

THE Hindu Organ



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus
PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

VOL. LVIII.

'Phone 56.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1947.

NO. 94.

Religion—the Nectar of Life

Will It Last Long ?

The Shape It will Take in the Future

(By SWAMI PAVITRANANDA)

IN the foregoing issues we have seen what real religion is. In the light of that conception of religion we can no better live without religion than a plant can live without the sun and air. Religion is the innate, spontaneous urge of each individual towards ultimate freedom. And as each individual is different in temperament from another, the religion of each man is bound to be different from that of his neighbour. Each man has got his own outlook on life, and each man has his own way of approach to the ultimate goal. But the difficulty arises when we want to drive large groups of people through the same path, labelled as a particular religion. That is what the organizational or proselytizing religions want to do, and as they meet with resistance and opposition, they raise a hue and cry that religion is in danger, religion is dying, people no longer care for religion. As we have pointed out, religion is the constitutional necessity of a man. It can never die, it can never be stopped. It can never be created, it can never be stifled. Religious feelings and approaches of men have been classified into four broad divisions. All the religions of the world will fall into one or more of these divisions. Philosophically they may differ, their creeds may be different, but the religions of the world fundamentally and basically can be classified into these groups.

Future of Religion

People ask, What will be the future of religion? Judging from the way in which the modern man's interest in religion is fading, one doubts whether religion will last long. To us this question does not arise at all. So long as the problems which impelled ancient minds to turn to religion have not ceased to exist, religion also will live. So long as the problems are there, they will inevitably press themselves for solutions. Fundamentally human nature is the same always—the same in modern times as it was in ancient days. As in early days of human history, even now man feels a longing to serve his neighbour; man has to face the problem of death—of his own as well as of his near and dear ones; man suffers from the tyranny of mind; man feels compelled to look for super-mundane help in times of difficulties which defy any human solution. Rather these problems have now become keener and as

such the urgency of their solution is much greater. Nowadays the news of the sufferings of people in a distant corner of the globe is immediately flashed to us over the air. A man in America is oppressed with sorrow at the news of the famine in China—of course only those persons who have sympathetic hearts, and not others. And can we say that people with sympathetic hearts are altogether absent now? No, definitely no. The world has not become as bad as that. Do we not find people belonging to exploiting nations raising protests the very imperialism which secures for them better comfort and luxury? The logical outcome of their successful protests will be, they know, the equal distribution of their advantages with suffering nations. They are ready for that, imbued with a spirit of sacrifice as they are. Even in this world where selfishness, greed and avarice run rampant, examples of unselfishness and self-sacrifice are not altogether absent. If anyone develops these noble virtues, he is likely to reach the goal of human life. It has been said by a great saint that if one can become perfectly unselfish one will realize the Truth.

Tyranny of the Mind

In the same way, man is as much a victim of the tyranny of mind as he was before—some centuries back. Rather the complexities of modern civilisation have made man a much greater sufferer than were his forefathers. Man is now more sensitive, the psychological problems of his life are much keener,—so much so that the percentage of the persons who are driven to insanity is greatly on the increase. As such, some are intensely eager and busy to tackle these problems. It might be that they will ultimately discover that the whole problem rests on the central factor, the mind, and they will also find out, or even practise the arts of controlling the mind. And if they can perfectly control the mind, they will realize Truth.

Man's Helplessness

Let us look at the same problem from another standpoint. Now that science and knowledge have placed immense power in the hands of man, can he do whatever he likes? Does he not get knocked from circumstances? Does he not feel helpless—hopelessly helpless—

(Continued on page 5)

Britain's Help To Maintain French Imperialism

In the past 16 months, Britain has sent £17,500,000 worth of military equipment directly to Indo-China for outfitting the French forces fighting the Viet Nameese, the France Press agency reports.

In addition to this material, a recent Franco-British agreement for outfitting a French air-borne division involved approximately £1,760,000 worth of war supplies of all sorts including planes, guns, parachutes, lorries, uniforms and bombing equipment.

The French navy has also purchased heavily in Britain, having contracted for 92 warships—most of which are still under construction—totalling 117,000 tons.

Under the Franco-British agreement of September 1945 Britain agreed to sell France enough war material to equip a Far-Eastern force of one light division, one, infantry brigade and one regular army corps of two divisions as well as several special units of sappers, engineers and parachutists.

Partition of Punjab

Congress Committee's Resolution

The Congress Working Committee invited the Muslim League to nominate representatives to meet Congress representatives in order to consider the situation that has arisen following the British Government's announcement and to devise means to meet it and ensure the smooth transfer of power.

The Committee declared that the transfer of power in order to be smooth should be preceded by the recognition in practice of the Interim Government as a Dominion Government with effective control over the Services and administration, and the Viceroy and Governor-General functioning as the constitutional head of the Government.

The Committee asserted that in view of the tragic events in the Punjab, it is necessary to find a way out which involves the least amount of compulsion. "This", the Committee said, "would necessitate a division of the Punjab into two Provinces, so that the predominantly Muslim part may be separated from the predominantly non-Muslim part."

WILL GANDHIJI FAST

Over Bihar Riot

The United Press of India understands that Mahatma Gandhi contemplates undertaking a 'fast unto death' if he does not find a change of heart among the Hindus in Bihar. A positive hint to this effect is reported to have been conveyed to members of the Congress Working Committee who were in Delhi.

It is gathered that the members of the Congress High Command have been told by a source in whom Gandhiji has confided that he (Gandhiji) continues to feel very much distressed over the recent happenings in Bihar, Noakhali and Tipperah Districts in East Bengal and that if he finds there is no change of heart among the Hindus of Bihar and that what was reported to him about the Bihar riots was not true or was grossly underestimated then he might decide to go on a fast unto death.

"If India chooses to drift towards the path of violence and if the Hindus and Muslims want to fight among themselves and cut each other's throats at a time when India is on the threshold of freedom, then I don't want to live to see that chaotic India. I would pray to God to take me away from this world"—this English version of Gandhiji's oft-repeated observation in Hindus-

SIX REAMS FOR CANDIDATES

6 reams of paper in two instalments of two and four reams is the quota to be allowed for each candidate seeking election to Parliament, according to a decision arrived at by the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

thani to many persons who contacted him during the last fortnight or so is regarded as a pointer in this connection.

Another reply of Gandhiji to a query put to him on the eve of his departure for Bihar from Chandpur is considered here to be very significant. The question was whether he would be returning to Noakhali from Bihar. He replied that if he was alive he would again come to Noakhali to finish his "Do or die mission".

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's hurried departure for Patna following Dr. Rajendra Prasad's arrival from Patna earlier in the day is regarded as closely related to this absolutely unexpected development.

It is understood that the Congress High Command think that Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan is the fittest person to have some chance of persuading Gandhiji to desist from this grim resolve.



Hindu Organ

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1947.

THE PROBLEM REGARDING RELIGION

THE DEBATE ON THE BILL to amend the Education Ordinance provides food for thought. Hindus, Buddhists and Christians will all agree with Mr. Senanayake when he stated that any country which tried to keep education away from religion was making a great mistake and that no education devoid of religion could ever be a success. Students of Thiru-Valluvar will remember the lines, "கற்றதனாலைய பயனென்கொல் வரலறிவன் நற்றூள் தொழாஅரெனின்". We have often stressed the importance of imparting religious instruction in schools, and the need for it has never been so great as it is at the present moment.

If it is universally agreed that religion should be taught in schools, the question arises as to which is the religion that a child ought to be taught at school. The Minister of Education in moving the second reading of the amending ordinance contended that if religion should form part of the school curriculum, every child must be taught the religion of his parent, and that if the child was allowed to choose the religion some wonderful things might happen and that Archbishops wanted the word 'child' to be substituted for 'parent' in the amending ordinance. We have of late received many complaints from many Hindu parents that their children attending Mission schools were compelled to study Christian scriptures and attend Church. It is necessary that this state of affairs should be remedied at once. We wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Kannangara that the child must be taught the religion of his parent. The Missionaries ought not to be permitted to substitute the word 'child' for 'parent'; their motives are evidently sinister. The child can be made to say whatever his teacher wants. Though his parents are Hindus or Buddhists, the missionaries will be able to teach Christianity as soon as they succeed in making the child say that his religion is Christianity.

It is a pity to see that the Minister of Education has been deserted by his own rank and file. Members of Council who had supported him in the past are now opposing him. There is division even among the Board of Ministers. There will be no possibility for such a state of affairs under the

Notes and Comments

Levy Paddy

We understand that the Government Agent, N. P., has recommended to the Central Government the waiving off the levy paddy of two bushels per acre from the farmers of the Jaffna Peninsula this year in view of the terrible havoc wrought by floods during harvests. This is a right move, and we are sure the Minister of Agriculture will respond to the appeal of the people as voiced in the recommendation of the Government Agent and do the needful to alleviate their sufferings. But this is not all. The waiving off the levy paddy is only a temporary and minor relief. The Jaffna farmer with all his patience and industry is still the Cinderella in the eyes of the powers-that-be; permanent relief in the form of enhanced price for his paddy should be given. The Internal Purchase Scheme has hit him very hard, and if the present state of affairs still persists, the Government need not be surprised if the farmer forsakes his land and his age-long occupation. Perhaps Mr. Senanayake, ignorant of the conditions prevailing in Jaffna, is insisting on a uniform policy being adopted all over Ceylon in the matter of fixing the price for the paddy purchased under his scheme. It is up to the representatives of the people and the local representative of the Government—we mean the Government Agent—to represent to the Minister the actual state of affairs prevailing here and to convince him the indispensability of fixing an enhanced price for the paddy purchased locally by the Government.

Inter-Asian Conference

Within a few days, in the city of Delhi at a site hallowed by the memory of the benign rule of the Pandavas of *Maha Bh ratha* lore, the Inter Asian Conference is to be held. This is a unique event in the history of the world. It is an event marking the re-awakening of the great continent of Asia which thousands of years ago gave light and knowledge to darkened Europe.

Sweden and India

Sweden has agreed in principle to establish diplomatic relations with India and is hopeful of extending commercial relations in the future.

Swedish Foreign Office sources referred to the recent visit of Mr. Nehru's personal representative, Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, who was received by the Foreign Minister and Prime Minister.

Cabinet system of Government. We are inclined to think that most of the members who participated in the debate which has been adjourned for May have been influenced by the thought of the coming elections. Uncharitable words have been used to describe the amending bill as a truncated offspring. It is to be hoped that when the final hour for decision on the Bill comes in next May, members of the State Council will be true to themselves and their religion and help the Minister of Education to do whatever may be necessary to implement his proposal that a child must be taught the religion of his parent.

and which, through an irony of fate, is today under foreign domination. Fortunately, link by link, the chain that has been manacled Asia is being broken, and thanks to the leadership of India, this great and vast continent is once more raising its head to give the lead and direction to the Western nations which are now sunk deep into the mire of materialism. Well may Field Marshal Smuts—that arch advocate of colour bar under the garb of a philosopher—sigh at the awakening that has set in Asia! We are confident that the Asian Conference under the able leadership of Nehru will demonstrate by its deliberations and by its subsequent actions that mighty Asia will not any more be humiliated with impunity by the foreigner. We hope the delegates from Ceylon to the Conference will prove themselves the worthy representatives of this island, which though small in size, is nevertheless rich and great in her heritage.

Another Chance

The Indian National Congress has once more extended to the Muslim League the hand of friendship and co-operation; and perhaps this is the last chance for Mr. Jinnah and his followers to come to a settlement with the Congress which alone could deliver the goods. The happenings in the Punjab where up-to-date, the Leaguers are unable to form a ministry, should have by now awakened Mr. Jinnah to the realities of the situation confronting him. To add, Prince's India, thanks to the initiative of Cochin and Baroda, has also decided to toe in line with the Congress and participate in the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly. It is not late even now for Jinnah to revise his attitude. In spite of all his intransigence we still believe that Mr. Jinnah is an astute politician. Let him grasp the hand of friendship magnanimously offered by the Congress, and pave the way for a speedy settlement of the Indian problem. Otherwise, the prospects are bright neither for him nor for his followers.

Misrepresentation

Statements that the forthcoming pan-Asian Conference is comparable with the "Co-Prosperity Sphere" talks sponsored by the Japanese before the war, are untrue "and nothing could be more ignorant, than such comparisons," says a statement issued by the President and ex-Presidents of the Cambridge University Majlis.

The statement is signed by Mr. S. A. Imam and ex-Presidents Subhata Roy Choudhury and M. V. Rajagopal.

"There is a tendency in the West to decry these talks," the statement says, "as an attempt to create a racial bloc. Nothing could be less true. The statesmen meeting at these talks will bear an onerous responsibility for the future."

Ramakrishna Mission Colombo

The Hundred and Twelfth Birth day Anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna Deva and Ramakrishna Mission Golden Jubilee will be celebrated at 44th Lane Wellawatte on Saturday, the 15th, Sunday, the 16th and next Saturday, the 22nd March, 1947.

League Reactions

May Accept Invitation

Muslim League circles in New Delhi received the Congress Working Committee's resolution inviting the League for rapprochement talks with reservation.

The League Working Committee is likely to meet in the third week of March to consider the British statement in the light of the Congress resolutions. It is considered probable that the League will not refuse the invitation extended and may nominate a small committee to meet the representatives of the Congress for negotiating a settlement.

Although the invitation by the Congress is characterised as helpful in spirit, the chances of a settlement are not considered bright because of the Congress demand, by a separate resolution for the partition of the Punjab and the implied division Bengal.

Partition of Provinces Not Favoured

A member of the League High Command, who is reported to have a hand in shaping the League's policy, told the United Press of India: "If the terms for negotiations are partition of the Punjab and Bengal, and the carving out of the Hindu majority areas to be included in the United Centre, personally of do not see any chance of a settlement."

"What we want is that when power is handed over to the Provincial Governments as H. M. G.'s statement says, it should be handed over to the existing administrative units. The League will not accept any other position," he added.

The spokesman further told the U.P.I. that such a solution on the basis of a division of the Punjab and Bengal was suggested by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari long before and if the League thought that it represented their political aspirations, they could have accepted it then. "What the League wants is a division of India and not of the Provinces," he declared.

Jinnah Silent

Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the All-India Muslim League, firmly declined to be drawn into any talk on the Congress invitation to the League to meet its representatives to consider the situation or the Congress solution for the Punjab. Mr. Jinnah is said to be sticking to his original view that the Muslim League should not participate in the Constituent Assembly. Muslim League members say that for any authoritative expression of the League's views on the Congress invitation, the country must await the League Executive Committee meeting to be summoned shortly. Mr. Jinnah hopes to leave for Delhi in a few days. He will, in consultation with Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan and others, fix the date of the meeting. Now that the new Viceroy is arriving on March 22, he might delay the meeting of his Committee to know the details of the immediate steps which the British Government have decided upon to pave the way for the transfer of power to the people of India.

The Law Society of Ceylon

The March Meeting of the Council of the Law Society of Ceylon was held on Saturday, 8th inst., at 11, 37a. m. Mr. S. J. C. Kadirgama, President, presided. Members from Colombo, Galle, Kalutara, Hatton, Kegalle, Kandy, Matara and Matala attended the meeting.

The progress of the Bill incorporating the Law Society, the Second Reading of which was passed in the State Council on 7th March, and other matters of importance were discussed.

Plea for Tolerance in Public Life

Catchwords are Disastrous

Intellectual Independence Needed

(By Justice Govindarajachari)

IF we desire to work any institution in the right way, we must develop the two important virtues of intellectual independence and tolerance. Intellectual freedom means coming to a decision on any problem after full consideration of the pros and cons of the thing and purely on the merits of a question. There is unfortunately a tendency among the youth to be guided by party slogans or opinions expressed by prominent men without studying the question fully.

There is also the tendency to run away with catchwords. Our young men talk of Communism, but I am afraid that only a very few of them know the fundamental principles of Communism. Had they ever put themselves the question whether the methods adopted in other countries would suit our country? They are talking of buying land for the State by the State, collective farming and such other things. In Russia they make a distinction between the poor peasant and a rich peasant. In Russia, the poor peasant is not compelled to join in any collective farming at all. Another catchword popular in these days is 'nationalisation.' It is well-known to all that even in socialistic countries, not all industries had been nationalised. In England only the coal industry and banks had

been nationalised. There they do not contemplate nationalising the iron and steel industry and the textile industry. Countries far in advance of India hesitate to nationalise certain industries. I wish that persons discussing such things know the full facts before coming to any decision.

The second quality which must develop is tolerance to other men's views. On any question there is considerable scope for difference of opinion and in judging other men's opinions, let us not attribute motives. There are troublous times ahead of us and there is a feeling of uneasiness. The times are most eventful and hopeful. Within a year, the country, which had been aspiring for freedom, may be free. But the process of transition from the present to the future is not going to be an easy process. There are serious differences between communities, clash between classes and strikes everywhere. To our shame and disgrace on the very eve of the fulfilment of our political aspirations, the two major communities are at one another's throats. There is privation everywhere. If through these troublous times, we are to reach our future, establish our institutions on a sound and safe basis, we must develop the qualities of intellectual independence and tolerance."

Britain's Future in Asia

Bright Says U. S. Paper

THE Republican New York Herald Tribune in a leader on the House of Commons India Debate declares: "In the end the British decision to leave India may bring the British more profit than they would win if they could scrape up power to remain for a time. Their tenure there would be short under almost any conditions that can now be foreseen. By retiring with grace and with expressions of goodwill they may preserve the bulk of their economic interests for a long period provided Indians can create a Government stable enough to maintain peace and order."

"In future the British may be in a better position in Asia than the French who are fighting to maintain their hold on Indo-China or the Dutch who have blockaded Java to prevent the Indonesians from trading with the outside world. It is possible that the French and the Dutch will wish in future they had been as quick as the British to admit the trend of events in the Orient."

The Herald Tribune added that Mr. Churchill's suggestion that the British should consider invoking aid or advice of the United Nations "was not a proposal that could be taken seriously at the moment." The paper said that the United Nations "is not now prepared to handle readily a question far less large and far less complex than the question to be answered in India."

Annamalai University Ceylon Youths' Union Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Ceylon Students of Annamalai University was held at the Arts Block University Buildings at 10-30 a. m. on 2nd March '47. Mr. K. Kailayanathan the Chairman of the Union presided over the meeting.

In his introductory speech the Chairman referred to the achievements of the Ceylon Students at the University as follows:

1. Sangitha Bushana I Class—N. Shanmugaratnam.
2. Inter. Exam. I Class I Rank—Miss. Mani Arulnandy.
3. Intermediate Exam. I Class—Miss. Karunadevi Canagasabai
4. Convocation Drama First Prize—Mr. S. P. Thakkairaja.
5. Founders Day
 1. Tamil Research First Prize—Mr. K. K. Nadarajah
 2. Junior English Elocution First Prize—Mr. K. Kailayanathan.
 3. First Prize in English at the Inter. Exam.—Miss. Mani Arulnandi.
 4. English Essay (Junior) First Prize Mr. K. Kailayanathan
 5. University Magazine English Contribution First Prize—Miss. Leelavathi Manickavasagam.

After the reading of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the year, a series of farewell addresses to the students who were completing their courses ensued. —Cor.

Ceylon Standards

Hitch Over Return

Though the authorities at Chelsea Hospital at first seemed sympathetic to Ceylon's claim for the return of one of the Royal Standards of the last Sinhalese King, preserved in England complications have now arisen, states the "Ceylon Daily News."

"It was understood that there were three Royal Standards there but the commissioners at Chelsea now state that there is only one. Confusion exists on this point as recent inquirers at Chelsea certainly came away with the impression that there were three. The statement that there is only one has, therefore, come as a surprise.

"A recent letter to Mr. G. C. S. Corea leaves no doubt as to the attitude the authorities have decided to adopt regarding Ceylon's claim. The point is made that the Royal Standard belongs to the regiment that captured it and the Commissioners see no precedent in the case of the King of Kandy's Throne and Regalia. Their letter, it is understood, amounts to a blank refusal to recognise Ceylon's claim."

Vedanta in France

Growing appreciation in Europe

The head of the Ramakrishna Vedanta Movement in France, Swami Siddheswarananda, said that there was increasing appreciation of Vedanta Philosophy among the French intelligentsia.

The Swami, who was speaking at a public reception given to him at Calcutta said that there were thousands of devotees of the Vedanta in France. Vedanta Philosophy had influenced the French mind in three ways; by propagating the ideal of religious toleration, by giving a rational explanation of the failure of the intellect as the sole interpreter of all expressions, and by showing the limitations of science. He believed that Indian philosophy would exercise a tremendous influence on European thought and would in the near future bring about a renaissance.

Swami Siddheswarananda, who is on a visit to India will leave for France by the end of this month.

Ministers to Rule for 3 Months

State Council Dissolution in July

THE State Council, according to a statement made at the meeting of the Board of Ministers on Monday last, will be dissolved during the first week of July, and the Board of Ministers and the three Officers of State will continue to function till the first meeting of the House of Representatives.

Mr. E. R. Sudbury, Parliamentary Elections Commissioner, told the Board that his earlier elections programme had been upset as a result of the inordinate delay in the arrival of the electoral registers from England. He had yet to get 24 of the 50 sets entrusted to printers in England.

He explained that the final registers were not likely to be received before July 31, the earliest. Mr. Sudbury felt that elections could not be held before the last week of September and the first two weeks of October.

The preliminary registers, which had already arrived in Ceylon, contained innumerable mistakes. It was felt that considerable time would be taken to put these registers into order.

Mr. Sudbury thought that nominations might not take place till

Jaffna Assizes

Vinasithamby Ponnambalam of Sandiruppay was sentenced to three months rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 750 on being found guilty of culpable homicide of Nallan Vairamuttan of the same place by Sir Francis Soertsz at the Jaffna Assizes. It was ordered that out of the fine of Rs. 750 a sum of Rs. 450 should be paid as compensation to the widow of the deceased.

Elayavan Sinnan, on his pleading guilty to the charge of attempting to murder Sinnavan Palan of Kankasanturai with a gun was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

the middle of August while the first meeting of the Parliament might not be held till November.

The Board of Ministers spent nearly two hours discussing the elections programme and asked the authorities to take all possible steps to have the elections as early as possible.

TOURING SERVICE

We have great pleasure in announcing that we have recently organised a touring motor bus service.

Enquiries and booking for picnics, pilgrimages, excursions and holiday expeditions by Schools and Colleges, etc., will receive our prompt and careful attention.

Esty & Co. Ltd.

(Transport Dept.)
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TELEGRAMS: "ESTYCO"

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Works Dept., Stores Dept., Hotels Dept.,
Theverikulam Road, Main Street, Main Street,
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(Mis. 306, 21-1 to 20-4-47.)

Land Development

Karainagar Citizens' Move

A conference of the prominent citizens of Karainagar was held at Nallathambiy buildings, Karainagar at 7 p. m. on 2nd March 1947, Mr. A. V. Kulasingam Advocate presiding. The convener of the conference Mr. S. Nallathambiy, gave a summary of the subjects on the agenda. The chairman said that he had special interest in the cultivation of land although he was confronted with many difficulties. He urged the members to undertake the proposed acquisition of land which would form an asset to our country. Mr. A. Thiagarajah expressed the view that agricultural undertaking at 'Vanni' would be an economical but said that the proposed acquisition would serve for expansion as Karainagar was already densely populated and would serve our future generation. Mr. Thilliampalam expressed that bribery and corruption were rampant and as men of sincerity and honesty of purpose were rare, he discouraged the members on embarking on such a venture without due consideration. The conference then adjourned to Saturday the 8th March 1947.

The adjourned conference was resumed on Saturday the 8th inst. at 6 p. m. Mr. P. Navaratnam presiding. The convener Mr. S. Nallathambiy stated that he differed from the views expressed by some speakers on the previous occasion as to the uneconomical side of the problem of acquisition of land. He said that the production of good stuff was found inadequate to meet our requirements yearly. As such, it was very essential to make up the deficiency by acquiring land elsewhere within easy reach in a healthy locality and producing food for our own consumption and not on a commercial scale. He added that individual undertaking might become a failure on account of sickness, food handicaps and other considerations as experienced by him at Mathoddam. He admitted that paddy cultivation alone would not be a profitable concern, but there should be additional activities such as planting vegetables, breeding cattle, rearing fowls, goats, sheep etc. under different sections of the area acquired to make up the loss, if any, sustained in paddy cultivation.

Mr. A. M. Ampalavanar, Chairman V. C. Karainagar pointed out that it was very desirable to appoint a committee to study and to formulate a scheme and furnish the house with a report on the different aspects of the proposed acquisition before enrolment of members and the collection of the requisite fund.

It was finally resolved to appoint the following gentlemen as members of the committee, to report within one month from the day of the conference:

Messrs. A. V. Kulasingam, J. P. Advocate. A. Thiagarajah, M. A. Principal. Karainagar Hindu College; P. Navaratnam, M. A. Professor, Jaffna College; K. Kathiravelu, Retd. Traffic Insp. F. M. S. Rlys; V. Arumugam, Retd. Insp. S. C., K. Lumpur; K. S. Magesa-Sarma, F. R. A. S., Notary Public; N. Subramaniam, Retd. Draftsman, Survey Singapore; S. Nallathambiy, Retd. Asst. Auditor, S. S. and F. M. S.; S. Thilliampalam, Clerk of works, F. M. S. Rlys.

The conference then adjourned.

Notes From M'tive

(From our own Correspondent.)

CHAIRMAN INVOLVED IN KNIFE-AFFRAY

A section of Kovilkudirruppu was the scene of a knife affray between two Chammaddies (Fishing net owners) and their men. The quarrel arose over a grinding stone and a Mandady (Head of the labour gang working under a net owner).

It is understood that Sebamalai son of a net owner had sent someone to demand repayment of loans advanced to his Mandady who was now found working under Swakimpillai another net owner and to return a grinding stone belonging to him (Sebamalai). Swakimpillai who was absent at that time having heard on his return of this incident called on Sebamalai and demanded an explanation. Soon there was an affray which resulted in knife injuries.

M. S. Swakimpillai is the Chairman of the Mullaitivu Town Council.

NEED FOR WAITING ROOMS

Pressing need for waiting rooms at Mankulam Railway Station was felt both by members of the public and the Railway staff at Mankulam when there was a down pour of rains, thunder storm and lightning recently and large number of passengers were exposed to the unusual weather throughout the night for nearly seven hours on the platform while a few of them found shelter on the verandah and inside the office of the Station Master to the utter inconvenience of the Railway Staff there.

FLOOD DAMAGES

Recent floods have brought about immense damage to this District. Large number of buffaloes died as a result of being struck by lightning and were washed away into the sea. The reaped paddy that was stacked was blown off by whirlwinds while those that were not stacked floated on water and in some cases washed into the nearest streams.

One Sinnathamby Sivaguru alias Sithamparapillai (32) a member of the staff of the Mullaitivu Motor Transport Service Society while trying to test the road that was flooded near Olumadu to take the lorry across fell into a roadside drain and was washed through a culvert. The occupants of the lorry saved him. He sustained minor injuries.

At Mankulam the quarters of the clerk attached to the office of the Station Master and other boutiques were flooded nearly one foot above floor level and the occupants had to evacuate to higher area for shelter.

BOUSE SET ON FIRE

It is understood that the house belonging to Sinniah Manuel of Vattappalai was set fire to and the occupants assaulted by two of their neighbours. Sinniah Manuel and his wife are in hospital now.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Mr. A. M. Subramaniam of the General Treasury Colombo, has

VEDANTA MOOLA SARAM

OR

THE ESSENCE OF THE UPANISHADS

(By A Science Graduate)

(Continued from our issue of 7-3-47)

XLIV

XIV. THE TAITTIRIYA UPANISHAD (Contd.)

The fourth lesson contains prayers for wisdom and happiness. Lesson 5 deals with the contemplation of God in the Vyahritis or mystical utterances (Bhu, Bhuvah, Suvah and Mahah).—We refrain from dilating on these for obvious reasons.—Lesson 6 prescribes contemplation in the heart in which abides the Akasam (Chitakasam or Chit Sakti) with which is identified the Purushan (or God) of the nature of Gnanam (wisdom or knowledge), the Deathless (Sivam) of goldlike colour. Lesson 7 speaks of contemplation in different five-fold categories: worlds deities, vital airs, sense organs, &c; and lesson 8 of contemplation on the Pranavam (Brahman as Om).

The ninth and eleventh lessons enumerate some of the Upasaka's (meditator's) duties. Among these occur the following:—Swerve not from the truth. Swerve not from (your) duty. Swerve not from justice. Neglect not the Phuti (ஐதி, விபூதி, sacred ashes). Neglect not Swadhyayam (சுவாத்நியாயம், contemplation of the Omkaram, &c). Neglect not Vedadhyayanam (வேதாத்நியாயம், chanting of the Vedas).—The injunction not to neglect the Bhuti (which is immediately followed by similar injunctions regarding the Omkaram, &c, and Vedic recitals) clearly refers to the wearing of holy ashes and not to prosperity or greatness or well-being or மகன்சாரியம், auspices rites, &c, as erroneously rendered by various translators. A parallel passage from the Skanda Puranam reads as follows (translation by Seethinatha Iyer) சத்தியத்தினின்றும், தருமத்தினின்றும், சீயினின்றும், பஸ்மோத்தாசனத்தினின்றும், திரிபுண்டராரணத்தினின்றும், பிரணவமுதலிய கர்ணகையும் செபித்தவாகிய சுவாத்நியாயத்தினின்றும், (கண்மகாண்ட) வேதாத்நியாயத்தினின்றும் (சமுயந்த). There is an erroneous impression abroad that the Bhuti or Tiru-Neeru (sacred ash) is an exclusive Saiva emblem only. It is a universal emblem which reminds man of the destruction of everything worldly. Even Christians are enjoined to remember it at least once a year. Whatever some modern-day Christians may say of the origin and significance of the festival of Ash Wednesday, the fact remains that it is an ancient Hebrew festival with a philosophical background. That it is a universally accepted Vedic ritual is placed beyond all doubt by its repeated mention in Upanishadic and other literature. Before the innovation of the introduction of the distinguishing sacred earth (சிருமண்) mark somewhere about the time of Sri Ramanuja's appearance on the scene about a thousand years ago, it is said to have been freely worn by Vaishnavas too. In Tiru Vaymoli, for instance, we read: கரிய மேனி யிசை வெளிய சீத சிறிதே இரும், வெரிய கோலத்தடம் கண்ணன்..., The great Kannan (Krishnan) of exquisite beauty who sparingly wears white ashes on his dark coloured body.

Another point which we should not omit to note here is the inability of translators to distinguish properly between Swadhyayam and Vedadhyayanam mentioned in the eleventh lesson of this Upanishad immediately after the mention of the Bhuti. One translator renders them as reading and teaching. The parallel passage quoted above from the Skanda Puranam makes the meaning quite clear. Swadhyayam according to this passage consists in the meditative recital (செபித்தல்) of four sets of Mantras commencing with the Pranavam. What these four sets are is expressly mentioned in another Puranam (the Aditiya Puranam): பிரணவம், சதருத்திரியம், அதர்வ சிரசு, அதர்வசிரசு என்பவற்றின் செபமும் சுவாத்நியாயம் என்பபடும். The Pranavam (Om), the Sata Rudriyam (found in the middle of the Krishna Yajur Vedam), the Atharva Sira and Atharva Sikha (Upanishads)—the meditative recital of these is known as Swadhyayam.

The tenth lesson contains a paean of triumph by the sage Trisanku who, like the great Vamadevan of old of the Aitareya and Brihadaranyaka Upanishads and like Sri Krishnan of later times of the Bhagavat Gita, had realized God when he was still in the flesh; and this verse is inserted here probably for constant repetition and meditation by Upasakas, like the 'Anam Brahmam' Mahavakyam: "I am the shaker (the energiser) of the tree (of Samsaram). My glory is high like a mountain peak. The Supreme One having made (me) pure, I am immortal like the Being residing in the Sun. I am the brightest treasure, wise, immortal, imperishable. Thus are the words of wisdom of Trisanku."

The chapter ends with a thanksgiving hymn (12th lesson) by repeating the first lesson, the Rig Veda hymn, with suitable modifications paying homage to God (in various manifestations) for protecting the teacher and the pupil.

(To be Continued)

been transferred to the Vayunya Kachcheri as shroff. He is the second son of the late Mudaliyar C. Arumugam, J. P. U. P. M., and Retd. Dist. Mudaliyar and a brother of Mr. A. M. Kanagasabapathy J. P. & U. M. Retd. Dist. Mudaliyar, M. P. P. Mullaitivu.

Mr. K. Suntheralingam has been appointed as English Teacher at the Mullaitivu Saiva Vidhyasalai. He is an old boy of the Jaffna

Hindu College.

Mr. S. S. Mylvaganam has resigned from the Office of Vice Chairman of the Mullaitivu Town Council.

Dr. S. A. Tharmalingam, D. M. O., Mullaitivu entertained Messrs S. Swakimpillai (Chairman), S. S. Mylvaganam (Vice-Chairman) G. Francis (Member) of the Mullaitivu Town Council and his friends to a dinner at his quarters.

Religion—the Nectar of Life

(Continued from page 1)

at times, so much so that he longs for some one, some power on or beyond earth, to help him? It is not a confession of weakness but the statement of an undeniable fact. When one's beloved relation is in death-bed, and a medical or human help fails, one asks oneself, 'Is there no power visible or invisible who will come to my help?'

Genuine love of God

But this is after all, a crude form of religious impulse: namely to seek divine help for mundane things. Only weak-minded persons will do that. But there are some brave souls who are quite unselfish even in their prayers. They will pray to God not for any particular thing they will love God for love's sake. They see the magnificence of creation, they see the wondrousness of the universe, they are amazed at the order and system which are behind nature and they are filled with spontaneous love for the Creator. Such a brave soul is moved by an impulse of love and devotion which he himself cannot resist. You may laugh at his sentiment, you may find it difficult to find logic behind his emotional expression, but to him his feelings are genuine. They give him joy, they give him solace and strength, they lift him up beyond the pettiness of sordid worldliness. A man with aesthetic sense finds joy in the beauty of nature. The beauty of a sunrise or the splendour of a sunset gives him so much joy that he is ready to exchange all worldly possessions for them. To one who has no finer sensibility this man will seem to be foolish if not mad. But can we deny the genuineness of the joy and delight which this seraphic soul gets? The love for God or the feeling of a creation for the great Creator may seem meaningless to one who temperamentally belongs to a different religion or who has not the capacity to appreciate those feelings, but we cannot say that a devotee of God or a believer in the supreme Creator is a victim of self-delusion. For it is very often found that the life of such a man is much better than that of those who glibly criticize him. In the scale of moral values he is head and shoulders above those who think that the phenomenal world is all in all and there is nothing beyond that.

The Same Goal

Fortunately for the world persons who think of life and creation in terms of divine providence and plan, are not altogether absent, though not so abundant. And they will preserve the nectar of life, when the earth seems to well-nigh scorched with gross mercenary ideas.

If one is to give a definite answer to the question what will be the future of religion one will no doubt be in difficulty. But this much can be said with a degree of certainty that at any period of the life of the world, there will be found persons who will be moved by a higher, if not divine, impulse, and who will keep flying the banner to which humanity is marching. Their methods and ideas may differ from the orthodox views of religion, but they are much more genuinely religious than any person who passes for a man of God, simply because he is rigid in the observance of certain rituals of the church or the temple. At times such persons

All-Ceylon Tamil Congress, Parliamentary Elections

At the meeting of the Parliamentary Board of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress held on Sunday, 2nd March it was unanimously resolved that: "All intending candidates who wish to seek election on the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress Ticket should apply before 31st March, 1947, with a deposit of Rs. 100. (Rupees one hundred only). The deposit of those who are not nominated will be refunded in full."

DR. E. M. V. NAGANATHAN,
194-A, Silversmith Street, Colombo.

DR. V. K. PARAMANAYAGAM,
6, Main Street, Jaffna.
Secretaries.

(Mis. 349, 14)

Tender for the supply of Two Double Bullock Carts

The A. G. A. (E) Jaffna will receive sealed tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday 18th March, 1947 for the supply of two double bullock carts.

2. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the A. G. A. (E) Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

3. A cash deposit of Rs. 50/- should be made at the Jaffna Kachcheri to the credit of the A. G. A. (E) Jaffna and the Kachcheri receipt produced before any tender form can be issued.

4. The successful tenderer will be required to furnish a security deposit of Rs. 100/- before signing the agreement.

M. SRI KHANTA,
A. G. A. (E) Jaffna.
25th February, 1947.
(G. 157, 14)

WANTED

Wanted for the (Regd (Vivekananda Vidhyalayam, (A) A second class trained teacher with S. S. C. (English) certificate, to teach English.

Those with Higher qualifications may apply.

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General Secretary,
The Anuradhapura Vivekananda Society Ltd.

(Mis. 351, 14-3-47)

Change of Name

I, Ponniah Stanley Thavam of Veerman Kamam, Telliappalai at present employed at I. P. S. Store Kilinochchi do hereby inform the Ceylon Government and Public that hereafter I will be known as Ponniah Albert Jeyam and sign all documents as.

P. A. JAYAM.
(Mis. 353, 14 & 18)

will differ widely from orthodox people; now and then their actions will be virulently criticized; but it is they who will preserve intact the essence of religion, and though they do not belong to any particular church, from them will come out persons who will be the founders of churches. It is difficult to say what particular shape the future of religion will take—and why should that take any particular shape at all. But it is sure that humanity as a whole will not lose sight of the goal to which all religions point. "As all rivers coming from different sources flow to the ocean, so all human activities, after all, find culmination in the same goal."

Nehru Thanks Molotov

The Moscow Radio last week told the Russian people of India's thanks for Soviet support in the United Nations discussions of the question of Indians in South Africa.

The Radio quoted a Russian News Agency despatch from Delhi which said: "As has become known here, Pandit Nehru has sent a letter to M. Molotov expressing the thanks of the Government and the people of India to the U. S. S. R. Government and the Soviet delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations, for the support given to the Indian delegation over the question of the Indian population in South Africa."

Sir C. V. Raman on Libraries

The library is the most important part of an institution of learning and without it a college or a university is just an empty shell of buildings, said Sir C. V. Raman when he laid the foundation-stone of the Harvey Library of the Madras College, last week.

Sir C. V. Raman observed that a good library made them commune with the greatest minds and with the finest souls that the world had produced.

It was the function of the librarian, Sir C. V. Raman added, to see that the books were well classified, well ordered and well looked after, and to organise the library in such a way that any one who desired to make use of it could know where exactly to find the information he wanted. It was one of the most difficult tasks to pick and choose books and it should be the business of the teachers in a college to help the librarian in such selection. Sir C. V. Raman cautioned against the outpourings of the printing press which exploited some of the lower qualities of the human mind. Wisdom and care had to be devoted to the task of building a really useful library.

INDIAN TROOPS IN JAPAN

It is learned that the Indian Government has decided to withdraw the Indian occupation force from Japan as soon as it can be arranged in consultation with the British Government.

SUPREME COURT

Mr. Justice Nagalingham, acting Puisne Justice will be confirmed in that office on the retirement of Mr. Justice Cannon.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Iraq Cabinet has resigned on Tuesday last.

A 500 year old Gutenberg Bible was sold at a London auction for £ 22,000 reports Reuter.

Sir Stanley Jackson, the famous cricketer and former Governor of Bengal died last week in London.

The United Provinces Government of India have decided to introduce total prohibition in eight selected districts.

A highly organised plot to put Nazis into position of authority in Austria has been uncovered by the Allies.

After 39 years of exile, the 66 year old veteran Indian revolutionary leader Sardar Ajit Singh returned to India last week.

The British Government contemplates purchasing United States cotton fabric spun and woven in Japan from American raw cotton.

The Governor Sir Henry Moore, inaugurated on Wednesday last the housing scheme for workers in the Ratmalana Railway workshops.

It is announced that Captain Saigal of the Indian National Army of Subhas Chandra Bose will marry Captain Lakshmi daughter of Mrs. Ammu Swaminathan M.L.A., next week.

Two prominent leaders of Rangoon's China Town will be rivals of U. Aung San in the election contest at the West Rangoon Constituency of Lanmadaw for the Burmese Constituent Assembly.

Tender for the supply of Elk Hides

The A. G. A. (E) Jaffna will receive sealed tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday the 20th March, 1947 for the supply of three dozen elk hides.

2. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the A. G. A. (E) Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

3. A cash deposit of Rs. 10/- should be made at the Jaffna Kachcheri and the Kachcheri receipt produced before any tender form can be issued.

4. The successful tenderer will be required to furnish a security deposit of Rs. 50/- before signing the agreement.

M. SRI KHANTA,
A. G. A. (E) Jaffna.
27th February, 1947.
(G. 156, 14)

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(Mis. 304, 17-1 to 31-12-47.)

Madras Crisis

Mr T. Prakasam, the Madras Premier has, it is believed, expressed readiness to abide by the advice of the Congress High Command in regard to the affairs of the Madras Ministry and agree to a reconstitution of the Ministry on lines approved by the Congress President. This step appears to have been taken by the Premier at the interview he had with Mr. Kripalani shortly after his arrival.

Later Mr. Prakasam, it is understood, followed it up by placing in the hands of the Congress President his resignation as well as those of his colleagues in the Ministry, so as to give him full freedom of action.

It is expected that these developments will facilitate the President's efforts to bring about a reconciliation among members of the Madras Congress Legislature Party.

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[Mis. 248. 15-3-46 to 14-3-47.]

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 499

In the matter of the Last will and testament of the late Ambalavanar Tharmahngam of Saravanai, Deceased

Vettivelupillai Sadasivampillai of Saravanai, Petitioner

Vs

Rasamma wife of Sadasivampillai of do. Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire District Judge on 15th December 1945 in the presence of Mr. G. G. Somasegaram Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the Last Will and Testament of the above named deceased dated 12th February 1943 filed of record in this Court be declared proved and Probate thereof be issued to the petitioner as the Executor named in the said Last Will unless the Respondent or any other person appear before this Court on the 22nd February 1947 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 19th December 1945.
Sgd R. R. Selvadurai,
District Judge.

27-247.
Order Nisi extended
for 27. March 1947

Intld. R. R. Selvadurai
D. J.

(O. 158. 11 & 14)

PARTITION SALE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
CASE No 1806.

1. Kanagasabai Ponnuthurai and wife.
2. Wijayaladchumy both of Nallur Plaintiffs. Vs.

1. Dr. S. A. Vettivelu and wife
2. Parasathy
3. Nadanakanagasabai Kandiah, all of Nallur
4. Segarajasingam Kandiah, Proctor Colombo
5. Pararajasingam Kandiah, Bank of Ceylon, Colombo
6. T. Sathyvel Irrigation officer Tambalagamam
7. and wife Annaladchumy
8. Parameswari daughter of Kandiah (Minor by her G.A.L 3rd def.)
9. K Vallipuram (dead)
10. Kanagasundaram Mahesparan 113 Kynsey Rd. Colombo
11. Kumarachelvy daughter of Vallipuram (Minor by her G. A. L. 12th def)
12. Ponnammah widow of Vallipuram, Kokuvi

In view of the commission issued to me in the above case I shall sell by Public Auction, first among the co-owners and if not purchased by them, then by public auction to the highest bidder the undermentioned property at the spot on Saturday the 29th of March 1947 commencing at 3. p. m.

All that piece of land situated at Nallur Jaffna called Karuppankollai in extent 9Lms V.C. 13 1/2 kls together with house, well and plantations and bounded on the East by the property of the heirs of C. T. Kandiah, North by that of S. Kandiah West and South by Roads.

C. J. Sabapathy
Licensed Surveyor
&
Commissioner

Mullakkam
Channakkam
Mis. 340. 11 & 14)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 669.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Pandaram Vaithilingam of Pannalakkadduvan. Deceased.

Soppiah Eliathamby of Pannalakkadduvan Vs. Petitioner

Minor. 1. Thangeswari daughter of Pandaram Vaithilingam
2. Pandaram Vallipuram both of do. Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 19th day of February 1947 in the presence of Messrs Aboubucker and Sultan Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian ad-tem over the abovenamed minor 1st Respondents for all purposes of this action and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the abovenamed Petitioner as the father-in-law of the said deceased, unless the Respondents or others interested shall appear before this Court on the 29th day of March 1947 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai
District Judge
Jaffna

The 19th day of February 1947.

(O. 159. 14 & 18.)

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(Mis. 337, 7 to 25-3-47.)

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(Mis. 290. 11-10-46--10-3-47)

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(Mis 307, 31-1 to 31-7-47)

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(Mis. 267, 13-12 to 12-6-47.)

Printed and Published by Pandit V. I. SAMBANDHAM, residing at Vannar-pannai West, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannar-pannai, Jaffna, on Friday, March 14, 1947.