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## RURAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

### HOW IT IS WORKED IN AMERICA

"AFTER the Church and the school the free public library is the most effective influence for good in America"

—Theodore Roosevelt

Country people are getting public library service in three ways: from a neighbouring city or village library; from a small rural library (town or township); from a large unit library (usually the county). Except in the thickly settled New England states, the county library gives the best quality of service, comparable to that of the city library at the least expense.

The neighbouring municipal library is sometimes open to the country people who can get to it, either as a matter of courtesy, or in recognition of the interdependence of town and country, or on payment of a non-resident fee. Few real country people are near a good city library, however. The more accessible village library is often poorly supported and has little to offer them. It is scarcely to be expected that either city or village should tax itself unnecessarily in order to provide library service for the adjacent country. For an annual appropriation agreed upon between the two boards, neighbouring township boards or school boards may, however, make contracts with the municipal library board to enlarge its service area to take in their territory. Such a business arrangement is much more satisfactory. Public and school libraries have been jointly administered in some very small communities.

#### The Small Rural Library

In thickly settled New England, the small rural subdivision called the town is the usual library unit. In Indiana, Illinois, and a few other states, the township, or the rural school district approximating it in size, has often been used as the unit for public library service, planned for the rural people and supported by them. Except in wealthy or well settled neighbourhoods, the township, like the village, has proved to be too small a unit for good service. A recent study of small communities in Wisconsin concludes that 4,000 population is the minimum for good library service at standard cost. Indeed, a much larger unit is needed for economical and effective service. Rural leaders and organisations would do well to use state service until they can establish a large unit library.

#### The County or other Large Unit

Like the consolidated school, the county library is able to give a high quality of service to scattered country people, as well as to the villages. In practice it is the exact opposite of the school, for it takes its service to the people, wherever they live. The head-quarters library, at the county seat or other central point, is of course open to the country people. It is supplemented, however, by branch libraries and reading rooms in the larger centres; deposit stations in the smaller ones; collections in every rural school; mail service in answer to telephoned or written requests, possibly service by book

truck. Books are changed before they become stale and individual books, as needed, are hurried to the reader. An interested and capable county librarian visits all parts of the system, works with the county agent, the county superintendent, and all the rural organizations. The county library is used by many who would never even know of the far away state service. It is a strong influence in the lives of the boys and girls, and a practical tool for the other people.

Over 250 counties in 34 of the 48 states have established county libraries of various types. In Jersey County, Illinois, operated through the Home and Community Department of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, the General Federation of Women's Club as well as the A. L. A. and the League of Library Commission have endorsed the plan and are working for its adoption.

#### How to Establish a County Library

A county library may be established according to the provisions of the various state laws, when the county itself wants it, either by action of the county governing body or by popular vote. Very careful study should be made of the county library law of any given state. If it does not offer a plan embracing features essential to success, effort should be made to secure its revision before rather than after several counties have been started. Team work on the part of all the rural organizations is usually needed to secure favourable action. The state library extension agency or the A. L. A. will help work out a plan and furnish printed matter and exhibits. The county seat or other library may be used as the centre for enlarged work, or an entirely new library started. Communities supporting small libraries are usually not taxed for the county library, unless, as often happens, they want its advantages.

The county library board or the county governing body with the advice of the county librarian, determines the amount of income needed (often within limits set by law) and an appropriation made from county funds or a library tax is levied. Many local factors enter into the question of actual cost—not only population, but size and topography of the county, number of centres needed, number and kind of libraries already in existence. Some counties are spending \$1 per capita—the minimum standard for good city service—and getting the worth of their money. At the other extreme, counties appropriating only a few hundred dollars for service to many thousands of country people have little to show for the expenditure. The county library plan should

(Continued on page

## PROTEST AGAINST PROSELYTISATION

### A Missionary Interviews Gandhiji

#### AN OUTRAGEOUS INCIDENT

In his weekly letter to the *Harijan*, M. D. reports the following interview between a missionary lady and Gandhiji. M. D. writes:—

Last came the question of questions which missionary friends are not tired of asking and Gandhiji is not tired of answering. 'You would prevent missionaries coming to India in order to baptize?'

'Who am I to prevent them? If I had power and could legislate, I should certainly stop all proselytizing. It is the cause of much avoidable conflict between classes and unnecessary heart-burning among missionaries. But I should welcome people of any nationality if they came to serve here for the sake of service. In Hindu households the advent of a missionary has meant the disruption of the family coming in the wake of change of dress, manners, language, food and drink.'

#### Outrageous

'Is it not the old conception you are referring to? No such thing is now associated with proselytization.'

'The outward condition has perhaps changed but the inward mostly remains. Vilification of Hindu religion, though subdued, is there. If there was a radical change in the missionaries' outlook, would Murdoch's books be allowed to be sold in mission depots? Are those books prohibited by missionary societies? There is nothing but vilification of Hinduism in those books. You talk of the conceptio being no longer there. Only the other day a missionary descended on a famine area with money in his pocket distributed it among the famine-stricken, converted them to his fold took charge of their temple, and demolished it. This is outrageous. The temple could not belong to the converted Hindus, and it could not belong to the Christian missionary. But this friend goes and gets it demolished at the hands of the very men who only a little while ago believed that God was there.'

The lady seemed to be touched. Perhaps she had not heard of the incident. She said, 'In our hospital we do not try to influence our patients in their religious beliefs. Our doctor says we should not take an undue advantage of people in distress coming to us for treatment. But, Mr. Gandhiji, why do you object to proselytization as such? Is not there enough in the Bible to authorize us to invite people to a better way of life?'

'Oh yes, but it does not mean that they should be made members of the Church. If you interpret your texts in the way you seem to do, you straight away condemn a large part of humanity unless it believes as you do. If Jesus came to earth again, he would disown many things that are being done in the name of Christianity. It is not he who says 'Lord, Lord' that is a Christian but 'He that doeth the will of the Lord' that is a true Christian. And cannot he who has not heard the name of Christ Jesus do the will of the Lord?'

## A Short Story.

### THE HERMIT'S DAUGHTER

By Dewaki

FROM the poor hut to the thatched cottage—from poverty to wealth.

That was the lot of Shuklal, and he was making the most of it. He was but a poor agricultural labourer. He had been once told that he was respectably connected but it did not help him a bit. One fine evening—he could never forget that day—two men from the law courts called on him, and said that instead of being a labourer on the farm, he was from that moment its proprietor.

And in a week's time Shuklal had taken actual possession—landed property yielding a decent income, a house and cash, which the Court of Wards handed over to him.

The proprietor of the estate had retired to the forests with his daughter fifteen years ago. Since then nothing had been heard from him. It was so stipulated by Kunwar Sahab that if nothing was heard from him or from his daughter for fifteen years, the property might be handed over to the next of kin—Shuklal.

#### II

Riotous living—one perpetual holiday. Shuklal could never believe that the whole affair was not a dream. He had heard his father say about Kunwar Sahab—a good and God-fearing man who was infatuated with a Harijan girl and in a fit of sorrow on her death after child-birth, had retired with his little daughter—no one knew where. But no one had said that his father was the next of kin. On the other hand, he had heard the tenants curse the Court of Wards that collected the rent with harshness. Every one mourned the strange disappearance of the "Good Lord" as Kunwar Sahab. Now Shuklal was the Lord! Would he be good?

Striving to be good did not appeal to him at all. Wealth was his. It came from nowhere. It might go nowhere. Let him go through it before it melted into a dream. So the most beautiful girls were procured to sing and dance; Shuklal took to drink. The house was lit up every night—it was an enchanted prince living there, with the kind of friends that such life brought to the man of money.

#### III

Away in the interior of the untrodden hills by the sea shore, lived a hermit under a rock by which ran a clean brook of water, that emptied itself with almost a musical sound into a creek of the backwaters that separated the roaring sea from the mountainous clime. An old man lived there. He grew his own rice and vegetables, with the aid of a young girl of thirteen or fourteen. A few cows and buffaloes roamed near the rock and, on the top of the rock, they had built a temple for Lord Shiv.

To Janaki, as the girl was called, nothing was more real than this Shivji in the temple and the broad s that could be seen from the temple top. Her father had poured into her head all the religious knowledge that he possessed. She could read and write but of the real world she knew nothing. A few friends of the "hermit" as they called her father, did come now and then, but the part where they lived was inaccessible. Whenever such friends came they brought news, as well as fruits and vegetables she had not seen. She often

tried to grow these new things, sometimes she succeeded, sometimes she failed.

But for ever she was content, ever she was happy. She never knew sorrow. She spoke to God after her mind every evening when she lit the lamp in the temple and looked out into the sea.

#### IV

'Father—' she said one evening, 'I will not eat any more fish. Why should we deprive the tiny things of life? I can never forget the look in the eye of the fish I caught yesterday and threw on the land. I would not eat it.'

'Let it be—it is a good resolution. Let us not kill hereafter anything,' her father said as he eyed his daughter with supreme happiness.

'My teachings have not been in vain. And how her mother once again lives in her face and voice and in the working of her mind!' wondered Kunwar Sahab to himself.

They had just returned from a long excursion in the backwaters. They had even braved the high seas, as they found there was no wave. The tall coconut palms had begun to cast their thin shadows on the moon-lit waters as they returned. Her father was more than ordinarily silent. Janaki had seen him often in such mood. But today there was almost a haunted look on him.

Janaki placed the ear aside and gently took her father's silvery head on to her lap. 'Father, often I have felt that a great sorrow is in you, but I never dared break into your reverie till today. But I must ask, for I also have felt a strange influence even as I watched the rising waters and the starry firmament, the gentle breeze that has started up, and above all, your silvery head sunk on your breast as you sit on the prow.'

'Janaki, I am a man of sorrow; so it pleased God Shivji, but it has been for the best. I had you by me, and to me you have been the world.'

#### V

And he poured into her, then sixteen years old, the story of his love for her mother.

'I was young. I met your mother twenty years ago worshipping Lord Shiva in the temple in my own estate. She was of a low caste, and had to stand outside the temple walls. I prayed and I felt enough courage to brave social opprobrium to marry her. My friends abandoned me. I had even to stand away from my own temple lest it should be boycotted by the orthodox who valued not God but the ceremonials.'

'When you were born, your mother died. The world was a blank to me. Regretting that I had married a Harijan the richest man in the locality offered to me his only daughter, provided I would send you away into a distant nunnery, for only Christians had organized such institutions.'

'But as I looked into your little eyes, even as I the eye of the fish spoke to you to be kind, so your eyes spoke to me of the great love of your mother. And I prayed and God gave me courage and—we have lived here for now over 15 years.'

#### VI

Janaki intensely prayed that night. She rose with a strange light in her face.

'Father,' she said, 'We shall visit the temple where you saw my mother.'

(Continued on Page 4)

THE PRESENT TRADE DEBACLE AND ITS CAUSES

By V. S. CanagaSingham (Hong-Kong)

(Special to the "Hindu Organ")

THE economic civilization of the world to-day seems to have reached the crossways. After the War, productive processes were resumed in hysterical hurry by all belligerent nations and even those countries which lagged behind now follow in the march of an industrial system directly fostered by the Great War. The result was an ill-balanced growth of the economic system of the different parts of the world, over-production of commodities co-existent with widespread misery and starvation, the break-down of the international monetary standard and of international trade, culminating in the crash of 1929 which ushered in the great world-wide depression.

Those Responsible

It is absurd and improper to find fault with the genius of Newcoman, Watt, Edison and Faraday, who have contributed in abundance towards the progress of mankind—and forgive people like the late Jimmy White, who committed suicide in his country mansion in London during 1928, as the result of his failure in high finance, Ernest Terah Hooley and Hatry who were responsible to a great extent for the present economic affairs. High finance is not the cause of the depression. It is the result of the decline of the monetary standard. It is evident on all sides the painful paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty.

On the basis of the year 1929, when the price of silver was about 28 d. and above, international trade showed a reduction in 1933 of about 25% in quantum; in value the reduction was as much as 53%. The quantum of international trade in 1933 registered an increase of 1.2 per cent over the year 1932, but in value it had fallen by about 11.2 per cent.

Reactions

This phenomenal shrinkage in world trade had inevitable reactions on the standard of living of all nations. The confusion that followed was aggravated by the frantic efforts made by the bewildered nations putting sundry obstacles in the way of an easy flow of commodities from country to country. No nation on earth could then run the economic machine on the traditional lines.

Country after country adopted defensive measures. Monetary standards were thrown overboard and artificial stimulus was sought for accelerating trade and industry. None of these methods proved successful in providing a lasting remedy. It was realised that there was somewhere an unexplored defect because of which the shrinkage in world trade, the dwindling in national prosperity and languishment of industries could not be effectively resisted.

Cross Currents of Policies

The break-down of the monetary mechanism of the world to-day may, in a certain sense, be regarded as more the symptom than the cause of the present woeful state of things. Indeed, the collapse of the monetary mechanism is largely due to a strain imposed upon it by the economic policies of Governments which impeded the natural flow of trade and threw upon the money mechanism the burden of settling commercial and political debts on a scale far beyond its capacity. The nations making isolated efforts to set their own houses in order failed to adjust their economic policies to a scheme of

planned co-operation for the whole commercial world. Each country followed its own policy and adopted measures to remedy its own troubles, as if the troubles of each country could be completely remedied solely by its own endeavours. The effect was not satisfactory either for the time being or for the future. England, for instance, went back to the gold standard and fixed the gold value of the pound at a level above world parity; but was faced with circumstances which made it extremely difficult for her to carry through the necessary measure of deflation. This, as the subsequent history shows, threatened England with an imminent crisis, from which she was saved, for the time being at least, by the abandonment of the gold standard in September, 1931. But this step has created not a little confusion and uncertainty in the financial world—which have not ended yet.

Reaction in India

During this period the people in India have experienced the tremendous reaction of England's policy and its adverse repercussions on the economic system of the Indian Empire have not yet been overcome. The sudden decision of Great Britain to buy large stocks of gold from the world and particularly from the Indian Empire made Indian industry to languish with export commodities fetching prices which were entirely unremunerative and uneconomical. Here in China to-day we are witnessing the repetition of the policy by the United States of America in raising the value and price of Silver; and not long ago we have witnessed large stocks of Silver leaving the shores of China to the United States. The policy of Great Britain when she brought gold from the world market led to the development of a distinct trading group called Sterlingites which distributed the danger of the economic policy of one country among many. Parallel to such a system there have also arisen other closed trading groups on the basis of distinct currency systems. The dollar group, the gold bloc and the yen group may be cited as instances on the point. Yet cannot be said that the nations have found a panacea for all economic ills. On the contrary, they are following a path that is fraught with grave dangers. While on the one hand the results of scientific investigations have been bringing different countries of the world into closer contact and have been creating better facilities for economic intercourse between nations, the latter, on the other hand, have for the last 15 years, since the War, been building up a system of extreme nationalism. This is perhaps, the most serious anomaly with which the entire commercial world is confronted to-day.

PADDY AND RICE

April Imports Valued at Rs. 4,809,660

The total quantity of paddy imported into Ceylon in April this year for home consumption amounts to 79,865 cwt. valued at Rs. 279,528. The imports for the four months ended April 1935 stand at 255,812 cwt. valued at Rs. 868,097. Burma has supplied the largest quantity, 189,873 cwt. during the four months, and the balance of 65,939 cwt. came from British India.

Rice

772,228 cwt. of rice to the value of Rs. 4,530,132 was imported in April last. The total quantity imported for 4 months ended April 1935 was 3,446,537 cwt. valued at Rs. 19,937,726. The largest supply was from Burma of 2,513,895 cwt. for the 4 months. Next comes Siam with 447,682 while British India comes third with 892,704 cwt.

way must be found largely to associate educated youngmen with the internal trade of the country. No right-thinking Tamil can escape a feeling of humiliation at the thought that while non-Ceylonese traders in this province are carrying away the wealth of this country, educated young men have to look on with chilling despair. The indifference of the public to this state of affairs is the saddest feature of our public life.

Our young men, be it said to their credit, are more honest than the average adventurer from South India and would give a better account of their capacity; should an opportunity be given them. Parents and publicists who rightly deplore the lack of opportunities for our educated young men would do well to organise Consumers' Co-operative Societies and thus enable our young men to recover a part, at least, of the local trade now denied them. A chain of such societies in important centres of the District will demand a central importing House to ensure supplies to its constituents. This would effectively transfer the local internal trade to the hands of our own people.

Will our people work for this end? That is the question.

Mr. K. Balasingham is one of the few leaders of the people who have devoted the best part of their time for the study and elucidation of the country's problems. His views are entitled to a respectful hearing. To enable our readers to study more closely the scheme adumbrated by Mr. Balasingham to make better use of the lagoons in the Island, we issue in pamphlet form, as a supplement to this issue, the three learned articles contributed by him to the press. We feel confident our readers will agree that Mr. Balasingham's proposal is practicable and feasible and its adoption would go far to aid food production in the country. We understand the subject is receiving the attention of the Hon. the Acting Minister of Communications and Works, and we should be glad to see public opinion expressing itself emphatically in favour of Mr. Balasingham's scheme. Mr. Balasingham has taken the trouble to study the question in all its aspects and details not overlooking the financial implications of it. So far as the Elephant Pass scheme is concerned the cost is not too heavy—indeed, it is paltry by the side of the large sums expended so far on projects of doubtful utility—to launch out an experiment on the lines suggested by Mr. Balasingham. Should our readers feel convinced of the immense potentialities for good held out by the scheme, it will be their duty to persuade their representatives in the State Council to press for the adoption of the Scheme. We would commend to our readers a close and careful study of the scheme outlined in the supplement.

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The Ceylonese lad desirous of joining trade or industry labours under many handicaps. The points of vantage have already been secured by the foreign trader. Lack of capital and absence of previous training are impediments in his way. His education has fitted him only for a clerical post and he has little capital to put into business. It is not surprising, therefore, that young men who have passed stiff educational tests should offer themselves as candidates for posts carrying very modest salaries.

The question of starting minor industries and manufactures and the provision of credit facilities for industrial concerns is engaging the attention of Government. But, the wheels of Government move leisurely and educated young men cannot afford to idle away their time till Government is in a position to offer them opportunities for healthy occupation.

When all is said and considered, the greatest resource of the country and one hitherto least utilised is the energy and intelligence of our young men. A

well known Chetty firm "AR. AR. S. M." has shaken the confidence of the people in Chetty money-lenders. The Quilon Bank has come at an opportune moment. We have no doubt it will enjoy the confidence of the people and help local industry and trade. The Bank has twentyfive branch offices in British India and in the States of Travancore, Cochin and Mysore. The net profit of the Bank's transaction to the end of December 1934 amounted to Rs. 70,293,2,3—the largest on record since its incorporation in 1919. The Directors were able to recommend a dividend of 9% last year. It is not surprising, therefore, that shares in the Bank should be very popular among the investing public. The Quilon Bank Ltd. should command the confidence of the public in as much as it has fulfilled the conditions entitling it for membership in the proposed Reserve Bank of India.

HINDUISM IN HONG KONG

Site for Temple

The Hindu Association (Hong Kong) has purchased Inland Lot No. 2727 in the city of Victoria in the Colony of Hong Kong for the purpose of erecting a Hindu Temple thereon. The Association has also acquired a permanent building for its habitation and has opened a Library.

STRESS OF UNEMPLOYMENT

M A's at 12 As. a Day

It is learnt that the Calcutta University has engaged graduates and M. A's at the rate of twelve annas a day for shifting books to the newly constructed Library from the Dharbanga building.

IN HONOUR OF RAMANA MAHARISHI

Procession With Music

Arrangements are on foot to hold a procession with music in honour of Ramana Maharishi of Tiruvannamalai on Friday, June 24, at 5 p.m. from Vydheswara Vydialayam at Vannarponnai.

Hindu Board of Education

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Hindu Board of Education held on Friday last, it was decided to hold the annual general meeting on 8th June 1935 at 3 p.m. at the Saiva Training Institute, Tinnelvely.

Personal

Dr. C. Gurusamy, D. M. O. of Tangalle, who had been on sick leave, has recovered and resumed duties.

Mr. B. P. Nicholas, Head of the Banking firm of Messrs B. P. Nicholas & Sons, Malaya and Jaffna, accompanied by Mrs. Nicholas, arrived here by the P. & O. boat the S. S. "Ranchi" last week, on his annual visit to the Jaffna branch. They expect to return by the end of next month.

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1935.

THE QUESTION.

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF national welfare no question is more important to the Island than the solution of the problem of poverty. We have allowed ourselves far too long to be deluded by the legend of prosperity revealed by trade returns. It never occurred to us that official reporters always exaggerate the value of the country of its foreign trade and make no distinction between the trade carried on by the indigenous population, the profits of which are retained in the country, and that by the British and foreign agencies. The malaria epidemic in South Ceylon has, however, pricked the bubble of our vaunted prosperity and shocked public conscience by the pictures of appalling poverty and pitiful degradation of the masses. The need to take effective steps to make existence more endurable to the villagers is now keenly felt both by Government and the public. We have no doubt that towards this end measures of reconstruction will be initiated by Government at an early date.

The poverty of the rural population is not peculiar to any province. It is the common lot of the villager in Ceylon. The root cause of the situation must be sought in the policy which hitherto fostered and encouraged trade and commerce by foreign agencies to the detriment of the permanent population. The Banking Commissioners observe: "The history of Ceylon records the exploitation of its commerce by the Portugese, the Dutch, the British and the Indians for over three hundred years. Even at present its entire trade is being run by foreigners, with foreign capital, foreign labour and foreign brains. The non-Ceylonese element has kept a strong hold on the business, trade, and industries of the country and few opportunities have been allowed to the average Ceylonese to engage in trade and industries either by Government or by business firms".

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Minority Communities And A United Demand For A New Constitution

Sir,—It has been stated "that without leaders and without organization people are powerless." It is doubly true with the Minority Communities of Ceylon. They are all aware of the fact that the Sinhalese leaders are trying to dominate over them. It is needless to detail their drawbacks and handicaps under the present constitution. The Sinhalese leaders have earned the displeasure and hatred of other communities by their sinister designs and overweening ambitions. Furthermore, they failed to understand that it is very difficult to acquire a common ideal of nationhood in Ceylon and they did not do anything to foster racial unity. However, if unity exists, then it is "a loud sounding nothing". Certainly, it is a difficult task to acquire a common nationhood among the heterogeneous races which have nothing in common except the love for their native country. Historians will know that the monopoly of power in the hands of a single class brought more than one of the famous city-states of medieval Italy to ruin. In Ceylon, too, the same tragic end may happen if the political power is not redistributed liberally and equitably among the different communities. The present Constitution is only an experimental and the Minority Communities had enough of it. It is high time for the Minority Communities—Europeans, Tamils, Burghers, Indians, Muslims, Malays, Parsees, etc. etc.—to approach the British Government with their grievances, and press for a new and workable Constitution. It is advisable that the political Associations of the Minorities join forces to agitate for a new Constitution. A united demand is the golden mean.

The Sinhalese leaders may rest assured that it is impossible to achieve common nationhood and constitutional progress until and unless political power is redistributed equitably among the other communities of the country. I am sure that all the minorities and their political Associations will band together and speak with one voice. It is pleasant to recall the fact that His Excellency during this Northern tour promised to support a united demand from all communities for a new Constitution with equitable power.

Yours etc.  
Pater Patriae.

Chunukanan,  
14-5-35.

### Hindu Board Ordinance And The Hindu Public Of Ceylon

Sir,—It is really disappointing to find that the Managing Committee or the Manager of the Hindu Board has not yet issued to the Hindu Public of Ceylon copies of the Hindu Board ordinance and its rules in Tamil. How the mass of Hindus can be expected to read it in English? The Hindu Board suffers badly from lack of necessary publicity. I am sure the Board will take early steps to have the ordinance and rules published in Tamil and issued to members of the Board as well as to the Hindu Public.

I am, Sir  
Yours truly  
K. M. Chellappah

Jaffna  
18-5-35

## Men and Things

(By Kapil.)

THE discordant note in the harmony of the Jubilee Festivities of H. M.'s reign (1910—1935) was not sounded by a Tamil. We are proverbially and traditionally loyal and respectful to the person and throne of the King.

It has become a routine for our youths to fill up application forms simultaneously for Examinations and Appointments, scan advertisements and complain of warm weather (now 89° in the shade) when not faced with the necessity to keep the wolf and the bailiff respectively from the door. It would be welcome if the visits of the latter could synchronise!

The leaders of the Community aver that they cannot divert their attention and wealth to find ways and means to solve the problem of unemployment, when their persons are in sore need of decorations, even in the shape of a Jubilee Silver Medal or a Pin.

Some are fated to be unfortunate in the matter of Honours even if it becomes a daily fixture, leave alone Birthdays of Kings and their Jubilees, unless you have the good fortune to find an obliging friend for the timely begonia from 'Coddai to Patam'. At any rate, this professorial "J. P." Luck has never come my way so far nor do I expect it in future.

Part of this "Honour" is for services rendered on Road Committees, District and Provincial. Their weighty deliberations do not betray any acquaintance with road and their upkeep. They will be startled to hear that only wheel

are metalled and absorb all Budgets. They have made trees the last of the last and if tree planting items in the "Jubilee Celebration Programme."

Classification of roads for Bus Traffic by these Committees is really a miracle. It would irritate even Macadam in his present state in the grave. Witness the following:—P. W. D. road per se is fit for heavy bus traffic. D. R. C. road de luxe per se fit only for light bus traffic. A length of road (P. W. D.) Jaffna—Kayts at Karainagar is gazetted for all manner of bus traffic but the loop road of the same build and strength, even wider in parts than the above, branching off from this, being a D. R. C. road is told to carry 2 tons buses (loaded) and no more. And that too, when this loop road had given proof of its extra strength of the road surface by receiving and passing all the traffic of the P. W. D. road referred to above for several months without a break, when a big bridge on that road was under repairs. Road making materials of approved quality crop up in abundance here so that even distant Mannar draws its quota by boats for the Trunk Road there. The norm used for the classification of roads all over Ceylon must surely be wrong if it was done on this basis. The unfortunate result is that the inhabitants of the populous villages—they are nearly all in the Island—through which the loop road passes are now deprived of the services of heavy Buses which did ply here for about 15 years before the embargo was placed on them in October last.

Will the member for Kayts look further into this?

### Matrimonial

NAVARATNARAJAH—RAJAH  
The marriage took place on Wednesday, the 22nd instant, at the Railway Quarters, No 47, Sentul, Kuala Lumpur, of Miss Maheswari, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. Rajah and niece of Messrs T. R. Nalliah and R. R. Nalliah, with Mr. N. Navaratnarajah of the Customs and Excise Department, Port Swettenham, and son of the late Dr. K. Nagamattu of "Naga-Villa", Araly East. The bridal party returns to port Swettenham on the 24th instant.

## A MIRACLE AT PUNCHAVATI!

### Water Oozing out of Idol's Feet

Crowds of devotees are flocking to the Sri Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Sringeri Muth at Nasik to witness the miracle of water oozing out of the feet of the idol of the Adi-Shankaracharya, at Punchavati. The idol is of white stone and is in a sitting posture, and in the "padmasana" (lotus) pose. It appears the idol was given an "abhishlak" (holy wash) last week and was then dressed up and decorated as usual. The next morning the "pujari" was surprised to see a pool of water at the feet of the idol. He emptied the water but after a time found the place filled with water again. An examination revealed that water was trickling out of the feet of the idol.

(Hindu)

## RURAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

(Continued From Page 1.)

not be judged by partial service county libraries.

Other large unit libraries will undoubtedly be developed. The county is not an important unit in New England; it does not exist in a large part of Canada. Two or more sparsely settled counties, having low assessed valuations may need to unite for library service. It should always be borne in mind that a sufficiently large tax roll is essential to the support of good county library service; whatever may be the area and the population.

### Library Service

A public library is, or should be, a service of books, printed matter of all kinds, and information, not a building or a storehouse of books. A trained librarian can give better service with a small collection of carefully selected books than an untrained librarian with a much larger number.

A librarian like a doctor, or a lawyer, or a teacher, should have a good general education and professional training, as well as interest in people and other personal qualifications. One of the greatest advantages of the county library is that it can command the services of a trained librarian to direct and inspire the assistants and branch librarians, and to give the people authoritative advice on all questions concerning libraries, books, and reading. More than a dozen library schools offer technical training. There are also summer courses and training classes. Rural young people are needed to train for rural library service.

Books are bought to meet known needs. Through printed buying lists, each librarian has the benefit of the

## Part of Imperial Policy

### QUOTA SYSTEM ON TEXTILES TO REMAIN

### Secy. of State Puts His Foot Down

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has rejected the Board of Ministers' proposal that the Quota System on Japanese textiles be withdrawn. This decision was intimated to the State Council on Tuesday.

The Secretary of State holds that as the quota system was part of a broad Imperial policy and its reversal would not result in any practical compensation, he could not allow its withdrawal.

## FEDERATED MALAY STATES

### STATE OF SELANGOR

#### IN THE COURT OF THE JUDGE AT KUALA LUMPUR

Civil Suit No. 263 of 1931

S. T. S. Sockalingam Chettyar..... Plaintiff,

Against

A. V. Subramaniam of Bentong..... Defendant.

To A. V. Subramaniam, F. M. S. Government Pensioner formerly of Bentong the abovesamed Defendant.

WHEREAS the abovesamed Plaintiff has made application to this Court for execution of the decree in this suit, TAKE NOTICE that you are to appear before this Court on the 13th day of June 1935, either in person, or by a Solicitor of this Court, or agent duly authorised and instructed, to show cause why execution should not be granted.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court this 23rd day of April, 1935.

E. N. Taylor  
Registrar Supreme Court,  
Kuala Lumpur

(Mis. 63, 20&23-5-35)

knowledge of librarians all over the country, and of the experts they have called into consultation. From these lists and elsewhere they select the books which would be of most service in a particular community.

### Public Support

The library is a public institution, for all people, an educational institution with no age limits. It should be supported from public funds, not by membership dues or private enterprise. Tax support distributes the cost of community service among many people.

(Indian Library Journal)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**State Mortgage Bank.**—Mr. A. E. de Silva has been appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank for the remainder of the year 1935 in place of Sir Marcus Fernando who has resigned.

**World's Largest Plane Wrecked.**—Maxim Gorky, the world's largest aeroplane, belonging to Russia, crashed near Moscow airport after colliding with a smaller machine. Forty-eight persons were killed of whom 11 were crew, 36 passengers and the other was the pilot of the colliding plane.

**Governor Leaving on June 12th.**—A message from His Excellency the Governor was read in the State Council to the effect that he was proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom on June 12, and that from that day, Sir Graeme Tyrrel would be Officer Administering the Government till His Excellency's return.

**Doctor's Application Dismissed.**—The application made by Dr. C. S. Sathapati D. M. O., Karaikal, to the Supreme Court, to have the settlement of two of the libel actions he filed against two Planters rescinded, has been dismissed with costs. It is held that in view of the settlement earlier of two other cases there was nothing unreasonable in the settlement of the cases of which the application was made.

**Highway Robbers' Car Sold.**—An Oakland car No. 2448 which was used by a band of highway robbers in their nefarious trade of relieving hapless women of their *thaikodies*, and which was confiscated last month by the Police Magistrate of Jaffna on finding the accused guilty of the offence, was auctioned yesterday by the Police Magistrate at the Police Court premises and was knocked down for Rs. 70 by one Thuraiappah.

**How Gandhiji Blesses.**—"You are a tempter. I must not succumb. You will be all right without my blessings. As you have well said, you will succeed if you deserve success." This is the blessing given by Mahatma Gandhi to Mrs. Satiyammuri who wrote to Gandhiji seeking his blessings on his assumption of office of President of the Tamil Nadu Provincial Congress Committee, in succession to Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar who has resigned.

**Clean Drinking Vessels for Tavern-Goers.**—Patrons of taverns in Jaffna will be provided in future with clean drinking vessels from which they could have their day's pull. Hitherto the glasses and other receptacles used for drinking at taverns passed from the lips of one drinker to another unwashed. New rules are now attached to the Excise licences providing for strict cleanliness both in regard to premises and utensils—the latter must be washed daily with soap and water every time they are used.

**Next Viceroy of India.**—According to Press forecast Sir Malcolm Hailey, ex-Governor of the United Provinces is likely to be the successor to Lord Willingdon when the latter's term expires next April.

## FOR SALE

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(Mis. 69, 23-5, 70 22-6-35)

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(Y. 32, 25-4-35—24-4-36)



**Brahmacharya**

**CREATIVE POWER IN MAN**

By P. M. Hari

(Concluded)

The vital fluid of men is creative power in material form. It is the cream of matter and life—at the threshold of transformation of matter into life—and the primary source of man-power. It has various uses, and is essential for the building up of the human organism and everyone of its parts, physical and psychical.

All the vitality generated at the time of adolescence of man must be distributed amongst the organs of his body. Only then will the organs attain their full development and power. What remains after supplying the needs of the physical organs must be applied to the nourishing of the psychical mechanism of man and for the building up of super-normal nervous structures in the human system which will enable him to develop higher life easily. The higher impulses in man require nervous structures for their expression and operation towards higher ends. Most men are dead to these impulses because of the absence or atrophy of the proper and necessary nervous formations in them. The human organism contains nerves of varying degrees of delicacy and strength; and in their functioning lie the life and powers of man. In the ordinary man only the coarse nerves are active. The finer ones are dormant. They are also in a very attenuated condition. Unless these are strengthened and made to function man can never know higher impulses and perceptions. If all the surplus vitality in man is drained away by physical satisfaction of the sexual instinct man must long remain a brute. Much vital energy is essential to tone up the finer nervous system and to stir them to activity. All the vitality of the Brahmachari must be utilised for his growth. The life-principle of the vital fluid of a Brahmachari is absorbed into the system and goes to reinforce his life as a whole. The finer nervous machinery is substantialised and super-normal nervous structures are formed when the sexual instinct and energy are transformed into psychic force and spiritual energy. And this must be done before the manpower descends into the form of vital fluid. The sexual energy of a Brahmachari shall not be allowed to materialise into vital substance. It must be submitted by spiritual exercises into intellectual and spiritual power. Twelve years of pure, rigid, continuous Brahmacharya, especially at or from the time of adolescence will develop the whole of the finer nervous system in man and add to them certain super-normal nervous structures and centres which will help the mind to rise easily to higher spheres of consciousness and spiritual unfoldment. To one who has undergone such a Brahmacharya lofty states of superconsciousness will not be far removed from the normal state of his mind; may even his normal state would be far superior to that of the common man. That is why the Brahmin's life, which is the offspring of Brahmacharya is exalted, and he finds it easy to soar into high altitudes of philosophy and metaphysics. The intellect of a Brahmachari will rise to such heights as will stagger even great men and geniuses. Even his physical senses and organs attain such solidity and strength and sharpness as is unknown to the ordinary man.

There is no exaggeration in saying that chastity is the brick with which Brahmacharya is built. A Brahmachari must not therefore ever so much as dream of woman. All sexual considerations must be entirely foreign to him. Woman, moreover, is the greatest attraction and burden of life, and sexuality, the greatest channel of drainage of man power. Woman is the curse of the undeveloped soul. If the green horn sets his eyes on the witchery of sex-love it drags him down and dismantles his mind. Once in the clutches of the feminine charms all freedom and progress are at an end; the inner forces of life are stifled to death, and spirituality takes wings and flies off. So to shut the ears to the siren songs of feminine beauty and sex-love is most important to Brahmachary. The vitality of a Brahmachari must be kept pure and intact, and employed for the higher purposes of life. A Brahmachari cannot be over confident in respect of his vital faculty.

(Hindu Mind)

**A SHORT STORY**

(Continued from page 1)

No one will know you in your old age, with the beard sweeping down your breast. And then we shall return."

On the backwaters! In their own boat had they travelled for three days.

Just as they were in sight of the estate bordering the lagoon they heard the sound of revelry from another boat. There were three men, all drunk. And as their eyes fell on Janaki working the oar, they talked vulgarly and made towards her boat as if to sink it.

"Sons, leave us alone—" said the old man. "And do not talk so vulgarly when a girl is by; God hears you."

This only made the drunkards laugh all the more as they dashed against Janaki's boat. By a dexterous jerk, Janaki saved her boat, and as their boat passed by, she struck at it with her oar: the boat was upturned. All the three were shrieking for help.

"Help Shukla, he does not know to swim—" two of them cried as they swam for the shore. The third had sunk. Janaki watched and as his body came up for the third time she sprang down, held on to it at imminent danger to her own life and dragged it on to the boat.

**VII**

The old man and his daughter had come to worship; but they had saved the owner of the estate from a watery grave. A crowd had assembled near the temple. Just then four bailiffs came to arrest Shukla on a warrant for debt—his property was also to be attached.

"Well, this was bound to come—" was the remark of the worshippers.

No one seemed to be sorry for the man. Only his son, who was watching the beautiful stranger girl in tears before the image of Shiv, left the place and went to his father.

"Well, it was all a dream—" said Shukla to his son. "Now you go back to work and forget me. I shall go to jail. I only want to fall at the feet of the old man whose daughter saved me

even when I deserved to die, for I had insulted her."

"I am not sorry—" said Shukla to the old man "but I am a new man from yesternight. I am grateful to God that you saved my soul. I shall return from the jail a good man."

"Father,—" whispered Janaki, "is it necessary he should go to the jail at all?"

No, it was not. Kunwar Sahab walked up to the bailiffs and whispered. They immediately bowed and showed every mark of respect.

"Tomorrow all your dues shall be paid—" he said aloud to them.

The glad things spread: the Good Lord had returned. Kunwar Sahab went to the house, opened a secret room and counted out the money.

"You came to save me, Good Lord!" said Shukla as he prostrated at his feet.

"I came to simply die—" Kunwar Sahab simply said, "and not to live."

And Janaki? She revelled in doing good. She found much money in the secret vault and she gave of it freely to her tenants. Every one had decent cottages to live, schools and playgrounds soon came into existence next to the temple. Shukla was the best of men and he managed the estate well indeed. He had been dragged out of the waters, a changed man by Janaki.

Marriage for Janaki?  
"No," she said, "I am a Harijan. I shall love you all and live for you all!"  
(Roy's Weekly)

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