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PEOPLE IN PUBLIC LIFE

CHARACTER IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LIFE

IDEALS OF A MAN WHO COMES FORWARD TO SERVE PEOPLE

By Nilkan Perumal

JUST thirty years ago, if you called upon a man to preside over a public welfare organisation or meeting, he viewed his task with a seriousness almost equal to entering the scaffold. He first of all questioned his own fitness to do it. Secondly, he also felt anxious about the opinion of others as to whether he would be able to serve to the satisfaction of all. To him, an association with a public cause meant proper service on his part, but how soon has time brought changes in such notions. To-day, there are too many tailors of Tooley Street in the world as champions of public causes. And I betray no secret by saying that at least ninety per cent of the men, who now profess to be public servants, have no right for a label saying so being stuck upon their backs. I wish every man analyzes his own merits and morals before choosing to walk into the arena of public life. I also wish that those who are supposed to accept him in that capacity made a careful scrutiny of his qualifications. If this were done, the quality of public life is bound to return to a better standard, as we had it say, half a century ago, in this country. By this, I do not mean to suggest that public life should be confined to only the seasoned or select few, based on meaningless dividing lines such as class, caste, creed, social position or wealth. All I emphasise here is about the character of the man who desires to play the part of public leader and servant. Bernard Shaw once said that every man should question himself, at least once five years, about his justification to continue to exist on the face of the earth. My desire is to see this maxim being first applied to those men who are regarded as champions of public causes.

"The word 'character' has a different meaning in different parts of the world. In the West, the man of character is he who, above all, does not inflict even the least pain on any one. This is, of course, a definition of Cardinal Newman. Further, the man who strives to lead must be scrupulously honest and straightforward, should love and help the society around him and injure none. In the West, the character of a man does not stand the chance of being tarnished simply

because he consumed an occasional doze of alcohol or he had a woman sweetheart to give him mental or physical comfort. But when alcohol or women lead him to a condition which make him turn dishonest or unscrupulous in his conduct of life, he is regarded as one who has lost character. In the Victorian era, even the man who transgressed the strict bounds of the law of monogamy was ostracized by society and was avoided by the puritan groups.

Now, the case is different in India. The person fond of a "wee bit of drink" at times, or the one who went after women or gambled, are all branded as lacking good character. In brief, we base our opinions about men after having them weighed on such considerations. We also pass judgment on them as "immoral." Thus, when I state that ninety per cent of our people's leaders have no right to bear that exalted title, I merely judge character in accordance with the western standard. I am human enough to think that human character is the same everywhere in the world and that lack of character is not peculiar to Indians alone. But we are a great people trying to assert our greatness which now stands eclipsed on account of foreign domination. When we return to our full nationhood once again with the sur-rise of freedom all over India, I want to see the standard of public life in this country to be pure. Only men of unquestionable character should be its leaders.

In England, people attach a great deal of importance to a man's character in private and public life, before honouring him with a position of public responsibility. A man might be clever, but he might not attain that most coveted of positions, the premiership. In England, the brainy man often gives place to the man of character, who might be even a dabbler. For instance, the most outstanding genius in Stanley Baldwin's Cabinet some fifteen years ago was the first Earl of Birminghams. Mr. Winston Churchill was an equally clever man. Mr. Baldwin, on the other hand, is a second rate intellectual, a fact widely known. But he possessed a reputation for high character and rose to a

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EDUCATION IN CEYLON

REV. STOPFORD ON CHANGES AHEAD

NEED FOR FREEDOM

"EDUCATION is concerned with the development of the spirit more than anything else, and unless there is this requisite freedom, it cannot do its job properly", said the Rev. R. W. Stopford, Principal of Trinity College, Kandy, at a farewell party given to him and Mrs. Stopford.

Referring to the broad subject of education in Ceylon, Mr. Stopford said that it remained to be seen whether the changes in the education system would come very quickly or not. The Special Committee on Education was not moving very fast, although it met very frequently. Looking over the past few years his mind went back to discussions which seemed to get nowhere.

"I am prepared" he said, "to sell for any reasonable figure, or possibly bequeath to a museum, the series of files containing seven salary schemes, and the amount of paper on which they are printed is just, I am afraid, so much waste paper."

However, he felt that on the negative side they had learned a good many things with regard to what was not the right way to approach this or that problem. The difficulty was to try and combine two factors which seemed at the moment irreconcilable—the desire to improve the education of Ceylon and the desire to save money in the education of Ceylon.

There was every hope, however, that constructive plans would emerge, though, even if he wanted to, it was not possible to make a forecast. The changes, whatever they were, were going to come about very slowly, but there was going to be a great demand made upon the teaching profession in the way of adaptation to new ideas even such a re-orientation of educational policy as making all primary education in the mother tongue, as he felt it should be and he expected it would be.

A great many of them would have to adapt themselves to a new type of instruction, a new conception almost. He thought that it would be a challenge which the teaching profession would welcome, and one that would be extraordinarily stimulating to teachers.

Fettering of Teachers

There was a tendency,—it was not deliberate, it might be almost accidental, but it was there all the same,—for their freedom of action to be curtailed little by little. One could not say that it was anybody's

LOSS OF HUMAN PERSONALITY

A FEATURE OF PRESENT-DAY LIFE

SIR C. P. RAMASWAMY AIYAR'S ADDRESS

Calcutta, Dec. 8.

ONE of the main features of the present-day life is what may be described as the lack or loss of human personality", declared Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, addressing the Rotary Club of Calcutta, this afternoon.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar arrived at Calcutta this morning and proceeded to the Club to give a talk on "Whither." His thesis was that men were apt to be led away by clichés and slogans, political, economic or otherwise, and not to think for themselves. Men to-day were swayed by crowd psychology, and influenced far too often by mass hypnotism. This was responsible for the excesses arising from the unwise and exaggerated cults of nationalism and regionalism and so-called economic self-sufficiency.

Sir Ramaswami Aiyar explained, "I have chosen this subject because it appears to me that, from time to time, especially at a juncture like this in the history of nations and of the world, it is as well to take a survey of the present conditions and factors, and to find out where we are tending.

"I put it to you, perhaps the main feature of the present-day life is what may be described as the lack of or loss of human personality. Let me be a little more

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fault. It certainly was not the part of the Education Department to fetter teachers, nor that of the Minister nor of the Executive Committee.

He felt that he could not lay the blame for this lack of freedom on any particular person or group of persons. It was a danger inherent in the system and he hoped that in the new planning of the educational system much greater freedom for experiment and much greater freedom to do things in an individual sort of way would be given.

Education was concerned with the development of the spirit more than anything else, and unless there was this requisite freedom, it could not do its job properly. To achieve the progress they contemplated, it was necessary that public opinion should be educated, and in this direction Teachers' Associations could do a great deal.

NOTICE

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J. SUBRAMANIAM LEWIS,
Manager

Jaffna Co-op: Central Bank Ltd.
5th December 1940.

(Mis. 160. 9 & 12-12-49.)

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Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testy No. 950.

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of Aranasalam Thuraiappah of Vannarponnai East Deceased.

Nannithamby Kandaswamy of Vannarponnai East Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Thuraiappah Rasanayagam
2. Thuraiappah Duraiswamy
3. Thuraiappah Navaratnam
4. Thuraiappah Aranthadai
5. P. Ravathipillai widow of Thuraiappah all of Vannarponnai Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 7th day of November 1940 in the presence of Mr. V. Navaratna Rajah, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 21st October 1940 having been read:-

It is ordered that the petitioner be granted Letters of Administration with the Will annexed as the son-in-law of the deceased, unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this court on or before the 13th day of December 1940 and show sufficient cause to the contrary.

This 7th day of November 1940.
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 72. 9 & 12-12-40)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1940.

THE ECONOMIC WAR

WITH THE FAILURE OF THE diplomatic offensive both on the West and on the East, HITLER has turned his attention to an intensification of the economic war. There has been, as a result, during the past week or two, a concentrated attack on the industrial and shipping centres of England like Birmingham, Coventry and Bristol and Southampton. As daylight bombing in August and September led to considerable loss of air-craft and pilots, Germany has taken to night-bombing from very high altitudes. Such bombing often fails to hit the target and cannot be effective. The result is that in most cases military objectives escape destruction and civilian property, churches and shops suffer heavily. In Bristol, for example, the centre of the city was levelled to the ground but the damage inflicted on industrial plants and factories was very small in proportion. For the past four months London has been subjected to continual bombing and considerable damage has been done to buildings. But life in London continues to flow uninterrupted and the morale of the public stands as high as ever. If anything, the public indignation and determination to win the war has risen with every stroke of the Luftwaffe. Considerable as is the damage inflicted on property of a non-military value, the Luftwaffe, has failed appreciably to cripple Britain's war effort. The production of aircraft and munitions goes on unimpeded, almost as if there were no air-attacks, war materials are coming in ever increasing volume and there has been no fall in the arrival of shipping. Import figures for October show an increase over those of September. It is clear that the Luftwaffe has failed in its objective of crippling Britain's war effort or in undermining civilian morale.

There has also been a steady increase in the sinking of ships since September. The possession of the entire sea-coast from Narvik to the border of Portugal places Germany in a very advantageous position as regards submarine and aerial attack. Although the menace is serious it is nothing so serious as in the worst days of 1917. While the monthly figures at present do not exceed 300,000 tons, in 1917 the

figures went up to 800,000, and Britain was on the verge of starvation. As official statements indicate, there is absolutely no possibility of Britain being faced with a food shortage. A considerable volume of neutral shipping fell into British hands as a result of the enemy's occupation of European countries like Norway and Holland. These valuable gains along with the tonnage likely to be purchased and constructed in the U. S. A. should enable Britain to tide over any difficulty in this direction and to keep the volume of imports at the present levels. A recent figure puts the number of British shipping on the high seas at 2,500. Arrangements are already afoot for the construction of naval yards in the U. S. A. to increase British shipping. Germany's economic warfare has no more chance of success this time than in the previous war.

But the economic war which Britain has been waging unrelaxed is bound to tell on the Axis in the long run. Although the occupation of most parts of Europe places Germany at a considerable advantage when compared with 1914, yet she is faced with a shortage of essential commodities like food and oil. There is considerable shortage of food in Europe owing to the interruption of production by war conditions and many parts are faced with famine conditions. Except in the matter of potatoes Europe has been an importer of all other food materials. Since the bulk of the world's supply of petrol comes from the U.S.A., the Axis powers are also short of oil. Unless the war comes to an early end economic conditions may bring about the defeat of the Axis in the long run.

ASSESSMENT RATE IN JAFFNA

Ten Percent of 1940 Valuation

The assessment rate in Jaffna for 1941 will be ten per cent. of the annual value assessed by the Local Government Valuer for this year.

This decision was reached at a special meeting of the Jaffna Urban Council.

It was also decided that the question of enforcing the by-laws relating to the registration of barber saloons should be left to the new Council.

The Chairman (Mr. C. Ponnambalam) read a letter from the Attorney-General in which it was stated that the reduced 10 per cent. rate should be recovered on the valuation of the Local Government Valuer for 1940. Otherwise the revenue would decrease considerably, and the financial position of the Council would become precarious.

THE NOMINATED SEATS IN THE JAFFNA U. C.

An esteemed Correspondent writes:-

The elections to the Jaffna Urban Council are over and the results are supposed to be a victory for the anti-municipal party. It may or may not be so. The future alone will disclose how the members will align themselves on the issue of the Municipality. The comparatively greater usefulness of a Municipality may be accepted by some and denied by others. All the same the fact remains that full time officers and a full time Commissioner may more than at one for any likely rise in the rates. But we are not interested now in this question. What we are interested in, is an aspect of representation on the U. C. which has been not thought of for some years. We mean the representation of the Singalese community resident in the Urban Council area.

We know that there is a growing community of Singalese in the town pursuing various trades, who are mostly Buddhists. We are assured by persons who have made inquiries that the Singalese population in the town area easily number more than 2000. We have no reason or cause to doubt the veracity of the calculation. If this is so, it is high time that their representation even by nomination were considered.

The Singalese here form a small but compact community which is of a permanent character, and which is engaged in services as essential to the welfare of the Jaffna town as any other. The Singalese residents in Jaffna are numerous enough to deserve a representation on the local Council and we invite the Minister of Local Administration to give his attention to this question.

The recent elections show that all possible interests are well represented. Whether one looks at it from communal or religious or any other point of view, one should be satisfied with the returns. There are the Hindus, the Christians and the Muslims. But what lacks to complete the picture is a representative of the Sinhalese in the Town. The election gate of admission to them is impossible. There is the gate of nomination. The ministry concerned will do well to take cognisance of this question and nominate a permanent resident from amongst the Singalese. To be fair and square the interests of the town Singalese ought to be represented and the Minister concerned ought to note it. Such a representative will serve not only the Urban Council, but the larger interests of Ceylon in so far as he is a link and connection between the Singalese and the Tamils.

Duke Thanks America

New York Saturday.

The Duke of Windsor made what is believed to be his first appearance before the microphone since he made his abdication speech, when he made a surprise broadcast from Nassau last night thanking Americans for all they are doing to relieve the sufferings of those engaged in the war, and paying a special tribute to the Red Cross.

He said that the Dutchess, who was beside him at the microphone, "asks me to say how much pride and sympathetic interest she takes in these friendly activities and demonstrations of goodwill on the part of some of her many countrymen and countrywomen."

"THE GREATEST MAN IN CEYLON"

Glowing Tributes to the Memory of Sir Ramanathan

TENTH ANNIYERSARY CELEBRATIONS

THE tenth anniversary of the *Salladhi* of Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan was celebrated by the Saiva Mangayar Sabai at Ramanathan College, Chunnakam on 4th December. Religious ceremonies were conducted at the Sri Ramanatheswaram Temple from 10 to 12 a.m. by Brahma Sri N. V. Kartikeya Kurukkal.

The feeding of the poor who had assembled in large numbers continued from noon to 6 p.m. At 5 p.m. a largely attended public meeting was held to do honour to the memory of Sir Ramanathan. Mr. M. Prasad, the Government Agent, presided over the function, and Messrs. C. Coomaraswamy, the District Judge, Adigar A. Naganather, A. Cumaraswamy, Principal, Jaffna Hindu College, A. J. R. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, W. G. Spencer, Advocate, C. Arulambalam, Advocate, J. P. and Muhandiram S. Kandiah all paid tributes to the greatness and talents of the Grand Old Man of Ceylon. The meeting came to a close with a vote of thanks by Mrs. Sivanayaki Thiagaraja to the President and the speakers.

Before and after the public meeting, the audience was entertained with music both vocal and instrumental, and the story of "Maikandeya" was enacted by the Junior Members of the Saiva Mangayar Sabai.

Govt. Agent's Tribute

Rising amidst applause, Mr. Prasad said "We have assembled in this hall to honour the memory of the greatest man that ever lived in Ceylon. At the outset I should like to thank the President of the Saiva Mangayar Sabai for giving me the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of his services and paying my tribute to the memory of Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan. He has left behind him a memory which it is very difficult for us to forget, a memory which we all cherish with awe and veneration. He dedicated his life to the cause of all communities in Ceylon to the cause of his country men.

I have known him for several years. The first time I happened to meet him, was at the Rest House in Chilaw, when he was on a visit to his coconut estates. I was then a Police Magistrate, and was several years his junior. We had a long conversation lasting for about 5 hours. There was hardly any subject which he left untouched. We discussed Philosophy, Education, Art, Science, Law and Politics and he expressed much satisfaction with my views. On another occasion he happened to see me in connection with some official business. He was extremely kind and courteous. The third time I saw him was at a meeting held to honour Adigar Chinniah. None knew him except to love him. There never was, with-in living memory a figure who has left such a great impress on the life of Ceylon, as he. I thank Lady

Ramanathan for giving me the opportunity of paying my tribute to him, for the first time, at a public meeting. In the name of all I salute him.

Champion of People's Rights

Mr. Coomaraswamy, District Judge said We have all assembled here to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the passing of a great soul. I was wondering what I should say on this occasion. The life of Sir Ramanathan is so very rich that it affords an inexhaustible supply of material. Eminent biographers could write volumes on him. However, it is good to remind you of the great deeds of the illustrious figure. You all knew that Sir P. Ramanathan had not the benefits of a University education; but there are very few people with full University training who were so well educated as he. He educated himself by self study. He was an advocate by profession. Before he made his mark in this profession he had already earned a name as the champion of the rights of all, irrespective of race, caste and creed. His abilities so impressed the then Governor that he was offered the highest post of Solicitor General, which he accepted and filled with great distinction. He acted as "Attorney General" on several occasions, and then went into retirement, but not for long. He became a member of the Legislative Council for the Educated Ceylonese. His active services in the Council, and outside it were not confined to safeguarding the interests of the Tamil only. He served the country in the widest sense of the term. This institution is a standing monument to his memory, and philanthropy. He never sought favour or position, but acted according to his conscience. He did nothing with a view to secure more votes in elections. His sole motive was to serve the people. His life deserves to be written in several volumes.

An Illustrious Family

Speaking in Tamil, Adigar Naganather, J. P., U. P. M., said: I wish to express my gratitude for being invited to take part in Ramanathan Day celebrations. One could speak volumes and for hours on the life history and achievements of Sir Ramanathan. Some of you would like to know why this event should be celebrated annually. Just as we honour the memory of Sri-la-Sri Arumuga Nava'ar for giving us religious up-lift we owe a debt of gratitude to Sir Ramanathan for having raised the political stature of the Ceylonese. This custom will be continued by future generation. My acquaintance with the family begins from 1870. I know Ponnambalam Mudaliar who built the Sivan Temple, in Colombo and endowed it magnificently. Sir Ramanathan's elder brother Mr. P. Kumaraswami was a Proctor, Municipal Councillor, and Legislative Councillor, and a man of unequalled influence. His younger

WEEK BY WEEK

INDO - CEYLON COCONUT PROPAGANDA

(BY MAN ABOUT TOWN)

THE idea of a joint Indo-Ceylon propaganda for coconut products was first mooted by Mr. Stanley Obeyesekere K. C. He was for the creation of a joint marketing board with representatives of the coconut growers in India and Ceylon. This was also taken up by the Dewan, Sir Shanmukam Chetty of Cochin. He discussed this matter with the then Commerce Member, Sir Mohamed Zafrullah Khan. But at that time Travancore, the most important coconut area in India, did not view this idea favourably. They believed in their pet charge of dumping against Ceylon and thought that they would be able to convert the Indian Raj to their view for an enhanced duty on Ceylon copra. The late Mr. Parameswarampillai was the chief opponent of this idea of a Joint Scheme of propaganda.

Happily, Travancore seems to have changed her views on the subject. Now she is willing to co-operate in evolving such a scheme. She must have profited by the lessons of the Ceylon propaganda for coconuts in North India. The constituent members of the proposed scheme will comprise of Ceylon, Travancore, Mysore, Cochin and Madras.

brother Sir Arunachalam was a distinguished civil servant, an eminent scholar, and the founder of the Ceylon National Congress. His uncle Sir Muthucumaraswami was highly esteemed by Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, and his son Dr. Ananda Rumaraswamy, is an Art Critic of international fame. The Legislative Council is as familiar to them as their own house. Sir Ramanathan was a lawyer, debater, philosopher, yogi and selfless man. During the riots of 1915, when Martial Law was proclaimed, he undertook a perilous journey to England and was successful in his mission. His return to Colombo was triumphant. He was placed in a carriage, which was drawn in procession through the streets of Colombo by a vast concourse of his admirers. Funds were collected, and a statue was cast in England, and received in Ceylon. Nobody knows its whereabouts now. This is an incident that lacerates the heart of every Tamil. As Crown Counsel he displayed his extraordinary powers of memory in summing up the cases. These two institutions stand like mountains to perpetuate his memory.

Muhandiram Kandiah, speaking next said: To study the lives of great men gives us an inestimable benefit. His life is a model of virtue, broad outlook and philosophy. His example was the best example. The Almighty, out of His grace to the Ceylonese, and particularly the Jaffnese gave us this perfect man, this man of goodness and righteousness. Realising that education is the panacea for all that afflict mankind, he built these institutions and named them after the Lord. He was well versed in book-lore and the affairs of the world. His favourite hymn of Manikkavachaker "Muk-

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Each unit will contribute to the expenses of the propaganda machine. Already Ceylon is spending Rs. 30,000 a year on coconut propaganda in India. The Tea Propaganda Campaign carried on by the Dutch East Indies, India and Ceylon is a striking instance of the success of joint propaganda. The approximate areas under coconuts in the five units mentioned above are:—Ceylon 1,250,000 acres, Travancore 520,000 acres, Mysore, 152,000 acres, Cochin, 67,000 acres, Madras, 550,000 acres. Thus a Joint Scheme must prove fruitful in more than one way.

I understand that in his talks with Mr. Corea on this subject the Dewan of Travancore was anxious about the unsatisfactory prices for copra and was keen on stabilizing the price of copra. This question of stabilisation of price will solve itself if there is co-operation between the various coconut interests. In a joint board composed of different coconut units, the market conditions of the various coconut products will be known to each other to the advantage of the industry as a whole, so much so that no single unit will profit at the expense of the other.

Nominations to Local Bodies

In many towns the centre of interest shifts to the Executive Committee of Local Administration. The Committee meets somewhere on the 18th inst to recommend names to the Governor for nomination to the various Urban Councils and the Colombo Municipal Council. Even Jaffna is interested in this. Already there are rumours that the G. A. and the Chairman of the U. C. have recommended this gentleman and that lady. But nobody knows exactly who and who are recommended from Jaffna. The following names are in the air; Messrs J. W. Arudprakasam, A. S. Vanigasooriar, Sam A. Sabapathy, S. Patanjali, Charles Pathirana, W. M. S. Champoo, Dr. Miss. Thillaiambalam, the M. O. H. and the Supervising Engineer. There are many more who think to themselves that they are qualified for nomination and expect to be recommended. But there are only two nominated seats under the present Ordinance. The Minister for Local Administration and his Committee should see that proper persons are recommended for nomination. Jaffna needs the right type of men who will rise above mass hysteria and who would lead the large masses of men correctly and not men who would change sides to win their ends.

Congrats Sara Brothers

The three Saravanamuttu brothers are again in the new Colombo Municipal Council. Two of them—Dr. Saravanamuttu and Mr. S. Saravanamuttu were elected unopposed. Mr. N. Saravanamuttu was elected by a comfortable margin last Saturday over his two Muslim rivals in an electorate mostly Muslims. This shows how much the Saravanamuttu family is respected in Colombo. Well done Saras. By the way it looks a complete rout for Mr. Goonesinghe and party in the Municipal elections. The Congress seems to have done exceedingly well. With new and young blood in the Ceylon National Congress, it seems certain that it is regaining its past hold on the country,

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Loss of Human Personality

(Continued from page 1)

clear. What do we find in this country and in other countries today? The abuse of crowd psychology, of mass action, or mass hysteria and of mass hypnotism, arising from the circumstances that in many countries the loss of individuality has been induced or forced by strong personalities who have reacted powerfully upon their environment.

"What are the malaise or other difficulties from which Europe is suffering? I submit that one of the main conditions which led to the present lack of equilibrium in Europe is due to these very circumstances to which I have adverted, namely, that on account of the work and propaganda of some persons, on account of various other accidental circumstances like the Treaty of Versailles, into which it is needless to go in great detail, there has come about, on the one hand, a ruthless suppression of personality and of individuality, and on the other hand, as a resultant of that suppression a kind of mass action which moves precipitately though it knows not where.

Economic Lopsidedness, Root of World Unrest

"At the risk of being controversial let me say that the trouble is analogous in this country. Speaking to Indians as well as to the European residents in India, is it not a definite fact to-day in Indian life that easily accepted clichés and slogans hold sway and that mass emotions are roused facilely and not easily subdued thereafter? These are the main features of life to-day. At the root of much of unrest and a great deal of conflict that now take place throughout the world there is a tremendous amount of economic and other lopsidedness and self-centred militancy.

"We find overproduction in some parts of the world and famine in others and nevertheless because certain dictators or rulers of States make up their minds in favour of nationalism and regionalism or what is called self-sufficiency or the art of trying to sell as much as possible to the neighbour, determining at the same time to buy as little as possible from him. That is, I take, the meaning of economic self-sufficiency which is carried to an absurd extent. These things are taking place not because men do not know what is best for them, but because there is an instinct or feeling that one should do exactly what is fashionable and popular act. This lack of individual personality, this tendency at the moment for crowd or mass action is at the root of all those programmes and those policies and which leads to so much catastrophe and trouble.

"It is not only in the field of economics and of trade that this catastrophe is so evident. Take for instance, politics, take for instance the situation that is fast developing in India to-day. The central point about Indian thought and philosophy of life is that we, Indians have inherited a particular tradition, the tradition of manliness of thought and ac-

ALL-CEYLON ESSAY COMPETITION

"Study of Wild Life"

FIRST PRIZE TO SHIVANANDA VIDYALAYA

The Essay on "Vegetation of the Batticaloa District" by V. Paramasivampillai, Senior class student, Shivananda Vidyalaya, Batticaloa, has won the First Prize offered by the Council of the Ceylon Natural History Society to the best essay on "Study of wild Life". The competition was open to pupils over 12 years of age in English Schools. The prize is awarded in books to the value of about Rs. 30

tion. We are fast rejecting that tradition of Sankara and Ramanuja and our seers. It is possible for some great men, for some great leaders now to start slogans, to start battle-cries, which are forthwith acted upon and implemented. If there is one characteristic feature, which he student of Hindu religion and Hindu philosophy cannot ignore, it is the emphasis on strength, strength of will, resoluteness of purpose and active resistance to evil. It is one of the fundamentals of Eastern faiths. But because of this mass preaching and this crowd psychology, we are being led along paths which are foreign to our genius. Our *Upanishads* speak of faint-heartedness as the greatest of evils either in thought or action and deprecate passivity."

'Abdication of One's Own Will'

Proceeding, the speaker, said: "I think it is as well that we should realise and realise with fervour of conviction and with definiteness of resolve that we shall not be misled by these slogans and war cries. What does this act mean, excepting the abdication of one's own will in favour of another's will, simply because it is fashionable to do so or because it is not worthwhile not to do so? It is necessary sometime to have civil disobedience against those who seek to subjugate our reason—I am using the phrase in a somewhat different sense from that we ordinarily use."

Concluding, he said: "I appeal for the recapture of the human personality. I plead for the elimination of this following after every will-o'-the-wisp that allures. That is the danger which has confronted and overcome Germany and Italy and many other countries. Let it be said of a few countries at least that they possess men and women who will think for themselves, act for themselves. Leadership and discipline are indispensable, but they should not be superimposed on independent thinking and the discussion of pros and cons is a condition precedent. The slavery of the will and the invocation of quasi-spiritual arguments to serve secular ends are things that have to be specially guarded against at this juncture of the world's and especially of the country's affairs."

"The Greatest Man in Ceylon"

(Continued from page 3)

tinari" clearly shows his attitude and outlook on life. I rejoice to find that Lady Ramanathan, her daughter and son-in-law, are actively carrying out the ideals of the founder.

Combination of Talents

Mr. Gunam Spencer, advocate said: I pay my humble tribute to the memory of Sir Ramanathan. Ceylon has been blessed with many great men, as any other country is. Men have risen to giddy heights of fame in many walks of life such as Law, Medicine, the Civil and political life of the country. Of such great men we have many. My privilege and good luck was to serve under him as his subordinate in the last decade of his career, when he was able to impart the benefit of his experience. I always made it a point to spend my free periods with him, as he was always willing to teach those who were willing to learn. He insisted on the practical application of learning to the affairs of every day life. It was never too late to study. He was a philosopher, philanthropist, scholar, councillor, teacher and student. Such a combination of talents is rarely found in one man. I venture to say that he was the greatest Ceylonese that had ever lived. If we could but follow in his foot steps and raise ourselves up to the heights he reached, I predict that all of us would one day be great. I pay this humble tribute to one whom I loved, and whom I greatly admired.

Mr. A. Cumaraswami, Principal, Hindu College said: Numerous speakers have paid sufficient tribute to various aspects of Sir Ramanathan's greatness. One of these personally appeals to me, namely his phenomenal, intellectual activity. He was always reading, thinking, writing and lecturing. He is the author of many religious books. His "Bagavad Geetha", St. John's Gospel and his other books should be more popular. The younger generation does not know the battles he fought or any further details of his life beyond the fact that he built the Ramanathan and Parameshvara Colleges. If his biography could be written it would be a statue in every person's heart. It should find a place in the "Builders of the Nation" series, and go into school readers. Other builders of the Ceylonese nation are Sir P. Arunachalam, Sri-la-Sri Arumuga Navalar. Among the living, Lady Ramanathan must be included.

A National Hero

Mr. Arulembatam said: Sir Ramanathan belongs to an illustrious family. His younger brother Sir P. Arunachalam did a three fold service to the nation by pressing for the establishment of a University Social Service League, and the Ceylon National Congress, on the model of the Indian National Congress. Sir Ramanathan for 10 years represented the educated Ceylonese in the Legislative Council. His memory, his analytical frame of mind and its equipoise were remarkable. The two Colleges he founded enhance his fame. A person's education began two years before his birth. It depends upon heredity and environment. His ob-

Matrimonial

RAMANATHAN—

VAITILINGAM

The marriage of Mr. P. Ramanathan, son of Mr. T. Ponniah Landed Proprietor, Karainagar, with Miss Rathnammal, daughter of the late Mr. S. Vaitilingam took place on the 31st ultimo according to Hindu rites. The bridegroom is a brother of Mr. P. Satbasivam, Senior Clerk, General Treasury, Colombo, and a nephew of Mr. T. Arumugam, Retired Teacher, F. M. S., and the bride is a niece of the well-known Landed Proprietor, Mr. S. Kanapathipillai, late of the Malayan Government Service and now Chairman of the Village Committee, Karainagar.

ject was to impart education based on nationalism and religion. He interpreted the Gospel and the Bible in the light of and Saiva Siddhantha Philosophy, and corrected wrong ideas published in some newspapers about Siva Lingam. He was a national hero. His biography must be written in English and Tamil, and the Memorial Lectures inaugurated by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer must be continued.

Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, said: The celebrations are appropriately under the presidentship of a great friend of the people, the Government Agent, of Jaffna whom we call the Raja of the North. Sir Ramanathan was the great pioneer of progress, the great fighter for liberty and the founder of institutions for the good of the people. Why should we halt in this busy march of life to think of the dead? This is no mourning or sentimental sobbing. We are here to praise God, the giver of all free gifts, for having given us this man of action. To think of the great, to reflect on his deeds, will make us do humble service to humanity. He was a great learner. No time was too late, nor himself too old, nor any one too small for him to learn from. His great interest in the Training College impressed me. He did not found these institutions with the idea—so rampant now—of profiting the owners. It was based on the principle of self-sacrifice. They are built with architectural beauty. You could see the dream which he was planning to fulfil. Our country badly needs such men. I wish Lady Ramanathan and the family all success in their work that has fallen on their shoulders.

Mrs. Thiagaraja proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of Saiva Mangayar Sabai to all the distinguished speakers. She referred to the statue, and the compiling of a biography and said that all must contribute their utmost to these two purposes.

In thanking the Saiva Mangayar Sabai Mr. Prasad said, I have been referred to as the Rajah and the Maharajah of the North by Mr. Vethavanam. I wish to correct the impression created by this statement. I neither wish to be a Rajah nor a Maharajah, nor the founder of a princely dynasty. I wish to be a humble servant of the people.

The performance of "Markandeya" by the Junior Members of the Sabai was excellent in its natural and devotional form, as evidenced by the wonderful uplifting religious enthusiasm of the people. The spirit of the meeting was one of deep and sincere remembrance and the story of Markandeya filled their hearts with joy and hope for the future. When Markandeya sang the sacred thevarnam of Appar Swami—"Namarkaw Kudi allom"—"we are not slaves to anyone—we fear not death" the audience which had sat in silence throughout broke into rapturous applause. The Saiva Mangayar Sabai this year has more than ever succeeded in conveying great satisfaction through their Gura Puja, not only to all assembled during the day but to him in whose memory they have been making their offerings for ten years.

AN ELECTION SEQUEL

Five Men Charged with Trespass and Assault

December, 5.

A teacher of St. Patrick's College, Mr. R. Rajadurai, described at the Jaffna Magistrate's Court yesterday how five men entered his house and abused him on the night of the Jaffna Urban Council elections.

The accused are:—Arumugam Suppan, Arumugam Manickam, Sinnathamby Muttan, Marimuttu Nadarajah and Kanagasingham Kumarasamy.

Mr. Rajadurai, giving evidence, said that on November 30 at about 11 p.m. when he came to his house he heard the cries of his brother that he was being assaulted by the first accused and others. He (the witness) went up to the gate and saw his brother being trampled on the ground by Suppan and others, whom he could not identify. They were kicking and assaulting him with their hands.

When they saw complainant, Muttan, who was one of them, cried out "Get hold of Rajadurai." Hearing this the complainant turned back, ran into his house and looked the door. The accused came after him, kicked at the door and abused him. He heard Muttan shouting out, "Hand over the kris to me." When complainant heard this, he became frightened as all his children were sleeping in the hall.

At that moment the door gave way and he ran behind the back of the house. Of his ten children who were sleeping in the hall, the older ones fled in various directions on seeing the intruders.

In reply to the Court the witness said that he had supported the candidature of Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai at the Urban Council elections.

The outer gate of his house was smashed to pieces. The gate was worth Rs. 50.

Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai, who supported the plaintiff, moved that warrants be issued on all the accused.

The Additional Magistrate declined to do so, and allowed summons for December 10.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 958

In the matter of the Estate of Amirthavally daughter of Thamotheerampillai Chellappal of Vaddukottai West, Jaffna

Deceased.

Muhan-Eram Arunasalam Visuvalingam of Vaddukottai West

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Chellappah Sabaratnam
2. Chellappah Manickam
3. Chellappah Sannugam
4. Vettivelu Marikandu all of Vaddukottai West

The 3rd Respondent is a minor appearing by his Guardian-ad-litem the 4th Respondent

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 22nd day of November, 1940 in the pre-

PEOPLE IN PUBLIC LIFE

(Continued from page 1)

higher position in public life over the heads of his intellectual superiors. True, Mr. Churchill is now premier but the chance for him has come out of an emergency. When it is a question of life and death, the British people philosophically enough go so far as to overlook a man's trifling faults and make him a hero. Thus came Mr. Churchill to wield power as Premier and verily, the term "man of destiny" fits none better.

The British people in their own country strictly guard the sphere of public life as far as possible from being marred by wrong types of men lacking character. There have been instances where they found that men who came in with good credentials defaulted later. But they were not allowed to escape the clutches of the law. They were dealt with by the firm hand of justice. Recent instances in this connection are Lord Klusant and Mr. J. H. Thomas.

We are about to enter a new phase in our history. We must see that we select only the right type of men to lead us, men who have clean conduct in private and public life. Let us not honour any despot by placing him on a pedestal of honour to be worshipped. Let us not be led by unscrupulous men with no compunction to defraud the poor in the name of public service. Only the man who wears the ornament of clean character can render a clean record of service in the interest of the community. It is time that we set about looking for such ideals in the man who comes forward to serve us.

(Roy's Weekly)

The Ceylon (St to Council Elections) Order in Council, 1931

No. 30—Kayts Electoral District.

No. 31—Kankasanturai Electoral District.

No. 32—Jaffna Electoral District.

No. 33—Point Pedro Electoral District.

NOTICE is hereby given that the revised registers of voters relating to the above-named electoral districts have been certified and that such registers are open for inspection during office hours at the Jaffna Kacheheri.

M. PRASAD,

Registering Officer for Electoral Districts No. 30,

Kayts, No. 31, Kankasanturai, No. 32, Jaffna, and No. 33 Point Pedro.

The Kacheheri,
Jaffna, November 26, 1940.

sence of Mr. M. Kathiravelu, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the Affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 20th November, 1940 having been read;

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor the abovenamed 3rd Respondent for the purpose of representing him and for acting on his behalf in the Testamentary proceedings to be had in this case and it is declared the Petitioner as the uncle of the deceased is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased issued to him unless the Respondents appear before this Court on the 13th day of January, 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 22nd day of November 1940
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

(O. 71. 5 & 9-12-40)

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