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# THE Hindu Organ.

(The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus)

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## A SECULAR STATE — SURE GUARANTEE OF STABILITY

### Steel-Frame Social Structure Is Dangerous

The diversion that has been created in the political situation of the Island by the plea of some top-rank statesmen for a Buddhist State has an answer in the searching analysis of a similar campaign for a Hindu State in India, in this article in the 'Aryan Path'.

I have read several articles in which a powerful plea has been made for a Hindu State in India. On going through such articles I have noticed 4 lines of argument in favour of this concept and I shall deal with each of them separately, to show how specious this plea is. I shall also endeavour to show that the Secular State which our new constitution envisages gives us all that, and something more.

In fact, it is the Secular State which is in conformity not only with our past traditions, but also with the current trend of political thought all over the world. This means that our Secular State not only sums up all that is best in our own culture, but embodies also the collective political wisdom of all constitution makers. It may not reflect the sentiments of a very small section of the Indian population, but it does mirror the aspirations of the majority. By making India a Secular State, we have not only aligned ourselves with the progressive countries of the world, but also laid the country's foundations on such a secure and broad basis that future upheavals and cataclysms cannot shake it.

#### Plea For a Hindu State

Let us first examine the psychological basis of this plea for a Hindu State. It is said that the Muslims have divided themselves from the rest of India, constituting themselves a separate nation. Now there are two Indias: the Muslim India and the Hindu India. The Muslims have their Pakistan and what is left belongs to the Hindus. We should own this fact and be frank about it. There should be a Hindu India in which non-Hindus should not have much say. This firm tone, this unambiguous idiom, this clear accent, are familiar to all of us. This way of speaking has come natural to some of those who at one time lived in Muslim majority provinces and are now displaced persons. They have seen the coming into being of a Muslim State, with many dire consequences, but they want to repeat the performance in their own country. This is not the path of wisdom.

Granted that the Muslims, considering themselves a separate nation, have acquired a homeland of their own, it does not mean that those Muslims who are left behind in India do not want to live in trust and friendship with the majority community or that they be packed off, bag and

baggage, to Pakistan. This attitude macks of excessive suspicion and advocates a confession of failure.

#### Non-Hindus Not Enemies

It is wrong to think that every Muslim resident of India is a potential enemy and a fifth columnist. It is quite possible that such arguments, if repeated very often, may turn their heads and create those very symptoms, but is a very remote possibility, for the Muslim nationals of India have not been behind other nationals in the expression and demonstration of love of this country. Nor does it behove us to say that we cannot retain the trust and affection of those Muslims who have cast in their lot with us. If we continue to think alone these lines, we are bound to create the very conditions which we deplore.

I myself come from a Muslim majority province and now that I look back upon the events of the past, I cannot help thinking that the minorities living in such areas were to blame, to some extent, for the aggressive attitude of the Muslims. They tried their best to dodge the fact of the Muslims being in a majority there and to behave as if they were powerful enough to neutralize and minimize its implications. They tried, in other words, to behave as if the logic of numbers could be evaded.

Nor did they accept the lead of the Indian National Congress and the programme of Gandhiji. They repudiated these at every step without realizing the consequences. This is not to say that the Congress did not have its branches there or that Gandhiji had no followers. But the organization was weak and divided in these provinces and the professed followers were not always true believers. On account of all this the minorities in these provinces helped, unconsciously to themselves, the propagation of the two-nation theory. Something like that is being done again and those who defend it do not realize its far-reaching consequences. It is a vicious circle which has been created and that is very deplorable.

#### Trust Must Be Inspired

The Secular State alone can inspire trust in the minorities and we should remember that there are other minorities besides the Muslims. To think in terms of a

### Tiruketheeshvaram Temple Restoration Society

A meeting of the Working Committee of the Tiruketheeshvaram Temple Restoration Society was held recently at the Old Kathiresan Temple, Bambalapitiya with Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, M. P. one of the Vice-Presidents in the chair. It was decided to make representations to Government regarding Water supply, Roads, Railway Station and other requirements for Tiruketheeshvaram. It was reported that search had been made for suitable stones for temple construction by Mr. Sellak Sthapathi who had come from India in connection with temple construction at the invitation of the Society; stone inspected and selected by Sthapathi and a member of the Committee who has experience in engineering and construction works. Samples collected by were shown to the Committee meeting commenced and with the singing of Tirukethevara Thevara hymns.

Hindu State is to demand homelands. This means the future fragmentation of India. No true patriot could ever be a party to it.

Then there is the ideological basis of this argument. Before we have a Hindu State, we must understand what we mean by it. Do we mean by it a racial or biological state such as Hitler envisaged in Germany? Surely racism is an exploded myth; even the Germans had to confess its failure. Or do we mean by it a state in which those forces operate which Dr. Malan is trying to bring into being in South Africa? How can we lend countenance to these in our own country when we are trying to fight against them in South Africa?

A Hindu State cannot be a theocratic state because, as every one admits, Hinduism is not a religion with a single creed. Moreover, a theocratic state is an anachronism. Even in those countries where people clamour for a theocratic state, such a thing is not possible. The theocratic veneer generally conceals the sound secular timber.

#### Preserving Social Structure

Some persons in India, however, mean by a Hindu State something like this: They want to preserve the peculiar Hindu Social structure and the rigidity of caste. This is a strange argument to come, as it does, from keen-witted progressive intellectuals. In the first place, one does not understand what is meant by caste. Does it mean by Varnashrama, the so-called caste based on birth by which the average Hindu swears? If it is that, it cannot be the basis of the new social structure which all the Hindu reformers have been trying to rear during the last 150 years. It is the tyranny of this rigid caste-system which according to all reformers from Raja Ram Mohan Roy to Gandhiji, has been responsible for the weakness of Hindu society. It is against this that mystics and seers like Guru Nanak and Ravi-

### Deepavali Day at Anuradhapura

Deepavali was celebrated at Anuradhapura in the form of a Variety Entertainment at the Vivekananda Society Anuradhapura in aid of its school by the students of the Vidyalayam on Thursday the 9th instant at 6.30 p. m.

The entertainment, organised by the School Manager Mr. S. Sivaramalingam and Secretary of the Society Mr. A. K. Arumugamthamby, consisted of Oriental dances, comic scenes, dialogues and a small play "Sittyin Kodumai" (Step-mother's Wick-edness) trained by Messrs. V. Thambirajah, S. Jegannathaachary, S. Sivapragasam and Misses. V. Nayanaptham, N. Sivapackiam.

dasa have raised their voices. But if caste means the Varnashrama ideal it means something quite different. Says Sri K. M. Munshi in his recently published book on the Bhagavad Gita:—

"The ideal and the practice of Chaturvarnya have had mutual reactions in shaping the social evolution of India. The cases tend to adhere to the rigid isolation of birth by claiming to perform—and not without success—the tasks assigned to them by Sri Krishna. The dynamic teachings of Sri Krishna, on the other hand, readjusted social relations from time to time by encouraging a shift from birth to individual nature and tasks".

#### The 'Purity of Blood' Argument

This Chaturvarnya, then, should not be understood as something inelastic and static. It is essentially functional and dynamic, inclusive and not exclusive, absorptive and not unassimilative. So the argument based on purity of blood does not hold good. It is scientifically untenable, as Julian Huxley has declared, and historically it has not been valid anywhere, even in India. Sri K. M. Munshi and others have proved beyond dispute that: "A perpetual interchange of new recruits was the common factor both of Hinduism and Islam since the advent of the world".

A Hindu State cannot, therefore, guarantee rigidity of caste; if it could do so, it would be an unprogressive state. It should also be remembered that India cannot be isolated from the world. The functional society is the ideal of Hinduism and to this the Secular State is essentially favourable. To demand caste rigidity is to hark back to the days of decadent Hinduism. On the other hand, in a Secular State we do not have a steel-frame social structure, but an elastic one, in which, there is room for all kinds of abilities, skills and aptitudes. This is

Continued on page 4)

## SMOKING MAY CAUSE CANKEROUS GROWTH

ALTHOUGH the treatment of cancer has progressed to the extent that there are today many thousands of people living, who have been completely cured of the disease and thousands more, whose lives have been prolonged by several years the medical research worker must still confess to many gaps in his knowledge of the cause and treatment of the disease. It appears, indeed, that there is no single cause of cancer and consequently one may expect more than one form of treatment to be required.

Research is, however, gradually indicating some of the causes of cancer and with this growth of fundamental knowledge is developing knowledge about methods of prevention and cure. One cause, at least, is established beyond doubt; it is that certain chemicals constantly applied to the body will in the course

volving as it does the introduction into the body of products of combustion, might be a cause of cancer, but hitherto the evidence has not been entirely conclusive.

#### Smoking Habit

Now, however, extremely pains-taking investigations carried out in Britain during the past three years by research workers of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Medical Research Council, have established this suspicion beyond doubt.

The background to this investigation, carried out with elaborate precautions to eliminate the personal opinions and prejudices of the investigators, who included both smokers and non-smokers, is the Registrar-General's records of the causes of death in Britain. In 1922, 612 people were reported as dying from cancer of the lungs; in 1927, 9,237 are known to have died from this same cause, a 15-fold increase in only 25 years. In the same period the consumption of tobacco has risen from an average of three pounds per person each year to nearly five pounds.

#### Result of Research Investigation

Other countries in which tobacco is smoked heavily report similar increases in the number of cases of cancer of the lungs. The only important exception is Iceland and here consumption of tobacco is abnormally low, little more than one pound per head.

The research team, therefore, set out to see whether—

(Continued on page 3)

### Portraits of Tagore & Gandhiji in Teheran University

Leading Persian officials, dignitaries, and educationists thronged the hall of Teheran University's Law Society November 7th when Ali Akbar Siassi, the University Chancellor accepted on behalf of the University and the Persian people portraits of Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore presented by the visiting Indian Cultural Delegation.

The spectators applauded loudly during the unveiling.

Afterwards the University gave a reception to more than 500 guests at the ceremony.

For many years it has been suspected that smoking, in-





## Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1950

### Treasure These Thoughts

The world as seen by science is not the world as it really is—  
—JOSEPH NEEDHAM

### PROFESSING PEACE

PECKSNIFF in Martin Chuzzlewit was characterised as the unctuous hypocrite prating of benevolence. In the world political situation the attitude of the Bolsheviks, bellicose by its tone and action, has been singled out as the one disturbing feature in an otherwise calm setting. Hence Red slogan shouting has acquired the touch of a rigmorale. This inference appears to be correct particularly after China which for years had been rent asunder by civil strife emerged under the Communist cloak out of internal chaos only to become a virulent aggressor nation. Soviet Russia, the Master Marxist nation and her satellites have been involved in a series of incidents that have been deprecated by the United Nations as war-like preparations. For these very states to congregate in conference to pray for and preach peace cannot but amuse the rest of the world.

Freedom from war and civil disorder, that is what is popularly known as peace. The Second World War like its predecessor was fought by the allied nations to usher in a long period of peace. The war had ended but quiet has not yet been restored. The longing for peace is there but the whole affair has been made look ridiculous by both oppressors and oppressed appealing for the speedy establishment of peace. If Red Russia thinks that she alone of all nations is eminently fitted to bring about peace it can only be in the literal sense in which the revolver is called a peace-maker.

The centre of gravity of civil disorder seems to be shifting from South East towards the Middle-East Asia. From Nepal to North Korea the vast stretch of Asian territory is virtually erupting. Every small incident that has contributed to the culmination of this open warfare can be traced to Communist activity. And yet are we to be told by these disruptionists that their mission is merely to establish the much-needed peace? Then Hitler and all those war-mongers who went ahead of him must have had the noble intention of restoring calm behind their belligerent activities!

Peace cannot be preached, certainly not by those who practise warfare. Only those who possess mental calm and a

serene conscience will have the urge to think of peace, talk about it and act peacefully. The great religious founders had all compiled codes of conduct for man to live in tranquillity and if only those who make frantic efforts to convince the world that they want the cessation of war would first seek to draw inspiration from the gospels of the different religions and bring about peace of mind in themselves, they would be equipping themselves with the necessary mental magnanimity to respect human life and to become honest in both what they profess and perform.

The criticism levelled at the Communists who held a peace conference at Sheffield yesterday and who intend assembling at Warsaw on Thursday next that they are maliciously masquerading under the pennon of peace seems to be justified at the present moment.

### The Idol Of The Entire World



Nehru's 62nd Yr. Begins

Here is a man who was born to fulfil a great mission. And no biographer will deny the fact that he has nearly accomplished his task. Trained under the best of patriots and systematised and spiritualised by the Mahatma-Nehru has always realised the fact that his life has a purpose. Intellectuals there had been in India and elsewhere but not to them all had been assigned a responsible work of doing something of which posterity might be proud. Trials and tribulations experienced in the course of a historic struggle for the cause of the Nation's Freedom have not made this great leader a fanatical nationalist. Instead his sufferings have made of him a world hero, one who has assumed a position of responsibility to redeem humanity from degradation.

We wish his world mission a redounding success.

### Car-Driver Stabbed

One Sinnathamby Punniyamorthy, a hiring-car driver of Vaddakoddai died shortly after he was stabbed. This happened on November 6. In this connection his elder brother Retrasabapathy himself a hiring-car driver of the same place has been taken into Police custody.

### The Remedy For World's Ills—Hinduism

#### Pottuvil Hindu Maha Sangam Formed

"Hinduism can provide the remedy for the world's ills", declared Mr. S. Srinivasan, D. R. O., Pottuvil, presiding at a public meeting of the Hindus of Pottuvil held at The Pottuvil Pillai Temple premises on 3-11-1950.

A Sangam called "The Pottuvil Hindu Maha Sangam" was formed with the objects of providing Hindus with a place of worship and fostering Hindu Religious Education. The Chairman continued "Mahatma Ghandhi" was the greatest Hindu of the age. He not only preached but practised Truth and Non-Violence.

Scientific progress not based on the bedrock of a firm Religious foundation will lead the world to chaos and disaster. Only by following the noble path chalked out by Mahatma can the World's leaders ensure peace.

It is important that side by side efforts should be made for a cultural and religious regeneration."

The meeting confirmed the election at an earlier meeting of five (5) trustees and authorised the trustees to collect money and provide a temple at Pottuvil.

Brahma Sri C. V. Ishwara Bahagawathar delivered a "Kathapirasangam" on Nandanar.

### Murder on Deepavali Day

One Manicam of Mallakam, a car driver, who was admitted to the Civil Hospital Kankasanturai on Thursday last at 7 p.m. with stab wounds died shortly afterwards.

It is learnt that the stabbing was in the course of an altercation between the deceased and one Ramu Sivambam. The latter has been taken into Police custody.

### The Jaffna District Government Assistant Clerical Service Union

The inaugural meeting of the Jaffna District Government Assistant Clerical Service Union was held at "Packiastham", Chavakachcheri on the 5th instant presided by Mr. C. N. Sanmuganathan, Head Clerk, D. R. O's Office, Chavakachcheri.

The following were elected as office-bearers:

President: Mr. C. N. Sanmuganathan. Vice Presidents: Messrs S. Chelliah & K. Chinnadurai. Hon. Secretary: Mr. C. P. Mahalingam. Hon. Asst. Secretary: Mr. K. Sivasubramaniam. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Rajadurai.

### TUBERCULOSIS DAY

## PUBLIC HEALTH ENEMY NO. 1

### To Prevent T. B. Taking Heavy Toll

(BY E. P. RASIAH)

T. B. or commonly called consumption is caused by an active microbe known to medical science as Tubercle Bacillus. It was Robert Koch, who in 1882 discovered this. These germs are so tiny that they cannot be seen except through a microscope. About a thousand of these germs can easily lodge on the head of a common pin and they are so light in weight that they can even float in the air and be alive for hours. These bacilli generally invade the lungs and attack them causing the victim to cough constantly. At the latter stages, the victim gets emaciated, develops a temperature and expectorates blood as a result of haemorrhage of the lungs. Tuberculosis does not mean mere pulmonary tuberculosis for it attacks the bones, joints, brain and meninges, glands, tuberculous of the eyes, kidneys and other organs. This bacillus may attack any organ or tissue of the body.

Medical authorities are of opinion that no child is born into the world with T. B. Even the child of a T. B. patient, if segregated at time of birth and brought up under healthy conditions could grow to manhood and be free of T. B. It is said that the disease is an outcome of our own social and economic conditions. According to Dr. J. H. F. Jayasuriya "This disease is introduced, as it always is, in the train of civilising influences" until recently South Africa was free from the curse of T. B. but now with the spread of civilisation there, the disease has settled in the midst of sturdy Africans too and bids fair to decimate them. "What civilisation produces should be able to stamp out for it is to a large extent a preventable disease". It appears to be a disease more or less of the masses now. It is on the working men and women that the disease presses heavily and in such undue proportion.

#### Particulars of Victims

It is shocking to find that the maximum morbidity and mortality is between 30 and 40 years of age, when an individual is at his prime of life with others dependent upon him for their maintenance. What a tremendous drain this T. B. is imperceptibly causing on man power, the national resource of our country? Statistical support could be found to establish the fact that there are over 50,000 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in this Island—so that nearly 2 in every 100 of our population are having this dreadful disease. I wonder, how many of my readers are victims of this disease, without knowing the fact that they are harbouring this dangerous bacilli in them. We find that most victims of active pulmonary T. B. do not care to remain isolated or confined to a room. They are out on the roads, madams, temples, picture palaces, tea-boutiques, markets etc., always expectorating and unknowingly sowing the bacilli and thus spreading this fell disease. As we travel by bus or train or whilst walking, 2 out of 100 people we meet, talk to or pass by are suffering from T. B. In 1949 according to reliable records 4136 persons have died of T. B. in Ceylon. That means

about 11 persons have daily succumbed to this disease.

While the Criminal Law of this Island does not permit one to kill his neighbour with a knife, it permits him to kill another or disable him & a score of others by the less spectacular method of coughing the T. B. bacilli over him and causing a slow and agonising death.

#### Course of Action

The nature of the disease is such that to combat it effectively a total war should be declared against it and all should join hands—the government the medical men, voluntary organisations Local bodies, the patient, his family and relatives. While it falls to the lot of government to provide adequate number of beds and the necessary trained staff, it is incumbent on medical men and ayurvedic physicians to fearlessly disclose, unmindful of the resentment of patients and their people, the nature of the disease. Local Bodies should provide enough funds to meet contingent expenditure. Public organisations have to see that the family is adequately provided when the bread-winner-victim is isolated or remains an inmate in a Sanatorium. The patients should, whatever the social stigma, behave well, confine themselves in a place set apart for them and should not expectorate anywhere and everywhere.

The ex-patients families and relatives should see to his rehabilitation and after-care on his return from Sanatorium. The ex-patients, even after Sanatorium treatment remain an economic burden to the family, as relapses among them are common.

Prevention is the first step to be taken and all money spent by the State on prevention will, no doubt be well-merited and would result in the end in an economic gain to our land.

Then comes education and propaganda so that ignorant people may be made to realize the serious nature of this social disease.

Thereafter comes hospital treatment. But unfortunately accommodation is available only for 1000 patients altogether, in our hospitals and Sanatoria—that means for every 2 persons in the Sanatoria, there are 98 people outside, spreading the disease.

From the above, every citizen and tax-payer ought to be able to realise the magnitude and seriousness of the problem and the ineffective action taken so far to stamp it out. If only one takes the trouble to evaluate the loss which the country annually suffers from the preventable sacrifice of human lives, through malnutrition and preventable morbidity resulting in T. B. it is felt that the result would be so startling as to arouse public resentment and condemnation of the apathy displayed by all concerned. In America, they seem to spend fabulous amounts to fight this disease. According to Dr. Ramsay Spillman "tuberculosis" during and after the last world war...has cost \$960,000,000 in hospitalization etc. This re-

### Rebellion In Nepal

#### Nepalese Rana Regime Threatened

The Prime Minister's action in proclaiming the King's 3 year old grandson as successor to the throne and the consequential self-imposed exile of the King Tribhuvan have let to fierce fighting between the State Forces on one side and the Nepalese Congress volunteers on the other.

The 2000 strong Nationalist Militia claim spectacular success and have forced the surrender of Birganj.

#### Congress Leader Shot

While demanding the surrender of the state troops Tribhuvan Malla, the Nepal Congress leader was shot through the brain. He died immediately afterwards.

A parallel Government has been formed at Birganj.

### Communist China's 'No' To U. N.

"We cannot accept the invitation of the Council because it deprives the representative of the Central People's Government of the right to discuss in the Security Council the most pressing question of armed intervention in Korea and aggression against China by the United States Government" is the cable reply sent by Chou En-Lai the Communist Premier to M. Trygve Lie the Secretary-General of the U. N. O. regarding the latter's invitation to the former to discuss Korea.

presents an average cost of about \$ 10,000 for every case."

#### Voluntary Organisation

It will be heartening news to all to know that a branch of "The Ceylon National Association for the prevention of Tuberculosis" has been formed in Jaffna with a powerful Executive Committee. There is a laudable but difficult task. With Dr. C. Candiah, J. P. as President and Mrs. Mathai, Dr. R. W. C. Thambiah & Advocate M. M. Abdul Cader as joint Secretaries the organisation is sure to justify its existence. With the blessings of a sympathetic Mayor and the guidance of an energetic M. O. H. this ought to do very substantial work.

Mr. P. Nadesan as its Propaganda Secretary has been assigned the preliminary duty of making a survey of T. B. cases and their contacts within the Municipal limits. He is already flooding the clinic with victims of T. B., getting them X-rayed and following them up and obtaining whenever possible, hospital accommodation for positive cases. As a result of his excellent propaganda, a philanthropic gentleman—a dutiful son of Jaffna and a prosperous business magnate with establishments here and in Colombo—has been generous enough to give us a cheque for Rs. 500/- as his donation towards the T. B. work of this C. N. A. P. T. (Jaffna Branch).

The grateful thanks of not only the C. N. A. P. T. but also the public of Jaffna are due to him for the lead given by him. It is hoped, equally public spirited and generous ladies and gentlemen, would not fail in their duty to follow the lead given.

What is needed next is co-operation on all sides, particularly from the members of the public if the association is to successfully combat this scourge.

November 15th is being celebrated throughout the Island as Tuberculosis Day. Let Jaffna also join in this great crusade and do its bit.



## Letters

To the  
Editor



### Mass Conversions

Sir—  
Your correspondent, whose letter appeared in your issue of the 3rd instant under the above heading, has remarked that it was a pity that "Hindu Organisations" such as the Vivekananda Society... have not taken the trouble to investigate the causes that led to such conversions. May I inform him and those who share his views that the "causes" are all too obvious to need any special investigation

(1). The primary "cause" is that, while all Religions are unanimous that Religion is each individual's own affair, only the Hindus observe that teaching in practice; the followers of all the other Religions are bent on increasing the numbers of their respective co-religionists, converting the people en masse to their Religions and quoting census figures to prove the superiority of their Religions.

The Law of Karma (the local Buddhists call it *Kamma*) is, however, inexorable and it is a fact of past and contemporary History that, while adherents are roped in scores and hundreds by questionable methods, those within the fold go out of it in lacs and millions as free-thinkers, etc. Only recently, the 400 millions of Buddhists in China had gone over to Communism and the Lamas in the "Roof of the World" have now prevented their Spiritual Head (Dalai Lama) from fleeing away from the Communist invaders.

(2). The immediate "cause" is the urge surging in the hearts of the number of Singhalese-Buddhists (Politicians and Monks) to make Singhalese and Buddhism the State Language and Religion respectively in this Island. At present, the census figures are a stumbling block but, if Tamil-Hindus are converted to Buddhism, both objects could be achieved simultaneously, as the books on local Buddhism are not available in Tamil and Tamil converts to Theravada have, ipso facto, to become patrons of Singhalese.

(3). Another "cause" is the false propaganda that caste-discrimination is observed only by the Hindus. The facts that the most important of the three local Sects of Buddhist monks—the Siamese Sect—excludes all castes excepting one from its order, that the monks of that Sect do not even sit together with the other monks at *Danas*, that people of certain castes are not admitted into Schools and Viharas—these facts are zealously kept back from the potential Hindu converts to Buddhism.

I stated the above facts in a booklet on Buddhagaya and enquired whether any Buddhist could deny the truth of the above statements; on 22-1-49, I sent copies of that booklet to the President of the All-Ceylon Buddhist Congress—who is now in the fore-front of these mass conversions—to the three English Colombo Dailies, etc., obtaining certificates of posting from the Post Office. None of them has, so far, ventured to deny the above facts. The claim that the other Religionists do not observe distinction based on caste, colour,

wealth or high official positions is a grotesque MYTH.

(4). A fourth "cause" is the presence in this Island of pseudo-Hindus who, in the guise of serving the Harijans, rejoice in slinging mud on Hindus and Hinduism. Threats and false, anti-Hindu propaganda are their weapons; Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's recent visit to Ceylon has galvanized them into renewed activity.

They have no regard for truth. The fact that the Doctor had earlier exhorted his followers in India to embrace Islam *en masse* but had to eat humble pie is no significance to them; nor the fact that the Hindu Harijans in India are now enjoying privileges which are denied to the other Hindus; nor the fact that in the parts of Ceylon where Hindus are being converted to Buddhism, Hindu Harijans have free-entry into Hindu Temples; nor the fact that there is an ever-increasing number of Hindu leaders who are advocating temple-entry for our Harijan brethren into Temples in conservative Hindu localities. Men who are wilfully blind can never be made to see.

In this connection, it is relevant to quote the following words of wisdom from the Presidential speech of Shri V. I. Menon in Pillai-an acknowledged Harijan leader of South India—delivered at the last (third) Harijan Provincial Conference held at Tirunelveli:—

"In 1949 the Congress again took up the reins of administration and ameliorative measures were taken up. A crore of rupees was set aside and spent on the lines indicated in the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee's report.

A section of our community has recently voiced opinions unworthy of our status in the country. What is taught and preached in Buddhism is found in the great religion of Hinduism. In our State we have the glory of having produced a great philosopher, Thiruvalluvar, and a great saint, Thiruppanashwar. Are we to forget these great personages and divorce the religion embraced by them? Professing a religion is left to the individual but cannot be forced on a helpless community to secure some unknown political advantages. At a time when amends are honestly being made for past acts of isolation enforced on a helpless community, it is unwise to attempt a suicidal policy of seeking seclusion from the main Hindu fold."

But the jaundiced eyes of Dr. Ambedkar and his satellites continue to see yellow in everything Hindu.

2. It is therefore, not necessary to carry out an investigation to find out the "causes" for these mass conversions but it is not possible to answer categorically your correspondent's specific questions without holding an inquiry; the Buddhists will not co-operate in such an inquiry. I may, however, state that the general impression in this part of the Island is that

(a) the figures published in the Newspaper are grossly exaggerated ones to induce more Hindus to embrace Buddhism last night a news paragraph appeared in one of the Dailies that 20,000 Hindus in India "have decided to embrace Buddhism"!! Evidently it is a case of "wish is father to the thought". It is not stated how many of those 20,000 are Communists in Hindu garb,

(b) the new converts are mainly

"Hindus" with a good number of Christians,

(c) the conversions are solely political as the converts believe that they could secure Ceylon Citizenship easily by professing to be Buddhists, and that

(d) the converts are mainly Harijan (Tamil) Telugus and Malayalees).

3. The Great Lord Buddha, whom the Hindus venerate, did not deny the existence of God but his "followers" in Ceylon do. Therefore, the local Buddhism is the penultimate step to Communism and it is natural that all those who believe in God bemoan the fact that hundreds of our people are on the downward path but "Ayan anri anuvum assaiathu". (Even an atom would not move without His Will). All that we Hindus could and should do is to follow the teachings of our Dharma, more in their spirit than in the letter, and treat out less fortunate brethren as our joint-heirs to our peerless heritage.

P. MUTTULINGASWAMY  
Colombo, 8-11-50

### Ceylon Water Supply

Sir,—Lanka is blessed with many natural resources, one of which is water. In ancient Ceylon, there existed a most efficient system evolved by the best engineering skill, by which abundant supply of water was made available throughout the length and breadth of the Island. With foreign rule, the country's life-line fell into disuse and, as a result, today we find water shortage, accompanied by famine occasionally in certain places, not only in the dry zone but even in localities adjacent to places where waters reign supreme. Further, in consequence unfortunately of a growing tendency amongst the local government bodies to have their own water-pockets, there is a noticeable aggravation of the water-shortage situation, and famine in the midst of plenteousness has been created by this water-tight-compartment mentality.

Let us take, for instance, the question of Kandy's water supply. The Municipal Council is reported to have decided at last to tap the Mahaweliganga water. The matter should, however, be further considered most carefully in view of recent events. Who ever thought that the University site at Peradeniya would be submerged? But it was in 1947. Droughts—acute occasionally—with the Mahaweliganga lying low are a regular feature in Kandy and the quality of the water on such occasions is well known. Therefore, the possibility, in these days of abnormality, of the increasing population of the town being gifted with a duration to deal more with the Mahaweli than with the ganga should not be discounted.

The question of harnessing the water resources of the land for the benefit of the entire population should rightly receive top priority by the central government. In view of the existence of an all-Ceylon water scheme in ancient times, it should be possible to instal a system again for the conservation and distribution of water to serve the needs of the largest possible part of the Island.

If the Hunasgeriya or Ramboda scheme preferably the latter to begin with, is taken in hand, adequate supply of water should be assured to not only Kandy but also all towns and townlets along the route to Kandy and other places adjacent to Kandy. The supply can also be augmented by the other sources available along the line. The expense might

### Nucleus For A Second University

"If Ceylon can boast of a University among verdant surroundings and salubrious conditions, Jaffna too can help to have one—if not better than such a one that is being built in brick and mortar. Jaffna College is an ideal nucleus for a second University" declared the Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam Minister of Industries the Chief Guest at the annual dinner of the Jaffna College Undergraduates' Union held on November 11.

Earlier Miss Eunice Goodfellow M. A. proposed the toast of the college to which the Revd. S. K. Bunker replied. Revd Bunker replying, referred to both Mr. Senanayake and Mr. Ponnambalam as men with exceptional energy. "As Senanayake is Prime Minister of Ceylon, and Mr. Ponnambalam are Premier of Jaffna.... the dignity—at least the significance—of Jaffna looks to you", he said.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam then proposed the toast of the Union, in the course of which, as stated earlier, he said that Jaffna College could be to become a University in course of time. Then referring to the President of the Union, Mr. Jayananda Ratnayake, he said that it was a healthy sign that one like him should have come right down from the South to the North for his education. He stressed that more students from the South should come from the South and study with their brothers and sisters in the North. He then expressed his hope that the undergraduates would go out into the world as men and women who will be prepared to uphold their convictions against all odds, even if they were in a minority. "That is a principle I have been following throughout my life" he added Mr. Jayananda Ratnayake then replied in a humorous speech.

### No 'Hindu Raj' in India

Sri Parushottam Das Tandon, Congress President, said at Jaipur last week that he stood for a secular State in India and could never agree to the Hindu Mahasabha slogan of 'Hindu Raj'.

The Congress President, who was replying to an address presented to him by local displaced persons at a public meeting, said that communalism alone was responsible for the partition of India. The leaders of the country committed a historic blunder by accepting separate electorate in 1906.

look formidable but it will be shared amongst all the local governing bodies getting the benefit of the water supply. A few installations of that nature spread throughout the country would definitely prove economical in the long run. Ceylon has an abundant supply of water and that water should be made available everywhere. I repeat that this question should engage the most earnest consideration of the Government.

13, Hill Street, Kandy, 3rd November 1950.

Yours faithfully,  
A. M. DEVASAGAYAM.

### Smoking May Cause Cankorous Growth

(Continued from page 1)

as some have asserted—the whole of the increase can be accounted for in this way. They reached the firm conclusion that it cannot and that at the same time as the tobacco habit has increased, the real incidence of lung cancer has multiplied several times.

The method used in the research by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine involved interviewing individually about 2,500 cancer patients in 20 large London hospitals. About a fifth of these proved to have cancer of the lung.

Lung cancer was much more prevalent among smokers than nonsmokers and the added risk appears, as might be expected, to be roughly proportional to the amount of tobacco smoked.

More detailed analysis indicates that cigarettes are more dangerous than pipes, though, oddly enough, it seems to make little difference whether the smoke is inhaled or not. Advancing years increase the risk; among those over 45 years of age it seems likely that lung cancer is as much as 50 times as likely among those who smoke 25 cigarettes or more a day than among those who do not smoke at all.

This careful investigation is important because it gives a really firm foundation to suspicions which have been aroused for some years but which have been extremely difficult to confirm or confound. The investigators suggest that cancer of the lung might well be regarded as an occupational disease, for the heavy smoker may smoke for more than six hours a day, almost a full-time occupation.

It seems that by abstinence man has within his power the means of almost eliminating one particular form of cancer.

### Korean Situation

Two Chinese and three North Korean Divisions are said to be operating North of the confluence of Chongchou and Kunyong rivers. American First Cavalry Division captured two hills at the junction of these rivers.

### ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1227

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Karthigesu Muthugesu of Vaddukoddai East Deceased,

Muthachchippillai widow of Muthugesu of Vaddukoddai East  
Vs  
Petitioner

Minor, 1. Mahaladchumammah Daughter of Karthigesu Muthugesu aged 11 years & 2. Ramalingam Annamalai both of Vaddukoddai East, Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before S. S. J. Goonasekara Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 28th day of September 1950 in the presence of Mr. M. K. Subramaniam proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read;

It is ordered that the 2nd respondent be appointed guardian ad-litem over the minor 1st respondent for the purpose of representing her in this proceedings and that letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner abovenamed as the widow of the deceased unless the respondents or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on or before the 7th day of December 1950 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 29th day of September 1950.

Sgd Wm. G. Spencer  
District Judge.

(O. 80 14 & 17)

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## A Secular State—Sure Guarantee Of Stability

(Continued from page 1)

what we find in all progressive countries.

### Homogeneity

Nor does the ideal of cultural homogeneity turn out to be more than a matter of mere academic interest. There is no cultural homogeneity in any part of the world and the dream of an un-mixed culture befits only theorists. It is not, therefore, right to say that: "A mixed culture is the negation of culture". There is hardly any part of the world where we do not find a mixed culture. The static conception of culture is what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has called the doctrine of the closed mind and the closed heart. It is true that the main stream of culture in India is Hindu, but many tributaries have fed it. Nor is there anything wrong with that. All the virile nations have assimilated cultural values from other countries: the most conspicuous example of this is China.

To talk of an unmixed culture is like talking about a pure language. English, which is now a world language, has assimilated words from all countries and is therefore, vital. There are other languages which have ceased to assimilate new words and are reckoned as dead languages. The same is true of culture. It is essentially a synthesis and its beauty lies in its richness. According to professor MacIver, "Our culture is what we are, our civilization is what we use". The average Indian, even illiterate and country-bred, is the product of so many influences that it will not be possible to disentangle them. It is only a Secular State which can follow the open-door policy so far as cultural influences go and it is only by doing so that it can enrich man in the various aspects of his personality.

### Appeal To Emotion

The question, however, remains whether a Secular State can appeal to the emotions of its nationals as powerfully as could a Hindu State. Says Shri Malkani in the September *Aryan Path*:

"The acceptance of the Hindu ideology is bound to inject a new vigour direct into the bloodstream of the nation. It is a glamorous idea that a great Hindu State has at last emerged. It is the only way we can forget for a time our economic woes and feel something of the radiance of independence."

This may be a glamorous ideal but ideas of this description do not last long. Glamorous ideas can hypnotize people only for a while, as the recent history of Japan, the history of Fascist Italy and the history of Nazi Germany show for the glamour wears off very soon. It is the State founded on the bedrock of social justice, political equality, cultural freedom, economic competence and religious liberty that can last the longest and appeal to all that is the deepest in human nature and not to that which is merely superficial and of passing interest.

To say that an ideology can be a substitute for good and effective living is to misread human nature. If an ideology could work such miracles, human problems would be very simple. An ideology has in the last resort, to be translated into terms of living and to be embodied in institutions. Both of these must have a territorial as well as extraterritorial significance. In other words,

they should be related to the context of India as well as to that of the world outside.

### Hindu Ideology

Hinduism, as I understand it, has had both these facets. But the Hindu ideology of which we hear so much these days cuts at the very root of what some of the makers of modern India, people like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Swami Dayanand, Mrs. Annie Besant, Swami Vivekanand and Gandhiji, have understood Hinduism to mean. All these have thought of Hinduism essentially in terms of values, and chief among these values are tolerance, breadth of vision and sympathy. Hinduism has always been known for the hospitality of its spirit and those who advocate a different policy are trying to distort it. It is only in a Secular State that all kinds of cultures can flourish. He who thinks in any other terms, putting the clock back.

### Equality

To me the beauty of our State as embodied in its constitution consists in this, that it guarantees justice, equality and liberty to all its nationals. Only a Secular State can do so; no racial or theocratic state can. Those who think alone these lines rule out the genius and traditions of this country and also fail to take into account the direction in which the world is moving. All political thinkers are agreed that it is only in an atmosphere of social justice, political equality and religious liberty that men can attain to the highest. Those who want something like Aryan Germany are taking a narrow view of man and his aspirations. The advocates of such a view would dim man's radiance and lead to his frustration. A Secular State guarantees freedom all along the line to every one and is, therefore, the best guarantee of solidity durability and stability.

### Republic of Mother-Hood

In fact, if we adhere to the letter and spirit of our constitution, our country will be a republic not merely in the political sense but also in an all-round sense. It will, especially, be a republic of mother hood in every aspect of life—cultural. This is patent from the preamble to the Constitution of India wherein it is said:

We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a Sovereign Democratic Republic and to secure to all its citizens:

Justice, social, economic and political.

Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

Equality of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all.

Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the nation;

In our Constituent Assembly this 26th day of November, 1949 do hereby adopt, enact and give to ourselves this constitution.

All this shows that India will be a country in which all kinds of creeds and faiths, religions and nationalities will find their abode. Here all kinds of cultures will find a fertile soil and will add to the richness of life by transcending territorial and sectional barriers.

## Gandhi Jayanti Celebration In London

H. E. Shri V. K. Krishna Menon, High Commissioner for India in London, addressing a gathering of Indian nationals at India House on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday celebration.



### World Record Holder

This record-breaking Guernsey cow, "Hazely Fancy", bred in Newbury, Berkshire, England, gave 25,305 pounds (11,478 kilogrammes) of milk in 360 days, 4.43 per cent butter fat. She gave 14,952 pounds (6,781 kilogrammes), 4.83 per cent butter fat with her fourth calf. She was born on July 16, 1938, by Renown 3rd of Baissieres.



### Women At The Wheel

In the great drive at present being carried out in India to grow more food, women who have for years used old primitive methods of agriculture, are seen here being instructed in the use of the Ferguson tractor, a number of which have been imported from Britain to assist in the campaign.



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