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NO. 14.

Man's Interference with Nature

Do We Really Progress?

Cause of Socio-Economic Conflicts

(PROF. J. C. KUMARAPPA in the "Harijan")

SCIENCE is not the creation of man. Nature works in well-defined grooves according to immutable laws. When man understands these laws and reduces them to a system of knowledge we call it science. It follows, therefore, that any course of action to be termed scientific should conform to nature in all its bearings and where we deviate from nature, to that extent we are unscientific. Man may understand vaguely the lines on which nature works, and make use of that partial knowledge for his own purpose, deviating by so doing from the course ordained by nature. Such deviation will lead ultimately to his own destruction because he himself is a product of nature. Destruction so caused may be at his own hands or through malapplication of a partial understanding.

Progress

Progress signifies both the search after knowledge and truth as found in nature and its application to satisfy human needs. In the measure in which we are able to pull alongside nature's dictates, we shall be progressing in the right direction. But in so far as we are pulling against the course of nature, we shall be creating violence and destruction which may take the form of social conflicts, personal ill-health and the spread of anti-social feelings, such as hatred, suspicion and fear. From these symptoms we shall know whether we are progressing scientifically or not. If our course of action leads to goodwill, peace and contentment, we shall be on the side of progress, however little the material attainments may be and if it ends in dissatisfaction and conflict, we shall be retrogressing, however much in abundance we may possess material things.

Economic Activity

The activity of man to satisfy his elementary needs must, therefore, not merely produce the material goods but should also be conducive towards the growth and development of his own personality. When a man eats food it does not only satisfy his palate but replenishes the waste products of his body and maintains it in good condition and allows for growth and further development. If the food that he ate only satisfied the palate without contributing to the two other aspects of his needs, it will be of no use. If a person drank water sweetened by saccharin all the time, however

much he may like the sweet taste, he cannot enjoy good health and strength as all the elements necessary for his body building, maintenance, replacement of wastage are not present in proper proportions. Taste is a good thing but it is not all. The main function that food performs is performed after it has left our plate. It is the manner in which the food gets assimilated in the body that is going to tell ultimately. Similarly, work also must not be judged by its outward appearance,—nor by the quantity of things produced. Work should develop the human personality and be as food to all the human faculties. When we, through greed or false notions or a wrong sense of proportion, interfere with nature hoping to obtain short-cuts, we generally end up by being wasteful. Nature does not believe in short-cuts. The mills of God grind slowly. Hence in our hurry we often bring destruction on our heads and we imagine such quick results to be a sign of progress.

Food

For instance, nature packs up all nutritious articles e. g. foodgrains, fruits, etc. carefully in such a way that the ingredients are kept intact and in proper proportion as will be necessary for the users. But when we destroy nature's packing we create counter influences which also destroy the value of food.

Rice, to cite one example, is packed up well in the husk coated with bran and equipped with pericarp and the grain. When this is to be eaten all that we have to do is to dehusk the rice. Such dehusked rice, because of its nutritive nature, will be attacked by weevils, vermins, rats etc. Therefore when we require rice we should dehusk what is needed at the moment and keep the rest as paddy. Then alone we get the whole benefit from eating the cereal. But man in his hurry uses a rice mill and as he can not store rice when dehusked he proceeds to polish it and takes away all its nutritious elements. By so doing he no doubt increases the storage properties of rice but at the cost of its food value. This is an instance in which human interference with nature is thoroughly unscientific and injures man. Hence, rice mills are against progress and however skilfully the mechanism may have been devised, it is unscientific in the true sense.

(To be continued)

TRADE UNION RIGHTS

Demand By Clerical Service Union

The Jaffna Branch of the Government General Clerical Service Union at its first trade union rally held at the Town Hall, on Sunday last unanimously adopted a resolution reaffirming its demand for full trade union rights.

The resolution wished to convey to the authorities that any further procrastination in granting these rights might effect very seriously the morale of the service and the restiveness that was already prevailing might very well become out of control.

Mr. T. P. Aruliah, Chief Clerk, Jaffna Kachcheri, presided at the

The K'gama Temple Elephant

The Katragama Temple elephant is reported to have died of a colic or Valliamman Aru about 15 miles from Katragama on the Buttala road. Tradition has it that all elephants of the temple die at Valliamman Aru. This elephant was gifted to the temple by the late Mudr. K. V. Markandau.

morning sessions, at which Mr. Trevor Hulson, Trade Union Adviser to Government, spoke on Trade Unionism.

At the afternoon sessions, presided over by Mr. L. A. Perera, Vice-President of the parent Union, Colombo, Dr. N. M. Perera, said it was very heartening for them who were spending a major portion of their time organising the working class today, to find that there was, at long last, an awakening among the white-collared proletariat in Ceylon. He urged the members of the union to get their rights before the Parliament assemblies.

THE EAST AND AMERICA

WHAT are the cultural affinities and differences between the East and America? To what extent is it possible for a reunion of these two hemispheres based on their cultures and civilizations? These are the main problems Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy sets out to survey and suggest solutions in the chapter "Understanding and Reunion; An Oriental Perspective," which he contributes to "The Asian Legacy of American Life" edited by Dr. Arthur B. Christy.

To explore the possibilities of a reunion, Dr. Coomaraswamy premises, as a first pre requisite understanding, which means taking into account differences which exist today in the modern world. Fortunately, these differences between the east and the west, he says, have been a geographic accident, and that, so far as the *philosophia perennia* is concerned, a communal plane for understanding and consequent reunion a ready exists. Unlike jeremiads which wail "East is east and west is west and never the twain shall meet," his vision holds forth the hope that the twain meet—provided the initiative is undertaken by the west in a spirit of true humility.

Understanding, as he sees it, is at present obscured by the difference in values placed upon human progress. In the matter of art, too, the east stresses the vital role of persuasion which it plays in seeking to express truth effectively, while the west looks upon all art as some-

thing to appeal to the senses. In the one it seeks comprehension of meaning; in the other emotional experience, for its own sake. Views so divergent as these can find no possible ground for compromise—except in the *philosophia perennis* pervading the religious life of the east and the west. In short, the universality of God in his multifarious forms of human acceptance alone can make for a world reunion.

For this reason Dr. Coomaswamy envisages no gospel of hope in "scientific humanism", in which metaphysical reality is considered in relation to sense perception. He urges a return to the pristine cultivation of what amounts to "psychologists as the illative sense", which, like Love, sees not with the eyes but the mind. Nevertheless, it would be a fallacy to infer that, for a social coalescence between the east and the west, the west must turn to the traditional culture of the east and be carried away by its vortex. There could be no greater mistake for the east to attempt at proselytizing the west as it is for the west to convert the east to its ways of thinking. But the east could serve an object lesson, as a reminder to the west of its own traditional culture, from which it has wandered under the delusion of progress and upon which alone a structure for re-union can be successfully made.



Hindu Organ

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1947.

GOVERNMENT AND READY-MADE ESTATES

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF Knavesmere Estate is said to have sometimes received instructions from three different sources—the Land Commissioner's Department, the Assistant Government Agent's Office, Kegalle and the Co-operative department—and it is feared that the Estate may prove an outstanding failure unless the present policy of divided responsibility is immediately revised. Mr. Leonard W. Wirasinghe who has great experience as a planter says, "now that Knavesmere and the other lands acquired by Government have all been worked for nearly a year at a terrible loss to Government, it is my hope that the Minister and the Land Commissioner will condescend to take some hints from those who know even if the Government will not be paying for it.....Economy is also essential in estate management, so long as it does not impair efficiency.....I am still not in favour of the Government acquiring ready-made estates to run them as such, while millions of acres are waiting to be cultivated". The allottees in the estate are reported to be doing virtually no work. They are not amenable to discipline and are keen only about sharing the profits if any, and the progress made so far is due to casual labour. This is a sad state of affairs and ought to be remedied. We have often pointed out that it is not economical for Government to acquire ready-made estates. It is gratifying to note that the Land-Commissioner has felt the need to revise the policy regarding the acquisition of estates. The five points adumbrated by him are commendable. He has circularised all Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents defining the policy and procedure to be adopted in the acquisition of lands for village expansion. It is essential says Mr. Ranasinghe in Point I that the allottees be required to work as agricultural labourers on the estates for at least two years in order to qualify for membership of the Co-operative Union which will ultimately be responsible for the management of the Estate. Land should not be allotted to men who are unwilling to work. The purpose of acquiring estates as set out in point 3 shows that it becomes necessary to acquire

Compulsion in Co-ops.

Dr. Prasad's Advice

THE question whether co-operation can at all resort to compulsion in any form was answered by Babu Rajendra Prasad, member for Agriculture and Food Supplies Indian Interim Government Conference at Madras. According to Babu Rajendra Prasad there are certain activities in which compulsion should be resorted to. He said: "I now indicate only some of the points of principle which should receive the careful attention of the Conference. Of these the first and foremost is the suggestion to increase and widen the scope of co-operative activities from being very largely credit societies to multi-purpose societies. In this connection the question whether the liability of members should be limited or unlimited is one of fundamental significance.

"Another question of importance is whether co-operation can at all have resort to compulsion in any form, and if so, the extent to which it can go in that direction. Co-operation is based primarily on voluntary association and this should not be departed from. But there may be certain activities essential for economic progress, like consolidation of holdings, crop production or irrigation in which the desired object may not be attained without resort to compulsion and the question arises as to what may be regarded as essential schemes and what should be the proportion of the community which through co-operative societies could make its decisions binding on others.

"A third fundamental point requiring consideration is the extent of Governmental control, interference and assistance in the affairs of co-operative societies. Apart from these and such other questions, there are other recommendations dealing with details relating to each particular kind of activity that co-operative societies may undertake. Those relate to supply



(Babu R. Prasad)

of agricultural credit, co-operative farming, milk production and supply, co-operative marketing of agricultural produce, small and subsidiary industries, consumers' co-operative, urban credit, co-operative housing societies—urban and rural; co-operative insurance, including life insurance, fire insurance, cattle and crop insurance, general administration and training of workers and propaganda etc

"We have to tackle the problem of the poverty of our masses and improvement of agriculture and animal husbandry and expansion and improvement of industries are essential for this purpose. We have to tackle the problem of illiteracy and insanitation and disease and in all these and many other spheres, co-operation has a great part to play. The prospects are vast and varied and it requires a correspondingly increasing interest on the part of the people at large to be evinced and taken in the work. That depends upon the number of workers available and even more upon the qualities of head and heart and the equipment of those who will choose this line of public service. It requires an ever increasing number of enthusiastic public spirited workers, imbued fully with the spirit of co-operation and in the difficult and interesting times ahead."

A Public Lecture

Sri Muruga Kripinanda Vari the talented Lyric Lecturer from South India who has been holding a series of lectures in Jaffna for the past two months, will deliver a lecture on Tamil and Saivism at the Jaffna Hindu Tamil School, Vannarponnai on Sunday the 17th instant at 4 p. m.

Nearly 608 motor vehicles were registered during April according to a statement issued by the Commissioner of Motor Transport.

a developed estate solely for affording relief to excess population; and that only such extent of the estate as is required for the accommodation of the excess population by the creation of new homesteads (not exceeding one acre each) should be acquired. It is to be hoped that the Minister and others responsible for the acquisition of estates like Knavesmere will bear in mind that the money invested on acquisition is the poor tax-payer's money and that economy is essential regarding the management of such estates,

Public Meeting To Express Sorrow

Under the auspices of the Ramakrishna Mission and the Vivekananda Society, Colombo a meeting will be held on Sunday, the 18th May, 1947 at 5-30 p. m at the Ramakrishna Mission Hall 44th Lane, Welawatte, to express sorrow at the passing away of The Hon'ble Mr. N. Nadarajah, K. C., Commissioner of Assize, President of the Vivekananda Society, and member of the Board of Management of the Ramakrishna Mission. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Nagalingam, K. C. will preside.

The following are among those expected to speak:—The Hon'ble Mr. D. S. Senanayake; The Hon'ble Mr. C. W. W. Kannanara; The Hon'ble Mr. George E. de Silva; The Hon'ble Dr. L. A. B. Japakse, K. C.; Sir Gerard Wijeyekoon; Dr. W. Ivor Jennings; Mr. N. K. Chckay; Mr. R. R. Crossette Thambyah; Mr. J. A. Martensz; Dr. A. Kandiah; Mr. H. M. Desai and Mr. A. M. K. umaraswamy—Cor.

A vote of condolence on the untimely death of Mr. N. Nadarajah K. C. the Patron of the Colombo Tamil Kalagam, was passed at a Special General Meeting of the Kalagam held on 11-5-47.

Estate Acquisition

Land Commissioner's Flucidation

The Land Commissioner Mr. A. G. Ranasinghe, has requested, in a circular to the Government Agents, that the following considerations should be borne in mind in selecting developed estates for the purpose of village expansion.

1. "That it is now the settled policy to attempt to work all acquired estates on co-operative lines—the selected allottees being required to work as agricultural labourers on the estates for at least two years in order to qualify for membership of the Co-operative Union which will ultimately be responsible for the management of the estate;
2. "That it is therefore essential that the selected estates should be of sufficient extent to be managed as profit-making units—in no case should an estate of 50 acres in extent or under be selected;
3. "That if it becomes necessary to acquire a developed estate solely for the purpose of affording relief to excess population, only such extent of the estate as is required for the accommodation of the excess population by the creation of new homesteads (not exceeding 1 acre each) should be acquired;
4. "That 'excess population' is not necessarily identical with high density of population in a given area, but occurs when the number of persons in the area exceeds the quantity of means of subsistence made available by direct cultivation or by exchange of possessions and labour for food and other necessities;
5. "That the undesirability of reducing to an appreciable extent the national income should prevent recommendations being made for acquisition of well-developed and well-managed estates."

PERSONAL

Mr. P. Thambipillai Station Master Colombo Fort has been transferred to Kelaniya Railway Station and assumed duties there succeeding Mr. I. D. Peiris Station Master Kelaniya'.

Mr. A. Mahendrarajah, son of Mr. K. S. Arulnandhy, Deputy Director of Education was sworn in as an Advocate on Monday last in the presence of Mr. Justice Nagalingam,

The following officers have been promoted from Grade I to Special Grade of the Executive Clerical Class, General Clerical Service:

Mr. V. S. Annamalai, Clerk, Jaffna Kachcheri.
Mr. T. Thiagarajah, Chief Clerk, Court of Requests, Colomba.

Sri A. Sivagurunathar who has just come from Kuala Lumpur is now staying in Kopay North.

Junior School Certificate (English) Examination December 1947

Application for the above examination close on 1st October 1947, copies of the syllabus and regulations can be had from the Secretary. Bound copies of all questions set for the 1946 examination are available at 75 cts. per copy.

C. S. Ponnuthurai
Secretary
J. S. C. Exam. Council
Jaffna College
Vaddukoddai
(Mis. 27, 16.)

Residential Girls' College at Palaly

Hindu Board's New Venture

"THE diabolical features contained in the draft amendment to the Education Ordinance need not frighten any self-respecting Hindu into thinking that new Hindu Schools will not be registered for Government aid hereafter", observed Mr. S. Rajaratnam, a former Legislative Councillor and Secretary of the Hindu Board of Education, at the Annual General Meeting of the Hindu Board Teachers' Association, held in the spacious R. A. F. Officers' Hall at Palaly, recently purchased by the Board for establishing a residential Hindu Girls' College.

On being invited by Mr. S. Swaminathan, B.A., Principal, Jaffna Saiva Training College, the newly elected President of the Hindu Board Teachers' Association, to explain the position of the proposed Residential Girls' College Mr. Rajaratnam stated that the diabolical features contained in the draft amendment in the Education Ordinance need not frighten any self-respecting Hindu into thinking that new Hindu Schools would not be registered for aid hereafter. This Board had acquired 15 buildings in all with a floor space of over 45,000 sq. ft. on that lonely site of 20 acres. Five more acres were to be bought. The actual worth of these acquisitions would be over two lacs; but they did cost the Board only Rs. 36,000/-.

Continuing, the speaker said that two questions had been often put to him, viz., when will the Board start the College and what will be the position of the College, if the proposed amendment to the Education Ordinance was passed by the State Council? His reply was he believed in the collective wisdom of the State Council in spite of a few misguided members trying to take away from the good people of Lanka all opportunities of performing Dharma and of earning merit by opening new schools. The School in the East is considered as sacred as the temple, a church, the mosque and vihara.

If by accident the speaker said the State Council should pass this amendment it would be the sacred duty of every voter in Ceylon to cast his vote in favour of the candidates seeking election to the Parliament, only, if the candidates would give the undertaking that they would allow the different denominations in Ceylon to open schools for the education of their own children. Then and only then will there be salvation for Ceylon.

Mr. Rajaratnam then proceeded to state that the Board had the idea of opening the College on the *Vijayathasamy day* in October this year. After Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, Retired Government Agent, had given up the idea of contesting the *Kopay* Constituency in his favour, two gentlemen from outside the Constituency were electioneering in the area with the result that he was unable to devote to the service of the Board all the time and energy necessary for such an undertaking until the elections were over.

The speaker expressed his admiration for the members of the Association who from time to time had at great sacrifice helped the

The All Indonesian Congress

The All Indonesian Central Organisation of Trade Unions, has invited the Ceylon Trade Union Federation to send a delegation to the National Congress of their Organisation to be held from May 16th to 18th 1947, at Malang in Java.

In view of the present labour situation in this country the Ceylon Trade Union Federation is not sending a delegation to the National Congress. However it has sent a message of greetings expressing the solidarity of the trade union movement of both countries in the fight for political, economic and social emancipation.

It has also urged the creation, through the World Federation of Trade Unions, an international trade department for the protection and promotion of the interests of plantation workers. —Cor.

TENDER NOTICE

The Chairman, Tender Board, General Treasury, Colombo, will receive tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday June 10, 1947, for silt clearing and widening Koerai Vaikal in Maravanpulavu N. P. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the Government Agent, N. P. Jaffna, on a deposit of Rs. 100/- for each form. Further particulars can be had from him, (G. 25. 16 & 20-5-47).

TENDER NOTICE

The Chairman, Tender Board, General Treasury, Colombo, will receive tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday June 10, 1947, for the necessary improvements to Kunchikulam alias Manipay kulam and its inlet channel in Manipay, N. P. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the Government Agent, N. P. Jaffna, on a deposit of Rs. 100/- for each form. Further particulars can be had from him, (G. 27. 16 & 20-5-47).

Board to carry out great undertakings. In 1929, they bought the ten acres of land on which the Jaffna Saiva Training College and the two Orphanages stand, at Thinnevely. This year, they had decided to buy all lands and buildings sufficient to accommodate 1000 students in the College and 550 Boarders. So far they had paid Rs. 22,500 and the balance of Rs. 13,500 they had undertaken to pay before the end of this month. Thus they had brought to bear on the Hindus of Ceylon such moral force as would compel them to complete the undertaking so nobly begun by the teachers (applause).

After the minutes of the previous meeting, the Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Statement of accounts were adopted, the election of Office Bearers was proceeded with and resulted as follows:—

—President: Mr. S. Swaminathan, Vice-Presidents: Messrs. M. V. V. Tialigam, R. Maruthaiyanar, S. Seenivasan, V. Suppiah, P. Ponnambalam, Secretary: Mr. V. Kandhar, Asst. Secretary: Mr. E. Coomaraswamy, Treasurer: Mr. K. Somasunderam, and a managing Committee of nine.

Anthonipillai Externed

Madras Government's Action

Mr. S. C. C. Anthonipillai, member of the Bolshevick-Leninist Party, and President of the Madras Labour Union, has returned to Ceylon having been externed by the Madras Government.

Mr. Anthonipillai was arrested in Madras under the Public Safety Act towards the end of March in connection with the strike of over 15,000 workers at the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills.

Mr. Anthonipillai told a 'Press' reporter that after his arrest he was kept in solitary confinement in Rajamundry jail. "Suddenly on the 11th of May I was taken out and brought to Dhanuskodi under Police escort. After the boat I was put on had passed Indian territorial waters, I was served with two orders by the officer who was escorting me announcing my release and my extradition."

Mr. Anthonipillai said that the strike of the workers which began on March 11 is still on. It assumed a political complexion with his arrest.

Referring to the communal situation in Madras province, Mr. Anthonipillai said that with the growth and consolidation of the Madras Labour Union communalism had almost ceased to exist among the working classes.

Franco May Quit!

Cryptic Allusion in Public Speech

General Franco of Spain said last week that if he did not have the "absolute certainty of bringing you (Spain) into a good harbour... I would leave a free field and go away."

The General made this allusion to the possibility of his leaving his position, in a speech of thanks following award of gold medals at the opening of the 25th annual Valencia Trade Fair.

General Franco gave no indication that he was actually considering such a step, however.

In Bride Market

A 'black-market' in bridegrooms is thriving among the Hindu Amils of Sind. Although the Government has controlled dowry transactions and put a limit of Rs. 1,000, it is reported that in Hyderabad (Sind) last week some of the 'grooms' would not allow nuptial ceremonies to proceed until the parents of the brides paid them sums ranging from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 30,000.

He was also of opinion that the prestige of the Congress Ministry in Madras had been lowered considerably in the eyes of the mass of the people owing to excessive powers which Government had arrogated to itself under the Public Safety Act of 1947.

"G. G. IS OUR HERO"

Workers' Retort to Dr. N. M. Perera

THAT Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam would never join the 'Senanayake Caucus' even if he is offered a Ministership after the elections and that he would lay down his life for the cause of workers rather than be a tool in the hands of capitalists was the opinion vehemently expressed by a section of the crowd at a public meeting of the Ceylon Omnibus Workers' Union held on Sunday last, in protest to the remarks of Dr. N. M. Perera who said that he learned from reliable sources that Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam would, after entry into the new Parliament, accept a portfolio from Mr. Senanayake, the prospective Prime Minister.

Dr. Perera who presided traced the events that led to the Peninsula-wide Bus Workers' Strike and said that the Bus owners who had the powerful backing of the present Board of Ministers should be taught a lesson once and for all. They should be made to realise the stark truth that there is no place for capitalism and capitalists in the new era that is to usher in. "The present Board of Ministers are going to meet their Waterloo very soon, and like the swan are singing their last song" declared Dr. Perera and continued: "As a last resort to save themselves from disaster, these men have organised the U. N. P, a party without any solid basis and which does not derive its authority from the masses. It is not a party in the true

sense of the word, but a clique of rich Chettiers, Black market 'kings' the new type of *mudalalis*—the bus *mudalalis*, and last but not least in importance your Mr. Mahadeva. They are the king makers of Ceylon today! I do not want you to join those who are sitting on the fence and who in the end will join the capitalist class. I am in a position to state that Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam will join the Senanayake group after the General Election and accept a portfolio in the new Cabinet."

Hardly were these last words of Dr. Perera interpreted into Tamil when people from a section of the gathering started shouting "G. G. is our hero. He will not accept a portfolio from Mr. Senanayake. He will lay down his life for us workers. You must withdraw that statement."

Dr. Perera, after an interruption of several minutes then said: "I am indeed glad to hear that Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam will never join the Senanayake caucus. It is pleasant to hear from Mr. Ponnambalam's supporters that he will not support the U. N. P."

Dr. Perera next dwelt on the present unsatisfactory system of voting and characterised it as a device by those in power today against those "who are unable to read and write."

Messrs. C. Tharmakulasingham, Mr. P. Nagalingam, and several others spoke.

Letters to the Editor

Kataragama for the Hindus

Sir,

The resolution adopted unanimously by the Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabai demanding that the Hindu Shrine at Kataragama should be handed over to be managed by the Hindus has not come a day too soon, and your learned editorial on it in your issue of the 6th inst. deserves to be studied by the Hindus and acted upon. While the Buddhists of Mahayana and Hinayana sects are united in demanding that Buddha-Gaya should be handed over to them, the Hindus should not view the state of their Holy Shrine of Kataragama with equanimity and complaisance. It is worth remembering that every true Hindu desires to make pilgrimage to all shrines from Mt Kailas in the North to Mt Katragam in the Southern-most part.

The other prominent Hindu bodies like the Vivekananda Society, Colombo; Sri Ramakrishna Mission, Colombo; The Kathirgama Thondar Sabai Colombo; The Colombo Saiva Paripalana Sabha; The Saiva Maha Sabai, Kandy; the Anuradhapura Vivekananda Society; should follow the lead given by the Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabai, and pass similar resolutions, and copies of those resolutions should be forwarded to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Acharya Kripalani, prominent Buddhist leaders in Ceylon, and the Leader of the State Council, Ceylon, for early compliance.

The Chief Justice of Travancore, Tirupugalmani T. M. Krishnaswamy Iyer who visited Kataragama just a year ago has said that Kataragama is so Holy that it "appropriates the divine attributes of Chidambaram and Tirupathi." The Hindus make pilgrimage in thousands not only from Ceylon but also from North and South India as well. Simon Casie Chitty in his Gazetteer of 184 states as follows:-

"So great is the veneration in which the shrine of the God (Kataragama) is held, that pilgrims from every part of India resort to worship it, frequently bringing with them pots of water from Ganges at Benares slung on cross bamboos."

Mr. T. Steel, A. G. A. Hambantota in his administration report, 1873, observes as follows:-

"During the fortnight of the festival, however, crowds of pilgrims, not only from all districts in Ceylon, but also from distant parts in India, and occasionally some even from Kashmir flock to the place."

Our late Sir P. Arunachalam regrets very much the scandalous administration of this Holy Shrine and his striking observations are worth to be quoted below:-

"This old and once wealthy foundation has for years been in a woeful plight, from loss of State Patronage and supervision which it enjoyed under native rule and owing to the corruption and dishonesty of the Sinhalese trustees and priests, in whom under the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance its administration is vested. Its extensive estates have mostly passed into other hands, the property that remains is neglected, the temple buildings are in disrepair and the daily services are precarious. The Hindu pilgrims however, continue to flock in thousands pouring their offerings without stint and wistfully looking forward for the day which will see the end of the scandalous

administration." (Wide Page 119 Studies and Translations. Philosophical and Religious by Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam).

Will all our Hindu State Councillors take up this matter with the appropriate authorities and bring it to a happy and successful conclusion, by presenting a united front? I would also take this opportunity to appeal to the Hon'ble Mr A Mahadeva, on behalf of the Hindus, to take up this noble cause with his worthy colleague, the Hon'ble Mr D.S. Senanayake, the leader of the State Council, who is also the present greatest Buddhist leader, and who I think will play fair by the Hindus in restoring Kataragama to the Hindus. Equity demands it. The Hon'ble Mr A. Mahadeva will thereby, not only fulfill the desire of his noble father, but also earn the gratitude and affection of several millions of Hindus both in Ceylon and in the sub-continent of India, if only he could bring it to a successful conclusion.

Yours etc.,

Colombo. ARUL TYAGARAJAH.
11th May, 1947.

A Hindu Rest House In Colombo

Sir,

I shall be thankful if you will be so good as to publish this communication from me addressed to you on the eve of my departure to India after a short visit to the Island.

1. The establishment of a Rest House in Colombo for Hindu pilgrims and preachers who may happen to visit the Island is an urgent requirement today. I regret to say that though there are two Hindu institutions in Ceylon in the Ramakrishna Mission and the Vivekananda Society, yet one of them is unwilling to give shelter to members of other like institutions in India, while the other has no accommodation which Hindu visitors from India might avail themselves of. Most of the hotels in Colombo are managed by Christians and all of them cater for non-vegetarians. I therefore earnestly appeal to the Hindus in Ceylon to establish a Rest House in Colombo to give shelter to visitors who come from India on various religious and charitable missions.

2. I have observed in the local newspapers that Ceylon Buddhists are seeking to obtain custody of the temple at Buddhagaya. Though there are many things involved in the question of the rights to this temple and its property, nevertheless without entering into any controversy, I wish to appeal to my Buddhist brethren that all endeavours be made to hand back the custody of the temple at Kataragama to the Hindus of Ceylon. If that is done, it would make it easier for the Indian Sanyasins to place Buddhagaya in the hands of the Buddhists.

3. I am thankful to those members of the Vivekananda Society, Colombo, who were kind enough to assist me in carrying out my present mission, and also to the other gentlemen who rendered me assistance both in Colombo and up-country.

Yours etc.,

Swami Sarbananda Puri,
Hon'y. General Secretary,
Navaratna Smriti Sangha,
Joint Secretary, All India
Sanyasin Sangham.

VEDANTA MOOLA SARAM

OR

THE ESSENCE OF THE UPANISHADS

(By A Science Graduate)

(Continued from our issue of 9-5 47)

LVII

XIV. THE TAITTIRIYA UPANISHAD (Concluded.)

III Bhriгу Valli

This chapter describes the discoveries and experiences of Bhriгу son of Varunan, regarding Brahman. It is a sort of supplement to the Brahmananda Valli and contains practically the same teachings in a different form. It begins with an enquiry by Bhriгу, who asked his father to teach him about Brahman. Varunan told him that food, breath, eye, ear, mind and speech,—that from which these are born, by which they live and into which they return (in the end), that is Brahman. Try to know it. Bhriгу performed *tapas* (penance or austerity) and discovered that food is Brahman, as from food all beings are produced, by it they are sustained and to it they return (in the end). He (seems to have doubted the correctness of his discovery on second thoughts and) asked for enlightenment (again). Varunan told him again to try and know Brahman by performance of *tapas*, which is (the means of knowing) Brahman. He performed further *tapas* and found that Pranana (breath) is Brahman. (Doubts seem to have arisen again in his mind and) on the father's instructions he performed more and more *tapas* again and again and found successively that Manas (mind), then Vignanam (intelligence or knowledge or understanding) and then Anandam (bliss) are Brahman. This is the Ananda Vidya of Bhriгу and Varunan, founded on the highest Akas (in the ether of the heart). He who knows this becomes exalted, rich in food, and great in fame. Food should not be despised or thrown away...It should be acquired and multiplied...and it should be given to others who are in need of it...If one gives out food in abundance, it comes to him in abundance; if he gives in moderate quantities it comes in moderately; and if he gives in niggardly fashion, he gets it sparingly.—In other words, as you sow, so will you reap.

As preservation (of what is acquired) in speech, as action in the hands, as motion in the feet, as voiding in the anus, as satisfaction in rain, as power in lightning, as raknawn in cattle, as light in the stars, as everything in the Akas, thus is Brahman to be meditated upon. He who worships (Him) as the support (of everything) he becomes supported, he who worships (Him) as great becomes great...he who worships (Him) as Brahman becomes possessed of Brahman...he who is in the Parushan (man) and He who is in the Sun, both are one.

The Upanishad concludes as follows:—Whoever thus knows, after having abandoned (the desires of) this world and attaining the Annamaya or Food-God, the Pranamaya or Breath-God, the Manomaya or Mind-God, the Vignanamaya or Intelligence-God, and the Anandamaya or Bliss-God, enters and takes possession of these worlds and, assuming whatever forms he likes and enjoying whatever food (enjoyment) he wishes, he sits down and sings this Saman: Oh! wonder! wonder! I am food! I am food! I am food! I am the food-eater! I am the food-eater! I am the food-eater! I am the prolific food-maker! I am the prolific food-maker! I am the prolific food-maker! I transcend all the universe. Before the Devas (I was) in the centre of all that is immortal. Whoso gives me away, he indeed preserves me. Him who eats the food, I eat as food. I am dazzling bright as the sun. Whoever thus knows (realizes) (attains all this). This is the Upanishad (X-5 & 6).—The word 'food' (அன்னம், Annam) in this Saman indicates whatever is eaten or enjoyed, enjoyment generally, happiness, bliss. The sense of the song is: I am bliss, the enjoyer thereof and its prolific parent. What a wonder it is that I should be all these three rolled into one! I transcend the worlds and am the central pivot thereof. Whoever makes others happy, he indeed is happy. Whoever is selfish, he perishes. I am shining brightness (or purity) personified. The *summum bonum* of our existence is to realize this.

The above Saman or song of ecstasy with which our Upanishad concludes is another paean of triumph of the emancipated soul similar to those of Trisanku mentioned earlier in this Upanishad, of Vama Devan of the Aitareya and Brihad Aranyaka Upanishads, &c. Cf. the following lines from the Devaram, among others:

சாமார்க்கும் குடி அன்னைமாம், சமனை அஞ்சேராம்,
சகலத்தில் இடம்பிடிபேராம், கடலை இல்லேராம்,
வழாப்பேராம், பிணை அந்நேராம், பணியேராம் அன்னைமாம்,
இடம்பிடி என்னைமாம், அன்பம் இல்லை,...

We are not subject to any (king), we fear not (even) Death, we shall not suffer in hell, we feel no pain, we rejoice (in ecstasy), we know not what disease is, we shall bow down to none, we are ever happy and never miserable...

விடைபாசம் விரும்பி என் உன்சாத் திருந்தாம், இனி வரும் இன்கு
அடைபா அயலம், அருவினை சார, சமனை அஞ்சேராம்,...

The Rider on the Bull (God) took pleasure in being seated in my heart, no grief can afflict me hereafter, neither will any sin approach me, I fear not Death.

...என் அஞ்சாத யாதொன்றும் இல்லை, அஞ்ச விரும்பதும் இல்லை.

There is nothing we are afraid of, nothing can frighten us,

INDIAN NEWS FRONT

BRITISH GOVERNMENT HOPEFUL

Cabinet Mission Plan to be Followed?

Congress Executive

The Congress President, Acharya J. B. Kripalani, announces that in view of the change in the date of the Viceroy's conference with the leaders, the meeting of the Working Committee, which was called on May 16 has been postponed to May 31 and subsequent days. The time and place of the meeting will be announced later.

League Committee Meeting Put Off

Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, General Secretary, All-India Muslim League, announces that the emergency meeting of the Working Committee which was to be held in Delhi on May 18 has been postponed to the first week of June. The exact date of the meeting will be announced later.

British Cabinet's Attitude

The question whether power is to be transferred to a united or divided India will provide the crucial theme of the conference of Indian leaders called by the Viceroy, Viscount Mountbatten, according to authoritative London quarters, radios Fraser Weighon, *Reuters*' Political Correspondent. Despite some reports to the contrary, the British Government and Viceroy, it is understood, have not departed from their conviction that from the political, economic and defence points of view, it would be to India's best advantage to seek her independence in a united country. To that extent, nothing has yet taken the place of the Cabinet Mission Plan of May 16 last year. The Viceroy and the British Cabinet, in the view of informed quarters, will not of course be parties to the forcing of any particular decision upon India. At the same time, the British Government, in view of the time limit between now and the final transfer of power, evidently feels its responsibility to give a clear lead.

Ismay's Mission

Lord Ismay went to London with three main purposes—first, to give Prime Minister Attlee and his colleagues, Lord Mountbatten's detailed appreciation of the general situation, which reports from India for some time have indicated as seriously deteriorating; second, an assessment of the Viceroy's detailed discussions with India's chief political representatives and third, to outline to the Cabinet the Viceroy's provisional conclusion as to the steps that should be taken to set the machinery for the transfer of power into operation. Those following the situation here are convinced that Government still entertains the hope that when the moment comes for Indian leaders to take the final decision on the fundamentals of the transfer, they may sink political differences to reach some compromise on the basis of the Cabinet Mission Plan.

No Conditions For Transfer

Nevertheless, the British Declaration of February 20 of this year, observers point out, imposes no conditions upon India for the transfer. It merely announces in categorical terms that the British propose to leave India on or before June next year, and while expressing the firm conviction that the country's interests will be best served by political unity, clearly indicate that the final responsibility for a united India or a partitioned India or any other form of constitutional solution must be India's alone. There is no reason to think that any fundamental

change in outlook has since taken place in the British Cabinet's mind. What is clear is that the general state of affairs in India and the short period left in which to fulfil the Declaration of February 20 demand speedy action now. Authoritative quarters do not disguise the fact that they consider it vital for the Indian representatives to face the necessity of deciding finally—in weeks rather than months—on the basis on which India as a whole wishes to accept the transference of responsibility.

Sri Aurobindo's Views

Sri Aurobindo Ghose who is now at Pondichcheri has expressed the view that the partition of Bengal is imperative if India is partitioned. He adds that a united Bengal is possible only in a United India. A telegram giving this opinion has been received from Sri Aurobindo Ghose by a prominent leader of Bengal who had wired to him asking for his views on the Bengal partition question.

OBITUARY

MR. S. SUNDARESWARAN

We regret to record the premature death of Mr. S. Sundareswaran the eldest son of Mr. A. R. Shanmugaratnam, Principal, Govt. Training College, Kopy, on 5-5-47 at the age of 20. The deceased was ailing only for a short time. The remains were cremated according to Hindu rites the next day in the presence of a large number of friends and relations.

MRS. S. THAIYALMUTTU

The death occurred of Mrs. S. Thaiyalmuttu widow of the late Mr. M. Sabapathy Pillai, teacher Jaffna Hindu College, mother of Mr. S. Balasubramaniam, Secretary Urban Council Jaffna, mother-in-law of Mr. V. Ponnuswamy of the Mannar Kachcheri, and grand-mother of Miss Padmawathy Ponnuswamy, teacher, Jaffna Hindu College on Sunday last (11-5-47) at "Sandara Giri" the residence of her son-in-law at Van-East. The deceased was 71 years old at the time of her death. The remains were cremated on Monday at the Kombayanmanal Crematorium according to Hindu rites in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends.

Ceylon Government Railway NOTICE

The Railway Level Crossing at 85 miles 43 chains, Northern Line, near Maho Railway Station, will be closed for vehicular traffic from 9.0 p. m. on 28-5-47 till 3.0 a. m. on 29-5-47 for effecting repairs.

During the period of closure, urgent traffic will be assisted over the crossing.

J. E. S. BODGER,
General Manager.

17th April, 1947.
G. 29, 16

Distribution of Dried Chillies

Dried Chillies will be issued to all consumers in the Jaffna District other than those served by Co-operative Stores at the rate of one (1) ounce per consumer for period 19-5-47 to 25-5-47.

M. SRIKANTHA
for Govt. Agent, N. P.
Jaffna, 13th May, 1947.
G. 30, 16,

Letters To The Editor

Conversion Report

Sir.—Anyone who would now go through the conversion table for the Executive Clerical Class Gr. 11 of the General Clerical Service appearing on page 73 of Sessional Paper X of 1947 (Final Report of the Conversion Committee) along with paragraphs 14 and 15 of Sessional Paper XII of 1945 (Reorganisation of the General Clerical Service) with any degree of closeness will not fail to think for a few moments at least that the members of the Conversion Committee must have had acutely some deep grudge against this set of people namely those who were recruited to the General Class of this service between the years 1934 and 1938 and were promoted to the Executive Clerical Class on the results of the examinations held in 1942 and 1944. Otherwise there can be no reason for them to have overlooked this most glaring and grievous anomaly whilst rectifying very much lesser anomalies in all other cases.

To see justice done even at this stage, it is not at all too late since this could be done without affecting any part of the Final Report of the Conversion Committee. All that is required is to add a proviso to the table referred to above by means of a Treasury Circular that in case of officers promoted to the Executive Clerical Class Gr. 11 on the results of the examinations held in 1942 and 1944 under the new scheme of Wedderburn, his salaries are to be converted not on the basis of salaries drawn by them in December 1945 but on the hypothetical point of salary that would have been reached by them in December 1945, had they been originally placed on Rs 1044/- with effect from their dates of promotion to the Executive Clerical Class Gr. 11 or 1-1-38 fixed for the General Class in the same Sessional Paper XII of 1945 whichever is later instead of from 1-10-45 arbitrarily fixed as in the Sessional Paper XII of 1945.

No sane or clear thinking man can reasonably deny that the General Class and the Executive Class are part and parcel of one and the same scheme of General Clerical Service which was reorganised in one and the same Sessional Paper XII of 1945 and the treatment given to this identical set of officers while all others of the service were getting real benefits at every revision of salaries during this decade was most inequitable. Those who joined this grade before 1942 and after 1944 cannot have any grievance since the former were not subjected to the "four years compulsory service in the General Class" rule and had to stand the examination in Government Accounts, Regulations etc., under the new scheme and the latter had already been paid accordingly.

Yours etc
TAX PAYER

Colombo
8-5-47

Conditions For Mr Mahadeva's Return

Sir.—If Mr Mahadeva wishes to be returned as the representative of Jaffna, he should convince the Tamils that he is not a yesman of the Senanayake caucus. To quote Mr Kennemen the service attitude of Mr Mahadeva is mistakenly called his co-operating policy! To refute this charge Mr Mahadeva

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three men were sentenced to death at the Colombo Assizes on Friday last.

The Royal family has returned to England after their South African tour.

Another ship with 8,887 tons of rice from Brazil arrived in Colombo on Wednesday last.

The name of the Colombo Tamil Kalagam has been changed to Colombo Tamil Sangam.

An Assistant Railway Fireman named Joseph was sentenced to one month's imprisonment by the Anuradhapura Magistrate for having transported 10 measures of rice by train to Jaffna without a permit.

The employees of the Colombo Municipal Council are on strike. They have been offered the option of resuming work by today (Friday). Failing this they will be regarded as having vacated their posts.

A large consignment of what was purported to be black gram awaiting despatch in a Railway Wagon from Anuradhapura to Jaffna was found to be country rice. The owner of the cart and the carter who had transported the bags to the station were charged at the Anuradhapura Magistrate Court and were allowed bail in Rs. 1000 each.

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Mis 25, 13 & 16.

should meet the Sinhalese and Muslim leaders and have the following five items done.

- 1. Dissolve the Sinhala Maha Sabha.
- 2. Dissolve the Ceylon Muslim League.
- 3. Design a new National flag for Ceylon.
- 4. Instead of three Sinhalese and two non-Sinhalese Vice-Presidents the U. N. P. should have only two non-Sinhalese Vice Presidents.
- 5. Give assurance that four out of the ten Ministers in the new Parliament will be non-Sinhalese.

If Mr Mahadeva cannot arrange to have these done it would not only be wise but most appropriate for Mr Mahadeva who prefers to call himself a Ceyloner to contest the Colombo Central Multiple Constituency instead of contesting the Tamil leader in the Tamil Capital.

Yours etc
S. K. Vadivale,
Jaffna, 12th May 1947,

RED MASS

The Annual Red Mass for Catholic Judges and Lawyers and their families will be held this year at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotehena on Whit Sunday 25th May, at 9 a. m.

The Bishop of Chilaw will say Mass and preach.

Sgd/ J. B. GREGORY,
O. M. I.

(Mis. 28, 16)

x x x

The French Government has been granted a loan of 250,000,000 dollars from the World Bank.

x x x

The Public Works Department has estimated that this year the cost of maintenance of the roads in its care will amount to Rs. 9,210,000.

x x x

According to Mr. C. Jinarajadasa, President of the International Theosophical Society there are over 250 Buddhist schools in Europe today.

x x x

About 150 textile coupon books have mysteriously disappeared from the Textile Control Head Office at Colombo. These books belonged to deceased persons.

x x x

Negotiations between the French Government and Dr. Ho Chi Minh's Administration will be started before this week-end according to unconfirmed reports from Saigon.

WANTED

Wanted by the Government Agent, N. P., Jaffna, an acting Cultivation Overseer for the Iranamadu Tank Area. Minimum educational qualification is Junior School Certificate (English). The candidate selected should reside at Kilinochchi and work under the immediate direction and supervision of the Village Cultivation Officer, Kilinochchi. The duties involve travelling and the maintenance of a bicycle is necessary. The appointment will be non-pensionable on a daily pay of Rs. 2-20 plus war allowance at Government rates and terminable on a month's notice on either side; but the selected candidate will be eligible for consideration on his merits when the post is filled by a permanent appointment on a salary of Rs. 660 - 42 - Rs. 1164 per annum. A bicycle allowance of Rs. 7/- p. m. will be paid.

Only those between the ages of 21 and 30 need apply.

Application on forms to be obtained on or before 30-5-47 from the Jaffna Kachcheri, should reach the Government Agent on or before 15-6-47.

(G, 24, 16)

x x x

The Italian Government has sent a letter to the Secretary General of the U. N. O. asking for admission as a Member State

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