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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Jaffna College Alumni Association

MR. A. W. Nadarajah, Advocate, Jaffna has been elected, without a contest, the first Representative of the Jaffna College Alumni Association to serve on the Jaffna College Board of Directors for a period of three years from 1942.

Radium Ward

The new radium ward of the General Hospital, Colombo, is to be opened in a few days on the upper floor of the two-storeyed building in which the Deep-Ray Therapy section of the Hospital is to be accommodated.

Control of Prices

The Committee of the Low-Country Products Association will consider a resolution at its next meeting, to the effect that the time is now opportune for State Control of the prices of rice and other necessaries of life in the Island.

Students' Meeting

Pandemonium prevailed at the Colombo Town Hall when a public meeting of students, under the auspices of the All-Ceylon Students' Conference, was held to urge the immediate establishment of the University of Ceylon and to condemn the principle of the proposed residential and unitary type of University. The meeting resolved itself into a wordy warfare between two factions who were labelled by each other as "Stalinities" and "Trotskyites."

Jaffna Association

The following resolutions will be brought up at the Annual Meeting of the Jaffna Association:

"This Association welcomes the decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to appoint a Parliamentary Commission on the reform of the Constitution."

"This Association is of opinion that the decision of the State Council to create a new Town in place of the present town of Anuradhapura is highly detrimental to the interests of its inhabitants particularly Tamils and Muslims who own between them seventy five per cent of the lands and buildings within the present town area."

INDIA'S STAKE IN FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

NEED FOR PROOF OF BRITAIN'S GOOD FAITH

"WE are directly interested in the triumph of order over chaos, of liberty over enslavement. India, therefore, is whole-heartedly on the side of Britain, America and Russia in this conflict with Nazism," said Sir S. Radhakrishnan, in his address to the Agra University Convocation.

"But if Britain has not been able to mobilise, not the material resources but the moral forces, it is because she is unwilling even in this critical hour, to apply the principles of democracy to India. Naturally there are people who contend that the war is an Imperialist war for the defence of this straggling ramshackle system of domination, finance, trade and tradition: The British Empire. The love of liberty, which contact with British institutions has bred in us cannot be torn out of our soul. Political subjection is moral degradation. Not for countries overrun by Hitler but for countries which are in a dependent position like India. In the last half of the 17th Century, Leibnitz, who lived his best years between two great wars wrote: 'By shameful submission men's minds will be progressively intimidated and crushed till they become at last incapable of all feeling.'"

Inured to Ill-Treatment

Inured to ill-treatment and habituated to bear it patiently, they will end by regarding it

By.....
Sir S. Radhakrishnan
In Agra University Convocation Address.

as a fatality which they can do nothing but endure. All will go together down the broad high road to slavery.' To ask India to fight for Britain simply because the Nazis will be worse is not fair to Britain or to India. Are we to stand up for Britain simply because we must avoid the worse alternative of Nazi despotism?

Before it is too late, I hope, Britain will establish her good faith at the bar of history, by implementing her many pledges and declaring that India, not at some undated future but immediately after the war, be a free and equal country in the Commonwealth of Nations

"Victory over Nazi Germany is not enough. We must win the peace and not lose it as we did in the last war. It will be an utter waste of much material treasure and precious human life, if we revert back to pre-war conditions. All the belligerents speak of a new order but there is no agreement about its character. It must be democratic in an essential sense. It must be a world in which all nations, strong and weak, are free and all races white and coloured have opportunity for self-expression and development."

EDUCATION IN CEYLON AT THE CROSS-WAYS

REVOLUTIONARY PROPOSALS OF COMMITTEE

"State education is going to put the clock back. It is placing the destiny of our children in the hands of politicians," said the Rev. Fr. D. J. Nicholas Perera, Rector of St. Peter's College, Bambalapitiya at the annual prize-giving. Sir Gerard Wijeyekoon presiding.

"Education in this Island is at the cross-ways", said Fr. Perera. "The draft report of

the Special Committee on Education is probably ready. Any fatal step now taken will mar its onward progress for perhaps generations.

"Children can be indoctrinated with false values and views, a partial philosophy of life, a biased conception of history, a materialist or secularist theory of ethics as prescribed by the

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UNIVERSITY FOR CEYLON

"ONCE the University Bill is passed by the State Council, which I hope will be before the end of March next year, the University will be brought into operation. Within 24 hours of the issue of the Proclamation we can bring the University into being", declared Dr. Ivor Jennings, Principal of the University College, speaking at the University College Catholic Hostel Dinner held at the Aquinas Hall.

Dr. Jennings was responding to the toast of the "University College" and he expressed the hope that that would be the last time he would be called upon to respond to such a toast.

"I believe that this University Bill will go through because I think, without exception, everybody in Ceylon is decided that this question at least has to be faced and a decision taken", said Dr. Jennings, who added: "We have had an interim status for 21 years and now the time has come for the basis of a University to be established."

"We have a long way to go yet but fortunately everybody connected with the University College has been working on the basis of a long term proposal extending over several years before we reach what we may regard as University status which we have in view."

ARUMUGANAVALAR DAY

Guru Poojah in honour of Arumuga Navalar, the "Champion reformer of the Hindus," was celebrated at the Saiva Maha Sabhai Building at Katukele, Kandy on Sunday the 23rd November. There was a large gathering of Hindus present. Mr. A. K. Velupillai, the Treasurer of the Sabhai, who conducts the religious class, performed the special Poojah. Mr. T. Chelliah spoke on the occasion touching feelingly on the varied activities of the great Navalar both in Jaffna and India.

HAJ PILGRIMS

It is announced that further accommodation for Haj pilgrims is strictly limited and there are not more than 1,200 vacancies. All accommodation at Karachi has been booked. Intending pilgrims must go to Bombay, after ascertaining about the accommodation and transport.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1941

JAPAN ENTERS THE WAR

WHILE ADMIRAL NOMURA, Japanese Ambassador at Washington, and Mr. Kurusu, Japan's special envoy to America, were carrying on their negotiations with the Government of the United States, Japan was, it is now obvious, preparing for a lightning attack on British and American territory. The simultaneous attack on places so far apart as Pearl Harbour, Guam, Manila, Hongkong, Siam, the Malay States, and Singapore, could not have been launched without careful planning. While it is possible that the attack on Singapore, Manila, and Hongkong was made from land bases, the probabilities are that the attack on Pearl Harbour was made from aircraft carriers supported by a powerful squadron of warships. This means that the Japanese warships must have left their bases at least one week prior to the attack. They must have left before the Japanese-American conversations broke down, or rather, were brought to an end by the attack itself. In fact, Admiral Nomura and Mr. Kurusu were in the White House when the State Department received the news. At the time the negotiations dragged on, the British papers expressed the opinion that Japan was playing for time, and subsequent events have proved the truth of this assertion. The Japanese have in addition occupied Wake Island and Southern Thailand, and have also landed troops in the eastern coast of Malaya.

The object of the attack on Pearl Harbour was to destroy the American Naval base and to cripple the American Pacific fleet in order to prevent the latter from entering the South Seas where Japan has so many irons in the fire at the present moment. The command of these seas is vital to the enterprise on which the Japanese have embarked. Without it communications between Formosa on the one hand and Indo-China and Malaya on the other would be cut off and it would be impossible for Japan to continue the attack in the direction of the latter. The plan was a bold one, depending for its success on the ability of the Japanese Navy to spare a force of adequate strength to deal with the American Fleet without unduly

weakening itself in the South Seas. As the British Prime Minister has pointed out, the ambitious character of the attack shows that either the Japanese were becoming desperate or they were quite sure of their own strength. The more likely view is that Japan, who has been building quietly and steadily for a number of years, has a strong navy, and only a combination of the American, British and Dutch fleets will be able to bottle it up in its home bases. The invasion of Siam and Malaya was possible only on the assumption that the Japanese Fleet was equal to the task of keeping the South Seas safe for Japan, an assumption which is bound to be put to the test sooner or later.

The invasion of Malaya is a threat not only to Singapore but also to the British army stationed on the Thailand border. During the last few months Britain has sent heavy reinforcements and supplies to Malaya, and there is every reason to believe that the forces there are quite adequate for the defence of that country. If the Japanese invasion, on the other hand, proves successful, it is hardly necessary to point out that it will not stop with Malaya. The threat to Singapore will then become acute, and it is certain that Burma will be invaded. A successful invasion of Burma will effectively isolate China and threaten India and Ceylon.

As we have said already, the success of Japan's present enterprise depends on the strength of the Japanese Navy and its ability to cope with Anglo-American opposition. Britain has already sent substantial naval reinforcements to the Far East but it is imperative that the American Fleet should act, and act promptly, if Japanese plans are to be nipped in the bud. Besides, it must be noted that just over the Indo-China border there is a well-trained Chinese army which requires only aircraft and other equipment to strike at the Japanese invaders. If the Chinese Army is able to invade Indo-China, the Japanese will find themselves caught between two fires—the British in Malaya and Southern Thailand and the Chinese in the rear. The future is, therefore, pregnant with great possibilities. The immediate task before us in Ceylon is to safeguard the food supply and co-operate in every possible way with the naval and military authorities for the defence of the Island. We shall also do well to stop quarreling amongst ourselves at a time when only one thought should be in our minds—the future of the Far East and of our own country. Many of our readers have relations and friends in Malaya and Singapore. They are at their posts at this fateful hour. Is it too much to ask that we too should follow their example?

NOTES AND COMMENTS

That Agreement

COMMENTING on the Indo-Ceylon Report, the "Hindu Organ" pointed out at the time that a strong argument in favour of the report was to be found in the fact that two distinguished non official Indians were amongst the authors. The following comments by the "Indian Social Reformer" show that in certain quarters in India this aspect of the matter is receiving consideration. Besides, Indians too seem to realise the necessity for discouraging violent and unreasonable criticism, for which, it must be said, the activities of Mr. Bandaranaike and his head hunters are mainly responsible. The "Indian Social Reformer" writes: "Some Indians in Ceylon and in India seem to think that the Government of India can send expeditions to Burma and Ceylon with orders to bring U Saw and Mr. Bandaranaike in chains to New Delhi, there to be held as hostages until such time as the Governments of the two countries swear by all their sacred relics to regard and treat Indian immigrants with loving-kindness. Mr. Aney as a Member of the Government knows that the Government can do nothing of the kind. The mistake of Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai at the negotiations which broke down earlier in the year, was to have gone behind the backs of Ceylon Ministers to the Governor. We who want constitutional Government, should observe constitutional methods. On the present occasion two highly respected non-official public men in India with great experience in conducting delicate negotiations, were put on the Delegation in compliance with the representations made to Government from many sides. Did the Standing Emigration Committee lay down any limits up to which the Delegation was authorised to go, and has the draft Agreement exceeded these limits in any respect? Sir Mirza Ismail and Mr. Vankatrama Sastry were entitled to some consideration, not to put it stronger, from the Government. Few will agree to accept invitations from Government to help on similar occasions if they are to be thrown to the wolves on the plea that Government are better able to gauge public opinion if the Assembly is left to its own devices. If the Assembly had been given a lead from the Leader of the House, the debate would have been led into more fruitful channels, there would have been less wild hitting, and Mr. Aney's aim that close friendly relations should be established between the two sister nations, would have been better served."

Price Control Necessary

JAPAN'S declaration of war against Britain and the United States has been the signal for traders here to raise prices of commodities, both necessities and luxuries. Stories are current, and we have every reason to give credence to them, that the price of a bag of rice has been increased by two rupees, and of a pound of sugar by three cents. Village boutique-keepers have not been slow in raising prices on the strength of rumours that reach them. The increase in prices has been effected on existing stocks whose price has not in any way been affected by the war declared only a couple of days ago. A great commotion prevails in the country, unless the traders are checked in their greed for becoming easily rich at the expense of the poor, signs are not wanting that the unrest among the people will increase. We are glad to hear that the A. S. P. has gone round and warned the traders against any unwarranted raising of prices. It is time the authorities took steps to control the prices chiefly of necessities. The traders cannot be trusted to be fair under circumstances which promise them a gold mine.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

By

C. Arulambalam,
Advocate

An Agricultural Country

CEYLON is pre-eminently an agricultural country and has always been so and is likely to be so as far as we can see into the future.

It has three large-scale agricultural industries—tea, rubber and coconuts, the products of which are exported to world markets. Each of these large-scale industries has its own Research Scheme for scientific advice and assistance.

Under Village Agriculture come such industries as paddy, tobacco, curry-stuffs like onions and chillies, cocoa, citronella, dry grains etc. Fruit cultivation is claiming much attention and if the recommendations in the recent report of the Fruit Development Committee are carried out fruit culture will be considerably stimulated.

Of late, much attention has been paid to Village Agriculture and State assistance in various forms has been given to its development. Such measures as the application of the quotas, stem to imported agricultural products which compete with local products of the same class and the fixing of guaranteed prices for certain local agricultural products for encouraging their cultivation throughout the Island have been of great help in fostering Village Agriculture.

Animal husbandry has also received attention and such industries as poultry rearing, bee-keeping, cattle and goat farming are being developed.

Official Enterprise

THE Department of Agriculture with its scientific staff has been leaving no stone unturned to develop agriculture in all its forms on scientific lines. The newly-created Food Technology Branch of the Department of Agriculture is doing useful research work to find out the vitamin value of different food-products, to investigate various methods of food preservation and to help the commercialisation of food-products.

The Department for Agricultural Marketing is helping agricultural production by marketing the products linking up the producer with the consumer.

The Marketing Department is also collaborating with the Propaganda Branch of the Agricultural Department in disseminating information of value to agricultural producers. As a result of all these multifarious activities a new agricultural consciousness has been born in this Island and the gospel of self-sufficiency as regards agricultural products cultivable in the Island is finding more and more adherents.

Industrial Development

IT is now recognised that under modern conditions agricultural development will not by itself be sufficient to promote national welfare and that agricultural development should go hand in hand with industrial development. This has been the course of action followed in large countries with varied resources, mineral and agricultural. Let us take the example of Soviet Russia. Before the Revolution which ushered in the Soviet Regime into power, Russia was mainly a wheat producing country and was considered the chief granary of Europe, and Great Britain and other countries with restricted food-production were dependent a great deal for their food-supply on Russia. The Soviet Administrators of Russia realised that their country

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JAPAN LAUNCHES LIGHTNING ATTACK ON AMERICAN AND BRITISH BASES

INVASION OF MALAYA AND THAILAND : PEARL HARBOUR AND MANILA BOMBED

London, Dec. 8.

JAPANESE parachute troops have landed in the Philippines, according to a Manila broadcast.

A joint Far Eastern Command communique issued in Singapore on Monday at noon says "Mopping up operations are continuing in North Malaya near Kotabahru. It is revealed that two landings were effected in South Thailand. Three British aircraft failed to return."

The United States admits the loss of one old battleship, one destroyer and a large number of barges in Pearl Harbour and other vessels damaged. United States casualties in Oahu will probably reach three thousand of whom half may be dead. Several Japanese planes and submarines were accounted for. Operations against the Japanese attacking force around Hawaii are continuing

U. S. DECLARE WAR ON JAPAN

Mr. Roosevelt addressing the U. S. Congress said that December seventh was a date which will live in infamy for Japan's sudden attack on the United States.

At the moment that America at Japan's solicitation was engaged in negotiations, Japan declared war. The fact that the distant Hawaiian Islands were attacked proved that it must have been planned many days and weeks ahead.

Mr. Roosevelt asked the Congress to declare that in consequence of the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan a state of war exists between the United States and Japan.

The U. S. National Broadcasting Company states that the U. S. Congress passed Mr. Roosevelt's request to declare war on Japan.

U. S. AIRCRAFT CARRIER ATTACKED

The United States army has announced, says a Manila message, that Japanese planes attacked Davao and Baguio, but Manila has not yet been attacked. The United States army is investigating reports that the Japanese bombed Tarlac on Luzon Island.

It is reported from Davao in the Philippines that during the second air-raid there the Japanese attacked an United States aircraft-carrier in the bay.

AUSTRALIA TO DECLARE WAR ON TUESDAY

The Australian Premier Mr. Curtin announced that a formal declaration of war against Japan would be made tomorrow. The Australian Parliament has been summoned for next Monday. The Cabinet has accepted the State of war but the announcement will be made later.

JAPANESE DECLARATION OF WAR

London, Dec. 8.

The Japanese Imperial declaration of war against Britain and the United States was published this morning. Immediately thereafter Army and Navy headquarters jointly announced that an attack on Hong Kong began at dawn today. A Navy bulletin announced that a "surprise attack" had been launched on the United States fleet, including aircraft-carriers, in the Hawaiian area and "military objectives" were bombed at Singapore at dawn to-

day, the attack being made from aircraft-carriers.

Aerial attacks on Davao, Wake Island, and Guam were also announced together with the capture in Chinese waters of the United States gunboat Wake and the British gunboat Petrol.

The Emperor has convoked a two-day extraordinary session of the Diet commencing on December 15 "to gain the Diet's approval of emergency war measures."

An official Japanese Army communique says: "Japanese troops began an attack on Hong Kong at dawn today. Japanese aircraft from a military base bombed Hong Kong for the first time at 8 a.m. local time, and returned to their base without loss. Later there was a second air attack."

Japanese naval ships have surrounded the island of Guam and the oil reservoir and hotel have been set on fire, according to the Tokyo Radio quoted by the National Broadcast Corporation.

LANDING IN THAILAND

The Japanese invaded Thailand, says the Tokyo Radio, quoted by the National Broadcasting Corporation of America.

The Japanese landing in Thailand was effected in the neighbourhood of Cape Pattani, sixty miles to the north of the British border.

R. A. F. reports states that the landing was made from transports and destroyers.

FIRST LANDING IN MALAYA

The first landing by the Japanese in Malaya was made at 1 a.m. at Kotabahru on the northern tip of Malaya near the Thailand border. It was repulsed. A landing was then effected 13 miles further south at Sabak.

Official information from the front in North Malaya at 7.40 a.m. today says that all enemy surface craft are retiring at high speed. The few troops left on the beach have been heavily machine gunned.

JAPANESE AIRCRAFT CARRIER SUNK

A Washington message states that according to the Japanese Imperial Headquarters, a naval battle is in progress in the West Pacific between Japanese and American and British naval units.

A Japanese aircraft carrier is reported to have been sunk off Honolulu.

Three hundred and fifty men were killed in the Japanese bombing of an airfield in Honolulu. Several fires were started. Anti-aircraft and naval fire have already accounted for six Japanese aircraft and four submarines.

PHILIPPINE TARGETS

The Japanese have bombed the Island of Palawan in the Philippines according to the Tokyo radio, picked up by the N. B. C.

Among the points bombed in the Philippines was Camp Ord, one hundred miles northward of Manila, according to the N. B. C.'s correspondent.

U. S. TRANSPORT SUNK

The transport General Hugh Scott, is reported to have been sunk about sixteen hundred miles from Manila. The largest army air base in the Philippines, Clark Field, as

well as a town in the northern part of Luzon has been bombed by the Japanese according to the N. B. C. correspondent in Manila.

The correspondent added that Davao in Mindanao, which is the home of a large Japanese colony, was bombed by thirteen Japanese raiders early today. It is further reported that the steamer President Harrison has been sunk or seized in the Yangtze.

HOW GUAM WAS ATTACKED

The Japanese attack on Guam was made by dive bombers which descended almost to ground level, according to the local office of the Pacific Cable Company. The cable office, and the Pan-American Airways base were heavily attacked. It is stated in Manila that Hong Kong has been bombed and cable communications cut. The High Commissioner for the Philippines, Mr. Sayre declared in Manila on Monday that the authorities have the situation well in hand and that there is need for anxiety.

SINGAPORE AIR RAID CASUALTIES

It is officially stated that eleven aircraft participated in the raids on Singapore. No bombs were dropped on the naval base. In the first raid on Singapore 60 were killed and 133 injured.

NOTICE

The Executive Committee of the Saiva Paripalana Sabha has appointed Messrs. S. Pasupathy Chettiar, Honey Treasurer and A. Arulampalam, Proctor S. C., to tour Colombo, Kandy and other towns as from the 15th instant to enlist new subscribers to the "Hindu Organ" and the "Inthusanatham" and to collect arrears of subscription.

It is hoped that our constituents and well-wishers will give them all possible help.

S. ADCHALINGAM

Hindu Organ Office Manager.
8.12.41.

(Continued)

practical proposition. If India can benefit by a network of village industries Ceylon will do so to a greater extent.

Moreover agriculture, which is the predominant occupation of the people of this Island, is by its nature seasonal and it is to the interest of the country to promote the establishment of cottage industries both as subsidiary to agriculture to give work and means of earning to the agriculturist during the slack season and also to give whole time employment to those who have no land to fall back upon.

Ceylon has taken kindly to the Co-operative Movement and Co-operative organisations of various types have been started to promote national welfare. It should be the aim of the national worker to establish a co-ordinated system of Co-operative Societies to promote Cottage Industries by supplying raw materials required by them and marketing the products turned out.

Village reorganisation and village reconstruction imply the encouragement and revival of both Village Agriculture and Village Industry.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

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could not compete on equal terms with its industrialised neighbours unless industry was developed side by side with agriculture. Under successive five-year plans not only large collective farms for agricultural development were established but large-scale industries including heavy industries like those in Great Britain, Germany and the United States of America were started. For the cultivation of the collective farms tractors driven by oil power were used and machinery of every kind were utilised in all stages of cultivation. It is the simultaneous and co-ordinated development of both agriculture and industry throughout the vast domains of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics which has stood the Soviet State in good stead in its present conflict with industrialised and militarist Germany. This development was due to the fact that Russia has both mineral and agricultural resources.

In India

INDIA, like Russia, has both mineral and agricultural resources. So far agriculture has been the predominant occupation of its 350 millions of people. Such large scale manufacturing industries as the textile and sugar industries, have been long well-established there and now steps are being taken under the National Planning Scheme inaugurated under the auspices of the Indian National Congress to utilise India's mineral and other resources to the full and establish industries of various kinds including heavy industries. But leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, recognising the fact that India with its seven lakhs of villages will not find industrial salvation in large-scale industries, have been preaching the gospel of village uplift through small-scale cottage industries.

The well-known English economist G. D. H. Cole, supporting the stand point of Mahatma Gandhi, says in his work: "World Chaos": "At present, small industries are particularly suited to India on account of the preponderantly agricultural economy and the comparative failure of large scale industries to solve the problem of poverty to the extent once expected of them. In some cases large scale industries require not further development but rather control and rationalisation, whereas small industries should be extended all over the country. Handicrafts still give employment to the largest numbers next to agriculture. The Indian artisan's skill is well-known and even now many fields are his exclusive preserve."

Conditions In Ceylon

CEYLON like India is a land of villages and like India agriculture has been the predominant occupation of its people. Now steps are being taken to create manufacturing industries, and under the recently-launched policy of industrial development alongside agriculture such factory industries as textile, coir, match, paper, glass, leather, ceramic, plywood etc. are being established in different parts of the Island. The object of these industries in the first instance is to supply local demand for the products of those industries and to decrease import. But factory industries in a few centres will not solve the problem. Ceylon's requirements are for small scale cottage industries to be spread widely throughout the Island to give employment to the ever increasing army of the unemployed. Ceylon is a small country with scarcely any mineral resources unlike India and large-scale industries are not a

(Continued on previous Col.)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

By
W. Alphonsus

Physical education is recent to us in Ceylon but something similar to it was present in the school time-table, as "drill" or "physical training". Through the terms "Physical education" and "Physical training" are generally used synonymously, they actually mean different things. Physical Training aims at muscular development and physical perfection by means of bodily exercise, whereas physical education aims at educating both mind and body. A systematic organisation for the development of physical education should therefore include in its programme development of organic vigour, of physical skill and alertness, sentiments and particularly character building. Dr. L. P. Jacks observes, "Education which trained people for work and not for play, for labour and not for leisure, for toil and not for recreation was a half done job". Education for leisure is opening new prospects and arousing new hope for humanity. Today the subject is challenging the attention of thoughtful men of every country. Such men whose number, we hope, is increasing in this country, will, ere long fight for educational reforms, so that the future generation may have the full benefit of physical education as understood in western countries. The U. S. A. have done much in advancing the cause of physical education. The results achieved are summarised in the following words of Mr. H. C. Buck, Adviser to the Government of Madras on physical education: "young men of military draft age in the U. S. A. are two inches taller and fifteen pounds heavier than the young men drafted for military service in 1917. They are also a much healthier lot than were their fathers". Who can deny that the change was brought about by the improved and constructive programmes in physical education at schools and Colleges. Have we not often heard of the phenomenal athletic performances of the American youths, and wondered how it was possible for them to have performed such feats of strength? According to a report published in "Vryayam", a Quarterly journal of Physical Education and Health Education, the popular Congress Government, in India, which came into power in 1937, was responsible for the determined steps taken to put physical education on a sound footing. The Committee appointed by the Minister of Education, Bombay, to suggest measures for the improvement and development of physical education in the Presidency consisting of both officials and non-

RELEASE OF DETENUS

A deputation from the Working Committee of the Ceylon National Congress waited on Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Minister of Home Affairs, on Saturday to make representations for the release of the four persons now detained under the Defence Regulations, three of whom are now in the Kandy barracks and the fourth in the Negombo Gaol,

officials with Swami Kuvalayananda, a wellknown expert in Yogic Physical Culture and progressive educationist as its Chairman, has done much not only in the provincial administrative area but also all over India in putting physical education on a sound basis by the impetus its report carried to every social, political and religious organisation. The enlightened and comprehensive report was accompanied by recommendations of the Committee touching on various aspects of physical education such as its aims and ideas, leadership, programmes, facilities, financial aid etc. The Government gave every consideration and support to its recommendations. The Scheme of physical education is about to become a national one embracing All-India. Let us hope, that we are at the dawn of a new era when the Ceylon Government too will give this matter the consideration it deserves.

EDUCATION IN CEYLON AT THE CROSS-WAYS

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ruling politicians, so that they grow up with minds moulded in one system, hating all other views of life and the people who hold such views.

"State regimentation of education will produce a rigid uniformity without any variety. The absence of variety will be extremely detrimental to originality and progress. State education means centralization, whereas decentralization is the essence of democracy and we pride ourselves in being democratic."

"Revolutionary" Changes

Commenting on the Education Committee's proposals (which are to be issued in draft shortly), Sir Gerard Wijeyekoon dubbed the proposed changes (which he hoped would not go through) as "very revolutionary and calculated to cause serious interference with the liberty of the subject." He maintained that it was the inalienable right of the parent to decide to which school he should send his child and described the proposed arbitrary method to wrest this right from the parent as "impertinence".

Answering the charge of proselytism levelled against denominational schools, Sir Gerard challenged his critics to produce statistics to show how many converts had been obtained within the last ten years. He cited the instance of the Minister of Agriculture, who, he said, still remained an ardent Buddhist, despite his education at a denominational school, to which he was loyal. It was also praiseworthy, he said, that this Minister had launched a scheme for the creation of a rural gentry from among the educated young men through the schools.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

JAFFNA AND THE SHOPS ORDINANCE

Sir,—The climatic conditions of the Jaffna peninsula and the habits and customs of the Jaffna people are very "peculiar" that any set of rules applicable to Colombo and Kandy cannot be grafted to the northern "Capital" without causing avoidable hardship.

According to the draft rules published for observations, it is proposed to have the shops closed until 9 a.m. on six days of the week, at and after 6 p.m. on the five "week" days, at and after 2 p.m. on Saturdays, and throughout on Sundays.

Considering the facts (1) that Jaffna is much hotter than the other towns to which the Ordinance applies at present, (ii) that the Jaffna man is too poor for "lunches" and only has his second meal for the day between 1 and 2 p.m. and, (iii) that he is "addicted" to the habits of daily bathes before his first or second meal, and of Saturday oil bathes, I suggest that the proposed order as regards closing hours be amended as follows:—

The shops shall be closed for the serving of customers—

(a) until 8 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and two of the remaining three days of the week, according as the day of complete rest is Saturday or Sunday;

(b) between 12 noon and 2 p.m. on the five full-working days;

(c) at and after 7 p.m. on the five full-working days;

(d) at and after 1 p.m. on Fridays and throughout on Saturdays or at and after 1 p.m. on Saturdays and throughout on Sundays.

This arrangement will enable the public to do their shopping during the earlier hours of the morning and the cooler hours of the evening, give opportunities to the daily wage-earners to buy their requirements till 7 p.m., and give the employees, at least two hours of rest during the hottest part of the day.

The alternative scheme of Friday-Saturday or Saturday-Sunday for one and a half days of continuous "off" will enable the Hindus, the Christians, the Muslims and the Buddhists to arrange their days according to their religious needs and observances while respecting the demand that there shall be continuous "break" of more than a day. I only hope that in these days of Sunday Cricket Matches etc, no attempt will be made to thrust Sunday as a Sabbath day down the parched throats of the "dry" Jaffna man unmindful of his Saturday oil bathes etc.

Two other local customs or religious observances or superstitious practices—if one is inclined to call them so—should be borne in mind: (1) the Hindu and Muslim custom of having funerals within a certain number of hours after death, and (ii) the practices, not unknown even to Christians, of buying their bridal sarees etc. on auspicious days and at auspicious hours. The future brides may not be swayed by supersti-

tious beliefs, but a person dying say on a Saturday afternoon, may not be anxious to keep on casting "one longing lingering look behind"—or is it forward?—till 9 a.m. on Monday for the last Veshti or Sare!

These difficulties can all be overcome by opening the shops at 8 a.m. and closing them at 7 p.m. with at least two hours' interval during the hottest part of the day, and by allowing shops the choice of Friday afternoon and Saturday throughout or Saturday afternoon and Sunday throughout. The convenience of the general public and the benefit accruing to the employees should not be sacrificed for the convenience and benefit of one or two inspectors under the Shops Ordinance.

One other matter. To the occasions mentioned in paragraph 4 of the draft order referring to longer hours for keeping shops open should be added the Hindu Thai Pongal Day; and the days and hours referred to in that paragraph should be amended to fit in with the scheme indicated above.

Thanking you for the space,

Yours etc.

V. T. S. SIVAGURUNATHAN

Colombo
5th Dec. 41

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

(held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 167/P. 1.

In the matter of the estate of the late Sivasangarakkural Ehambaranathakkural of Thumpalai Deceased.

Gnanambikaiammah widow of Ehambaranathakkural of Thumpalai Vs. Petitioner.

1. Rajeswari daughter of Sivasangara Iyer
2. Walliammai widow of Sivasangara Iyer both of Thumpalai Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva Esquire Additional District Judge on the 31st day of October 1941 in the presence of Mr. P. V. Senathirajah Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 1st Respondent for the purpose of the above testamentary proceedings.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner as the widow of the deceased be declared entitled to take out letters of administration and that letters of administration be issued to her accordingly unless the Respondents or any other person shall appear before this Court on or before the 21st day of November 1941 and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 26th day of November 1941

Sgd. L. W. de Silva
Additional District Judge

2I-11-41.
Order Nisi extended
Returnable the 19th day of
December 1941
Intld. L. W. de S.
A. D. J.
(O. 54. 8 & 11-12-41)

INTER-COLLEGIATE SOCCER

Jaffna Hindu Wins Championship Again

The record crowd, which gathered on the J. S. S. A. ground last Saturday, were treated to an exhilarating exhibition of Soccer when they saw the Jaffna Hindu College beat St. John's College in the Final Championship match by 7 goals to 1 and thus regain the championship she had held last in 1937. The Hindu College team, composed chiefly of very young players, who had not played First Class Football last year or earlier, were hot favourites as they had brilliantly beaten last year's champions on the previous Saturday and especially as they had beaten St. John's by 6 goals to 2 in a friendly match earlier in the season.

Right from the start Hindu College set a fast pace and, playing magnificently, scored 4 goals in quick succession, and half-time saw them leading, 4-0. Soon after resumption of play they scored their 5th goal. At this stage St. John's decided it was time for them to do something and scored their only goal. But Hindu College continued to press and added 2 more goals. Thus the match ended in a victory for the Hindu College by 7 goals to 1. It is difficult to single out any one player for special mention as every one of the players played brilliantly. 'The Sunday Observer' of the 7th inst. says that Scott and Rajaratnam of St. John's did not play in the match. This is not true as both the players played throughout. 'The Sunday Observer' also says that St. Patrick's had been champions for five years running. This too is not correct as the following Table of Championship winners from 1934 (the year when matches were first played on the J. S. S. A. ground) will show:—

1934	...	Jaffna College
1935	...	Jaffna College
1936	...	No Championship
1937	...	Hindu College and St. Patrick's
1938	...	St. Patrick's College
1939	...	Jaffna College and St. Patrick's
1940	...	St. Patrick's
1941	...	Hindu College

We understand that the Champions are meeting a very strong team from Colombo, the City Nomads, tomorrow. Later they are going on a tour to Anuradhapura, Kandy and other places. We wish them the best of luck.

POSITION OF CEYLONESE INF. M. S.

PUBLIC MEETING ON SATURDAY

A public meeting will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the Jaffna Central College hall to consider the position of Ceylonese in the Malay Peninsula and urge the Ceylon Government to take urgent action to evacuate Ceylonese women and children and others not employed in essential services and provide safe passage for them to Ceylon.

THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

VII. 'Sri Panchaksharam' and 'Sivohambavana'

(Continued from our issue of 1-12-41)

The anguish felt and given expression to by Christ, the son of God (மன்னவன் தன் மகன் வேடமிடத்தே தந்தி வளர்த்தவன்.....போல், in the words of Siddhiyar,) when he was betrayed, reminds us of the anguish of Manicka Vachagar when he too found it necessary to cry out:

தொல்லைமேயார் இருவர் தேடும் சோதியே யாது செய்வேன்,
தில்லையேயார் பாவ நீன்ற தெய்வமே யாது செய்வேன்,
இல்லையோ கருணை கின்பால் இன்று, எனை அடிமைக் கொண்டாய்,
அல்லையோ, தமிழன் இன்னல் அறிதியோ அறிந்திடாமோ.

What shall I do, Oh! Light, in vain sought by the two of old?

What shall I do, Nad'raja, worshipped by Chidambara folk? Has She of Grace deserted Thee today, my Gracious Lord? Is it a sporting mockery that Thou didst enlave me?

Dost Thou know this or not this deep anguish of helpless me?

and when Jesus melts in love and appeals to his Father we are also reminded of the words of the same great Saint: அம்மையே அப்பா ஒப்பிலா மணியே அன்பினில் விளைந்த ஆரமுதே.....(Oh! Mother, Oh! Father, Oh! peerless Gem, Oh! Ambrosia born of Love! ...)

The more we ponder over these themes the more we are inclined to think that it was pure Adwaita bliss that Christ like Krishna had glimpses of. It was neither Kevala-adwaitam (monism) nor Dwaitam (dualism) that they taught, but it was pure adwaitam (non-dualism), the ananniyam of Siddhiyar (அசந்தியம் or non-foreignness). It was neither absolute oneness nor absolute twoness, but oneness in twoness or unity in variety or inseparateness as expounded by our Lord Adwaita Meykandan (அத்துவித மெய்கண்டான், he who saw the truth of Adwaitam) in his Tamil redaction of the SivaGana Bodham.

We have digressed a bit. But the digression was inevitable. All what we intended to say is that even the most learned oriental scholars who speak disparagingly of our sacred Omkaram are so ignorant that they do not realize that this mystic syllable of the Vedas is not so foreign to their own 'Amen' uttered by them at prayer every morning and evening or at least once a week on Sundays when they go to church. [—It is a long long time since we heard Swami Vevekananda or read his works or those of Maxmuller and others or the Bible. We have no copies of them by our side as we pen these words. We have quoted from memory. And we should apologize to our readers if we have quoted wrong.]

It seems unnecessary to labour the point further, but we would just quote one stanza from Kanda Puranam and conclude:

தாமரைக் கெலாம் ஆதியும் அந்தமும் சொல்லும்
ஓம் எனப்படும் ஓரமுத்து உண்மையை உணரான்
மாமலர்ப்பெரும் கடவுளும் மயங்கினான் என்றால்
நாம் இனிச்சில அறிந்தனம் என்பத நகையே.

If the great Brahma himself who dwells on the lotus got confused being unable to fathom the secret of the incomparable syllable 'aum' which is uttered at the beginning and at the end of all the Vedas, it is indeed a (huge) joke to pretend that we too know something (of it).

We refrain from dilating on the connected Puranic story here, lest we should be accused again of writing a longwinding article. Suffice it to say and state the moral that it would indeed be a wonder of wonders if Max Muller and others of his ilk understood or appreciated the Pranava symbol at its true worth or stated that it was anything else than chaff, empty husk devoid of any grain of truth within it. Where Brahma (the Creative Agent) himself got confused, we cannot expect lesser mortals to understand.

From what we have said in this article, some idea as to what the contemplation of Sri Panchaksharam or Sivohambavana is can be formed. It is one of the means of attaining liberation and though it is never too early to make a start with it in true earnest, successful practice is only possible to the more advanced student. The great mistake which Kevala-adwaities commit consists in this: When they see such words as 'Attwamas', 'Abambrahmasmi', &c they at once jump into the conclusion that it is the absolute truth that is therein taught and nothing else. They fail to realise that the same words or sets of words do not always convey exactly the same ideas. Words have to be interpreted and understood according to the context. Otherwise there is always the possibility of our seeing red everywhere and finding contradictions in the Scriptures where as a matter of fact there are no contradictions. We have always to be on the alert and guard against mistaking what is taught as a Sadana as constituting an item of proof. If in actuality thou are That, what is this teaching intended for? Who is it that teaches it? And to whom does the teacher teach it? In short, what is the purpose which the Vedas (and all the Shastras) serve? As we had occasion to say in a previous article, these are awkward questions to answer. But the difficulty vanishes the moment you take them in their proper light. Cf. the contemplation of the Pancha Koshas (Annamaya Kosha, Pranamaya Kosha, Mano maya Kosha, Vignanamaya Kosha, and Ananda maya Kosha) taught in the Taittiriya Upanishad. No student of the Upanishads, not even our monistic friends, would assert that the Upanishad really teaches that the soul is the body itself or that it is the breath or the mind, &c. These are all meant as Sadana, as means to an end. They are not the end itself. Even so is the contemplation on the Sri Panchaksharam or Sivohambavana taught in the Mahavakias. These Mahavakias are meant for Sadana, Sadana only and nothing else.

PROFITEERING IN JAFFNA

Representations to Authorities

Jaffna, Dec. 10.

Owing to the sudden increase in the price of rice and other commodities nearly a thousand people comprising labourers and cigar-rollers assembled today at 1 p.m. at the Urban Council Office and represented matters to the Chairman, Mr. R. Sivagurunather. The Chairman communicated this matter to the Government Agent, Mr. Prasad, who arrived at the office immediately. The people who were there held a meeting and six were elected to represent their views. The Chairman, Mr. R. Sivagurunather and Mr. Prasad, the Government Agent, and the six representatives conferred at the U. C. Committee room for about an hour.

The Chairman and the Government Agent then returned to the U. C. Hall and addressed the people who were anxiously waiting at the hall.

Mr. Prasad, Government Agent, said that he had noted the points of the views that were expressed by the representative. He would go into the matter fully. Further he stated that he will hold a representative Conference tomorrow at 2 p.m. at the Kachcheri composed of the leading men, merchants, and the various representatives and would see that the prices of rice and other commodities were not raised. He also asked them not to get panic stricken but to keep quiet and calm.

Mr. R. Sivagurunather thanked the Government Agent and said the Government Agent was one of them and he was trying to solve this problem for the last three or four months.

MARRIAGE REGISTRATION

The marriage was registered at Colombuturai on Monday last of Mr. Kumarasooriar, of the Tea Control Office, and son of the late Mr. Kumarasooriar Ponnambalam of Nallur, with Miss. Sivasothy, daughter of the late Mr. Manicavasagar and niece of Mr. V M. Saravanamuttu, Proctor. The attesting witnesses were Messrs. C. T. Kumaraswamy, Proctor, and A. Cumaraswamy.

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