

RURAL RE - GROUPING IN DEMOCRATIC SET UP

Multi-Purpose Co-operative Scheme Needed

(HERE are suggestions for the attention of Rural Development Societies and Community Centres in Sri Lanka)

THERE is a little recognition of the fact, today, that the countryside is denuded of its best men—men with initiative and education, those who have, among other things a social horizon and understanding of new ideas and ideals, and above all the enterprising youths and sturdy workers of good health—through a process of movement and migration of population, which in economic terms is apparently desirable as it results in relieving congestion in agriculture to some extent and is an aid to the re-orientation of balance in occupations and regions. But the migrating youths constitute the backbone of a village and if genetic selection or biased environmental forces are not subdued by an equalitarian movement in its widest amplitude the countryside will hardly ever extricate itself from its present prostrate position. The road to rural reconstruction work in the country is strewn with the wreckage of diverse schemes due to lack of initiative, leadership and enthusiasm within the village. Hardly any scheme could last, none has spread. Pulsation almost steps with the withdrawal of outside stimuli.

Progress implies a pattern in the distribution of population from a qualitative angle, that in an ideal case would

diverse action and social turpidity if migration is confined to the bottom taking off the pressure from the upper layer. The distributional pattern of village population would rise in shape and new economic and social contacts inherent in mobility of labour would operate in the most healthy direction.

Unequal Pulls

Under the present set up it is not so on account of the disparate conditions of living and social amenities in the villages in contrast to cities. Ambition pulls away from the village people from the upper income groups having education and wide outlook. Poverty, likewise pushes to industrial areas youths with courage and stamina. Cities obtain the progressive elements from the villages which account for their development and expansion, but the burden is borne by the village people, as it is they who bear, rear and educate the migrating youths from the rural areas. It is nothing less than an irony that people with the least income should bear the largest share of the replacement costs of our population. Inequity implied in this pulls down their standard of living still further and makes the task of salvaging all the more difficult.

Approach to the problem of rural reconstruction has so far over-emphasised the utility of an extension service or link carrying information about improved techniques or processes to the countryside and its reactions back to the research stations and the welfare departments. No doubt, it has a definite place in a progressive economy and the Economy and the Economic Programme Committee has taken a right view in recommending that the state 'must organise expeditiously Agricultural and Co-operative Information Services to work in co-operation with and through the local co-operative organisations, village panchayats and agriculturists' organisations and see that every village is brought in direct contact with this service'. Proper organisation of the type

Indian Red Shirt Leader Ill

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan was taken from the Lahore Central Jail to the Mayo Hospital on Monday for medical examination, it is learned.

According to reliable reports the Red Shirt leader is likely to be admitted to the hospital for treatment "very shortly".

Silent Testimony

A man of culture does not speak culture, but acts culture, and in fact lives culture. —Nehru.

is not to be found even for agricultural development, let aside the needs of rural reconstruction. The following suggestions of the Advisory Planning Board therefore need a very careful consideration: "The mere task of collecting data and carrying out detailed surveys in order to ascertain what works and facilities are needed and where will involve very considerable labour, and, when this has been done, there will still remain the task of procuring and distributing the requisite resources and seeing that they are actually put to proper use. The organisation needed for these tasks hardly exists at present. Its creation is a matter of urgency. We have the following suggestions to make regarding the form which such organisation should take:—

Four-Point Scheme

(i) Multi purpose co-operative societies should be set up in the villages as far as possible, as it is essential to build up local initiative.

(ii) An executive authority should be set up for each district and made responsible for carrying out, in consultation with the villagers and their societies, investigations as to the works and facilities needed in each tract and for arranging the supply of the facilities and the construction of the works needed. For these purposes this authority must be provided with adequate funds and given a fairly free hand.

(iii) Such executive authority should consist of the representatives in the district

(Continued on page 4)

SUPREME INNER SILENCE

Development Of Bakthi Into Self - Awareness

"IT is not for the knowledge (Jnana) of Brahman or the Self that any effort is needed; it is necessary only to prevent us from regarding the not-Self as the Self. Therefore, Bhakti or devotion to Jnana-nishta is easily attainable."

—Sankara.

Question: How can we give any attributes and names to the Attributeless or Nameless? Is it not like naming the son of a barren woman?

Answer: Is there anyone who can express the truth of Brahman save through divine attributes and qualities or Gunas? Otherwise, how can the soul know the true nature of Brahman and be one with it, liberated from ego-sense or Jiva-bhava, which is called Jivan-mukti? We have therefore to infer that all Gunas or qualities, thoughts and reflections are not of Brahman, but they move and have their being in Brahma Swarupa, like the endless waves of the ocean. The Gunas are in constant motion, but then

(By BALAJI)

where is their source? All this relative world of names and forms move in Gunas, but is it not after all based on Brahman, on love and knowledge? The Nirguna or the Attributeless is like the solid gold and the Saguna like the ornaments made out of it, or like the vessels produced out of clay. The difference, however, is that the clay is ever one and the same even if it is converted into several vessels and called by various names, according to the intelligence or mental projections of the potter. All life is Jnana-maya—full of consciousness and intelligence. Now, without the existence of the potter, his unique qualities and intelligence, and the clay, no vessels can be produced. Even so is the nature of the Nirguns and

Saguna. Sat and Chit, God soul and the universe.

'Swarupa - Nishta'

Question: What is meant by 'Jnana'?

Answer: It is not mere intellectual knowledge nor any thoughts and reflections of the mind. It is simply to "Know Thyself" and be in Swarupa-Nishta; to "Be still and know I am God". It is the supreme inner silence or peace consciousness based on universal love and unity and charity, beyond all thoughts and expressions. On the other hand, all thoughts feelings and actions are sustained by the supramental Truth-consciousness-peace. It is not Jnana or devotion to right knowledge, but extreme or uncontrollable Vairagya and Moha which cause all wrath and hatred towards the body and the word of Karma. Hence the necessity to train the mind, first and foremost, in Atma-vichara or perfect discrimination of the real and the unreal, of right and wrong thoughts and deeds. Any expression without Jnana or Self-awareness and discrimination is like a king without a kingdom or flowers and fruits without trees. Jnana cannot be defined or known being itself the knower of everything that is knowable or perceptible through the senses and intellect. How can we describe even love or Bhakti or any feelings without Jnana, love God without knowing Him, or remember without seeing Him? Or it may be said we love in order to know him, or know in order to love. Anyway, either knowledge must precede or succeed love.

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Hindu Organ

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1952

Treasure These Thoughts

The gift of joy, peace or perfection is a greater, giving than the effusion of an individual benevolence and sympathy and it is the most royal outcome of unity with others in the Universal Consciousness.

—SIR AUROBINDO

THE MADRAS MODEL

THE first Indian General Elections on the basis of adult franchise had revealed the strength and the weakness of the National Congress—a political association that for several decades had been synonymous with the people's will. Ironically enough the Madras Province that had been the stronghold of the Congress during the peak of the people's movement has been rent asunder, between warring factions. Where 'leadership' had never been a problem scramble for power had begun so much so that an elder statesman who had served the country in every conceivable way and had taken leave of the turmoil of political life to find solace in the serene solitude of spiritual recreation has had to be prevailed upon to abandon his hermitage and once again to shoulder the responsibility of steering the ship of state clear of fog and mist. The State of Madras has world attention turned on it for the obvious reason that what is menacing that state would offer the same difficulty elsewhere and make democracy something frightful.

The Congress by a process of internal combustion had deteriorated in strength and depreciated in value with the result that those stalwarts who had fought shoulder to shoulder in the fierce struggle for freedom had parted company only to organise rival groups, one vying with another, to pull down the structure of the people to pieces. As these political 'pussies' were outmanoeuvring each other for the packet of butter, the sly fox fresh with a training across the Siberian border has planned to take advantage of an intriguing situation. Artfulness has been perfected in such a way that mushroom parties which among them

have no common factor of agreement for the common good have been assembled under the banner of a United Democratic Front in an all out effort to destroy democracy. There cannot be anything more ominous than the fact that the Communist sponsored democratic front in Madras has been able to secure the service of Mr T. Prakasam—one time colleague of Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar. That this veteran of the Satyagraha movement should have abandoned the teachings of the Mahatma to the winds and sought refuge in the Communist parlour can be understood only against a background of personal feelings. And this *quondam* Congress worker has the hardihood to propound the astounding theory, and that having labelled himself the leader of a democratic front, that the Governor of Madras should call upon not the leader of the largest single party but the chief of an *ad hoc* party hurriedly brought into being after the elections by assembling an assortment of groups that differ in their very fundamentals.

Here is a lesson, a warning to Sri Lanka. If Communism has done some service to humanity it is that it had prewarned the people of the world by having attempted a rise in Madras and failed miserably. Let the leaders of the people of this peace loving Island have Madras before them and hasten to sink their personal differences and get together to bring to bay the universal menace that is tapping at the door.

Northern Assizes

Alaveddi Murder Case

The case in which Aronasalam Ramamoorthy of Alaveddi stood charged with having on the 19th of September 1951 at Alaveddi committed murder by causing the death of his uncle Mailvaganam Muthuthamby by stabbing him in the abdomen with a clasp knife was taken up for trial before Mr. Justice St. Clair Swan.

The defence Counsel tendered a plea of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, which the Crown Counsel and Judge accepted.

The accused was sentenced to 4 years R. I.

Mr. Ananda Pereira Crown Counsel conducted the prosecution.

Mr. T. Ganesalingam with Mr. Alagu Subramaniam, instructed by Mr. S. Nadarajah defended the accused.

BRITISH PRESS ON MALAN METHODS

DEFINITE DEPARTURE FROM THE PAST

THE London *Economist* (March 29), discussing the political situation in South Africa, says: "outside the ranks of his own fervent supporters, Dr. Malan is unlikely to find many people ready to believe that South African independence is in danger. South Africa enjoys all the rights of a modern sovereign State. Neither its Supreme court nor its parliamentary opposition is seeking to void a jot of that sovereignty."

"All that has happened is that the court has found that the Act of 1951, by which coloured voters in the cape province were deprived of the full franchise to them by the original constituent Act of 1909 and were transferred to separate electoral rolls, was not passed in accordance with the procedure laid down in the constitution".

Further, "wheat is in dispute is not the sovereignty of parliament but the manner in which that sovereignty is to be exercised. South Africa is not a federal State, and there is no question of a separation of powers. But it is a State based on a written constitution, and in that respect fundamentally different from the United Kingdom."

"The South African constitution was drawn up at a national convention, held at Durban in 1909, by delegations from the four colonies which thereby agreed to form Union. It was approved by the British parliament in the form of the South Africa Act, and the British Government thereby assumed a responsibility for insuring that it was not violated which lasted until the passage of the Statute of Westminster in 1931."

"That statute acknowledged South Africa's full sovereignty, but in no sense violated the constitution of 1909, which remains to this day the whole basis of the Union's political life. Being essentially an agreement between South Africa's founding fathers and not an Act of the Union Parliament, the constitution is not a document which can be arbitrarily revised by any South African Government."

The London *Spectator* (March 28) writes: "There is no case whatever for the contention—which would in any case have no legal

relevance—that the South African constitution was 'imposed' on the Union by a British Act of Parliament. The constitution was framed in South Africa by South Africans at a national convention in 1908 and 1909 and embodied, virtually as that convention left it, in the South Africa Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in 1909."

"That was at that time the only procedure possible, and it is not immaterial that when the Union Parliament debated the Statute of Westminster, both the party leaders, General Hertzog and General Smuts, agreed that the entrenched clauses of the 1909 Act remained intact."

"The new Act is part and parcel of Dr. Malan's purpose to fortify white supremacy—first and foremost, Afrikaans supremacy—in South Africa. It is a clear departure from the policy of earlier nationalist leaders".

In Parliament

Touching Tribute To The Late Premier

All Agree He Was Great

'My loyalty to him in death is no less than my loyalty to him in life' thus concluded Sir John Kotlawala while moving the vote of condolence.

The Leader of the House paid a fitting tribute to the greatest Ceylonese of recent times, one who had dominated three decades of the Island's history as no other man had, one who when he became first Premier of Free Lanka drew his authority from human hearts.

Dr. N. M. Perera, Leader of the Opposition and an unrelenting critic of the U. N. P. rose to great height when he in paying his quota of tribute to the dead Premier said "it is hard to think of this Assembly without his overwhelming personality."

The leaders of the several parties in the House of Representatives spoke and affirmed the fact that a great patriot had passed away in the person of Mr. D. S. Senanayake.

Peasant Colonization In Sri Lanka

Modern Methods Examined

In the last 20 years strenuous efforts have been made to establish large Government-aided colonies in the Dry Zone of Ceylon. These efforts formed the subject of a paper read to the Commonwealth Section of the Royal Society of Arts in London on Tuesday evening. The paper, "Colonization in the Dry Zone of Ceylon" reviewed briefly the natural social and historical background to modern peasant colonization and discussed some of the problems involved. It was read by Mr. B. H. Farmer, M. A., Lecturer in Cartography at Cambridge University, who is at present engaged on a study of pioneer peasant settlement in Ceylon under the auspices of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. His Excellency E. A. P. Wijeyeratne, High Commissioner for Ceylon, presided.

Agrarian Reform

The lecturer said that colonization in Ceylon held considerable interest for a variety of people. The romantic nationalist found something stirring in the re-occupation of his ancestral homeland; the geographer was interested in the establishment of settlements under difficult physical and social conditions; the economist and demographer asked how far the colonization schemes released population pressure and affected standards of living; and the administrator wished to compare Ceylon's efforts and methods with those of other countries and to discover what hope there was that they would strike at the root of the agrarian discontent which threatened to spread across Southern Asia.

Referring to the high coincidence of disease in the Dry Zone, Mr. Farmer, who illustrated his talk with lantern slides, said that in the last few years the spraying of D.D.T. had worked a revolution. Even the remotest villages were visited regularly and the results were most encouraging. "The number of reported malaria cases fell from 2,768, 385 in 1946 to 727,769 in 1949 or, 41 and 10 per

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Our Astrological Feature

WEEKLY FORECASTS

'SRI PATY'

FROM 6-4-52 TO 12-4-52

ARIES Aswini, Barani, Kartikai 1st part [Medha Rasi]

Business life will be undisturbed this week but a somewhat difficult time in personal affairs. Illness in the family circle may tax your purse a bit. Avoid argumentative dispositions week end.

TAURUS Kartikai 2, 3, 4, Rohini, Mirugasirisha 1, 2 [Idapa Rasi]

A somewhat expensive week. You will have no mental peace. Distant relatives or foreigners will help you out of some difficulties mid-week. Domestic troubles or illness in the family shown week end.

GEMINI Mirugasirisha 3, 4, Thiruvathirai, Punarpusam 1, 2, 3 [Mithuna Rasi]

A promising week in personal relationships. You will get the help and encouragement in all your affairs. Financial problems will be solved and will get some good news before week end.

CANCER Punarpoosa 4, Poosa, Ayilya [Kataka Rasi]

Financially a hard time. You will find it difficult to make ends meet. Troubles through secret enemies likely mid week. Keep aloof from gossiping friends lest they land you into difficulties.

LEO Maha, Poora, Uttira 1, [Singha Rasi]

A propitious week for new ventures. Family fracas tends to die down and good feelings should be restored in the family. Brothers and sisters will help you a lot.

VIRGO Uttira 2, 3, 4, Atta, Chittirai 1, 2 [Kanni Rasi]

Friends will prove expensive this week. Don't go out of the way to help others. Likelihood of your being made a scapegoat unless you are very careful. Week end will bring in some good news.

LIBRA Chittirai 3, 4, Swati, Visaka 1, 2, 3, [Thula Rasi]

Family affairs will brighten and a problematical friendship enters easier phase. End of week favourable for journeys and new schemes.

SCORPION Visaka 4, Anusha, Kettai [Vrischika Rasi]

You will have to work hard for your success this week. Family and home conditions will not be very satisfactory. Some disturbing news from business quarters likely week end.

SAGITTARIUS Moolam, Pooradam, Uttiradam 1. [Thanu Rasi]

A longstanding problem within sight of solution this week. You will be able to make some unexpected gains. Ruin to enemies and happy occasions in the family circle likely.

CAPRICORNUS Uttiradam 2, 3, 4, Thiruvonam, Avittam 1, 2. [Makara Rasi]

An easier time than you have had lately though family and financial problems will still be with you Sunday Monday and Tuesday morning. Friends will help you a good deal. Don't harp much on old grievances if you want to get things done.

AQUARIUS Avittam 3, 4, Satayam, Pooraddati 1, 2, 3 [Kumbha Rasi]

You will find it difficult to take life lightly this week. There will be no mental peace and no time for pleasure Tuesday afternoon Wednesday and Thursday secret enemies likely to cause you annoyance but they will not triumph.

PISCES Pooraddati 4, Uttiraddati, Revati. [Meena Rasi]

The first half of the week favourable for new undertakings. Fame and success promised. Thursday afternoon Friday and Saturday must be spent with care.

Peasant Colonization In Sri Lanka

(Continued from page 2)

cent respectively of the Island's population."

The Drought Problem

"Malaria control has however brought other difficulties in its train", he went on. "There is first the problem of drought and the effects of inadequate rainfall are unfortunately enhanced by a lack of underground water resources. As a result, Dry Zone soils are all too easily subject to erosion, especially the lighter soils of the eastern area, for example in the area of the Gal Oya project."

Mr Farmer then spoke of the villages in the Dry Zone which he compared with 'a Mediaeval English village' and the land systems in contrasting them with the Wet Zone and up-country villages.

He thought that on the whole it might be said that the colonization schemes offered more reliable water supplies than were available in Dry Zone Village but water shortage was nevertheless sometimes encountered. Silting of tanks was likely to cause increasing trouble especially as the reserves of the Forest Department were located for economic reasons and not primarily to conserve watersheds. He had, however, come to the conclusion that the colonization schemes would make a very substantial contribution to the country's food supplies.

U K I S.

Anaicoddai Mourns

At a special meeting of the Anaicoddai Community Centre and Rural Development Society held on 29-3-52, with the President, Mr. V. Chunterampillai, in the chair a resolution was passed expressing deep sorrow on the death of the late Prime Minister.

Mr. V. Veerasingham J. P., M. B. E., paid a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Premier. It was also unanimously decided to convey the Society's greetings and congratulations to the Hon. Mr. Dudley Senanayake on the occasion of his appointment as Prime Minister of Ceylon.

ORDER NISI DECLARING WILL PROVED

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1424

In the matter of the last will and testament of the late Kathiravelu Nagalingam of Changanai West.

Deceased.

Marimuthu widow of K. Nagalingam of Changanai West. Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Thangamuthu widow of Vinasithamby Kathiravelu of Vaddukodai East.

2. Sinnachchi widow of Kandappu Ramalingam of do.

3. Sinnathamby Vythilingam and wife.

4. Theivanaipillai both of Aththiyady Jaffna Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before K. D. de Silva Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 3rd day of March 1952 in the presence of Mr. M. Kathiravelu Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 26th February 1952 having been read;

It is ordered that the last will of Kathiravelu Nagalingam dated 26th May 1945 attested by P. Canapathipillai Notary Public under No. 372 he and the same is hereby declared proved unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 25th day of April 1952 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the said Marimuthu the petitioner is the executrix named in the said will and that she is entitled to have probate of the same issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 25th day of April 1952 appear and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 3rd day of March 1952.

Sgd. K. D. de Silva, District Judge.

(O 1, 4 & 8).

Supreme Inner Silence

(Continued from page 1)

It all depends on the individual's faith in Bhakti or Jnana according to his own nature or Swabhava. How can we rely on blind love and faith alone, or in dry intellectual knowledge, at all times? There is a world of difference between the expressions: "Thou art That" and "Thou art in That" Atma-vichara or right understanding and discrimination is not, after all, to end in ignorance or an airy nothing, nor true love is to end in misery instead of in Ananda and unity. Otherwise, the death of divine faith or peace-consciousness will be false.

Steady Consciousness

It is true, love and knowledge are beyond expression and reasoning.

All the same, we do try to express truth based only on pure reasoning, knowledge and discrimination between the true and the false, in order that the soul may not ever live in blind faith or ignorance, but with perfect knowledge and conviction, in Stitha-Prajaa or steady consciousness, liberated from all obsessions, doubts and dualities. When a stranger calls on us, are we not eager to know first the purpose or reason of his visit? Even if we love him straightaway blindly, do we not come to know the purpose of his call later on at least? Similarly, even blind faith, Bhakti or love of God, without knowledge, has to consciously develop into perfect Yoga or union, with full Self-awareness in due time. What is God's will? Is it to retain one's own will and be ever separate from Him, or to know and be one with Him here and now? If God can be known and realised by individual will or self-effort alone, where then is the necessity for God's Grace or surrender to His Will?

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1429

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Howland Saravanamuttu Somasunderam of Manipay Deceased Alice Pooranam widow of Howland Saravanamuttu Somasunderam of Manipay Vs Petitioner.

- 1. Somasunderam Victor Rajendram
 - 2. Somasunderam Arthur Kulendram
 - 3. Somasunderam Regina Poopathy
 - 4. Somasunderam Samuel Jeyasunderam
 - 5. Somasunderam Thapanithy
 - 6. Somasunderam Kamalopathy
 - 7. Somasunderam Christy Theivendiam
 - 8. Somasunderam Rita Karnanithy all of Manipay
 - 9. Ambalavanar Gunanayagam of Vaddukodai Respondents
- The 1st to 8th respondents are minors appearing by their G.A.L. the 9th respdt.

This matter coming on for disposal before K. D. de Silva Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 10th day of March 1952 in the presence of Mr. M

Distinguished Vocal Musician For 1951

The award for the distinguished musician of the year in Carnatic Music (vocal) by the Government of India has been decided upon. Vidwan Sri Ariyakudi Ramanuja Iyengar has won the distinction.

Kathiravelu Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 10th May 1952 having been read;

It is ordered that the above-named 9th respondent be appointed as guardian ad litem over the minors the 1st to 8th respondents and that letters of administration over the estate of the said deceased be granted to the petitioner unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 19th day of May 1952 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

And it is further ordered that the petitioner do produce the said minors the 1st to 8th respondents in court on the said date.

This 10th day of March 1952. Sgd. K. D. de Silva District Judge

(O 2, 4 & 8)

Truths About Tuberculosis

(By E. P. RASIAH)

1. Every case of Tuberculosis comes from another case. The disease is not inherited.

2. The tiny germs that cause Tuberculosis thrive in the lungs of the person who has the disease. From the lungs they get into the mouth and on to the lips. A tuberculosis mother kissing her baby could plant the germs directly on to the child's lips and face.

3. The germs could be coughed or sneezed out in tiny droplets of sputum into another person close by. A sick person could spread the germs to a healthy person, sleeping in the same room.

4. People who have Tuberculosis should not spit indiscriminately in their homes, streets and public places. They should spit into receptacles with disinfectants.

5. Tiredness or fatigue that comes on too easily or for no good reason may be due to Tuberculosis.

6. Loss of weight means that something is wrong—Tuberculosis may be the cause.

7. Cough that hangs on for 10 days or more is a signal that should not be passed by. Continued low fever may be a sign of T. B.

8. Indigestion and poor appetite are not diseases but both may be due to T. B.

9. Blood coming from the mouth, whilst coughing, even if it be only a red streak in the sputum, is a danger signal.

10. A doctor, who has examined the sputum and seen the X-Ray picture of the lungs alone, could positively say if one has T. B. or not.

11. T. B. can be cured if attended to early; rest, good food, fresh air, adequate scientific and medicinal treatment are necessary to get cured from T. B. Go to a chest clinic without delay.

12. If for any reason you are not inclined to get the latest, modern treatment early, see that you prevent the spread of the germs to others by observing the suggestions made herein.

(a) Don't kiss a T. B. patient; don't let one having T. B. kiss you.

(b) Don't share your bed or room with others suspected of having T. B.

(c) Don't cough or sneeze without covering your mouth.

(d) Don't use other's clothes or plates or allow others to use yours.

(e) Don't forget that you are one in a community. Remember that Prevention is better than cure.

Rural Re-Grouping In Democratic Set Up

(Continued from page 1)

of the departments concerned, e. g. Revenue, Agriculture, Public Works, etc., brought together under a united command.

(iv) The nerve centres of direction must be district headquarters under the general guidance of the provincial authorities."

National Standard of Living

Tools for building up local initiative would be lacking and therefore no work would leave its permanent abode so long as the living conditions in the villages are not brought to a level at which wholesale exodus of the upper class to the cities may cease. We will have to draw a minimum national standard in food, clothing, shelter, medical attention and education, which would be guaranteed equally in the villages and towns. As a first step in this direction, besides the application of distributive justice through the technique of minimum wage, a part of costs inherent in maintaining the social efficiency of the individual as at present failing almost in toto on the family in rural communities will have to be shared on a corporate basis as individual incomes are too low and investments for the replacement of population cannot be made at a satisfactory level by the individual. Such arrangements imply public services and amenities in the villages for sanitation, medical aid, education, etc. The nation has a vital interest in this matter for with investments of this type falling below the requirements to maintain and improve the level of efficiency total wellbeing is reduced and the standard of living and productivity is pulled down throughout setting in motion the most severe cyclical disturbances.

Emphasis on Sanitation

Analytical technique in recent years has emphasised the significance of such investments and even in these countries where living conditions in the countryside are not so disparate as in our case the issue has acquired particular importance. The Committee on post-war Agricultural Policy of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities in the U. S. A. has emphasised that since the youth from the farm help maintain the urban population and the income of many farm families is simply too small to provide an adequate level of living more support should be given to schools, medical centres, housing, electrification, communication, roads, recreational facilities and nutrition in the rural areas. Urgency of such work cannot be over-emphasised in our case. Gandhiji has insisted that

sanitation is the first step in village work. The task of education is no less overdue and if it has to be properly done, as it should be, the quality of teaching personnel will have to be raised considerably, that implies much higher salaries, improved living quarters, and well laid out school buildings with modern amenities and equipment to the villages. Conscription for such village welfare work of those who wish to enter universities may have soon to be introduced if cent per cent, literacy is to be obtained expeditiously. More than anything else the villager fears the lack of medical facilities and no social worker is more welcome in the countryside than one with a stethoscope and syringe. Mobile hospitals and clinics such as for the treatment of eyes have to be provided in thousands while a special ambulance service for rural areas must await development. Problems of sanitation, water supply, village roads and housing are no less urgent and important.

Panchayat Policy

Public services and amenities of this type can best be administered by a local body, having an intimate knowledge of local needs and a position wherefrom constant and close supervision can be exercised. The United Provinces is now glistening with 35000 tiny village democracies established on the basis of adult franchise which would fail in their purpose without an enlargement of their function to embrace village education sanitation, medical aid, water-supply and lighting besides the limited judicial administration, which is already emphasised. A panchayat should also build a library and a reading room, a village ball, a recreational and cultural centre and a market place. It should undertake responsibility for village roads and housing of its functionaries. A group of them may have between themselves a holiday centre or a health resort having amenities of a modern life in a rural setting to attract well educated people from the town and permit enrichment through the contact process. A striking feature in the infiltration of new ideas among the rural people in China has been the contact of educated groups of men and women all over the country going out from the town and settling or staying for a while in the villages. Panchayat grouping would be necessary also for the provision of many services on a regional rather than strictly local basis to secure economic and uniformity in standards, wherever desirable. Supervisory personnel will have to be provided through Unions of Panchayats forming suitable administrative Units. Internal reforms like

abolition of untouchability, superstitions, social evils, gambling and drinking can best be left to these bottom layers of Government, which will also be the agencies for giving people training in civic responsibility and inculcating the values of village citizenship.

Financial Provision

Village autonomy without adequate finances would remain a visionary's dream. The Economic Programme Committee has recommended statutory village panchayats for a village or group of villages for self-governing purposes with well defined powers and adequate financial resources as well as having supervisory jurisdiction over all other institutions in the village. But this committee failed to realize the importance of panchayat unions and did not suggest measures required to put panchayats financially on an even keel. It may be suggested here that besides grants-in-aid from the provincial exchequer the panchayats should be vested with the collective ownership of land and should have the right to redistribute land and collect such dues on it as necessary to discharge their own obligations including payment of an agricultural tax on the total farm income on their holdings and assessed collectively on a village community to replace the present land revenue system.

There is no gainsaying that such heavy responsibilities cannot satisfactorily be discharged all at once by these institutions at their infant level and without the services of properly qualified staff, which is very much lacking today in the country. The universities can help in providing the required trained personnel by instituting special courses in rural reconstruction and local government based on instructions and practical training in Agriculture, Economics, Co-operation, Local Finance, Local Government and Social Welfare. Aided by such personnel

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No: 1430

In the matter of the estate of the late Manikkam widow of Nannithamby Selvaratnam of Punnalaikadduvan north.

Deceased.
Selvaratnam Nagendram of Punnalaikadduvan north.
Vs. Petitioner,
1. Selvaratnam Rajendram
Minor. 2 Selvaratnam Yogen-dram both of do.
Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that the 1st respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd respondent, that the petitioner as son of the deceased declared entitled to administer the estate of the deceased and that letters of administration be issued to him accordingly, coming on for disposal before K. D. de Silva Esq., District Judge, on the 10th day of March 1952 in the presence of Mr. A. Thanabalasingham Proctor for the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the 1st respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd respondent, that the petitioner be declared entitled to administer the estate of the deceased and that letters of administration be issued to him accordingly, unless the respondents or any others shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on or before the 19th day of May 1952 at 10 a.m. The 1st respondent is hereby ordered to bring the 2nd respondent to court on the said date.

This 10th day of March 1952.
Sgd. K. D. DE SILVA,
District Judge.

Drawn by,
Sgd. A. Thanabalasingam,
Proctor for Petitioner.
(O. 156. 1 & 4.)

at the Panchayat union level and having an autonomous fiscal and financial apparatus to provide a national standard of public amenities for living and social contact, the village communities will soon become active and pulsate with life—*Indian Review*



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(M. 234.)

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