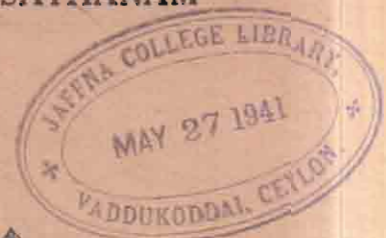


# THE Hindu Organ.

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## RELIGION TO THE RESCUE

WHILE POWER HAS INCREASED  
WISDOM HAS NOT

### NEED FOR REVIVAL OF HINDU MYSTICISM IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCIENCE

BY C. E. M. JOAD

IT is instructive in these days to look again at Spengler's "Decline of the West." Not only is the work one of first-rate importance which brings all history within the scope of its vast purview and lays upon the reader a spell so compelling that, while engaged in the act, he finds it impossible to escape the conclusions, but it makes a special appeal because of its topical interest. Spengler died in disgrace, but his book has become the Nazi highbrows' Bible. All Nazis read "Mein Kampf"; highbrow Nazis read "The Decline of the West." Nor is the fact surprising. Spengler has already, from the Nazi point of view, been so often and so nearly right, that, if he turns out to be right all the time, right in every particular, then the Nazis are set for world domination.

Let me briefly recall the relevant parts of the Spenglerian thesis. The last of the inevitably determined phases through which a culture passes is that of extreme democracy. Art decays; the glowing river of inspiration trickles away into the backwaters of erudition and cleverness; religion flags; men no longer believe in the providential government of the universe, that this life has meaning or purpose, or that it will be followed by another.

Agnosticism in regard to creeds finds its inevitable counterpart in laxity in regard to codes. Epicureanism becomes the moral order of the day, and young men and women increasingly adopt "Let us eat and drink for to-morrow we die" as the only acceptable guide to conduct. They did it in the later Roman Republic; they are doing it again to-day. Government has become an extreme democracy that maintains its power only by spoon-feeding the people. In Rome

the bribes were bread and circuses; in England, the dole and football pools. Great technical proficiency is the keynote of this phase; it is an age of money, metal and machines.

The phase passes and is succeeded by Caesarism and power politics. The strong government of the Roman emperors succeeds the strife torn divisions of the later Republic; an autocracy holds the nation in an iron hand; the iron hand extends its grip over neighbouring peoples and the Pax Romana descends upon the Continent.

With the Nazis cast for the role of the Romans, and Hitler assuming the mantle of Caesar, the parallel between the classical and the modern world is as complete as it is gratifying. If the question be put, what produces the transition from democracy to Caesarism the answer is to be found in the one word 'power', the power of machines that increases production and leads to the monopolization of wealth, the power of weapons that robs numbers of their importance and concentrates authority in the hand of those who command them.

I do not propose to criticise the Spenglerian conception of history. I confine myself to concentrating upon one factor in his diagnosis from which I propose to draw a rather different deduction. The factor is precisely this factor of power. What has to be admitted, is that this generation is prodigiously more powerful than any of its predecessors. By the aid of machinery we have enormously increased our original bodily inheritance. We have made cranes and lifts to extend the power of arms; trains and cars to add to the speed of legs; our productive machines are so

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## OUR INDIAN LETTER.

### DHOBIES SAY

*Don't Come into Our Domain*

### INDISCRIMINATE DINING

(BY LANKA)

Madras,  
17th May 1941.

DID I write on a previous occasion that Mr Jinnah would give no quarter to Congress or Britain? He is true to his word, and if anything, more biting in his references to Congressmen or others who, he thinks, speak for Congress. Latest is his Madras attack on Sir T. B. Saprú who had thought he could do something to ease the political deadlock. But Mr. Jinnah seems to have gone too far even for some of his own League mates, and what with the troublesome situation in the Middle East Muslim States and the aloofness of some of the more prominent League-men, Mr. Jinnah is hibernating.

#### Resigned Unto Fate?

COULD it be that the people of India have taken to heart too literally the sentiment and confession of faith of Mr. Gandhí in a recent statement, for the apparent still that seems to prevail in the political arena? This is what Gandhíji said: "I believe more in the efficacy of the incalculable force of an inscrutable Divinity than in the efficacy of the calculated and calculable forces that the combined powers of destruction can bring into play on this little planet. That incalculable force has somehow or other to act through human agency. How and when, I cannot say."

Of course you hear a lot from the political camps but it is all of the traditional type of "statementing." One long statement after another long statement is no hardship for the average Indian politician, and as long as there are papers ready to print them, all you have the fun. Knowledge of this trait of the Indian character must in some way prompt the leisurely manner in which the Indian deadlock is being faced by the Britishers. If occasionally a Srinivasa Sastry or a Saprú have

hard words to say of the utter indifference of the British government the latter take it in good part.

#### One for Jaffna

Jaffna sometimes figures in the Indian press. This week the headline in bold black type in the ladies' page of a Madras paper caught my attention. It was JAFFNA PAK Let me say at once that it is a kind toffee, but how on earth our dear old Jaffna came to be associated with a cookery recipe baffles me. I do not propose to give the recipe here, but I may mention that one of the ingredients is Bengal gram. Perhaps readers will guess that recipe-givers often adopt fanciful names for their efforts, just to tickle the taste of the readers, the same stuff now passing under one name and now under another and so on. Anyway, Jaffna figures in the Indian press.

#### A Close Preserve!

AMONG many interesting things that take place in this country is the feeling among the Salavai-workers (washer-men) that the encroachment by higher caste Hindus into their domain of washing work ought to be stopped. This was referred to by the Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Madras Provincial Salavai Workers' Conference in Madura. It is common knowledge in South India since some years that many brahmins have taken to laundry work, while Naidus of sorts have become barbers in saloons, though the latter often take pains to protest to customers that they have taken to barber work to make a living.

#### The Stance of the Self-respecter

THE continuous agitation by Mr. E. V. Ramaswami Naicker of the erstwhile Self-respect party against differentiation between brahmins and non-brahmins in coffee-shops and hotels in the matter of serving

(Continued on Page 6)





## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, MAY 26, 1941

### YOUTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE

THE CONFERENCE THAT WAS held during the last two days at Vannarponnai is significant in many ways. It has served as an occasion to expose the self-complacency in which the people of this part of the Island have so far carried on their existence; it is also an occasion for the elders to realise that their sins of omission in the past were so many and so serious that they have recoiled today with all severity on the youth of the land who find themselves at sea in a world disfigured by the evils of unemployment, cut-throat competition and false sense of values. The Conference clearly demonstrates that the Youth of this peninsula have caught a glimpse of the light of hope shining in other parts of the Island and in India, the two countries which are yet struggling to get upon their feet from the sticky mire of foreign exploitation and internal inertia. For the first time within recent times, a serious outlook on problems of this peninsula seems to mark the activities of the youth. The mere idealism, craze for ludos and effervescent enthusiasm with which one always identifies youth, more particularly in Jaffna, do seem to take a practical and permanent turn in those young men who are responsible for the Conference. The hand-paper factory started recently by the Youths' Social Service League should serve as a proof of this contention and also as a pointer to the direction in which the energies of these young men are being utilised. The type of delegates from South Ceylon who attended the Conference lends colour to the objectives of the promoters of the movement in Jaffna. Mr. Darrel Pieres, the President of the All-Ceylon Rural Reconstruction Society, and the lady delegate Srimathy Somaswathi and Mr. Jayasekera, a secretary of the Society, who are all tried workers in the field of rural reconstruction and who have achieved not a little of success as a result of their patriotic labours, are an inspiring band of patriots whose presence, participation and proffered support should certainly inspire even the faltering among the youth here to selfless service in the cause that promises immense good to the unfortunate people of this peninsula. Judging from his utterances and activities one will

not fail to discover in Mr Darrel Pieres, who has dedicated himself unreservedly for the material and moral uplift of the country, the man who loves his countrymen irrespective of any barriers that give a good handle to politicians to further their selfish interests. His close association with the youth of the peninsula and his unbounded enthusiasm and love for service give us hope that the branch association in Jaffna will not go the way of many others that were started with fanfare of trumpets. We are glad that leadership of the right type for the youth of this country is assured and that it is for the people of this peninsula to take advantage of it for the good not only of this district but of the entire island. We have every hope that this new aspect of the youth movement will catch on and be a sure means of regenerating the fast degenerating life of this country.

### CHIEF HEADMAN OF THE ISLANDS

#### Supplementary Estimate In Council

The Legal Secretary will ask at this week's meeting of the State Council a supplementary vote of Rs. 832 under Village Tribunals, to meet the expenses caused by the decision to hand over to the Maniagar of Delft the duties of Chief Headman of the islands.

#### Public and Bank Holidays

The Governor, by a notification in last Friday's Gazette under the Holidays Ordinance, has fixed August 6 and 7 to be observed as Bank Holidays on account of the Hindu Vel Festival.

June 9, the full moon day of the Sinhalese month Poson, is appointed a Bank Holiday in addition, to the days specified in the Ordinance; and June 12 a Public and Bank Holiday in substitution for December 14, the birthday of His Majesty the King.

### CEYLON SCHOLAR'S SUCCESS IN MADRAS

Pandit K. P. Ratnam, the Ceylon Government Tamil research scholar at the Madras University, has secured a second class in the third part of the B. O. L. Degree Examination of the Madras University. Nobody else obtained even a second class in his subjects (Dravidian philosophy and the History of the South Indian languages and literature) in the past. This year he and one Indian only obtained this record success.

Pandit Ratnam is the first Ceylonese to get this Degree Bachelor of Oriental Learning. He is also the first scholar who has been honoured by the Ceylon Government with a scholarship for research in Tamil.

It is understood that he will also submit the result of his research as a thesis for the M. O. L. Degree of the same University. (Cor.)

### Jaffna's Pioneer Airman

#### Elected Life Member of Aero Club

Colombo Sunday:

Mr. Subramaniam Cathiravalo, of Grand Bazaar, Jaffna, was unanimously elected a life member of the Aero Club of Ceylon, at a meeting of the General Committee. He thus has the distinction of being the first Ceylonese life member.

Mr. Cathiravalo becomes the pioneer of the civil aviation movement in the Jaffna peninsula, as he has just established a private aerodrome. The aerodrome is situated on the Jaffna-Araly Road, about three miles from town. At the instance of the Director of Civil Aviation, Colombo, the land was recently inspected and has been reported to be an ideal landing ground.

Mr. Cathiravalo has already commenced his flying training at Ratmalana, and he is making endeavours to own his private aeroplane to assist the people of Jaffna to be air-minded.

Mr. Cathiravalo's father, the late Mr. Murugesu Cathiravalo, proprietary planter in the F. M. S., was the first to bring out a passenger steamer to a Jaffna port, which carried passengers from Kankasanturai to Malaya. The late Mr. Cathiravalo was the first Ceylonese to be made a Just of Peace in the Straits Settlements.

The official opening of the aerodrome will take place on Saturday at 10.30 a. m. and will be performed by Mr. Dunstan de Silva, President of the Aero Club of Ceylon Ltd., who will fly Club plane VP/CAB to Jaffna in the company of Ft.-Lt. Duncanson, the Club Instructor. The Club plane VP/CAC will remain in Jaffna for exhibition for about a week and this plane will be piloted by Mr. St. Elmo Muller, flying member, with Mr. N. M. Don Vincent, Secretary of the Club.

### H.M.S. Hood Blown Up

#### Attacked Near Greenland

London, Saturday.

The British battle cruiser, H. M. S. Hood (42,100 tons) was blown up, states the Admiralty.

The Admiralty communique giving details of the destruction of H. M. S. Hood states: "British naval forces intercepted early this morning off the coast of Greenland German naval forces, including the battleship Bismarck.

"The enemy were attacked and during the ensuing action H. M. S. Hood (Captain R. Keir wearing the flag of Vice Admiral Le Holland) received an unlucky hit in a magazine and blew up.

"The Bismarck received damage and the pursuit of the enemy continues. It is feared that there will be few survivors from H. M. S. Hood."

H. M. S. Hood had a standard displacement of 42,100 tons and was launched in 1918 at Clydebank, being completed two years later at a total cost of £ 5,698,946. Its war complement was 1,341.

Its length was 860 feet and its main armament consisted of eight

### Protection of Ancestral Property

#### Legal Secretary's Report

That an exhaustive inquiry should be undertaken by experts into the problem of protecting the ancestral property of agricultural debtors, as it exists in Ceylon, recommends Mr. R. H. Drayton, the Legal Secretary, in his report to the State Council.

In his opinion such a step should precede an expression of opinion by the State Council that legislation in necessary or appropriate. He refers to the legislation contemplated by Mr. A. Ratnayake, M. S. C. (Dumbara), who urged it for the purpose of protecting from attachment in execution of civil decrees the ancestral property of agricultural debtors, their standing crops, and a sufficient portion of their land whether ancestral or self-acquired for the maintenance of their families.

Mr. Drayton has pointed out that the problem is one of which a solution has been attempted by legislation in other countries. The difficulties and implications of such legislation, he says, need no elaboration, but he raises certain questions.

What is to be the area of land which is to constitute the minimum area from which an agriculturist can earn a living sufficient to support himself and his family? What are the several minima to be prescribed in respect of (a) different forms of agriculture, (b) districts with different degrees of fertility, (c) irrigated and non-irrigated land and irrigable and non-irrigable land? How does an increasing agricultural population combined with the laws of inheritance affect the problem? What is the effect of credit on such legislation?

This report will be taken up for discussion at an early meeting of the State Council.

### INDIAN LABOUR ON ESTATES

#### Nearly Seven Lakhs by End of Last Year

In an abstract of returns of Indian labourers on estates in the several districts of the Island during the half year ended December 31, 1940, published in last Friday's Gazette, it is stated that there was a total of 6,881,170 labourers on 2,871 estates.

These were made up of 2,11,250 men 2,04,021 women and 272,908 children. There were during the period, 14,502 births and 5,766 deaths.

The total number of such labourers for the different districts was as follows:

Colombo, 4,612; Kalutara, 25,238; Kandy, 205,845; Matale, 32,883; Nuwara Eliya, 153,003; Galle, 6383; Mahan, 7,066; Kurunegala, 5,075; Chilaw, 267; Anuradhapura, 11,540; Badulla, 1,802; Ratnapana, 71,779 and Kegalle, 45,608.

15-inch guns, ten 5.5-inch guns, eight 3-inch guns and anti-aircraft equipment as well as six torpedo tubes. Its speed was 31 knots,



## RURAL RECONSTRUCTION DRIVE IN JAFFNA

Social Service League Conference  
Inaugurates Movement

### YOUTH CONGRATULATED ON THEIR SPIRIT OF SERVICE

A Conference unique of its kind in Jaffna, as declared by more than one speaker, was held in Jaffna during the last two days under the auspices of the Jaffna Youths' Social League.

The Conference decided to inaugurate in Jaffna a branch of the All-Ceylon Rural Reconstruction Society.

A procession led by two principals of Colleges, followed by a band of young men with marmotties on their shoulders proceeded from the Jaffna Hindu College Tamil School, the venue of the Conference, to the fields at Paracheri Veli where led by the two principals, Messrs A. Cumaraswamy and M. Karthigesu, the young men turned the soil with their marmotties.

The proceedings of the Conference were thus given a start with manual work on the fields. This was followed by agricultural demonstrations at the Kala Nilayam premises.

The Conference proper commenced at 3 p. m. in the Tamil school hall, with Rev. J. S. Mather, Chairman, Methodist Mission N.D., in the chair. Rural Reconstruction workers from South Ceylon were also present at the Conference and took part in the proceedings.

Mr. S. Senathirajah, Secretary of the Youths' Social Service League, welcoming the delegates and the gathering said that they felt a secret joy in having brought together in Jaffna people from all parts of Lanka, from Point Pedro to Dondra Head, to that gathering of social workers of all creeds, classes and communities. They might say it was a unique gathering—unique in that, never before was such a gathering embracing the members of the different communities brought together in this part of the Island for a common purpose.

Social service free from politics, the speaker said, was the watchword of their humble movement. The League was very grateful to the distinguished delegates and visitors who at great inconvenience had responded to the invitation.

Though their ambition was very high they could not as yet claim any credit for any tangible achievements. Their main attempt at this gathering was to take advantage of the opportunity to seek help and guidance in their work from all those who sympathised with their movement.

The speaker then referred to the activities of the League during the past three years and to the first hand paper factory started recently by the League.

Rev. James S. Mather, in his presidential address congratulated the members of the League, and referred to five evils in Jaffna—unemployment and under employment, poverty, drink, dowry and communalism. He concluded his address with an appeal to help the League which aimed at noble ideals of service.

The Conference passed resolutions inaugurating a branch in Jaffna of the All-Ceylon Rural Reconstruction Society, calling upon the people to support local industries, and encouraging the study of Sinhalese by the Tamils and Tamil by the Sinhalese.

These resolutions were proposed by Messrs K. Nesiiah, M. A. Dip. Ed., R. S. D. Williams, Principal, Jaffna Central College and Mr. S. K. Chelliah, Acting Principal, Jaffna College respectively and seconded by Messrs M. A. M. Aliph, J. T. Vethaparanam and C. Vyramuttu respectively.

Miss H. G. Somawathie, a rural reconstruction worker of Diwilipittaya, addressed the Conference in Sinhalese and her speech was interpreted into English by Bhikku Mahanama B. A. who also spoke on some aspects of rural reconstruction work.

An address in Tamil was delivered by Mr. K. K. Natirajan, Assistant Editor, Inthusathanam. Atigara A. Naganather also addressed the Conference.

Miss Ranjitham Sundarampillai entertained the Conference with a few national songs. A recital was also given by the Chundiculi Girls' School troupe.

#### Inter Provincial Debate

The public debate on "Ceylon should be federated with India" which took place at 7 p. m. in the Jaffna Hindu College hall attracted a very large gathering. Mr. A. Cumaraswamy, Principal of the College, presided.

Mr. M. Balasundaram B. A., B. Sc., Advocate, with Messrs. S. Senathirajah and M. A. M. Aliph of the Youths' Social Service League proposed the subject. Mr. A. B. Perera M. Sc. (Economics) of the Ananda College staff with Messrs. V. Karasingam and L. O. de Silva of the Ananda College opposed. The debate was concluded at about 10 p. m.

This was the first inter-provincial debate ever held in Jaffna.

[A fuller account of the proceedings will follow.]

### VIVEKANANDA AND HIS MESSAGE

#### A Public Lecture

Mr. Darel Pieres, B. A., President of the All-Ceylon Rural Reconstruction Society, who is now in Jaffna, having come here for the Annual Conference of the Jaffna Youth's Social Service League, will deliver a lecture on "Swami Vivekananda and his Message" at the Jaffna Hindu College Tamil School on Wednesday, the 28th instant, at 6.30 p. m.

### "Stand Firm. Carry On"

#### Mr. Churchill's Message To The Nation

London, Saturday.

"Stand firm. Carry on" is the essence of a personal message from the Prime Minister to every man and woman in Great Britain, defining their "order and duty" in the event of invasion. The message is the introduction to a leaflet "Beating the Invader," more than fourteen million copies of which are to be distributed to the public next week.

Mr. Churchill's message says that if invasion comes "by far the greater part of the country will not be immediately involved. Even along our coasts a great part will remain unaffected, but where the enemy lands or tries to land there will be most violent fighting.

"Not only will there be battles when the enemy tries to come ashore but afterwards there will fall upon his lodgements very heavy British counter-attacks and all the time the lodgements will be under the heaviest attacks by British bombers.

"The fewer civilians or non-combatants in these areas the better. So if you are advised by the authorities to leave the place where you live it is your duty to go elsewhere when you are told to leave. When the attack begins, if it is too late to go and unless you receive definite instructions to move, your duty then will be to stay where you are. You will have to get into the safest place you can find stay there until the battle is over. For the rest of you the order and duty will be 'stand firm'."

Mr. Churchill's message continues saying that the same applies to people inland if any considerable number of parachutists or air-borne troops land in their neighbourhood, and emphasises above all that they must not cumber the roads.

### FLOOD DAMAGE IN SOUTH

#### Train Services Disorganised

Colombo, Friday.

Islandwide damage is reported consequent on the heavy rains in various districts during the last two days and the accompanying thunderstorms.

Telegraph and telephonic communications have been interrupted, railway lines submerged, culverts washed away, trees uprooted and not a few families living in huts along the coast have been severely affected.

Widespread rain has been reported in the Kelani catchment area during the twenty-four hours that ended at 9.30 a. m. today and if more rain is reported Colombo may experience a minor flood. The flood gauge at Nagalagam Street, Grandpass, record 3 feet 3 inches above normal, and the water is stated to be rising.

The train services on the Up-country, coast and Kelani Valley lines have been disorganised. On the Up-country section serious damage has been reported between Hatton and Peradeniya.

### CONVERSION THROUGH SCHOOLS

INDIAN PROFESSOR'S  
VIEW

#### RELIGION AND POLITICS

"IF I were a principal of a school, I would not use it as a medium of conversion," said Dr. Eddy Asirwatham, delivering his third lecture in the series at the Colombo Y. M. C. A.

Dr. Asirwatham sought to prove that religion and politics were compatible with each other. So, he said, were religion and national politics.

Religion called for a rare type of idealism and unselfishness which religion alone could give, and without the support of religion, politics degenerated into factionism, nepotism and corruption and became hell on earth.

He supported nationalism on political, economic and cultural grounds.

If India was to continue to be linked up with Britain, it should be on a new basis altogether—the basis of free and equal partnership. On economic grounds, there was no reason why India or Ceylon should be the dumping ground of foreign goods. On cultural grounds, he advocated the adaptation of Indian music, philosophy and sociology to modern conditions, instead of the East looking always to London, Berlin or New York for guidance and inspiration. Incidentally, he remarked, uncritical imitation of the West had gone much further in Ceylon than in India.

#### Public Enemy No. 1

While the Christian Church as a whole could not take part in party politics, so far as the individual was concerned it was entirely a matter for himself. Communalism was Public Enemy No. 1 and was a direct negation of nationalism, besides being unchristian.

Could a Christian support a conversion programme and yet be a nationalist? He answered the question in the affirmative but added that he would avoid mechanical conversions to swell the numbers. Proselytism of a materialistic kind should be discouraged.

"If I were a principal of a school," he said, "I would not use it as a medium of conversion. I would have prayers, devotion, religious and moral addresses, so long as they were genuine, but the moment they became formal I would abolish them. Where there was a Conscience Clause in operation I would accept it gladly and work it loyally. I would discourage an immature boy or girl from changing his or her faith, especially if she or he was emotionally unstable. At the same time I would declare from the housetops that the right to change one's faith was the inalienable right of every adult."

### Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society Centenary Celebrations

The centenary of the Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society will be celebrated on Saturday, the 31st instant, at 9.30 a. m. at the Jaffna Town Hall. His Excellency the Governor Sir Andrew Caldecott will preside.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JAFFNA—MALAYALAM TOBACCO  
TRADE

Sir—Mr. S. Natesan M. S. C. has recently issued a statement to a vernacular paper about the present position of the Jaffna—Malayalam Tobacco trade, after a visit to Travancore. Mr. Natesan says that he went to Trivandrum being summoned there by wire by the Dewan of Travancore to discuss difficulties of the present trade.

In his statement Mr. Natesan makes pointed reference to the Jaffna—Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sale Society Ltd. and its activities in this trade. As President of this Society I challenge the statement made by Mr. Natesan generally about the position of trade and in particular his allegations and insinuations against the Society.

As far as our Society is concerned, Mr. Natesan has based his whole statement on false premises. He asserts that the Society Agent at Travancore along with the other licencees there entered into an agreement with the Travancore Government to import and unbind 3750 candies of tobacco from Jaffna for the current Malayalam year 1116 (August 1940—August 1941), with a view to obtain a rebate Rs. 65 per candy. I wish to emphatically deny that our Agent in Travancore entered into any such undertaking with that Government and we are not party to any such agreement as admitted by the other licencees. The Dewan of Travancore himself could not possibly be in the mistaken belief that our Agent is a party to such an undertaking, since the Honorary Secretary of our Society with our Agent in Travancore has interviewed the Chief Secretary to the Government of Travancore recently on March 15, 1941, where the agreement given by the trade was specifically referred to in their discussion and the Chief Secretary pointedly asked our Agent why he did not join the others in signing that undertaking. Our Agent explained explicitly to the Chief Secretary that he advisedly refrained from signing that undertaking, since the conditions therein could not be fulfilled because of the situation of the trade at that moment. We are legitimately entitled to presume that the Chief Secretary would have in due course of time communicated to the Dewan of the fact that our Society and its agent were no party to that undertaking given by the other traders. As such Mr. Natesan's accusation, founded on false and incorrect premises, that our Society, being a party to that agreement to import and unbind 3750 candies during the current year, is now withholding shipment of tobacco to Travancore, is not only uncharitable but certainly mischievous.

Mr. Natesan then states that in spite of the availability of stock of Malayalam tobacco in Jaffna, due to some intriguing reasons, the traders have exported 1000 candies and our Society 300 candies only during 1940. Mr. Natesan need not tax his imagination to find the cause of this low export, because his constituency is the area which produced nearly 80 per cent. of the Malayalam tobacco and as such he should be fully aware of the fact that 1938 and 1939 tobacco crops were damaged by floods. The total exportable tobacco out of 1939 crop was about 1200 candies. Of this quality the traders bought

about 900 candies from the cultivators and our Society received, to state exactly, 363 candies. These quantities after curing and when shipped to Travancore weighed only 1200 candies at that end. Our Society exported its entire stock on 14 September, 1940 while the traders sent their tobacco only in December 1940.

At the time of the arrival of the 1939 crop tobacco in Travancore towards the end of 1940, the agents of the local traders were busy selling the 1938 crop tobacco which had been unbound from the Government bankshalls and were lying in private go-downs, since this had been done to secure the rebate of Rs. 65 per candy for the Malayalam year 1115 (August 1938—August 1939). It is patently obvious that any business man will be primarily and solely interested in selling the stock in his hands for which he has paid cash rather than the stock lying in the Government customs Bankshalls. Thus the agents of traders suspended the sale of 1939 crop tobacco, against which move our Society's Agent emphatically protested.

The suspension of sale of 1939 crop tobacco necessitated the Government of Travancore interesting itself in the situation of this trade and the result was the traders there, excluding our Society's Agent, entered into the undertaking referred to earlier, that they would import and unbind 3750 candies of tobacco for 1116 Malayalam Fra. (August 1940—August 1941). The suspension of the sale of 1939 crop of tobacco caused much anxiety to our Society and we did continually bring pressure on our Agent at Travancore to push on with the sales. In spite of our pressure on our Agent, he delayed the sales till February 5th 1941 perhaps in consideration for and in sympathy with the feelings of the other traders. Trade etiquette and courtesy may have induced our Agent to adopt this procedure for a while.

Mr. Natesan apprehends that the Government of Travancore may patronise the Coimbatore tobacco in preference to Jaffna tobacco and thus ultimately oust the Jaffna tobacco from the Travancore market. We have no such fears. We have an intimate knowledge of the Malayalam tobacco trade for many years and we have regularly visited Travancore and studied at first hand the demand for Jaffna tobacco there and the market conditions and we state with confidence that the Travancore market can absorb about 5000 candies of Jaffna Tobacco, provided this commodity is exported on reasonable business methods. One of the three major items of revenue to the Government of Travancore is the duty levied on Jaffna tobacco imported into that country. Jaffna can in normal times, apart from the years when unprecedented floods may ruin the crops, reasonably export 3750 candies of tobacco to Travancore and should the Travancore Government levy duty of Rs. 135 per candy only, still they will be assured of a stable and steady revenue of over five lacs of rupees.

The quantity of the 1940 crop of tobacco available for export to Travancore is about 3600 candies. Of this our Society holds a stock of 2600 candies and the other traders

about 1000 candies. It should be noted and everybody in the Malayalam tobacco trade knows that it is possible to export any one year's tobacco only in the months of April and September of the following year. So the 1940 crop can be exported only in two instalments, now one and the other in September 1941. As far as our Society is concerned we are not able to get a shipper to convey our goods because of freight difficulties due to the present international situation. Indian coastal shipping has almost ceased to function and in spite of these difficulties we are endeavouring if necessary to charter a steamer to carry our tobacco to a Travancore port.

Mr. Natesan has at no time either prior to his visit to Travancore or even after his return here endeavoured to meet any responsible officer of our Society, and should have in fairness to the Society done so, before he could speak on our behalf or insinuate motives for any delay in exporting tobacco to Travancore.

The two parties primarily and materially affected by the Jaffna-Malayalam tobacco trade are the farmer producer in Jaffna and the individual consumer in Travancore. The groups of people in between these two parties, who handle this commodity should endeavour to place this trade on true and proper business lines, they should meet and discuss the difficulties that confront them in common and should evolve a workable scheme to export this commodity free from undercutting methods and suicidal competition. And the one important factor that producers and traders should consider, is to see that they are not exploited by large money-lending capitalists and by ambitious and selfish politicians. False sympathy emerging from questionable quarters for the seemingly declining Jaffna-Malayalam tobacco trade, should be critically examined and summarily rejected.

Our Society is the largest exporter of Jaffna-Malayalam tobacco and we have successfully carried on this trade for the past many years to the entire satisfaction of the Government of Travancore and ourselves. We can deliver the goods and the Travancore Government knows about it. And we can best state the facts of our trade than any other individual.

We are reluctantly compelled to issue this current survey of the Malayalam tobacco trade to remove any erroneous impressions that may have been left in the minds of the public as a result of mischievous and subversive propaganda about our part in this trade, by vested interests.

Your etc.

T. C. RAJARATNAM,  
President,

Jaffna-Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sale Society Ltd.

The Moolai  
Co-operative Hospital

Sir,—Because he had spent the most part of his life in the Malayan Out-Patient clinics, Mr. Sanmugam in his letter of 15-5-41 professes to know (though nobody acknowledge it) more of hospital administration than Mr. Chellappah. This hospital is a Co-operative hospital. Mr. Chellappah is no green horn to Co-operative Societies. In fact the veteran Mr. Chellappah is the pioneer of Co-operative movement in this part of Valigamam West. I think Mr. Sanmugam should take lessons from Mr. Chellappah in Co-operative activities.

By referring to medical qualifications Mr. Sanmugam has mercilessly exposed his shallow knowledge of the subject. Let me assure him that the colonial L. M. S. is in no way inferior to the L. R. C. P., M. R. C. S. In selecting a physician for a hos-

pital qualifications do not count so much as experience and ability.

After due consideration the committee dispensed with the services of Dr. Selvadurai and Dr. Tambiah and appointed Dr. Rasiyah in their place on a salary of Rs. 200/ a month and free quarters. No man with common sense will say that Rs. 200/- is too much for a physician with over twenty five years experience. I should consider the Hospital fortunate in having obtained the services of so eminent a physician at such a low cost.

The following mathematical computation will I believe convince Mr. Sanmugam that the committee are justified in appointing Dr. Rasiyah to the Hospital. Dr. Rasiyah is available at the hospital during the 24 hours of the day. Therefore he puts  $24 \times 30 = 720$  hours work a month for a salary of Rs. 200. This works at 27 cts per hour. Dr. Selvadurai worked four hours a day. This amounted to 120 hours a month for a salary of Rs. 100. Dr. Tambiah gave the hospital five hours work a day for an allowance of Rs. 50 a month. Together Dr. Selvadurai and Dr. Tambiah gave the hospital nine hours work a day or 270 hours work a month for Rs. 150. This works at 55 cts per hour. Therefore we see Dr. Rasiyah is paid less than half the amount that was paid to Dr. Selvadurai and Dr. Tambiah despite the fact that during the time of the latter no doctor was available at the hospital from 6 p. m. to 8 a. m. the following morning. The policy adopted by the committee is therefore economically sound.

Yours etc.,

S. K. VADIVALE.

Tholpuram,  
20-5-41.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 909

In the matter of the estate of the late Kanagasabai Nagalingam of Tholpuram Deceased, Thangammah widow of Kanagasabai Nagalingam of Tholpuram

vs. Petitioner.

1. Nagalingam Kanap thippillai
2. Nagalingam Veluppillai
3. Muruguppar Vyravanather and wife
4. Sinnathangam
5. Nagalingam Somasundaram
6. Annalaedebamy daughter of K. Nagalingam
7. Saraswathy daughter of K. Nagalingam
8. Manonmany daughter of K. Nagalingam
9. Nagalingam Sellathurai
10. Maheswary daughter of K. Nagalingam all of Tholpuram Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner; It is ordered that the abovenamed 3rd and 4th respondents be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the abovenamed 5th to 10th respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased be granted to the petitioner, unless the respondents abovenamed appear before this Court on the 28th day of May 1941 and shew cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 13th May 1941.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

(O 12 22 & 26-5-41)



## College Principal Acquitted

### Magistrate Disbelieves Prosecution Story

Friday.  
**T**HE accused appears to me as a respectable gentleman, I cannot believe that he went armed with a sword in broad daylight and behaved in a riotous manner," said Mr. T. Quentin Fernando, Jaffna Magistrate, in acquitting Mr. K. Navaratnarajah, principal of the Siddhartha College, Balapitiya, who with his two brothers-in-law, Mr. A. Sarasanathan and Mr. A. Kandasamy, were charged with insult and intimidation by Mr. S. Ganesh Ratnasingham, a petrol depot sub-agent of Manipay.

Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy prosecuted, while Messrs. T. C. Rajaratnam and C. Storer defended.

Mr. Ratnasingham said that on December 25th the three accused came up in a car to the petrol depot. The first accused had a sword, the second accused an iron rod and the third accused a tyre-lever. The first accused told him: "Why did you send your son to me yesterday; I don't owe you a cent," and challenged him to come out of the room. After calling him a pariah the first accused asked the other two to drag him out and assault him. The second and third accused did not enter the room but threatened to break his face. After further abuse they went away.

Witness added that the first accused owed his wife Rs. 500, which he had borrowed nine years ago when she was a widow. On December 27th witness sent his son to the first accused's house and the first accused sent back word that he did not owe them any money.

V. Poanuthurai and two others gave evidence.

#### Defence Version

Mr. Navaratnarajah said that before he became principal of the Siddhartha College he was a teacher at the Manipay Hindu College for ten years. On December 26th there was a meeting of the Manipay Hindu College Old Boys' Association, presided over by Mr. V. Veerasingham, the principal. Witness attended that meeting and compelled the president to put before the House some resolutions which he had ruled out of order. As soon as the resolutions were passed the president left the meeting without for the garden party.

Referring to the alleged incident on December 28th witness said that when he went to the petrol shed for petrol the complainant abused him saying: "So long as we are here, you you have no power to do anything against Mr. Veerasingham". Witness challenged the complainant who had a knife and a club and who asked witness to come inside. On the advice of some people witness left the place.

The Magistrate, after making the observations as already quoted, said: "I need not go into the question of the motive as I have stated that the complainant's case is not supported by any reliable witness. The accused is, therefore entitled to acquittal and I acquit him."

#### Counter-Case Withdrawn

When the case in which Mr. Navaratnarajah charged Mr. R. S. Ganesh Ratnasingham and Mr. V. Veerasingham, principal of the Manipay Hindu College, with abuse and intimidation, and with aiding and abetting, respectively, was called, Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam (on be-

## Maviddapuram Kandaswamy Kovil

### Action by Worshippers Under Trust Ordinance

A case has been filed in the District Court of Jaffna under the Trust Ordinance, against the Manager and priests of the Maviddapuram Kandaswamy Temple.

It will be remembered that several worshippers and other leading Hindus of Jaffna interested in the above temple presented a petition to the Government Agent of the Northern Province to appoint commissioners to inquire into and report on their complainants in terms of Section 102 (2) of Ordinance No. 9 of 1917. Three Commissioners appointed by the Government Agent held public sittings in various places and heard evidence and made their report.

The Government Agent has issued a certificate to the petitioners in terms of the Trust Ordinance that the subject-matter of the petition was one which required consideration by the District Court.

The petitioners have filed action in the District Court of Jaffna under No. 16608 and summons were issued for service on the Manager and high priest Retna Kurukkal of Maviddapuram and his brothers and another priest who are enjoying the income of this temple by performing poojabs.

The plaintiffs have averred among other things several acts of misappropriation of funds of this temple by the said Retna Kurukkal, irregular performance of poojabs and festivals and neglect to maintain and repair the properties belonging to the temple, edifices and shrines.

Summons are made returnable on the 26th May 1944. Further the plaintiffs have urged in their plaint the necessity of appointing a permanent Receiver to take charge of the temple and its properties and to collect all sources of income pending the determination of this action.

## MUSLIM-TAMIL CLASH AT MANNAR

### 32 Tamils Injured

Mannar, Friday.

A serious clash between Muslims and Tamils at Vidatalative, a village 14 miles from Mannar, resulted from strained feelings due to a Tamil being assaulted a month ago by Muslims.

A party of Muslims armed with guns and other weapons marched into the area occupied by the Tamils. Shots were fired and about 32 Tamils were injured, two seriously.

Police reinforcements were rushed from Talaimannar and yesterday armed police were sent from Jaffna.

About 11 Muslims have so far been arrested and the magisterial inquiry is proceeding.

The situation is now quiet.

half of Mr. Navaratnarajah) moved to withdraw the case.

Mr. S. Thambithurai who defended (instructed by Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy) stated that it was a frivolous and vexatious complaint so far as Mr. Veerasingham was concerned and that the complainant should pay Crown costs.

The Magistrate said that he was unable to accept Mr. Thambithurai's request and allowed Mr. Rajaratnam's application.

## RELIGION TO THE RESCUE

(Continued from page 1)

many extra hands; our calculating machines so many extra brains.

### Our Greatest Need

The result is that in power both of production and destruction we have enormously outstripped every preceding generation. The trouble is that we do not know how rightly to use it. While our power has increased, our wisdom has not; in fact, the disparity between our power and our wisdom is at once the peculiar characteristic and the characteristic danger of our civilisation. It is not too much to say that the fundamental problem of our time is that of so increasing our wisdom, or, if the expression be preferred, our virtue, that we may become fitted to meet the challenge of our power.

In power over nature, that is to say, in mastery of the means to life, we have, I repeat, enormously outstripped our predecessors. In knowledge of how to live as individuals (ethics), of how to live together in communities (politics) we are no further forward than the ancient Greeks. What we need is a development of the spirit commensurate with the development of our power.

Such a development has, it is obvious, not hitherto been forthcoming. On the contrary, it is difficult at times to avoid the suspicion that man's control over himself has diminished pari passu with the increase of his control over matter. As belief in the traditional religion has declined, efforts have been made bring out a creed to canalise their aspirations or a code to guide their conduct. Lacking any incentive to adopt what might be called a long term insurance policy to life, they have fallen back upon the satisfaction of the more immediate and obvious desires and, like the young people living in the last phase of Spengler's cultures, find in 'let us eat and drink for tomorrow we die' the only tolerable guide to living; a guide which few of us can tolerate for long.

### The Stage is Set

The human mind, said Pascal, naturally believes, the human will naturally loves, and in the absence of worthy objects they will cleave to unworthy ones. The parable of the seven Devils that entered the swept and garnished chamber illustrates the same truth, the truth that nature abhors a vacuum in the spiritual world, no less than in the physical and that sooner or later substitutes will be found for the religious faith that has declined and the ethical principles that have been jettisoned.

Particularly intolerable is the absence of creed and code to the mind of the young. H. G. Wells has diagnosed in the inability of our civilisation to find adequate outlets for the energy, adequate scope for the talents, and adequate objects for the aspirations of its young men and women, at once its greatest defect and its greatest danger.

Wisdom holds up her mirror to Power. By Robert Ziller.

The stage is thus set for a reli-

gious revival. It is set (1) because of the disparity between our technical and our spiritual development, between, as I have put it, our science and our wisdom. Unless this disparity can be made up and we can find objectives worthy of our powers, we shall use them to destroy ourselves; (2) because of the absence of a creed in which educated men can believe, and the restlessness and spiritual discomforts that the resultant vacuum entails. Unless this vacuum can be filled, men will be driven to war, to suicide, or to revolution, because of their inability to tolerate a life that has lost its meaning.

### India Via America

Yet what form can religion take? It is not merely that the educated consciousness rejects the supernatural tenets of Christianity; what Walter Lippmann calls somewhere the 'acids of modernity' seem at times to have eaten away the very capacity for faith, and one may well wonder whether any equivalent set of dogmatic affirmations about the nature and purpose of the universe is likely to be accepted where the old have been rejected.

It is in this connection that, apart altogether from its own intrinsic interest, the suggestion for religious revival which has reached us in recent months from America strikes one with an air of extreme timeliness. Broadly speaking, the suggestion amounts to a revival of the claims of Hindu mysticism re-examined in the light of modern science.

Let me first try to summarise the position of Gerald Heard as set forth in that extremely interesting book 'Pain, Sex and Time.' Heard accepts the diagnosis of the disease of our times that I have suggested above; he agrees that ours is a civilisation which, having mastered means, has forgotten ends. It follows that the basic problem of our civilisation is to obtain a new set of ends.

But a new set of ends can appeal only to a new kind of consciousness. Man in the past has desired power, wealth and comfort, and has been motivated by greed pride and self-assertiveness. He can only fail so to desire, cease, to be so motivated, if he becomes a different sort of creature. In other words, if our civilisation is to survive, we ourselves must change. Mr. Heard asserts that a change in human nature is the next item on the evolutionary programme.

The limits of physical evolution were reached in man; hence, if man was to continue the process of development, he must contrive a new method of evolving. He did so, and introduced the technical phase of evolution. Briefly, this consists in the making of tools and machines which, biologically regarded, are limbs that we have contrived outside ourselves. Young people have been left with to supplement our physical inheritance.

### Rise or Fall

We have now reached the end of this second stage of evolution, and unless we can contrive a further method of evolving, we shall relapse and fall back. The technical phase is, indeed, already showing signs of decadence in the shape of increased speculation

(Continued on page 6)



## Religion to the Rescue

(Continued from page 5)

without coordinating purpose. Scientists reach their results, in watertight compartments, while philosophy and religion, which should connect the compartments, and pool the results, are sterile or derided.

### Mutation in Consciousness

Granted the need for a new method of evolving on what plane will it take place? Mr. Heard answers, upon the psychical. Hence we are introduced to the conception of a new mutation, occurring this time in the soul of man as a result of which his consciousness will be so enlarged that it is capable of conceiving and pursuing new ends that are commensurate with his technical mastery of means.

At this stage of the argument a new factor is introduced. If this mutation is to occur, we must cooperate in its production: in other words, we can only change if we will to do so.

Mr. Heard adduces a number of reasons for regarding the mutation that he foresees as immediately practical biological politics. First, evolution has ceased in all other species because they have reached the limits of specialisation. In man alone further evolution is possible precisely because he has not specialised—so far a bodily development is concerned, he has specialised in un-specialisation. In man himself we find that physical evolution has ceased for an unusually long period, yet man continues to be animated by immense reserves of energy. This surplus energy shows itself in an unprecedented sensitivity to pain and an unprecedented activity of sex.

Finally, the whole tempo of evolution is rapidly accelerating and the periods between mutations diminish. The steps of the argument, are, therefore, as follows: (a) evolution must go on somehow; (b) it cannot go on in the animals; (c) it can go on psychically in man and take the form of a mutation in consciousness.

As a result of this mutation the barriers between consciousness and the unconscious will disappear; we shall consciously realise our oneness with life as a whole with which the unconscious is already continuous, though the fact is at present withheld from us, and our enlarged consciousness will give us direct insight into the nature of reality. Also, incidentally, we shall be free from the spur of sexual desire, lose the capacity for feeling pain, and 'achieve, a non-violent sanction for all human relationships.'

## Our Indian Letter

(Continued from page 1)

food in different places, has resulted this year in the Railway refreshment rooms removing the distinction and herding b's and nb's together. Brahmins in Palghat have decided to demand Brahministan to safeguard their privileges, "to live their own lives in their own manner" as the Pakistan general might say.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No 1019.

In the matter of the estate of the late Ponnambalam Kulanthaivel of Thanankilappu Deceased.

Samadhipillai widow of Ponnambalam Kulanthaivel of Thanankilappu Petitioner.

Vs.

Minor. 1. Kulanthaivelu Kandasamy of Thanankilappu appearing by his Guardian-ad-litem

2. Sinnathamby Visagaperumal of do.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before T. Quentin Fernando Esquire Acting District Judge Jaffna on the 30th day of April 1941 in the presence of Mr. K. Somasundram Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 29th April 1941 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st Respondent for the purpose of watching his interest in these Testamentary proceedings and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner as his lawful widow, unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 4th day of June 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 20th day of May 1941.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

Drawn by  
K. Somasundram,  
Proctor for Petitioner.  
(O. 11. 22 & 26.5-41)

## Order nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No.1023

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sanmugampillai Karthigesu of Anaipanthi, Jaffna. Deceased

Saraspathy widow of Sanmugampillai Karthigesu of Anaipanthi, Jaffna

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Sivakkolunthu widow of Chellappah Sanmugampillai of do

Minor, 2. Saraswathy daughter of Chellappah Sanmugampillai of do.

3. Chellappah Muttuthamby of do Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying that the abovenamed 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 2nd respondent and that Letters of administration be granted to the Petitioner in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on the 16th day of May 1941 in the presence of Mr. K. Nadarajah, Proctor for Petitioner; and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read:—

It is ordered that the 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 2nd respondent and that the Petitioner as the lawful widow of the abovenamed deceased be declared entitled to have letters of administration issued to her in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased, unless the Respondents or any others shall show sufficient cause to the contrary to the satisfaction of this Court on the 4th day of June 1941.

This 16th day of May 1941.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge.  
(O. 10. 22 & 26.5-41)

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