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NO. 1.

Our Natural State

By A 'PILGRIM'

I was on my long-cherished pilgrimage to Bhagavan Sri Ramana. On the train I was chewing the cud of a doubt: I had read the answer Maharshi gave to the question put to him by Prof. D. S. Sarma whether there was a Sadhana period in the life of Sri Bhagavan previous to his enlightenment. Sri Dip Roy had put the answer in a poetical garb under the caption, "My Yuga" and Prof. Sarma had given his question and Maharshi's answer under the title, "Sahasranam". I reproduce below the answer of Sri Bhagavan.

"I know no such period of Sadhana. I never performed any pranayama or japa. I know no mantras. I had no rules of meditation or contemplation. Sadhana implies an object to be gained and the means of gaining it. What is there to be gained? In meditation, concentration, and contemplation, what we have to do is only not to think of anything but to be still. Then we shall be in our natural state."

Intiguing

This indeed was an intriguing situation for me: I had read in the Life and Teachings of Sri Ramana of the severe sadhana he did in the lonely rooms of the big Shrine at Tiruvannamalai and in the caves on the hills. But here is Bhagavan himself denying everything about it! And more than that how can illumination come without Sadhana? That was something against the word of the scriptures. However I consoled myself with the thought that at the Ashrama I may get the change of placing my difficulties before Sri Maharshi.

It was one of those beautiful mornings in Tiruvannamalai. After my daily ablutions and other duties I was ready for the darshan of Bhagavan. As I approached the Maharshi's room I could feel the senti that was radiating from his room. I entered the room and then came my first shock; I expected to see something unusual, something glorious, a face surrounded by a halo etc. I didn't find any of these. Has he not said, I was reminded, in his answer that self-realisation does not mean that something would descend upon us as something glorious? Has he not said: 'People seem to think that by practising some elaborate sadhana the Self would one day descend upon them as something very big and with tremendous glory and they would then have what is called Sakshatkaram'.

Elquence of Silence

Yet that winning smile that played on his lips greeting me meant more than Self-realisation. He beckoned to me to sit down and I sat there for more than two hours

not knowing the passage of time. I realised then that silence is more eloquent than words. I dared not break the silence with my own petty doubts.

I communicated my wish to place my doubts before the Maharshi and the consent came by midday.

When we reassembled at three before Sri Bhagavan I was given the typescript of the question and answer to read and I read it aloud. Then I framed my question thus:

Questions and Answers

Question: You have said here that you know of no such period as Sadhana; you never performed japa or chanted mantra; you were in your natural state. I have not done any Sadhana worth the name. Can I say that I am in my natural state? But my natural state is so different from the natural state of ordinary persons and realised persons is different?

Answer: What you think to be your natural state is your unnatural state. (And this was my second shock that shook me from my slumber of my past notions.) With your intellect and imagination you have constructed the castles of your pet notions and desires. But do you know who has built up these castles, who is the owner? The 'I' who really owns them and 'I' of your conception are quite different. It is necessary that you should put forth some effort to come into the 'I' who owns these, the real 'I' behind all states? Would you have to walk any distance to walk into the 'I' that is always You. This is what I mean by saying that no sadhana is required for Self-realisation, all that is required is to refrain from doing anything, by remaining still and being simply what one really is. You have only to dehypnotise yourself of your unnatural state.

Then, you have asked whether there is any difference between the natural state of ordinary persons and realised persons. What have they realised? They can realise only what is real in them. What is real is in you also. So where is the difference?

Even then some may ask, the Maharshi continued reminding me so vividly of those Upanishadic Rishis, where is the conviction that one's Self is sakshat all right, that no Sadhana is required at all for Self-realisation. Well, do you want anybody to come and convince you that you are seated before me and talking to me? You know for certain that you are seated here and talking to me. When we read a book, for instance, we read the letters on the page. But can we say that we are reading only the

Japan's Absence In Asian Conference Deplored

The absence of Japan in the Asian Conference which is being held in New Delhi is greatly deplored by the representatives attending the Conference.

More than 90 per cent of the delegates to the conference, according to a ballot, would like to see Japan represented at the conference.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, the chief Ceylon delegate, said: "We are Buddhists and Japan is a Buddhist country in view of the cultural nature of the conference, the Japanese should be here—but we can understand why they are not."

Nehru in Favour

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, vice-president of the Indian Interim Government, said he would make no representations to the Allied Control Authorities regarding Japanese representation in the Pan-Asian Conference which is now meeting here.

Although he would like to have seen the Japanese represented, he said it was the general rule that they

Gandhiji & Jinnah Invited For Talks by Viceroy

An Associated Press of India message says that Lord Louis Mountbatten Viceroy of India has invited Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. M. A. Jinnah to Delhi for talks.

However, according to another message, Gandhiji denies that he has received a letter from the new Viceroy and that he has replied to it, said the report was packed with half truths and characterised it as a "lie and a half".

were not allowed to leave Japan for such purposes at present.

English As Common Medium

The conference adopted a report of the Group on Cultural Affairs. The report referred to the need for the development of scientific research in Asia, particularly in reference to questions of food, health, sanitation and the raising of living standards.

The report proposed the establishment of a Cultural and Scientific Organisation with a permanent secretariat and also a School of Asian Studies and recommended the continued use of English as the most common language and a wider study of Asian languages.

DELEGATES THRILLED

Raman's Offer to Burma

THE Inter-Asian Relations Conference at New Delhi has now resolved itself into Round Table groups.

The Round Table group dealing with the question of transition from the colonial to national economy has elected Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike the leader of the Ceylonese delegation as its Chairman.

The Cultural Problems group has elected the leader of the Siamese delegation as its Chairman. In this group's deliberations of the first day, it is understood that prominent personalities like Pandit Nehru, Pandit Hridaya, Nath Kurzru, Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukerji, Sir C. V.

letters? Without the page of the book where are the letters. Again we say that we are seeing the picture projected on a canvass. No doubt we are seeing the picture, but without the canvass where is the picture? You can doubt and question everything; but how can you doubt the 'I' that questions everything. That 'I' is your natural state. Would you have to labour or do Sadhana to come into this natural state?

Raman and the Chinese, Burmese, Egyptian, Palestine and Soviet Delegates participated.

It is understood that the representative of Burma on this Group referred to the complete destruction of scientific apparatus and other equipment of the Rangoon University through bombing during the last war. It was further stated that despite fervent appeals, even England had so far failed to supply those apparatus and scientific instruments, with the result that higher scientific education was practically at a standstill in Burma at present. The Burmese delegate, therefore, appealed to India and other Asiatic countries to help Burma out of this difficulty.

Sir C. V. Raman is thereupon reported to have made an offer to Burma. It is understood that Sir C. V. Raman offered to go to Rangoon and stay there for three months, placing his services at disposal of the Rangoon University without charging any remuneration whatsoever. During this period proposed, after surveying the position there, to prepare a plan for the rehabilitation of education in the Rangoon University.

This offer from a savant like C. V. Raman's eminence to have thrilled the members of the Cultural Group.



Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1947.

PLANNING FOR SOLVENCY

SIR JOHN TARBAT, THE Chairman of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce in the course of his address at the annual meeting of the Chamber stressed upon the great need for balancing the budget. It is the duty of sane government to take whatever precautions may be necessary to see that the expenditure incurred by the State does not exceed the revenue. It will be noted that the total revenue for the island during the years that preceded the war was a little over one hundred million rupees per annum. The cost of free education alone at present is more than the total revenue during the pre-war years. One of the evils of Government by Executive Committees is the unhealthy competition that exists among the Ministers who as chairmen of the different committees are vying with each other to spend large amounts. The Minister of Health has been busying himself with opening a large number of rural or cottage hospitals. The Minister of Industry and Commerce has prepared expensive plans for the industrialisation of the island; most of the factories that have been managed and conducted by the State have been run at a loss. The statistics for 1944-45 show that profits declined as sales rose. The total sales for 1943-1944 were Rs. 4,202,402 and expenditure Rs. 3,616,539; but the total sales for 1944-1945 amounted Rs. 5,275,347-61 and the total expenditure Rs. 4,930,887-98. The Hat Factory, Acetic Acid Factory, Steel-rolling Factory and Ceramic Factory have been run at a loss, and the Yarn Depot, Leather Factory, Plywood Factory and Quinine Factory have earned small profits. The appeals of local governing bodies for financial assistance from the centre are increasing; the Minister of Local Administration himself has persuaded Government to vote large sums of money for slum relief, housing schemes etc. The Minister of Agriculture has dumbed a policy as set in his seven point programme, the cost of which will be prohibitive. The Minister of Communications and Works planned for improving the road, starting a Ceylon Air Force and the like. The expenditure of the island even without the imposition of the new taxes will be a little over 300 million rupees. The costly schemes of the present Ministers, if trans-

The Task Ahead

(By SRI AUROBINDO GHOSH)

THE goal marked out for us is not to speculate about things, but to experience them. The call upon us is to grow into the image of God, to dwell in Him and with Him and be a channel of His joy and might and an instrument of His works. Purified from all that is evil, transfigured in soul by His touch, we have to act in the world as dynamos of that divine electricity and send it thrilling and radiating through mankind, so that wherever one of us stands hundreds around may become full of His light and force, full of God and full of *ananda*.

Churches, orders, theologies, and philosophies have failed to save mankind because they have busied themselves with intellectual creeds, dogmas, rites, and institutions, with *achara, shuddhi, and darshana*, as if these could save mankind, and have neglected the one thing needful, the power and purification of the soul. We must go back to the one thing needful, take up again Christ's gospel of the purity of mankind, Mohamed's gospel of perfect submission, self-surrender, and eremitism to God, Chaitanya's gospel of the perfect love and joy of God in man, Ramakrishna's gospel of the

unity of all religions and the divinity of God in man, and, gathering all these streams into one mighty river, one purifying and redeeming Ganges pour it over the death-in-life of a materialistic humanity as Bhagiratha led down the Ganges and flooded it with the ashes of his fathers, so that there may be a resurrection of the soul in mankind and *Satya Yuga* for a whole return to the world. Nor is this the whole object of the *Lila* or the *Yoga*.

The reason for which the Avatars descend is to raise up man again and again, developing in him a higher and ever higher humanity, a greater and yet greater development of divine being, bringing more and more of heaven again and again upon the earth until our toil is done our work accomplished and *sachchidananda* fulfilled in all even in this material universe. Small is his work even if he succeeds, who labours for his own salvation or the salvation of a few; infinite is his work if he fails or succeeds only partially or for a season, who lives only to bring about peace of soul, joy, purity, and perfection among all mankind.

Notes and Comments

Spiritual Degradation

The advice tendered by His Lordship the Right Revd. Lakadasa de Mel, Assistant Bishop of Colombo at the Annual Founder's Day celebration of the Uduvil Girls' School is very opportune and should be welcomed by all. His Lordship while drawing the attention of all citizens to the moral and spiritual degradation of our country made pointed reference to the futility of political emancipation without the development of a national culture. "Bribery and corruption in high places go unheeded" said his Lordship and stated: "Dirty money is being made in the Black Market; men of good will and character do not get up in public and say this must be resisted." Truly this is a sad state of affairs and should be remedied at once. The soul of Lanka should be saved before political liberty is achieved. A crude and gross materialism reigns supreme now. A drive towards the spiritual awakening of the people is very necessary at the present juncture. It would do well if the heads of all denominations in Ceylon realise this dismal state of affairs and make a concerted effort at social and spiritual advancement of the people, without of course an eye on proselytisation.

The Police Force

We understand that the Police Force is now at full strength and that there will be no need for new recruitments for some time. We hope that the old excuse of inefficiency to cover up the inefficiency of the force to handle crime in the country will cease for good. However, we are not complacent enough to think that with the increase in the strength of the constabulary, all will be well in our dear old Lanka and that crime will show a downward tendency. Numbers do not count, and especially in a matter concerning crime and criminals. The only way to prevent or lessen crime is to enlist the co-operation of the citizens. Unfortunately, co-operation between the custodians of law and order and the average citizens is absent in Ceylon today. The blame for this lack of mutual co-operation should be laid at the door of the police force itself. The attitude and demeanour of the police force should change for the better. It is no use appealing to the citizens for co-operation without changing the outlook of the average policemen who is, unfortunately, even now in this enlightened age living in an atmosphere charged with the "Dowbiggin mentality." When the change in outlook is effected, the average man or woman will be found quite responsive to the appeal for co-operation and help. When mutual co-operation between the citizen and the police is established crime will decrease and gradually disappear by itself. Till then, the police force, to whatever strength it is enlarged, will not serve any useful purpose.

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The Textile Control

The allegation that Textile Control has not served its purpose is not peculiar to Ceylon alone. The Textile Control scheme is the target of violent criticisms in England. In the Indian Legislative Assembly many a member pressed the Government to withdraw the textile regulations as they have, it was alleged led to bribery and corruption. In Ceylon too, the complaint against the textile regulations are many and there is a section of the public which wants the immediate withdrawal

Mr. Bandaranaike's "Friendly Discussions" With Nehru

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Minister of Local Administration, who heads Ceylon's delegation to the Pan-Asian Conference said in an interview to the Associated Press of India that he had had "very friendly and useful discussions" with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on outstanding Indo-Ceylon problems and hoped that before long formal negotiations would take place between Ceylon and India.

of these "irksome" regulations. But, as the Textile Controller pointed out at the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce, the available supplies of importable cloth fall far short of the increased demand, and he has argued that the removal of control would cause prices to soar and give richer consumers an immense advantage while the middle class and the poor man would find nothing left to buy. No one we are sure, will fail to agree with the opinion expressed by the Textile Controller. But this officer, we are afraid seems to be ignorant of the actual facts prevailing in the textile market today. In spite of all his elaborate regulations, the middle classes and the poor are even today in the sad plight which the Controller envisages would befall them if his schemes are repealed. The whole control scheme has been muddled. It has led to many abuses. It has come to a stage when it is nothing better than a farce and a hoax. The controller, we understand has been asked by the Committee to submit more considered views, and data to enable the Committee to come to an early decision as to whether the system ought to be scrapped or not. But if the Controller cannot improve the present system and devise a plan whereby an equitable distribution of the available cloth could be assured, the only remedy for the present sad state of affairs is to ring the certain down on this farce, which has been enacted for too long period.

The Next Move

Mr. Jinnah has accepted the invitation of Lord Louis Mountbatten for talks on the present political situation in India and to discuss plans for the British withdrawal before June 1948. The new Viceroy means business: the League Fuehrer knows this, as will be seen from moderation of his tone in his recent speech at the Memon Chamber of Commerce in Bombay. Whatever be it, enough blood has already flown in the land of Baratha Varsha owing to communal bickerings. A great future awaits this great land. In spite of Jinnahs and Ali Khans the Muslims are Indians first, and any amount of religious fanaticism cannot and will not change this basic fact. As things are at present Mr. Jinnah and his followers cannot and dare not hope to achieve a Pakistan of their liking. A Pakistan consisting of Sind, Eastern Bengal and a part of the Punjab will be the most he may achieve. Such a mutilated Pakistan will serve neither Jinnah nor the Muslims. A great opportunity has presented itself to Mr. Jinnah. We cannot even now persuade ourselves to believe that the League President is an enemy of Indian freedom and unity. In Indian unity and in it alone depends the future well being of the 40 crores of human beings inhabiting this sub continent. Let Jinnah realise this. The next few days are pregnant with many possibilities in the Indian stage where the Quaid-e-Azam could either be the "hero" or the "villain".

Physical Degeneration

HOW TO ARREST IT?

(By K. Kandiah)

THERE has been a general degeneration in the physical build and stamina of the Jaffna people during the past few generations. In stature, vitality and power of endurance and resistance to diseases a steady decline is noticeable from generation to generation. Those of us who are in a position to look back on the past two generations of our ancestors and also have seen two generations of descendants realise with great foreboding for the future the very marked decline in the physique of the people. The children of the present generations are very diminutive compared with their forefathers of four or five generations ago. One could hardly believe that these children are the progeny of those sturdy men of old. This deterioration is not peculiar to Jaffna alone. It may be said that the people of Ceylon as a whole tend towards a downward course physically.

It behoves us to examine the causes that have brought about this degeneration, and to arrest as far as possible the downward trend. It is commonly believed that the intellectual progress of a people affects adversely their physique, and that the mind grows at the expense of the body. This cannot be accepted as true as we see in the Western people a harmonious development of mind and body. We therefore have to look for the cause of our degeneration in other directions. Our diet has undergone considerable change in the course of time. What we eat at present is not half as nutritious and varied as what our forefathers consumed. The proteid content of our food has to be increased substantially by the liberal addition of pulses and milk. Children should get used to cereals such as 'Kurakkan', 'Varagu' and 'Samy' on which our forefathers thrived so well. The most important cause of degeneration seems to be the want of systematic physical training. Games have to some extent remedied this short coming, but they have not created in the young generation a passion for building up their body. Games are played merely in a spirit of sport, and the exercises derived and the physical development are incidental resultants. Something more than this chance result should be aimed at. At least a small proportion of the school going population should be enthused with a passion for physical culture. If a school could produce a dozen physical culturists this little leaven might leaven the whole lump. In colleges where a well equipped gymnasium is provided the general standard of bodily development is high. The skill and strength displayed by senior boys on the parallel bars, the horizontals and the trapezium catch the eyes of the young, and they are filled with an enthusiasm for building up their body. The world-renowned physical culturist, Eugene Sandow was a weakling in his boyhood. Once he happened to accompany his father to Rome where he saw some statues which were displayed in art galleries as

works of sculpture depicting the perfect human form. This impressed the young boy so much that he went back home with a firm determination to build up his body. We see in his photograph that he had achieved this aim to a marvelous extent and had produced in himself the exact likeness of the statues which had impressed him.

Physical culture is undoubtedly a potent factor in building up the manhood of a people. The nations of today who are in the forefront of civilisation are those which had assiduously built up this manhood by encouraging various forms of manly exercise.

The healthy growth and development of children is a matter for the serious consideration of all school authorities. The provision of a well equipped gymnasium with an instructor in charge will certainly tend to awaken in the young an interest in physical culture.

Found in Possession of Ganja

Mohamed Haniffa Lebba of Thanuyuttu, Mullaitivu was detected by Mr. T. Saldeen, Excise Range Officer, Mullaitivu of possessing 2½ lbs of ganja in his house at Thanuyuttu. Cor.

Ceylon Sama Samajist Detained in Madras

Mr. S. C. C. Anthonipillai, the Ceylonese Sama Samajist has been detained in Madras under the Public Safety Ordinance for having instigated, it is alleged, a strike of 15 000 workers, mostly of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills.

Only Burma Rice

Lord Killearn, the British special Commissioner in South East Asia warned last week that the rice position was still precarious. He said that there might be a lean period this year too. The failure of supplies from Egypt and the completion of shipments from Brazil will make Ceylon dependent for the rest of year on what she is entitled from Burma.

Hindu Devotional Songs Contest

With a view to promote the study of Hindu Devotional Songs the Vivekananda Society held an All Ceylon Hindu Devotional Songs Contest on Sunday 30th March 1947 at 5 p. m. at Hill Street, Colombo. Messrs H. V. Ram Iswara Proctor and P. C. Kathirevel, merchant and landed proprietor donated the prizes which were in the form of gold medals. The Hon'ble Mr. N. Nadarajah, K. C., Commissioner of Assize and President of the Vivekananda Society presided on the occasion and Mrs. Nadarajah gave away the prizes.

FROM ABROAD

The next Director of Industries

A cable is to be sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking him to select a suitable person from abroad with high technical qualifications for the post of Director of Commerce and Industries, according to a decision arrived at by the Executive Committee of labour, Industry and Commerce, on Tuesday.

The Committee also felt that the advice of Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, who is on a holiday in Britain, and Mr. G. C. S. Corea, the former Minister of Labour Industry and Commerce, now Ceylon Government Representative in London, might be availed of in securing the services of a first-rate man to succeed Mr. D. H. Balfour, who will be going on leave in about a week's time preparatory to retirement.

Jail Preaching to Hindu Prisoners

The Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabhai has appointed Mr. V. Karthigesu, teacher Vyadeshwara Vidyalaya, as honorary preacher to the Hindu prisoners at the Jaffna Jail for the current year. He will be assisted by Messrs A. Kanagasabapathy, P. Sinnathurai, P. Appucuddy and S. K. Shanmugampillai.

ALLOWED

Bhagavathar-Krishnan Appeal

The appeal by the two well known film stars in South India, Thiagaraja Bhagavathar and N. S. Krishnan, who were sentenced to transportation for life on charges of conspiracy and abetment to murder a journalist named Lakshmi Kantham, was allowed by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London last week.

With six others the accused appellants were tried by a jury before the High Court at Madras and their appeals to that High Court in its appellate jurisdiction were dismissed.

Sir John Beaumont, who gave the Board's judgement said that as the High Court at Madras did not apply its mind to the question whether the verdict of the jury, finding the appellants guilty, was right or wrong, but considered only whether it was reasonable. Their Lordships allowed the appeal and the appeal of the appellants against their conviction on May 3, 1945 by the trial judge to the High Court would be remitted to that court to be disposed of according to law."

Lakshmi Kantham was stated to have been tipped off a rickshaw in a Madras street on November 8, 1944, and stabbed.

Teachers Confer at B'Caloa

Deputy Director Attends

(By Our Own Correspondent)

A conference of leading educationists in the District was organised at Government College Batticaloa from the 13th to the 15th of March 1947 by N. S. Thanigasalam, B. Sc. Inspector of Schools under the personal direction of Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, B. A. Hon. Dip. Ed. Education Officer with the special purpose of studying ways and means of relating school teaching and activities to the life of the people in rural areas. Mr. K. S. Arunandhy M. Sc. Deputy Director of Education was present and declared the course open with an address on Individual Differences. He outlined the different psychological, intellectual and social factors that tended to create these differences and stressed the importance of educationists understanding them and adapting their methods to suit the particular needs of each individual or group of pupils. Rev James S. Mather of the Methodist Mission and Rev Bro Philip of the F. C. Mission also contributed to the discussions. Mr. K. S. Arunandhy delivered a luncheon address to the Inspecting Officers and staffs of the Government Training College and Senior Secondary Schools on the same day.

Second day's proceedings

On the second day Mr. S. U. Somasegaram the Education Officer delivered an instructive address on "The place of the Rural School in the general educational system." He pointed out the agricultural and industrial possibilities of the country and the need for the educational system and the school being adapted to meet the real need of the nation. All efforts to industrialise the country in the past had met with little

success and that was in the main due to the defective approach to the problem. Emphasis had been placed wrongly on certain aspects of education with the result that it definitely tended to make schooling a sure method of taking a lad away from manual work. There was an urgent need for introducing an agricultural bias of the right type into all schools and paying much attention to the development of the country side through education. Another address was delivered by Mr. K. S. Arunandhy who spoke on "Imagination in Tamil Literature." Every nation had a soul and it could develop only against the background of its own literature. Emotional development was as important to character training as any other aspect of schooling and he illustrated his talk profusely with quotations from classical and modern Tamil Literature including his own amateur compositions in verse. He deplored the low standard of Tamil Teaching and ascribed it to the failure of the teachers to appreciate and understand the real beauties of Tamil Literature.

Other activities

Other important activities of the week were a Novices Boxing meet at the Men's Training College where a large number of schools took part and a singing competition. The Deputy Director complimented the Inspectorate and schools on the high standard of performance and expressed his pleasure at the fact that adequate attention was being paid to the cultivation of the various arts that had made the Tamils a nation famous in the past.

(Continued on page 4)

Right Conduct By Swami Sivananda

A man who has attained ethical perfection by the continued practice of Right Conduct or Yama or Niyama has got a magnetic personality. He can influence millions. Character gives a strong personality to man. People respect one who has good character. Moral people command respect everywhere. He, who is honest, sincere, truthful, kind and liberal-hearted always commands respect and influence at the hands of all people. Sattvic virtues make a man divine. He who speaks truth and practises Brahmacharya becomes a great dynamic personality. Even if he speaks a word there is power in it and people are magnetised. Character-building is of paramount importance if a man wants to develop in personality. No development of a strong personality is possible without celibacy.

Character and personality

A man may die but his character remains. His thoughts remain. It is the character that gives real force and power to man. Character is power. Without character the attainment of knowledge is impossible. That man who has no character is practically a dead man in this world. He is ignored and despised by the society. If you want success in life, if you want to influence others, if you want to progress well in the spiritual path, if you wish to have God-realisation, you must possess an unblemished or spotless character. The character of a man survives or outlives him. Sri Sankara, Buddha, Jesus and other Rishis of yore are remembered even now because they had wonderful character. Character is a mighty soul-force. It is like a sweet flower that wafts its fragrance far and wide. A man of noble traits and good character possesses a tremendous personality. Personality is character only. A person may be a skilful artist, clever singer, an able poet or a great scientist, but if he has no character, he has no real position in the society.

Humility—a great virtue

You must be polite, civil and courteous. You must treat others with respect and consideration. "Good manners and soft words have brought many difficult things to pass." He who gives respect to others, get respect. Humility brings respect by itself. Humility is a virtue that subdues the hearts of others. A man of humility is a powerful magnet or a loadstone.

Note carefully how the Rishis of yore gave instructions to their students when they have finished their course of study.

"Speak truth. Do not neglect the study of Vedas. Do not swerve from truth and duty. Don't neglect from welfare and prosperity. Do not neglect the learning and teachings of Vedas. Do not neglect the duties towards God and fore-fathers. May the father be thy God. May the preceptor be thy God. Do such actions as are blameless and not others. Those Brahmins that are superior to us they should be comforted by thee with seats, etc. Give with faith. Do not give without faith. Give with joy, with modesty, with fear, with kindness."

Piety—path to Salvation

Righteousness is eternal. Do not leave the path of righteousness even if your life is in danger. Do not leave righteousness for the sake of some material gain. A virtuous

life and a clean conscience give a great deal of comfort to man while living and at the time of his death also. A holy man with piety is far superior to the mighty potentate. God is much pleased with a pious man. Lord Krishna says "Even if the most sinful worshipeth Me, with undivided heart, he too must be accounted righteous, for he hath rightly resolved." There is a great hope even for a cut-throat, if he makes a strong determination and takes up the spiritual path.

Struggle hard

Dear friends! Do your duties in a satisfactory manner in accordance with Sadachara. Apply yourselves diligently to all kinds of your daily duties. Consult the Shastras and Mahatmas whenever you are in doubt. Build up your character. This will give you success in life. Struggle hard daily to remove old evil habits. Establish daily virtuous healthy habit. Character will help you to attain the goal of life. Character is your very being. Struggle hard to practise Sadachara. Stick to Sadachara with leech-like tenacity. Practise it and realise Sat-Chit-Ananda State right in this very second. May character confer on you the Atmic Bliss and Self-realisation! May the blessings of the Lord be upon you all! May Joy, Bliss, Immortality and Peace abide in you for ever!!

Teachers Confer at B'Caloa

(Continued from page 3)

The Deputy Director was entertained at a dinner by the staff and students of the Men's Training College and at tea by the Women's Training College Batticaloa.

The Teachers of the Kalmunai District took him in a procession with oriental music singing and dancing to the Hall of the Girls' Boarding School, Kalmunai on Saturday the 15th inst. where he was accorded a hearty reception. Mr. Arulnandhy thanked them for the warmth of their reception and addressed them on the need for a psychological approach in all school activities. All success in educational work depended on the scientific way in which they went about their task.

Over 300 teachers were present at the conference. Among other speakers were Mr. S. J. Gunasegaram District Inspector of Schools. Mr. S. Kandasamy, Principal Government Men's Training College and Mrs. Thambirajah Principal Women's Training College.

The final of the conference was a Garden Party and a Group Photo. The public of Batticaloa turned up in large numbers and loudspeakers were installed to enable the huge crowds that gathered to hear the address. The Deputy Director Mr. Arulnandhy thanked them for their hospitality and advised them that at this age when rapid educational changes were taking place all over the world and in our little island the Eastern Province also should be alive to the need for adaptations to meet the new requirements of the changing world. He congratulated the Education Officer and his staff for the dynamic interest they took in educational matters.

THEY SELECT CANDIDATES

U.N.P.—Tamil Congress Tussle in the North

THE U. N. P. has completed nominations for 22 seats in the forth-coming parliamentary elections. Candidates for only two constituencies in the Northern Province have been so far selected. They are: Mr. A. Mahadeva for the Jaffna Town and Mr. S. Natesan for Kankasanturai.

The Parliamentary Board of the U. N. P. has not yet decided who should contest the two left wing leaders Dr. N. M. Perera and Dr. Colvin. R. De Silva.

It was at first thought that Mr. A. F. Molamure who has considerable influence in the Ruwanwela area would contest Dr. N. M. Perera there. However, Mr. Molamure for reasons best known to the party, has decided to stick to Balangoda his present constituency—a safe seat.

The Board has yet to nominate candidates for a number of seats in the Northern, Central and Eastern Provinces.

It is likely that Matara and Moratuwa will be declared "open" if no settlement is reached between the Party Candidates seeking nominations to these seats.

Nominations made already by the Party are: Miigama, Mr. D. S. Senanayake; Colombo Central, Mr. T. B. Jayan; Nattandiya, Mr. Albert F. Peiris; Negombo, Mr. H. de Z. Siriwardene; Kelaniya, Mr. J. R. Jayawardene; Galle, Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya; Panadura, Mr. Susanta de Fonseka; Kalutara, Mr. Upali Batuwantudawe; Puttalam, Mr. Ismail (Chairman, Urban Council); Dodangaslande, Col. J. L. Kotelawala; Nikawerativa, Mr. U. B. Wanninayake; Anuradhapura, Mr. P. B. Bulankulame; Attanagalla, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike; Kandy, Mr. George E. de Silva; Jaffna, Mr. A. Mahadeva; Kankasanturai, Mr. S. Natesan; Niwiti-gala, Mr. J. Kuruppu; Ratnapura, Mr. Cyril Attygalle; Balangoda, Mr. A. F. Molamure; Horana, Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya; Avisawella, Mr. Bernard Jayasuriya; Matugama, Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara; Kadugannawa, Major E. A. Nugawela and Mr. J. N. Jinendradasa.

Other likely nominations are: Colombo North, M. George R. de Silva; Weligama, Mr. Montagu Jayawickrema; Chilaw, Mudaliyar Albert Abeyratne; Hakmana, Major A Dharmapala; Akuressa Mr. David Wanigasekere; Langalle, Mr. D. A. Rajapakse; Kiriella, Mr. A. E. B. Kiriella.

Mannar, J. Thiagarajah; Thenmaradchy Mr. C. R. Thambiiah; Mullaitivu, Mr. C. Suntheralingham; Point Pedro, Dr. C. Thambipillai; Kopay Mr. S. Rajaratnam; Vadukoddai, Mr. V. Veerasingham; As regards the islands seat, the U. N. P. may not nominate a candidate to contest against Sri Wytialingham Duraiswamy who is one of the candidates for the seat.

The Nominations Board of the U. N. P. will meet shortly to consider the other nominations.

The Propaganda Committee of the U. N. P. met at the Party Headquarters and discussed its future programme.

It is learned that the Parliamentary Board of the All Ceylon Tamil Congress will also meet shortly to decide on the candidates for the nine northern seats. The likely candidates are as follows:

Jaffna: Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam;

Kankasanturai, Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayagam; Vaddukoddai, Mr. K. Kanagaratnam; Islands, Mr. A. V. Kulasingham; Kopay, Mr. R. Sivagurunathar; or Mr. C. Thambiappah; Thenmaradchy, Mr. V. Kumaraswamy; Mannar, Mr. C. Chittampalam; Point Pedro, Mr. K. Balasingham; Mullaitivu, C. M. Dharmalingham.

Letter to the Editor

Food Control and Black Market

Sir,—May I respectfully suggest that the Government should either scrap the Food Control or take stringent measures to arrest the thriving Black Market.

The Government is fully aware that a normal labourer cannot subsist on a cut measure of rice and a pound of flour for a whole week. He can possibly manage with this bounty for 2 days; for the remaining 5 days in the week he must find a way for his sustenance. The only avenue open to him is the Black Market friend, who as is well known will not part with his paddy for less than a rupee for a measure and sometimes more. The question arises as to how to meet this abnormal price. He had to earn by labour from the middle class and other landed gentry whose position is more precarious than that of the labourer. During the recent flood in Jaffna the so-called landed gentry had to pay a heavy bill in the shape of labour for harvesting alone not to speak of other expenses.

We have no reason to blame the poor labourer for demanding higher wages. He has to keep his body and soul together. He requests "give me food or its equivalent in cash" The position of the landed gentry is very pathetic. If he fails to cultivate, the crown threatens to assume possession of the land. At the same time he must cultivate paddy within Rs. 6/- per bushel and sell the excess paddy to the Government under the Internal Purchase Scheme. You may appeal against this decision with no response. The Government policy may probably be applicable to the cultivators of paddy lands in the wet zone; cultivation in the dry zone cannot be held at par with the cultivation in the wet zone, where irrigation facilities and other amenities of life are quite different.

It is earnestly hoped that our representatives in the Council who are fully cognizant of the hardships and privation of the Jaffna farmer will take up the matter with a view to ameliorate their pitiable condition.

The Black Market on the other hand is sapping the life blood of the peasantry. The ordinary man cannot overcome the Black Marketeer without assistance from Government.

Malaya has lifted most of the controls and it is our opinion that de-control is the only remedy to drive the Black Market demon from this land.

Yours faithfully,
"Public Opinion."

Uduvil,

28th March 1947.

INDIAN NEWS FRONT

GANDHIJI SEES VICEROY**While Communal Riots Spread****Jinnah Calls for Truce**

Mr. M. A. Jinnah has accepted the invitation of the Viceroy to meet him for informal talks. The Quaid-e-Azam has now issued a statement calling for a truce between the communities on the basis of Pakistan, elimination of the British rule in India and India for the Indians.

Speaking at a reception given him by the Memon Chamber of Commerce in Bombay last week he said: "I assure you I respect the great Hindu Community and all that it stands for, but I am fighting for Pakistan because it is the only practical solution. The ideal of a united India and rule based on the parliamentary system of Government is a vain dream."

Appealing to Muslims and Hindus to be practical, Mr. Jinnah said it was better to divide and flourish than be united and slaves. A united India was an impossibility, because it would mean the rule of one nation by another.

Mr. Jinnah added that the idea of a united India was a British importation and he accused the British of "inspiring an armed camp" on the eve of their departure by insisting upon a united India.

"If an All-India Union is forced can it result in anything but a clash?" he asked. "We are face to face with a serious situation which requires an immediate solution. If we fail, remember that the consequences will be catastrophic."

Gandhiji in Bihar

"Gandhiji's tour in Bihar has been a great success. Both Muslims and Hindus have been greatly influenced by his tour and nothing has so profoundly impressed Muslims as the remarkable fact that as many as fifty wanted men have voluntarily surrendered to the authorities—a thing unheard of in Bihar or for that matter in any other province. This phenomenal change has undoubtedly been brought about by the presence here and the speeches of Gandhiji whose undoubted hold over the masses has once again been established," said Dr. Syed Mahmud in the course of a statement to Press Representative.

League Agitation in the Frontier

Dr. Khan Sahib, Premier, North-West Frontier Province, who returned to Peshawar from Delhi, where he attended the plenary session of the Inter-Asian Relations Conference emphatically stated in the course of an interview that "the Muslim League's present communal agitation in the Frontier can never dislodge the Congress Government in the N.W.F.P."

Dr. Khan Sahib also said, "While in Delhi I had telephonic conversation with Badshah Khan and informed him of the situation in the Frontier." Referring to the Inter-Asian Conference, Dr. Khan Sahib said it was a "grand success."

Baroda for a Strong Centre

Addressing the Baroda Legislative Assembly (Dhara Sabha) immediately after his election to the Constituent Assembly as one of the three representatives of the State, Sir Brojendralal Mitter, Dewan of Baroda, gave an assurance that he "would work for an undivided India with a strong Centre. Only thus can India play her full part in the comity of nations," he said. The Dewan added: "Baroda has decided to join the Union. It is not going to

set up as an independent State."

"With the exception of foreign affairs, defence and communications, Baroda would be sovereign over all the other subjects", said the Dewan. The units might agree to surrender to the Centre any out of the residuary subjects and he could well imagine the willing surrender of several subjects such as currency and coinage and weights and measures.

Sir Brojendra said that in regard to the three specified subjects, foreign affairs, communications and defence, innumerable intricate questions would arise and Baroda's representatives would have to make up their minds on them.

The Madras Ministry

Five more ministers have been appointed to the Madras Ministry. They are

Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar
.. Daniel Thomas
.. V. Kurmayya
.. Kala Venkata Rao
.. A. B. Shetty

Three of the five Ministers were in the Prakasam Ministry.

Prof. Bari Killed

Prof. Abdul Bari, President of the Bihar Provincial Congress Committee was waylaid and killed near Patna about 12 miles from Patna. It is not known whether this outrage has been committed by Policemen on strike or Leaguers.

Civilians Returning from India

Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary for India and Burma, stated in the House of Lords last week that, as a result of discussions with representatives of Service associations in India and Burma, a special branch, entitled the India and Burma Services Re-employment Branch, had already been added to the Services and General Department of the India Office to assist officers of the Secretary of State's services in India and Burma in this direction.

He was replying to the Earl of Scarborough, Conservative and former Under-Secretary for India, who had asked if, in the event of termination of appointment of a substantial number of European members of the services of India and Burma, the Government intended to set up an organisation to assist and advice them in obtaining further employment.

Partition of the Punjab

The Working Committee of the Punjab Provincial Congress Committee, at its meeting held last week at Amritsar considered the Congress Working Committee's resolution regarding the partition of the Punjab. In view of the opposition voiced by the Congressmen of the Rawalpindi Division about the proposal, the Working Committee decided to convene a meeting of the general body of the Provincial Congress on April 10. This will be preceded by an informal conference of all Congress Party members of Punjab Assembly and the Presidents and Secretaries of the District Congress Committees.

The Working committee adopted a resolution reiterating its faith in the unity of India and opposing all attempts to divide the country into a number of sovereign states.

Gandhiji sees Viceroy

Mahatma Gandhi saw the Viceroy yesterday and it is learned that the talks centred round the present political situation.

British Journal Vituperates**Congress India Wants Asian Leadership**

The British Weekly "Economist" in its latest issue tilts at the Asian Conference as a body convened by Congress India to bolster up its prestige. Says the Economist:

"There is little doubt that the Asian Relations Conference now taking place in Delhi aims at securing for Congress India the position of moral leadership in Asia to which Japan and China have aspired; and secondly, to isolate the Muslim League by direct contact between Congress and the Muslim countries of Western Asia and with Soviet Union."

"The Economist" adds: "The Muslim League, recognising this tactic, has denounced the Conference and decided to boycott it. The first consequence of the gathering, theoretically aimed at promoting amity among Asiatics, has been to add fuel to the flames of Indian civil discord."

New A'pura Scheme not Favoured

The proposal of the Government to remove about one hundred families from Ponnarunkulame, the site selected for the building of new Anuradhapura, has not found favour with the residents who are anxious to remain in the new town rather than move into a new area.

The proposal of the authorities is to shift these people beyond the limits of the new town, by giving them land there and providing houses at state expense. Already the land has been selected for this purpose and soon housing operation will begin.

This re-settlement scheme for these hundred families will be part of the rural reconstruction scheme which the Government Agent of the North Central Province is now pursuing in other parts of the Province.

INDONESIAN PREMIER IN INDIA

Dr. Sutan Sjahavit, Premier of Indonesia arrived in New Delhi yesterday to attend the Inter-Asian Conference.

"Vagana Salai"

The Vagana Salai of the Arasady Pillaiyar Temple, Vannarponnai will be opened by Mr. S. Natesan M. S. C. on Wednesday the 2nd inst. The ceremonies will be continued for the next two days.

NEWS IN BRIEF

17 new doctors passed out of the Medical College, according to the results of the last examination published on Thursday last.

Mr. C. H. Collins, Deputy Chief Secretary will act as Chief Secretary during the absence on leave of Sir Robert Drayton.

Mr. C. C. Somasegaram, Proctor has been appointed Crown Proctor in place of Mr. C. R. Thambiah who has resigned.

Dr. Cassius Perera became a Buddhist monk on Saturday last. He will henceforth be known as Bhikku Kassapa.

The authorities have decided to remove the liquor taverns which are now within the Anuradhapura area, to sites outside the town.

8000 tons of flour has been unloaded from a ship that arrived at the Colombo harbour from Australia on Friday last.

The results of the S. S. C. English Exam. held in November-December last year show that 2462 students have passed out of a total of 9,500 who sat for it.

Mr. Thomas Abraham a Ceylonese of Kuala Lumpur has been selected by the British Council to visit Britain to study cultural life and institutions there.

1000 tons of Mysore potatoes, if they are not required for internal requirements, will be sent to Ceylon according to a statement of the Government of India Food Secretary.

An attempt to form a Nazi underground group has been smashed according to a U. S. Army report. All the ring leaders in the attempt have been rounded up.

K. Suppiah and C. Chelliah who were found guilty of the murder of S. Thamby Pillai, manager of a temple at Karainagar, were sentenced to death by Justice Keuneman at the Jaffna Assizes last week.

The Madura Tamil Sangam's entrance, intermediate and final examinations for the degree of Pundit will be held in the Colombo centre at the Maligakanda Govt. School for 3 days from April 7.

A Music Society under the name of the Jaffna Sangeetha Kala Nilayam was inaugurated on Friday last at the Arasady Vinayagar Temple, Vannarponnai, with Messrs. S. P. Kandiah, R. C. Manmatharayan, K. Thambu and K. Charavanamuttu as President, Secretary, Treasurer and Music Director respectively.

MATRIMONIAL**Parameswaran - Saraswathy**

The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place according to Hindu rites on 2nd April, 1947, at 10 A. M. at the brides residence, of S. Parameswaran, Police Office, Mount Lavinia son of the late Mr. Supramaniam (F. M. S. Pensioner) and Mrs. Supramaniam of Neeraviady, Vannarponnai, with Saraswathy, daughter of Mr. V. Ramanathan (Retired Agricultural Instructor) and Mrs. Ramanathan of 223, Navanthurai Road, Vannarponnai. Friends and relations are cordially invited. Regret inability to extend individual invitations, Straits papers please copy.

Mis. 367 1-4-47.

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