bushels, or the equivalent of over 39,000 tons of rice as compared with the total for the whole of last year of 1,853,000 bushels. There were still 2 months' purchases to be added to this figure before the end of the year and

**NAVALAR DAY**

The Gurupoojah of Sri La Sri Arumuga Navalar will be celebrated in Colombo and Jaffna on Wednesday the 6th inst. under the auspices of the Colombo Vivekananda Society and Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabha respectively.

In Colombo at the Vivekananda Society, the celebration begins at 6 p. m. with poojah, addresses and devotional songs under the chairmanship of Mr. K. Alvapillai C. C. S.

At the Saiva Paripalana Sabhai's premises in Vannarpannai, prayers and Mahendra poojah will begin at 10 a. m. and addresses on the Navalar's life at 7 p. m.

he thought Ceylon could confidently hope to hit the target of three million bushels by the end of December.

The purchases in bushels by revenue districts for this year up to the end of October were: Nawwa Eliya 18,415, Puttalam 32,294, Kelutara 38,555, Badulla 41,477, Ratnapura 41,900, Jaffna 50,317, Galle 51,120, Matale 57,250, Kegalle 61,208, Trincomalee 72,193, Vavuniya 90,995, Mannar 95,480, Colombo 114,787, Matara 126,645, Kandy 131,036, Kurunegala 271,088, Battaramulla 300,874, Hambantota 334,051, Anuradhapura 830,174.—Total 2,759,795.

In order to prevent producers who were partially self-supporting from drawing their rations under the Food Control Scheme during the period when they had paddy, rice coupons were withdrawn from their ration books. For this year up to date over 18 million coupons had been withdrawn and sent to his office, said Mr. O'Regan. This represented the full yearly rice ration for over 345,000 persons.

**Reasonable Progress**

While they could be reasonably satisfied with the progress, now was almost definitely not a time to sit down and pat themselves on the back; much more could and must be done. He was convinced that they have by no means reached the limit of purchases.

It is proposed that next year all producers who obtained paddy from more than one chief headman's division should be required to declare from what fields they would obtain paddy; in order to make the information complete, it was necessary that in addition to the main declaration form a separate form be filled up for each chief headman's division from which the declarant obtained paddy. These declarations would be hoped, avoid the necessity for such producers to make further declarations later for subsequent seasons.

One of the chief difficulties that producers, especially the larger ones, were faced with was that of obtaining permits for the removal of paddy, and he was hoping to make arrangements for permits for removal of paddy to be issued at once provided that the producer in question had already satisfactorily completed his declaration form. If an applicant deliberately exaggerated his own paddy position, he could not be expected to be treated promptly on future occasions.

He was most anxious to see that any legitimate grievances of paddy producers were attended to as promptly as possible and people should not hesitate to get in touch with him if they were in any difficulty.

## Remember Navalar!

(Continued from page 1)

number of precious Tamil works *Tolkappiyam to Tirukkural, from Periyapuranam to Saiva Vina vidai*. He was the father of Modern Tamil. He started the *Saiva Samaj* and trained students and propagandists to educate the public on the principles and practice of Saivism. From A to Z, he did singly, everything for us. What reward had he in return? He was hated, persecuted, hoodwinked, jeered, criticised and lullied: He was misunderstood everywhere: He had thousands of enemies but he was a hero of act and speech; he gave tit for tat and silenced his opponents. Even like Dayananda he was a bold challenge to his enemies. Navalar was a martyr to Saivism. His great vision was a grand Saivite University at Chidambaram.

As I think of Chidambaram, the Saivite centre, my mind goes to the Annamalai University. When the vision of its mission swims before my mind's eye, my reverence embraces the heart of Sri Arumuga Navalar. For it is the dream of Navalar that has found its realisation in this colossal University.

"O Tamilians: O my beloved Saivites, come let us be men; let us also go forward and onward like other nations. We have a religion which is in no way inferior to any other religion. Saivagamam is the synthesis of all religions. It is the crown of God-knowledge. It is the only religion which by a definite, sure process takes the limited human soul to the heights of the highest beatitude which we call Shivamayam. It transforms the Jiva into the substance of Shiva. Come O Tamilians! let us hold high the standard of our universal religion. And our mother tongue: O what a decadence: O Tamilians let us claim back the throne which is our Mother's own among the nations, I have a great plan before me. I mean starting a colossal Saivaprakasa University here in the presence of Lord Nataraja. I expect every Tamilian to do his duty towards his Mother and his God. Just remember to spare a coin, a handful of rice every day for this mighty charity and we can have enough to start our monumental work."

Thus spoke out Navalar, seventy five years ago. Time has fulfilled part of his fond hope through a princely hand Tamilians! The Arya Samaj of Dayananda started at the same period has now more than half a crore of members and hundreds of branches, schools, colleges, ashrams, relief homes, power houses, social organisations, Shuddhi and Sakkadam activities. What about the Saiva Samaj of our Navalar? Have you forgotten his sacrifice? Even the Navalar institutions left to us were his gifts. What have you done to perpetuate his ideas? Mere annual meetings and clappings of hands will not do. We must start a movement of *dynamic activity* in his name. Our duty to Navalar is yet unfulfilled. What is the duty? What are the visions of Navalar? What is the immediate thing to be done? I have explained everything in my treatise of Navalar *"NAVALAR PERUMAN"* which I dedicate to the beloved land of his birth. Come Tamilians let the world know that we are not mere men of words, but heroes of mighty deeds! OM SHIVAM!

## University's True Functions

(Continued from page 1.)

made. Those that get the prizes are, of course happy and have no cause to complain. They are in no mood to see defects in the system. The rest—and they are the vast majority—80 per cent are thrown upon their own resources after having lost in the gamble. These proceed ruthlessly to oust those that possess only a high school education in the competition for ordinary jobs for which high school education is enough. The wise and careful are ousted by those who have spent time and money on an education not relevant to the jobs themselves but who have lost in the gamble for higher prizes. The evil thus spreads. The system drives boys who have satisfactorily finished the high school course to a scramble for university education, in order that they may not be pushed out in the competition for employment. This explains the remarkably high proportion of students in India resorting to universities out of the total high school products as compared with the proportion prevailing in Britain and Germany. One out of every three high school pupils goes to the university in India whereas in the western countries mentioned, it is less than one in seven.

What I have said is not the outcome of a bullock-cart mentality and anti-higher-education psychology developed in me by continued association with Sewagram. You can read the Sargent Report and find full justification for all that I have said. Yet, as that report admits, this does not mean that India is over provided with university education. Calculated in relation to the total population India is the most backward of all civilised nations in university education. In Germany the number of students in the universities was before this war 1 to 69 of the total population; in Great Britain it is 1 to 837, in the United States it is 1 to 225; in Russia it is 1 to 300. In India it is 1 to 22.6. The economic structure of the body-politic should be rebuilt. Things should be planned and not left to speculation and individual exploitation. The university programme should be an integral part of a scheme for the whole of the national life, its present activities and its hopes for the future. There should be no waste and no unemployment or misemployment of men and women trained at great expense.

After dealing with political questions at length he said: I congratulate you on the attainment of your degrees in particular the women graduates. Do not be depressed either by your unemployment or by your environment. Even if you do not find work suitable to your equipment and commensurate with the labour you have bestowed on your education, remember your role as university men and women and do what you can to raise the intellectual tone of society to purify the public taste; to make people broad minded and to bring refinement in private life. In such endeavour you will find your happiness, whatever may be your rank or condition God bless you all.

## Death Sentences For "Enemy Agents"

### Indians From Malaya Executed

In October 1943 the execution was announced of four enemy agents who were members of a party landed by a Japanese submarine on the west coast of India. Since then two more spies who were connected with this party but who had entered India by a different route, have paid the extreme penalty after trial under the Enemy Agents' Ordinance, says a communique issued by the Government of Assam. These were T. P. Kumaran Nair of Malabar and Ramu Thevar of the Ramnad district in Madras, both of whom were living in Malaya at the outbreak of hostilities with Japan.

The communique adds: Another case under the Enemy Agents' Ordinance has also been recently concluded in which five persons were sentenced to death. They were members of a party who had been landed by parachute in India with money and equipment, including wireless transmission sets. These five persons were A. Singh of the Amritsar district and Zahur Ahmed of the Sheikhupura district in the Punjab, S. L. Mazumdar of the Chittagong district in Bengal and Aadeshwar Rai and Sham Lal Pandey of the Gorakhpur district in the United Provinces. Their convictions and sentences were confirmed by the Judge of the High Court who reviewed the cases. But the death sentences passed on the two last mentioned persons have been commuted to transportation for life—A. P. I.

## HOME FRONT

### WASHING NEWS

### Ervine Brand Soap

Stocked By All  
Leading Stores

#### CHIEF DISTRIBUTORS

Messrs: Mohamed Ally  
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#### SOLE AGENTS:

Samuel and Sivasubramaniam  
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(Mis 163, 4-11—1-2-45)

### WANTED

An Assistant Clerk for Chankanni Village Committee. Minimum qualification English J. S. C. with fair knowledge of Tamil. Salary Rs. 30/- with war allowance of 25 per cent and bicycle allowance of Rs. 10/- per month. Security Rs. 500/- Applications with certificates should reach the undersigned before 20th December 1944.

C. Tillaiambalam,  
Chairman.  
Chankanni,  
30-11-44.  
Mis. 165, 4-12-44.

## ASOKAMALA BEFORE A JAFFNA AUDIENCE

'Asokamala', a Tamil play from Ceylon History written by Mr. M. Ramalingam of Wellawatte, was staged by the Jaffna College Lyceum on Monday, the 20th November, 1944, at 7.30 p.m. at the Ottley Hall, Jaffna College, Valdukodda, under the distinguished patronage and immediate presence of K. Kanagaratnam Esq. Acting Auditor-General, Ceylon and Mrs. K. Kanagaratnam.

Despite bad weather a very large and appreciative audience was present. The play started sharp to time.

Messrs. A. Sachchidanandan and K. Panchocharaval who represented Prince Sali and Asokamala, the Chandala maid, respectively along with the others put up a very good standard of acting and singing.

The play was interspersed with oriental dances by specially trained troupe of girls with Miss Jayaraj Kanpathipillai and Rathi Sundarampillai as central figures representing Lord Krishna and Radha Devi respectively.

Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam, the Patron of the Society, introduced the author to the audience during the interval and lauded him and presented him a verse specially composed and sung for the occasion by Mr. S. A. Viswalingam, Teacher, Jaffna College. The author thanked all concerned for the encouragement given to him. Speaking on the play Mr. K. Kanagaratnam complimented all concerned on the very good standard achieved. He further stated that there is, at the moment, a rebirth of Eastern Music and Culture and that we should all grasp them with all earnestness. He continued that the peoples of India and Ceylon should prepare themselves to take the lead in setting things right in the "Brave New World" to come. At the end of the speech he pinned a gold medal to Sri C. S. S. Mani Iyer, the Director of the Play.

### FLYING BOMB HAVOC

This is what the flying bomb did in London in ten weeks (June 15 to August 8)

400,000 houses destroyed or damaged in the first two weeks.  
100 London Hospitals received damage.

14,000 patients evacuated to North and West England.

14,538 casualties admitted to hospitals.

818,000 people, nearly all women, children and old people, evacuated from London.

462,000 people in public shelters.

A single flying bomb destroyed or damaged as many as 1,500 houses, while the average was 400. Every hour, during those ten weeks, 700 houses were destroyed or damaged in England. Some 'stout hearts' were wanted for this ordeal!