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MARITAL CONFLICT

Consequences of Broken Homes

DIVORCE AN INCOMPLETE SOLUTION TO UNHAPPY MARRIAGES

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(Professor of Social Economy in the Tata Graduate School of Social Work, Bombay)

DIVORCE and desertion are, no doubt, ways of getting out of marital conflict, but no relation so intimate and intertwining as the family can be broken without serious consequences to all of its members. And yet there are not a few who think that family dissolution has little, if any, effect on the husband and the wife if there are no small children involved. Perhaps this wrong conception has gained ground on account of the fact that hitherto little attention was paid to the effects of separation on the personalities of men and women concerned. True, divorce is legally the end of marriage but its social and psychological effects continue over a long period of time. Separation of husband and wife is painful and tragic in itself. Naturally, an attempt on the part of the husband or the wife to break such a bond takes place only after prolonged conflict and suffering.

When habits of intimate relationship between them, often fashioned and fixed by years of united effort, are destroyed or displaced, they are bound to cause serious emotional disturbances. But the gravity of the consequences depends not only on the nature of the family relationship before it was broken, and on the living conditions following the disintegration. Albeit, separation does involve the reorganisation of the whole scheme of life of the couple. Dissolution of marriage shatters ideals, rudely shakes up life-long habits and makes love appear as an illusion. Many of the routine habits of every day living have to be re-formed; daily tasks formerly performed jointly have now to be attended to by each singly. Furthermore, the separated couple have the problem not only of reorganising their sex life but also of readjusting their social relationships. Their economic problems must be solved and the rebellion within themselves must be settled. All these adjustments are not easily made.

Social Relationship Affected

In the case of the man, divorce interferes not infrequently with his social effectiveness. It injures him in his business primarily by affecting his social relationships in such a way as to make him lose his status and the confidence of his clientele. This aspect is well des-

cribed by an American businessman who was divorced by his wife. Speaking of his personal experience of divorce, he says:—"There was easy divorce brought to my own fireside, to the bedside of my little girl and boy. With merciless irony it put out the fire in the fireplace; it took the little girl and boy away; it made the house, once so cheerful as only children can make a home, a place uninhabitable, unendurable. It lowered my pride, broke my spirit and undermined my ambition." It cannot therefore be said that divorce ends one's marital conflict and troubles altogether. In fact, it gives rise to new problems of readjustment to life after divorce which in many cases are just as great as those encountered in married life.

So also in the case of the woman practically all of these difficulties are present, in some respects in a more intensified form. She has, in addition, to face the problem of supporting herself and the children if deserted by the husband. No doubt some are not seriously affected financially by the termination of family relationship. But in the majority of cases such happy circumstances do not exist. And in the case of the Hindu woman problems of support are even greater since she is most always trained only for a domestic career. Furthermore, according to the Hindu law, the wife who leaves the protection of her husband is not entitled to his support. Though in divorce cases alimony may provide some financial support, there is no legal compulsion in the case of desertion as the deserting husband of the poor class is seldom in a position to pay an allowance to his wife and children.

Therefore, abandoned wives are often driven by poverty to resort to immoral living to support themselves. Many such women assign desertion by their husbands as the chief reason for becoming prostitutes. Apart from economic consequences, the woman, like the divorcee suffers from the social and psychological effects of separation. A wife who dissolved her marriages writes thus after ten years of divorced life: "My suspicion is that no wife, nowever driven by exasperation or despair to a divorcee, escapes scars similar to those I am

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INDIA'S LESSON TO THE WORLD

Gandhiji's Talk With Chinese Leader

Wardhaganj, Nov. 25.

MR. Mahadev Desai has issued the following statement:—

A pathetic interest attached to the visit of H. E. Tai Chi-tao, President of the Examination Yuan of the Chinese National Government who is on a goodwill mission to India by way of return for Pandit Jawaharlal's visit to China last year. The very mention of Pandit Jawaharlal was enough to fill President Tai Chi-tao with sadness, and though Pandit is in prison, the President feels he must pay a visit to his house in Anand Bhavan and with good luck, see at least his sister, Srimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, who with Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, might at his instance and under normal circumstances, have visited China on behalf of the All-India Women's Conference.

The visit to Wardha was being looked forward to both by Mahatma Gandhi and the President who with his Secretary and other companions, was Seth Jauna'al's guest in Wardha on 22nd and 23rd. Seth Jamma'al came specially from Bombay for the occasion and he showed his guests over the various institutions of constructive activity in Wardha. President Tai Chi-tao has played a prominent part in the Chinese Revolution. He was the right-hand man of Dr. Sun Yat-sen and has done a lot to popularise Dr. Sun Yat-sen's three principles of Nationalism, Democracy and Socialism. A five-power Government was inaugurated in China in October, 1928, when President Chiang Kai-shek became President of the Chinese National Government and President Tai Chi-tao is at the head of one of the five spheres of power, viz. the sphere of State Examinations. He also is a principal figure in the Kuomintang and he brought a special message to Mahatma Gandhi from the Generalissimo and the Kuomintang.

As the President stepped into Gandhiji's mud hut at Sevagram he and his friends were garlanded by Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi with garlands made out of Gandhiji's yarn. Bareheaded and dressed in flowing Chinese robes the President had a quiet dignity, which was most striking. He delivered the message from General Chiang Kai-shek, standing, and then sat down on a gadi facing Gandhiji.

"We are passing through difficult times" he said "I want to know how we can get through our difficulty successfully. Victory is not enough; future peaceful relations between nations must also be established."

The President who is of a deeply religious temperament and had evinced a great interest in the construc-

tive activities here and in Sethji's temple at Wardha had a rosary of beads in his hand.

Bravery to Die Without Killing

Gandhiji, after making inquiries about his health begged to introduce him to the spinning wheel which, he said, was among the latest inventions and plied the wheel as he answered the President's question. "Just as you are engaged in a terrific life and death struggle, so are we. Yours is an ancient country and so is ours and although yours is a much bigger country than ours ours is not by any means a small country and there is much in common between you and us. Speaking personally I may inform you that I was in touch with the Chinese colony in Johannesburg and gave them legal advice. They were a colony of 1,200 and I came in closest touch with everyone of them and so the Chinese are not strangers to me by any means. Although you are engaged in a life and death struggle and so are we, the means we employ for regaining our freedom are different from the means you employ for retaining your freedom. This does not mean that I want to criticise the means you have adopted. The remedy you employ in self-defence is an age-old one. I am employing a remedy which is unknown to the world on the political field. But since you have come all the way from China merely to reciprocate the good wishes that Pandit Jawaharlal carried there the only service I can render in my humble way is to put forward before you and through you the Generalissimo the new remedy I am applying. I found it in South Africa in 1906 when all my resources were exhausted in order to combat difficulties which might have meant the death of the Indian community in the Transvaal if we had not found this remedy. And since 1920, we have applied this remedy more or less successfully, perhaps with more success than otherwise, till at last the Congress has become a powerful body and in a nut-shell, it is this, viz. to be prepared to die as bravely as the bravest Chinese soldier but without trying to kill your opponent or do the slightest harm to him, whether in offence or self-defence. If we succeed here in instilling into the mass mind bravery to die without killing, I think that not only shall we have regained our liberty without violence but we shall have presented to the world a remedy to do away with all wars. If I have succeeded in giving you the kernel of the movement, I would ask you

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DENTAL NOTICE

S. Imai, (Japanese Dentist)
Colombo,

will be at Jaffna, at Tiruchelvam Buildings, Main Street, Jaffna, from 7th to 16th December, 1940.
(Mis. 158. 2-12-40).

**Hindu Organ.**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1940.

THE BALKAN SET-BACK

IN THE LAST WEEK OF OCTOBER when Italy made the unprovoked aggression on Greece, it looked as though the Axis powers would sweep everything before them and after making themselves supreme on the Balkans would invade Turkey. Diplomatic talks which HITLER held in person with PETAIN and Franco, it was feared, had succeeded and there was every possibility of a simultaneous thrust towards the Dardanelles and Gibraltar, so as to develop a pincer movement from the East and the West on Egypt. The visit which MOLOTOV did the honour of paying to the Fuehrer in Berlin was advertised with fanfare by the Berlin radio and the press as a grand diplomatic triumph which promised the acquiescence of Kremlin in Axis domination over the Balkans and over the Dardanelles, if not a lining up with the Axis powers. Then followed hectic diplomatic talks at Berlin and the accession of all the Balkan States to the Triple Axis Pact was held in that quarter as a certainty. The adherence of Hungary, Rumania and Slovakia was to be followed by that of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. The complete isolation of Britain and the organisation of a general European blockade was proclaimed at Berlin as imminent.

But somehow or other HITLER's house of cards has toppled down contrary to expectation. Far from squealing cowering under the Italian blow, the Greeks have driven the invader before them with ignominious defeat and covered themselves with signal glory. The victory of the Greeks has put courage in the hearts of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. The Bulgarian Minister who was to go to Berlin just to sign the Axis pact has stopped his visit and Bulgaria will think twice before putting her signature to such a Pact. The spell of Axis invincibility has at last been broken and the prestige of Britain sums for the moment to have risen never to sink again. The much vaunted diplomatic triumph of the Axis powers is a faked thing which has no basis in reality. Neither

Petaio nor Franco seems likely to be accommodating to Hitler, and does not desire to be involved in the conflict. Franco has negotiated a loan from England. Petaio has received a new American Ambassador at Vichy whose influence will tell on the side of the Democracies. Molotov, though he condescended to make a visit to Berlin with a very impressive staff of economic advisers, has not receded from his position of strict neutrality to oblige the axis. It seems more than probable that at Berlin during his visit no political questions were broached. Only economic questions were discussed and decided. The talks which have just been concluded between the U. S. A. and the Soviet indicate that there will be an improvement in trade between America and the Soviet, and the former will maintain a consul at Vladivostok for this purpose.

The attempt of HITLER to brow-beat Turkey and Bulgaria into acquiescence in his policy of invasion of Asia Minor failed mainly through the Soviet's determination to preserve the status quo on the Dardanelles and to put a stop to any further extension of Axis influence on the Balkans. For fear of offending her Soviet neighbour, Bulgaria refused to line up with the Axis. It is the certainty of Soviet sympathy that encouraged Turkey also in her firm stand against HITLER. The Berlin papers now sing a different refrain. Their diplomatic talks have concluded with the accession of Slovakia, and they have no designs on Turkey and the Dardanelles. While Hitler's innumerable hordes will have to sit idle at least for the winter behind their barracks, Britain and Greece will be in a position to harrass the Junior Axis partner and score some further successes, if not deal a staggering blow. Already the economic blockade has been tightened to the full. Italy is said to be feeling the strain already. The much advertised Italian Navy is only good at showing a clean pair of heels, as it has done more than once recently. It cannot protect the lines of communication or ensure the transport of supplies or men. If 1940 has been one of gloom and loss of initiative to Britain except for the successful assistance rendered to Greece and the various naval successes, the year 1941 is bound to be very promising. The Balkan States like Yugoslavia may look up to Britain for support and resist the diplomatic pressure of the Axis. With the help in men and material that will be flowing in a continuous stream from the Empire, Britain will take the initiative in 1941. The Axis star which all this time has been in the ascendant is now definitely declining towards the horizon.

URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS**FOUR SITTING MEMBERS DEFEATED****WOMEN VOTE IN LARGE NUMBERS**

AT the triennial elections of the Jaffna Urban Council held on Saturday a large number of women exercised their franchise for the first time in the urban elections. Four of the sitting members were defeated. Six candidates supported by the Ratepayers' Association have been elected:

The following are the results of the elections:—

Ward 1: Mr. R. R. Nalliah (sitting member) 642; Mr. Emmanuel Tiruchelvam 379; Majority of winner 263.

Ward 2: Chevalier S. Arulanantham 1,462 (Ratepayers' Association candidate); Mr. Vital Moses 1,291; Majority of winner 171.

Ward 3: Mr. M. Sinnathurai (Ratepayers' Association candidate) 1,027; Mr. V. A. Durayappah (sitting member) 909. Majority of winner 118.

Ward 4: Mr. C. Ponnambalam (Chairman and sitting member) 1,436; Mr. Edwin D. Hensman 305. Majority of winner 1,131.

Ward 5: Dr. V. S. Ramnathan 959 (Ratepayers' Association candidate); Mr. K. V. Sinnathurai (sitting member) 362; Mr. C. T. Navaratnam 12. Majority of winner 597.

Ward 6: Mr. K. Aiyadurai (sitting member and Ratepayers' Association candidate) 713; Mr. M. Asaipillai 480. Majority of winner 233.

Ward 7: Mr. R. Sivagurunathar (Chairman of Ratepayers' Association) 1,239; Mr. S. Patanjali (sitting member) 1,044. Majority of winner 195.

Ward 8: Mr. S. M. Abootucker 1,748; Mr. Sam. A. Sabapathy (sitting member) 1,499; Mr. Habeeb Mohamed 479. Majority of winner 248.

Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, assisted by officials and clerks, started counting at 5.30 p. m. and concluded at 10 p. m.

Palmyra and Betel Cultivation in Jaffna**Two Motions before Board of Agriculture**

Kandy, Friday.

The planting of waste land in the dry zone with the palmyra palm and the investigation of the causes of the decline of the betel industry in the Jaffna District are urged in two motions to be moved at the Board of Agriculture meeting on December 9.

In a memorandum, the move Mr. C. Arulambalam, states that to the inhabitants of South India and North Ceylon the palmyra is known as the "Katpaka Virudicha" (wish-yielding tree).

On the betel industry, M. C. Arulambalam states, that as one of the income producing industries next to the tobacco industry, it has important economic value to the people of the Jaffna District.

Stable Income

"The betel-vine is a perennial plant which gives the Jaffna cultivator a stable income throughout the year. The use and consump-

WEEK BY WEEK**U. C. ELECTIONS**

BY MAN ABOUT TOWN

THE elections are over. The polls indicate that the Ratepayers Association has been successful in their campaign. The cry "no Municipality and no increased rates" has to a large extent been responsible for this success. The bogey of "no fences" no thatched houses and several other frightful things conjured up as concomitants of a Municipality seem to have played an all important part in deciding the issue. My congratulations to the successful candidates. But the defeat of one or two standout members of the present Council is a clear loss to the Town and the Ratepayers are the poorer by their absence in the next Council. On the whole the arrangements at the polling stations have been satisfactory. But I must here point out that if the polling station for ward 8 had been in a different place it would have been better. A place with narrow roads naturally tended to a lot of traffic jam, resulting in much delay in the conveyance of voters and the regulation of traffic. I hope the G. A. would take note of this fact in future arrangements.

The Ceylon Congress President

Congratulations to Mr. E. A. P. Wijeyaretna on his election as President of the Ceylon National Congress for the next year. He was formerly in the State Council and was Deputy Speaker. A man of liberal views in politics and other national questions, he should inspire confidence in all sections of the country.

Who is the Next Chairman Of our U. C. ?

Already canvassing has started for this plum. But in spite of the majority of a party in the next Council it is difficult to say who will be elected. One thing should be remembered, and that is that much depends on the Chairman for the efficient administration of the Council and the progress of the Town. The whole town will watch with interest the election of a Chairman for the new Council.

tion of the betel leaf is so extensive that even when the industry was at its prime, the local production was not sufficient to meet the local demand. Now large quantities of the leaf are imported from South Ceylon and South India.

It has also been found by experience that continued cultivation of the plant on land, the cultivation of which had failed in the past owing to disease and pests, is unsuccessful unless the land is allowed to remain fallow for a period of from three to five years or a rotation crop with betel the manioc has been found to be successful.

It is thought that the repeated failure of betel cultivation when cultivated on the same land may be due either to deficiencies in, or exhaustion of, the soil as regards certain constituents or owing to the soil developing certain toxins injurious to the plant.

A plot, a lacham in extent, with healthy matured betel-vines yields easily an annual income of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500. The average price of a bundle of 100 good well-developed leaves is 60 to 75 cents and sometimes rises to one rupee.

OUR INDIAN LETTER.

**THE MAD & RASH MALE
OUT TO SAVE CEYLON?**

PLEASURES OF GAOL

(BY LANKA)

Madras,
23rd Nov. 1940.

SOME little confusion would appear to have arisen in India to the actual parties that took part in the recent Indo-Ceylon talks reported to have broken down. Some writers thought it was the Ceylon Indian Congress that negotiated with the Raj, the reference to the visit of a delegation from the Ceylon National Congress at the same time having also helped in the confusion. When papers referred to the "Ceylon Congress" they meant the Ceylon Indian Congress, but some of them had in mind the National one. Whatever that be, the reference by some members of the Ceylon Indian Congress to the idea of a federation of Ceylon with a free India seems to have frightened the Britisher, and true to type, a paper in Madras commonly known as the *Rash Male* formerly, and now the *Mere Male* (Mail), the organ of the Britishers, gave the persons who suggested the idea a good wiggling. The Britisher in recent days has never looked with kindness on India getting to be friendly with neighbours. The separation of Burma was effected with this motive behind. Talk of Ceylon joining India must conjure up visions of the extension of the baneful influence of Indian political thought and ideas. So Mr. Peri Sundaram and Co. were shown up as trying to make Ceylon a suitable outlet for the unemployed of South India, to reduce the standard of living in Ceylon and generally to compass the ruin of fair Ceylon. This school of thought imagined it could play the Sinhalese against the Indians by this stunt, but wisely enough Minister Senanayake said at a meeting at Calcutta that they would certainly welcome the idea of federation with a free India. There are people ready to stifle efforts at neighbourly relations between India and Ceylon, and you know the sort.

India's Support Secured

Now that the spontaneity of the millions of India offering their help to Britain in cash and in kind has been effectively assured by the incarceration of Jawaharlal Nehru, there ought to be a visible increase in the collections for the various war funds in this country. As for men, when three thousand were wanted for the Air Force eight thousand offered themselves.

Constitution-building in Gaol

POLITICS in India has assumed a silent character since the new technique was put into action by Mahatma Gandhi. It is now assumed that the safety of India lies in the locking up of the best men of the land in gaols where, according to the Secretary of State for India, they have plenty of leisure not only to chasten their soul but also to plan a constitution for India. It was very

unfortunate that this bright idea did not strike the minds of officialdom during the national movements of 1921 and 1931, for then much of the *lathi-charging* of those hefty days could have been avoided. We live to learn, though in the Assembly, in defeating the Government over the Finance Bill, Mr. Bulabhai Desai said some in India never learn or unlearn.

**A BRIBE
COLLECTION
CAMPAIGN**

**Visits to Men Seeking
U.C. Nomination**

The *Whip* writes in the "Times of Ceylon":

A man masquerading as a State Councillor, I understand, is going round the various urban council areas and collecting money from people who have ambitions of becoming nominated members of those councils.

The story, told me by a State Councillor himself, is that this man makes his victims believe that the money is meant to be distributed as bribes to the members of the Executive Committee of Local Administration.

Are there any men who can be bribed in the Executive Committee of Local Administration? Here are their names:—

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandranaike, Minister; Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardene, Mr. Sinpala Samarakkodi, Mr. A. R. A. Razik, Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya, Mr. K. Natesa Iyer, Mr. Jayaweera Kuruppu.

If the story related by my friend is correct, this is a serious state of affairs. It reflects badly both on the State Councillors and the Urban Councillors of the future.

The Home Minister and the members of his executive committee ought to take early steps to put the C. I. D. on the track of this bold swindler. After all, he may not be entirely unknown to the Police.

People, they say, are judged by the company they keep. Some of our State Councillors do not seem to know this.

There is a class of man who always likes to be seen in the company of men of position and power. They do it with a purpose. They exploit the situation to the fullest.

This should serve as a warning to our legislators to watch their friends. Perhaps this man in question even enjoys the confidence of some of them.

**Provincial Road
Committee, N. P.**

The following members have been appointed to be members of the Provincial Road Committee, Northern Province for 1941.

Messrs. S. Natesan, J. V. Cheliah, S. M. Absobacker, K. Somasundaram and Mudaliyar C. Kanapathipillai.

**Northern Province
Teachers' Association**

**Resolutions Passed at
Annual Meeting**

A request to organise a playground movement for the poorer classes was made to the Jaffna Urban Council and Village Committees, by the Northern Province Teachers' Association as its Annual General Meeting held on Saturday in the Jaffna Central College Hall.

The following resolutions were passed:

That the association should extend protection and help only to bona fide members.

That the Minister of Education should be requested to remove the anomaly whereby provisionally certificated teachers in service before November, 1929, are placed on a lower scale than uncertificated teachers with similar service.

That the Director of Education should be requested to make the answer scripts of the J. S. C. and S. S. C. examinations available to heads of schools on payment of a fee.

That with regard to the general clerical and similar examinations the Government should be requested to hold the "viva-voce" examination only for those candidates that have reached a fair standard in the written papers.

This association requests the Jaffna Urban Council and village committees to take steps to organise a playground movement for the poorer classes.

This association requests the Special Committee on Education to visit important educational centres in the Island and to take oral evidence.

**NEW PRESIDENT OF
CEYLON CONGRESS**

**Mr. E. A. P.
Wijeyeratne**

Colombo, Nov. 30.

Mr. E. A. P. Wijeyeratne was elected President of the Ceylon National Congress for the ensuing year at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Congress held at the Congress office, Borella, last night.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake was elected Chairman of the Reception Committee for the sessions of the Congress to be held at Mirigama on December 20, 21 and 22.

Messrs. J. R. Jayawardene and Dudley Senanayake were elected Honorary Joint-Secretaries, while Mr. J. E. Amararatunga was elected Honorary Treasurer of the Congress.

It is expected that a gathering of about five thousand will be present at Mirigama, including delegates from various Congress branch associations in all parts of the Island.

Details of the Swadeshi Exhibition to be held under the auspices of the Congress at Mirigama during the sessions, were also discussed last night.

The exhibition, it was stated, would include a pageant depicting the Second Coronation of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

**MINISTRIES TO
CONTINUE**

**COUNCIL TURNS DOWN
MOTION**

**MINISTERS OPPOSE
PROPOSAL**

Colombo, Saturday.

By 22 votes to 15 the State Council yesterday evening turned down Mr. A. Ratnayake's proposal to elect new Ministers and Ministries, and that the life of the Council had been extended by two years.

While the opponents of the motion were inclined to believe that the present Board of Ministers was the best available, others expressed the view that new blood was necessary, especially perhaps in the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands which had become "a mutual admiration society."

The motion was lost by 15 votes to 22. One declined to vote.

The division was as follows:—

Ayes:—Messrs. Abeygunasekera, de Fonseka, Geo. E. de Silva, Dr. A. P. de Zoysa, Messrs. Freeman, Jaya, Mahadeva, Natesa Iyer, Natesan, Sri Pathmanathan, Pereira, Ponnambalam, Ratnayake, Samarakkody and Wille.—15

Notes:—Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Messrs. D. S. Senanayake, C. W. W. Kannangara, Bandaranaike, W. A. de Silva, J. L. Kotelawala, Hewavitane, Abeywickreme, Amurasuriya, Goonesinha, Griffith, R. S. S. Gunawardene, A. P. Jayasuriya, D. P. Jayasuriya, R. C. Kannangara, D. H. Kotelawala, Kuruppu, Newham, Nugawela, Rajapakse, Dudley Senanayake and Tambimuttu.—22.

Mr. Francis de Zoysa declined to vote.

**RAMANATHAN DAY
1940**

**Celebrations at
Ramanathan College**

The tenth Guru Pooja of Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan will be celebrated by the Saiva Mangayar Sabai on 4th December at Ramanathan College.

The celebration will commence at 10 a. m. with religious ceremonies at Sri Ramanatheswara Temple. There will be Samarachari and feeding of the poor between 12 and 4 p. m.

A public meeting presided over by Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, N. P. will be held at 5 p. m. followed by a musical entertainment and drama—*Markandeya*—by the junior members of the Sabhai.

**Appointments by
The Governor**

Mr. R. Changanatham, Chief Clerk, Department of Motor Transport, to act as an Assistant Commissioner of Motor Transport, with effect from November 22 to December 23 Mr. A. Subramaniam, Accountant, Finance, General Treasury, to act as Deputy Chief Accountant, Ceylon Government Railway.

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Arumuga Navalar Day

Celebrations by Vivekananda Society

Arumuga Navalar Day was celebrated on a grand scale by the members of the Vivekananda Society, Colombo, on Sunday the 27th November 1940.

The compound and the Hall were gaily decorated with flowers and festoons and presented a charming appearance. The picture of Sri Arumuga Navalar enshrined in the Thiruthongal of beautiful roses and choy santhemums was placed on a tastefully decorated dais and illuminated.

The proceedings commenced at 8 a.m. with the chanting of Thevarim and devotional songs by the pupils of the Vivekananda Vidyalayam. Mr. K. S. Arulnandy M. Sc., Divisional Inspector of Schools, Colombo, presided over the morning sessions.

The chanting of devotional songs was followed by a musical entertainment by Miss. Savithri Visuvanatha Iyer and Mrs. M.A.J. Abamath who recited a song on the life of the Navalar specially composed for the occasion. Sri Vaithianatha Bagavather next sang a few songs on the life and service of the Navalar.

This was followed by speeches by Pundit M. Nallathambay and Vidwan V. M. Kanagasundaram touching on the exemplary life of the Navalar and the excellent work he did for the Tamil language and the Saiva religion.

The chairman in summing up the proceedings of the morning delivered an inspiring address on Navalar dwelling on the many aspects and the excellent services rendered by him.

After the speeches the Guruspooh was performed and 'Prasantham' was distributed to all present. This was over by 12 noon and over 500 sat for breakfast and over a thousand poor were fed.

The evening sessions started at 2.30 p.m., with Mr. S. Natesan M. S. C., President of the Society, in the chair. Vidwan T. Kumaraswamy Pillai from Jaffna delivered a lyrical lecture on the life of "Siruthonda Nayanar."

At the close of this lecture the chairman distributed the certificates of the All Ceylon Hindu Schools Religious Examination to the successful pupils of the Vivekananda Vidyalayam and addressed the gathering. A brief account of the Navalar by Vidwan T. Kumaraswamy Pillai and musical items by Miss. Kokilam Kanagasabapathy and Miss. Muthu Sankar Iyer were relayed from the Society premises from 4.45 to 5.45 p.m.

The musical entertainment continued and the celebrations of the day concluded at 7.30 p.m. with the chanting of 'mangalam.'

Temple Land Tax

The recommendation of the Minister of Home Affairs that immediate steps be taken to amend the Village Communities Ordinance so as to exempt temple lands other than those used for religious purposes from liability to pay the land tax was before the Executive Committee of Local Administration but its consideration was deferred.

India's Lesson to the World

(Continued from page 1)

to watch this movement with interest and bless it on behalf of China. More I cannot say until we have regained our liberty with these absolutely peaceful means.

Significance of the Charkha

"You will see that it is not without a purpose that I have taken up the wheel at the present moment when ordinarily speaking, it would be discourtesy to a guest to keep spinning when he comes. But I have taken it up both to demonstrate the process and to show you how, externally speaking, I derive all the power of peace from the spinning wheel. You will have noticed that the spinning wheel finds a central place in our national flag and it is the one thing which establishes a living relation and identification with the masses of India."

President Tai Chi Tao said that he was greatly inspired by the message. He had heard a great deal from newspapers about Gandhiji's peaceful method and all it had accomplished but he was grateful to hear it from his lips. The methods were different because of different environments. "We had no alternative," said His Excellency Tai Chi tao. "We had to resist violent aggression after a long waiting. But now we have a movement to make our country self-sufficient in our villages, the spinning wheel has returned. Nearly ninety per cent of our houses have their wheels, not so modern as yours, but old fashioned. We have been thus compelled by necessity to revive our national village industry. All the big factories have been destroyed and bombed and some have moved to the interior and so we have to depend more or less on the spinning wheels which cannot be bombed. Your spinning wheel gives me new inspiration."

Gandhiji now gave a demonstration on the latest model, the Dhanush Takli, and offered both the wheels as presents to President Tai Chi-tao. But he had already purchased the wheels in the morning.

As he rose to take leave, His Excellency said, "I pray that, for the welfare of India and China and for the whole of humanity, you may have long life, and I pray, on behalf of all members of the Kuomintang Party, for your welfare and for the welfare of your family."

"My family is a family of 350 millions," said Gandhiji laughing.

"All mankind," said President Tai Chi-tao.

"Yes," said Gandhiji, "If I can make good my claim for 350 millions, I will advance the other claim. Please carry my good wishes to the Generalissimo, to the Madame his staff and all who are putting up a brave fight in self-defence and I wish you early peace."

As Gandhiji went out of the hall to bid the President farewell, the latter, having a full view of him standing in broad daylight, remarked, "Your health is extraordinarily good."

"Yes," said Gandhiji, smiling. "The charka keeps me healthy and then I do not carry any cares on my head. I have cast them on the broad shoulders of God."

Marital Conflict

(Continued from Page 1)

aware of in my own experience. Nor does she, I am sure, go through the subsequent years without a thousand recurrences of that first sense of mutual bereavement, no matter how stubbornly she may hide them...Loneliness is a more poignant and a more enduring reality following divorce than at any other time. Separation imposed by death has the dignity of Fate. We bring divorce upon ourselves...Unhappily I know only too well that divorce must be resorted to under certain circumstances. I know now, however, as I did not know ten years ago, that divorce is definitely a surgery, agonizingly painful, uncertain in its outcome, to be used only in extremity. It is not an easy, simple solution for minor difficulties, but a danger fraught amputation which a wise physician can order only in a question of spiritual, mental or physical life and death...If I had to do it over again, I would not divorce my husband, but this is a fact I should not disclose to a single living soul."

Painful to Separate

Such experiences of divorced persons, are not difficult to understand; for no two persons, who have loved and lived together as husband and wife, can be permanently and painlessly disunited by the mere formality of a legal divorce de-

The Jaffna College Alumni Association

A Special General Meeting of the Jaffna College Alumni Association, will be held on Saturday, 7th December 1940 at 3.30 p.m. in the Otley Hall, Jaffna College, Vaddukodai.

Agenda:

(1) To consider the reply of the Board of Directors to our Memorandum regarding representation on the Board

(2) To consider the proposal for the Joint Management and publication of the Miscellany by the College and our Association.

J. F. Ponnambalam,
Hony. Secy. J. C. A. A.

Jaffna, 27th Nov. 1940.

(Mis. 156. 2-12-40)

creed or by desertion. Still less is this possible if the two have established a home and carried out their life together for some months or years. A husband and wife who have struggled for common ends, shared each other's sorrows, and participated in each other's experiences cannot avoid the inevitable knitting of emotional fibre which such sharing of life produces. Hence it is painful to separate and become truly free from one another. And the emotional conflict over breaking such a relationship cannot but involve intense suffering.

If this is so with the women of the West brought up on individualism, such emotional disturbance is bound to be greater in the case of the Hindu wife who is taught from her cradle to maturity to remain faithful to her wedded husband under all circumstances. One of the baffling of loyalties therefore is that of the Hindu wife to her husband. Nevertheless, since modern civilisation is disintegrating old family bonds, it has become necessary to provide the Hindu husband and his wife the right to divorce each other unde-

(Continued on page 6)

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

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testy. No. 948

In the matter of the intestate estate of Kandappu Sithamparapillai of Araly Decedent. Parupathiyar widow of Kandappu Sithamparapillai of Araly Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Nageswariammrah daughter of Sithamparapillai
 2. Sithamparapillai Nagarathnam
 3. Sivapackiam daughter of Sithamparapillai
 4. Kandappu Nagalingam all of Araly Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaswamy Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on the 31st day of October 1940 in the presence of Mr. V. Navaratna Rajah Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 20th October 1940 having been read:-

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th respondent be appointed guardian ad-litem over the 1st to 3rd respondents to represent their interest in this Testamentary proceedings and the petitioner be declared the administratrix of the estate of the late Kandappu Sithamparapillai and Letters of Administration of the said estate be granted to her unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this court on or before the 11th day of December 1940 and show sufficient cause to the contrary.

This 31st day of October 1940,
Sgd. C. Coomaswamy
District Judge,

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 953
In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Thangamutbu wife of M. Obathamby Visuvalingam of "Kaladdy Walayu" Sandilipay North Deceased. Visuvalingam Thiagarajah of Sandilipay North presently of Colombo. Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Visuvalingam Nadarajah
 2. Visuvalingam Sornam both of Sandilipay North presently of Colombo Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaswamy Esqr., District Judge, Jaffna, on the 12th day of November 1940 in the presence of Mr. S. Canagasabal Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read; it is ordered that the petitioner as son of the deceased be appointed administrator over the estate of the said deceased and that letters of administration be granted to him accordingly unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 16th day of December 1940 appear before the Court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the Court to the contrary.

This 21st day of November 1940
Sgd. C. Coomaswamy,
District Judge,

MARITAL CONFLICT

(Continued from page 5)

certain intolerable marital conditions. But if we want this right, we must be prepared to accept divorce along with the social consequences which accompany it.

No doubt, all families are broken sooner or later, and the majority of them are dissolved by death. But the sufferings of broken bonds of attachment through death are likely to produce less mental and social conflict for the widow or the widower than is incurred by the divorce. Like the latter, the widowed person has certain adjustments to make but the feelings of guilt and humiliation are less apparent. Moreover, death has inevitability about it which makes it possible for most people to become reconciled to the loss and the widowed state. On the other hand, divorce is a disaster brought about by the parties themselves and of which they are conscious. Hence it produces in them a painful sense of guilt or failure which torments them as long as they live.

Children in Discordant Homes

Even more than the husband and the wife, it is the little children who suffer most from the consequences of broken homes. It is not divorce, however, which affects the welfare of children so much as the conditions in the family prior to its disruption. Harmonious relationship between the parents produce the atmosphere which is most conducive to the normal development of childhood. But family discord is devastating in its effects on the growing child. Persistent quarrel or antagonism between them creates a chronic mental conflict in the child, giving rise to emotional energy which has no obvious constructive outlet, and which therefore is likely to find expression in mental ill-health and anti-social behaviour.

This situation has led some to believe that in the vast majority of cases children fare much better if given into the custody of either parent than if compelled to be brought up in the atmosphere of the discordant home. This generalisation is meant perhaps to suggest that we should choose the lesser of the two evils. While divorce and desertion do relieve one source of tension and thus release the child from the sharp and open conflict of their parents, they do not solve all the problems for him. There is, for example, the loss of bi-parental influence and supervision in the broken home. In reference to this a mother who divorced her husband writes: "If his father drank fifty times as extremely as he does, I now believe that would be insufficient reason to deprive the child of his father. At the end of a decade's conscientious endeavour to give my child a rounded and normal existence, I know that it is for one parent an impossible task.....When I cut my son from his father, I transgressed one of the most fundamental clanship that exists man to man. To me now no wrong or indiscrimination that a human creature can commit is deserving of this punishment.... What I considered ten years ago to be a courageous and commendable gesture was merely a stupid one."

Bi-Parental Influence Lost

The loss of bi-parental influence is often detrimental to the normal growth of the child; for, the child's personal relationships with both the parents are the most

important influence in the development of personality. His early experience in the family links him normally in close bonds with the parents, and in the course of its development, the child's personality adopts into itself in a vital way both the father and the mother. Added to the loss of bi-parental influence, there is the loss of economic security. Since the broken home is often left without adequate financial resources, many deserted mothers work for meagre wages outside the home. Consequently, their children are often undernourished and neglected. For want of parental supervision and educational facilities, they spend their time on the street and in the company of questionable characters. Such environment often leads them into delinquency.

Careful investigation into the cause of juvenile delinquency has revealed the fact that there is a close relationship between the moral tone of a home and delinquency. Further, the demoralizing effects of broken homes may be seen in other respects. If the mother's earnings are not enough, she makes her little children also to work, thus exposing them to all the dangers of child labour. Some of them, if too poor, take to the profession of street begging; they too are thus placed in hazardous situations which not infrequently result in juvenile delinquency. Moreover, the broken home leads the child to foster wrong conceptions of marriage and family life. Those who have made a close study of the minor's misconduct and behaviour problems maintain that the broken home is a recurrent factor of great importance in the pathological behaviour of little children.

But these consequences do not necessarily mean that divorce should be refused to parents who are in a state of chronic conflict. Between the evil of living in a home of marital disharmony and being permanently separated from one of the divorced parents, there is not much to choose. But the tragic effects of family discord on childhood constitute powerful arguments for preventing and curing the conflict itself rather than merely attempting to forbid the final legal recognition of the family disruption.

An Incomplete Solution

Though divorce is a solution to certain phases of marital unhappiness, it is also a cause of certain other forms of suffering which result from separation of two lives which have become so intimately inter-related. It is therefore a very incomplete solution to unhappy marriage. Divorce produces mental sickness from which recovery is always slow. It reduces the vitality of the persons involved. It represents frustration rather than the enrichment of personality. In spite of all its evil consequences, the husband and wife must be given the right to divorce under certain conditions. But since legal divorce is only public recognition and completion of a destructive process which has long been going on in the life of the couple, some new methods should be adopted to check marital tensions at their source, and re-establish the family wherever restoration of domestic harmony has not become quite impossible. (Hindu)

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