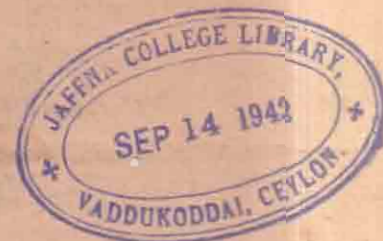


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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Acting Information Officer

Mr. R. Patrick, Deputy Director of Education, will act as Information Officer, during the absence of Mr. K. Vaithianathan who is away in India.

Japanese Warships Attacked

A communique issued from Allied Headquarters in the South-West Pacific states: "Faise—Solomons: Our heavy bombers attacked enemy warships with unknown results. Heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. All our planes returned to their base."

All-India Trade Union Congress President Arrested

Mr. V. V. Giri, President of the All-India Trade Union Congress, has been arrested under the Defence of India Rules.

Devadas Gandhi was also arrested and produced before the District Magistrate and remanded in custody till August 24.

Bribery Commission's Expenses

A further sum of Rs. 3,000 is to be sought from the State Council in connection with the expenses for the current year of the Bribery Commission. The provision of Rs. 3,500 from which the preliminary expenses of the Commission have been met is nearly exhausted and it is estimated that a further sum of Rs. 3,000 is likely to be required to meet further charges in the current financial year.

Rs. 25,640 For Sir Baron's Mission

Sir Baron Jayatilaka's mission to India in connexion with food supplies will cost this country Rs. 25,640. In view of the urgency of the matter, a special warrant for this amount was issued under Article 67 of the Order-in-Council, and the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce will shortly introduce a supplementary estimate in the State Council, to obtain formal sanction of the House to incur the expenditure.

SOME ASPECTS OF GANDHIAN SOCIALISM

A SHARE IN GENERAL HAPPINESS FOR ALL

BY BIJOYLAL CHATTERJEE

WHY is Gandhiji making such Herculean efforts to make us rural-minded? Because he is so eager to build Swaraj on non-violence, which means the end of exploitation; for it is exploitation that is responsible for keeping people steeped in the mud of poverty. So long as exploitation continues, poverty also continues. But why does the proletariat allow the capitalist to exploit him? Because he has nothing but his right hand and a lot of hungry children around him whom he has to feed. The revival of village industries would provide the unemployed proletariat with work and thus enable him to remain in his own village where he would be able to earn his livelihood. Exploitation would thus cease, for the revival of village industries has made the villages self-contained and the villagers self-reliant. The capitalist no longer finds it easy to turn men and women into helpless tools and force them to work for him like cattle in his fields, factories and mines. The spinning wheel, the symbol of cottage industries, is then meant to mark an end of exploitation by making villages self-sufficient. Without it Gandhiji does not see it possible to reconstruct society on non-violence.

Equality of Income

Socialism means equal distribution, in Bernard Shaw's language 'equality of income.' Non-violence implies socialism. Whenever you love a man you identify yourself with him. 'I do not ask the wounded man how he feels. I myself become the wounded man.' These words of Walt Whitman reflect the true character of love. Love leads to the temple of equality—not only social and political equality but economic equality also. The economic question is fundamental in politics and sociology. You must begin with the feeding of the individual. When you preach spiritual equality with your starving fellowmen from your comfortable villa,

that sounds hollow and unreal. Adult franchise has no significance for the hungry millions unless it is accompanied with economic equality. Political equality is good but food is infinitely better. That we are all equal before the eyes of God, is a very sublime idea, but equality of income is no less a sublime idea, writes the author in "Modern Review"

Decent Houses & Plenty of Food

Gandhiji's conception of Swaraj assures plenty of food to all. If a single human being is deprived of the blessings of that Swaraj, if a single child cries in independent India for want of milk, that would not be Swaraj but a caricature of Swaraj. That Swaraj, having its foundation on love cannot tolerate the idea that anybody should remain poor in the midst of plenty. All must have a share in the general happiness. Gandhiji is not much enamoured of the word Independence, for it implies a negative idea, i. e., non-existence of foreign rule. He is in love with the word Swaraj, for Swaraj conveys a positive idea—the idea that every individual in independent India should be free and perfect. In Gandhiji's picture of Swaraj decent houses and plenty of food are assured to all. He says:—

"According to my definition of Swaraj, even the poorest Indian should get enough milk, ghee, vegetable and fruits. Every man and woman must get a balanced diet and decent house."

A Vicious System.

He knows that it is ignorance and cowardice that have kept people in bondage. Poverty is only the symptom of a disease which is spiritual. If the people could be educated enough to see for themselves that not fate but their own ignorance and cowardice are responsible for their miseries, they would not sit idle but would exert themselves to change the present

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LAW SOCIETY OF CEYLON

JAFFNA PLEDGES SUPPORT

Mr. Sam J. O. Kadirgamar, President of the Colombo Proctors' Association and Chairman of the Law Society Project addressed the Proctors at an informal meeting of the Jaffna Proctors' Association held in the Jaffna Law Library at 12.30 p. m. on Tuesday the 18th instant.

Mr. E. Murugesampillai, Vice President took the chair and a large number of Proctors were present.

Mr. Kadirgamar explained the objects and scope of the proposed Law Society emphasizing the need for such a Society which will set up and maintain a high standard. Proctors should not shirk the duty, which is rightly theirs, of dealing with the conduct of fellow practitioners when occasion arose as they were the best judges of professional matters. An incorporated Law Society alone can set up a Disciplinary Committee to deal with all matters of professional conduct. The Society could receive and use for the benefit of the profession nearly Rs. 50,000 per year in license renewal fees. It will provide a Headquarters building for the profession with a permanent staff to give information to members in all professional matters, to advise and guide practitioners in matters of etiquette and conduct. Such headquarters will be modern in every respect with a reference and lending library and lodging rooms for outstation members &c. The Supreme Court, the Legal Secretary, and the public in general will welcome a Law Society as an outward and visible sign of the desire on the part of the profession to put their house in order and to assist in the administration of justice in the most efficient manner possible. Mr. Kadirgamar said that the Law Society of Ceylon was long overdue and that the efforts of Colombo Proctors' Association during many years should be given all the necessary backing from similar Associations throughout the Island. He invited the co-operation of the profession in Jaffna where the second largest number of Proctors practised.

After Mr. Kadirgamar had

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MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1942.

FORETASTE OF INVASION

THE DIEPPE RAID SHOULD give the Germans a foretaste of the things that are yet to come. They were never inclined to doubt the possibility of invasion. With vastly extended coast line in their occupation, with the necessity for biting deep into Russia in their desperate search for oil, and, above all things, with the knowledge that they are holding down the greater portion of Europe by the worst tyranny the world has ever known, they could not have expected anything else. A successful invasion would at once put Hitler on the defensive both in the East and in the West and would bring to an end the present German game of shifting the balance of air power or tank power from one front to another. This is exactly what the Germans did during the last war. There were no motor roads then, but Germany had an excellent system of railways which served her military machine well. When the Allies, however, started the "big push", the German generals were compelled to face the real facts of the situation and a general collapse of morale as well as military and naval resistance was the result. German strategy has always aimed at retaining the offensive for no other reason than this, but then such a thing is possible only when the other side is obsessed with the idea of the defensive.

It has been rightly said that what is wanted is a successful invasion. A second front that would collapse at the very outset would be far worse than the situation in which the Allied nations now find themselves. Neither the British nor the American General Staff would care to launch an actual invasion in force without satisfying itself that the enterprise has a reasonable chance of success. We think the real idea behind the commando raids is not only to give the troops a realistic training for the task ahead but also to arrive at a fairly correct estimate of the forces that will be pitted against them. The Germans, who are, as a rule, not inclined to be very frank about their own preparations, have announced more than once that, in spite of the Russian campaign, in spite of the position of General Rommel in Egypt, they are ready to meet any Allied attempt to land in France. This may be true, but it is worth while finding

out whether there is any substance in these obliging announcements of the enemy. It would not be wise to underrate German resourcefulness but it would be equally unwise to rate it too high.

These raids are bound to involve loss. The last raid has resulted in a certain amount of loss which could not have been avoided. But the experience gained in every direction is invaluable, and this is no doubt the view the General Staff takes of the matter. We think there will be many more such commando raids before the actual invasion is launched. The need for caution has been apparent even to the layman. Though the pressure on Russia is very severe, the Allied nations too have to be sure of their ground before they act. Air support is not the only problem. During the last raid British superiority in the air was not seriously challenged. But there are other things in addition to air superiority that are needed to make an invasion successful, and we feel convinced that the leaders of the British and American nations have adopted the best means of testing themselves and the enemy.

NOTES & COMMENTS

Import of Foodstuffs

THE suggestion that the Jaffna Urban Council should be permitted to import foodstuffs for distribution amongst the inhabitants of the town is one that deserves consideration. A similar proposal was made in regard to the Colombo Municipal Council. In considering the suggestion two main questions have to be faced. In the first place, there is the question of purchase in, and export from, India. The Indian and Provincial Governments have tightened their control over the sale and export of paddy, and they have promised to give the whole island monthly only a fixed quantity. Anybody in Ceylon like the Jaffna Urban Council will have to negotiate with the Government of India for a separate allocation of paddy for export over and above the quantity promised to the central Government in Ceylon. We do not think the Ceylon Government will be prepared to allow local bodies to take a share out of what they have been promised. Such a course may well upset the whole scheme of food distribution in Ceylon. The second question is whether, assuming that an Urban Council has been permitted to import paddy or rice, the distribution of the imported foodstuffs will replace the present system of rationing in the Urban area or will be in addition to and independent of that system. We have to confess that the suggestion bristles with difficulties. If the Urban Council is to introduce a scheme of distribution of its

own in place of the present arrangements it must be in a position to inspire its constituents with a certain measure of confidence in its ability to perform its task. If, on the other hand, all that is suggested is that, side by side with the existing system of rationing, an Urban Council should be permitted to add to the present ration out of its own imported stock of food, provided that all the other difficulties are overcome, the suggestion does not appear to be objectionable. But is there the remotest chance of the Indian authorities being persuaded to allow the Jaffna Urban Council to import a stock of paddy or rice in excess of Ceylon's quota already fixed? If there is, it should be tried.

University for Jaffna

THE writer whose article on the University question appears in another column puts forward a strong plea for the establishment of a University for Jaffna. We may say at once that the question is not one of mere sentiment. Jaffna has been the pioneer in the field of education throughout Ceylon. Jaffna has built up a number of excellent educational institutions that have done, and are still doing, useful work. As pointed out by the writer of the article, the Batticotta (Vaddukkoddai) Seminary was a miniature University and it produced men who achieved eminence in more than one walk of life. The Medical School founded by Dr. Green is now no more, but this school had one merit which the Ceylon Medical College does not possess—it sought to impart modern medical knowledge through the medium of the mother-tongue. The School was, therefore, able to produce physicians who understood the Ayurvedic as well as the Western system of medicine. The Seminary too placed a good deal of emphasis on the study of Tamil with the result that the students who familiarised themselves with Western philosophy and literature were not strangers to Tamil culture. That a system so conceived and carried out had to be given up was the result of certain practical, or rather commercial, considerations, but it was none the less a misfortune. The system could have been so adjusted as to produce the desired results. This was not done and Jaffna followed the example of the rest of the island. The consequences have been disastrous. This is why Mr. Proctor, the writer of the article, argues in favour of a University for Jaffna. We wish him every success in the cause he has espoused.

Solution of the Food Problem

WE understand that the Board of Ministers has decided to place under the control of the Minister of

Lands and Agriculture all matters connected with food which were formerly in charge of the Minister of Labour, Industries and Commerce. It will be remembered that the Civil Defence Commissioner was recently put in immediate charge of these matters. The result of the Board's decision will be that henceforth the Civil Defence Commissioner will become an adjunct of the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture. It is our earnest hope that the change will bring about some improvement in the food position. We have great faith in Mr. Senanayake who is doing his best to undo the harm already done by the island's utter dependence on foreign sources of supply. He knows every nook and corner of the country and as Minister of Agriculture he understands the food resources of the island very well. After all, it is always safe for a country to depend on its own food supply. Mr. Senanayake may be trusted to devote his energy to the solution of the island's food problem without stint.

Election Violence

AT the last meeting of the State Council many members complained of the prevalence of violence at election time. Even Mr. Bandaranaike was of the opinion that it was time that rowdiness at elections should definitely stop. Yes, it should stop. There is not the slightest doubt that, unless it stops, the Ceylon brand of democracy will begin to stink in the nostrils of every decent-minded person. But who are the real authors of all this violence? Who are the men who hire rowdies to pester and assault their opponents? There was a suggestion in the course of the debate that some of the Ministers themselves had a hand in the usual election intrigues. To put it plainly, violence in the cause of the Sinbala Maha Sabha is not less reprehensible than violence in the cause of the "National" Congress. Our Councillors should understand that principles do not change with circumstances. It is a case of sauce for the goose, sauce for the gander.

The Council and Its Privileges

THE State Council is very sensitive in the matter of its rights and privileges. In some cases it has been in fact too sensitive. But the recent excitement in the Council over the Governor's action in depriving the Deputy Speaker of his commission in the Navy on account of certain passages in the latter's speech in the Council is not without a certain amount of justification. Members of Council who are also military or naval officers should, however, be guarded in their utterances. If they feel that they cannot discharge their duties in the Council without at the same time committing a breach of military or naval discipline, they owe it to themselves to resign their commissions before enjoying the delights of free speech in Council.

AGRICULTURE FOR CONVICTS

New Modified Proposal

It is understood that the Executive Committee of Home Affairs is considering a proposal for the release of certain classes of prisoners on the understanding that they would engage themselves in food production schemes which would be launched by the Government for their benefit.

The proposal for the release of prisoners for this purpose, it is learned, has been made by the Inspector-General of Prisons in connection with the scheme submitted by the Minister of Communications and Works and the Minister of Health for the employment of prison labour in food production schemes.

Small Number Suitable

The Inspector-General of Prisons, it is learned has pointed out that out of nearly 3,500 prisoners, not more than 150 persons suitable for working in agricultural undertakings will be available daily. He has, therefore, suggested that it would be more appropriate for the purpose to release certain types of prisoners on the understanding that they would work in food production schemes.

It is also pointed out that recently the Executive Committee of Home Affairs considered the desirability of releasing prisoners to prevent the overcrowding of prisons in view of the emergency.

Employing released prisoners on food production schemes, it is pointed out, would serve both purposes in view.

JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL

GENERAL MEETING

The following are extracts from the Minutes of Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Jaffna Urban Council held at the Office of the Council on Friday August 14 at 5 p. m.

Present:—Mr. R. Sivaguranathan, Chairman; Mr. V. Suppiah, Vice-Chairman; Mr. R. R. Nalliah, J. P., M. B. E.; Chevalier S. Arulanatham, Mr. M. Sinaathurai, Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Dr. V. S. Ramnathan, Kathi S. M. Aboobucker, Mr. Ariya Pathirana and the Secretary.

Mr. K. Aiyadurai sent a letter regretting his inability to attend the Meeting of the Council as he had earlier arranged for a Public Lecture at the Perumal Kovil at which he had to preside.

The Minutes of Proceedings of the Meeting of the Council held on the 10th day of July 1942 copies of which had been furnished to each member of the Council were taken as read.

The Chairman requested the members' permission to suspend the standing orders so that he may move the confirmation of the Minutes of Proceedings of the Meeting held on June 12, 1942 as presented by him and amend the Minutes of Proceedings of the Meeting held on July 10, 1942 so that it may appear that the members were present as recorded but that

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THE IRISH BULL AND THE HALF-JOKE

By
M. Balasunderam, B. A., (Cantab), B. Sc. (Lond)

WHAT is an Irish bull? I do not of course refer here to the male of the bovine species that you find in Ireland. I refer to a certain kind of verbal lapse or incongruity (as grammarians call it) which is supposed to be common in the speech of the Irish peasant. It is hard to define an Irish bull, but before an explanation is offered it is best to consider a few examples.

The most common Irish bull which is found not only in Ireland but in every other part of the English-speaking world is this:—"I wish to speak a few words before I begin". There is something absurd, it is true, in the statement, but it conveys good sense, namely, that the speaker merely wishes to say something by way of preface.

Let me take another example where the absurdity is more apparent: "If you had been here this morning to see the empty pews you would have been ashamed of yourselves for stopping away." A pedant or logician might find fault with this utterance, but is it nonsense? The speaker expresses with some force his bitter feeling of disappointment when he got up in the pulpit and saw the empty pews. He appeals to his congregation to imagine what they would have felt if they had seen what he saw in the morning.

Let me take a third example: "To sleep in church is one of those sins that people commit with their eyes open." There is no need to explain the meaning of this statement. It is a superb paradox, the epigrammatic brilliance of which cannot be bettered by even that master of paradox G. K. Chesterton. None but a dull pedant would call it a verbal lapse or deny the excellent sense it conveys. In this kind of utterance—call it what you will, verbal lapse or incongruity, or unpolished epigram—you will admit that there is a crispness and vigour which you do not find in the ordinary grammatical or logical utterance.

Why Irish Bull?

The Irish bull is so named after one Obadiah Bull, an Englishman, who, it is said, was the creator, or the first discoverer of this form of verbal felicity. To call it clumsy or ugly is to confess oneself a prig. It is as a prig that Sir Arthur Quiller Couch condemns the manner in which an Indian clerk requested his employer to excuse his absence from office because his mother had died. He wrote: "The hand that rocked the cradle has kicked the bucket." True, the clerk's language does not show any reference for his mother or sorrow at her death. But this is to assume that he felt either or both. If he did not have those feelings it would have been sheer hypocrisy to express them, and worse still for any one to have expected him to have done so. Pecksniff could never have made a Bull.

A Compliment

An Irish writer complains that it is rather hard that the Irish who are among the finest speakers of English should be associated with Bulls. But it is no disparagement of the linguistic ability of the Irish to as-

sociate them with Bulls. Such an association is, on the contrary, a compliment to the mental agility and the great gift of imagination they possess. For a Bull is the result of an act of mental quickness which prefers the short cut to the long road. Here thought, impatient of the restraints of logic and grammar, takes a flying leap at truth. Bulls are made by people who think figuratively. The imagination is so keen that images leap to the eye and are uttered before their incongruity is noticed. The best of speakers in the heat of oratory have made bulls. Lord Balfour's scathing reference to "an empty theatre of unsympathetic auditors", or Gladstone's warning to an M. P. "not to shake his head in the teeth of his own words" is no better than the reply of an Irish attendant at a cinema who, when he was asked what the attendances at his hall were like, said "Ah well, just middling; sometimes it is half full, and other times it is half empty."

The remark of another Irish attendant at a theatre in Dublin is worth quoting. A visitor from the country to Dublin, knowing nothing of the rights of queues, ignored a very long one at the theatre and, in his anxiety to witness the play, boldly strode up and tendered his money at the door of the theatre "No! No!", said the attendant, "you can't come in now". "Why not?" asked the visitor from the country. "Because," replied the attendant with a majestic wave of his hand, "all of them behind you are before you". This remark reminds one of the famous paradox made by Chesterton when he compared modern times very unfavourably with the Middle Ages. He said: "The only step forward now is a step backward."

Bulls Without Learning

Sometimes the bulls of the unlettered convey deeper feeling or better sense than those of the learned. When Lord Balfour was Chief Secretary of Ireland, his sister happened to visit certain parts of Ireland which were affected by famine. This is how a grateful recipient of relief expressed himself "Sure, Miss, only for the famine we should be starved entirely." No learned man could have expressed so pithily and movingly the idea that crops or no crops the poor never have much to eat, but in this particular instance they were able to get more by way of relief than they would have obtained in normal times by their own efforts.

An Irish bull is, then, the rough unpolished gem of speech which when cut and polished becomes the glittering wit of Swift, Sheridan, or Shaw. It is no less a witticism or a joke merely because it is uttered spontaneously and without, perhaps, the speaker being aware of its laughter-making quality. It belongs to the class of jokes or witticisms to which the epithet "unconscious" is commonly applied. But it is better to call an Irish bull a half joke not only because it has not been polished and put into shape but also because the speaker utters it without being aware of its humorous nature. A fall joke is one which both the speaker and his auditors realize to be funny.

FRONT-LINE OF DEFENCE FOR INDIA

Ceylon's Importance To India

(From a Correspondent)

That Ceylon was the front-line of defence for India, and that Ceylon was as indispensable to India as India was to Ceylon, observed the President of the Ceylonese Association of India, Mr. V. S. C. Singham at a dinner given to Mr. Annesley de Silva, the Trade Commissioner for Ceylon in India, by the President and members of the Association at the Purohit Hotel, Bombay, on August 1.

The President of the Association, in proposing the toast of Mr. A. de Silva said that the Trade Commissioner was virtually the Ambassador of Ceylon in India. "I have no hesitation in saying that we can safely leave in his hands the destinies of Indo-Ceylon relations."

Continuing he said whilst he did not want to make any reference to the investigations now being carried on in Bombay by the Auditor General of Ceylon, he did not want to let this opportunity pass without making some comments about certain other matters that had been raised in a section of the local press. He emphatically stated that the allegations that the Ceylonese people had an anti-India mania was completely untrue. He said, "the stupidity and narrow-mindedness of certain politicians led to certain unpleasant incidents about three years ago; but these politicians are eating the humble pie now. Those incidents have been exaggerated beyond all proportion. Such small incidents and quarrels should not be used to libel a whole nation, to spoil the good relations between the peoples of India and Ceylon. I invite any Indian to come over to Ceylon to see if the vast majority of the six million people who inhabit our beautiful island have any anti-Indian feeling."

Further he said, "we people in Ceylon know that we are a part of India. Our cultures, our languages, our religions are Indian. We look to India as our spiritual home as our home, as our mother-land," and added amidst great applause, "we await the day when Ceylon will constitute an autonomous and self-governing province of the Republic of India."

He said that the Ceylonese people were extremely grateful to India for food supplies that is being sent, and that these were being utilised to feed large numbers of Indian soldiers who were at the moment resident in Ceylon. That Ceylon was the front-line of defence for India and that Ceylon was as indispensable to India as India was to Ceylon.

He appealed to all to work for the unity of the peoples of India and Ceylon.

Mr. Annesley de Silva in replying to the toast thanked the President and members of the Ceylon Association for the honour they had done him. He emphasised that there was no anti-Indian feeling in Ceylon. On the contrary, he said, that India and Ceylon were indivisible: that the two countries were geographical-

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WANTED—A FEDERAL UNIVERSITY FOR NORTH CEYLON

By
R. C. Proctor

To seek to centralise university education in one national institution should prove an idle dream. France tried it and failed. The population in Ceylon is heterogeneous with variant philosophies of life, but the main cleavage is indicated by two languages with vast literature in each and two kinds of religious creed one theistic and the other non theistic.

Any practical policy for a University should have regard to the limitations, the needs, the opportunities of the country and the outlook and the genius of the people whom it seeks to serve.

It may also be accepted as axiomatic that no possible expenditure could create on any spot on the Island the tradition, the atmosphere and the charm peculiar to the collegiate life on the Isis or Cam. Old models may become impractical, unworkable, even useless on the conditions of life that should follow on the declaration of peace; the havoc of war has been ruthlessly destructive. The work of a University on the conclusion of peace should, first and foremost, be directed to raise the moral level of the masses and create in them a clean ethical outlook on life even as a means of economic success. The principles of democracy must rule. The old way of admitting students into the ancient universities of England on exclusive lines (i. e. by skimming from the surface of society the top-most layer of rich men's children and securing scholarships holders) is not likely to be much in favour after the war.

What Ceylon Does Not Want

It does not need a prophet to say that our new university which aims to restrict its service to candidates selected on the basis of merit of money and social position of their parents and winners of scholarships could be of much service to the people at large or even capable of engendering a university atmosphere in the country. In a country such as ours where the whole trend of our ancient literature is to condemn the worship of money and anathematize vulgar display of wealth or education as well as competitive sale of emanations of God-given faculties, the policy of our university should prove inappropriate. The contribution to the university Fund by the Government is drawn from the masses by taxation and what cultural influences could the graduates turned out of the university impart on the people except posing demands for wages, fees, salaries &c on alien standards in order that they may maintain their privileged positions of birth and education and training in the manners of high table and cloistered virtues drilled into them when at the 'Varsity, one wonders.

Jaffna's Claims

Jaffna wants a university of a type suitable to her own cultural aspirations. The people of the North were not strangers to classical culture and industrial training in times gone by. Although the lessons of history do not always admit didactic exposition, some

knowledge of the past in matters of education, as in other questions of public policy, is essential for wise action in the present. Our forbears have laid it down—and definitely—that education should not descend to the level of an article of merchandise. Its purpose should be spiritual enlightenment and ultimately the emancipation of the soul. The teachers were entitled to be maintained in comfort and dignity, but their duty was to impart instruction in the spirit "freely ye have received, freely give." At tempt on the part of teachers "to peddle their prowess, like Hessian Soldiers for money" was unthinkable. In the light of what is happening in Europe and elsewhere on the result of development of scientific education on commercial lines, the findings of our ancients call for respectful consideration.

American Pioneers in Education

The American Missionaries about the beginning of last century, opened a Seminary for higher education at Vadducottai (in Jaffna) on the standard of a University. They also opened a School of Medicine. Their way of teaching and the spirit they brought to bear on the work fully accorded with the traditional virtues of the Guru in the Tamil literature and their work was a great success. Because education was free or cheap in Jaffna the government of the day was able to carry on its administration cheap and execute Public Works on cheap technical supervision, and skilled labour.

There is in the Peninsula sufficient material resources to open a University. Her educated sons and daughters now serving elsewhere would readily respond to the call of service in their native land. The multiplication of universities is the accepted policy in America and the continent of Europe. The prosperity of Scotland is due to her ancient universities. There is room for more than one university in Ceylon. Let us have one for the North as early as we can. What we need is determination, purpose, and co-ordinated will.

The Type

The type of university which, in my opinion, should accord with our cultural heritage and present need, should be one of multicellular type and of federal unity. It should essentially be a people's university. It should be constituted of internal and external departments both for teaching and examining external candidates. The Colleges in Jaffna, of which there are more than 10 in number, may be arranged on the Faculty basis. Within the University area there will be lodging houses and boarders can live according to their standards of living, obtain their food, follow their religious observances according to their wont. Freedom will be the soul of the University.

Frankly, the purpose of our university will be to enable the student to earn his livelihood by practice of his profession for which he had been equipped by the university. That being the purpose, the training will be intensive. Leisureed curriculum will be at par. Professors will be intensive workers on research.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

VALIKAMAM EAST SHOW

Sir,—Please be good enough to spare me a little space in your valuable journal to make a few corrections regarding your article under the above caption appearing in your issue of the 13th instant.

As President of the General Executive Committee of the above Show, I am fully aware of the amount of co-operation that we received from individuals and from institutions. I do agree with your worthy correspondent that the schools and teachers actively co-operated with the committee to make the Show a success. But to say that the success of the Show was mainly due to teachers and schools would be very unfair by the others whose co-operation was equally, if not more, indispensable for the success of the Show. The schools' activities formed only a part of the Show, and we are very grateful to the various schools for their willing support. The Departments of Commerce and Industries, Co-operative, Health, Agriculture and Education, have contributed a very large share to the success of the Show and all the officers of these departments deserve to be congratulated on their splendid show, and our sincere thanks are due to them in the fullest measure. The Government Agent (N.P.) cannot be adequately thanked for his support which was as spontaneous as it was encouraging. The Village Committees of Puttur, Neervely, Atchuvally and Kopyy also have helped us. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the support of individual villagers was a sine qua non for the success of this Show.

The Show was meant to be of educative value to the inhabitants of Valikamam East, and it was in no way a counter organisation to other shows held elsewhere in the Peninsula during the Health Week. As such, to those of us who are working selflessly for the regeneration of the rural masses, the judgment of "independent critics" that our Show was "the best in the Health Week Celebrations," has no special import, though however, it might be a sop to a hitherto unnoticed Cerberus in our midst.

As for this judgment "reflecting a great deal of organisation on the part of Mr. T. Kathiravelu, the joint organising Secretary," I am afraid, Sir, your correspondent is putting the devil to the blush by an over-emphasised compliment. The Show Committee had, besides others, four Joint Organising Secretaries and one Executive Officer. Without fear of contradiction, I acknowledge the valuable services rendered by the three other Joint

NOTICE

Copies of "The Elements of Saiva Siddhantham" by a Science Graduate, priced at 50 cts. a copy, published under the auspices of the Saiva Paripalana Sabha, Jaffna, are available for sale at the Hindu Organ Press. Please apply to the Manager.

M. MYLVAGANAM,
Secretary,
Saiva Paripalana Sabha,
Sabhai Office,
Vanbarponnai,
23-8-42.

Organising Secretaries and the Executive Officer who have unostentatiously contributed towards the success of the Show. I would further state that the conveners and one and all the rest of the members of the various sub-committees have worked hard to make the show a success. We are deeply indebted to the Rural Development Officers stationed at Puttur for initiating the Show and for so successfully bearing the brunt of organising it.

Once again I thank all those who have helped us to make the Show a success.

Yours etc.
K. SIVAGURU,
President,

Valikamam East Agri-Horticultural, Industrial, Health and Food Show.

Puttur,
17th August, 1942.

LOCAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

Sir,—In your issue of the 30th July 1942 appears a letter by one who goes under the pseudo name "Pro Bono Publico" complaining of certain irresponsible members in certain Local Assistance Committees. The vagueness of this letter without reference to any concrete instances or facts coupled with the tone of it shows clearly Pro Bono Publico is some individual smarting under some personal grudge against some definite committee. A sweeping statement like the one in his letter must be made only after due consideration. I do personally know almost all the Chairmen and Secretaries of the forty seven committees in the Jaffna Peninsula and as far as I could gather from them the Committee Members in every one of them are really worthy and honourable men.

The very idea that the so-called irresponsible members fancied by the correspondent could win the favour of the Chairmen and Secretaries of these Committees and that they could also get through their undesirable proposal or resolutions is a slur on the prestige and position of the various Chairmen and Secretaries or in other words it is a charge of fickleness, incompetence and even corruption against them.

I would challenge the Correspondent "Pro Bono Publico" to say if any one of these forty seven Chairmen and their Secretaries could be charged as aforesaid. In conclusion I would help "Pro Bono Publico" to merge his personal grudge under his feeling that the whole world is going wrong and that he could do no good to the public as not only the irresponsible members but even the Chairmen, Secretaries and other Members, nay even the public that elected all these men, are all thoroughly incompetent and could not do public good in preference to their personal gain save and except our "Pro Bono Publico."

Yours faithfully,
K. SRI SUNDARAMOORTHY,
Hony. Secretary, Local Assistance Committee, Tellipalayi.

[This Correspondence is now closed.—Ed. H. O.]

PERSONAL

Mr. V. Sivasubramaniam, Vavuniya Magistrate, has gone to Obilaw on transfer.

CHAVAKACHCEERI HINDU COLLEGE

INTER-HOUSE SPORTS MEET

The Inter-House Sports Meet of the Chavakachcheri Hindu College came off on the 15th August 1942. Long before 3 p.m. the Sports Ground of the College had streams of visitors whom the students escorted round to the four pavilions of Ambalavanar, Duraiswamy, Sabapathy and Thamotheeram Houses respectively. The President of the meet Mr. T. Muttuswami Pillai, Advocate, and Secretary to the Board of Directors of the Jaffna Hindu College and Branch Schools, arrived in the Grounds shortly after 3 p.m. The Principal took him round to the four pavilions where the House Masters and Captains and other student-members of the Houses vied with one another to entertain their President.

In the competition Sabapathy House became champions with Duraiswami House as runners up. Master T. Selvadurai of the Sabapathy House won the Boy's Senior Championship and V. Kamatchi of the Thamotheeram Pillai House the Girls' Senior Championship.

Shortly after 6 p.m. the huge gathering of over a thousand representative of all sections of Tenmaratchi assembled for the prize-giving.

The Principal introducing the President of the meet said that it was his pleasant duty and proud privilege to introduce to the audience the President, an athlete of no mean repute. In his school days all Jaffna knew Mr. T. Muttuswami Pillai, Advocate as the Sandow or Ramamoorthy of not only Jaffna Hindu College but of all Jaffna as well. That day Mr. Muttuswami Pillai as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Jaffna Hindu College and Branch Schools had in his hands the shaping of the destiny of the Chavakachcheri Hindu College.

The President before giving away the prizes congratulated the four Houses on their good performance in sports and in erecting tastefully decorated Pandals as their pavilions. He added the Houses were named after the name of the present Manager S. W. Duraiswamy and two past Managers viz Messrs A. Sabapathy and A. Ambalavanar and last but not least after the name of Mr. V. Thamotheeram Pillai, the founder of the Chavakachcheri Hindu College. He told the audience that the Managing authorities had at great expense equipped a Science Laboratory for the Teaching of Botany, Chemistry and Physics and that they had appointed to the staff of the College Mr. V. Subramaniam, a Science Graduate of the London University who was qualified to teach Botany and Chemistry. He also added that the Acting Principal was busy getting the storied building completed to house the Science Laboratory and the College library. He gave the welcome information to the people of Tenmaratchi that he had obtained the special permission from the Director of Education for the College to prepare students for the S. S. C. on the London Matriculation Syllabus and the Ceylon

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 16.
In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Ponnammah wife of Chellappah Kathirkamathamby of Vasavilan and in the matter of the estate of the said Ponnammah Deceased.
Chellachippillai widow of Mootathamby Chellappah of Vasavilan
Vs. Petitioner.

1. Kathirkamathamby Nagarajah a minor aged 4 years, and
2. Ponnupillai widow of Sathasivam Aiyathurai of Mallakam

Respondents.
This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambyah Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 3rd day of August 1942 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 that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 1st respondent abovenamed to represent him in these proceedings and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased with the will annexed be granted to the petitioner unless the 2nd respondent abovenamed or any other person shall appear before this Court on the 31st day of August, 1942 and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna, The 3rd day of August 1942
(Sgd.) G. C. Thambyah,
District Judge.

Drawn by
(Sgd.) M. S. Subramaniam,
Proctor for Petitioner.
(O. 47. 24 & 27-8-42.)

University Entrance Examinations.

After the distribution of prizes Mr. V. Kumaraswamy B. A. (Hons.) London, the Sports Master of the college, proposed a vote of thanks. He thanked the President for the great interest he was evincing and for the great work he was doing to place the college in the forefront of the Public schools of Ceylon and Maniagar Naganthan and all others who made that day's meet the glorious success it was and added that the college was the only College for all Tenmaratchi.

The Senior Champion called for three hearty cheers for the President Mr. T. Muttuswami Pillai who replied with three hearty cheers for the C. H. C. (cor.)

JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL

Continued from page 3
after a dispute he had adjourned the Meeting.

Mr. S. M. Aboobucker said that it would not be regular.

Mr. Ariya Pathirana moved the adoption of the Minutes.

The Chairman further clarified the issue and Mr. S. M. Aboobucker stated that he now had no objection to the procedure and amendment suggested by the Chairman.

Mr. C. Ponnambalam moved that the Minutes of Proceedings of the Meetings held on June 12, and July 10, 1942 be considered.

Mr. Ariya Pathirana seconded, carried.

Chevalier S. Arulanantham moved that the Minutes of Proceedings of the Meetings held on June 12 and July 10, 1942 be confirmed.

Mr. M. Sinnathurai seconded. The Chairman put the motion to the vote and 3 voted for and none against—carried.

Urgent Items

The Chairman suggested that certain urgent and important items be considered out of the 91 items set out in the agenda and the house agreed to his request to consider those now and to adjourn or have a special meeting for considering the other items that were not considered.

Mr. V. Suppiah pressed the Chairman and the house to consider the resolutions of which he had given notice and moved:—

"This Council resolves that in future the following rules should be observed whenever tenders or quotations are called for materials required by this Council:—

(a) All tenders and quotations should be called for under the hand of the Council and not by the departmental heads.

(b) The tenders and quotations should be opened by the Chairman in the presence of the Tender Committee.

(c) All orders for the supply of materials and other stores should be placed under the hand of the Chairman or on his direction by the Secretary."

Mr. M. Sinnathurai seconded, carried.

Considered papers regarding sale of arrack at Rest House.

Mr. Ariya Pathirana moved

FRONT-LINE OF DEFENCE FOR INDIA

Continued from page 3
ly and culturally bound together with unbreakable ties for many centuries; and that now more than ever the two countries should work together. He urged that the two countries should mutually cooperate for their common benefit. Many other speakers both Ceylonese and Indian spoke about the good relations between the two countries and the necessity for strengthening such relations.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 9

In the matter of the estate of the late Ponnu widow of Kandiah of Chunnakam

Deceased.

Achimuttu widow of Ramu Kandiah of Chunnakam

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Vairamuttu Veluppillai
2. Vairamuttu Chelliah
3. Suppar Vaitilin am and wife
4. Ammah all of Chunnakam

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambyah Esquire District Judge of Jaffna on the 17th day of July 1942 in the presence of Mr. T. Kumaraswamy Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed petitioner be declared entitled to letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that the same be issued to her accordingly unless the abovenamed respondents shall on or before the 28th day of August 1942 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 11th day of July 1942
Sgd. G. C. Thambyah,
District Judge.
(O. 46. 20 & 24-8-42)

and Mr. C. Ponnambalam seconded that arrack be sold at the Rest House, Jaffna.

The Chairman, Mr. R. R. Nalliah and Mr. S. M. Aboobucker opposed it.

The motion was voted on and carried, 5 voting for and 3 against, 1 declining to vote.

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(O. 81. 20-7-42—19-10-42.)



SOME ASPECTS OF GANDHIAN SOCIALISM

Continued from page 1

social, political and economic systems in order to make their unlivable lives happy and bright. So Gandhiji must have nothing to do with charity. That is the business of merely virtuous men. An intelligently virtuous man must strike at the root of the disease. He would do away with a vicious social system that rests on the one hand on the possessive impulse of the self-centred mammon-worshippers and on the other on the cowardice and ignorance of the hopelessly disorganised proletariat. He does not dismiss the mammon-worshippers as incorrigible. He appeals to their good sense and asks them repeatedly to be generous and share with their less fortunate brethren. But the greater amount of his energies, he exerts to make the proletariat politically educated, organized and brave enough to assert their rights in the teeth of all oppositions.

Education of the Proletariate

But the proletariat require political education to be organised. Gandhiji, therefore, sends his non-violent soldiers to villages to educate the people through silent service. The soldiers visit the cottages with spinning wheels on their shoulders, teach the villagers how to spin and how to card, help them to earn money by spinning and thus supplement their slender income. Political education goes side by side with disinterested service of the poor. The seeds of new thoughts begin to germinate. The simple peasants at last discover that their own ignorance and cowardice have been the greatest enemies, that freedom from poverty is possible through non-co-operation with those who would keep them in chains.

Common Ownership

Just as non-violence implies equal distribution, equal distribution implies common ownership of the means of production. When a man is given liberty to own the means of production there is every possibility of his using that liberty to exploit his neighbours for selfish ends. McIver truly says liberty may be sacred or it may be despicable. Gandhiji knows too well to allow a person to have the unlimited liberty to hold property would jeopardise the interests of the poor. Economic equality means the equal right of everybody over the instruments of production. Hence in Karachi Congress, Gandhiji moved the resolution that key industries should be nationalised. Gandhiji says: "Ownership and service go ill together."

No Discrimination

If the privileged classes, Rajas and Maharajas, landlords and other profiteers, think that they would enjoy the same privileges in independent India as they are now enjoying in British India, the sooner they are disillusioned the better for them, for Swaraj would not tolerate such discrimi-

LION RACE QUERY REFERENCE TO LOW-COUNTRY CLAIMANTS

The question whether the low-country Sinhalese belong to the lion race was raised by Mr. R. L. Pereira, K. C., in the course of his address to the jury in the Ambalangoda murder case, before Mr. Justice Soeretsz on Wednesday.

He observed that the Sinhalese were very fond of claiming to belong to the lion race of Vijaya and he wondered whether the low-country Sinhalese could claim ancestry to this race.

These observations were made when Mr. Pereira referred to a name-board, which was a production in that case. The board depicted a lion in the act of swallowing the sun, and Mr. Pereira said that according to the Crown Counsel the lion on the board was the deceased, Daniel de Silva, and the sun, Manooriyar, the proprietor of the shop in which the second accused was employed. To him that sun in the lion's mouth appeared more like a pine-apple than a sun.

He wondered how Daniel de Silva could claim to belong to the lion race. At one time only the Kandyans claimed to belong to that race, but now even low-country Sinhalese claimed to descend from Vijaya who arrived in these shores from the domains of Sinhabahu, modern Orissa in Northern India. He doubted whether the Sinhalese along the coastal belt, men belonging to the Karawa, Durawa and Salagam castes, could claim to have descended from Vijaya.

LAW SOCIETY OF CEYLON

Continued from page 1

answered the several questions of the Members the Secretary, Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam thanked Mr. Kadirgamer for having come and spoken to them in spite of his heavy duties. They were proud and happy that one of their own should take such an active part in the founding of the Law Society and promised to do all they could to establish it.

The meeting pledged support and proceeded to arrange for their quota of the initial expenses to be sent to Mr. J. A. Martensz, Hon. Treasurer of the Ceylon Law Society Fund

tion. In his Round Table speech, Gandhiji said in unambiguous language.

"I am afraid that for years to come India would be engaged in passing legislation in order to raise the down-trodden, the fallen from the mire into which they have been sunk by the capitalist, by the landlords, by the so-called higher classes and then subsequently and scientifically by the British rulers."

He plainly told the members present at the Conference that it would be impossible to run the machinery of government on behalf of the have-nots if the monied classes were permitted to enjoy their privileges unhampered. Their liberty to make money at the cost of their fellowmen would not be tolerated and laws would be enacted that would equalise economic conditions of the people.

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