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The Trinity Of Rural Reconstruction

GOOD - WILL, HUMAN SYMPATHY AND CO-OPERATION

Revitalising Village Life

ACHIEVEMENTS OF RAIGAM RURAL RECONSTRUCTION SOCIETY

"To my mind the weakest link in the whole system of educational and social organization in this country is the absence of any kind of possibility whereby those at the bottom of the ladder can reach the advantages now enjoyed by their more fortunate confreres in the towns. Our educational system must be designed to give every boy and girl an opportunity for the best that exists. Exceptional opportunity for exceptional ability is indispensable. I would most earnestly commend this to the consideration of the thinking Public of the country. The taxpayer comes nearer to getting a hundred cents on the rupee for his outlay on this than in any other field of public administration."

Thus concluded Mr Wilmot A. Perera his Presidential address at the annual meeting of the Raigam Korale Rural Reconstruction Society held last week.

The following are extracts from his address:

I would like to deal very briefly with the factors which led us to organise a movement for revitalising village life. Ceylon is a village nation and it is only as it should be that Rural Reconstruction should have its birth in the Raigam Korale—the most densely populated rural area of the country.

We are distinctly proud of having launched this movement in our country. The term Rural Reconstruction did not find a place in the vocabulary of the Ceylon Public until a short time ago. It must, however, not be forgotten that it is a world problem, which arose out of industrial development at the expense of agriculture and of the village.

A Scientific Problem

It might be contended that this phase of World History has brought about an increase in prosperity. The change has only resulted in enhancing the use of luxuries—in our case of the cheap products of Western Industrialism rather than in any real rise in culture of the proletariat. The drift to the Town and its concomitant ills, raise a complex sociological problem which has to be carefully analysed. To dampen this fatal lure and harmonize the divergence between village and town, between the classes and the masses, the problem has to be attacked simultaneously at varying points. It is a scientific problem and has to be dealt with scientifically. Uninformed benevolence is of little value.

Stimulating Response

During the past year we have endeavoured to do this and though we have achieved no spectacular results, the many programmes of work we have launched have been based on solid foundation and carried out with all good will, human sympathy and co-operation, the Trinity of Rural Reconstruction. Our work has been carried out behind the scenes, as it were, because we feel that one of the limitations to constructive work in

this country is the craving for publicity.

Since the village school is the nursery of the village of the future, we have concentrated in working through the schools of the district. The response both from the teachers and students has been most stimulating. We count 52 teachers on our membership roll, 15 of whom serve on the general Committee, just going out of office.

Dignity of Manual Labour

We have always kept in the forefront of our activities, the desire to help the village agriculturist and have stressed the importance of producing more of his food requirements—especially rice. The two paddy demonstration plots at Bellapitiya and Neevanapilan worked by the students of the Government Schools at these two places have been useful in many directions. It has created in the youth of the district a consciousness of the dignity of manual labour. It is now a pleasing sight to notice young men, unaccustomed to such work previously, walking down to the fields imbued with a new spirit of earnestness.

Agricultural Propaganda

It is evident that where the area of land cultivated by the individual peasant is strictly limited, the only means whereby he can materially better his position is by a more intensive form of cultivation. The village agriculturist works not for profit but for subsistence. In order to help him to intensify his production, our publications Committee brought out a 4-paged leaflet on green manuring, 5000 copies of which have been distributed through the schools of the District. In this connection, I regret that our request to the Department of Agriculture for editing this leaflet to be published at our expense was not complied with. We have realized once more the truth of the golden rule that self help is the best help. Large posters showing the dangerous position the country is placed in regarding the imports of its chief article of food were also distributed to the 29 Boys Schools in the Korale. Our agricultural propaganda work has been appreciated by the public and I would like to draw the attention of the Department of Agriculture to the necessity for following up their demonstration work in

Economic Survey Of Ceylon

TO DISCOVER SOURCES OF WEALTH

Special Officer To Be Appointed

The "Ceylon Observer" learns that the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce are now taking steps to inaugurate the contemplated economic survey of the Island, and that a special officer will be shortly appointed to be in charge of the work.

The survey is expected to last a year or more, and will embrace every branch of agricultural and industrial activity in Ceylon.

One of the purposes of this survey is reported to be to discover the potential sources of economic wealth in the Island and to get the projected Industrial Research Department to work upon them.

It is understood that the expansion of the Bureau of Industries into a full-fledged Department of Industries will to a considerable extent depend on the results yielded by the economic survey.

Fruit Farming

Special attention is to be paid to the question of the possibilities of fruit farming and canning, and to this end a close and detailed survey of the conditions relating to the growing of fruits of all kinds on a commercial scale will be carried out.

In this connection, it is learned that an Italian expert on fruit growing, who is at present advising the Australian Government on fruit matters here, is to be commissioned to draw up a report on fruit growing possibilities in Ceylon as soon as funds permit.

the villages by the spread of literature on the subject dealt with.

Manure and Seed Distribution

In view of the economic conditions which are prevailing and the difficulties encountered by village paddy growers in purchasing artificial manures, we have distributed Rs. 746/- worth of manure at six months' credit. We have experienced no difficulty in collecting the value of the manure supplied. Large tracts of fields have been cultivated without the help of any form of manure. Government could help in this direction by opening distributing centres for artificial manure and selected seed. These will eliminate the ruinous rates of interest levied by land-lords from tenant farmers for supplies of seed paddy and manure. The system has been tried with very satisfactory results in other countries.

Regarding the distribution of selected seed by the Agricultural Department greater attention to the purity of supplies and the selection of varieties suited to different zones should receive attention.

The Indian Peasant

I would, here, like to quote an extract from the Marquis of Lillington's recent booklet on the Indian Peasant:—

"I ought to warn those who may be without knowledge of Oriental agriculture against the cardinal error of regarding the traditional system of agriculture as basically unsound. Nothing could be further from the truth. The more the European observer learns about agriculture in India, the greater grows his respect for the system of cultivation practised by the peasant. It is not to be supposed that the peasant is unduly contented with his lot." (Continued on page 3.)

Doctors Disagree On Injuries

WERE THEY ANTE-MORTEM OR POST-MORTEM?

INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT IN VALLAI CASE

There was considerable divergence of opinion as to whether the injuries found on the body of the Sinhalese girl Elsie, were caused before death or after death.

A Surgeon who was called by the prosecution to give expert evidence was of the opinion that the injuries were caused before death, and another Doctor called by the defence said that he was "of opinion that the injuries on the girl were caused after death". The latter even went to the extent of saying that he was ready to stake his professional reputation on a point in dispute.

Dr. E. T. Saravanamuttu, Medical Officer of Puttur, said that he made a post-mortem examination on the body of an unknown girl at Vallai bridge on June 26th, at 10 a.m. The body was in a decomposed state. He had seen the body the previous evening at 5 p.m. It was not then in a decomposed state. He was anxious to make the examination that evening, but as the body had not been identified, he did not do so. Externally there were abrasions on the interior parts of chest and face. Internally the fourth and fifth ribs were broken at the sternal ends. There was laceration of the left lung in the anterior part with much extravasation of blood. On the right side, the fourth, fifth and sixth ribs were broken, an inch outside the sternum, with extravasation of blood in the right side of the chest. The spleen was not enlarged and had a lacerated wound. The liver was lacerated, the wound being 1½ inches by half inch on the upper surface, with bleeding. The nasal bone was dislocated, with congestion of the face. The bones and cells of the nose had been knocked in. It would have been caused by a blow. He was sure that the girl did not die of drowning or strangulation. Death was due to haemorrhage and shock, dislocation of nasal bone and the fracture of ribs.

Dr. Milroy Paul.

Dr. Milroy Paul said that he was a Master of Surgery of the University of London and also an F. R. C. S. of England. From the medical evidence and other evidence in the case he was of the opinion that the cause of death was definitely not drowning, considering the chest and nose injuries separately. The fractures on both sides of the breast were due to one severe blow, which was undoubtedly dealt before death. From the amount of blood in the pleural cavity this injury was given some hours before death. In the left pleural cavity the lung was injured. He had seen a case of a gun shot wound of the chest passing right through the lung from front to back without even a teaspoonful of blood in the pleural cavity, so that this injury, which was only half an-inch deep, was not necessarily responsible for the blood in that cavity. Injury to the lung was caused by the overlying broken rib. The injuries to the liver and spleen were only half-an-inch deep and therefore it was possible that the bleeding might have been slight.

Cause of Death.

All these injuries might have been caused at the same time. The injury to the nose was the only injury which could have bled externally. It was most probably due to a blow with something soft such as the list. The edge of the grinding stone might have caused this injury if the face was

protected with a sack. The injury to the nose might have bled profusely, blood was found in three places on the parapet wall, in the motor car and in the barber's saloon, necessitating the washing of the saloon. The indications were that the blood soaked through one portion of the gunny bag on to the floor boards and door covers of the car. The gunny bag must have been dripping with blood when the gunny bag was thrown over the parapet wall of the bridge.

The conclusion from that was that the bleeding began at least one hour before death and not more than four hours before death. This conclusion was based on the time taken for blood to soak through a gunny bag. The other factors fixing the death were the presence of "rigor mortis" at 5 p.m. on June 25th. The average duration of "rigor mortis" in the tropics was 19 hours, and the average time for the onset of putrefaction in the tropics was 26 hours. The cause of death was haemorrhage and shock from the injuries to the chest and the nose. The chest injury would not necessarily cause unconsciousness.

Dark Colour of Face.

Dr. Paul then described the various stages of an epileptic fit and pointed out that in major fits the period of unconsciousness was divisible into two periods, the period of coma followed by the period of sleep. He quoted Sir James Purves Stewart who, writing on the different diagnoses of coma, stated that in epilepsy the period of coma never exceeded an hour. The attitude assumed by the body when it was found was due to the contraction of "rigor mortis" and had no relation whatever to the position of the limbs at the moment of death. Dr. Saravanamuttu had made an observation that the face was dark in colour but did not give an explanation for this. Dr. Paul explained that this colour was due to post mortem hypostasis (excess of blood in organs) and indicated that the body was lying with the face dependent within a period of six hours after death. Had the body been in the well it would have been impossible to produce discolouration of the face as the head was uppermost.

Dr Paul pointed out that he had personal records of cases of chest injuries producing haemorrhage into the pleural cavity surviving for over 24 hours and there were recorded cases of survival for 38 hours. The chest injury was probably caused many hours before death. The nose injury was caused shortly before death, but the free bleeding from the nose injury indicated that the girl was not in a state of syncope as the result of the chest injury. The body floated in the water probably from the very start because this was the case of a well nourished female with her lungs full

(Continued on Page 3.)

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Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1933.

VALLAI MURDER TRIAL.

THE HEARING OF THE ABOVE CASE in which the dead body of a young Sinhalese girl was found thrown into the water at the Vallai causeway was taken up as the first case in the calendar of the present sessions and after a full and patient trial which lasted thirteen days, MR. JUSTICE AKBAR K. C., upon the verdict returned by the Jury, sentenced the accused three in number, to suffer rigorous imprisonment for terms ranging from ten to five years. The trial of this case attracted the widest public attention, not so much on the score of the status of the persons who stood the trial or that of the parties whose names transpired at certain stages of the trial, as the moral abhorrence with which some of the details of the tragic events surrounding the mystery of the death of the unfortunate girl are looked upon by people in Jaffna. Though we cannot undertake to say that the law has not been fully vindicated in the case of the accused who stood their trial, yet it is permissible for us to observe that the jury acquitting the first accused on the major count of murder, despite the clear direction given by the presiding judge, erred on the side of leniency. Whatever may be the grounds for acquittal on the count of murder, the

public are bound to view the verdict with little satisfaction. Perhaps, the conviction and sentence meet the ends of justice and the accused may have cause to feel thankful that they have had a fair and impartial trial and congratulate themselves on the light sentence they have received. The public conscience which has been deeply stirred over the occurrences which led to the death of the ignorant village girl who apparently was decoyed from her hearth and home and literally sold as chattel to persons unworthy of the trust involved in taking charge of a young and unmarried girl and who, as subsequent events clearly proved, used her for immoral purposes, cannot be allayed unless effective steps are taken to prevent the recurrence in future of a crime of this sort.

MR. JUSTICE AKBAR indicated the lines which legislation should take to control the employment of young girls as domestic servants and effectively suppress the procurers' nefarious trade. While we have no doubt that the suggestion of the learned Judge will be taken up by the proper authority and suitable legislation will be introduced to regulate the recruiting of domestic servants, it is proper to observe that the best devised piece of legislation in that behalf will be rendered a dead letter unless public opinion asserts itself and takes up an uncompromising stand on the side of purity. There is much that wives and mothers in Jaffna could do to save the fair name of the Tamils. There are no cases of cruelty to children or domestic servants in Jaffna, and this may be accounted for by the fact that the servant in a Tamil home is often looked upon as a member of the family and not as one who is merely paid for his work. The relation between the family and the servant is often one of status and not contract. The duty of protection on the part of the employer is always sacred. The employer stands *in loco parentis* to the domestic servant. No discrimination is made in a Tamil home in the treatment of servants and children. It is a pity that this sense of duty is growing weak with the advance in the tendency towards self-assertion on the part of the members that make up a family.

The deceased girl, it appears, was taken into his service by a prominent resident in the neighbourhood who later on found that the girl was subject to attacks of fit and returned her to the man who brought her from Matara. That gentleman, perhaps, did right to return the girl to the man. But, did he satisfy himself that he was committing the girl to the custody of a person who would look after her well or was he indifferent as to what might happen to her? He must have known that the man was neither the girl's natural nor legal protector. Could he not have sent the girl back to her village himself or through the Police? We do not wish to blame him for handing the girl over to the man. But, he would certainly have done better to ascertain the antecedents of the man and his intentions with regard to the girl and helped to send her back to home and safety. It is this absence of concern in affairs that do not directly affect one's own immediate interests that is deplorable.

It is poverty, not love of home, that drives these village girls

to migrate to towns in quest of domestic service. The Sinhalese as a race have strong domestic instincts, and if young girls succumb to the promises and hopes held out by the decoy from town, it is entirely due to the economic pressure in the village home. We would invite the attention of Sinhalese leaders in South Ceylon to the necessity to set up institutions in the villages where girls could find profitable occupation. The good example of the band of women of wealth and refinement in Galle who have opened a Spinning and Weaving Association could be followed in every village where there is unemployment. If a central organisation could be set up to buy up for cash payment all the hand-spun yarn in a village, all the young women and widows who have no lands or cattle to tend will find useful and profitable occupation. There is something fundamentally wrong in a social and economic system which cannot help keep the young girls to their home or village and tolerates their roaming up and down in search of occupation.

Let us not overlook the effect of the Vallai Murder on public opinion in South Ceylon. It is easy to exaggerate the significance of the crime and create racial bitterness. A whole community, let us submit, cannot be judged by the actions of some of the denizens of its under-world. When the crime was discovered public conscience was so shocked that its interest in the case did not abate till the offenders received their desserts yesterday at the hands of MR. JUSTICE AKBAR K. C.

"Hall Mark" For Jewellery.

TO PREVENT BAD COMPOSITION

Gold and silver articles of jewellery made in Ceylon, it has been found, are made of various compositions into which the baser metals enter largely. The authorities are now contemplating the introduction of an official 'hall mark' to prevent this practice.

Hydro-Electric Scheme and Forest Resources

AMERICAN INQUIRIES RE CEYLON

Inquiries about the Hydro-Electric Scheme and forest resources of the Island, it is learnt, have been received from America, through Mr. W. A. Beer, Hon. Trade Representative, who sometime ago went to the United States. Information, it would appear, is being sought by certain business interests with a view to making an offer to develop these resources.

THE AIM OF RELIGION

A PUBLIC LECTURE

The Hon. Mr. M. T. Akbar, K. C., will deliver a lecture, under the auspices of the Kala Nilayam, on "The Aim of Religion" at the R. K. M. Vaisheshwara Vidyalayam Hall, Vannarponne, on Sunday, the 13th instant at 6-30 p.m. Mr. V. Duraiswamy, will preside.

ANOTHER LECTURE.

A public lecture on "A Program for the Social Reformer" will be delivered by the Hon. Mr. M. T. Akbar K. C., B.A., LL.B. at 4.30 p.m. on Saturday the 12th inst. at Victoria College, Chuliguram under the auspices of the Valigaram West Central Progressive Youth League. Mr. V. Duraiswamy, will preside.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

TEACHERS AND POLITICS

Sir,—I read Mr. C. K. Swaminathan's "outburst" in the so-called *Ceylon Free Press* with some concern because I was afraid that I might have been responsible for his lashing himself to fury and becoming as it were a victim of apopleptic fit at his advanced age. In his frenzy Mr. Swaminathan must have thrown all caution and circumspection to the winds. People who live in glass houses should not indulge in stone-throwing. The less Mr. Swaminathan prates or writes about editors' etiquette or journalistic ethics when filling the columns of the *Ceylon Free Press*, the better for him and the editor and the press. Let him that is pure cast the first stone.

I did not send my letter about Mr. Swaminathan's effusion in the *Ceylon Free Press* to the Editor of the *Ceylon Free Press* since he refused to publish a letter of mine on the same topic—Teachers and Politics. Even girls whom Mr. C. K. Swaminathan has taught in his decadence will tell him that no useful purpose would be served by testing more than a grain in a pot of boiled rice to find out whether the rice is well cooked or not.

If by "scurrilous" Mr. Swaminathan meant that my letter to the editor made him squirm because of the home-thrusts levelled at his mentality and his logic, I welcome the epithet. I shall not find fault with the style and diction of and the sophistry in his effusion. People affect to be "amused" by attacks or characterise them as "scurrilous" when they are stung to the quick by home-thrusts or home-truths.

Mr. Swaminathan's cheap gibe that teachers have not come forward and protested against the *pronunciamento* of Sir Orde Watson is, to say the least, hitting teachers below the belt. Teachers will think not twice but several times before daring to draw down the wrath of the Divisional Inspector and the Education Department by their public protest. Besides, Mr. Bicknell's brief but dignified reply to Mr. Watson stands. Only Mr. Swaminathan and the Editor of the *Free Press* have dared to question Mr. Bicknell's assertion. Has any other teacher or Principal questioned Mr. Bicknell's assertion?

Narada Maha Muni is bent perhaps on becoming a member of the Intelligence Department. Let him scent sedition like a sleuth because of the crumbs he has been allowed to pick up from his master's table. Perhaps something a bit bigger than a seat in some Advisory Committee might make him become an agent provocateur. Why does he not in his loyal overzealousness volunteer his services and help the C. I. D. to root out sedition in schools? He writes as if he knows who and who are disseminating sedition in schools. Perhaps this is a device of his to remove from the arena his political opponents. What better method can be thought of than giving the dog a bad name and hanging it? Call Patriotism sedition and get those teachers who are patriotic dismissed.

I am very sorry for Mr. C. K. Swaminathan. He is now perhaps in his dotage and cannot discriminate between Progress and Reaction, Regeneration and Degeneration. Perhaps his own mental and moral degradation makes him find the same in others. A jaundiced eye sees all things yellow. His anti-boycott midnight prowls make him dub his political opponents—a gang. We must be thankful for small mercies for he has not called us gangsters, traitors, and bomb-throwers.

I can understand and respect an Englishman's feeling for his King—the King who is the symbol of the unity of the Empire over which, perhaps, the sun never sets. But I for one cannot understand the hidden source of that Ultra-loyalism, perfervid "sanctimoniousness," the flaunting before the public and parading before it the exploded myth of the Right Divine of Kings and the Divine Right of the White Man to Rule over us and our duty to groan under the White Man's boot. If Mr. Swaminathan's profession of loyalty be not a cloak for gaining some other ulterior object why does he not discharge his duty

THE JAFFNA ORIENTAL STUDIES SOCIETY.

MAY EXAMINATION RESULTS.

The following candidates have come out successful in annual examinations held in May, 1933.

Tamil Examinations

- Pandit Class (Third Division).*
Karthikesar Ponnampalam Ratnam, Velanai East, Kayts.
Bala Pandit Class (Third Division).
Paramasamy Iyer Sivananthayyar, Pannalai, Tellipalai.
Kanagasabai Rasaiya Ottumadam, Vannarponne.
Murugan Se'liah, Thevaraiyali, Al-vay, Point Pedro.
Ampalavanar Joseph Mylvaganam Puloly South, Point Pedro.
Chinniah Subramaniam Elakadi, Alray South, Point Pedro.
Selliath Thuraiasingam, Karthikesu Thambiyah, Vaitilingam Ponnuku maru, Saiva Training School, Jaffna.
V. Arulappu Johnpillai, Illavalai, Jaffna.
Kanthiah Saravanamuttu, Kalvayal, Chavakachcheri.
Chinnappu Sellathurai, Classical School, Chunnakam.
Subramaniam Rasaiyah, Tinneveli East, Jaffna.
Selvanayakam Nadarajah, Tiruganna Sambanther Vidyasalai, Vadukkodai.
Thambiath Sivalingam, Classical School, Jaffna.

Referred Candidates

- Vairamuttu Sapapathipillai (in Group II.), Puloly North, Point Pedro.
Appakuddy Karthikesu (in Group II.), Teacher, Tellipalai.

Pravesa Class (Third Division).

- Mylvaganam John Selliath, Teacher, Wesleyan School, Akkaraiyattu, Batticaloa.
Periyapodi Annasamy and Neelar Subramaniam, Vathiry Thevaraiyali, Karayeddi, Point Pedro.
N. Thambirajah, Arasady, Batticaloa.
Kanthappu Nadarajah, Stanley School, Jaffna.
Miss Nagalingam Santhanayaki, Colombogam, Jaffna.
Ramasamy Namasivayam, Mailiddy South, Tellipalai.
Subramaniam Kanagasapathipillai, Thambipillai Subramaniam, Sinnavar Patharajali, Nagamuttu Sella-thurai, Sittampalam Kanapathipillai, Kothandar Tharmalingam, Ramalingam Appathurai and Vaitilingam Ramasamy, (Saiva Training School, Jaffna.)

Eliathamby Kumarasamy, Arumukam Sinnathamby, Sinnathamby Aiyathurai, Appathurai Jagaratnam, Singham-ranapillai Saamukam, Kathiravelu Murugesu, Kathiripillai Sentharam, Kanthiah Arumukam, Kanapathipillai Sivasambu, Kanapathipillai Velupillai, Kanthapillai Kanakasigam and Eliathamby Sabaratnam, (Cenay Government Training School, Jaffna.)
Mailvaganam Ponniah, Kalvayal, Chavakachcheri.

Sanskrit Examinations—Nil.

Four candidates sat for the Pandit Examination, 37 for the Bala Pandit and 105 for the Pravesa in Tamil.

Prizes

The Kailaspathy Logic Prize of Rs. 15 goes to candidate Selliath Thuraiasingam, and the Rasayanaka Mudaliar Ceylon History Prize of Rs. 10 to candidate Subramaniam Rasaiyah.
The Gold Medal Prizes for the Pandit and the Bala Pandit Examinations and the (Rs. 15 worth) Book Prize for the Pravesa Examination have not been awarded as none of the candidates passed in the Division this year.

by the God's anointed under whose benign umbrage he lives and thrives. Perhaps the age of writing precedes the age of action. I hope that Mr. Swaminathan will, if he be as loyal as he professes and protests, inaugurate a campaign of weeding out sedition-mongers through the help of the Education Department and the Criminal Investigation Department, and become himself the loyal Legal Remembrancer of the Government of Ceylon and help to set in motion the retaliatory machinery of the law against Sedition, Seditious and Revolutionary in schools and Colleges.
Yours etc.,
S. Balasubramaniam.

TEMPERANCE REFORM

Dismal Outlook In America

PUSSYFOOT JOHNSON'S OPTIMISM

Evil Things Will Subside

In letter dated 11th July to Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, the veteran prohibitionist of America, Mr. Pussyfoot Johnson, writes:—

"I have just returned from a speaking tour of four months in the far North-western States, in which I have made about 200 speeches and got three of my ribs broken in an automobile accident.

"The temperance reform is on the rocks in America and the immediate outlook is very dismal.

Moral Depression

"Every great war in history has been followed by a period of moral depression and we are now reaping the aftermath of the great world war. We had the same experience in America following our Civil war, in which nearly every temperance and reform organisation went to smash. I feel that for some years to come we will continue to reap the results of the war. But I have absolute confidence that the tide will turn in due time. We are likely to lose the Eighteenth Amendment, but we will hold State-wide prohibition in most of the States.

"But the immediate situation looks dismal indeed.

Sympathy With India

"In all these, India has the full sympathy of us in America. Evil things will eventually subside and the world will emerge better after this period of insane moral depression. Spiritual things will emerge on a higher and nobler plane."

In a booklet called "Blowing off the Froth", Pussyfoot Johnson has exposed the contradictory arguments of anti-prohibitionists and says:—

"The process of desousing a people that has been stewed in alcohol for centuries is not an easy one. As the silversmiths of Ephesus declared Christianity to be a 'failure', so it has been all down through the ages. Laws prohibiting piracy were declared to be a failure. Sir John Hawking was knighted for instituting the slave traffic, yet slavery was prohibited over the loud protests of the Simon Legrees who declared that the Negroes were better off in bondage.

"Numerous influential folks still claim that democracy is a failure and produce a basketful of statistics to prove it."

Tamil Railway Officer In England

News has been received that Mr. M. Kanagasabay, Probationary Assistant Transportation Superintendent, Railway, has passed the examination of the Associate Membership of the Institute of Transport. He is one of the two officers in the Railway Clerical Service who were selected and set by the Government two years ago to acquire a special training in regard to the working of the Railways in various centres in England. He has also undergone a course at the London College of Economics.

He will leave for Ceylon in October.

Transfer on Promotion

It is understood that Mr. K. Siva-prakasam of the Jaffna Kachechi is transferred to Batticaloa, on promotion as Chief Clerk of the Kachechi. He is to be succeeded in Jaffna by Mr. A. Muttatamby, Chief Clerk, Mannar Kachechi.

To Swell Ranks of Unemployed.

TWELVE SURVEYORS "AXED"

To be Discontinued in September.

The "Hindu Organ" understands that twelve Government Surveyors, who have put in from 6 to 8 years' service will be discontinued by the end of September, this year. These Officers, it is learnt, will not be entitled to any pension, but will be given a gratuity, according to the number of years they have been in service, at the rate one month's salary for every year they served.

It is of interest to note that in 1932 26 posts in the Field Staff were abolished which means 26 men, majority of whom would have put in some years of service, were thrown out of work. It is also understood that 1931, 20 new entrants were taken in and they are retained in service, while the unfortunate ones who were axed, were not given the chance of putting in some few more years to entitle them to pension.

"Could Sleep on Camel-back"

GANDHIJI'S WITTY REPLY TO DOCTORS

"Napoleon used to sleep on horse-back, while I could sleep on the back of a camel", declared Gandhiji wittily, in reply to his doctors who inquired whether he could, at any time sleep well and keep his mind blank without any thoughts. "Yes", he continued, "I can sleep without having any dreams and without any thought whatsoever in my mind."

This incident took place on July 20, when Gandhiji was examined by two doctors, Patel and Mihile.

Japan and Indian Trade Agreement.

London, Aug. 8th.

"The Financial Times" Tokyo correspondent says that the Japanese Ambassador in London has been instructed by the Foreign Minister to ask the British Government for a provisional Indian trade agreement pending the Simla agreement, and also an assurance that any formula reached at Simla will be considered in the later talks in London.

The Japanese Foreign Office is facing strong opposition from the Ministries of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, who are opposing the proposal to re-admit Rangoon rice since the present domestic supply is excessive and also the proposal to (ind)Japan to meet a certain proportion of its raw cotton needs from India, declaring that it is an unnecessary handicap, since prices can now determine the proportion.

Jaffnese Honoured in Malaya.

DR. E. P. KANAGASABAI RECIPIENT OF GOLD MEDAL.

The State of Kelantan (British Malaya) celebrated the birthday of its ruler, H. H. Sultan Ismail ibni Almarhum Sultan Mohamed IV, K.C.M.G. with all the usual pomp and rituals followed by three days of rejoicing.

The investiture of birthday honours took place on the 21st ultimo at the Balai Besar (Palace).

Among the recipients of gold and silver medals for meritorious and distinguished services to the State and the public was Dr. E. P. Kanagasabai an Apothecary of the Ceylon Medical College and of "Mangalagiri" Vannarponnai, Jaffna. Dr. E. P. Kanagasabai who is at present Chief Medical Assistant in the State Hospital, Kelantan (Malaya) has given about 30 years of meritorious service to British Malaya and this tardy but eventual recognition of his untiring zeal and devotion is very welcome to all.—Cor.

VALLAI MURDER TRIAL CONCLUDED

Thirteen Days' Hearing

ALL ACCUSED CONVICTED

Rider by Jury: Bring To Book Other Offenders

After a protracted hearing which lasted thirteen days the Vallai Murder trial was concluded yesterday at 6 p.m. The Court-house was uncomfortably crowded and its premises were a sea of heads. People had gathered in large numbers to hear the verdict in the most sensational case for many years in Jaffna. Even after the sentence was passed most of the people stayed behind to have a last look at the culprits who had brought so much disgrace on Jaffna's fair name. The record crowd that assembled there was an indication of the public indignation at what the presiding Judge called the "most atrocious crime" within living memory.

Verdict

The Jury deliberated for more than two hours before they returned their verdict. They unanimously found the first accused guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and the other two accused guilty of causing death by doing a rash act.

Riders

The Jury also added the following riders:—

1. We are unanimously of opinion that the witnesses Murugesu and Prakasam have committed perjury in this case—Murugesu in a great degree
2. We are also of opinion that a full and impartial investigation be made with a view to bring to book those other offenders who, we consider, have had a hand in this case.
3. We are strongly of opinion that the law with regard to the adoption and engagement of girls as servants be strengthened by further legislation

SENTENCE

Commenting on the verdict, the Judge told the accused that the Jury could not have brought a lighter verdict in this case in which a most atrocious crime was committed on a girl, for which they deserved to be hanged. The Jury might be right, in view of their rider recommending further proceedings against other offenders, in which they (accused) might be called to give evidence. He felt that he must give them the maximum punishment provided in the section.

He sentenced the first accused to ten years' R.I. and a fine of Rs. 1,000/- in default two-and-a-half years'.

The second and third accused were each sentenced to five years' R.I. and a fine of Rs. 500/- in default one and a quarter years.

Witnesses Sentenced For Perjury.

The two witnesses, Murugesu and Prakasam, were then put in the dock and charged for perjury. They were sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment each.

Change of Name.

I. Miss Parwathie Vythilingam, of Imayana, Uduppiddy, Jaffna, do hereby inform the public that I will be known as Parameashwari and will sign as Parameashwari from date hereof. (7833) Mis. 787 & 10

THE TRINITY OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

(Continued from page 1)

servative in his attitude towards improvements brought to his notice. Only demonstrate to him that such an improvement is worth his while and he will readily introduce it. Cautious he must be for he has no margin of resources with which to finance unremunerative experiments."

Need for Change of Heart

It is a pronouncement which we should not lose sight of. Before I conclude my remarks on agriculture I would once more like to draw attention of the powers that be to a change of heart regarding the Peasant Schemes. To my mind they are faulty in conception and nothing could be further from the truth to say that they are abodes of happiness. We might with great advantage take a lesson on correct methods of peasant colonization from Sir Daniel Hamilton's ten thousand-acre colony a Gosabanager, Calcutta.

On the subject of village irrigation, I shall confine myself to saying that we fully hope the new policy of the Ministry of Agriculture sprung up by them as "Look nearer the homes of the Villagers" will be translated into action without further delay. It seems farcical that the money voted by the Ministry for this work remains unspent while it takes almost a year to arrive at a decision regarding the spending of a couple of hundred rupees on a minor irrigation matter.

Educational

Turning to matters educational, we fully realize that one of the objectives, if not the main in Rural Reconstruction must be the organization and provision of occupation by the better and brighter use of the leisure hours of the rural inhabitant. Our free library and reading room to which is attached a study circle has been a decided contribution to the social uplift of the surrounding villages. A system of State circulating libraries as in Mysore would be of great advantage in developing and widening the mental outlook of the country. The wireless could do a great deal in this direction, and it is very pleasing to note that the Ministry of Education has this matter under consideration.

These, gentlemen, are the common problems which I have to make on a few of the problems which confront us. During the past year, we have proved the usefulness of our fellowship. Apart from the work we have done, the value of consciousness we have created in this part of the country cannot be evaluated in terms of cash. Let me hope that the same high courage, determination and sacrifice, will enable us to do better in the future.

Doctors Disagree On Injuries

(Continued from page 1)

of air floating in a stream which has very much more salt than sea water, as was indicated by the specific gravity of the water. The cry of "mother" described by the electricians was not the mechanical cry which heralded an epileptic fit.

Hypothesis Crime

The most probable sequence of events, judging from the medical evidence was that the girl received the injury to the chest on the night of the 23rd and lay in a critical condition during the whole of the 24th. It having been decided to do away with the girl preparations were made to remove her by car but finding that she was still conscious, it was necessary to silence her with a blow on her nose before taking her through the front entrance of the barber's saloon. A careful examination of the blood stains on the parapet wall clearly showed that the sack was dripping. (Continued on Page 4.)

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More Arrests In India

MRS. GANDHI AND ACHARYA SENTENCED

Devadas Arrested At Delhi

Bombay Aug. 7th.

Ahmedabad.—Mrs. Gandhi and 15 other ladies, who were arrested at the Ashram, were released from Sabarnai Gaol this morning and ordered to remove themselves from a specified area, which they refused to do, and they were, therefore, re-arrested.

Bombay, Aug. 8th.

AHMEDABAD.—Mrs. Gandhi, who was arrested yesterday, was sentenced to six months' simple imprisonment.

DEVADAS ARRESTED

Bombay Aug. 7.

Delhi.—Devadas Gandhi was arrested before midnight at Delhi railway station. He arrived by the Frontier Mail, accompanied by his wife, and while still in the compartment was served with a notice by the Chief Commissioner directing him to refrain from entering Delhi Province, and in case he had already entered it to depart immediately.

After a time Devadas Gandhi handed a note to a C.I.D. official, addressed to the Commissioner, in which he declared that he had no intention of participating in civil disobedience in Delhi, and requesting the Commissioner to withdraw the order. He waited on the platform until 11.38 p.m. when he was taken into custody.

His wife is staying at the Gandhi Ashram.

MR. RAJAGOPALACHARI ARRESTED AND SENTENCED.

Madras, Aug. 7th.

Tiruchengode.—C. Rajagopalachari and 16 other Congress members including three ladies, were arrested this morning while marching towards Salem. They were tried and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment under the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

Future Congress Policy.

MADRAS LEADERS TO CONFER

Madras, Aug. 7

At the invitation of Mr. S. Satyamurti, Congressman in the city numbering about twenty, met at his residence in Triplicane yesterday and informally discussed the future Congress policy. It is understood they favoured the forming of an association within the Congress to carry out the constructive programme of the Congress. Details are expected to be settled at a meeting of the Congressmen of the Tamil Nadu, which is proposed to be convened at a central place most probably Madras, in about a fortnight's time.

Ramakrishna Mission Schools, Ceylon.

SWAMI VIPULANANDA APPOINTED MANAGER

Swami Vipulananda has been appointed Manager of Schools of the Ramakrishna Mission (Ceylon Branch) with effect from July 20, 1933 in place of Swami Sunderananda.

Obituary.

MR. S. NATARAJAH

The death occurred of heart failure at Colombo on the 30th ultimo of Mr. S. Natarajah (46) retired Overseer, E.I.C.

The funeral took place the next day. The deceased was the eldest brother-in-law of Dr. S. A. Vettivelu.

Doctors Disagree On Injuries.

(Continued from page 3)

with blood as it was being thrown over the parapet wall and the man holding the sack had wiped his right hand on the wall, as was shown clearly by the blood stains left on it.

Dr. Jamieson

Dr. Jamieson was then called by the defence to give expert evidence.

Dr. W. J. Jamieson, Director of the Green Hospital, Manipal said that he was of opinion that the injuries on the girl were caused after death, but Dr. Saravanamuttu had said that the rib injuries must have been caused half-an-hour before death. The only circumstance which could uphold such a theory, said Dr. Jamieson, was the presence of blood in the lungs, caused by laceration by a rib, but this again was difficult to maintain in as much as there was no evidence of the air from the lungs having escaped into the tissues. This would necessarily have been the case if the injury to the lungs was ante-mortem.

The only evidence, he said in the post-mortem report of any ante-mortem injury was the blood in the lungs. He was of opinion that injury to the spleen and the liver were not consistent with life. If there was life there would have been a pint of blood in the stomach whereas the post-mortem report stated that there was only a smearing of blood in the peritoneum. If the ribs had been broken 24 hours before death there would have been air from the lungs in the tissues. There was not, according to the report, so that the only difficulty in the case for the defence was the question of blood in the lungs.

No "Dislocation" of Nose

The report had a reference to a dislocation of the nose. There was no such thing as dislocation of the nose known to Medical Science. Its construction would not admit such a term. It was rather a fracture. The injury to the nose was clearly post-mortem, for had it been ante-mortem there must necessarily have been a swelling round the nasal region almost up to the eyes and, even covering them. This particular injury must have been caused by pressure of at least 50 pounds being applied to the nose. It could not be stated with accuracy how long rigor mortis might have lasted. In certain cases it might extend to 48 hours. Thus it was really a difficult problem to fix the time of death.

His Lordship asked witness whether he could not, taking everything into consideration, fix the time.

Dr. Jamieson: It is hardly fair to fix the time in view of the difficulties. Crown Counsel cross-examined the witness.

British and American Degrees

The witness said he was a Doctor of Medicine of the University of the State of New York, Doctor of Medicine of the University of the Union States, Post Graduate Scholar of Harvard University, Licentiate of the English Society of Apothecaries, Diploma Holder of the Tropical School of Medicine, London. He was also resident Surgeon for two years in Ellis Hospital, New York.

I do not want to disparage your degrees, but is it not true that your degrees are not recognised in England?—There is no reciprocity between England and America on the question of medical degrees.

Do you mean to say that F. R. C. S., M. R. C. P. and M. S. do not constitute a set of the highest degrees in the world?—I certainly don't think so, it may be so in the British Empire. In America it depends on the man and not on what is behind his name.

You cannot practice in America unless you are an M. D.?—Certainly not. You have also to be a licensed practitioner, which means you have to pass an examination before an Examining Board.

In other words, doctor, you say the M. D. is the first degree to be obtained before a man practices as a doctor and that is a very easy degree?—Oh, no, I think it is a very hard degree. I know what you are driving at.

No, doctor, I certainly do not want to disparage your degrees. You have come as an expert, and I, therefore, want to find out on what grounds you can be called an expert on medico-legal matters?

"Are You an Expert?"

Answering further questions the doctor said that he had been in Jaffna

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(51)

about 11 years and had performed quite a number of major operations.

Would you consider yourself an expert in Surgery?—It is not for me to say that, you had better ask the people.

I want to have your answer on that point?—Well, if that is so, I am an efficient Surgeon, judging from the number of cases that come to my hospital.

Is it true that you do not take cases of a medico-legal nature into your hospital?—That is so, we try our best to avoid such cases and send them over to the Civil Hospital. I have no time to waste in a Court of law.

Judge's Lesson In Tetanus

His Lordship: You appeared once before me doctor and I learnt all about tetanus from you?—Well I did not expect a case would arise from that.

His Lordship: There are occasions, doctor, where as a member of society you are called upon by a Court of law to help in ascertaining the truth.

Dr. Jamieson: Well, I suppose it cannot be helped.

Crown Counsel: How many post-mortem examinations have you made? Fifty, for my degree.

No, no, I am referring to medico-legal post-mortem reports?—About half-a-dozen.

So that you cannot pose as an expert on medico-legal matters?—If you think so, you may consider it so.

A Misunderstanding

Dr. Jamieson informed His Lordship that there seemed to be a misunderstanding about his presence in Court. He was not there to find fault with the learned doctors who had given evidence in the Defence. He was there at the request of the defence to assist the Court in arriving at a fair and safe conclusion. He

hoped that the doctors would not look upon it as a personal matter.

His Lordship: No, doctor, we are quite accustomed to meet each other for purposes of discussion.

Crown Counsel: Can you produce the records of any major operations you have performed on the chest?—Yes, I could produce last year's record which must contain a case or two at least.

'Nose' Case Produced

For what reason did you say, doctor, that the nose injury was post-mortem?

—For the simple reason that there must have been swelling round the region of the nose. I certainly think that a pressure of 50 lbs. must have been used to cause the injury and if that is so, there must have been considerable swelling if that injury was caused during life. As no such swelling was referred to in the post-mortem report, I conclude that the injury must have been necessarily post-mortem.

Are you prepared to stake your professional reputation on this one point? Certainly, I am.

At this stage Dr. M. V. P. Peiris, of the Civil Hospital, Jaffna, was called by the prosecution to produce a patient from the Civil Hospital suffering from a nasal fracture.

Dr. Peiris, in giving evidence, said that the man was a prisoner and had a fracture of the nasal bone but had no swelling round the eyes.

The patient said that his eyes became inflamed and he had pain around them.

After examining the patient Dr. Jamieson pointed that the injury was not identical with the nasal injury of the deceased girl. The injury caused to the person produced was higher up, almost on the forehead judging from the marks. There was evidence, however, that this patient had a swelling of the region above the eyebrows.

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