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## PROBLEMS OF FOOD AND NUTRITION

### Quality and Quantity of Production

By V. Viswanath, B. I. C., F. C. S.

(Operating Director, Imperial Agricultural Research Institute, in his presidential address to the Indian Science Congress)

THE problems of food and nutrition are in the forefront, not only in India but all the world over. No apology is, therefore, needed for considering them briefly under the two heads, quantity and quality of production. The question of nutritive quality has already been considered in the foregoing pages and we have seen how soil conditions can influence the nutritive quality of crop, and the means by which suitable soil conditions can be maintained. In regard to the quality of production, it may be conveniently examined on the basis of protein requirement, which again may be conveniently considered in terms of nitrogen. If we arrive at the probable quantities of protein produced by way of food crops, we can form an idea whether the position is one of surplus or deficit. These calculations are admittedly not accurate estimates but they give us a picture of the position in regard to the production of food crops.

A. W. Flux, in his Presidential Address to the Royal Statistical Society (June, 1930) on 'Our food supply before and after war,' fixed 86.5 grammes of protein per head per day in England. This is equivalent to fourteen grammes of nitrogen per head per day. For India, I have assumed that the food requirements are lower and have taken an average of seventy-five grammes of protein consumption per head per day. This is equivalent to twelve grammes of nitrogen. On this basis, the annual requirement of nitrogen, necessary for feeding a population of 353 millions, works out to 1,522,312 tons of food nitrogen for the whole population or 9.66 pounds of nitrogen per head per year. From the 247,000,000 acres

under cultivation with various food crops, a total of 1,071,138 tons of food nitrogen are available. Thus, we are short by roughly 500,000 tons of food nitrogen. In other words, we are at present producing food sufficient for the proper feeding of only two-thirds of the population.

The supply of food has to be increased by increasing the outturn per acre and by bringing more land under cultivation. With high-yielding strains of crops and suitable soil management, it should be possible to increase production sufficient to meet the needs. Our botanists can and are producing high-yielding strains which, on the average, give ten to fifteen per cent. increase in yield. A quarter of a century of experimental work has demonstrated that by rational soil management and manuring, a further increase of ten to fifteen per cent. can be expected. The results of recent sugarcane-growing competition under the auspices of the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, show that large increases are not impossible. In these competitions, the Kalamb Sugar Factory harvested as much as 104.28 tons of cane to the acre as against the normal average of about forty tons to the acre.

Indian agriculture is one of great antiquity and many of the present-day practices are the outcome of experience through at least fifty centuries. The Royal Commission on Agriculture in India, after an extensive and careful study, have recorded that the system of agriculture and the agricultural practice in vogue, stand unchallenged by modern research. We are dealing here with soils and practices several centuries old. We have seen

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## HOW A "HARD DRUNKARD" TURNED TEETOTALLER

### The Story of a Conversion

By M. D.

A businessman, who has been

comes to Gandhiji whenever he is within hailing distance, gives him a few yards of yarn and a hundred rupee note plus sometimes one rupee, sometimes two, and often enough three. He appeared twice thus during our stay in Juhu, and once as I had to keep him waiting, as Gandhiji was not free, I felt like making his acquaintance. He had waited that day for over four hours, but there was no end to the discussions with the Working Committee members, and so I asked him to have his food with us. "No food," he said, "until I have presented my yarn and contribution to Gandhiji." "But," I said, "it may be very late. It is 12 o'clock, the meeting is going on, and Gandhiji has not yet had his bath. Why not have your food and then wait?" "No," he said cheerfully, "I am prepared to wait until evening."

I then asked him to explain the mystery of his periodical contributions and the shape they took. "Years ago," he said, "when Gandhiji was arrested on the 18th March I took the vow of spinning every day and of setting apart one rupee on the eighteenth of each month, and thank God I have kept the vow. And whenever I find that he is near enough, I go with the hank and the vowed contribution."

"But then you often give a hundred rupee note also?"

"That is nothing. That is a voluntary contribution I make whenever I earn and whenever there is money in my pocket. This is an obligatory contribution. It is a lifelong vow which keeps me straight."

"Please explain it a little more and at length."

Quite an unsophisticated person, he took no time over platitudes or formalities, but went straight ahead:

"I was a drunkard once and a hard drunkard at that."

"When did you give it up?"

With the vow?"

No fear. The desire to give it up was there, but the will was lacking, or perhaps the will was there, but the flesh was weak. I took every time I had a glass that I was doing wrong, but there was no help. I could not resist it."

"How long did it go on?"

"Two years after the vow."

"What ultimately gave you the strength to give it up?"

"I do not know, God alone does. I would not eat before I had my bath and my reading of the Bhagawadgita."

"But went on drinking nevertheless?"

"Yes. The Gita reading had apparently no effect. I am an Arya Samajist. I have been a regular reader of the Bhagawadgita."

"Sanskrit? What is your education?"

"No Sanskrit. I have had no education worth the name. I read the Gita in Urdu and Tilak Maharaj's Gita in translation one page every day."

"Then you decided to give up drink gradually?"

"Oh no. Giving up drink gradually is a delusion. You cannot give it up gradually. During the interval I gave it up once and remained without it for five months. But again I had a bottle. I forget the exact time and date now. But it was about the time Gandhiji was released. I said to myself it was shameful to keep the vow of spinning and contributing a rupee each month and yet going on drinking. I dashed the wretched bottle to pieces and have not touched it ever since. It is close on 14 years now."

"But there are other close associates of drink. Were you ever a prey to them?"

"No. I was fond of music and would visit houses of dancing girls, but never went beyond that. That thing is not in me. And then though I drank a lot I would never go

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# ALL CEYLON INDUSTRIAL RALLY AND CARNIVAL, JAFFNA

NEXT RALLY IN 1940

## MEETING OF COMMITTEES

A MEETING of the Executive and Sub-Committees of the All-Ceylon Industrial Rally and Carnival was held at St. Patrick's College on Saturday the 28th May at 4 p.m. In the absence of the President, Mr. E. T. Dyson, Very Rev. Fr. T. M. F. Long O. M. I. occupied the chair.

A statement of accounts of receipts and disbursements up to May 23rd was read.

Rev. Dr. T. Isaac Tambyah then moved the first resolution: "It is resolved that the next Rally and Carnival be held in May 1940 on a wider and more representative basis than the recent one, and that preparations for the same be forthwith commenced by the appointment of Provincial Groups and Committees and all other necessary organisations." In commending the resolution to the house Dr. Tambyah said that though the Rally and Carnival was a great success, there was not enough time to organise committees in various provinces in order to assemble a comprehensive collection of exhibits typical of various provinces. There were several provinces unrepresented. The 1940 Rally had to aim at a thorough and comprehensive industrial survey of the whole Island.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah seconded.

There was a discussion with regard to the month and it was agreed that no mention be made of the month. The resolution was then put to the house and carried.

Dr. Tambyah then moved the next resolution also: "The following with power to add 10 more to their number to be a Standing Committee functioning from now till the closing of the 1940 Rally mentioned in the previous resolution and be empowered to appoint all groups, committees and sub-committees and officers for the purposes and in terms of the foregoing resolution: Dr. S. Subramaniam, Mudlr. C. Kanapathypillai, Messrs C. Ragunathan R. Rajadurai, A. J. Selvadurai, D. Saverimuttu, S. A. Allagaratnam, T. N. Subbiah, V. S. Karthigesu, S. Muttuvelu, Sam Sabapathy, K. V. Sinnadurai, J. A. J. Tisseveerasinghe, S. Nagalingam, S. Thuraisingham, M. R. Jebaretnam, F. C. Thuraisingham, C. Arulampalam, Very Rev. Fr. Emilianus and P. M. Francis, the District Judge the Provincial Surgeon, the Divisional Inspector of Schools, the Provincial Engineer, the Asst. Conservator of Forests, the Medical Officer of Health, Messrs. W. F. Ratnagopal, B. R. Motha and the mover of the motion with the following Office-bearers: President: the Government Agent; Vice-Presidents: the Northern State Council Members, Chief Executive Officer; Very Rev. Fr. T. M. F. Long, General Secretaries: Messrs. R. R. Nalliah and C. W. D. Al-

wines, Treasurers: Rev. Fr. B. A. John and Mr. S. James.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah seconded.

The following additional names were included: Messrs. N. Velupillai, M. Swaminathan, C. Ponnampalam, V. Veerasingham, P. T. Sambanthan and Mesdames R. R. Nalliah, C. Ponnampalam, F. A. Sandrasagra, C. T. Lorange, C. Coomaraswamy, S. P. Ignatius, and A. J. Selvadurai.

The resolution was put to the house and carried.

Mr. N. Velupillai moved the third resolution: "For the implementing and carrying out of the purposes and work of the recent Rally and Exhibition, the following do form a special committee to do everything necessary for the encouragement, development and fostering generally of the industries of the country. The said committee to function till the close of the next Rally and Exhibition. The Govt. Agent, the Northern State Councilors, Very Rev. Fr. T. M. Long Messrs. R. R. Nalliah, C. W. D. Alwines, Rev. Fr. B. A. John, Messrs. S. James, W. F. Ratnagopal, B. R. Motha, Dr. S. Subramaniam, Mudlr. C. Kanapathypillai, Messrs. C. Ragunathan, M. Jebaretnam, R. Rajadurai, A. J. Selvadurai, D. Saverimuttu, S. A. Allagaratnam, T. N. Subbiah, V. S. Karthigesu, S. Muttuvelu, Sam Sabapathy, K. A. Sinnadurai, M. Jacob, P. R. Thambyaiah, Alfred Vanniasinkam, Alfred Swamipillai, J. A. J. Tisseveerasinghe, S. Nagalingam, S. Thuraisingham, F. C. Thuraisingham, C. Arulampalam, Very Rev. Frs. J. Emilianus, and P. M. Francis, the District Judge, the Provincial Surgeon, the Divisional Inspector of Schools, the Provincial Engineer, the Asst. Conservator of Forests, the Medical Officer of Health, Messrs. N. Velupillai and M. Swaminathan.

Mr. W. F. Ratnagopal seconded. Carried.

Mr. M. R. Jebaretnam proposed that a Jaffna Store House be opened at Colombo preferably at Colpetty, for clearing Jaffna products both wholesale and retail. Mr. W. F. Ratnagopal seconded and wished the words Jaffna Store House be altered to Jaffna Products Display House. The mover accepted the change. The resolution was carried.

Mr. Jebaretnam then proposed the following sub-committee: Chairman: Very Rev. Fr. T. M. F. Long, Messrs. V. Veerasingam, C. Kanapathypillai, J. Chandrasekera, A. Gnanapragasam, J. Tyagarajah, A. Sellamuttu, R. Nadarajah, C. Ragunathan, S. Thuraisingham and the mover. Mr. C. Arulampalam seconded. Carried.

Very Rev. Fr. J. Emilianus in moving the next resolution said

## RICE MERCHANTS PROTEST

### Food Controller should not Import Rice

THE Rice Merchants' Association in Colombo has protested against the proposal that the Food Controller should import rice during any national crisis when the establishment of food control in the Island might be necessary.

This protest is made in a memorandum the Association has submitted to the Food Controller and his Advisory Committee.

The rice merchants of Colombo contend that the task of importing rice should always be in their hands and that the Ceylon Government, during any time of emergency, should make the necessary arrangements with the Government of Burma for affording them all the facilities they need for the purchase of rice in Rangoon and other places in Burma.

Proposals for the introduction of legislation for the purpose of empowering the Food Controller to purchase rice abroad at moments of emergency pending the approval of the State Council of the necessary expenditure as enabling him to take all other measures for ensuring a regular in-flow of rice into the country

that after the recent Rally a large number of people were anxious to start the making of coir rope. A number of volunteers had been taught by the demonstration during the Rally. He moved that the Director of Industry and Commerce be requested to send instructors to teach coir rope making and weaving.

Mr. S. James seconded. Carried.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah proposed a vote of thanks to Very Rev. Fr. T. M. F. Long O. M. I. He said that the success of the Rally and Carnival was entirely due to the dynamic energy and enthusiasm of Fr. Long. Rev. Dr. T. Isaac Tambyah seconded. The vote was carried with acclamation.

are now before the Food Controller's Advisory Committee.

### Financing Aspect

The Rice Merchants' Association are not in favour of the Food Controller purchasing rice stocks in Burma or elsewhere.

The Association's memorandum states that the rice merchants are financed by the local exchange Banks in their purchases in Burma.

They, therefore, ask that a representative of one of the Colombo exchange Banks should be appointed to the Food Controller's Advisory Committee.

They are of opinion that the representation of the exchange Banks on the Committee would be helpful to their continuing to import rice during a period of food control.

### Control of Prices

The rice merchants, in their memorandum, make the request that legislation should be introduced to control the price

of foodstuffs in the local market if the Food Controller's scheme to create a two to three months' reserve stock in Ceylon is carried into effect.

As pointed out by Mr. S. E. Hancox in his recent article in the "Daily News," the rice merchants maintain that the purchase of large stocks in Rangoon, amounting from 70,000 to 100,000 tons, would force up prices which might go down later, causing heavy losses.

In such an eventuality, it is urged, the Government should be armed with the power to control prices.

The rest of the representations made in the memorandum closely follows the arguments advanced by Mr. Hancox in his article.

### Locking up a Fortune

It is pointed out that a sum of ten to twelve million rupees would remain locked up with the proposed reserve stocks of rice if they are brought into existence and that such a course is not feasible.

The rice merchants would also claim compensation for loss by draught in the event of reserve stocks being maintained.

As regards the difficulties of storage, it is presumed that the Government would find the necessary accommodation.

## EMPIRE OF INDIA

### LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

Established 1897. Head Office: Bombay.

### A few features of 41st Annual Report

Income	Rs. 84,62,000
New Assurances	Rs. 1,87,28,000
Assurances in force	Rs. 14,03,93,000
Assets	Rs. 5,06,87,000

APPLICATIONS FOR AGENCY INVITED.

Branch Office: IMPERIAL BANK BUILDING, COLOMBO.



## BAN ON MARRIED WOMEN TEACHERS

### Not To be Employed After October

## RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

THE Board of Education has recommended, at its Saturday's meeting, that on and after October 1st 1938 married women, whose husbands are living should not be taken on as full-time teachers except in special circumstances and with the approval of the Director of Education. This is applicable only to those seeking to join as teachers on or after October 1st.

Mr. L. McD. Robinson, the Director

at a meeting of the Board of Education at which the recommendation was made.

When originally the "married teachers" ban was proposed the Director had explained that the object was the efficiency of the education service. He had instance of the case of the woman teacher whom he had seen in the Kandy district attending school with her little child and ayib. From time to time the woman had to attend to her child and thus neglect her duties.

The recommendation of the Board of Education is a little different from the original proposal in that the rule is to apply only to married women whose husbands are living and again, only to those who enter the service on or after October 1st, 1938.

### Grant for Orphans

The Board also recommended that clauses be inserted in the Code for Assisted English Schools providing for

Refund of Customs Duty on scientific apparatus imported for educational purposes;

Study leave on full pay for one year to graduates and first class trained teachers who have had not less than ten years' teaching service.

The following recommendations were also made:

That orphans or destitute children in approved registered English schools be also allowed a maintenance grant of Rs. 75, as well as those in Orphanages and Homes.

The recommendation in regard to optional courses in Vernacular schools was as follows:—

That, in order not to affect adversely teachers in service before the amendment to Clause 37 (d) and (e) of the Vernacular Code comes into force, a footnote be added to the amendment making such amendment inapplicable to teachers under this clause until after June 1st, 1939 and requiring Managers of schools where such teachers are employed to charge fees in order to meet the cost of the Manager's contribution.

Besides the Chairman, others present at the meeting were: Mr. R. Patrick (Deputy-Director), Mr. T. B. Jayah, Mr. A. Mahadeva, Miss G. F. Opie, the Rev. Fr. M. J. LeGoe, the Rev. A. S. Beaty, Mr. H. S. Perera, Mr. L. H. Methanand, Mr. Peter de Abrew, Mr. P. T. P. Guruswardene, Mr. J. V. Chelliah, Mr. J. N. Jinendradasa, Mr. W. B. de Alwis and Mr. S. T. Wait (Secretary.)

## Religious in Schools

### Responsibility Rests with Teachers

The imparting of religious instruction in Government Schools rested with the teachers said Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara, Minister of Education, at the third anniversary celebrations of the Saddhacharya Wardhana Samitiya.

Many people protested said Mr. Kannangara that in Government schools religion was not taught. To impart religion to Buddhist children who attended a Christian school or to Christian children who attended a Buddhist school was a very difficult matter.

If in a Government school out of 100 children there were 50 Buddhists, 20 Christians, 10 Muslims and 10 Hindus, how could religion be taught?

He had instructed the teachers that if they desired to impart religious knowledge to the children, they should approach the religious authorities and arrange with them to have religious classes held.

The imparting of religious instruction in Government schools rested with the teachers. He exhorted every teacher to do his duty.

### Travelling Without Ticket

Richard Martyn of Colombo was charged on Thursday before the Police Magistrate, Jaffna, for having travelled without ticket from Kankasanturai to Paranthan by the Colombo Down Mail on the 28th.

The accused in pleading guilty stated that he was employed in a boutique and was chased out without payment of his wages and hence travelled without ticket.

Mr. S. Rajaratnam, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Jaffna, who prosecuted brought to the notice of the court that the accused was on his way to Colombo and taken out at Paranthan after detection for prosecution.

Magistrate fined the accused Rs. 7/50, in default 1 week's simple imprisonment.

## Invidious and Unfair

### Distinction Between Male and Female Offspring

M AHATMA Gandhi writes in the Harijan:

A correspondent writes:

"There are at present in Cutch in our midst several otherwise respectable gentlemen, upright, munificent, deeply religious and high-minded but without any scruple about remarrying merely for the sake of begetting male offspring. I would entreat you to express your opinions to whether you approve of this practice storing the mind of departing the birth of a daughter. Do you too hold with the orthodox that one cannot go to Heaven without a son?"

"A man noted for his charities has three wives. But he has no male offspring. He has now married for the fourth time. A few months ago he performed a Yajna when one of his wives was watered daily. Over a lakh of rupees were spent over this ceremony. I can multiply such instances."

Unfortunately this banking for male offspring is almost universally prevalent in Hindu society. It is not necessary to trace its origin. It is enough that in the present age of sex-equality, this sort of invidious discrimination against the female sex is an anachronism. I fail to see any reason for jubilation over the birth of a son and for mourning over that of a daughter. Both are God's gifts. They have an equal right to live, and are equally necessary to keep the world going. But such age-old and deep rooted practices cannot be eradicated all of a sudden. They can be dealt with only by an awakening of the social conscience, and a proper recognition of the true status and dignity of woman. Today both husband and wife are found to be equally agreeable to the former remarrying when they cannot beget a male offspring. Reformers like my correspondent have to cultivate patience and not be angry over such unfortunate occurrences nor lose hearts. They have to have faith in the cause and work away in the hope that society will one day realize the evil of making unmeaning and invidious distinction between male and female offspring.

### Standardising Ceylon Soaps

The Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce is considering the desirability of fixing a standard for the soap manufactured in Ceylon.

(Continued.)

motion of Oriental Music. (Applause).

In conclusion he thanked the Divisional Inspector of Schools (Mr. C. T. Lorage) and his predecessors in office for all that they had done to further the cause of music.

Mr. Kannangara announced that he was offering two prizes for vocal and instrumental music, respectively, to be competed for among the students of the summer school of music.

Mr. Watson also made a similar announcement.

Mr. T. H. Crossette proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

## CEYLON'S NATIONAL CULTURE

A COMPOUND OF  
SINHALESE AND TAMIL

### MUSIC CONFERENCE IN JAFFNA

"OUR national culture must be one compounded of the best that each of the two races, Sinhalese and Tamil, have evolved," said Mr. W. R. Watson, Assistant Director of Education, speaking on Saturday at the Music Conference organised by the North Ceylon Oriental Music Society.

Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara, Minister of Education presided and in the course of his address, said that he would endeavour to secure the support of the State Council for the promotion of Oriental Music.

At the Conference there were representatives from the Education Department, the North Ceylon Oriental Music Society and from South India.

On being invited by the Minister to address the Conference Mr. W. R. Watson, speaking on "The place of Music in our National culture," said that the Sinhalese and Tamils were tempted to think in terms of racial culture. The Tamils, no doubt, had an ancient and national culture in common with the Tamils of the Madras Presidency. But they must not forget that the Tamils of Ceylon had been destined for the last so many centuries to live with the Sinhalese in this Island, separated from all others by the sea and so the national culture must be one compounded of the best that each of the two races had evolved.

### The Place of Music

Discussing the place of Music in national culture, Mr. Watson said that their ancestors had evolved a very scientific system of music and dancing long before the nations of the world had made any progress in it. It was a great pity that the present generation had no knowledge of what had been achieved for them in the past.

Reference had been made, he said, in the Chilappathikaram, a Tamil work of great merit of the third or fourth century, to 31 musical instruments, which were then in use including four kinds of veena. The qualifications of musicians were also dealt with in that book when it was laid down that a music student should have seven years' training before he could give a public expression, indicating how carefully the Tamil people had cultivated the art.

Mr. Kannangara in the course of his remarks deplored the absence of members of the general public on that occasion.

He said that it would be his endeavour to do all he could to further the cause of Oriental Music in the country. As they were aware, the Education Vote had gone up to twenty million rupees, and any proposal to add even a cent more to that vote would meet with severe criticism in the State Council. Nevertheless he assured the conference that he would try his best to secure support for the pro-

(Continued on Previous Column)



## FOR SALE

Land 14 lachams in extent situated at Maruthanamadam on the Uduvil Road with well in close proximity to Ramanathan College, Uduvil Girls School and Inuvil Hospital. Price Rs. 4000, offers considered.

Apply to Y  
C/o Manager, "Hindu Organ"  
Jaffna.

## For Sale

Land called Thunnaliam 5½ lachams in extent, situated at Suthumalai. Offers invited.

Apply to Y  
C/o Manager, "Hindu Organ"  
Jaffna.

[Mis 52 26 to 2-6-38]



## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1938.

### THE TAMIL DEMAND

MR. G. G. PONNAMBALAM, IN an illuminating contribution which appeared in a recent issue of the "Times of Ceylon," discusses the problem of minorities, showing clearly that, in almost every country which was confronted with it, the minorities have had a square deal in the matter of representation in the legislature. He has taken pains to prove that everywhere they have been given representation in the legislature far in excess of what their numbers warranted. We have ourselves so often written in these columns, condemning the inadequate representation of minorities in the State Council and demanding that it should be increased in a manner best calculated to remove the position of political impotence to which they have been reduced by the Donoughmore Constitution and reflect their respective importance and interests in the country. An adequately increased representation for the minorities without insisting upon mathematical exactitude in regard to their numerical strength is a perfectly legitimate demand, which is not incompatible with the principles of democracy and which has also the sanction of well-known historical precedents. It is superfluous at this time of day to consider the question in detail. Suffice it to say that MR. PONNAMBALAM has made out a convincing case for increased representation of minorities in any scheme of constitutional reforms.

It is well-known that the Donoughmore Commissioners, ignorant of local conditions and inexperienced in the art of administration, blessed this Island with a Constitution which, in its actual working, has set in motion communal dissensions and distrust to the prejudice of the best interests of the country. The fact of the matter is that they woefully

ly failed to realise the full significance of the memorable observation of LORD BRYCE:—"To raise the standard of civic duty is a harder and longer task than to alter institutions." The result is the almost unanimous demand for a thorough overhauling of the Constitution so as to make it function smoothly and efficiently to the advantage of the country as a whole and not that of any particular community. It is a happy augury that at this critical juncture we have in SIR ANDREW CALDECOTT a Governor who could be depended upon to bring to bear upon the question of constitutional reforms the vision and character and equipment for which he has earned a well-deserved reputation.

What then is the Tamil demand in regard to this question? Speaking for the community, we have time and again written on the subject, expressing

ourselves in clear and unmistakable terms, even at the risk of being misunderstood by some of our staunch friends. We do not therefore propose to repeat what we have so often said. The Tamils have always been in the vanguard of the reform movement, and their contribution to the political progress of this country is a standing glory to the community. Being heirs to such a rich heritage, the Tamils ought to have marched shoulder to shoulder with other progressive elements in the country in demanding a radical reform of the Constitution. We regret to have to observe in this connection that some of the Tamil leaders committed an egregious blunder in allying themselves with other minorities in their demand for a fifty-fifty basis representation as against the majority community. This is all the more inexplicable, when one bears in mind the fact that there has been no community of political interests and aspirations between them; and what is more, their political objectives may perhaps be as the poles asunder. The Tamils should therefore endorse in this respect the demands of the progressive section of the majority community subject only to two reservations. Much as we would desire that the reserve powers vested in the Governor under the Constitution should go, we fear we cannot lend our support to such a demand in the light of the tragic realities of the situation. The reserve powers of the Governor should remain intact until such times as there prevail in the country inter-communal good-will and understanding. Further the Tamils could legitimately insist upon a substantially increased representation for them in the State Council by means of a judicious re-allocation of electoral areas in the Northern and the Eastern Provinces. We know that there are some Sinhalese politicians who would, in this matter,

rigidly adhere to a uniform numerical quota. Their attitude and utterances tend only to show that they are bankrupt of statesmanship and that they are in fact rank communalists masquerading in the garb of nationalists. We would only commend to them in this respect the noble example set by the National Congress leaders in India. We hope and trust, however, that, in his report to the Secretary of State, H. E. the Governor will give due consideration to these aspects of the question and recommend among others such amendments to the Constitution as will effectively allay the legitimate doubts and fears of minorities.

### Music and National Culture

It is a pity that there is little room for the life of our

today. A people without love of music lack an indefinable something that contributes to its individuality and culture. The Tamils are the inheritors of a perfect and scientific system of music, but this heritage of theirs has been so woefully neglected with the impact of foreign civilisations that today music has fallen on evil days and has found refuge in a few families which get little encouragement from the Government and the public in nurturing it. While Oriental music suffers this indignity in this country, it is ridiculous to find a host of the names of Ceylon candidates who have passed tests in Western music published in our dailies. This is evidence of the fact that there is a demand which the West has easily stepped in to supply to the chagrin of the lovers of Oriental Music. There has been no organised effort sufficiently strong to stem this mad rush after the occidental and to replace it by the indigenous one; some sporadic efforts here and there serve only to remind us merely of the existence of an Oriental system of music. The North Ceylon Oriental Music Society has done something in this direction. The official patronage it enjoys should have helped it to achieve much more than it has done so far. The assurance of the Minister for Education to secure Government support for the promotion of Oriental Music makes us hope that something will be done to restore music to its proper place in the life of the people. Unless music is given a place in the curricula of studies in both Tamil and English Schools, one cannot hope to popularise it. A Society here and a Society there cannot be expected to do this work effectively. The State should move in the matter and see that Oriental Music takes its due place in the education of the children of the country. Only so and not by mere lip-service can we hope to preserve and enrich our national culture.

## PATENT FACTS AND LATENT TRUTHS

By Panfalantus

### 7. Hinduism—Essentials and Non-Essentials

A well-known Indian journalist, speaking the other day about "Socialism and Hinduism", spent a good deal of his time in discussing the essentials and non-essentials of Hinduism. In doing so, he attacked some people who, he assumed, were too ignorant to see the difference between essentials and non-essentials. He remarked that these people believed that, if any one, claiming to be a Hindu, cropped his hair, shaved his face only and wore garments of a particular kind in a particular way, that one was doomed to eternal perdition.

I am acquainted with many who, on either side of the Palk Strait, and I am not aware of any Hindu who entertains belief of the kind described by the lecturer. It is true Hinduism lays down that a Hindu's appearance should conform to a certain pattern, but it is only because Hinduism recommends—like every other religion—that a man's faith should be evident from some distinguishing features of his exterior. This is the reason why Moslems shave their heads fully, wear a Fizz cap and grow a beard and moustache. You cannot see a Moslem or a Christian with a tuft or a cast-mark any more than you can see a Roman Catholic Father without his tonsure. But no authority on Hindu religion has ever said that the presence or absence of exterior symbols has anything to do with salvation.

The speaker stood on more debatable ground when he said that a modern Hindu was eligible for moksha even if he defied every rule of varna and asrama. Before I proceed with his argument further, I must state with regret that Hinduism is the only religion which permits every one to expound it. Christianity, Islam and other religions are expounded by men who are trained in the exposition of those faiths, and nobody outside the group of trained men will venture to question the authority of these trained men. In regard to Hinduism, however, even a man who has never scanned a single line of a sacred text, is audacious enough to come forward before the public and denounce those who have spent the best part of their lives in poring over the scriptures in their original texts and practising their injunctions. I am sure that it is this unbridled licence, more than anything else, that has damaged the fair name of Hinduism in the eyes of the thinking world.

Well, the lecturer I am referring to does not seem to have taken the trouble of bestowing much attention on a study of the sources of Hinduism. Still, he asserted that, because Hinduism was always changing with the times, therefore, now, too, it must discard varna and asrama as obsolete. This, I submit, is quite against the truth of history. Hindu society was based on caste even in the Rig-Veda—compiled about 10,000 years ago. In the Gita, too, which came about

(Continued on page 5)



## BRITAIN'S DEFENCE PLANS

### Elaborate Preparations

#### CONSCRIPTION IN EMERGENCY

London, May 31.

A statement made in the House of Commons today regarding the provision of man-power for essential services, now and in war-time, by Sir Thomas Inskip, Minister for Co-ordination of Defence, evoked prompt and strong criticism by Labour members on the ground that it foreshadowed conscription in the event of war.

Sir Thomas said that he did not know whether any plan existed for industrial conscription but he indicated in reply to Mr. J. C. ... that it would be correct to assume that in any emergency those legislative machinery was all ready for implementing the Conscription Act.

The statement followed a suggestion made by a member that the various public services asking for recruits were outbidding each other.

### MUSIC MASTER'S HOUSE BURGLED

#### Cash and Jewellery Stolen

400 Rupee coins and Rs. 100 worth of jewellery, it is reported, were stolen on Tuesday at midnight from the house of Mr. Vallipnam, music master, Kokuvil West.

The burglars effected entry into the house through the roof. They are suspected to have used a car.

### MORE AGRICULTURAL LEARNERS

#### Second Batch Recruited

Kandy, Tuesday.

A second batch of thirteen Agricultural learners have been recruited to the Department of Agriculture.

They will receive a two-year course of training at the Farm School, Peradeniya, on completion of which they will be appointed Agricultural Instructors.

The first set of ten learners have been under training for a year.

### Weather

There was a heavy shower on Tuesday night and liability to rain continues.

The sky is cloudy and there is no blowing.

### A Memorandum on Reforms

#### Discussed by Jaffna Association

A Memorandum, drafted by Mr. G. G. Poombathur, V. S. C., to be submitted on behalf of the Jaffna Association, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with particular reference to the need for a reorganisation in the

State Council for the Northern Provinces was considered for nearly three hours by the Executive Committee of the Association on Monday.

The Rev. Dr. Isaac Thambayah presided, and almost all the other committee members were present.

It is learnt that there was strong opinion expressed that provision should be made in the reformed constitution to enable minorities to secure seats in the Cabinet.

The meeting was adjourned on account of the indisposition of Dr. Thambayah.

Further consideration of the memorandum will take place later this week.

### "Kalki" and "Mali" in Jaffna

Mr. R. Krishnamurti, Editor, "Ananda Vikatan", Madras, and Mr. Mahalingam ("Mali"), the cartoonist, had a busy time in Jaffna last week. Mr. Krishnamurti addressed many meetings at which "Mali" exhibited his skill by drawing sketches of persons.

The North Ceylon Indian Association entertained the visitors at an "At Home" on Saturday.

On Sunday the distinguished visitors were introduced to a select gathering at a "garden party" at the Kala Nilayam by Mr. S. Ambikapakan B. A., Headmaster, Vaideshwara Vidyalaya.

The party left Jaffna on Monday and left by air on Tuesday from Ratmalana to Madras.

### UNIVERSITIES AND EMPLOYMENT

Simla, May 28.

At the instance of the Government of India, Indian Universities, it is understood, have agreed to maintain statistics of employment and unemployment among students who pass through them or through colleges affiliated to them. The Punjab University has gone one step further by starting an Unemployment Bureau whose function is to act as liaison between the unemployed and employers.

### Antiquities Of Mohenjodaro

#### Relics to be Distributed To Museums

SIMLA.

A scheme of wide distribution by which the principal museums in India will be given collections of antiquities discovered in the excavations at Mohenjodaro, Sind, is under consideration by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Everything unique discovered at the place will of course be placed in the Museum built at the site of the excavations by the Government of India to house the antiquities and facilitate their study in relation to the ruins where they were discovered. After the requirements of this main museum have been met, collections of antiquities will be made available to the principal museums in India.

Already the Indian Museum at Calcutta and the Provincial Museum at Bombay have each been given a collection of about 2,000 antiquities. The first choice was given to these institutions, for the Indian Museum at Calcutta is an all-India institution while the Museum at Bombay happened at the time of these excavations, that is to say, before the separation of Sind, to be the museum of the province where the discoveries were made.

A new Mohenjodaro gallery has recently been opened in the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, for the proper display of these relics of the oldest civilisation of India.

To each of the museums at Madras, Lucknow, Patna and Nagpur has been given collections of about 500 articles and special arrangements for these much-prized relics have been made at all these Provincial Museums. A special collection of over 500 antiquities has been kept reserved for the province of Sind and will be handed over to the Victoria Museum, Karachi, as soon as steps have been taken to provincialise the institution and to ensure that the antiquities will be well looked after and properly exhibited.

No allotment has been made to the Punjab museum at Lahore as it will soon receive a rich collection of the antiquities discovered at the excavations at Harappa within the province.

No presentation is being made to Assam as that province has no museum of its own yet, but as there is a proposal to build one shortly, a collection of the Mohenjodaro antiquities is being reserved for presentation to Assam too. There is no provincial museum for Orissa and until one is brought into being, presentation of these antiquities to Orissa is not possible.

#### Distribution To States

It is also proposed to make presentations to the museums in the principal Indian States such as Hyderabad, Mysore, etc., on a reciprocity basis provided the States take steps to display properly these antiquities. It is hoped that as a result of this arrangement not merely will the States be placed in possession of the valued antiquities discovered at Mohenjodaro, but the all India museums will also get in return sets of duplicate articles from the State museums.

### JAPANESE PLANES SHOT DOWN

#### Chinese Claim

Hankow, Tuesday.

The Chinese claim that 15 out of 34 Japanese aeroplanes were shot down during an air battle over Hankow today, while only two out of 50 Chinese machines were lost.

The Japanese, however, declare that 20 Chinese aeroplanes were shot down and that only one Japanese machine is missing.

#### Another Raid over Canton

Canton, Tuesday.

Japanese aeroplanes raided the city for the fourth successive time this morning.

Reports of explosions coming from the thickly-populated district of Honam herald, it is feared, a heavy death-roll. Five machines participated.

### MILLION FAMILIES TO MANCHUKUO

#### Japan's Plans

Tokyo, May 30.

Japan plans to send a million families as emigrants to Manchukuo within twenty years according to the Minister for Overseas Affairs.

Five thousand families plus two thousand individuals were sent last year and a similar number are going in 1936.

### PATENT FACTS AND LATENT TRUTHS

(Continued from page 4)

6000 years later, Sri Krishna proclaims himself as the creator of caste and emphatically asserts that *varna sankara* — admixture of castes — will land people in hell as destroyers of family-life. Subsequently also caste has persisted in Hindu society, striking its roots deeper and deeper with lapse of years; and so has the institution called *asrama*. Thus, we can think of no time when Hinduism subsisted apart from *varna* and *asrama*. It may be that Hinduism has given up certain things in certain periods of its history; but it has never given up *varna* and *asrama*, and it dare not do it at any time in its future life. *Varna* and *asrama* are among the fundamentals of Hinduism; they are its distinctive contribution to the conservation of human society. The moment they are demolished Hindu society will fall. Even the much-boasted socialism of modern time has its main elements imbedded in the constitution of the four *varnas* and the four *asramas*. An intelligent appreciation of this fact, together with appropriate conduct on the part of the various members of the *varnas* and the *asramas* will alone preserve Hindu society from putrefaction and death. *Nanyah panihah vidyate ayanaya*; there is known no other road to salvation.



## BOYCOTT OF CEYLON COPRA

A MALABAR PROPOSAL

MOVE TO MAKE IT  
INDIA-WIDE

Trivandrum, Wednesday.

"THE proposed boycott of Ceylon copra and coconuts would be very desirable if it can be carried out all over India, and for securing the necessary success it should be taken up by the Indian National Congress and enforced as a Congress measure."

So said the President of the Travancore Coconut Planters' Association, Mr. C. K. Parameswaran Pillai, when interviewed today with reference to the proposals made from Malabar for such a boycott.

Mr. Parameswaran Pillai, who is also President of the Travancore Provisional Congress Committee, emphasised that to ensure success in such a boycott it should be carried out not only by Malabar, including Cochin and Travancore, but throughout India, as Bombay and Karachi imported large quantities of copra from Ceylon.

### Retaliation Fear

He said he was very glad that Malabar coconut planters were awake to the seriousness of the situation and were taking an active interest in the matter and added that the Government of India authorities appeared anxious about the possibility of Ceylon putting up a high import duty against Indian goods such as textiles if the Indian import duty on Ceylon copra was increased.

He said that Malabar was the market for the textile produces of Bombay and Ahmedabad and was three times as valuable as the Ceylon market for such goods and the Indian textile industry stood heavily to lose by Malabar boycotting such textiles.

Malabar might seriously consider such a boycott, though an All India boycott of Ceylon copra would be better.

### A Review

#### UDUVIL GIRLS' COLLEGE

The Uduvil Girls' College is just celebrating the Silver Jubilee of Miss Bookwalter's tenure of principalship. The monograph issued for the occasion, of which we have received a copy, is an inspiring record of the vast progress and development which the college has witnessed under her regime. The college celebrated its centenary in 1924 and is thus the oldest girls' school in Jaffna, if not in Ceylon. This great development of the college is mainly due to the initiative, energy and vision of Miss. Bookwalter and the loyalty of her colleagues. We wish Miss. Bookwalter will continue to guide the destinies of the college for many more years to come with the same success.

#### Re-sale of Toddy Rents, 1938-39, Mannar District

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling toddy by retail in the toddy taverns of Mannar District for a period of 12 months from July 1, 1938 to June 30, 1939. Tenders should reach the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar, not later than 10 a.m. on Thursday June 16, 1938.

The conditions of sale and any other particulars can be obtained on application at the Mannar Kacheheri.

C. SITTAMPALAM,  
Assistant Government Agent,  
The Kacheheri,  
Mannar, 30th May, 1938.  
[G. 7. 2-6-38]

## LETTER

### The Jaffna Central Library

Sir.—As one who has always watched with interest the growth of the above institution since its very inception, I was one of those who attended the meeting convened recently by the Librarian. This meeting which was composed of Readers and Sympathisers of the J. C. L. had as its chief object the formation of a Readers' Union which was to devise ways and means of enlarging the usefulness of this Library.

Mr. Sam. A. Sabapathy who was one of the speakers at the said meeting, in explaining the financial position of the Library deplored the fact that some of the City Fathers were opposed to the idea of spending any money on the J. C. L. This statement, coming as it does from the Chairman of the U. D. C. took us all by surprise. It may safely be said that the money expended on the expansion of this Library, which caters to every section of the urban population, is perhaps the safest investment any public body can think of. Members who are not prepared to vote larger sums of money for an adequate equipment of this important public institution, are decidedly playing their electors false. Local bodies in the other parts of the Island display no small interest in the maintenance of such institutions. The Public Library Colombo is an excellent instance in point.

It would be admitted on all hands that Jaffna—the stronghold of the Tamils—the birth place of a people proverbially noted for an insatiable thirst for knowledge—should be furnished with an up-to-date Public Library worthy of the Jaffnese. The present J. C. L. was the result of the patriotic and persistent enterprise of Mr. K. M. Chellappah; and now it is the duty of the Urban Council to convert it into an efficient public institution. However, to do the Management of the Library justice, during the current year, I understand, about Rs. 1000/- have been spent on furnishing the Library. This is a good sign and it is earnestly hoped that by voting annually at least a similar sum the stock of books in the Library will be gradually increased to the satisfaction of the readers. If this suggestion is taken up, I am sure, within a comparatively short time the J. C. L. will grow in importance and usefulness and ultimately prove an invaluable ornament to this city.

May I therefore appeal to the City Fathers to regard the Jaffna Central Library as an institution which deserves their whole-hearted support, and on whose development rests the educational, social, political and cultural advancement of the present and future generations of the Tamils.

Trusting this letter will catch the eye of the City Fathers.

Yours Truly,  
TARZAN.

Jaffna, 21st May 1938.  
("St. Anna's Villa").

## LIMITING AERIAL BOMBING

Britain Preparing  
International Pact

London, May 30.

The fact that the British Government is working on the draft plan of an international agreement for the limitation of aerial bombing was mentioned by Mr. R. A. Butler, Foreign Under Secretary, at question time in the House of Commons.

He said Government had made its views about the aerial bombardment of civilian populations clear and had approached the French Government and the Vatican.

Replying to a supplementary question, the Premier said it was useless putting crude unthought out proposals before other Governments. What they were trying to do was to get these proposals in a form that they would have some chance of acceptance by other Governments.

### Bombing of Alicante

Other questions dealt specifically with last week's bombing of Alicante. Mr. Chamberlain replied that the British Government profoundly deplores the maiming of defenceless civilians. They had repeatedly expressed to both sides in Spain their profound concern, and drew attention to the universally accepted principle that the aerial bombardment of military objectives was alone permissible. Mr. Chamberlain, however, had no information as to what were the objectives on this occasion.

## TRANSPORT CONTROL IN A FOOD CRISIS

Food Control Committee  
to Consider Scheme

Colombo, June 1.

A scheme for the co-ordination of transport throughout Ceylon in times of emergency will be considered at a meeting of the Food Control Committee tomorrow.

The scheme, as outlined by the Food Controller, proposes the appointment of Provincial and District Engineers as Assistant Controllers of Transport.

Tentative measures proposed for the conservation of petrol and oil fuel, include the cessation of running of buses and lorries between distant towns served by the Railway, and the utilisation of such vehicles in areas where there are no railway facilities.

The Food Controller points out that the carriage of good supplies by the Railway is a necessary measure for the conservation of petrol and fuel oil.

The Assistant Controllers of Transport will be expected to take charge of the lorries and buses, which will be withdrawn from their long-distant traffic and allotted to such areas, arrange for a simple system of operation and fix times of work.

The Committee will also discuss a memorandum of the Rice Merchants' Association submitted with the Food Controller.

The question of shipping required for the transport of rice in emergency and whether the gross and net weights should be stamped on bags of imported rice too will be discussed.

## THE MINNERIYA SCHEME

Good Progress  
Reported

At Minneriya a further extent of 250 acres was allotted to 45 new colonists during the year under review, states the Administration Report of the Government Agent, North-Central Province, for the year 1937.

Towards the close of the year 122 new colonists from Hinula palata were given temporary allotments to the East of the 250 acre block. Formal Land Kacheheries, for the issue of permits to them will be held in 1938. These men were engaged to clear and burn the 250 acre block.

### Clamour for Land

"They had never visited Minneriya before," says the report, "and were so impressed by the possibilities of paddy cultivation under the scheme and the excellent irrigation and other facilities provided that they clamoured to be given land for themselves. They are good cultivators with experience of North-Central Province conditions and will, I hope, set a good example to other colonists. It was too late for them to clear the irrigable land allotted to them in 1937 but many of them cleared their residential sites and began the construction of houses."

The average yield of paddy per bushel obtained by the Colonists was 35-fold, the highest being 48-fold.

At the end of the year there were in the Colony 256 permanent Colonists, 45 Colonists to whom permanent allotments had not been made and 565 dependents.

The Kagawa and Nachchaduwa Colonies also showed satisfactory progress.

## WAGES BOARD TO BE ESTABLISHED

### Proposed Legislation

The establishment of Wages Boards for trades and industries in Ceylon is being expedited.

The Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce approved recently the proposals of the Controller of Labour. It has accepted the principle of a Wages Board Act and given instructions to the Legal Draftsman to draft the necessary legislation.

The draft memorandum of the Labour Controller, accepted by the Executive Committee, empowers the Governor to establish Wages Boards for any industry or a part of an industry and gives such Boards jurisdiction over the whole Island.

Wages Boards are expected to consider any matter referred to them by the Controller and report on it.

It is proposed to empower the Board also to fix a minimum rate of wages for time work; a general minimum rate of wages for piece work; a minimum time rate to apply in the case of piece workers, so as to ensure to them adequate remuneration on a time work basis, and a minimum over time rate.

These rates may apply to the whole trade or any particular part or process in the trade.



## COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL

### Methods of Preparation And Uses

CONSIDERABLE interest has been taken in this product (coconut shell charcoal) during the year, prices and exports being unusually high until late in the year. Advice on preparation and standards of quality has been given to several enquirers. In the laboratory a considerable number of samples from various local sources has been examined and among the Department's activities charcoal has assumed in importance second only to copra, says the report of the Coconut Research Scheme for 1937. The Report further states:—

Specifications were obtained from various sources, mainly through the courtesy of the Imperial Institute, London, who have been most helpful in providing information on the importer's side of the business. The standards to which European importers expect charcoal to attain vary slightly between different firms, both in the limits adopted or allowed, and the methods of examination employed. The following limits, however, are usual:—

**Size:**—It is usually provided that not more than 5 per cent. shall pass a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " mesh sieve. In some cases a more stringent specification is adopted indicating what percentages shall pass or be retained on a series of graduated sieves.

**Ash Content:**—A limit of 2 per cent. is usually imposed.

**Moisture:**—Specifications vary from a minimum of 5 per cent. to one of 10 per cent.

**Volatile Matter:**—This is an arbitrary figure and depends largely on the method of determination used. By the method found most satisfactory for routine purposes here, a limit of 15 per cent. is imposed.

All of the above figures were determined on the samples referred to, using in turn all the methods on which information was available. The results indicate that there should be no great difficulty in preparing locally a product to meet the usual specifications.

An ash content of over 2 per cent. indicates almost invariably contamination with sand or soil. Clean good charcoal averages about 1.8 per cent., which figure is in agreement with the figure of 0.61 per cent. ash found for coconut shell, on the basis that shells yield about a third of their weight of charcoal.

A content of volatile matter of over the specified limit indicates under burning, which is a common fault. Over-burning is like-

## Problems of Food and Nutrition

*Continued from Page 1*

how intensive cultivation even in the comparatively infant soils of Europe and America is bringing about experience, which ten or fifteen years ago would have been incredible. The experience with frequent cultivation, the effect of organic matter and the cry for more of it are instances in point. The effect of intensive cultivation and the intensive use of fertilizers in India without the necessary accompaniments is obvious.

Time was when the Indian cultivator was considered conservative, superstitious and unwilling to take advantage of improvements. Close contact with him has shown that he is neither of these and his reluctance is based more on common sense. He is quick to realize benefit where it lies and is quicker still to take advantage of it. His willing response to the various improvements suggested to him during the past quarter of a century is eloquent testimony to his readiness to take up any improvement suited to the conditions with which he is faced. It is true he is fatalistic but what else can he be, depending as he does on the vagaries of monsoon? It is this fatalism, and its concomitant spiritualism, that make him such a stable element of society. Research should concern itself more with details of existing practices than with the evolution of wholly new methods and should aim at building up on the existing system a state of Agriculture to suit the condition of the soil and the resources of the cultivator.

wise unsatisfactory as giving a thin brittle product.

Chloride estimations have also been carried out on all samples. One firm imposes a limit for chloride of 1.0 mgm. per gm. Only one sample came over this limit in the present series.

### Uses of Charcoal

It is commonly stated that the coconut charcoal exported to Great Britain and France finds ultimate use in gas masks. It may be remarked here that the absorbent properties of "activated" charcoal are also taken advantage of in technical operations, such as recovery of industrial solvents, water purification, clarification of saccharine juice in sugar manufacture, &c.

It should also be emphasized that the crude charcoal as exported is useless for such purposes, having very slight absorbing properties. The "activation" processes are technical operations not likely to be practicable locally for economic reasons, at least at the present stage of development.

## Vivekananda Society Colombo

### An Appeal to Hindus

GLANCING through the report submitted, it may be observed from the number of lectures and meetings held during the year that much work has not been done, but one should realise that the Society has about a dozen branches of activities, and that it would entail considerable time and labour to carry through all the routine work of the different branches, says the 35th Annual Report of the Vivekananda Society, Colombo, presented at its annual meeting on 29th May 1938.

A closer scrutiny of the report will however reveal that considerable work has been accomplished in most of the branches. The cry has always been raised that there is a dearth for suitable honorary workers, but we would confess to a sense of shame if we were to accept this statement surrounded, as we are in the metropolis of the Island by a comparatively large number of Hindus. If we were to analyse this statement closely, it will be found the real difficulty lies in the fact that the neighbourhood of the Headquarters of the Society which was a large residential area of our members at one time is fast ceasing to be such as a very large percentage of our active and enthusiastic members have migrated towards the suburbs in the south. It will certainly be a physical difficulty for those of them who have settled down about six miles away from the Headquarters to be able to devote most part of their leisure hours in travelling to and from the Society. Most of these members if inward searched would express the desire that if the Society itself were bodily transported to the suburbs a great deal of useful purpose would be served.

### Our Thanks

We have in the course of the report thanked individually those who have assisted us during the year in carrying out our work. We have also to thank the Honorary Auditors for the kindly assistance rendered by them, and the Editors of the different newspapers who have published notices and proceedings of our meetings from time to time.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, may we appeal to those members who have so far not had the privilege of associating themselves with the more active work of the Society to come forward and take their turn and to carry forward the message of the Reverend Swamiji to whose loving memory the Society has been dedicated. We also appeal to those of our Hindu brethren who have so far not joined as members to enlist themselves as early as possible, and to assist us in any one of the numerous ways in which service could be performed. It is hoped that the spirit of toleration and freedom with which the Society has been associated during the last thirty-five years of its existence will continue to grow from year to year.

## How a "Hard Drunkard" Turned Teetotaler

*(Continued from page 1)*

out drunk. I was afraid of my reputation and I do not think anyone ever found me drunk."

"No, I meant other failings. For instance you have been doing big business. A man who drinks would like to play ducks and drakes with money and would therefore rarely be scrupulous in his dealings."

"I have been scrupulous. I have deceived no one."

There was a pause. I had no inclination to trouble him with any more questions. But he made an inspiring story by his refreshing frankness and so I was about to ask another question. But he evidently felt that he had not told the whole story. And so he went on: "But I have not told you of another of my besetting sins—tobacco. It was easy to give up drink but not so easy to give up tobacco. The desire to give it up was also there along with the desire to give up drink, but for years I went on recklessly in spite of my outwardly pious living and the Bhagawadgita. I would smoke quantities of cigarettes and then I took to the *hookah*. I would need to have a pull at it for twenty to twenty-five times during the day. Tobacco had something to do, I thought, with my digestion and helped to relieve constipation. That mistaken belief continued for a number of years. But here I thought gradual giving up would help. I gave up cigarettes, and then I would have a good pull at the *hookah* one in the morning before the bowels moved. Five years ago, however, as luck would have it the crisis came. I had a provoking dream. Something said: 'Give up the *hookah* as you have given up drink.' That decide me, and the *hookah* and tobacco have gone out of my life."

"So the Gita has served you in good stead. You do not regret having given up drink and the *hookah*?" I asked.

"Oh no. On the contrary, I feel far happier and at peace with myself. And what would have happened to my boys if the curses had stayed? They would soon have become victims to them, and the family would have been ruined. But let me not hide anything from you. You were right in asking me about my business dealings. Those dealings have been unexceptionable, but I am given to speculation. I have indulged in it long enough, though I know it is bad."

"Don't wait for another dream asking you to give it up."

"Thank you, I shall bear it in mind and make a desperate attempt to give it up."

But Gandhiji was now out of the bath room. Our friend was ushered into his presence. He placed his gifts before him and walked out. It is hardly his habit to talk. All that he cares for is the delivery of the donation. He regarded it as lucky that Gandhiji happened to be in Bombay on the day of his vow. (Harijan.)



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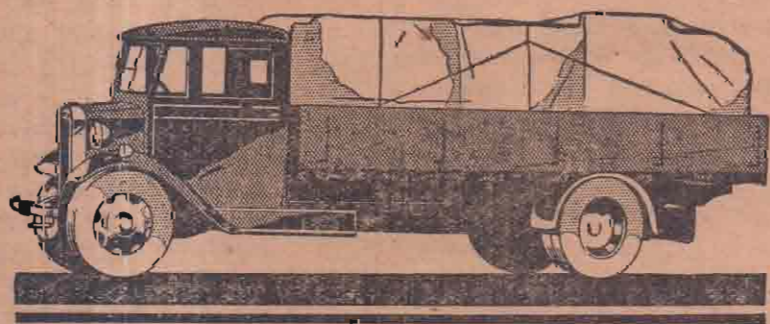
[Y. 54, 22-6-37 to 21-6-38.]

[T]

Manager, Jaffna Branch.

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Authorised Capital Rs. 800,000.00  
Amount of Calls made Rs. 134,367.00

SHARES: 8000 shares of Rs. 100/- each. 75 monthly instalments of Re. 1/- per share will earn Rs. 100/- for each at the end of the period. Shares issued all times.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 500/-.

FIXED DEPOSITS received for periods of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months and interest allowed at 1, 2, 4 and 6 % respectively.

DRAFTS issued on the National and Imperial Banks to Colombo and the Principal cities of India. Remittances to and from F. M. S. by special arrangements.

INDIAN MONEY bought and sold

LOANS on the security of Jewels a speciality. Interest charged at 9% per annum (Part payments accepted.)

LOANS are also granted against approved securities, such as Landed Properties etc. (Part payments accepted.)

For further particulars apply to

**S. SELLAPPAH,**

Manager.

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