

The Hindu Organ.

"Arise! Awake! and stop not till the goal is reached."

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1932.

WAKE UP, LANKA!

IN HIS INIMITABLE AND TELLING manner Mr. K. Balasingham makes a vigorous plea for voluntary protection in favour of local industries now existing and to be. As might have been expected, the present unprecedented depression and the consequent difficulty of finding suitable employment for the educated youths of the country, have engaged the serious thought of Mr. Balasingham. His address to the Study Circle the other day in Colombo deserves the earnest attention of thoughtful students and publicists alike. As H. E. the Governor pointed out at Kosgoda, the present situation might worsen and impose upon the high and the humble the necessity to scrutinise with some degree of care the family budget. The process calls for the exercise of an effort of self-control and some sacrifice. It is difficult to break away with the past tastes and preferences with which we have associated comfort in more prosperous times. Every one regrets the situation and hope rises eternally to console us with the thought that the present depression will lift in the months to come. Whoever applies himself to the task of finding a way out of the perplexities of the present cannot fail to be haunted by our dreadful lapses in the past. We have had not a few warnings in the past but we managed to pull ourselves through them and went about complacently convinced of the soundness of our economic foundations. The present financial shock has made economic introspection imperative. The old slogans and shibboleths around which our apathy or ignorance lay huddled in the past have been exploded. Mr. Balasingham has been a protectionist all his life. His appeals were not heeded so long as England remained a free-trader. Table-manners, sartorial fashions, modes in dress and patterns in footwear do come to us from England. Is it inevitable that fiscal policies for our own country should follow the varying fortunes of free-trade and protection in England? Where the apron-strings of England have led us in the matter of our food will be patent to any one who turns to the pages of Mr. Balasingham's brochure on Food-production. A fertile land with a net-work of tanks to store up rain-water and a population, of which 99% have to live on the produce of the soil, is actually spending approximately 100 million rupees for its food imports!

Opinion in England has now definitely veered round in favour of protection. The basic industry of England—iron and steel—is hanging by the eyelid and protection appears to command itself as the best solution for economic safeguarding.

The present may well be the time for a bold and definite move towards protection, but our problem here is complicated by considerations which may not be easy of solution in the near future. The State Council and the Ministers who are giving it a "fair trial" cannot be expected to face the question squarely. Mr. Balasingham, therefore, invites the people of this country to move in the matter themselves. The word "boycott" has acquired certain unsavoury associations, otherwise, Mr. Balasingham would use that word and exhort his countrymen to boycott all foreign goods and prevent the drain on our resources which luxuries imported from foreign lands make it possible. As for our necessities, he would bid us buy local products, and failing here, he would not mind our going elsewhere for them. True patriotism consists in using the produce of one's own village, province and country before casting about elsewhere to satisfy his necessities.

We commend to our readers and especially to students and student organisations the thoughtful address of Mr. Balasingham, a summary of which appeared in our last issue.

The F. M. S. Bang The Door

The warning issued by the Malayan Urumpiray Union on the difficulty of securing employment in the Government Service of that country should be made widely known to parents and students alike. There has been no marked change in the fervour with which boys are equipped for positions behind the counter or on the high stool. The Government of our own country is in the slough of a depression the like of which it had never seen before; the chances of Government Service here are very thin indeed. The candidates who were selected for employment on the results of the Clerical Examination in 1929 are still on the waiting list. The professions are overcrowded though it may always be claimed that rooms at the top are "to let". The situation has to be faced and solution found unless we are prepared to put up with a life of aimless drift which threatens to be the ultimate fate of our young men. It is deplorable that the Government of the F. M. S. should bar its doors against the entry of our Jaffnese into Government Service. One recalls the time when the Jaffna Tamil was sought after and his efficiency commended in official despatches. Times have changed since, and policies too. Apparently the Government of that country is anxious to "civilise" the Malays who have till now proved intractable. Service under Government is a tried method of stilling and muffling the voice of freedom amongst subject peoples. Sir Theodore Morisson suggests the appointment of Indians to high posts in India as a panacea for his present political distemper. It may also be that the "civilised" Malay is a better victim to British goods than the "civilized" Tamil who is frugal with his money and conservative in habits. Whatever the reason for the decision, it is certain that our young men will in future turn in vain to the F. M. S. for service.

The situation forces to the fore the question, whether it is not possible for our young men to carve out careers for themselves in other spheres of intelligent activity. Is quill-driving to be the sole expression of the intellectual worker of the Tamil community? Are there no other avenues for the useful exercise of talents? Is it not possible to bridge the wide disparity between the mental and the manual worker? These and similar questions have to be faced and at an early date.

BY THE WAY.

Hard Words Break no Bones.

Mr W. T. Stace O C S, is the Mayor of Colombo; but he will be known to posterity by the letter he indited to the Honourable the Home Member. Mr. Stace's letter is a master piece and bids fair to rank among epistolary classics. G. B. S. is quite frank and pours forth in his letters to Terry the anguish of a heart in the grip of a lustless love. Mr. Stace is candour itself and his letter reveals some facets of the Civil Service mind in language refreshingly assuring and aesthetically gripping. As it stated at once that Mr. Stace does not mean to flit a stab likely to leave behind a scar. Our readers are familiar with the facts which evoked this mind-your-own-business epistle. S. Paul was less indignant when he addressed the Corinthians than was Mr. Stace when the Leader of the House pleaded for a permit for just one elephant to join the Buddhist procession. Live elephants might or might not be necessary for a Buddhist procession; Mr. Gunasingha says they are necessary and who is there bold enough to pick bones with him on that matter. Our own view is that human hearts are more essential than elephant backs. Be this as it may, the fact remains that an application to lead elephants three in number along some of the streets of Colombo did not command itself to the Superintendent of Police in Colombo and for that reason the Mayor. In a city full of white elephants under the care and control of Government the Ceylon species could not be found space even in a moving procession. The Home Minister is a Buddhist leader and in exercise of his authority mildly pressed that permit might issue for a single elephant. Mr. Stace had before him the Honourable Minister's letter and it does a transpire

that he shouted out "shut up" with or without swear words. But it is certain that he set about committing his own view to paper. Philosopher as he is, it is not unreasonable to suppose that Mr. Stace bit his lips and did no more than glance at the W. P. B. The letter bears ample evidence that the stings of his mind did not give way. Mr. Stace apparently put his anger on ice till it turned to contempt. The Mayor did not allow his steel-frame ego to overstep the limits of decorum. Says he: "I conceive myself as resisting not with personal or arbitrary powers on which I have no desire unreasonably to insist." Space forbids us to go the whole length of the letter with our readers; we pick out a few sparklets for the instruction and amusement of our readers. Among reasons stand out prominently the two following like the legs of Colossus under which Ministers are permitted to punt or paddle their little craft:—

"A decision cannot be made either by the Hon. the Minister for Home Affairs or by the Superintendent of Police. I regard it as my duty under the By-laws to use my own discretion in the matter after taking any advice that I consider desirable."

If the present application were allowed on the ground that it is of importance to the Buddhist religion, it would become practically impossible to draw the line anywhere and that processions of elephants through

IN SUPPORT OF MR. BALASINGHAM'S PLEA FOR VOLUNTARY PROTECTION

Dr P. C. Ray of Calcutta, the well known Chemist, popularly known as the father of Doctors, said:—

Swadeshi is my religion and it has been my life long end to manufacture those articles which I have to import from foreign lands. Political considerations do not sway me. What Swadeshi can achieve can be illustrated in a few words. As soon as the recent movement began, the rich and poor—the masses and the classes—as if by the waving of the magician's wand forsook the cigarette and took to the "biri" with the result that thousands of loafers and unemployed, who finding no occupation took to goondaism are now working hard at the making of "biri" in the bye-lanes of Calcutta and in every nook and corner you find groups of youngsters sitting in a circle and briskly plying their fingers at the new handicraft and earning as much as a rupee or more a day.

.....If our people would only take to "biri" three to four crores of rupees which used to be drained out of the land, would be distributed among the masses."

Use Your Country's Goods.

the City with their attendant disorganisation of traffic, blocking of the roads, nuisance and annoyances to the ordinary users of the roads, would become frequent". Some of his observations which lie scattered about in the letter may be usefully gathered and added to the connection slips to general orders:

"I did not consider this (the Minister's, sufficient reason". "Before the Home Minister intervened I had received disinterested advice."

"I had asked for the advice of the Superintendent of Police and received it. I had not asked for the advice of the Minister."

"I had received better advice from the Superintendent of Police before he was ordered by the Minister to change his opinion". Mr. A. E. Goonesinghe wound up the consideration of propriety of the permit refusal with the confession:—

"There is no doubt a tendency among certain members of the State Council to interfere with self-governing leaders. I am against that interference."

We are against it ourselves, so is Mr. Stace, but what is of interest to the reader is the gentle and subtly effective knock-out blow which the letter deals on the Home Minister. One is familiar with the sledge hammer blow, the bludgeon method, the prodding manner, the sham-pooping style and the kick-and-caress art of letter-writing Mr. Stace has a manner all his own. The Honourable Sir D. B. Jayatilaka is a good hand at parrying blows but where is the Knight, O' where is he under the present constitution? M. S. E.

News & Notes.

A communique states that His Excellency the Governor has been obliged to postpone his tour of Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Polonnaruwa.

Mr. Baldwin announced in the House of Commons on the 4th inst. that the Opposition vote of censure on the Government with regard to Cabinet responsibility would be taken today.

The Nizam of Hyderabad has issued a warning to his subjects who are inclined to help the civil disobedience movement against the British Government that they would be severely dealt with.

Estimating that Americans hoarded gold to the extent of 1,250 million dollars last year, President Hoover appeals to Americans to cease hoarding, which, he says, is one of the very serious factors of the depression.

A Renter's message from Toledo (America) states, bearing that the Indian extremists have threatened Mr. Churobil's life the Police on Friday assigned an escort of detectives to accompany him on his journey to Detroit that night.

A letter from Mr. Lloyd George to the Malay Political Association of Ceylon on the subject of representation of Malays in the State Council, says that "he is taking up the matter with the Colonial Office and will get in touch with you as soon as he hears from that office."

Four friends who interviewed Gandhiji last Wednesday told the Bombay correspondents of the Madras Hindu that Mahatmaji is keeping good health and has gained one pound in weight. The correspondent's further message states that he understands that Mr. Vankar Pater has been put up with Gandhiji in the same ward, so that Gandhiji may be relieved of solitude. Mr. Vallabhai is also keeping fit in jail.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is said to be ill and getting slight temperature for the past one week, says an Allahabad message. He was among the defence witnesses examined on the 3rd inst. in the Naini Central Jail in the case against Pandit Krishna Kant Malaviya for sedition in respect of two poems entitled "Inquilab Zindabad" and "Khatke" published in the "Abhyudaya". Among the visitors at the trial were Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Miss Lada Nehru who specially went to Allahabad from Bombay to see her father. He appeared to be ill in Court. It is understood that Jawaharlalji will be transferred to the Barseilly Jail.

The National Government's policy for dealing with the adverse trade balance by a comprehensive system of tariffs was made known by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Neville Chamberlain in the House of Commons last week. The basis of the proposals is a general *ad valorem* duty of ten per cent (effective from March 1st), on all imports, except for items mentioned in the free list which include grain and wheat, also tea, pending the Budget. In the case of the Dominions, neither general nor additional duties will be operative before the Ottawa Conference has been held. All the products of all Colonies, Protectorates and Mandated Territories will be completely exempted from either general or additional duties.

A remarkable case of death by lightning occurred recently on the farm Palmietfontein, about four miles from Ventersdorp (South Africa). A native girl, Sophie, aged 17, was sitting in her room sewing. Her younger sister was on the other side of the table, about five feet away. The door and the window were open. A thunderstorm was rising and the children's mother shouted from the next room for the girls to close the door and windows. The younger girl got up to close the door, and suddenly what she described as a "streak of light" passed through the room. The younger girl screamed, and the mother ran in and found her standing with her neck turned in the direction of the window. Her father rushed in and, after attending to the child, looked for Sophie. She was not to be seen. Further search revealed her lying in the yard about fifteen feet from the window through which apparently she had been hurled by lightning. Her face and body were covered with burns and she was dead.

Cause for Great Alarm.

TYPHOID ON THE INCREASE IN JAFFNA.

INDIOTMENT AGAINST U. D. C. ADMINISTRATION,

In his Annual Report of the Administration of the Local Government Board, the Chairman makes the following observations about Jaffna:—

In December the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services forwarded an exhaustive report on the public health conditions in the area of the Jaffna Council. Extracts therefrom are appended to indicate the considerable amount of work both in administration and in Sanitary Education that lies before the Jaffna Council:—

Very little advance made since the last health survey in 1923 by Dr. Bridger in which year the Urban District Council was first established.

The incidence of typhoid in Jaffna is very high and is due to the lack of latrines and a proper water supply.

Achylostomiasis is the chief cause of death and is caused by defecation in the open and walking about with bare feet. Typhoid is on the increase.

At present the chief source of drinking water is from private wells. Most of them are not adequately protected and are easily contaminated. Water is drawn from these wells by means of levers to which a rope and bucket are attached. As a rule the buckets are filthy. People bathe at these wells and also wash their clothes here. There is another worse habit—the people also often do their ablutions after defecation at the well. When the defective wells are considered along with the surface pollution and lack of latrines, it will be seen what incalculable harm can be done by these wells. It is not surprising that Typhoid fever is on the increase.

Surface Pollution

The total number of systems of drainage proposed after the survey in 1916 was ten. Of these systems, Nos. 2 and 3 were finished before 1923 when the Urban District Council took over from the Local Board. After 1923 up to date only system No. 1 has been completed. The work on the rest of the systems has been suspended.

At the present there are only 1221 dry-earth latrines. There are also a number of pit-latrines. But the majority of the latrines are surface latrines. Most of the dry-earth latrines are in the Pettah. In the Grand Bazaar where there are no back-lanes or back doors provided the majority of the latrines are pit. But by far the most popular latrine is the surface latrine. A portion of the compound is fenced off and the people squat on the surface of the ground and leave their excreta to be dried by the sun. It is a common belief even among some members of the Urban District Council that if a man has a big compound he need not put up a latrine. The mischief created by this belief held by educated and responsible people is untold.

The public latrines in the Grand Bazaar are in a state of disrepair and very filthy. It is very common to see the surroundings of public latrines faecally polluted. The conservancy of the buckets is not satisfactory. As far as I have seen the public latrines are not adequately looked after.

The Housing Ordinance is in force in the Urban District Council area but in practice is honoured more in the breach than in the observance. Plans are submitted sometimes before operations are started; but they are not scrutinized.

Bad Milk-Supply

Last year there were no less than 42 licensed dairies, but an inspection of 15 dairies revealed that not a single one of them complied with any of the rules of the bye-law. Practically no control is exercised over the sale of milk and no prosecutions entered. Cows are allowed to graze on public grass lands and then tied up for the night in the cowsheds or in any part of the premises. Milking is done in the same place. In short the production is entirely insanitary and unsatisfactory. The same applies with regard to protection against contamination after production. The food content of the milk is also unsatisfactory. Milk is grossly adulterated.

There are no licensed laundries in the Town. Washing is done chiefly at Thevavikulam, Chennamkulam and Oddumadamkulam. These ponds are also used for bathing animals and for ablution after defecation. The neighbourhood of these ponds are favourite eating grounds. The expression in Tamil going to the pond side is synonymous with 'going to ease oneself'.

The number of typhoid cases is increasing every year. The incidence of typhoid fever in a community is the index of its sanitation. In all civilized countries typhoid has been on the decrease for the last twenty years and in several has disappeared entirely. In Jaffna the reverse obtains and should be a cause for very great alarm and energetic action. The chief cause of the spread of typhoid is pollution of the drinking water.

There is at present no proper supervision or co-ordination of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors, the Works Inspector or the Midwiver.

Cochins Vs. Sinhalese.

ACQUITTAL AT ASSIZES.

WORKSHOP MURDER ECHO.

That the Cochins have no reason to be proud of anything in Ceylon and that though he himself would like to give a proud Cochin a sound thrashing, he would not be content to see others do that, were some of the confessions made by a witness Hendrick Silva in the course of the trial in which 2 Cochins stood indicted at the Metropolitan Assizes before the Hon. Mr R L Perera, K O and an English speaking Jury, the 1st accused with having in September last year committed the murder of one Wilbert and the 2nd accused with having attempted the murder of one Hendrick Silva, two Sinhalese men employed in the Railway workshop at Maradana.

Mr F O Loos (Jur.) Crown Counsel, assisted by Inspector Mohammed conducted the prosecution.

Mr H A P Sandrasegara K O with Mr K S Iyer instructed by Mr J N C Thiruchelvam appeared for the accused who severally pleaded "Not guilty".

Before the Crown Counsel opened the case, Mr Sandrasegara informed the Judge that his clients and witnesses were Cochins and that they might not understand the Tamil Interpreter well, so that, he was having a Cochin Interpreter ready and applied to His Lordship to order that he may be allowed to interpret.

Judge: We had a Cochin Interpreter here before, but he was nothing better than our Tamil Mudaliyars, Mr Sandrasegara.

Mr. Sandrasegara: I only wanted to bring that to Your Lordships notice; at some stage, we might need the Cochin Interpreter.

Judge: Perhaps before we come to that stage, the case might be over!

Mr Sandrasegara: I wish so, My Lord. (Laughter)

Judge: Anyway, we will go on; let our Tamil Mudaliyar go on and let your Cochin Interpreter be in readiness, Mr. Sandrasegara.

Crown Counsel in opening the case for the prosecution said that the case was the result of intense animosity which prevailed at the time between the Sinhalese and the Cochin workmen of the Railway workshop on account of the fact that the Cochins somehow or other managed to get into the more important and responsible posts there and Crown Counsel proceeded to detail the incidents of the day which led to the murder of one Wilbert and how one Hendrick Silva was seriously injured. After the evidence of Dr. Fernando who deposed to the injuries to the deceased, the injured man and the accused, Hendrick Silva the injured man was called. He was subjected to a long and severe cross examination, by Mr. Sandrasegara.

Counsel: As a matter of fact, Hendrick the Cochins have no reason to be proud here in Ceylon?

Witness: They have no reason to be proud of here.

Counsel: They come here and not only take your work, but also many other things? (Laughter)

Witness: (No answer).

Judge: You have heard of public meetings held in protest against the Cochin invasion?

Witness: Yes, My Lord, but I did not take part in them.

Counsel: This 2nd accused is rather a proud Cochin?

Witness: That is my impression of him.

Counsel: And you thought he deserved a good thrashing from you?

Witness: No. But I wanted to assault him once.

Judge: If anyone else had given him a good thrashing, would you have been satisfied?

Witness: No, My Lord.

After trial, both the accused were acquitted and discharged.—Colombo Cor.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7844.

In the matter of the estate of the late Ganamoorthy Ganesa Pandithar of Valveddurai

Deceased,
Petitioner.

- Somanather Ponnuchamy of Valveddurai
- Vs.
1. Kamalasanammah wife of Ponnuchamy of Valveddurai
 2. Ganesapandithar Kanagasundaram
 3. Velupillai Sannuggam and wife
 4. Rasanammah of Do
 5. Ganesapandithar Thambirajah
 6. Ganesagarampillai Vinayagam and wife
 7. Vadivambikalemma
 8. Ganesapandithar Sanagarajah all of Do

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, on the June 10, 1931, in the presence of Mr. K. Maithakumar, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the Petitioner be declared entitled to take out letters of Administration as the son-in-law of the deceased and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the Respondents or any other person shall appear before this Court on or before July 22, 1931 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.
Order Nisi extended till 15th February 1932,
O, 328, 8 & 11.

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The Colombo Hindu Dharma Samaj.

70TH BIRTHDAY OF SRIMATH SWAMY VIVEKANANDA.

The 70th Birthday of Srimath Swamy Vivekananda, the patriotic Saint and Apostle of Practical Vedanta, was celebrated with great eclat and merriment, this year, at the Hindu School Hall, adjoining the Hindu Temple at Silvermith Street, on Sunday, the 31st ultimo, commencing at 5 p.m. The Hall which was crowded to the full was gaily decorated with flowers etc and the pictures of Bhagavan Sri Rama Krishna Paramahansa Deva and Paramahansa Swamy Vivekananda were hung on the wall garlanded. The entrance to the Hall was illuminated with electric jets.

The proceedings of the day commenced with the singing of Thevaram and Pooja.

Pandit M. Nallathamby, who presided on the occasion, spoke on the significance of the day. He touched upon the great Swamy's mission to America and the services he has rendered to the dumb millions of Hindu India by establishing the Sri Rama Krishna Mission.

Mr. T. Ramachandran, Teacher, Royal College, next spoke on the life and work of Swamy Vivekananda. In brief, he traced the evolution of modern India and Indian Nationalism and compared it side by side with the views of the Swamy. He remarked that all the current problems facing India were expressed by the Swamy years before but which had only now entered into the core of the Indian leaders. Referring particularly to the Daridra Narayanas, the speaker said, it was Vivekananda who first realised and expressed their sad fate, and it was He who first appealed to the Indians to lend a helping hand to them.

Pandit S. Saravanan delivered a scholarly address suited to the occasion. Messrs. S. Ramaswamy Barm, V. Carthikesu, J. Sivaratham, S. Sopperamaniam and C. S. Jambuswamy, spoke on the different aspects of the life and teachings of the Swamy.

Mr. V. Somasundaram, the Secretary, thanked all the speakers and all the members who had

Continued up

R. Papyah.

[late of P. Orr & Sons, Ltd.,]

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Y. 14, 12-11-3-32.

Continued

helped towards the celebration. He also thanked the Hindus of the locality who conducted an Annadanam, at noon, in commemoration of the day.

Pandit Nallathamby, in conclusion spoke exhaustively on the life and teachings of the Swamy supplementing his speech with quotations from the poems of Subramania Bharathi.

With the singing of Thevaram and Pooja the meeting terminated with the distribution of Prasadam.—Cor.

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