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NO. 63.

ECONOMIC EQUALITY NOT OF THE RUSSIAN MODEL

A PROCESS OF REGENERATING THE VILLAGE

AIMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF WARDHA

(BY JOHN ALEXANDER)

FLANKING the main gateway to Maganwadi, the Headquarters of the Village Industries Association, are two bullocks symbolising the principal source of power of the villages. Inside I found bullocks in profusion, engaged on the various activities associated with the regeneration of the Indian village. It came as a shock to me to find crafts being taught, such as winnowing and pressing oil from seeds, that I had only heard of in Virgil and the Bible. In the process of regeneration the villager was to go back to his ancestors for guidance.

I asked one of the workers at the soap factory how it was that the villager had forgotten these crafts. "You ought to know", he said in a somewhat sinister manner, implying that it was the British, with their machine-made goods, who had undersold the village craftsmen into unemployment. This, I admitted, observing that, if I can procure cheaper and better soap, I would be foolish to stick to soap produced by hand. The conversation reminded me of Uday Shankar's unfinished ballet, which I saw rehearsed in Almora a few weeks ago.

An Unfinished Ballet

The theme was the coming of the machine to India, its evil results and the cure for them. We saw the Portuguese trader with his pistol, his liquor and his Bible. We saw how the villagers succumbed to the lure of the machine, and we saw the rise of the soulless industrial proletariat. Then there arose resentment among the workers, and they struck for higher wages. The employer gave in, and all was peace. Then more strikes; the employer couldn't raise the wages or he would have lost his profits. It was clear how the industrialist and his employees were both caught in the system, tangled, as Wardha would say, in a web of *kimsa*. The ballet—and this is the important thing—was to end with the realisation of the villagers that large-scale industrialisation was a destructive process; they were to return in peace to their villages and their handicrafts.

A Fruit of the Non-Violent Revolution

The same theme is expressed in Wardha. It is found in Dr. J. C.

Kumarappa's book. Why the Village Movement? The immediate problem in India, says Dr. Kumarappa, is one of unemployment, poverty, and under-nourishment in the villages. The greater part of the capital invested in India is in foreign hands and cannot be used for the promotion of radical schemes of education and industrial expansion. Therefore the ideal to work for is the raising of the standard of living in the villages by creating employment for the villagers in crafts during the four months of the year they are unemployed on the land. Most of these manufactures will be used to make the villages self-sufficient; the surplus will be exchanged or sold to neighbouring villages. At the end of a long term programme of this type of education the villages will be able to support themselves without the aid of mass-produced manufactures: Indian raw materials, instead of being exported for manufacture abroad, will be used locally where they are produced; and the result will ultimately be an economically stable India with a population, if not nurtured in the lap of luxury, at least content to be provided with their necessities and with perpetual and congenial work. This would be the fruit of the non-violent revolution.

Work for work's Sake

Wardha, while believing in economic equality, is no believer in the Socialist solution on the Russian model. In Russia the emphasis is on State ownership, centralisation, and collectivism; in Wardha, the pre-occupation is with diffusion of power to the villages, the end of the city civilisation, and the curtailment of large-scale production for plenty in favour of localised production for a minimum of comfort. Dr. Kumarappa points out how the Western ideal of progressively shorter hours of work is based on a dislike of that work, and a feeling that civilisation exists in the vacuum created by leisure; he postulates an ideal of work for work's sake, somewhat, I feel, on the Hesiodic model—the spinner who spins for enjoyment, and the paper maker who gives every sheet he produces a separate and particular attention. With these occu-

(Continued on page 6)

TEACHERS AND POLITICS

PROBLEMS FACING THE PROFESSION

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AT NORTHERN PROVINCE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

"POLITICS as well as the cause of education will be poorer if the elementary right of a citizen is withdrawn from teachers."

Thus observed Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam, presiding at the tenth Annual General Meeting of the Northern Province Teachers' Association on Saturday. In the course of his presidential address Mr. Thurairatnam said:—

This meeting marks the end of yet another year of the Association's activities. It also marks the end of the first decade of its existence under its present constitution. During the last decade we fought and won many a privilege. During this we have stood in perpetual danger of losing some of them. During the next we must make sure that we do not yield any ground. These are critical days for us. We are assailed on many fronts. On the economic front there is the question of reduction of salaries. On what might be called the moral front there is the question of the curtailment of our freedom. We may be compelled to work on half our salaries, but we shall not be compelled to surrender an iota of the freedom we possess now in common with the average citizen. The world is in a critical stage. Totalitarianism has reared its ugly head. It requires the complete surrender of personal liberty to the State. The very thought process of man is changing.

Citadels of the Mind

The citadels of the mind are open to danger no less than the citadels of steel and concrete. Fortunately for us in the British Empire, this freedom is intact subject of course to some temporary limitations very necessary during war time. As an enlightened body of people, we have a definite contribution to make towards the Government of the country. Politics as well as the cause of education will be the poorer if the elementary right of a citizen is withdrawn from teachers. The state of the country with universal franchise, but teachers out of politics, in name and in fact, can better be imagined than described. I am not arguing for full time politics for teachers. A prudent teacher knows how far to delve into politics. If he wishes to go far, he will find himself compelled to give up one or the other. But what

I do wish to say is that we cannot have our moral right cut down.

Special Committees—Know-it-Alls, Diehards and Experts

During the year several attempts were made to reduce teachers' salaries. We were shocked by some—perhaps this was a studied technique—but we recovered quickly enough to meet the others. The officers of the Association have been at their watch-posts constantly looking out for raiders. Some of them were seen and chased away. Others were heard but not seen. But one which took us almost by surprise was the Special Committee of Education. I am not giving away any secret when I say that the N. P. T. A. was profoundly disappointed at the appointment of this Committee composed of some self-complacent know-it-alls, some diehards and some experts. The All Ceylon Union of Teachers agitated for an efficient and impartial Commission from abroad. The Head Masters' Conference asked for one and the same wish was echoed throughout the length and breadth of the island. Yet, we were to be denied. What surprised us was the readiness with which some of the head masters accepted places on this Committee, after having insistently asked for nothing short of a Commission.

A. C. U. T. Compromised

The position of the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers was compromised by members who owed allegiance to other bodies as well. Some of the members of the A. C. U. T. who accepted places on the Special Committee were also members of the Head-Masters' Conference or the Executive Committee of Education or both. This of course cannot be helped. It might even be advantageous to the A. C. U. T. But there should be some discipline. If such members who were offered places on the Special Committee had referred the matter to their respective Associations, it might have been possible for the latter to take some co-ordinated action. The game seems to have been well played on the other side. However, taking things as they are, we may concede that in spite of weak points, the Committee as a whole is efficient, but we cannot expect them to be exactly impartial when they admittedly represent diverse interests. The business of the Special Com-

(Continued on page 5)

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(Mis. 154. 25 & 28-11-40)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1940

HECTIC DIPLOMACY

CONVINCED AS HITLER IS OF the impracticability and futility of a frontal attack on Britain, the last citadel in Europe of democracy, he has turned his attention to a policy of encirclement and isolation through diplomacy. For the past one month or more there has been hectic activity in this direction in Berlin and elsewhere, but the results so far achieved have not been very promising. Neither FRANCO nor MARSHAL PETAIN seems to have entered into any definitive alliance with the Nazi leader. Else what is the necessity for the recent visit of SENOR SUNER to Berlin? The adhesion of Hungary to the Axis is announced and it is probable that Rumania also may formally enter the Axis bloc. But from the military point of view the formal entry of these two states makes very little difference as Rumania is already under the Axis heel and the other also is under Nazi influence. The Slovak Prime Minister is one of the invitees to Berlin. HITLER is playing the role of the Grand Moghul of Europe who received at his Darbar the petty princes of Europe. King LEOPOLD of Belgium is another of those who had talks with him. These things taken all together may look impressive on paper and may delude simple-minded people into the belief that Britain has been successfully isolated; but these states are only paying lip-homage and assent, but the heart of the peoples is really opposed to Hitler. The totalitarian heads of these states will not be able to carry the population with them to the Axis side. When the Nazi war machine meets with its first reverse, as it must sooner or later, these peoples are sure to turn against the Axis and look up to British protection and alliance as their only safety.

The officially inspired press both in Berlin and Rome gives the creation of a New Order in

Europe as the object of this hectic diplomacy, an order from which Britain and the U. S. A. are to be effectively excluded, as though the war were already over and what remained was to summon a new Versailles. The more probable interpretation is that the talks with Petain, Franco and Molotov have not yielded the expected results. Hitler requires some dope in the form of some diplomatic triumph to allay the chagrin caused by five months of military inactivity and the blows dealt by the R. A. F. Diplomatic understanding with the Balkan states is also a condition precedent to any possible move against Greece and Turkey.

Apart from the impossibility of Hitler's New Order ever becoming a reality in Europe, it is unlikely that any nation will be anxious to go into a system under the hegemony of Germany. The role of any nation in such an order is bound to be none other than that of a henchman or camp-follower of Germany. No real freedom of self-expression, military, economic or cultural, will be allowed to any state that blindly places itself under the octopus grip of that order. The state will have to go totalitarian, its free institutions all suppressed, and its military and economic system subordinated to German interests. From such a predicament Europe, and for the matter of that, the world can be saved only by the victory of the democracies.

'INDIA WILL STAND FIRMLY'

Mr. Satyamurti on the Attitude of Ceylon Delegation

New Delhi, Saturday.

Mr. Satyamurti, president of the Indian Overseas Association, in a statement says, "I am surprised at Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike's statement on the Indians in Ceylon. It looks as if he is not out for a just settlement but to reduce considerably the number of Indians already settled in Ceylon."

"They are as good Ceylonese as the Sinhalese, most of them having been born there, and even their fathers and grand-fathers. They cannot be driven out of the country."

"This policy is exactly the same as that of the White Government in South Africa. This is unjust and it cannot succeed and will not be allowed to succeed."

"We can and will agree in respect of future emigration of Indians into Ceylon and the national law of domicile, but on this question India will stand firmly by the Indians in Ceylon." (Associated Press.)

IMPERIAL REPLY COUPONS

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AVAILABLE OF BY JAFFNA

SUPPLEMENTARY VOTE TO WIPE OFF DEBT

A supplementary vote of Rs. 4,569.65 will be moved in the State Council this week to wipe off the debit balance in the Imperial and Imperial Reply Coupon account.

The Minister of Communications and Works, in his "observations" on this vote, explains that the Reply Coupon Scheme is an international arrangement governed by the Universal Postal Convention. Coupons purchased in one Empire country are exchangeable in any other Empire country for a stamp of the value necessary to repay a reply.

The transactions in Imperial Coupons occur mainly between Jaffna and Malaya and when the Imperial postage rate was 20 cts. per oz an advantage accrued to a person in Malaya who obtained a coupon in that country at a cost of about 15 cts. and forwarded the coupon for exchange by his correspondent in Jaffna for a postage stamp of the value of 20 cts.

As the Imperial postage rate has now been reduced to 15 cts. this advantage does no longer exist, and it is presumed that the number of Imperial Coupons exchanged will gradually decrease.

A New Dispensary at Urumparai

Dr. S. Arumugam, L.M.S., late of the F. M. S. Medical Service, has joined the Ayurvedic hospital run by Dr. K. Sundaralingam, D. I. M. S. at Urumparai as from the 20th instant. Facilities are therefore provided at the hospital for the treatment of patients according to both systems of medicine.

Ships for Britain

Washington, Saturday.

Eight cargo vessels of about 5,000 tons each belonging to the Black Diamond Steamship Company of New York are to be sold to Britain, subject to the United States Maritime Commission's permission, which has been applied for.

The Cunard Company proposes to take six of these ships and the Cairn Line two.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Late Dr. A. N. Coomaraswamy

Sir,—As one who was very closely associated with the late Dr. A. N. Coomaraswamy in some public movements like Scouting and Health work, and, as one who knew him very intimately, I may be permitted to endorse every word of the tribute paid to the late doctor in your issue of 21.11.40. He had a wonderful capacity for making others happy, without, at the same time losing his own cheerfulness under the most trying circumstances. I have met very few like him in the world which we know as Jaffna.

Yours truly,

M. SABARATNASINGHE,
Vaddukoddai,
Jaffna.

ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE

Opened at Puttur

Puttur, Nov. 21.

"I greatly admire the work of the three rural development officers stationed at Puttur. I hope that Adult education will be successful and I shall watch with interest the progress of the movement and endeavour to aid it in every possible way," declared Mr. M. Prasad, C. C. S., Government Agent, Northern Province, presiding last night at the opening ceremony of the new adult education shed at Vempirai, Puttur. It was a red-letter day for Vempirai and Mr. Prasad urged the Kirama Vidanes and other enlightened villagers to cooperate with the rural development officers.

Mr. K. Sivaguru, Chairman of the Village Committee, Puttur, deplored the illiteracy prevalent in Vempirai, where about 105 children of school-going age did not attend school. Only six adults could read and write out of a population of six hundred. The Kirama Vidanes of Puttur East and West spoke on the need of adult education and promised to aid the movement in every way.

Mr. S. ngarapillai, Head Master of the Mission Tamil School, and Sister Easter Hayden also spoke. Mr. Thambiah gave a specimen lesson while the students of the Health Unit conducted singing lessons.

The Government Agent was met at the Chunnakam Road by Mr. K. Balasundaram, officer-in-charge of the rural development centre and escorted to Vempirai by the Maniagar of the division and other leading residents. He was garlanded at the entrance to the new shed, where Mr. Balasundaram invited him to perform the opening ceremony.

Mr. K. Coomaraswamy, R. D. O., proposing the vote of thanks to the chairman, promised good results in three months. There was a fair sprinkling of ladies in the large audience. The donors included Mr. S. Thillai Nathan, Registrar of Marriages, Messrs. S. Sethupathy, K. Muttucumar, V. Saravanamuttu, S. Selladurai and Ivadurai. (Cor.)

A Farewell Function at Kaithady

At a special meeting of the Kaithady West Co-operative Society, held at its office at 6 p.m. on Friday the 15th inst. November, Mr. V. Canagasabai, Inspector of Co-operative Societies, Tenmarachy Division, was accorded a farewell send off on the occasion of his transfer to Point Pedro division in the same capacity. Sri la Sri K. Yogananda Iswarar, High Priest in charge of the local Kandaswamy Temple, the President of the Society, in voicing the sentiments of those present, and on invitation the Secretary, and Messrs. S. Sithamparapillai and V. Nagalingam also spoke in highly appreciative terms of the usefulness of Mr. Canagasabai in inaugurating the Society and wished him Godspeed and success in his new station.

Mr. Canagasabai thanked the Society for the entertainment and the kind sentiments expressed and wished the Society continued usefulness and prosperity.

Light refreshments were served and the function came to a close after spending a very enjoyable time. (cor.)

WEEK BY WEEK

Balkans—a Power in Power
Politics

(BY MAN ABOUT TOWN)

THE stage for the European war drama seems to be the Balkans. With Rumania and Hungary in the German pockets, the bewildered politics of the Balkans have assumed a serious turn. The Nazi swoop down the Danube, some call it a huge food raid, has once again revived the German *drang nach Osten* dream and caused concern in Iraq and Iran. The danger in the Middle East is no phobia. It is real and not imaginary. The occupation of Rumania is not due to her oil industry, but it is the insatiable ambition of a dictator who dreams at world domination. A Balkan *Entente* to his liking is very essential. His object is to strike at the Dardanelles, capture the oil fields in the Middle East and in the end control Suez itself. Today the old Balkan *Entente* is dead, and the old veterans (Germany, England and Russia) with the addition of an extremely ambitious new-comer Italy, are once again in the arena and the Balkans have resumed its former reputation of a hell paved with the bad intentions of the Great Powers. Rumania to all purposes is a province of the Reich. Her independence is only on paper. Now remains Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Greece. Bulgaria may any day fall in with the Axis. Yugoslavia is being seriously threatened by the Axis aggression. Mussolini casts his covetous glances on her fertile soil. But Yugoslavia has a passionate sympathy for the Allies and bitter hatred for Italy. In the event of aggression she may follow the example of Greece and resist any inroads into her territory. In Greece the shadow of Hitler, and Junior partner in the Axis firm is having a bad time. Far from defending her soil, Greece has carried the war into enemy territory. And across the strip of sea that joins the Black Sea with the Aegean lies Turkey fearful of Nazi appearance in the Mediterranean or in the Black Sea. The Turkish attitude today is "watchful readiness" and stands firm by her Pact with Britain. Turkey today is the greatest impediment to Hitler's drive through Asia Minor to the Persian Gulf. Two million bayonets are ready to bar the path of any aggressor to the Bosphorus and the Middle East. Hitler knows this and any attempts by him to overawe Turkey would not only be strongly resisted but would drive her into a military alliance with Russia.

* * *

The Russian Enigma

The Russian attitude is still a mystery; she has not so far expressed her resentment on the Nazi moves in the Balkans. There is no doubt that Russia hates to see Germany in the Balkans and much more in the Black Sea. But circumstances force her to keep quiet. Hitler is a

past master in using his friends against each other for his own profit. He had already paid a heavy price for his pact with Russia, he allowed the Baltic to be turned into a Russian lake, he allowed Buhovina and Bessarabia to be snatched away from Rumania, he remained a silent onlooker in the defeat of the Finns. Wasn't that enough? He timed his present move with due care. The three Power Pact with Italy and Japan, he thinks, has made him safer against the Soviet. If Stalin ever thinks of challenging the new Nazi order, Japan is ready to redress the balance in the Far East. It is now Russia and not Germany which fears a two front war. Hence Hitler expects Stalin to say aye to his demands in the Black Sea. But, Hitler it appears counts too much on the role Japan is to play in his dreams of world conquest. Japan dare not act lest she gets into conflict with the U. S. A. and Britain. Time will soon show that Nippon is a useless ally of the Axis. And in addition to threats Hitler has his other weapons. He woos Stalin with promises. Germany must have already assured Russia of her interests in the Dardanelles, and promised the rich vineyards and oil fields of Iran. And Hitler knows that Russia is weak militarily. And today it looks as if Hitler dominates and Stalin submits. But it is again certain that inwardly there is a good deal of tension between the two and there is surely a limit to Russia's patience and in all probability when he is certain of a British victory, will join hands with Turkey and England against the Axis. The uncertain attitude of Russia is again the cause why Hitler has not gone to the aid of his shadow, through Bulgaria in order to retrieve an already hopeless situation for the Axis.

MATRIMONIAL

KATHIRA VELLU—KATHIRESU

Traditional Hindu style characterised the wedding of Mr. T. Kathira Vellu Pillai of the Sri Somaskanda English School, Pattur, and the eldest son of the late Mr. K. Thangathurai and Mrs. Thangathurai, of Upper Serangoon, Singapore, to Srimati K. Saraswathy, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Kathiresu of Vaddukodai. The ceremony took place on November 6, at the bride's residence, Thunavi.

The bridegroom was a well-known sportsman and was on the editorial staff of the Malaya Tribune and the Straits Times. The bride's brother, Mr. K. Subramaniam was the best man while the mother-of-honour was Mrs. S. Sitharapillai. The sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. S. Subramaniam. The civil ceremony was performed before Mr. K. Sinnathambi, Registrar of Marriages, Vakkamam West, the attesting witnesses being Messrs. S. Rajah and V. Subramaniam. The bridal dress was a Banarès jungle saris based on an Oriental floral design. The jacket

POLICANDY
KANDASWAMY
KOVILPublic Meeting of
Worshippers

Pursuant to the notice concerning a meeting of the Hindu public and others interested in the Policandy Kandaswamy Kovil, a public meeting was held at the Hindu School of Karanavai North, Uduppiddy, on the 15th November, 1940 at 7 p.m. Mr. S. Sivagnanasundaram was elected Chairman of the meeting, and Mr. D. Sivagurunathan was elected Secretary. After the discussion of the preliminary matters, it was brought to the notice of the meeting that the said Kovil was a very ancient institution of the Hindus, and that that the affairs of the temple were not managed properly and that the main shrine of this Kovil had been demolished by the present Manager who had gone to the F. M. S. on a collection tour. It has become necessary that the present Manager and Trustee who was appointed by virtue of a decree of the D. C. Jaffna, should be called upon to submit accounts to Court and that steps should be taken by the worshippers to frame a proper scheme of Management. Several resolutions were passed unanimously by the meeting and the office bearers were authorised to carry out the objects of the meeting:—Viz.

1. That all necessary steps should be taken by the committee to have the Policandy Kandaswamy Kovil declared a Public, Charitable, Trust in terms of Trust Ordinance No. 9 of 1917.

2. That the Committee was authorised to collect all necessary funds to carry out the objects of the meeting.

3. That the Committee was further directed to take all necessary steps according to law and to have a proper scheme of Management framed by a competent Court of Law.

The meeting was brought to a close with a Kathapirasingam by Mr. Kanapathippillai, Teacher of Karaveddy. (Cor.)

war of French silver with plain Indian sleeves.

KATHIRESU—THANGATHURAI

The marriage of Mr. K. Subramaniam, of Thirugnanaambantha Vidyasalai, Vaddukodai, and son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Kathiresu to Miss. T. Mangayakarasee, of the Hindu English School, Vaddukodai, and daughter of the late Mr. K. Thangathurai, of Upper Serangoon, Singapore, took place on 11th last night at the bride's residence, Chitarkami. The ceremony was in orthodox Hindu style, officiated over by Sri N. Ananda Sharma Kurukal.

The bride's elder brother, Mr. T. Kathiravellu, was the best man while the mother of honour was Mrs. T. K. Vella. The sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. S. Sivakurunathanpillai. The civil ceremony was performed before Mr. K. Sinnathambi, Registrar of Marriages, Vakkamam West, the attesting witnesses being Messrs. S. Rajah and S. Subramaniam. The bride is an old pupil of the Malayan Seminary, Singapore.

Largely attended receptions were held at the residences of the bride and the bridegroom respectively. Entertainment was curtailed owing to a funeral in the neighbourhood. (Cor.)

LONDON EXAMS

SUBSTITUTES IN CASE
OF WAR DIFFICULTIESEDUCATION
DEPARTMENT'S
EFFORTS

Colombo, Nov. 22.

EVERY effort is to be made by the Education Department to obviate the difficulties that might arise in the event of the postponement or abandonment of the London Matriculation and London Chamber of Commerce examinations for the duration of the war.

It has been pointed out that the postponement of the London Matriculation Examination would adversely affect those students who desire to enter the University College or the professions.

The Director of Education, Mr. L. McD. Robison, told a representative of the "Daily News" yesterday that so far as entrance to the Medical College was concerned, he was prepared to request the Medical College authorities to consider the question of recognising the Senior School Certificate Examination (with a pass in Chemistry and Physics) for entrance to that institution.

In the case of the Law College, it is pointed out that the Senior School Certificate (with Latin) has already been recognised by the authorities for Proctor students.

University College Students

The question of entrance to the University College is, it is stated, one which is outside the scope of the Education Department.

It is suggested that the University College authorities should take steps to obtain London University's recognition of an entrance examination held by the Ceylon University College as equivalent to the London Matriculation Examination.

In this connection it is interesting to note that London University today recognises the school leaving certificate examinations of the following places as equivalent to the London Matriculation:—Adelaide, Melbourne, Tasmania, Western Australia, South Africa, (Matriculation), Cape of Good Hope, Transvaal and Ontario.

Commercial Examinations

So far as the Commercial examinations are concerned, the question of substituting local examinations is already being considered.

The Director of Education proposes to take the question up with the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce with a view to re-introducing the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Examination which was a popular examination some years ago. Since that examination had the sanction of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, its certificate was a ready passport for employment in a mercantile office.

In the event of any difficulties arising in connection with the re-introduction of that examination, the question of having the Ceylon Technical College Commercial examinations thrown open to students attending approved Commercial classes in assisted schools will be considered.

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TEACHERS AND POLITICS

(Continued from page 1)

ittee is to deliver the Department from the confusion that has grown throughout the years. It has to bring order into chaos.

Paramount Place for National Languages

I don't know if we can anticipate their findings but I very much hope that in the new scheme they formulate, the national languages will be given a paramount place. These languages alone can enrich the creative life of the nation and discover her peculiar genius. Let us also hope that their scheme will not result in the schools losing their individuality, their flexibility and their freedom.

Salary Scheme Out of Date Before It Comes

In this connection, let me place two facts before you. First: It is clear that not one of the four salary schemes proposed can bring any immediate saving to the country. Indeed, it will take at least ten years before any saving can be reflected in the country's budget. Second: The Special Committee proposes to make very far-reaching changes with regard to the system of schools. Schools are not to be classified according to the medium of instruction, but according to the work they do. There will be Primary Schools, Post Primary Schools, Senior Schools, Technical Schools etc., but no English Bilingual or Vernacular Schools. If these facts are true, I don't see the need for such haste with regard to the salary scheme. In fact such a scheme will be out of date before it comes. It cannot meet the changes contemplated by the Special Committee. The same Committee has to tackle both the financial and the educational problems. One cannot be divorced from the other. If not, the Salary Committee has to follow and not precede the Academic Committee.

Fifth Standard Test

During the examination season I may perhaps be expected to say something about the 5th Standard Test which is fast becoming a sensation in the country. The principle of the test has more or less been conceded by the A. C. U. T. We may not agree with certain details connected with the carrying out of the test. The latest change whereby papers of one school are to be corrected by teachers of another school does not seem to be calculated to inspire confidence. However, it is too soon to pass a judgment on this. Since this seems to be in the nature of an experiment, and not a settled plan. We shall perhaps do well to await the result.

Intriguing Questionnaire

But the most intriguing thing in this connection is the formidable questionnaire that has to be answered in respect of every pupil. Has this questionnaire anything to do with the test? Is a pupil not to be promoted if he is ill-nourished but obedient or well-nourished but mischievous? If this has nothing to do with the test, why deceive the teachers? Secondly, if these informations are required for another purpose why not take the teachers into confidence and give them sufficient time to get as accurate informations as possible? Each record sheet will take at least half an hour to be conscientiously answered. Even then, can we

answer some of these questions at all? Shall we say a parent is indifferent when he doesn't pay the pupil's fees or deeply interested when he sends the fees regularly by post but does not step into the school. Can the parent or the principal say anything definite regarding a pupil's future at such an early age? Statistics can be very dangerous. What is the value of conclusions based on inaccurate information? The whole questionnaire seems to lack imagination.

English and Vernacular Teachers Associations

Turning to quite another matter, I think we will do well to explore the possibilities of combining the two Associations in the Province—the English and the Vernacular. Because of its intrinsic merits and because of the proposed changes in the educational system of the country, I think this will be a wise step. We shall be moving with the times. The cruse of education and the cause of the profession are the same whatever the language. One united body of teachers will be a power in the country. In the present circumstances the existence of two Associations is an anomaly. I hope the new Executive Council will examine the wisdom of such a step and give the matter their earnest consideration.

Membership

Many teachers are not members of the Association. There are English Teachers in the Peninsula of whom only 450 are members. It is a sad irony for them to wait until they get into difficulty to join the Association. I may at this juncture mention that it is not the object of this Association to fight Managers. But it is one of its duties to inquire into the legitimate grievances of teachers who are its members. Teachers who are outside the Association may fall under two categories. One: Those who do not wish to join for financial considerations. That is those who mind paying Rs. 1.50 or Rs. 3.00 a year as the case may be, but who are nevertheless sure that they will have a share of any benefits that may accrue to the profession, through the exertions of the Association. If any disadvantages come to the profession in spite of the Association, they will have it in common with the others. This is a selfish and mean consideration, and not worthy of teachers. Let no one try to get something for nothing. Second: Those who just don't think seriously of anything, but who hope they could join before it is too late. This is foolish complacency. Does any one think it too much to pay 1/3% of his earnings for the year at the most or 1/16% of his earnings at the least to safeguard his own interests and maintain the integrity and dignity of the profession? Cannot we bring to bear upon this question of subscription a sense of proportion? It is Rs. 1.50 or Rs. 3.00 a year. Don't we spend this and more many times without a thought and on fleeting things? I would request those teachers outside our fold to develop a social imagination and see the necessity for living as members one of another, not abstractly and theoretically

but concretely and practically.

While talking of domestic matters, it may not be wrong for me to draw your attention to another failing of ours. When some information is asked for urgently, information that is or ought to be ready at hand, officers of most branch associations do not always reply promptly. For example, a new salary scheme is sent to us for observations before a certain date by the A.C.U.T. urgently. We want some data to help us to examine the scheme. We write to the Branch Secretaries. The information does not come. Our ease goes by default. We stumble over pebbles. The efficiency of the Executive is impaired. I am not saying this a spirit of carping criticism. I must say that we appreciate deeply the very substantial co-operation always extended to this Association by the Branch Associations. When we are in debt they come to our rescue. When we recommend a 50% increase in the rates of subscription, they accept it readily. These are certainly to be noted. Why then should we fail in small matters of routine? Let us aim at 100% efficiency, lest there be no waste of energy or loss of efficiency due to these little faults.

Price of Freedom

"The price of freedom is eternal vigil". It behoves us all—all the teachers in the Peninsula—to close our ranks, stand united to a man and fight our battles on whatever fronts they may come. Let us remember we have enemies. Let us also realize that they are already at our gates. Let us not lose in this decade what our predecessors have won for us in the last.

HONOURS DEGREES IN TAMIL AND SINHALESE

Examinations to be Held Locally

The examinations for the London University B. A. Honours Degrees in Sinhalese and Tamil are to be held for the first time in Ceylon in June, 1941.

At the request of the University College authorities, the Director of Education cabled to the London University authorities inquiring whether it would be possible to hold these examinations on Ceylon next year.

A reply has just been received intimating that these examinations could be held in Ceylon in June next year.

The New Principal of St John's College

The Old Boys of the St. John's College accorded a reception in honour of Rev. J.T. Arulanandam, the new Principal of St John's College. The function began with a well attended social. Later in the evening, the meeting began with Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, the Divisional Inspector, in the chair. Speeches referring to the sterling qualities of Mr. Arulanandam were made by Rev. Stopford, Mr. S. Thambidurai, Advocate and Mr. Gunam Spencer, Advocate. Mr. Arulanandam thanked the Old Boys, his fellow teachers and all present and expressed the hope that he would be in a position to carry out his new duties to the satisfaction of all. The meeting terminated with three hearty cheers to Mr and Mrs Arulanandam.

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(Continued from page 1)

pations there is no problem of "hours of work"; since the fruits of his labour are to be enjoyed by the spinner, there is no element of compulsion from himself or from an employer.

Government by Hunger

This is a small sketch of the ideas I gathered from a two day visit which impressed me strongly. Coming down to Bombay in the train from Wardha, I was reading Hammond's *Lord Shaftesbury*, and I came across the following passage:

At the industrial revolution, a new master thrust himself upon the stage, bringing to man hope and fear, power and strife, on a scale and plan unknown to other ages. It was in England that this system was born...it was from England that it spread over half the world a civilisation with a common character; dazzling miracle, rapid wealth, ruthless discipline, government by hunger, workers with a blind and sullen sense of wrong.

Few Such in the Modern World

It seemed to me that Wardha, like the Christian Socialists in mid-Victorian Britain and Owen with his American Commonwealth, was appalled by the prospect of this rapid and voracious industrialisation, bringing with it all the violence of the class war, and had elected to oppose it altogether with the force of a moral as well as a political programme. Yet, in spite of the efforts of the Victorian idealists, the industrial revolution swept over Britain; it is difficult to believe that India will not, one day, go the same way. But Wardha even now has achieved a great deal. Five thousand schools in the U. P. alone are modelled on the Wardha basic education scheme, and the villages round it owe much to the attack on their unemployment. Talking at Mr Gandhi's ashram I realised one thing, that, even should the Wardha programme be unfulfilled, here was a community of completely satisfied people, working wholeheartedly for something they valued highly. There are few such in the modern world.

Above the bullocks at Maganvadi there is a bell, "reminding us of the fleeting nature of time, urging us so to live that every moment that is added to the ages that are past sees us one step nearer to our goal." But the goal is what? A life passed in self-sufficient villages, or a life in which the whole benefits of the earth and of machinery are united under man as the controller for the use of man? (Hindu)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 956.

In the matter of the estate of the late Pakkiam wife of Sinnathamby Asaipillai of Vannarponnai West, Jaffna, who died at the Civil Hospital, Jaffna. Deceased.

Vellupillai Thambimuttu of Vannarponnai West, Jaffna. Petitioner.
Vs.

1. Sinnathamby Asaipillai of Hospital Bungalow, Jaffna.

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(Y. 19. 2-5-40 to 1-5-41.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 939.

In the matter of the estate of the late Ponnusamy Thiagarajah of Vaddukkoddai East. Deceased.
Ponnusamy Canapathipillai of Vaddukkoddai East. Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Marimuthu widow of M. Ponnusamy of do
2. Ponnusamy Kannappu of do
3. Sangiliyar widow of S. Ambalavanar of do
4. Meenadchippillai widow of P. Thiagarajah of Tholpuram Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge on the 18th October 1940 in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 18th October 1940 having been read, it is declared that the petitioner is one of the heirs of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 27th November 1940 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 19th November 1940.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 68-21 & 25-11-40)

2. Ponnammah wife of Velupillai Thambimuttu of Vannarponnai West, Jaffna. Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for grant of letters of administration unto him in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on the 19th day of November 1940 in the presence of Mr. K. Nadarajah, Proctor for the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that letters of administration be granted to the petitioner in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased unless the Respondents or any other persons interested in the said estate show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary, on or before the 29th day of November 1940.

This 19th day of November 1940.
(Sgd.) C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

O, 67. 21 & 25-11-40)

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[Mis. 5-2-40-.]

[M]

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