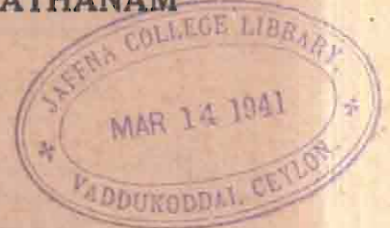


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THE HYPOCRISY OF MODERN CIVILISATION

IT CENTRES ROUND BANKS
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SWAMI VIVEKANANDA'S LEGACY TO THE PRESENT GENERATION

BY SIR S. RADHAKRISHNAN,

(Presidential address at the 78th birthday anniversary
of Swami Vivekananda in Calcutta)

I WAS a student in the early years of this century, a student in high school and college classes. Then we used to read Swami Vivekananda's speeches and letters which were then passing from hand to hand in manuscript form and they used to stir us a great deal and make us feel proud of our ancient culture that though our externals were broken down the spirit of our country is there and is everlastingly real. That was the message which we gathered from his speeches and writings when I was a young student. My life has been cast with young students since then.

In the second decade of this century our students took to the writings of Dr. Rabindranath Tagore. He got the Nobel prize in that decade and we used to read with avidity and enthusiasm the writings of Tagore.

In the third decade we passed on and we looked to the writings of Mahatma Gandhi, to his "Young India" and the stirring message to our sense of patriotism couched in his writings and in his life.

To-day in the fourth decade my young friends are poring over Marx and Lenin and they are the writings most popular so far as young men are concerned.

You see in the first three decades Swami Vivekananda, Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi, all these were rooted in what you call the spiritual soil of this great land, and our great political leaders. Aurobindo Ghosh and Balgangadhar Tilak were people who had a firm faith in the greatness of Indian culture and at the same time were great patriots and reformers. That is what they

were. But to-day we detect a growing tendency among our young men and women to think that these things are out of date, that they have betrayed us and we should turn to copying another kind of civilisation. We may possess Indian bodies but we must borrow other souls to inhabit them. That seems to be the growing tendency to-day. I should like to ask you whether you are so much satisfied with the high pressure machine civilisation that has led us to this appalling tragedy in which three continents are involved and other continents are likely to be engulfed. I am asking you to consider whether a civilisation which by its aggressiveness has out-reached itself, whether a civilisation where man is able to ride the air and swim the seas but has to cover his face and hide underground, a civilisation where young people from the beginning, from their nurseries and kindergarten, are taught to develop a spirit of hatred, whether a civilisation where women cry out from the depth of their hearts "blessed is the womb that is bare and blessed the breast which never gave suck", whether a civilisation that has landed us in this kind of crisis and catastrophe can be regarded as fundamentally sound and worth copying by us. That is the question which I wish to put to you. I want you to ask yourselves whether this civilisation that has brought the world to the present position is fundamentally sound, propping itself on foundations which can be regarded as just and righteous. Whenever you talk of civilisation it is no use your talking of economic arrangements, political forms, scientific tech-

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INDO-CEYLON RELATIONS

NEED FOR BROADMINDEDNESS AND GENEROSITY ON BOTH SIDES

J. VIJAYA-TUNGA Writes:

THE Indian representatives of the Government of India are anxious to see that no precedent is set by Ceylon to the detriment of Indian interests that may be copied by a Government in another part of the British Commonwealth. There is discrimination in S. Africa, and in Fiji (a racial discrimination), there is discrimination in Malaya and Burma (economic discrimination). South Africa wants Indians to raise their standard of living before they can be considered citizens on an equal footing with the Whites. Malaya, of course, has no vote, but there is a resentment against the competitive industriousness of the Indian just as until recently there was a tacit resentment against the go-ahead Madras in the other provinces of India.

Ceylon counters by saying that nowhere else where the contention was similar has it been a question of conferring adult franchise upon the resident Indian population. Repeatedly the Ceylonese leaders refer to the lower standard of living of the Indian workers, and in the case of about 200,000 Indian harbour labourers and Malabari "toddy tappers" to their lower moral standards as well. And these people, the Ceylonese say, have no abiding permanent interest in Ceylon, else they would have brought over their families. That the standard of living of Indian workers everywhere is low will be admitted. As recently as January 30th, Professor E. Asirvadam of the University of Madras said at a lecture to the Indian Colonial Society's Study Circle: "So long as their trouble in Ceylon did not involve sacrifice of principle or their individuality, the Indian emigrants there should learn to raise their standard of living and change their unhygienic ways of living and not be slaves to work without holidays."

What the Ceylonese Fear

The Ceylonese patently desire to absorb a limited number

of the resident Indian population as "Ceylonese," but at the same time they are genuinely frightened of the prospect of being swamped. When I mentioned this fear to Mr. L. X. Pereira (as conciliatory and far-sighted a representative as the Indian could wish for) he told me that there was nothing to it, that it was a vague fear. They feel that when they have absorbed those Indians who are now entitled to domicile of origin and their children, and the children of those who are now entitled to domicile of choice, they would be absorbing their maximum capacity. What the Ceylonese aim at, though they have not put it in so many words, is so to set restrictions that 600,000 estate labourers (most of whom are entitled to domicile of choice) would not exercise that choice, thus obviating an increased second generation claiming domicile of origin.

The Ceylonese seem to be over-anxious lest once they have given an undertaking they must (and that they would have to) abide solemnly by it; and the Indian representative, as far as I have been able to gather—and this is simply my independent inference—have done little to dislodge the fear of that pound-of-flesh aspect, and have not sufficiently appreciated the others' good faith. They might have pointed out that as in the case of the South African Assisted Emigration Scheme, an undertaking, if unworkable or undesirable, might be revised or modified after consultation between the two Governments.

Here, then, we have the Indian representatives claiming: "That Indians who have been resident for an agreed number of years in a particular territory under the British Government acquire equality with the indigenous inhabitants of the territory—acquire equality of rights—over the whole field of rights. Because their experience is that in certain parts of the Empire Indians are given "much less than our rights" the Indian Government is going to see to

(Continued on page 4)

Wanted

A Hindu lady teacher graduate or an English trained qualified in music and needlework for a Bilingual School at Analtivu from the 1st of April 1941. Salary C scale. Apply to Manager V. Chellappah, Thalaiyaly, Van. East Jaffna.

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JAFFNA FRIEND-IN-NEED SOCIETY'S

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

(Mis. 208. 13 & 17-3 41.)



Hindu Organ

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1941

THE KACHCHERI CONFERENCE

The conference which the Home Minister, Sir Baron Jayatilaka, had with a few leading residents of this district at the Kachcheri last Monday would go down as a landmark in the administration of this district. Whether the idea of this conference emanated from our amiable and dutiful Government Agent or from the Home Minister himself, the Conference, whatever its results might prove to be, is a first class method of ascertaining the needs and grievances of a people. It is all the more welcome particularly in the case of Jaffna which, by its distance from the seat of Government and in the absence of any intimate touch with the members of the Board of Ministers, stands the risk of not pressing itself on the attention of the Ministers. This unenviable position of the peninsula is perhaps more to blame for the many disabilities and grievances of this part of the Island than the general charge of discrimination alleged against the Board of Ministers. It was right, though it might

seem too frank, that the Home Minister was made to understand that there is a general grievance to this effect in this district. The Home Minister minced no words in disabusing the minds of those who conferred with him of the hollowness of this charge. As a member of the conference observed that deeds, not words, could disprove it, it should be the concern of responsible Ministers like Sir Baron to see that no room is given for such misunderstanding. The value of the Kachcheri Conference lies in the opportunity it has given for mutual understanding and exchange of views resulting in first-hand knowledge of the pressing needs of the district.

We doubt if those present at the Kachcheri Conference have exhausted the list of Jaffna's needs and convinced the Minister of their importance. Sir Baron was prepared to discuss any subject and did not confine himself only to those coming under his portfolio. He had promised to refer different representations to the Ministers concerned. We therefore find that a large variety of subjects were discussed before him. The problem of unemployment which is as acute here as in the South, both among the educated and other classes, naturally received first attention. The Minister's discouraging reply in regard to the educated unemployed is not surprising. Though the Government could do nothing to relieve it, it should attempt as far as possible to tackle it, following the lines adopted in this connection by Governments in other countries. His laying the blame on the system of education for this vexed problem is only too true, and the remedy of giving an agricultural bias to education is accepted on all hands, is being tried in many a country and more seriously, perhaps, in some of the Indian provinces. The Punjab is making a very earnest effort in this direction. The Le Goc's scheme for Colleges in Ceylon which is now in the air should prove valuable if the authorities are earnest about giving it a trial and encouraging it by all means in their power. The abuses of the tree tax system were sought to be overcome by the Conference by additional rules and regulations. The Minister who is no lover of this system but tolerates it because of the demand made by Jaffna, will soon realise that he was right and Jaffna wrong.

The remedy designed to do away with the evils of the tavern system has proved worse than the disease itself. Time will not be far distant when Jaffna will raise its cry against the Tree Tax system, for, however stringent rules and regulations may be, human ingenuity for finding loopholes will frustrate any such restrictions. We are surprised to find that Sir Baron has no bad word to say about the Jaffna roads. He perhaps travelled in a very comfortable car that could cover, by its very efficient designing, the obvious defects of the Jaffna roads. Or perhaps the Minister has motored along roads whose myriad depressions have superficially been filled up. He would have formed a different impression if rain-clouds had only thought of filling the dry pools on these roads. We may tell Sir Baron he has yet to see more of our roads before rushing to a conclusion as the one he has come to. All Jaffna is sick of the roads which are not what they appear to be to a casual visitor. A very important subject that was brought to the Minister's notice was the urgency of opening the Northern ports for passenger traffic with India. This is a matter in which all Jaffna feel as one man. The advantages that would flow from this are so obvious and convincing that no Government which has a sincere regard for the wishes and welfare of a people, will treat with indifference a request like this. The decision of the Government to open one of the Northern ports has yet to be implemented. The suggestion in regard to uses of the palmyrah palm, if acted upon, will open up new industrial possibilities. An investigation into the many uses it can be put to and the training of the people in turning out as many products as possible from this palm will help greatly to provide a number of cottage industries for this industrially backward peninsula. We hope the Minister will commend this idea strongly to the Minister concerned and see something is done in this direction.

We have touched upon some of Jaffna's needs with a view to emphasising them for the immediate attention of the authorities. Sir Baron who is burdened with more than what he can possibly carry on his shoulders will, we are certain, unburden them before his colleagues and tell them what Jaffna needs and feels.

The Fateful Condition of our Country

Some Suggestions for Improvement

By R. A. Naganather, Singapore.

NOTWITHSTANDING the growing misery of our country, our leaders and men of thought, not excluding the fair sex, do not appear to attempt to do something to ameliorate the poor condition existing among the people there.

A section of our men spend their time and energy in useless controversies on unimportant issues and do not even try to find ways and means to promote better living conditions in their midst.

I wish to suggest the following projects, for what they are worth, for the consideration of our energetic and patriotic men.

Fresh Water Pool for Araly

The present time is not favourable to carry out the instructions of Mr. K. Balasingam to convert the lagoon into a fresh water lake and thus transform Jaffna into a paradise flowing with milk and honey. There is a possibility of closing the creeks; for instance build a concrete dam under the Valukkaiyaru Bridge at Kallundai (Araly) between the abutments, to a height above the highest of sea-water level, but not higher than the adjoining paddy fields. The cost of this concrete dam will not be very much and our benign Government can afford to finance this small scheme, if properly represented with the necessary details, to make an experiment with it in forming a permanent Fresh Water Pool which would be of immense assistance to the several owners of agricultural lands all along the borders of the creek.

Fruits

Encourage the planting of ordinary and special variety of Mango trees in the villages, and establish a scheme of Prizes for best quality of fruits produced as may be judged at the usual annual Agricultural Show. The soil is best suited for this culture and the cost to the population for the innovation will be next to nothing.

Basket-Making

The people of Vadamardchv and the islands should be taught to produce baskets with Palmyrah leaf and its stalk and receptacles for collection, packing and despatch abroad of Tea etc. A vast amount of produce of this nature is undoubtedly required annually by the Provinces in the south in the various plantations. The Planters Association would be too pleased to specify their requirements and supply samples. It is only enterprise that is desired on the part of the leaders by taking up posts as Liaison Officers. A very small commission on either side will defray their expenses.

Timber Factory

Establish a timber factory somewhere close to the railway at Jaffna. Timber, which is in abundance

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NEEDS OF JAFFNA DISTRICT

SIR BARON CONFERS WITH LEADING RESIDENTS

UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

HOME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO JAFFNA

THAT the present system of Education should be altered and given an agricultural bias, to solve the problem of unemployment, was the view expressed by the Home Minister, Sir Baron Jayatilaka, at a conference he had with leading residents of Jaffna on Monday at the Jaffna Kachcheri to consider the needs of Jaffna District.

Sir Baron at the outset said that any subject could be discussed and he would refer representation to the approved Ministries.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai opened the discussion by referring to unemployment in Jaffna among literate and illiterate. Sir Baron said that nothing could be done by Government to relieve unemployment among the educated,

Mr. Ponnambalam said that a thousand cigar workers were unemployed in Jaffna, due to competition by beedies and cheap cigarettes and the decline in quality of Jaffna cigars.

Sir Baron said that Government would certainly help, but, as regards improvement of quality, the services of a tobacco expert were available to them and the Minister of Agriculture and Lands would give them necessary assistance.

As regards the unemployment question, Sir Baron said that they must alter their present system of education, which should be given an agricultural bias.

Teachers' Salaries

Mr. A. R. Subramaniam: The present unemployment is due to the increase in salaries of vernacular teachers. The present training schools are unnecessary, and should be stopped at once. Government is to blame for the present state of things which have led to bribery and corruption.

Sir Baron explained why salaries had been increased and standardised. When he was Principal of Dharmarajah College, Kandy, some 50 years ago, he had one assistant at Rs. 20 a month. When he wanted more assistants he engaged two young men at Rs. 5 a month.

Mr. Ponnambalam: Why not introduce protective tariffs on imported cigars, cigarettes and beedies?

Mr. Sam Sabapathy asked whether it would not be possible to start an unemployment bureau in Jaffna. Sir Baron remarked that the bureau in Colombo had not reduced unemployment and its branches had not been closed down in some places.

Mr. Ponnambalam said that roads in Jaffna were very bad and that maintenance of the roads had not been properly done, but Sir Baron replied that during his three days' stay in Jaffna he had driven over many miles of roads which were in very good condition.

Mr. A. Veerasingham said that prisoners were treated so very well now that they tried to get back to gaol as early as possible. Sir Baron said that the old view that imprisonment was not for reformation but for punishment had

changed. He referred to the time he was in gaol in 1915 and the "rotten food" given to him.

Mr. Ponnambalam wanted the road from Pooneryn to Mannar opened up early. Mr. N. Chelvadurai wanted to know whether it was only when Jaffna was concerned that the excuse of financial stringency was raised.

"No Discrimination"

Sir Baron replied that every question was considered on its merits and there was no discrimination whatever. He was sorry to find that there was a general misunderstanding among the people of Jaffna.

Mr. Chelvadurai: We want a change of heart. Our grievances are not looked into and redressed.

Sir Baron said that he did not appreciate the cry of discrimination. There was no difference between North and South. Jaffna thought that by raising that cry they could get preferential treatment.

Mr. Ponnambalam: If you give us that assurance and your deeds prove it we shall endeavour to see that impression removed.

Mr. T. Muttusamypillai said that at least one of the northern ports should be opened. Sir Baron said that it had been decided to open one port.

Mr. Ponnambalam suggested that village tanks in the Jaffna peninsula should be deepened and hospitals in Jaffna should be extended. Mr. Sabapathy said that a new maternity ward was urgently required.

The conference also considered the tree tax system and agreed that the system should continue but rules and regulations should be amended so that miniature taverns might not crop up near schools, Churches, markets, etc. Sir Baron said that he was against tree tax system but it was at the request of the people of Jaffna that it had been introduced.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah suggested research work to find out the uses of the palmyrah palm. Mr. Sabapathy suggested that as the Kodaddy area had already become congested the Infectious Diseases Hospital should be removed from its present site.

Social Service League's Representations

Mr. C. Thiagarajah, the Secretary of the Manipay Parish Social Service League, submitted the following subjects for the consideration of the Minister, at the Kachcheri Conference:

Village Committees

The League feels that the representation of each village in a Parish by one member, according to the new Ordinance, will be insufficient; and at the same time, the present system of having 3 to 5 members for each village has proved unsatisfactory by experience in as much as the system has tended to create pocket boroughs making it difficult for men of education and character to offer themselves as candidates for

membership in the Village Committees. The League suggests that 2 members for a village would be a reasonable number.

Tree Tax System

The working of the above system has proved unsatisfactory in that many miniature taverns have grown all over the country with no control over them. The result is that men, women and children are beginning to drink at the foot of the tree, and also toddy is available near schools, markets and by the side of public roads. The tavern system appears to be better.

Anaicottai Police Station

The League is still of opinion that that the situation of the Police Station for the Manipay Parish at the furthest end of the Parish, on the border between the town and Anaicottai, is unsatisfactory. The institution of the Police Station has not proved beneficial to the thickly populated areas in the Parish which are most criminal according to statistics. This view has often been urged on the Minister for Home Affairs, and the League expects that he would make inquiries as to the suitability of the present site.

Spread of Tuberculosis

The League finds that Tuberculosis is rapidly spreading in Jaffna and requests the Board of Ministers to consider the advisability of appointing an expert to tour round the villages and examine suspected cases for timely treatment so that infection might be controlled.

Veneral Clinics

It has also come to the notice of the League that there are a large number of veneral cases in the villages, and most patients do not go in for treatment at the Hospitals and Dispensaries for fear of exposure. The League therefore suggests that a few clinics be established at different centres and proper treatment be given there similar to clinics in India and England where none but the doctor in charge will come to know the patients' complaints.

Kankasanturai Sanatorium

The League has come to know that there is a great complaint in the whole of Jaffna that Jaffna patients do not often find admission to the Kankasanturai Sanatorium and are forced to go to distant places like Kandana and Ragama. The League suggests that at least 75 per cent of the beds are reserved for Jaffna patients and the Government erect more Sanatoria in the South.

Hindu Marriage Registration

The League has received several complaints that according to the latest Marriage Registration Ordinance No. 15 of 1940 Hindus are unable to have their marriages registered at their residence at auspicious hours in the night as they have been doing hitherto. The amended law requires that the parties should either go to the Registrar's office, which is open only during the day time, or to pay a stamp fee of Rs. 30 and a Registrar's fee of Rs. 20 to have the marriage registered at home. They have also to satisfy the Assistant Provincial Registrar, by producing sufficient evidence, that the girl to an intended marriage does not appear in public, if the Marriage is to be registered at her residence. The phrase "appear in public" is so vague that if a girl attends school, or a social function in the family circle, she is supposed to appear in public, and it was not so contemplated in the original law. The present

(Continued on page 4)

"DEROGATORY TO HINDU SHASTRAS"

HINDU MARRIAGE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

PROTEST BY C. P. SAIVA MAHA SABHA

A RESOLUTION protesting against the new amendments affecting Hindu marriages and calling upon the authorities to rescind same, was passed at the fifteenth annual general meeting of the Central Province Saiva Maha Sabhai Ltd, Kandy held at the "Tamil Home" on Saturday, the 8th instant, with Gate Muhandiram N. Canaganayagam, Deputy Mayor, Kandy, in the chair.

Proceedings commenced with the singing of "Thevaram". Among congratulatory messages received were those from Adigar A. Naganather J. P. and U. M., Brahma Sree J. T., Sadasiva Iyer, and Mr. S. Murugesu.

The minutes of the last annual general meeting and the report of work done during the year were read by Mr. A. Navaratna Rajah, the Joint Secretary, and confirmed. The report showed a year of very useful work performed truly and well, among which were lectures on religious subjects, the conducting of a regular and well attended religious class by Brahma Sri J. T. Sadasiva Iyer, Guru Poojaha, Preaching to Hindu Prisoners in the Prisons, Special Prayers at the Selva-Vinnayager, Temple, Katukela for Allied victory in the present war, the raising of a loan of Rs. 8000 from among members and sympathisers by shares of Rs. 250 each for completing the Sabhai Building, which work has well advanced, and also contained the Sabhai's appreciation of the unanimous election of their President, Gate Muhandiram N. Canaganayagam M. M. C., as Kandy's Deputy Mayor, and their grateful thanks to the esteemed press for so kindly publishing the Sabhai's activities in their valuable columns.

The Hon'y Treasurer Mr. A. K. Velluppillai presented the Balance Sheet, which showed an increase in the subscriptions and donations and also the expenditure on the Sabhai Building so far, and it was duly adopted. It was enthusiastically mentioned that the work in the ground floor, and concrete flooring of the upstairs building have now been completed.

Then followed the Presidential address, which showed how by selfless work, and unceasing devotion to the religious cause, the Hon'y office-bearers, past and present, have at great personal inconvenience been able to purchase with the unstinted support of the Hindus and their sympathisers and well-wishers a property free of any debt for use as permanent Home for the Sabhai and partly completed a building thereon at a total cost of about Rs. 15,000/-, and that the further sum of Rs. 8,000/- required to complete the Sabhai Building has already been raised, thanks to the generosity of the members and their friends, and has been deposited in the Bank. The President also announced that it was hoped to be able to fix the ceremonial opening of the building without much delay, and that they would certainly have

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INDO-CYLON RELATIONS

(Continued from page 1)

it that Ceylon does not set an embarrassing example.

The Domicile of Choice

Contention centres round this domicile of choice. As Mr. I. X. Pereira, pointed out to me, it is easy to frighten away a good many people (of that class of Indians who are in a majority in Ceylon) by telling them that they will lose all claims upon their motherland once they choose domicile of choice in Ceylon. And in that case the Indian Government too can offer them no other consolation than by saying, "You have made your bed, lie upon it. Fight your own battles by using the vote which you have gained". The Ceylonese work upon this dilemma by arguing that, "So long as they remain citizens of another country the Government of that country would not ignore their interests. So long as they remain citizens of India whatever agreements we may reach we cannot ignore their citizenship of another country."

Now 'domicile of choice', is a device which is capable of being twisted in more ways than one. Mr. I. X. Pereira contends that it was a former Governor, Sir Herbert Stanley, who changed *residence* into *domicile* and "sacrificed the Indian community in collaboration with the Sinhalese leaders."

Seeing, therefore, that it gives rise to so much misunderstanding, and also because it confers only the right of franchise and the right to reside and earn a living in Ceylon, I believe that the phrase and its implications should be dropped. Before that is feasible the Indian leaders must convince the Ceylonese that they are not going to shout Ha! Ha! the moment their point is gained. There must be trust on the part of the Ceylonese (and this trust has not been quite evoked by the Indian leaders), and helpfulness on the part of the Indians. The patriotism of the leaders of the Ceylon delegation to Delhi is patent and unquestioned, so is the integrity of those who represented the Indian government. But there are career politicians and opportunists among the Indians in Ceylon and in India, as well as among the Ceylonese, who would exploit this situation for their own ends. They must be anticipated.

Now, from the political point of view is it to the advantage of the two countries to have these differences? Not under the world conditions of to-day. But India must respect (as in this democratic age we uphold that every country should respect another's) Ceylon's autonomy, as far as it goes. The Indian Government must not adopt the attitude: "Here is this puppy of a Ceylon snapping at our ankles again!" Let me digress for a second.

An estate agency of California owning 7,000 acres of land has as one of their rules that "the premises shall not be used or occupied by Asiatics or Negroes;

they cannot be sold, leased or otherwise conveyed to any person born in the Turkish Empire, nor to any lineal descendant of such a person." Incidentally notwithstanding such conditions an Indian ruler once holidayed and spent his good money there. Now I am sure that neither the Federal Government nor the State of California approves of such an offensive rule. But there it is because it is the right of that corporation to safe-guard what it feels is its homogeneity. There is no analogy between India and Ceylon, except in support of my contention that all the greater is the right of one country or a state within a federation to determine its own laws so long as they do not militate against the proved rights of others.

Inter-Dependence

Politically in the years to come, for all its sturdy independence during the last 2000 years, Ceylon is bound to seek a closer alliance with India. And in its turn India will have to contend with Ceylon, with its strategical and naval importance, small island though it is. Even the United States is now seriously thinking of postponing the grant of Philippine independence, due in 1946, because of the strategical value of those islands in the event of a Japanese move in the Pacific. Politically then the destinies of India and Ceylon lie close together.

Economically, today no country in the world can be self-contained. Russia tried it. But I do not think its experience was a happy one. The U. S. A. exports only ten per cent of its manufactured goods, but that ten per cent of its manufactured goods, keeps the wheels of industry moving. Isolationism is impossible. Always one country has a surplus of some commodity or other which the other needs, and there should be exchange for the healthy growth of nations. This taking-in-each-other's-washing-theory, no matter who preaches it is as foolish as it is dangerous.

To introduce ethics into international affairs is to provoke statesmen to mild amusement. Nevertheless both India and Ceylon are strongly under the influence of Hindu and Buddhist ethics respectively and as such we do not need much convincing that one part does not live by the extinction of another. "The slayer is slain." Always Let Imperialism, Communism and Fascism, argue hotly that the Nation, that the Class, that the Race, must live if necessary, by the death of others—but we know that such things are not permitted, except temporarily, on this God's earth.

So that on this question of Indo-Ceylon Relations I plead for broadmindedness and generosity on both sides. And for my part, if I were an elected representative of the Ceylonese I would risk forfeiting my responsibility to my electorate rather than risk misunderstanding with India. I would say, if we are going to be swamped by our own kith and kin. And should there be no longer a national homeland for the Sinhalese well they can be sure of counting India as their homeland.

The Hypocrisy of Modern Civilisation

(Continued from page 1)

nique and equipment. Civilisation is a movement of the spirit. And you ask what is the spiritual essence, what is the nerve principle, that vital spark which has made all this civilisation thrive.

It was represented to us that modern civilisation, of which Britain is the greatest representative, can be symbolised by the ballot box, the cricket bat, the authorised version of the Holy Bible and the limited liability company.

Four Principles

There are the four principles. We have our political democracy, we have appearances of great sportsmanship, we have also the appearances of being truly religious people. But it is a civilisation which centres round banks, factories, corporations, companies and enterprises of individual men who want to make themselves wealthy and luxurious at the expense and degradation of many people. That is what civilisation actually stands for. We talk about religion. Can you show one single instance where religious and national aspirations were in clash and where national aspirations were surrendered to religious aspirations? Can you show me one single instance where you put religion as the first thing in the first place, and politics, economics, etc. in the second place? Well, I tell you that civilisation though it may be seemingly religious, though it may have the authorised version of the holy Bible as one of its pillars, is essentially a secular one, is essentially a materialistic one. So if this is the civilisation, if it is secular and its outlook ultimately materialistic where man finds himself dressed with brief little authority, plays all these tricks, which has brought us to this condition, you must ask whether it is not necessary to bring about a different kind of civilisation which does not rest on mere secularism, which dethrones materialism, where profit motive gives place to what you consider services of fellowmen.

Is it not time for you to get back to a civilisation where the principles are more just and sound than the civilisation which we are so eager to copy in our anxiety to make ourselves popular and important?

Is it not a fact that each one of us is able at some time or other in his life to feel the triteness, the unworthy pettiness of the pleasures of life and possessions of the earth and feel that there are eternal values which are permanent, which cannot be superseded by the passing insanities of this world? If Swami Vivekananda stood out for such kind of doctrine, if he has

Needs of Jaffna District

(Continued from page 3)

law has increased the Registrar's fee from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 and put the people into a good deal of worry, expense and trouble. The League feels that the fee must be reduced to the former level of Rs. 5, the inquiry by the Provincial Registrar or the Assistant be dispensed with, and if a girl belongs to a class of people to whose habits and feelings it is contrary for their females to appear in public before wedlock (as laid down in the original Ordinance No. 19 of 1907) a license to register marriages at their homes should be freely given as was done hitherto.

Sir Baron arrived on Saturday and was met at the Railway Station by Mr. M. Prasad, the Government Agent, and Mr. P. R. Krishnaratne, the Superintendent of Police.

An informal conference was held at the Kachcheri and was attended by the Chief Headmen, the Superintendent of Police, the Superintendent of Prisons and the Assistant Commissioner of Excise. Various matters of importance, including the incidents of crime were discussed.

Sir Baron also visited the McLeod Hospital for Women and Children run by the American Ceylon Mission at Inuvil.

He conferred with the leading residents of Valigamam North and East including the Chairmen of various Village Committees at the Kankasanturai Resthouse, visited the Islands of Delfit, Kayts, and Point Pedro. He left for Colombo by the night mail on Monday.

made an appeal to us to realise that a human being is not to be regarded as an earthworm, or an economic being or a political creature, but that he has an inner citadel, a sanctuary of his own soul which cannot be penetrated by anything external, and that this inner sanctuary will have to be preserved against attacks of economics and politics, is he not standing up for spiritual equality for the whole of humanity? That is the gospel for which Swami Vivekananda has stood up that has saved India until the present moment, and that is the gospel to which we have been disloyal. If we are where we are, it is not because we have clung to our ideals, but it is because we have not been sufficiently loyal to the great ideals which have come down to us.

Even if you redicably minded, ask yourself the question whether you are going to reduce human beings to mere political or social creatures, or would you give him some inner sanctity which nothing outward can touch. If you believe in the divine spark in man, do not for a moment hesitate to accept the great tradition which has come to us of which Swami Vivekananda was the greatest exponent.

SIGHT TESTED

EYE-GLASSES SUPPLIED



THE VENUS OPTICAL CO.,
28, MAIN STREET, JAFFNA.

The Fateful Condition of our Country

(Continued from page 2)

dance in the Central and North Central Provinces could be obtained at very low cost and transformed at the factory into planks, square pieces to suit requirements, both soft and hard wood, etc. Local building requirements could be met at cheap rates. This will keep the local skilled and unskilled labour employed. The tendency to import into Jaffna from Malaya (particularly from the Federated Malay States, lately observable, of timber for building purpose) should be stopped. It is very foolish on the part of men who live in countryside houses to carry with them, paying exorbitant freight and other incidental charges, cart loads of finely polished furniture from Malaya to Jaffna. Why should not the skilled carpenters in Jaffna enjoy the benefit of this labour?

Brewery

Establish a *Brewery* somewhere in a selected area suited for the purpose. The arrack produced in the North from palmyrah toddy, rice, barks etc. will be found to be far superior in quality to the arrack that is produced in the Western Province. The arrack made of the bark of Vaalam tree (Vaalam paddai) will be much healthier to the populace and cheaper than the Brandy that is imported from Australia and from Africa. There cannot be any reason for the import of liquor when the local requirements can be adequately met from local Jaffna produce for their own needs.

Prevent Destruction of Trees

Strict control over the wanton destruction of palmyrah palms, other big trees and vegetation, should be introduced, and a permit system introduced, so that the *Chief Headmen* may be the deciding authority for cutting down trees that may be required for local use by those concerned, for any unavoidable cause. Destroying trees from crown lands and road sides should be forbidden. One of the reasons for failures to obtain rain in seasons and consequent poor harvests in recent years is the destruction of trees in the Peninsula; besides trees are very necessary for preservation of the health of men and beasts.

Trade Between Ceylon and Malaya

Trade facilities between Ceylon and Malaya could be introduced with benefit to all concerned. There is an increasing need for Ceylon products in Malaya especially among the Ceylon people many of whom are permanently settled in Malaya. This can be undertaken by any ordinary person without much capital.

Exploit Industrial Possibilities

When experts are invited on Government expense from India or elsewhere to investigate the possibilities of obtaining materials etc. from Ceylon for various industries it should be the duty of our leaders to extend their hospitality and to invite them to Jaffna and go round with them to the villages, particularly where the specific articles in question are available. This would interest the visitor and in turn the populace. The expense to the leader would be negligible. To cite a case in point I doubt whether

Jaffna College O.B.A. Colombo Branch

Annual Meeting

The twenty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association (Colombo Branch) was held at the Central Y. M. C. A., Colombo, on Saturday, the 8th March, 1941, at 5.30 p.m. with Rev. Sydney K. Bunker, the Principal of the College, in the chair. Over 150 members were present at the meeting.

The Hon. Secretary of the Association read the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and distributed printed reports of the activities of the Association for the year under review, both of which were confirmed. The Hon. Treasurer presented an audited report of the accounts of the Association. This was duly accepted.

Resolutions

The following motions were discussed and passed:—

(1) The members of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch, assembled at this Annual General Meeting, associate themselves with the resolution passed at the annual general meeting of the Jaffna College Alumni Association held on 15th July, 1939, to request the Board of Directors of Jaffna College to appoint to the Board, Old Boys to be elected by the Alumni Association and the Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch. The members feel strongly that this request is in accordance with the practice in similar educational institutions, even of Christian denominations, and also in keeping with the modern spirit of democratic institutions. The members further urge that such direct representation of old boys on the Governing Body will encourage all the old boys to take a larger and more active interest in the affairs of their Alma Mater.

(2) In view of the serious and alarming state of unemployment among the educated youth of this country, this Association strongly recommends that in the engagement of teachers to the staff of Jaffna College preference should be given to old boys of the College.

(3) In view of the reported monetary loss in the editing of the Jaffna College Miscellany, this Association is of opinion that representatives from the Alumni Association and the Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch, should be elected to serve on the Editorial and Management Board of the College Miscellany, so that its financial stability might be assured, by a more extensive issue and circulation of the Miscellany among, as far as possible, all the old boys of the College, and its

other the expert who came over to Ceylon to investigate possibilities of cement manufacture in Ceylon was taken by any one to the locality where immense quantities of coral stones were to be found. I refer to the Islands division where the best quality of coral is available for cement manufacture and I also refer to the sand hills at *Manakuppan Velanai*, where the quality of the sand is such that glass manufacture would not be unprofitable. Various kinds of clay can be found in pools and adjoining lands. Transport of cement from Jaffna to Colombo by Sailing Vessels is cheap.

THE INDO-CEYLON PROBLEM

RT. HON V. S. SASTRI ON SINHALESE ATTITUDE

'FIGHT BETWEEN COUSINS'

Reference to the Indo-Ceylon problem was made by the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, former Agent-General of the Government of India in S. Africa, speaking in Madras on March 4 on the position of Indians in South Africa today.

Mr. Sastri said:—

"It is not true that it is only the white man who is so oppressing us. I should like those who are very anti-British or anti-white, to remember what is happening today in Ceylon. There the dominant people, as they call themselves—I do not call them dominant at all—the Sinhalese came from Bengal. They are our own kith and kin, men who owe everything to us. The slight culture, and civilization they have, they owe to us. Today the Ceylon Legislative Council and the Executive Council, composed largely of the Sinhalese, assert as loudly as they can, their right to exclude us and to drive us out. They desire to have the power to restrict our emigration there. They further want the power to discriminate between their own people as they call them—we are their own people, but they dis-own us for some reason—and impose some disabilities on the Indians. That condition has already come into existence in Burma more or less. In Malaya, which I visited a few years ago, I saw the germs of this hatred and the desire to exclude and to discriminate against the resident or settled Indian population.

"When people migrate from one land to another a lot of difficult problems are created and time only aggravates them. When material interests clash, the fight is not between the white and the black, but between cousins, black and black.

instructional usefulness extended by the enlargement of the Board

(4) This Association, being informed that the reduction of the Vaddukodai Post Office to a one-man-office and the consequent curtailment of office hours are causing much inconvenience to Jaffna College in particular and the Vaddukodai Public in general, requests the Honourable the Minister for Communications and Works and the Postmaster General to restore it to its former status by increasing the staff to two officers. In view of the traditional importance of the village of Vaddukodai and the existence therein of the oldest educational institution in Ceylon, it is of paramount importance that this essential unit of the Government Public Utility Service should meet the convenience of a large body of citizens representing various trades and professions in the many villages served by the Post Office.

(5) That with the changed conditions necessitated by the admission of Old Girls to our Association it is desirable to change the name of the Association to "Jaffna College Alumni Association (Colombo Branch)"

The Principal then addressed the gathering.

"Derogatory to Hindu Shastras"

(Continued from page 3)

their next annual general meeting in the Sabha's new building. Special mention was made of the excellent work done by the Patron, Mr. S. Sabaratnam, retired Town Overseer, Kandy in supervising the Building work so zealously, regardless of great personal inconvenience. The President concluded with an appeal to work unitedly for the objects of the Sabha, which were so very dear to them all.

Such gentlemen of the Saiva Faith as have rendered distinguished services were elected Honorary Members in the past by the Maha Sabha on the recommendation of the Executive Committee in accordance with Rule 4 of the Sabha's rules. Accordingly Brahma Sree J. T. Sadasiva Iyer, District Inspector of Schools, who rendered invaluable services for well over three years, and who continues to take an abiding interest was unanimously elected an Honorary Member. He thus stands in the gallery of the Sabha's Distinguished Honorary Members among whom are Swami Vipulananda, Kalyana Sundra Mudaliyar, Messrs Subramaniam Pillai, M. A. B. L., S. Natesa Pillai, B. A., B. L., M. S. C.; and S. Murugesu.

The election of office bearers resulted as follows:—

President:— Gate Mubandiram N. Canaganayagam (Deputy Mayor).

Vice Presidents:— Brahma Sree K. Balasubramania Kurukkal, Messrs. N. N. Kesavamurthy, N. Coomaraswamy, P. Balasingham, and S. Thangarajah.

President of the Building Committee:— Mr. S. U. Somasegaram.

Joint Secretaries:— Messrs. S. Kandiah, and A. Navaratna Rajah.

Treasurer:— Mr. A. K. Velupillai.

Assistant Treasurers:— Messrs. A. Sivasampoe, C. Murugesu, and V. Sinnatamby.

Secretary of Study Circle:— Mr. V. Mutulingam.

Guru Poojah Secretary:— Mr. S. K. Vallipuram.

Editor of Tract Series:— Mr. S. Thiagaraja.

Auditors:— Messrs. V. Thirunavukkarasu, and K. Nagappah.

Executive Committee:— The 13 Office bearers and Messrs S. Seenivasagam, K. Sinniah, P. Manickam, S. P. K. Suppiappillai, S. Thiagarajah (senior) V. Ramanathan, S. Selvanayagam, P. Ambalavanar, K. Sampather, R. Tharmalingam, N. Rasiah and S. Thiagaraja (junr).

Building Committee:— Messrs S. U. Somasegaram (President) S. Sivagnanam, S. Sellathurai, S. K. Kumaraswamy, P. Nadarajah and K. Rasiah.

Jail Preachers:— Brahma Sree K. Balasubramania Kurukkal, Messrs T. Chelliah, S. Selvanayagam, S. Seenivasagam, A. K. Velupillai, S. Thiagaraja, A. Navaratna Rajah and P. Suppiah.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. S. Thangarajah, Advocate Mr. S. Thiagarajah proposed that the new amendments affecting Hindu Marriages be rescinded forthwith, it being derogatory to Hindu Shastras, rights and principles, and that the old order of registration be restored immediately. The mover also feelingly touched on the miserable plight of the poor especially. Messrs. K. Sampather, S. U. Somasegaram, and Brahma Sree K. Balasubramania Kurukkal spoke in support of the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the Sabha further resolved to communicate with the authorities concerned. The meeting terminated at about 8.30 p.m. with the singing of Thevaram. (Con.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA
(held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 139/PT.

In the matter of the estate of the late
Thampar Paramupillai of Puloly
West Deceased.

Paramupillai Thambiahpillai of
Alvai North Petitioner.

Vs.

Paramupillai Thiagarajapillai of
Puloly West Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal
before S. Rodrigo Esquire, Addl.
District Judge on the 18th day of
December 1940 in the presence of
Messrs Kandaiya and Mailvaganam
Proctors on the part of the Petitioner
and the petition and affidavit of the
Petitioner having been read

It is ordered that the Petitioner be
declared entitled to take out letters
of administration as the son and heir
of the deceased Paramupillai and that
Letters of administration be issued
to him accordingly unless the Res-
pondent or any other person shall
appear before this Court on or before
the 31st day of January 1941 and
show sufficient cause to the satisfac-
tion of this court to the contrary.

The 20th day of December 1940.
(Sgd. S. RODRIGO,
Addl. District Judge.

31-1-41

Extended and reissued for 21-2-41.
Sgd. S. Rodrigo.

Obituary

DR. N. S. NATHER

We regret to record the untimely
death of Dr. N. S. Nather, of the
Johore Medical Service, at the age of
forty-eight. He died on last Tues-
day morning (4-3-41) at Johore Bahru
after a short illness, leaving behind
his widow and an only son. One of
his brothers Mr. N. Senathirajah of
the Experimental Station, Thirunel-
vely, Jaffna, pre-deceased him. His
other brother is Mr. N. Kumarasin-
gham, Advocate, Colombo. He
leaves behind his mother, the widow
of the late Dr. M. Nagarather, his
three sisters and brothers-in-law (Mr.
and Mrs. T. Kumaraswamy, Mr. and
Mrs. R. Chellappah and Mr. Mrs. C.
Mylvaganam) and his father-in-law
and mother-in-law (Mr. and Mrs. S.
Parantbamapillai)

He was a patron of the Chunnakam
Kumaraswamy Pulavar Reading
Room and Library and contributed
very liberally towards its upkeep.
He donated to the library more than
six hundred volumes of rare and
valuable books and one H. M. V.
Radio set. A number of magazines
and Periodicals were supplied by him
to the Reading Room regularly. Be-
sides these he has supported many a
deserving cause both in Malaya and
in Ceylon. He was held in the
highest esteem by all who knew him.

21-2-41

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(O. 96, 13 & 13-3-41)

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