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THE UNIVERSITY OF CEYLON

WHAT IT SHOULD
AIM AT

THE RIGHT ATTITUDE TO EDUCATION

BY DR. W. IVOR JENNINGS
(Principal, University College)

[THE full text of his presidential address at the Jaffna Hindu College prize-giving on the 26th instant.]

It is one of the most hopeful signs that I have met in Ceylon, that everybody, Tamil Sinhalese and European alike, has told me that I must see Jaffna. They want me to understand Ceylon, and they know that I cannot understand Ceylon merely by staying in Colombo or driving to and from Kandy. It was indeed my duty to understand Ceylon because I am head of the Ceylon University College and not of a Colombo University College. The University which you will soon see rising in Peradeniya will not be the University of Kandy, but the University of Ceylon. We welcome and we shall welcome Jaffna students, because it is our business to educate not Sinhalese and Tamils as such, but Ceylonese.

Community of Learning

We must be the strongest of the ties which shall bind all Ceylonese together, whatever language and whatever their religion. We can be so the more surely because Universities, while coloured by their environment and emphasising the problems of the country which they serve, are truly international. We belong to a great community, the community of learning, for which language is only a subject and a medium of study, and to which all religions are equal.

While belonging to an international community, however, we belong also to a national community. We can contribute our mite to such branches of learning as Natural Science and Economics, but we are able to contribute because we can think of their ap-

plication to the problems of Ceylon.

We must contribute more than a mite to the study of those subjects which are the special concern of Ceylon—Sinhalese and Tamil, Sanskrit, Pali and Arabic, Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim Philosophy. We expect that each community will pay special attention to the work of the University in those subjects which interest it most.

I hope though, that this special attention will not consist only in urging the State to provide funds for the development of that work. A University which relies too much on State support is in a very unhealthy position.

As a Political Scientist, I have the greatest respect for politicians; but as a Political Scientist I also know that there are some things which should not be subjected to too close a political control, and that University education is among them. It is no secret that the Executive Committee of Education has shown a large liberalism in discussing this problem, and that, if the State Council approves, and the intention is carried out in the spirit, the University of Ceylon will have a substantial increase of independence.

The Best Investment

The corollary is that private persons who can afford it should help the University by providing it with a permanent Endowment. Every time I look at the jungle about me, which one day will be the University Park, and at the

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EVERY TYPE OF CRIME COMMITTED IN JAFFNA

TRAGEDY OF VILLAGE LIFE
IN CEYLON

POLICE SUPERINTENDENT'S INSPIRING ADDRESS TO RURAL WORKERS

"EVERY type of crime that can be committed whether against the person or against human property is committed in this Peninsula, and I say with equal confidence that seventy-five per cent. of these crimes cannot be committed if rural life is placed on a proper footing."

Thus observed Mr. Sydney G. de Zoysa, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Jaffna, in the course of an inspiring address he delivered at Chunnakam on the 18th instant, under the auspices of the Uduvil Rural Reconstruction Society, on "The Prevention of Crime through Rural Reconstruction."

Mr. S. Natesan, M. S. C. presided and while introducing Mr. de Zoysa to the large gathering present spoke in appreciative terms of the good work that was being done by the Uduvil Rural Reconstruction Society. He then referred to the noble family from which Mr. de Zoysa came and the good part they have played in shaping the destinies of Mother Lanka.

The Address

Mr. de Zoysa addressing said:—

Crime in Ceylon may be divided broadly into two classes—crimes committed by professional criminals and crime which is very largely the result of an ill-balanced economic condition and a badly organized scheme for life and development in the village areas.

Professional crime committed by men whose mentalities are warped and who may be termed the outlaws of society has no place in my lecture today. That is the type of crime which no amount of rural or economic reconstruction can eradicate.

Tragedy of Village Life

I will deal today with the tragedy of village life in Ceylon, a tragedy which cannot

fail to move any person whether a public servant or a private individual who has the interests of the poor villagers in Ceylon at heart.

Rural crime, such as is known in Ceylon today, in Jaffna, and Sinhalese speaking districts alike, was not a feature of life in Ceylon six hundred years ago. There may have been and there probably were occasional cases of crime in those days, but there was not this grave record of criminality which today is a matter of concern to us of the Police Department, and should be of as much concern to you members of the public whose interests it is our duty to serve.

How it came to pass that the peaceful tenor of rural life has been so violated is not for me to say. I could give you an explanation and express my considered opinion, but what really matters is not why there is crime in the villages today but how such crime is to be prevented.

Any person who is familiar with life in the poorer villages of Ceylon today, who knows and tries to understand the problems which confront the peasant and the cultivator, knows that there is nothing so utterly lacking in method and organization as village life in Ceylon. I do not think any of you here would dispute that statement of mine, but what I would wish to impress forcibly on you is the extent to which crime is caused or allowed to occur by this want of method in rural life.

What is village crime in Ceylon today? And more particularly what the crimes that are committed in the Jaffna peninsula? My answer is that every type of crime that can be committed whether against the person or against human property is committed in this peninsula, and I say with equal confidence that 75

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PUNDIT MAHALINGASIVAM MEMORIAL FUND

Friends, admirers and old students of the late Pundit V. Mahalingasivam of the Kopy Training School, whose untimely death is mourned by all lovers of Tamil Learning, are kindly requested to support his Memorial Fund. Those who have not already been approached by any authorised collector are requested to send subscriptions direct to S. Adchalingam Esqr., Honorary Treasurer, Mahalingasivam Memorial Fund, Vannarponnai. These subscriptions will be acknowledged immediately, and also periodically published in the "Kelakesari."

(Mis 78. 31-7 41.)



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1941

VICEROY'S NEW "CABINET"

THE RECENT CHANGES IN the Viceroy's Executive Council have satisfied no party in India. Everybody has condemned it unequivocally. The Poona Conference of Moderates, who have always earned the praise of the British Government for their sober views, has condemned the changes as halting and marked by suspicion and reluctance to part with power on the part of the Imperial Government. It is only the Hindu Mahasabha that seems to have accepted the concession with an inward chuckle. This reaction on the Sabha's part is understandable. In the Communal power politics of India the Hindu Mahasabha has been so badly worsted and been so hard put to it for recognition by the Raj as the mouth-piece of the Hindus, while the Muslim League has already become the accredited mouth-piece of the Muslims, that it has clutched at the offer of a few seats in the Executive Council. The Moderates as they stand at present do not represent any constituency or large section of the people. Their views also do not find favour with the Raj. If a partition of power is to be made between Hindus and Muslims, it must be to the Hindu Sabha and members of the League. The vast majority of the Hindus standing solid by the Congress, it is no wonder that the Hindu Mahasabha has so far been ignored.

As for the changes at the Centre which have been carried out, the extension of the Executive Council and the constitution of an Advisory

Council, no one can claim them to be a devolution of authority on the people, much less a National Government in any sense of the word. In so far as they are necessitated by the congestion of work in the various departments, they may be justified. But as a measure calculated to placate Indian sentiment and enlist the whole-hearted support of Indian nationalism for the war effort, it has woefully failed. It is only the Native Departments that have been broken up and distributed, while the key positions, the Imperial Departments of Defence, Finance and Home Affairs are reserved for the European elements. It is all Dyarchy once again, in which Indian Ministers occupy a subordinate position on the sufferance of the Raj. A scheme so hedged in by suspicion of indigenous talent cannot make for enthusiastic national support. While thousands of Indians, many of them the accredited leaders of the country are inside the prison bars, it is not possible for the New Cabinet to enlist the support of the nation. The New Executive Councillors do not enjoy the confidence of the Assembly and do not represent anybody but themselves. They are also responsible not to the Assembly, but to the Viceroy. There is no means for the functioning of collective responsibility or cohesion and unity of policy except so far as they are servants of the Viceroy who will control their policy. So that each member enjoys the dignified title of Minister with a fat salary while being a mere Departmental head.

The British Government's claim that their Indian policy remains unchanged and that "no political demand is excluded or prejudged by what is being done" is not borne out by the character of the changes. It almost looks like a foretaste of Pakistan with the grant of equal seats to Hindus and Muslims in the Executive Council and the Advisory Council and the great length to which the susceptibilities of the Muslim League have been met. The scheme will not make for communal harmony, but may accentuate the cleavage still further. Far from allaying the suspicion that the Raj has committed itself to some sort of Pakistan, it may go some way to confirm it.

N. P. Permanent Relief Fund Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Northern Province Permanent Relief Fund Society will be held at the Jaffna Kachcheri on Monday, the 4th August at 4-30 p. m.

Mr. M. Prasad, G. A., N. P., President, will preside.

Letter to the Editor

Mr. Natesan's Correspondence with Travancore Govt.

Mr. Rajaratnam's Rejoinder

Sir.—Mr. S. Natesan, M. S. C., has published in your issue of 17th instant the correspondence he had with the Chief Secretary to the Government of Travancore concerning the Jaffna-Malayalam Tobacco trade, with a special reference to my letter on this subject which was published in the issue dated 26th May, 1941, of your esteemed journal. The correspondence published by Mr. Natesan is a smoke-screen to escape from criticism.

There are two questions that demand an unequivocal answer, viz. (1) Was the Jaffna-Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sales Society Ltd. or its Agents a party to an agreement entered into by the other traders with the Travancore Government to import, bond and unbond on payment of duty 3,750 candelas of Jaffna tobacco during the Malabar year 1116? (2) Did the same Society withhold the export of any tobacco that was within its control during the year 1939 or the year following? I answer each of these questions with an emphatic 'No'.

My request to the Dewan of Travancore to grant me an interview was made with the intention of clearing up any misconception regarding the position of our Society. My telegram has not been acknowledged but a copy of it has found its way to Mr. Natesan, through the Chief Secretary of Travancore. The Agents of our Society are Messrs. F. X. Pereira and Sons and they handle only the Society's tobacco under a licence issued to them by the Travancore Government. Whereas Messrs. Pereira and Subramaniam Ltd., are a separate firm with a separate licence and they deal tobacco which they purchase from any trader. Obviously Messrs. Pereira and Subramaniam Ltd., cannot act as the Agents of our Society, and if they were parties to any agreement, by what process of reasoning does the Society or its Agents become a party to the said agreement?

Let us examine the position further. My letter to the "Hindu Organ" on 26-5-41, a copy of which was sent by Mr. Natesan to the Chief Secretary for his reply, contained the following significant passage which if untrue, cannot have been passed over by the Chief Secretary in his reply to Mr. Natesan. The passage reads:—"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 when the agreement given by the traders 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 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." The above passage from my letter remains uncontradicted by the Chief Secretary's reply to Mr. Natesan.

Regarding the second question, it is a matter of documentary proof that

Japanese Troops in Indo-China

Closer to Singapore and Borneo

London, Wednesday.

The Japanese troops of occupation in Indo-China—40,000 of whom, it is officially announced at Hanoi, the capital of Indo-China, have landed—have begun to instal themselves at Cam-Ranh Bay, on the east coast of Indo-China, and at other points and are taking over the naval and air bases ceded by the Vichy Government. The possession of Cam-Ranh Bay by the Japanese places their navy and air force within 750 miles of the Philippines, North Borneo and Malaya.

With the official announcement of the installation of Japanese troops, it is now possible to give an account of recent events affecting the French colony. The first thing that emerges is that the agreement between Japan and Indo-China originated and was concluded in direct negotiations between Vichy and Tokyo, only the details of its application being discussed at Hanoi. The crucial meeting was held on July 19th the agreement being signed at Vichy last Tuesday.

PARAMESHVARA TRAINING COLLEGE

Successes At Madura Pandit Exam

Of the ten students sent from Parameshvara Training College, Jaffna, for the Madura Tamil Sangam Pandit Examination, the following nine have passed:—

1. K. Sachidhanandan
2. N. Kandasamy
3. A. Kanagasabai
4. A. Arumugham
5. K. Nagalingam
6. S. Palanihurai
7. S. Velupillai
8. S. Pisupathy and
9. M. Maniccam.

ever since our Society was registered, we have always been the first to ship our tobacco to Travancore in any particular year. In 1939 we sent our entire crop on the 14th September 1940, while the other traders of Jaffna sent their tobacco only in December 1940. Our 1940 crop has just been cured and baled. It is now ready for shipment. We have been endeavouring to secure freight or even charter a steamer, but have not succeeded in doing so. We have even approached the Ceylon Government to help us, but shipping difficulties due to War conditions have contributed to the delay.

There is yet one other matter which Mr. Natesan has unnecessarily imported into these discussions. Nowhere in my letter have I made the suggestion in an implied manner that Mr. Pereira or any other selling agent can get an unconditional rebate on the duty while refusing to come to terms with the Travancore Government. This curious interpretation of my letter by Mr. Natesan has been replied to by the Chief Secretary in the words "You have stated in your letter that Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam, president of the Jaffna-Malayalam Co-operative Sales Society Ltd., has suggested by implication that any selling agent of Jaffna tobacco can get an unconditional rebate on the duty." The Chief Secretary himself does not interpret my statement in that light but has merely answered Mr. Natesan's own in-

(Continued on page 5)

Jawahar Week Celebrations

Public Meeting in Jaffna

In connection with the Jawahar Week celebrations a public meeting under the auspices of the Jaffna District Committee of the Ceylon Indian Congress was held at 6 p. m. on Friday, the 25th inst., at the Lanka Ayurvedic College, Jaffna. Mr. A. Sitaraman, one of the Vice-Presidents, who presided, explained the objects of the meeting. He described the great pains taken by Pandit Jawahar'at Nehru when he visited Ceylon in July, 1939, to bring about unity among Indians and to form the Ceylon Indian Congress, the central organization of Indians in the Island. Even though Panditji was disappointed in the primary objects of his mission, he considered the formation of the Central organization an abiding contribution of his to the cause of Indians in Ceylon. The Chairman concluded by pointing out that the best way to honour the Panditji was to strengthen the Congress.

Mr. T. N. Subbiah, who spoke next, described the longdrawn negotiations between Nehru and the Sinhalese Board of Ministers, and explained the unreasonableness of their attitude. Even after the Panditji's goodwill mission, the Ministers had continued their vendetta against the Indian community, which has led to the two iniquitous bills now before the State Council. The only effective way to combat these anti-Indian measures was to close our ranks and present a united front.

Mr. M. SM. Buhari described the sacrifices made by the Panditji and the members of his family to the cause of nationalism in India. He contrasted them with the mock-heroics and the verbal pyrotechnics of the Ceylon ministers to whom nationalism meant only the exploitation and expulsion of Indians in Ceylon. He traced the events that led to the Panditji's goodwill mission to the Island and explained how foolishly the Ministers had failed to grasp the hand of friendship extended by national India. It was no wonder, therefore, that their negotiations with the Govt. of India proved abortive. He warned the Indians of the dangerous times that lay ahead, and appealed to them to enlist themselves as members of the Congress, and in this connection, he deplored the lethargy of the Indian Commercial community in the Island.

While proposing a vote of thanks, the Secretary read a message from Mr. Peri Sundaram, the President of the Congress, and wishing the meeting success, and said that the representatives of the central Association, who were expected to address the meeting had been detained at Vavuniya owing to an accident.

(Cor.)

Wanted

Wanted a qualified lady teacher for the J/Alaveddy English School. Salary according to C scale. Applications should reach the undersigned on or before 31st July 1941.

N. A. SUBBIAH,
Manager of Schools,
Alaveddy,
(Mis. 74, 28 & 31-7-41)

THEFT AT TEMPLE

Public Committee to Investigate

At a largely attended public meeting of the residents of Alaveddy held at the Kumpilawalai Pillaiyar Temple premises on the evening of Thursday, the 24th July, 1941, an advisory committee consisting of 52 members from all the wards of the village with Mr. C. C. Thamby as President,

Messrs A. Eliyathamby and C. Kandiah Chettiyar as joint secretaries and Mr. T. Ponniah as Treasurer with power to co-opt was formed and the following resolution was unanimously passed:-

'This meeting resolves that a committee composed of Messrs. C. C. Thamby, V. Muruga u, S. Ponnampalam, A. Eliyathamby and R. Anupalawaner be formed with a view to immediately take such steps as may be necessary in order to unearth the culprit or culprits who has or have committed the theft of the temple property on or about the night of the 22nd July 1941 as alleged by the Temple Priest-in-charge and further to go into the irregularities and mismanagement of the temple affairs and to take such other action as they deem fit for the proper working of the temple on a sound basis'

At the request of the president of the meeting, the Temple Priest who was also present there undertook to furnish on the 26th July 1941 a full and complete list of all the temple properties which he received as donations from the public on behalf of the temple during his tenure of office as well as those which were handed over to him by his predecessor in interest and also a list of all such articles as alleged to have been stolen to the above committee of five. (Cor)

A Lyrical Discourse

His Holiness S. S. Parthasarathy Swamigal a reputed Hindu theologian and talented musician from South India who is now on a lecturing tour in the Island gave a lyrical discourse on "Markandeya" on Wednesday the 23rd instant at the Tamil Recreation and Dramatic Club, Wellawetta. There was a very large audience present who keenly followed the lecture. The subject of the lecture dealt with the life story of Markandeya a youthful devotee of God who by sheer force of "Bakthi" and his intensely religious life was in the end able to triumph over Death and attain bliss and perpetual youthfulness. The story in itself is a simple one familiar to all Hindus, but the fascinating style in which it was presented by the lecturer and the deep incursions made by him into the realms of Hindu philosophy and Hindu thought left an abiding interest in the minds of the hearers. Attachment to material things produces desire, and desire in its turn brings sorrow. As St. Thayanavar put it, the struggling human soul clings from desire and in the end ambition unsatisfied leads one into the whirlpool of Maya and bondage. These and similar fundamental ideas underlying Hindu thought were illustrated by the lecturer by humorous anecdotes and apt quotations

Mrs. N. M. Perera On Sedition Charge

Summary or Non-Summary Proceedings?

Mrs. N. M. Perera, wife of the detainee Dr. N. M. Perera, M. S. C. and a Member of the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, against whom summons was issued on a charge of sedition under the Ceylon Defence Regulations appeared on Tuesday before the Mallakam Magistrate, Mr. V. Manickavasagar.

Mr. S. Alles Crown Counsel, appeared for the Crown, while Mr. V. Chittampalam instructed by Mr. J. C. T. Kotelawala appeared for the accused.

In answer to Court Mr. Alles said that he would be calling on the next date four more witnesses including Mr. C. T. Solomon of Chundikuli in view of Mr. King's evidence.

Before the charge was read over to Mrs. Perera, Mr. Chittampalam raised a preliminary objection. He said that that case should be tried summarily and not non-summarily. The ground on which he raised his objection to proceedings being non-summary was that the Attorney General while he had sanctioned the plaint had not indicated that the case should be tried summarily. It was left to the Magistrate to use his discretion in the matter and he would move that the case be tried summarily.

Mr. Alles objecting said that the case might be tried by the Magistrate in his capacity as Additional District Judge, Jaffna.

Mr. Chittampalam said that he had strong objections to such a procedure being adopted. He wanted the Court to try the accused as ordinary Magistrate and not as A. D. J. Should the accused be found guilty by the Additional District Judge she could be sentenced to 2 years and a heavy fine. His point, Counsel urged, was that the Court had the discretion to try the case summarily or non-summarily.

After further discussion the Magistrate observing that the case would be heard at any rate in that Court whether summarily or non-summarily reserved his order on the point raised by Defence Counsel for the 19th August.

from the works of the great Saiva Acharyas like Saints Manickar, Appar etc. The devotional lyrics typifying the emotions and the passionate a peal of Markandeya to Lord Shiva his Supreme Deity at the moment his life was threatened by Yama, the God of Death, and his relentless hordes were all exquisitely and with intense religious enthusiasm rendered by the lecturer. Other associations will do well to seize this rare opportunity of Parthasarathy Swamigal's brief stay in the island and request his services for further lectures. He is conversant with nine languages and can competently lecture on any general subject. (cor.)

Bar's Loss; Judiciary's Gain

Jaffna Advocate Appointed Judge

Tuesday, 29th July.

That somehow or other the Legal Secretary had, during recent times, picked out some of the best men from the Ceylon Bar for appointments to the Judicial Service, said Mr. W. D. Niles, Retired Commissioner of Requests, Colombo, speaking yesterday evening at a Social held at the Jaffna United Club grounds to bid farewell to Mr. A. S. Vanigasooriyar, the newly appointed District Judge of Badulla, on the eve of the latter's departure from Jaffna.

There was a large gathering present including Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C., the Government Agent, the Heads of the various Government Departments and Religious Missions.

After light refreshments, Mr. S. Kanagasabai, Acting Crown Advocate, speaking said that they were assembled there to formally congratulate Mr. Vanigasooriyar and to offer him their good wishes on his appointment as District Judge, Badulla. They the lawyers in Jaffna numbering over 100 quite appreciated the appointment to the Judicial Service of one of them who had by his ability, tact and perseverance built up a large and lucrative practice at the Jaffna Bar—a practice which would perhaps be the envy of many a lawyer in other parts of Ceylon.

Mr. W. D. Niles, after making the remarks quoted above, said that a right choice had been made by the Legal Secretary in selecting Mr. Vanigasooriyar for the post of District Judge, Badulla. "We all" said Mr. Niles "found in Mr. Vanigasooriyar one of our best advocates in the District Court. His forceful advocacy, the care with which he prepared his cases, his good knowledge of the law—all these made him really a formidable man to the opposing Counsel. What has been a loss to the Bar is a gain to the Judiciary" concluded the speaker.

Mr. A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate, said that he offered to Mr. Vanigasooriyar the tribute of an intimate friend and colleague.

Mr. Vanigasooriyar briefly thanked the gathering for the kindness shown him that evening.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1045

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sinnathanby Thambiah of Alaveddi North late of Madras Deceased.

Ponnammah wife of Chelliah Nadarajah of Alaveddi North

Vs. Petitioner, Thangammah wife of Kanapathipillai Kandiah of Alaveddi North presently of Rasagalla Estate Balangoda

Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esq. District Judge Jaffna on the 11th day of July 1941 in the presence of Mr. S. Kanagasabai Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read: it is ordered that the petitioner as daughter of the deceased be appointed administratrix over the estate of the said deceased and that letters of administration be granted to her accordingly unless the respondent or any other person shall on or before the 18th day of August 1941 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the contrary.

This 11th day of July 1941.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

(O. 24, 25-7 & 31-7-41)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The Pannai Motor Ferry Service

Sir,—As an inhabitant of the Islands Division, I read with much interest the report of the proceedings of a public meeting held recently, in your valuable journal of the 28th instant, and also your editorial on the subject of the Pannai Motor Ferry Service. May I be permitted to state the following for the information of the public, especially those from the Islands.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the present renters at Pannai are those who have for the last four years maintained an efficient and satisfactory motor ferry service at Kayts. Using their inventive talents and skill, they devised a novel system of working a motor ferry there and have been commended by all including His Excellency the Governor, on his first official visit to the Islands. His Excellency was very much interested in the working of the motor ferry and complimented the renters on their ingenious device remarking that he had not seen such a system anywhere else during his lifetime.

This fact appears to have been taken into consideration by the Government in accepting the tender of the present renters in respect of the Pannai Ferry, irrespective of the great loss in revenue. We should be grateful to the Government for having had the interests of the inhabitants of the Islands at heart in granting this generous concession to the renters, although, perhaps, the outlay of capital expenditure and the running expenses that have to be incurred by the renters in this connection were also taken into consideration.

What appears to me to be the main cause for complaint by those who convened the public meeting is that the service at Pannai is not as good as the one maintained by the renters at Kayts. We all know that unlike Kayts, where the sea is very deep, the lagoon between Pannai and Velanai is very shallow for more than half the distance and that unless the depth is 3 feet and more it would not be possible to maintain an efficient motor service. It is not possible for any power boat to navigate in shallow waters as the propeller would come in contact with the rocks and collect silt and weeds and thereby get damaged. As against the natural difficulties at Pannai, I understand that the renters are trying their best to maintain the service as satisfactory as possible and have brought to the notice of the Government their difficulties, requesting the dredging of the sea. The Honourable the Minister for Communications and Works has also been addressed on the subject.

It may be noted that while the natural difficulties mentioned by me exist at Pannai, it will not be possible for any one to maintain a satisfactory motor ferry service, whether an individual or a corporate body such as Village Committees, as suggested by the mover of the first resolution at the public meeting. The termination of the contract with the present renters will, I am afraid, not improve matters in any way.

I am personally aware that in the matter of their charges the renters strictly conform to the sanctioned rates and that passengers pay less now. In previous years they had to pay in addition to the toll fee a santosum to the boatmen, who, it may be said, lived only on such santosums, not being in receipt of any wage from the renters.

The remedy for obviating the natural difficulties at Pannai is the construction of a causeway on both ends of the lagoon, when a motor ferry service could be carried on very

The University of Ceylon

(Continued from page 1)

surrounding countryside that ought one day to be dedicated to University education, I think how much could be done if only we had the money.

"Expenditure on education is the finest of all investments because it produces good citizens, and good citizens are the real wealth of a country. When I am told that Jaffna is poor I deny it because I can point to the large part played by its people in the development of Ceylon.

"I hope, therefore, that Jaffna will give us its full support—its moral support in terms of enthusiasm, and its material support in terms of men and money. I told the boys of St. John's College last night that I was an internationalist; and certainly you will not expect me to be a communalist. There is, however, one respect in which communal rivalry is good, and that is in doing good. Nobody is aggrieved when 'Jaffna's Answer' is as effective as anybody's, and I hope that Jaffna will answer the call for University education in Ceylon. What we want most is moral support, because no University can flourish unless it gains the respect and the enthusiasm of the people whom it serves.

Cost of Education

"But material support is also required. University education cannot be supplied at a cut price. It requires a large amount of very expensive equipment. It needs also scholarships and costly buildings. I hope no student believes that he obtains a university education merely by passing London Examinations at Rs 108 a time. It certainly acquires a couple of letters after his name, and he may even acquire some learning, but education is much more than that, and I can assure you that it is quite impossible to obtain a University education except in a

satisfactorily without in the least giving room for any complaint. Those who took part in the public meeting referred to would have done well to have confined themselves to the very sensible and practical resolutions moved by Mr. K. Kailasapillai, Chairman of the Mandaitivu Village Committee.

I do feel that the inhabitants of the Islands are themselves to be blamed for not having urged on the Government the necessity for a causeway at Pannai in preference to the others now under construction. Even now it is not too late if all of us jointly press the matter with the help of our State Councillors. Although the present time is most inopportune for the Government to launch into costly schemes, yet it could be persuaded to undertake such a utility service as this out of loan funds. Let us all join together and make this appeal in an effective way.

In the meantime it is for us to encourage the present renters so that they may, through their own inventive genius, evolve a scheme whereby the natural difficulties existing at Pannai may be effectively overcome.

I hope that the leading inhabitants of the Islands would take up my suggestion and do the needful with as little delay as possible.

Yours truly,
AN ISLANDER

University or a University College.

"On the other hand, we cannot expect any student to pay more than a small share of the cost of his education. The average fees paid at the College is Rs. 200 a year. The actual cost per student is about Rs. 1,000 a year. The difference is made up by the State. But a University should not be so dependent upon State Grants. It should have endowments of its own, and I hope that the Tamil Community will help the University to attain them. Tamil studies and Hindu Philosophy should obviously attract benevolence from Jaffna. I hope that in due course there will be a great Oriental Studies Institute in Peradeniya and that the Hindus of Ceylon will feel that they are adequately represented in it.

Text of Books on Ceylon

But I am not in Jaffna on a begging mission. I came here primarily to make contact with you and study an important part of the Island. Ceylon is one of those subjects which cannot be properly studied from books. There are very few books, and indeed none of the kind I need chiefly I think because there is no University. I could learn a great deal about dead cities but very little about live ones if I sat in my easy chair in Colombo. So I have to follow the technique which I have used in writing my own books. I read the official reports and then go to see for myself. I have seized this opportunity to come to Jaffna.

The more I see of Ceylon the more competent I shall be to make recommendations about the University of Ceylon. You will have a very poor university unless someone is willing to plan ahead. Of course, plans are never fully carried out. I have spent much time this week in doing precisely what Mr. Marrs did exactly twenty years ago. Perhaps in twenty years' time one of my successors will be scrapping our work and starting again where we started. That is the risk we run. Nevertheless, this time there is a difference. Our plans are much less hypothetical. There are men working in the Peradeniya site today. The draft Ordinance which Mr. Marrs did so much to prepare has been modified and approved by the Executive Committee. Moments of pessimism come to all of us, but this time there is more momentum than there has ever been before.

I expect all this is rather boring to the students of this College. I hope that they will not think, though that they have nothing to do with these questions. It rather amazes me to think that one of you will be among the first students at Peradeniya. On the site plan is a shady walk which ought to be called "Abercrombie's Walk." It seems incredible that in a few years time you will pass along it. We have already advised that more trees should be planted so as to increase the shade. Between the Mahaweli and the Maha Oya is a corner where the great Hall of

Residence will be built. Its plans are in a very advanced state of preparation. You may live in that. Two hills behind the Convocation Hall will be the sancta sanctorum because they will be sacred to the women undergraduates. In between the Galaha road makes a horse-shoe bend over a deep ravine. We want to start planting there immediately so that when you arrive it will be a sea of such tropical vegetation as only Ceylon knows how to produce. In short, I believe that when you arrive this jungle of weeds will be a spacious Park.

In my room at the College I have a set of the plans so far available, and they are almost complete. In the odd moments when I am not seeing students or writing those *billets doux* ending "I am, Sir, your obedient servant" which a public servant has to write to his numerous mistresses in these Departments, I pore over these plans. The problems are not always of the grandiose order. The smallest details have to be settled before the Minister can arrange contracts. You would not build a bungalow without working at the details. To plan a University, even after expert consultants have produced the outlines, is a far more complicated task. Architects and town-planners play the major part, and Professor Abercrombie had the advantage of a great knowledge of Universities; but in the last resort it is you and your contemporaries and successors who will use the premises, and the last detail must be settled with your needs in mind. I shall soon know the Kandy road as well as I know Piccadilly Circus.

What is a University?

I do not forget that a University is not made of bricks and mortar. It consists of teachers and students engaged in a common task. That is why I have spoken elsewhere about little Johnny. It is not enough to provide little Johnny with one of those cosy bed sitting-rooms that are being planned. He will one day take his degree in the convocation Hall, and in his gown and hood he will stand on the terrace overlooking the Mahaweli. So I want little Johnny to develop now a right attitude to education and not to think that it consists only in passing examinations. My difficulty is that if I say that no amount of manuring will make mangoes grow on coconut palms I am accused of saying that coconut palms ought not to be manured. I do not object to examinations; what I do object to is the appalling waste when parents try to push through an academic education students who are quite unfitted for it. I have had evidence that in Ceylon schools there are men of 25 and 26 still trying to pass matriculation. I also object to cramming for examinations. My gardener once put into my conservatory some very sturdy tomato plants. They grew and grew and grew until the conservatory looked like a jungle, but there were no tomatoes. They were out-door plants and would have produced excellent fruit in the kitchen garden. In the conservatory they produced just leaves. If little Johnny is fit for University education I want him to pass exami-

(Continued on page 6)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

terpretation of it. This is very clear.

On the 12th instant I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Natesan at the office of the Registrar of Co-Operative Societies in Colombo. On that occasion he was kind enough to read part of the correspondence he has now published. There were also present at that time the Assistant Registrar, Northern Division, and the Honorary Secretary of our Society. In answer to a question Mr. Natesan told us that he did not obtain any information from the Society before he left for Trivandrum as he did not know then that it was in connection with the tobacco trade that he was being called by the Dewan. Asked as to why even on his return he did not care to ascertain the true facts from the Society before he issued his statement to the Press, he replied that soon after his arrival in Jaffna he had to leave for Colombo, and therefore he had no time to meet any representative of the Society. But if Mr. Natesan had really wanted a correct information regarding the Society, he could have still obtained it from the Registrar of Co-Operative Societies in Colombo.

Finally Mr. Natesan has announced in the papers regarding the expected visit of the Excise Commissioner of Travancore. We shall be glad to avail ourselves of this opportunity and to invite the Excise Commissioner to visit our office. We shall then from our documents satisfy him on the following material points:—

(a) That our agents in Travancore are Messrs F. X. Pereira & Sons, Quilon.

(b) That Messrs F. X. Pereira & Sons did not sign the agreement with the other licencees to import 3750 candelis of Jaffna tobacco during the Malabar year 1116.

(c) That since the registration of the Society we were the first in each year to ship that year's tobacco.

(d) That as soon as our 1940 crop was ready for shipment we have been endeavouring to secure freight, and even charter a steamer to send this crop to Travancore.

In the face of these incontrovertible facts, I feel sure that Mr. Natesan himself will now feel convinced that the Society has done all that it can to promote the best interests of the tobacco trade in Travancore. It is not surprising to see some persons who have been thriving on this trade at the expense of the cultivators offering a united front against the Society. They seem to be the enemies of Co-operation, and their weapons of attack are a propaganda of lies. But it is the duty of responsible leaders to act impartially and with a sense of balanced judgment.

Yours etc,

T. C. RAJARATNAM

President,

The Jaffna-Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sales Society Ltd.

NOTICE

Nallur Kandaswamy Temple Annual Festival, 1941

29th July, 1941 to 23rd August, 1941

Permission having been granted to move processions and conduct religious assemblies according to custom round Nallur Kandaswamy Temple and along the adjoining sections of the Point Pedro and Old Store Roads during the period of festival, notice is hereby given to the Public that traffic will be diverted from sections of the Point Pedro Road and Old Store Road adjoining the Temple along Wynnam Road, Navantural Road and Nallur Cross Road No. 1, during the time such processions and religious assemblies are moving round the Temple.

S. G. de ZOYSA,

Asst. Supdt. of Police, N. P.

Police Office,
Jaffna, 22nd July, 1941.

(G. 15. 28 & 31-7-41.)

EVERY TYPE OF CRIME COMMITTED IN JAFFNA

(Continued from page 1)

per cent. at least of these crimes cannot be committed if rural life is placed on a proper footing.

That can only happen if the public consciousness is awakened and people like yourselves who know the villagers and have influence with them take an interest in this problem which affects all of you alike, and do all you can to make the life of the villager more pleasant and to make some sort of order out of the chaos which is rural life in Ceylon today.

Preventible Crimes

Consider crimes of violence as they occur today. A study of statistics would convince you that 90 per cent. of these have their origin in little grievances and disputes which might very easily be settled if sufficient trouble were taken by disinterested persons known to and having influence with both parties concerned. The organization of village conciliation board presided over by men of authority and respect in each village would probably do more to prevent crimes of violence than all the prosecutions that Police could institute in the Magisterial courts and Village Tribunals of this peninsula.

Theft is another problem: thefts of vegetables, thefts of poultry, of jewelry, of household articles, in fact every type of theft imaginable. Thefts of tomorrow can only be prevented, if thefts of yesterday and thefts of today are detected and these thefts of yesterday and thefts of today will not easily be detected until the residents of these areas where these thefts occur realize their duties to each other and to the State. There is no sense of co-operative existence, no satisfactory measure of public opinion or a realisation that the fate of one's neighbour today may be his own tomorrow, and as long as these are lacking, offenders will continue to escape and offences against property will never be prevented.

Rural Reconstruction

You might ask what rural reconstruction can do to counteract these deficiencies, and I reply that if you give the villager the feeling that his life is pleasant and that he is a member of a community which is cared for and run on proper lines you will automatically induce in him a sense of co-operation with his neighbour and a sense of civic responsibility which is lacking today.

At present village life is cut-throat competition. There is no adjustment of production, distribution and consumption. Might and cunning triumph over right. The village bully or petty thief who does not do an hour's honest work for the day can rob by day and steal by night from his more honest neighbour, and enjoy the benefit of that man's hard work. This should not be possible, nor would it be possible if there were, for example, properly supervised communal or co-operative village markets where any attempt to dispose of property by a person who accord-

ing to common knowledge could not be possessed of such property, would immediately be detected.

It is an admitted fact that if the disposal of stolen property were rendered impossible, or extremely difficult, theft must inevitably be suppressed.

Disordered Life

If village youths and petty rowdies under the influence of liquor hang about at street corners and insult village girls on their way home, or if these same young men, singly or in gangs lurk by lonely roads and foot paths, and rob some poor woman of her thalikody or her attyal—all this is possible because the disordered life of the village permits it.

If there were sufficient public opinion in the village the parents or relations of these hoodlums would be compelled to check them and if they failed to do so, there would not be a lack of public-spirited men from the village to inform the Police who could then take effective measures to abate the nuisance.

As it is, however, there is no public opinion. There is no assistance to the Police and there is no fear in the mind of the offender, and village girls continue to be insulted and village women continue to be robbed of their attyals and thalikodies.

I could go on in this strain for days together, for my heart is full of reprobation of the tragedy of village life in Ceylon today, but I do not want to keep you here any longer.

I want you all to understand that the prevention and the detection of almost all the crimes that go on in the villages of your country and mine is more easily to be achieved by you than by us of the Police. If the Police prosecute and cause offenders to be punished, it is not because we enjoy it. It is because it is our painful duty to do it, to protect the persons and property of such as yourselves.

Duty of the Public

Nobody would be happier than I if we could achieve a state of culture and civilized existence when the need for Police Forces and for officers like myself would cease to be. Gladly would I lay down my uniform and devote myself to some other duty, but until such time, we must go along in our way trying our best to deal with the problem of crime in this country and trying to rouse the public to a consciousness of its own danger. Crime is increasing and will continue to increase until life itself would cease to be bearable, unless the whole structure of life in this country is re-organized, especially in the village; and until the public plays the part which is its duty to play.

We of the Police will do our best to overcome our own weaknesses and faults and help you as we should but yours is the greater share of responsibility. Go home, and ponder well over what I have told you. Think of me, not as a Police officer but as one, who, like yourselves, is born in this country and must live and die in it.

Rural life in Ceylon today is a tragedy of maladjustment and if you and I do not pull together and reorganize the entire scheme of rural life and eradicate the defects which make it possible for crime to

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

(Held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No 157P.T.

In the matter of the intestate Estate of the late Kathirithamby Kandiah of Karanavai South in Karaveddy

Deceased.

Sellachchippillai widow of Kathirithamby Kandiah of Karanavai South Vs. Petitioner.

1. Kandiah Rajasundaram of Karanavai South presently of Wey and Work's Engineers Office, Anuradhapura
2. Kandiah Sivagnanam of Gogama Group, Estate Dehiowita
3. and wife Theivanayaki of Do
4. K. Sivasubramaniam alias Balasundaram of Karanavai South
5. Seethalaxmi daughter of K. Kandiah of Do
6. Somasundaram Sivagnanasundaram of Do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before Simon Rodrigo, Esquire Additional District Judge Jaffna on the 1st day of July 1941 in the presence of Mr. R. Shivapathasundaram Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the 6th Respondent be appointed Guardian-adjutem over the minor the 5th Respondent that the petitioner as widow of the deceased be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration and that letters of Administration be issued to the petitioner accordingly unless the respondents or any other person shall appear before this court on or before the 18th day of July 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

The 4th day of July 1941.

Sgd. S. RODRIGO,

Addl. District Judge.

18.7.41 Time to show cause extended till August 8, 1941.

Intld. S. R.

A. D. J.

(O. 25. 31-7 & 4-8-41)

flourish and if we do not play our part in making this country a pleasant and happy place to live in, then when the time comes to leave this life and render our account for what we have done we will find that our lives will not have been worth the living.

I thank you all for having listened so patiently to me. I am your servant—the servant of the public of Jaffna, and I will serve you to the best of my ability.

A Patriotic A. S. P.

Mr. S. Natesan in his concluding remarks referred to the high impression which Mr. Zoysa had already created during the short period he had been in Jaffna as a strict and efficient police officer with a zest for his work and with a correct outlook with regard to the scope of his duties. He did not confine himself to his routine duties, but was anxious to get in touch with the public. He spoke not as a Police officer whose main business was to bring offenders to book, but as a sincere patriot whose ardent desire was that our society and rural life should be so organized as to prevent crime. Mr. Natesan expressed the hope that not only Mr. Zoysa would fulfil the high expectations formed by Jaffna about him but also Jaffna would fulfil the expectations Mr. Zoysa had formed about its people.

Mr. W. Ponnudurai proposed a vote of thanks. While doing so he briefly outlined the aims of the Uduvil Rural Reconstruction Society which, he said, were in conformity with what the speaker said that evening and exhorted the public to go forward and co-operate in the Rural uplift work.

The University of Ceylon

(Continued from page 4)

nations; but every teacher knows the difference between education which is tested by examinations and cramming for examinations. Little Johnny will not produce fruit if he is forced. My withers are unwrung by references to little Ivor and his examinations. Little Ivor has grown up and knows quite a lot about examinations. He has also sat on many appointing boards, and he knows that an external degree is always regarded with suspicion. What is more, he knows that a mere degree is not enough. I am sure that disappointed candidates wonder why appointing boards ask what appears to be irrelevant questions and why men with lower academic qualifications are sometimes preferred. The answer is quite simple. A board tries to select the candidate who can, to use an expressive Americanism, hold down the job. Examination successes are important, but they are only one factor. Suppose that you had power to appoint a Government Agent for the Northern Province. Would you just ask the available candidates to state their academic qualifications and choose the candidate with the best degree? Of course you would not. The University of Ceylon will be concerned primarily with the academic qualifications, but it will try to devise examinations which will test intelligence and understanding and not crammed knowledge.

An Educated Man

An educated man is not just a man with a degree; he is a graduate whose intellectual capacity has been developed. The fact that people assume that when I condemn cramming for examinations I condemn working for examinations proves to me that my diagnosis was correct. They evidently think that working for examinations means cramming. Of course you must work hard if you want a good degree. But you must work properly. If you had to bomb Buckingham Palace you would not get a plan of it and calculate the number of bath-tubs. You would study the map of England and a plan of London. Similarly, if you want to study the Napoleonic wars you do not learn

off the list of Napoleon's victories in the Arc de Triomphe. You acquire a general understanding of European history and a particular understanding of the causes and consequences of the French Revolution. Even that is not all. It is not enough to reel off from a cram-book the summary which the author makes of the high authority on the causes and consequences of the French Revolution. I know how these cram-books are made. Such ideas as I have originated are now in their third generation, or perhaps I should say their second perversion. They have been copied, generally inaccurately, by the writers of text books. The text-books have then been summarised by the cram-shops. The result is that as external examiner I get served up to me the notions of a disembodied spirit named Jennings who would be backballed by every learned society in Europe. The height of my fame was reached when an external student confused Dr. Jennings and Dr. Johnson, though I doubt if a cram-shop was responsible for that.

I give you a life dispensation from reading my books; but you who are coming to Peradeniya must read widely in the best books. The University of Ceylon will adopt high standards, and it is necessary that you should begin on the right line now. I know that your Principal will agree with me because all those engaged in education agree with me. I am not saying anything new. I am, to quote no less an authority than the Auditor-General, talking platitudes. If it is true that a combination of external examinations and economic pressure has caused Ceylon to forget eternal truths, then the eternal truths must be restated. I do not forget that the primary responsibility for creating a healthy educational system rests with the teachers, and the need for it is one of the reasons for suggesting the rapid creation of the University of Ceylon. This time, I believe, the University is on the way, and in the name of my successor, the first Vice-Chancellor, I bid you welcome to the University of Ceylon.

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