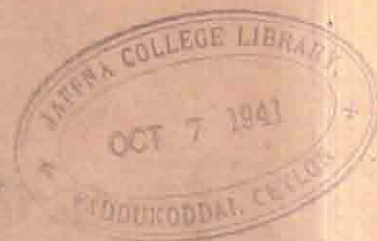


THE Hindu Organ.



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. LIII.

'Phone 56.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1941.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 48.

Tamils Must Organise Themselves

By

K. Aiyadurai,
Proctor S. C.,

and Member, Urban Council,
Jaffna.

Need For a Maha Sabha

A Premature Move

THE existence of (1) diverse tribes, classes and races of the peoples, (2) distinct creeds, conventions and customs for each race and (3) various forms of Government, laws and Codes of Conduct peculiar to each race of mankind drives one to the irresistible conclusion that man and race are of a heterogeneous character and each man or race has his or its individuality and gives expression to his or its innate self which may be clouded in ignorance or radiate light irrespective of age or place.

Leaving India which is an epitome of the world out of the text of the present theme and considering Ceylon as a separate entity one sees around him diverse races, the Sinhalese the Tamils, the Muslims, the Burghers and the Europeans and others each divided into various classes, castes and sects within each race, all governed by certain special or local laws framed by the Government to suit the various races and to give each race full scope and freedom to develop what is best in each race and to preserve all the treasures that belong to each race or religion.

When such is the diversity of race and religions, customs and conventions of man, the cry of some "Modern" Politicians that all the races must be fused into one body politic "The Ceylonese" and work together hand in hand to obtain "Poorna Swaraj" from those who control the political destinies of the people of Ceylon is surely the ideal, one should devoutly wish for; but this cry of the so-called "go forward" politicians, is, to say the least, premature in the present state of affairs. We shall have (1) to consolidate and solidify the various forces and interests in the distinct groups of persons in each section of the respective race so as to present a collective opinion on all public matters (2) to preserve and pro-

mote its own customs, languages, religion (3) to approach all the other races with a spirit of perfect goodwill and fellowship and give and take what is best in each and understand each other's view point in political questions (4) to study the special wants of each race and to work out a basis to proportionately and equitably distribute the Island's resources including positions and portfolios to the most deserving of each race irrespective of number or political influence created not by merit but by a numerical superiority.

The Bandaranaike Idea

It is, perhaps, with this end in view that Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike conceived the idea of a Singhala Maha Saba and he deserves commendation for the force with which he started it and keeps the torch burning, carrying it (I mean the torch) in his hand partly to give light to the ignorant and to rouse them to violent thinking about themselves and partly to belittle the other races and their representatives if it suits his purpose. Whatever his motive may be, the conception of an All Ceylon Singhala Maha Saba is in the right direction and it is for the Tamils of All Ceylon to meet together at least once a year or oftener as occasion demands to pool all the resources of the intelligentsia of the race and to frame a programme of work and to discuss all questions affecting the welfare of the Tamils as a body, social, cultural, educational, lingual, economic and political.

Till such time as every individual who is fortunate in being at the top of the social ladder and at the helm of political Committees manages to place himself above personal interests and work out a Scheme by which each race is given due and weighty share in the administration of the country according to merit and efficiency, it is next to impossible to have one common political machinery which can be worked with undivided attention; and so

long as all the higher functions and posts are appropriated by a majority or privileged race, there will be discontent, hatred and suspicion lingering in the minds of the other races who, though as important as the rest in culture and advancement, are left to their own fate for the simple reason that they are numerically lower than the other races.

Tamils Not Blind

THE Tamils are not blind to the existing state of things in the political field at the present day. The Tamils, who are the inheritors of enlightenment, culture and intelligence and advancement from the earliest periods of History, are relegated to the backyard and their interests are in jeopardy. In my opinion, the remedy for all ills is the formation of an All Ceylon Tamilar Maha Nadu, (a) for united deliberations and action, (b) for the preservation of the virtues of the race and the promotion of its special interests and to devise ways and means to knit the various races together to work out a scheme of constitutional growth for the whole of Ceylon. True it is that Ceylon will have a long way to go in attaining "Poorna Swaraj" unless personal and sectional differences among all the races are made up and one body politic is ushered in for the political emancipation of the country, but our aim should not merely be "political" emancipation but cultural and spiritual freedom, and, for maintaining the latter the Tamils have inherited a priceless treasure which could be preserved and fostered only by bringing together the whole resources of the Tamil race.

The body politic of such an important race should be representative of all interests and classes of Tamils inhabiting the various parts of Ceylon including the Indian Tamils who have franchise rights in order to ensure that one section of a race or one individual in it may not take undue advantage over another sec-

tion or individual purely on the strength of numerical superiority.

Though the *modus operandi* should be left to a chosen body of the Tamils, I venture to suggest a workable basis for a MahaNadu of the kind I propose without making it unwieldy or unwholesome.

Question of Membership

It has to be laid down as a rule that only certain class of persons should have the right of Membership of such a Maha-Nadu and I suggest, subject to correction, that the following classes of Tamils only shall be entitled to become Members:

- (1) All Members of the State Council.
- (2) All elected and nominated Members of all local bodies such as Municipal and Urban Councils and Sanitary Boards, Provincial and District Road Committees and Village Committees.
- (3) All Lawyers, Notaries, Doctors, Dentists, Engineers, Surveyors, registered medical practitioners, Ayurvedic Physicians and journalists such as editors or Managers of Newspapers, Registrars of Marriages, Registrars of births and deaths.
- (4) All graduates of any University, all Principals and Head-Masters of all English, Bilingual and Vernacular Schools recognised by the Department of Education and all Teachers who are in receipt of a salary of not less than Rs. 200 per mensem and all School Managers.
- (5) All Office-bearers and Committee Members of all recognised (a) political, (b) educational (c) cultural and social organisations of at least five years' standing.
- (6) All Pensioners of the Ceylon Government and of other bodies and pensioners of Foreign Government and other bodies who are in receipt of a pension of not less than Rs. 100 per mensem or of the aggregate income of Rs. 200 per mensem from all sources.
- (7) All traders or merchants whose annual income is Rs. 2400 and over and in the case of a Corporation or Company the President and Secretary of such Corporation or Company and in the case of a partnership business the

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1941

DUTY OF TAMIL YOUTH

THE OLD TAMIL HABIT OF unquestioning obedience to the wishes of parents and elders has gone, perhaps never to return, and the Tamils are faced with the need for a re-adjustment of their outlook towards these and other matters. The Tamils are not alone in this respect: the impact of world events has made such a re-adjustment inevitable in every society, be it European, American, or Asiatic. In Britain today youth has found its justification in the defence of the country. Britain's knights of the air are young—very young—and Britain and the world are proud of them. Curiously enough, in Germany too Hitler's strength lies in the devotion of German youth to his ideals. As a writer observed recently, these young Germans are fine specimens of physical man, knowing just exactly nothing about the world and its ways, their brains containing only a curious semi-religious worship of the false god by whom they have been enslaved. And they are dying so that Hitler's world may live.

Looking at these two conflicting phenomena, one cannot help thinking that, if youth is the glory of man, it can also, on occasions, under proper tutelage, become man's greatest scourge. It all depends on the training it gets, on the intellectual, moral and spiritual equipment with which it sets forth to fulfil its mission. That youth has its mission is not open to question, but the interests of humanity require that the strength, faith and enthusiasm of youth should be harnessed to knowledge and not to the emotions of the moment. This is why in the *Bhagavad Gita* stress is laid on investigation, discipleship, and service as the three steps in man's spiritual and moral evolution. The object of investigation is the accumulation of knowledge and discipleship helps the young to avoid the pitfalls in the way of applying knowledge to the affairs of mankind. Service comes last, because without the training and the knowledge service would be more a source of evil than of good. The ancient Greeks held the same view. Plato in his *Republic* gives Greek youth a definite place in his ideal State, only on one condition—that youth remains true to its greatest ideal, the ideal of study or investigation and discipleship. In modern Japan the wisdom

of the elders, to which the Tamils have always attached great importance, is the greatest political force that influences the course of government.

The great duty of Tamil youth is to arm itself with the knowledge needed for solving the problems of the future, and to discipline itself for the responsibilities of manhood. Without knowledge and discipline youth would prove but a sad waste of fine human material; its emotional outbursts would be powerless to affect the course of events; and its only achievement would be the impotence of Tamil manhood at a time when the whole strength of the Tamil race must be thrown into the effort for its own salvation. The wisdom of the elders would be a barren and useless asset if it failed to capture the imagination and loyalty of the nation's youth. This is why we have urged in these columns the need for honest, wise and intrepid leadership. If our leaders lack the strength of common ideals, if each leader sets up a tent by himself in the political field with a programme of his own, if there is constant war between this leader and that for position and power, then it is inevitable that the youth of the land should split itself into groups each with its chosen leader. This is what has happened amongst the Tamils. The leaders are at war, and Tamil youth is being sacrificed for the greater glory of this leader or that. The duty is, therefore, paramount to hold the scales even in the adjudication that seems to be called for on the conflicting claims to leadership so that the unity of Tamil youth may be maintained and the Tamils may press forward to their goal without having their attention distracted by little whispering campaigns in the rear which is all that disgruntled leadership is at the present moment able to achieve. To the older men who have led the Tamils we say: The Tamils have honoured you for your services, but the conspiracy against youth in the field of political leadership must cease, because the safety of the Tamils requires it. To our young friends whose enthusiasm for the Tamil cause sometimes outruns their discretion we say: The Tamils respect their elder Statesmen, and as far as possible the Tamil tradition must be maintained.

For, what is at stake is the future of the Tamil people, and not the chances of this man or that in the eternal struggle for personal advancement. That future has to be considered from every conceivable point of view, and elders and young men have to sit down together to find out what is best for the Tamils. No accepted remedy or principle is so sacred that it cannot be jettisoned if the interests of the Tamils require it. At the same time, it is not every new prescription that cures the patient. Let us have the truth first and everything else will follow. The duty of youth is certainly not to pull down the older men but, in the words of a recent writer, "to rise to its natural responsibility for improving a little upon the work of its fathers and mothers, a more practical and higher ambition than that which would first of all destroy the work of the fathers and mothers, and then, while hoping for the best, achieve only that which ignorance and inexperience can supply."

The Tamils in Early Dutch Times

"Poothatamby"—A New Play by J. V. Chelliah M. A.

By

A. W. Nadarajah,

ANY publication in English by Mr. J. V. Chelliah is welcome but more so when he turns playwright and tells the story of the Tamils under the early Dutch rulers at Jaffna-patnam.

The play which is in five acts is neatly constructed and progresses smoothly from phase to phase. The dialogue is naturalistic and the blank verse suits the theme. As far as the reading of the play is concerned it seems to be balanced and workmanlike, swift and orderly in action.

The whole point of writing a play of this sort is to fill in the portrait we have of Poothatamby from various chronicles. The test must be the illumination of Poothatamby's character. Unfortunately the figure of Poothatamby, presented to us has no great depth or individuality. This Poothatamby, though his movements have a consistency and a cumulative force, reveals a surface layer only of mind and character. He is an opportunist, for whom a belief in two faiths and a desire to please officials, are elements that guide his own destiny and he is not much more than that.

Mr. J. V. Chelliah is an accepted master in the study of Shakespeare criticism and he will certainly agree with our assertion that with the great Shakespearean characters we imaginatively identify ourselves and thus pass beyond the limitations of our own self and enter a world of imagination, we touch reality—an order of existence wherein a new entity is experienced. We experience the Shakespeare characters as potentialities of our own being and thus enter on our true inheritance of universality.

Now does Poothatamby's characterisation take us any way near this world of imagination and does it help us to discover the universal humanity within us?

What Mr. Chelliah has added to the story is for the most part what playwrighting conventions appear to demand. His treatment of this additional matter is certainly deft. The background of a Hindu home is well sketched. The major characters Alagavalli, wife of Poothatamby, and Andrado, the Sinhalese Captain of the guard, have been richly portrayed and carefully presented. These two characters are seen as human beings as well as types. Andrado is forcefully presented as more than an ambitious ego-centric soldier, he is a man who can let loose his tremendous energy only when he is consumed by something larger than himself, emotionally involved in an incident which he swears to revenge. It is the revenge of Andrado for spurned and disgraced love that which makes the wheels of the play go round.

It is essentially a well made play and there is much to admire in it.

The recent first splendid production of the play by the members of the Brotherhood—the London Matriculation students of Jaffna College—has revealed more virtues in the play than is visible by reading it. The central motive of the play—the motive of revenge—is experienced only when once the play is staged. In the theatre one sees more of the play than in the most sympathetic reading of the same.

The parts of the three major characters, the Chief Mudaliyar Poothatamby, his chaste wife Alagavalli and Andrado, the Sinhalese Captain of the guard, are well played by those members who took these parts. As the story begins we find

Poothatamby having a large and full measure of those things we usually associate with worldly success, a handsome and loving wife, high office and royal favour. Yet in the opening scenes of the play, Poothatamby by his acting did not convey the atmosphere of success and contentment about him. One would wish the Tamil Mudaliyar to look a bit more cheerful and to act more vivaciously in the early scenes of the play. In the closing scenes he did warm up and act his part well. Alagavalli was just what she should be. A little less of her mannerisms to indicate she is a woman would have been more becoming of her. Also in the parts where she expresses well her anguish that abrupt and jerky shaking of the head would have made the young man who played this difficult part superb in his acting. He does certainly contribute much by his acting for the dramatic tension of the play.

But the success of the whole play is due to the impression created by the brilliant acting by Andrado. The vital and exciting parts of the captain was well played and the tremendous drama in the situation is kept alive and effectively portrayed by the dashing young man who took the part of Andrado. This remarkably good piece of acting results in that, on the footlights, the character that strangely conjures up a response from the audience is Andrado.

The Dutch Commandeur of Jaffna-patnam acts with much dignity and acceptance his part. He speaks very well with good intonation, but some of it is lost as he is seated too far into the stage in rather poorly illuminated setting.

The two clergymen who appear in the play at their parts tolerably well. The Dutch Chaplain Baldaus presents himself well and should portray with a little more fervour his passion for conversion. Caldero the Roman priest, should control his shivering limbs a bit and speak more audibly. The little son of Poothatamby, Sothinathan acts quite acceptably and does speak his parts exceedingly well for his age. One would like to see Andrado's trusted guardsman discard his incongruous hat and his occasional comic pose. The two ubiquitous inhabitants Perumal and Kandasamy are rather ill paired because of their unequal acting and delivery of speech.

The production of the whole play is strikingly showy. The costumes are smartly and thoughtfully designed and the make-up is refined and modern. The background of a Hindu home is well set on the boards. The patron of the Brotherhood, a senior master in the College who is responsible for the production of the play, deserves unreserved applause for the very skilful and eminently successful handling of the material employed in the production of this play.

"Poothatamby" will be staged again by the same producers in the Jaffna Town Hall. Those who have not seen it yet, should go and see the splendid play of Dutch times brilliantly produced.

Opinions expressed by writers in contributed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.

Make Govt. Service Less Paying!

Remedy for Present Evils

Universal Education

THE Ancients have opposed Universal Education, and have imparted education only to a privileged few. Even during the mediaeval times, when France was the seat of civilisation and learning, when a little smattering of French was considered to be the hall mark of Education, Cardinal Richelieu, that man of destiny during that century, opposed Universal Education.

I do not therefore propose to go into the question in this article whether universal education is good or bad. That will be a good subject for discussion in another article.

I shall therefore proceed on the basis that Education is useful and necessary. I certainly agree with the Author who wrote: "Education is a companion which no misfortune can depress, no crime destroy, no enemy alienate, no despotism enslave. At home a friend, abroad an introduction, in solitude a solace and in Society, an ornament. Without it, what is man? a splendid slave, a reasoning Savage".

However, the purpose of this paper is to examine the past and present systems of Education in Ceylon, and how far it has helped the National upliftment or National Decline.

What are the great aims of Education? There are many, but I shall mention here only three which I consider very important, and embrace all other aims.

1. To aim at character development.
2. To discipline rather than to furnish the mind, to train it to the use of its own powers rather than to fill it with the accumulations of others, to convert the mind into a living fountain, and not a reservoir.
3. To aim at conserving and perfecting the life of the community. There should be complete identification between the interests of every unit and of the whole.

Education In Europe

IN Europe the church was responsible for the early schools. Education was given by monks in the school connected with the Monasteries. During the 15th and 16th centuries after the Renaissance many Universities and schools were founded. It was not until the 19th century, when education was taken over by the States, that Education was made universal. The Statesmen of Europe and England were not merely satisfied with founding more schools and universities and spending colossal sums of money in their countries. Conditions of their countries were carefully studied, and vast changes in Education were introduced to suit the needs and requirements of their countries, but without deviating from the true aims of Education.

In India and in Ceylon, in ancient days the education was imparted in temples and sometimes in the houses. The children were trained in the ordinary moral, civic and religious duties. The Guru-Sishya System was in vogue, and traces of this were even now found in Religious Mutts in India, and in the Buddhist priesthood in Ceylon. The

entire education of the child was left in the hands of the Guru, and education was imparted to each according to the individual ability and bias. While teaching the Alphabets, the Guru did not neglect to train the child in the correct aims of Education. It is no wonder that in olden days square pegs in round holes were very rare.

Foreign invasions and Foreign rule have more than once retarded the progress of National Education. Another hundred years may pass away before Ceylon can grope out of the dark abyss, into which she had been led by the Will-O-the-Wisp Education that was imparted during the last 100 years.

It cannot be denied that in Ceylon before the Britishers came, education was limited to only a few. But during the British regime education was made universal, large numbers of schools and colleges were built throughout the Island, schools and colleges were thrown open to women. Various subjects were introduced in schools. But in spite of all these, has Ceylon advanced?

The Real Object

THE growing machinery of the British Government wanted clerks and peons for its various government offices. A system of Education was introduced into the country by means of which the government hoped to recruit the necessary hands. Attractive salaries were offered. The attraction was so great that persons of the Hindu and Buddhist faiths became converts to Christianity with the sole idea of getting an English Education. A little English was considered to be the "open sesame" of wealth, influence, and position. The very statesmen of England who introduced frequently Educational changes to suit the rapidly changing conditions of their country, due to Scientific and Industrial developments did not lift their little fingers either to study local conditions or to introduce educational changes to suit the local conditions and the natural aptitude of the people of Ceylon. Instead they encouraged and helped the opening of schools and colleges throughout the Island, which are no more than factories for turning out clerks and peons.

Ceylon has its own traditions of culture, morals, and means of livelihood which have been evolved during the centuries to meet local needs. The English Statesmen had two alternatives open to them, either to impose Western Standards on the Ceylonese, or to build upon their own culture. The Government choose to adopt the former plan. The main occupation of the Ceylonese is concerned with agriculture in some form or another. But the education provided has been based upon a Western Model. Thus the Ceylonese is given a smattering of the Western culture, which makes him discontented with his natural environment, and leads him to leave the villages and seek jobs in the Towns. He soon finds however that there are no jobs available and is compelled to

return to his village, complete with a secondary education, but with no proper equipment for a life on the land.

The British Statesmen who consider themselves the trustees of the Ceylon people have still not made any attempts to make use of their vast knowledge and experience in such matters to evolve Syllabuses more in keeping with the real needs of the people. Instead they have allowed such a great and difficult task to be tackled by the amateur politician Educationalists of this country, some of whom are not fit even to be in charge of a small Elementary School.

An Awakening

OF recent times, in Ceylon there seems to be an awakening, and people realise, as if by intuition, that there is something wrong in the system of education in Ceylon. All sorts of remedies are being suggested. Methods are being introduced into the schools according to the whims and fancies of those amateur politician educationalists. A training in agriculture, and cottage industries, are being slowly introduced in the Ceylon schools. The politicians cry themselves hoarse exhorting the students to go back to the land. In spite of the fact that large sums of money are being spent on education, the cost of education for a child to go through a secondary education or a University Career is much more today than it was some years back. Introduction of classes like the Pre-Matriculation and Post-Matriculation classes makes education still more expensive and is really meant to bar a larger number of students from going through a University career.

Have these innovations stemmed the tide, in the slightest degree, of the mad rush for English Education?

Has the desire of the parents to obtain for their children a University degree or a Matriculation or Senior examination certificate in any way been lessened? Emphatically I declare, "No". There are thousands of parents who have gone to the wall in this mad rush and realised the truth only too late. Still there are thousands who have joined in this mad rush with their eyes open, and with the full realisation of the fates of others; but their hope, the distant hope of a good future for their children, is so dangerously dazzling and attractive, that they are unable to control themselves. They are like unto the fly that is attracted by the dazzling light of a burning lamp.

The Cause

WHERE then does the cause lie? What is that dazzling light in the distance towards which we are all rushing madly without pausing for a moment to consider whether we shall realise the happiness of that light, whether we shall be completely burnt, or only singed in our attempt to realise that happiness, or whether the light is only a mirage?

It is the duty of every person to think and find out the real cause, for unless the cause is found, the present state of affairs cannot be remedied. To each man the same

By

C. Thanabala Singham,

Proctor S. C.

cause may appear to be different, according to the angle from which each person approaches the subject, and according to each man's bias. From the views of different persons when put together and examined, there may emerge a complete whole which is the real cause of all these evils and the eradication of which will remedy the present state of affairs.

I therefore propose to deal with the cause as I see it, which may be completely wrong or completely right, or which may be only one phase of the real cause.

I think the distant light towards which we are all madly rushing is the distant hope of obtaining for our children cosy jobs, carrying with them fat salaries, influence and position in life higher than other fellow men. What is a cosy job, or influence, or fat salary or higher position in life varies according to each man's ambition, wealth and status in life. But, however, that idea is present in almost every one of us. Exhortations to go back to the land or to study cottage industries are meant only to others' children and not to their own children. Those who preach these things from open platforms, as far as their children are concerned, prefer to follow the Will-O-the-Wisp education of the present.

It cannot be denied that the Government services are very attractive not only on account of the high salaries offered, but also on account of the cosiness, the influence and the status that go with the jobs. Under these circumstances any attempt to persuade the parents to send their children back to the land, will be fruitless, until the full resources of the parents are exhausted, when they often realise too late that they have not the necessary capital to go back to the land.

The remedy therefore is to make the Government and public services less attractive. How? The cosiness, the influence and the status that go with the government jobs cannot be divorced from them. They will be there and they must be there. But the salaries of Servants employed under the government and public services must be reduced to make them less attractive. The low salaries of the government and public servants must be compensated by the cosiness, the influence and the status in life, such servants enjoy in addition to the pension they or their dependants enjoy after their retirement or after death respectively.

How would the reduction of salaries of Government and public servants bring about a change in the present system of education in the country?

The moment the parents realise that their children will be financially much better off if they follow independent means of livelihood, such as agriculture, trade, or industries, than if they were employed under the Government and public services, and that the want of cosiness, influence or status will be compensated by the larger re-

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The Population Problem of Asia

By

A. Thiagarajah, M.A.

India's Claim to Expansion

Significant Facts

CARR-Saunders, an authority on population problems, in his book 'World Population,' has made a masterly survey of the population trends in the various countries. In his view France is facing the problem of a declining population. Great Britain and the Low Countries, though densely populated, are not overpopulated. They have a stationary population considering the degree of industrialisation they have undergone. Germany, notwithstanding her claim for 'Lebensraum,' has been inviting labour from adjoining territories, for her agriculture and industries. This, it might be said, is due to the withdrawal of German labour for war purposes. But it is still possible to find room for a growing German population under peaceful conditions in Europe itself, failing which we have the American Continent. Italy, in one sense, is over-populated, considering the meagre resources she has and the care she takes to utilise them even though statistics show that her population is growing at a less pace after the drive for an increased population than before it. Though her desire to colonise round the Mediterranean Sea is not unnatural, her policy of carrying it out at the cost of the native population is most reprehensible. A passing mention may be made that the desire to increase the number of one's own race has no economic motive but is purely concerned with power-politics. Neither does the unemployment problem of Europe indicate that Europe is over-populated, for, the agricultural countries being more hard-hit than the industrial ones in the last depression, it was found that more people were arriving in England from the Dominions than Englishmen emigrating to them in the course of the depression. From this we get of popula-

tion trends and a consideration of all the factors that govern the rise or decline of the population of a country, our expert Carr-Saunders draws the conclusion that the European population is not likely to grow at a greater rate than the rate of economic productive capacity. And, after noting that the growth of Europe Overseas is an important feature of the modern age, he also points out that the population of the Dominions will not increase considerably, and that a great economic potential will lie waste in vast portions of the world.

Asia Overseas

THE contention of this thesis is that, if Europe Overseas has been the feature of the period that has preceded, Asia Overseas is to be the notable feature of the coming period. Asia has always been the centre from whence people are said to have emigrated to the four corners of the earth. For a time she has been dormant because the material spirit of Europe has planted itself along the frontiers of Asia and has exploited both Asia and the region outside it. The natural freedom of Asia has been curtailed and hence Asia, for one reason or other, has become overpopulated. Carr-Saunders has pointed out that India is over-populated though some Indian economists will not willingly acquiesce in it. Improvement of the health of the people and social reforms like widow remarriage and the removal of other social disabilities would tend to increase the population further. Though postponement of marriage, removal of child marriage, an intense industrialisation of the country, and such like remedies would mitigate the problem, the problem of overpopulation would remain largely unsolved. The case of China is much like that of India, though for a statistician China remains a dark world. The case

of Japan is slightly different. Though the population increased vastly until 1925, the subsequent trend must be characterised as stationary. Like Germany, Japan appears to be overpopulated, but it is found that more labourers arrive in Japan from Korea to work her industries than those who emigrate. It is said that all strenuous efforts to induce emigration from Japan and all facilities afforded for that purpose have met with little success. Also, there are more Japanese emigrants in other countries than within the Japanese empire. The more urgent problem of Japan seems to be that of raw materials than that of population. Contraception is so widely prevalent in Japan that birth rates have declined, and, for a time to come, Japanese pretensions for room to expand may be camouflage for reaching at raw material sources. Java is getting full and may have to swell into the neighbouring islands. Other countries in South-East Asia are, however, not faced with the problem. Ceylon has been experiencing a steady decline both in the birth and death rates. She is not overpopulated; nor is she likely to face the peril of a declining population.

Over-Population of Asia

On the whole that Asia is overpopulated no one will deny. But where should the surplus find its way in order to people other lands without at the same time encroaching on other settled peoples? The problem concerns India, China and even Japan in time to come. There are spaces within Asia no doubt. Manchuria affords an outlet, and of the three sets of immigrants into that country, the Chinese stream has been steady. Japanese and Russian attempts to migrate thither have not been significant. China has already begun to carry her civilisation into her Western provinces—Yunnan, Sin-

kiang, etc. India has nearly brought most of the waste lands under cultivation and there is hardly any room except in Assam. Chinese and Indians are found in most of the Archipelago and the door is closed against them in Burma, Ceylon, Malaya and Java. It is not right to allow either French or Japanese exploitation in Indo-China or Siam. These countries must be allowed to develop under international protection. But the East Indies could accommodate more Chinese and Indians. The granting of Sumatra to India would not be out of place. It could be also a strategic outpost of a republican India. Republican China can also have access to the East Indies.

Outside Asia

But more vital are territories outside Asia. Northern Australia has a monsoonal climate and is suitable for tropical peoples to inhabit. Australians are at present following a dog-in-the-manger policy and the fear that, if Asiatics are allowed in the mainland, they will move into Southern Australia to the detriment of the Australians is unfounded. If colour consciousness stood in the way of justice, it would be preferable to find room for Australians in America en masse than that they should be in Australia. Also Asiatics must find a place in Africa along the east coast. Of course, some have argued that the European powers are in Africa in order to help the natives onwards. No one denies the natives any rights, but what they cannot possibly consume must be handed to those who are needy. The White policy in Africa to maintain it as their preserve is too well known. If reason and justice shall prevail, there must be room found for Asiatics both in Australia and in Africa. Once we accept a principle it is not hard to evolve a detailed scheme. Even men like Rt. Hon. V. S. Sastri have conceived such ideas when they pleaded in the last post-war peace talks that Tanganyika be given to India. Asia will then be in a position to help world culture and progress.

Side Lights and Light Sides

By

"Squint Eye"

The letter 'E' is the most frequently used of any in the alphabet, says a newspaper filler.

We thought, till the other day, it was I. Now of course it is V.

* * *

What some newspapers call RED SUCCESSES on the Russian front are said to be Black Defeats by the Nazis.

* * *

According to Moscow Russian casualties in the first two months were 700,000 and German 2,000,000.

As I have always maintained the biggest casualty was arithmetic in this world war.

* * *

Germans Fighting Against

Time, said a newspaper headline.

They've always wanted a place in the Sun, and failing to get it, they go for the Sun.

* * *

So many people, from the highest to the humblest, are hoping for a better world after this war.

Let us hope the devil will not make it a bitter world.

* * *

As a matter of fact Versailles left a bitter world last time.

* * *

During one raid the Russians announced the total number of enemy aircraft destroyed as 15. The British Air Mission which had a restricted view of the esti-

mates stated that 15 was a very conservative estimate of the total number of planes destroyed, reports a war blurb.

The onlooker sees more of the game; you can imagine the number if an unrestricted view was possible; the Russians are so modest.

* * *

The gas output in the Caucasus has shown considerable increase since the German attack on Russia, says a Soviet despatch.

With the Germans it is all so much gas.

* * *

Mr. Mackenzie King, giving an interview on his return from England, expressed confidence

that his stay in Britain had been made at "a very opportune time." He was glad that he had made the trip when he did.

"I could not have gone at a better time," Mr. King said. "I would not have accomplished as good results if I had gone to Britain earlier.

That doesn't sound like King's English, this redundancy in wartime economy.

* * *

Correct Answers for five questions Rupee one. State birth details etc., say so many advertisers in the press these days.

People sitting for examinations can easily invest a few rupees in this simple method and 'do' the examiners in the eye.

Maviddapuram Kandasamy Kovil

Action by the Hindu Public

SEVERAL leading Hindus of Valikamam North Division in the District of Jaffna who are worshippers and are interested in the said temple presented a petition to the Government Agent of the Northern Province complaining about alleged irregularities connected with the daily poojas and festivals in the said temple and other acts in the management against the manager and high priest S. Subramania Kurukkal alias Retna Kurukkal of Maviddapuram, Jaffna. The Government Agent of the Northern Province after making inquiries through his Headmen of the Division, appointed three Commissioners to inquire into the subject-matter of their petition. These Commissioners first tried to settle matters amicably but the manager Retna Kurukkal refused to accept any proposal and claimed the whole temple etc as his own private property. Then they held several sittings and recorded evidences of several witnesses and made their report to the Government Agent who issued a Certificate to the petitioners in terms of the Trust Ordinance No. 9 of 1917.

Some of these petitioners have now filed an action in the District Court of Jaffna.

The plaintiffs prayed among other things that a scheme of management be framed by Court for the control and supervision of matters concerning the said temple and for collection of all incomes and for custody and preservation of all its properties and for the performances of poojas, festivals and other ceremonies in the said temple and for the appointment of a Board of Trustees by Court and for an order on the 1st defendant Retna Kurukkal to render accounts to Court and to deposit in Court all balances due and to pay all costs to the plaintiffs. By a subsequent application the plaintiffs prayed for the appointment of a Receiver to collect all incomes of the said temple till the final determination of this action and for an order to restrain the said manager Retna Kurukkal from collecting offerings, donations, moneys etc from the worshippers on account of the said wrongful acts recited above. Summons and notices were issued and served on the four defendants who obtained time and have filed their answers and objections to the plaint and application of the plaintiffs. The 1st defendant-manager Retna Kurukkal denied almost all the averments in the plaint and admitted that he took charge of the said temple and its properties about the year 1885 in his own right as proprietor and manager and stated in particular that the said temple is not a Charitable Trust and that the plaintiffs are not interested in the said temple within the meaning of The Trust Ordinance and that this action is not maintainable in law by the plaintiffs and that the cause of action, if any, is prescribed in law and that he (Retna Kurukkal) is lawfully entitled to be in possession of the said temple and that some persons

A FAREWELL

The members of the Point Pedro Sports Club met on 1st October at the Tennis Court to bid farewell to Mr. Q. A. D. Mather, Excise Inspector, Point Pedro, on the eve of his departure to Elephant Pass. There was a Tennis match between Mather's and Mr. Sivagnansundram's teams which ended in a victory to the former. At the conclusion of the match light refreshments were served. Messrs. C. Kulaveerasingam, N. Sivagnanasundram, S. R. Muthuthamby, and S. Jacob extolled the virtues of the departing member and showed how well the members appreciated the services rendered by Mr Mather to the Club and wished him a prosperous career. Mr. Mather then thanked them for what they said about him and thanked the members for the great honour they have accorded to him. (cor.)

Vallikamam East T. A.

The first general meeting of the V. E. T. A. for 1942-42 will be held on Thursday, October 9 at the Urumpirai Hindu College, Chunnakam, N. P., at 4 p. m. Mr. K. Nesiah, M. A., Dip. Ed., General Secretary, All-Ceylon Union of Teachers, and Mr. D. C. Arulanatham, Secretary, N. P. T. A., have been invited to address the Association. Mr. J. S. Thirurajasingham, President, V. E. T. A., will take the chair. All members are invited to attend.

Auction Sale

D. C. J. 16182

Meerankandu Mohamed Lebbe of Vannarponnai West

Vs. Plaintiff.

1. Abdulader Sahul Hameed of do

2. Kandiah Thiruvathar of Grand Bazaar, Jaffna. Defendants.

Philip Moses of Jaffna as Assignee of the Insolvent Kandiah Thiruvathar's Estate in Insolvency Case No. 189 D. C. Jaffna.

Substituted defendant in place of 2nd Defendant.

In pursuance of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna, in the above case, I shall sell the below mentioned property by Public Auction on Thursday the 6th November 1941 commencing at 10 a. m. at the spot.

PROPERTY REFERRED TO:

An allotment of land situated at Vannarponnai West in the Parish of Vannarponnai in the Division and District of Jaffna, Northern Province called "Chempakanachchikulankarai" in extent 4 Lachchams V. C. and 10½ kulies with upstairs building, wells, cultivated and spontaneous plantations and all other appurtenances belonging thereto as per plan No. 954 dated 8th August 1933 and prepared by J. D. Veerasingham, Licensed Surveyor and bounded on the East by the property of Sultar Segu Madar, North by the property of Segu Mohamed Neyna Mohamed and shareholders, West by Road and on the South by bye lane and the property of Mehideen Kandu Mohideenthambay and his mother Ponnachchy.

S. MUTTUKUMARASWAMY,
Commissioner of Sales.

"Siva Villa"

Manipay,

3-10-41.

(Mis. 105. 6-10-41.)

out of devotion have voluntarily contributed moneys towards the building and maintenance of the said temple and that he (Retna Kurukkal) is under no obligation to render any account and that the plaintiffs have no status in law to apply to Court for the appointment of a Receiver and that this action should be dismissed with costs.

The trial of this Case is fixed by Court for the 3rd December 1941 before the Additional District Judge.

Make Govt. Service Less Paying!

Continued from page 3

munerations they will enjoy in following their independent means of living, in addition to the spirit of freedom inherent in such work, the parents will not hesitate to choose an independent career for their children instead of service under the State.

Question of Salaries

IT may then be argued that the best men ought to be taken into the services of the State and that it will be impossible to attract the best men, unless the salaries are attractive.

This argument cannot hold good if it is realised, that the best men are not always brainy men, that character is more essential in the service of the State than mere brains, and that the affairs of the State are safer in the hands of the people who are attracted more by the love of the work, rather than the salaries attached to them.

Further the salaries attached to the jobs under the government and public services are more or less based on the salaries paid to such persons in England, where the standard of living is much higher, and where the national wealth is infinitely more than the wealth of Ceylon. Sentiment has prevailed over reason, when the Ceylonese and Europeans are employed on the same terms for the same kind of jobs in Ceylon.

Once this rush for obtaining certificates and degrees, which are necessary passports for services under the State ceases, then Education will follow its correct course. Then the time will be ripe for introducing systems of education, which will not only embody the true aims of education, but also such systems as would entitle each community to increase the wealth of the nation.

Compulsory and free education must be given, sufficient to raise the young out of gross ignorance. The children must be given free and compulsory education up to at least the 8th standard. The curricula should not only include the three R's but must vary according to vocations of the public.

The last two or three years will reveal the dispositions and capacities of the children and the parents will be able to determine for their children any special line of life. The vocations the parents will choose for their children, will probably be their hereditary vocation, and there are great many advantages in such choice.

Sometimes the parents might choose for their children other vocations in life. Schools with provisions for two years of practical training in every vocation in life must be established, and the State should partially assist the running of such institutions.

The more promising children may then be sent to colleges and they will succeed far better; for they will have minds suited for education and will be placed in the hands of the best teachers.

There will then come a time when every man will follow his hereditary vocation in life, or such other suitable vocation and higher education will be taken up by only those who have a love, capability and natural aptitude for higher edu-

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1069

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Amirthaledchumy wife of Muttar Ponnampalam of Elalai, Deceased.

Muttar Ponnampalam of Elalai, Vs. Petitioner.

- Minor. 1. Pathmasany daughter of Ponnampalam,
" 2. Inthirani daughter of Ponnampalam,
" 3. Pushparany daughter of Ponnampalam, and
4. Veluppillai Chellappah, all of Elalai, Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before D. A. Leverage Esquire, Addl. District Judge, Jaffna, on the 4th day of September, 1941, in the presence of Mr. M. S. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read: It is ordered and declared that the abovenamed 4th respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd and 3rd minor respondents for the purpose of safeguarding their interests in these Testamentary Proceedings and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued and granted to the petitioner unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person shall appear before this Court on the 15th day of October, 1941 and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna, The 4th day of September 1941

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge

Drawn by
Sgd. M. S. Subramaniam
Proctor for Petitioner
(O. 37. 2 & 6-10-41)

DENTAL NOTICE

S. Imai, (Japanese Dentist)
Colombo,

will be at Jaffna at Tiruchelvam buildings, Main Street, Jaffna, from 7th to 16th October, 1941.
(Mis. 106. 6-01-41.)

education. Instances of very learned men following their hereditary vocations, however humble, are not wanting in ancient history.

I wish to utter a word of warning. Under the present system of education the nation has declined. It has filled Ceylon with half taught men, men who may ruin families and trouble public peace, but cannot be of any service to the country or to themselves.

There are more people capable of doubts than those capable of resolving them, more intelligences fitted to oppose rather than defend the truth. There are an infinite multitude of persons, who having failed to achieve their goal, have become weaklings and diseased.

If Ceylon is to rise up, the system of education must be changed and that is possible only where the demand for this type of Education is diminished. The demand will diminish only when the Government services are made less attractive, which could be done only by reducing the salaries of the Government Servants. This is the remedy I suggest, and I would urge every one to examine what I have stated without any bias.

Hindu College, Urumpirai

Annual Prize-Giving

The Prize-Giving of the Urumpirai Hindu College was held with great eclat, on Sept. 25. The function was held in the College quadrangle which was tastefully decorated and well illuminated. Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, N. P., Adigar A. Naganather, Mr. C. Cumaraswamy, District Judge, Jaffna, Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, N. D., Mrs. Cumaraswamy and Mrs. Vethavanam were accommodated in a specially constructed pandal, beautifully illuminated and decorated. The function began sharp at 6.30 p. m. Even to this time the entire quadrangle was full. It is estimated that about 2000 people must have been present. The principal detailed the aims and achievements of the College in a well written report.

From the welcome song sung by two girls to the last item 'a Tamil farce', all the items were par excellence. The recitations were admirably rendered while the very difficult English farce 'Wanted a boy' was skilfully acted. The Tamil 'farce' contributed by the Tamil school raised all round laughter and applause. But perhaps the *piece de resistance* was the dance in which eight little children of the Tamil school took part. It was beautifully and skilfully executed and the entire audience were delighted with the dancing of these little girls, rendered almost fairy-like by the coloured foot-lights. The scene from (Sakku Bai) and the Tamil farce acted by the boys reached a high level of excellence—the little girls acting the part of the old man and the heroine, and the boy playing the part of 'Baghavathar' acquitted themselves very well indeed.

The two speakers, Adigar A. Naganather and Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, congratulated the Principal and his staff on the excellent items they had provided and offered a few words of advice—the Adigar raising his sincere cry, 'Go back to the land' and the Inspector speaking about the necessity of developing one's creative faculties like art, music etc. The Chairman who appeared to have gone through the report of the Principal, in a thoughtful speech, congratulated the Principal and the staff on the useful work they are rendering for the village and frankly said that he had never seen such a unique function. He praised the attainments of the College, especially in the study of English language and literature. With a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. K. Padmanathan and seconded by Mr. S. Ponnuthurai, the function came to a close at 10.15 p. m. (Cor.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1057

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Senathirajah Rajagopal of Alaveddy

Deceased.

Nannippillai widow of Senathirajah

Tamils Must Organise Themselves

Continued from page 1

Managing partner of such business for the time being.

Priests and Government Servants are not entitled to become Members of such a body.

Only Ceylon Tamils and the Indian Tamils who have the franchise rights in legislative or local bodies and who come under one of the classes 1 to 7 are entitled to become Members.

I have given a short outline of a workable scheme for an All Ceylon Tamil Organisation and if any Tamil or friend of the Tamils will throw in his suggestions to be embodied in what I have outlined I shall deem it a service to the Tamils and to the Island as a whole.

My one desire is that the Tamils who are kept apart by interested or selfish politicians, if I may be pardoned for saying so, and appear scattered without a recognised leader, should rally round the common flag and become a self-respecting, independent and vigorous race self-contained in itself with arms stretched to grasp the hands of the other races on honourable and just terms to form one body politic and devise a machinery to make Mother Lanka rule herself as an equal partner of the British Empire.

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P. Nadarajah.

Consult, DR. K. T. MANGALAM
R.J.M.P., (Madras), M.S.V.S. Member
Chundikuli, Jaffna.

[Q. 82 7-8-6-11-41.]

Rajagopal of Alaveddy

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Rajagopal Ramachandran of Alaveddy
2. Nagamany Chelliah of Alaveddy

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Cumaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 4th day of August 1941 in the presence of Mr. S. Ilayathambi Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner dated 2nd and 4th day of August 1941 respectively having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the abovenamed 1st Respondent minor for the purpose of representing him in this Testamentary proceedings and of protecting his interests and that Letters of administration be granted to the petitioner unless the abovenamed Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 12th day of September 1941 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 4th day of August 1941
(Sgd.) C. Cumaraswamy
District Judge

12-9-41

Order Nisi extended for 24-10-41
(Sgd. C. C.

D. J.

(O. 36. 2 & 6-10-41)

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(Y. 21 B. 11-8-40—10-8-41.)

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Mis. 127. 14-11-40—

Printed, and published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Vannarponnai East, Jaffna for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannarponnai, Jaffna, on MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1941.