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THE PLACE OF WOMAN IN HINDUISM

Absolute Equality With Man

(P. MUTTULINGASWAMY)

Comparisons are odious and I regret that a Buddhist lecturer, whose speech was reported in the columns of two Colombo Dailies, and the Christian, Muslim and anonymous correspondents who had commented on that speech have all thought it fit to dogmatize that Hinduism regarded women as inferior to men—"unlike Hinduism" or words to that effect is the burden of their songs: I do not think that either the lecturer or any of the correspondents would claim that he had sufficient knowledge of Hinduism to sit in judgment on Religion.

It is not my intention to hit back even in self-defence. Hinduism teaches "live and let live" and I shall not be a traitor to its teachings. Least judgment goes against my Religion through default, I shall content myself by showing that, in Hinduism, woman has been given equal places with man.

The *Rig Veda*, the most ancient Religious Scripture in the world today, is the basis of *Sanatana Dharma* (Eternal Religion) popularly known as Hinduism. This "Bible" of all the Hindus has positive evidence of the absolute equality of man and woman.

Authority of Veda

Rig Veda shows that there were celebrated lady-Rishis like Princes Goshia (R. V. i. 117; x. 39, 40) Lopamudra (R. V. i. 179) Mamata (R. V. vi, 10, 2) Apala (R. V. viii. 91) Surya (R. V. x. 85) and a host of others. They composed inspired hymns, performed *Yagnas* and occupied glorious niches in the Temple of Fame. The Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Madras University, has summarised the above facts in the "Cultural Heritage of India" in the following words:

"The position of woman was not of subordination. There is no hint in the Vedas to show that women as such occupied a lower position than men. In intellectual and spiritual life they occupied the same position as men. Some of the Vedic poets were women. There were women warriors. There are women philosophers. The equality between man and woman is

noticeable in all the portions of Vedic literature, viz. Samhitas, Brahmanas, and Upanishads.

Positive Testimony

Hinduism is *Sopana Marga* (Ladder Way) and therefore, the nameless and formless God is given names and forms for the benefit of those who cannot meditate without such aids. Hinduism has the unique distinction of worshipping God both as *Mother* and *Father*—a positive evidence of the high position given to women in Hinduism.

It is true that, in later times, the women were given a subordinate position in certain parts of India in certain spheres of life. This happened only long after the age of the *Maha Bharata* on account of political exigencies, for the *Maha Bharata* states "women shall always be honoured, for when they were honoured the deities rejoice." Even King Manu who had enacted laws (which were, and are still, not applicable to all the Hindus) placing (the physically weaker) women under the protection of their fathers, husbands or sons to ensure the safety of their lives and chastity in those troublous times had laid down.

"The master exceedeth ten tutors in claim to honour; the father a hundred masters; but a mother a thousand fathers in right to reverence and in the function of teacher."

"To be mothers were women created, and to be fathers men; therefore are religious sacraments ordained in the Veda to be observed by the husband together with the wife."

The Tamil Sangam period literature, one of the earliest literature of the world in existence today, clearly shows that Hindu women had enjoyed absolute equality with men in every sphere of life. The Tamil child is taught even today the aphorism of one of the ancient Poetess (Avvai) "*Annaiyum pithavum munnart thelvam*" (The mother and father are the first-known God) thus giving priority to the mother.

Wise men do not rush in where angels fear to tread and I trust that non-Hindus who do not know even the ABC of Hinduism will refrain from dogmatizing on it.

ANTI-WAR TABLOIDS

(By E. P. RASIAH)

WHILE peace is recognised by all to be the paramount need of humanity, fear drives nations in a direction, which endangers peace. World peace can only be assured if the great nations of the world seek it and work for it. Culture and civilisation instead of broadening our views and making us treat all mankind as members of the Universal Brotherhood of Man seem to be creating situations, whereby the world is being broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls of discord and dissension.

We have witnessed solemn treaties discarded like mirescrap of paper and wars waged without an actual declaration of war. While the First Great War made Land and Sea its main theatre, the Second World War included the air too within its area of operation. The lust of power, whipped up by conflicting ideologies has compelled our world-leaders to exploit even Science for the discovery of weapons of destruction of mankind rather than those that could harness Nature for man's benefit and progress. It was the Atom Bomb that brought the last war to an end.

Lenin had said many years ago the ominous words "The road from Moscow to Paris leads through Peking, Shanghai and Calcutta". At present the international tension arising out of incidents in Korea, Tibet and the internal strife in Nepal seems to be drifting towards a crisis. President Truman considers that America is in grave danger, created by the rulers of the Soviet Union and has directed the Armed Forces to increase their active strength to almost 3,500,000 men as soon as possible, and that America should turn out planes at five times the present rate and combat vehicles at four times today's rate.

"They will constitute an arsenal for the defence of freedom".

Oh Liberty, how many crimes are committed in thy name!!

The third world war—if ever it comes—may witness the hurling of Bacterial Bombs and Hydrogen Bombs across continents, from spots far beyond human view. It is suspected that these inventions of air attack are so terrible that even Atomic Bombs will seem merciful by comparison. The world hungering for Peace appears to stand perilously on the verge of war now.

At his tense moment, it is the bounden duty of all who profess to guide public opinion to think, say and act in such a manner as not to rouse the latent or active forces of discontent, hostility and bitterness. In such a contingency the power of the pen too has to be wielded with a grave sense of responsibility which the destinies of millions involve and the instrument of speech should be used to assuage rather than alienate, to heal rather than to

wound and to soothe rather than to kindle a conflagration.

Let the following facts and pearls of thought, culled from various writings and utterances of far-sighted world famous men, serve as timely tabloids to the war-weary world and as eye-openers to war-mongers.

Preparation Of War

1. Mr. Attlee says:

"It is unpleasant to all of us to devote so much of our resources to defence; but we have a clear responsibility to the people and the world that freedom shall not go down for lack of defences..... The course of the next few years may well decide the future of civilisation for decades or centuries..... We are called upon to give a lead to the people of the world.....and because our policy of democratic socialism is the only dynamic alternative to totalitarian communism. Only through that policy can we get peace and Social Justice."

2. Mr. Shinwell declares:

"I must repeat with the greatest emphasis that we are not preparing for another War. Our purpose is Peace not War....."

I cannot conceal from the conference my anxiety about the international situation.....moreover, while there is no evidence that any country contemplates a major war, an incident or a series of incidents might lead to serious trouble. We must be on our guard and any failure to build up our defences would be fatal".

Havoc Of War

3. Dr. Oswaldo Aranha thinks that;

"The first world war cost 8,000,000 dead, 15,000,000 mutilated 30,000,000 wounded and 400 billion dollars went up in the smoke of battle which would have given to every family, in the countries engaged in the struggle a furnished house with lands to cultivate with a surplus sufficient to purchase all the private property in France and Belgium and construct 4 Universities and a Library in the most important cities of the nations which were devastated in the terrible catastrophe.

The last war, cost during the period of actual hostilities more than 23 million dead, more than 85 million wounded and a trillion two hundred billion dollars according to incomplete calculations. This sum three times greater than of the previous war, would have served to resolve in peace the dramatic problem of economic differences between the peoples and additionally to raise the level of the material and cultural progress of mankind on a plane with the most advanced

(Continued on page 3)

REVIEW OF CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT IN JAFFNA

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

[The progress in Jaffna of the Co-operative movement has been steady and impressive. The following account will give the reader detailed information].

The Northern Division Agri-Producers Co-op. Union

THIS Union which now has a membership of 16 Societies continues to do good work. The figures below indicate its progress:

The biggest single crop handled is onions, and the Union has given an impetus to onion cultivation by distributing seed on loan after purchase in India. The Commissioner of Co-operative Development and the Commissioner for Development of Marketing purchase the crop at a guaranteed price. The crop for 1948-1949 was estimated to be 6,000 cwt., but only 24,881 cwt. were marketed through the Union that year as outside prices were higher (hence the drop in turnover for 1949). In 1949-1950 it marketed 94,445 cwt.—56,000 to the Commissioner for Development of Marketing and 38,445 to the Commissioner of Co-operative Development. More and more onions are grown in the Peninsula now as the demand for Malaya-lam tobacco in Travancore is being constricted.

Last year the Union also undertook the marketing of paddy, plantains and tomatoes. It hopes to market other fruit too, and yams and vegetables. Arrangement with the Marketing Commissioner, who buys extensively for Government hospitals has greatly assisted the sale of plantains and tomatoes from Member Societies. 150,000 plantains are supplied per week now at three cents a fruit, and 7,728 bunches were sold during the period under review. Tomatoes which are grown extensively in some of the Jaffna Islands fetched very low prices, hardly 10 cents at times, till the Union stepped in and helped to obtain 20 cents per lb.

Last year 14,010 cwt. of seed onions were distributed to the affiliated Societies of which 6,730 were purchased from the Commissioner of Co-operative Development and the balance 7,280 imported from India. Assistance has to be sought from Government yearly owing to certain restrictions on export from India. Meantime the Union is arranging godown accommodation for seed with a view to storing as much as possible for planting requirements in the coming season.

An admirable action by the Union, full of Co-operative consideration, was its offer to buy all its requirements of "koodos" (onion containers made of palmyrah leaf) from local Co-operative producers even at a slightly higher price. This has helped to revive a number of Palmyrah Products Societies in the Peninsula

as the annual value of purchases exceeds Rs. 150,000.

The record of this Union under the guidance of several able Co-operators illustrates the value of secondary organizations in the agricultural field. They are better able to undertake large enterprises, organize well for negotiated contracts, and even secure agencies under the guaranteed purchase schemes of Government.

The Jaffna Malayalam Tobacco Co-op. Society

The Jaffna-Malayalam Tobacco Sale Society, the oldest Co-operative Marketing Society in Ceylon (it was founded in 1934) continues to do good work, but is passing through anxious times owing to the new fiscal policy of the Indian Government. Membership has risen from 2,195 in 1948 to 2,232 in 1949 and 2,468 by April 30, 1950. The Share Capital, similarly, has increased from Rs. 19,801 to Rs. 19,906 and Rs. 20,991. The Statutory Reserve has risen from Rs. 44,574 to Rs. 49,798 and then to Rs. 72,677 by April, 1951. "Other Reserves", comprising Sinking Fund, Building Fund, Balance Equalization Fund, Economic Rent, &c., show similar rises from Rs. 357,310 to Rs. 389,536 and now to Rs. 403,062. The 1948 crop sale had not been completed by April this year, and further increases are likely in the current Co-operative year.

The future of the Tobacco Industry in Ceylon as a whole is thus uncertain, and investigation is necessary and has been proposed by my Ministry. The contraction of the Travancore market is likely to have its repercussions by causing a glut in the South Ceylon market. Meanwhile, cheap cigarettes and beedis are replacing the cigar. The Jaffna Malayalam Tobacco Sale Society, however, remains confident of the future and maintains undiminished faith in support from the Ceylon Government. It has paid up the balance due on the processing house, built by Government at a cost of Rs. 62,636, and become the owner, though the land, being Crown property, is held on lease for 3 years, with option of renewal.

Kopay Cigar Society

This is a Society of Workers, the only one of its kind in Ceylon and it started with some promise. Its membership is 100 and the turnover has increased from Rs. 48,921 in 1949 to Rs. 66,423 in 1950. It is, however, working at a loss owing to high operational costs. Its funds have

(Continued on page 4)



Hindu Organ

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1950

Treasure These Thoughts

Tap the source, your own Inner Self.
And draw power, energy, strength and Peace.
—SWAMI SIVANANDA

THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

THE PRIME MINISTERS of the different Commonwealth countries will be meeting in London in the first week of January, 1951; they will have to decide on how best their different countries can mutually help each other to solve social and economic problems and at the same time contribute towards maintaining lasting and enduring peace. Red China has refused to comply with the call of the 13 nations of the U. N. O. requesting her not to cross the 38th parallel in Korea. When the U. N. forces went to the help of South Korea, India's Prime Minister, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru, warned the U. N. O. that it was not advisable for them (the U. N. fighting forces) to cross the 38th parallel; no attention was paid to the warning and it appeared that the U. N. forces were all victorious; it was even thought that the 'boys' would be able to finish the campaign and return to their respective countries to celebrate Christmas. Fate has decreed otherwise and the Chinese Reds have come to the help of the North Koreans and made the U. N. forces retreat from their advanced positions. There cannot be any doubt regarding final victory for the United Nations. History records that truth and justice always triumphed over wickedness and evil. The Commonwealth Premiers' Conference will have to devise ways and means for confining the war to Korea and prevent it from spreading to other parts of the globe. It is to be hoped that success will attend on their deliberations.

The Colombo Plan which has been accepted by the commonwealth countries might also be taken up by the conference. The United Kingdom has to bear a great part of the burden of implementing the plan which has been drawn up for improving the economic condition of not only the Commonwealth countries in South East Asia, but also Burma and Indonesia. It has been also stated that the success of the plan will depend on the readiness of the U. S. A. to give the necessary financial and technical assistance. The vast strides made in the fields of science have made the earth shrink in stature and it is now possible for people in countries supposed to have

been far away from each other in the remote past to contact each other without wasting much time; it is also being more and more realised that all countries are interdependent on each other. If the Commonwealth has to prosper all its component parts must prosper; should one or more of them be backward economically the others will be adversely affected. It is therefore necessary that they should all co-operate with each other to improve the condition of such of them as are still backward economically. It is needless to state that what has been said regarding the different countries of the Commonwealth applies equally to the different countries of the globe. Enduring peace cannot be achieved without assuring equality of opportunity and freedom from want to all the peoples of the world

NEWS-VIEWS

"Russia wants Peace"

—M. Andre Vyshinsky

When? After the 3rd World War!

There are 96 pages devoted to atomic science, the atom bomb and atomic diplomacy in the 3rd volume of the second edition of the *Bolskoi Soviet Encyclopaedia* just published.

—News Item.

The American atom is different from the Soviet 'particle'. One has offensive elements the other defensive. This is the praiseworthy age to live in where research is about methods of destruction—once again the vain hope is to usurp Providential Power!

The world is again tormented by the spectre of war. Let us hope world leaders will save humanity from further horrors

—The Egyptian Premier.

Leaders lead and horrors follow! Is it 'save us from the leaders' that the Egyptian Premier really means?

The 'A' for 'Apple' Alphabet will soon be replaced in Washington schools by 'A' for Atom and 'B' for Bomb.

—Washington Board of Education.

Better still

'A' for Atom and of course 'America'

'B' for Bomb and certainly 'Britain'

Democracy cannot conceive of anything more instructive and suggestive than this slogan for school children. Mahatma Gandhi would have wished 'A' for Ahimsa, 'B' for Brotherhood.

PERSONAL

Mr. T. Muttucumaru M. A. Principal of Chavakachcheri Hindu College has retired.

Mr. A. S. Kanagaratnam of Karainagar Hindu College succeeds Mr. Muttucumaru at Chavakachcheri Hindu College.

THE SACRED ART OF MUSIC

Plea For Pure Tamil Isai

[Below we publish two presidential addresses, one at the 18th South Indian Music Conference by Vidwan Papanasam Sivan and the other at the 8th Tamil Music Festival by Swami Suddhananda Bharathi both at Madras during last week. The danger to Carnatic Music from Cinemas and the campaign for unalloyed Tamil Music referred to in the addresses deserve the attention of our music loving readers.]

Vidwan Papanasam Sivan's Address:—

Music is essentially a practical art and a talk about it should be only secondary and practical demonstration must hold the primary place. More so in regard to Carnatic music 'which in its essence, escapes intellectual analysis and functions in a supra-rational region of our consciousness', too much emphasis on intellectual disquisition might turn their attention away from the essentials. "Our music," he added, "is a price less treasure, not a showy tinsel." Ears fascinated by the catchy North Indian tunes might fail to appreciate the real gold in our system; that was a real danger. The general tendency noticed now-a-days to prefer North Indian tunes to Classical Carnatic tunes was a danger signal. If that tendency went unchecked, it might lead to a sort of musical suicide. He expressed the view that a voice trained to produce the best in Carnatic music could re-produce any tune in any other system, while singers of the other systems could hardly do any kind of justice to Carnatic music. When some of them attempted to sing songs in Carnatic music, it looked only a poor caricature.

Cinema Tunes

Dealing with radio and cinema, Sri Sivan said while it was true that the radio and the cinema had done much to popularise music it could not be denied that the harm done, more than counterbalanced that advantage. They had to a large extent, vitiated the public taste by accustoming their ears to inferior and spurious music. There were two primary enemies, he said to our music; one was too early self sufficiency, the idea that they had learned everything there was to know. That was the greatest bar to progress and led to stultification. The other enemy was pride. There was another danger, insidious because it was subtle, to Carnatic music and it was the curse of imitation. "Music is an art," he said, "and art is so intensely individualistic. Music without at least some *mano-dharma* is a doll and not a living baby". Of course, it was very useful and certainly necessary to learn from good teachers and follow correct tradition; it was useful to be familiar with different styles of singing, it was wise to have a large stock from which to pick and choose; but they must take what they learned as part and parcel of their musical make up. "Whatever we sing," he added, however poor it may be should come from our selves; mere imitation, however, good can never be a substitute for live music; even the best photograph cannot be a substitute for the real person."

Ominous Indication

Sri Sivan criticised recent cinema tunes and said that the general attitude of the producers and even music-directors seemed to be in favour of tunes which even the man in the street could at least hum; because, they said, that alone brought in money. Some of those who wanted to be in-

Swami Suddhananda Bharathi's Address:—

Swami Suddhananda Bharathi, in his presidential address, said that the claim made by Tamilians to have the right to sing songs in their mother tongue at the music concerts in their country was quite natural and indisputable. The plausible plea that music transcended all linguistic bounds deserved examination. That music knew no distinctions of language was true 'only in qualified sense just as the paper used for printing currency notes made no distinctions between one currency note and another. For, none could gainsay the fact that currency notes though printed of the self same paper sometimes vastly differed in value not only to their face value but due to different evaluation in different countries. Similarly, though gold might be common to all the gold coins differed in value. Owing to dearth of rice the rice eaters were forced to purchase wheat and maize, but so far as Tamil Isai was concerned, no one could point out to any such scarcity.

Medium of Mother Tongue

The canons of music might be (Continued on page 3)

roduced to the film world were able only to repeat the gramophone records of some of the cheap cinema tunes. "This state of affairs," he said, "is, indeed, shocking; it is utter disrespect to the Godness of Music and wanton insult to *Nadabrahmam*." During the last few years, there was an appreciable fall in the number of concerts by top-rank musicians; even during the marriage seasons, the usual demand for concerts by leading vidwans had gone down. The indication was ominous.

"Music is a sacred Art," Sri Sivan added "and it is Divine; the Lord has said that he would rather be where a few devotees sing than in the sun or in the heart of a yogi or even in Vaikunta. Music halls ought to be held sacred for the Lord is where good music is. Artists as well as listeners, should co-operate in maintaining this atmosphere of sanctity in the concert hall. Unfortunately, what we find is just the contrary; it is common in a concert hall to see people coming with newspapers and discussing news with people nearby to see persons talking incessantly and disturbing the concert to see persons ceaselessly walking to and fro and making noise. How can an artist be expected to give of his or her best under these conditions? Till about a few years ago, the conditions were different; in the concerts of the late Konerirajapuram Vaidyanatha Aiyar, Ramanathapuram Srinivasa Iyengar, Madurai Pushpavaram Aiyar and such others no one would have dreamt of the possibility of such disturbances occurring at all."

Sri Sivan said in conclusion: "Let us on this occasion think gratefully of the great *vaggeyakaras* of old and avow allegiance to them; let us look to the Muse of music as the Divine Mother and worship at her altar in a spirit of true devotion and dedication."

Congress Branch at Chavakachcheri

"A Unitary Government will be beneficial to the Tamils who cannot be confined to two or three provinces. They have their interests in the entire island" said Mr. T. Ramalingam M. P. speaking at the inauguration of a branch of the All Ceylon Tamil Congress at Chavakachcheri North.

Mr. V. Kumaraswamy M. P. speaking from the chair declared that a United Lanka was one of the primary objects of the Congress and that therefore it was necessary that there should prevail goodwill and harmony:

Mr. V. S. Karthigesu J. P. said that the T. C. members joined the Government on the instructions of the people in the form of a mandate given at a public meeting of several thousands.

Kalapoomy Community Centre, Karainagar

The Second annual general meeting of the above Centre was held at about 4.30 P.M. on Tuesday (26-12-50) and the following were elected office-bearers.

Patron: Mr. S. Kandiah.

President: Mr. M. Karthigesu.

Vice Presidents: Mr. M. Valupullai and Dr. A. Vaithalingam.

Secretary: Mr. P. Somasuntharam.

Treasurer: Mr. E. Subramaniam.

Asst. Sec. & Treasurer: Mr. K. Thambiiah.

A Committee of five also was elected.

Letters to the Editor

A religious outlook was absolutely necessary in educational institutions I would go further and ask for the establishment of a Shrine in every school big or small" said Mr. S. Shivapadasundaram Vice Principal, Parameshwara College speaking at the annual celebrations of the Viyaville Youth League on Friday last.

Lay Hindu Parliamentarians

Sir,—In the Hindu Organ of the 15th December 1950 appears a report of a conference of All Ceylon Siva High Priests held on Wednesday the 13th December at Naval School. One of the resolutions passed at the conference states: "The member of the Committee are all just lay Hindu parliamentarians and of a sect entirely different from the one to which the temples and worshippers belong."

We request the mover of the resolution Brahma Sri K. Balasundararukkal, B. A., and the second Brahma Sri S. Thyagarajah Kurukkal to clearly explain the statement in full. In what way do the members of the Committee belong to a 'sect' entirely different from the one to which the temples and worshippers belong? What is the Hindu Religious Sect to which the present temple priests and the worshippers belong? Are the

Jaffna Oriental Studies Society

28th Annual Meeting

Speaking at the 28th Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Oriental Studies Society Mr. V. Kumaraswamy M. P. referred to the fact that Tamil enjoyed pride of place as the State Language in the regime of Sri Wickrama Raja Singha and that the Kandyan Convention was signed in Tamil.

Continuing Mr. Kumaraswamy advocated the cause of Tamil Vidwans and Pandits whose scale of salaries as teachers required immediate revision

Mr. S. Natesan former State Councillor presided.

Earlier Messrs S. Natesan, S. Swaminathan and the very Rev. Father Emilianuspillai Bishop of Jaffna were elected vice-presidents and Mr. S. Ampikaipakan and Mr. K. Sivapatham were elected as Asst. Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

The following were elected as committee members:

Vidwan N. Suppiappillai, Vidwan S. R. Kandasamy, Pundit K. Nagalingam, Pundit C. Nadarajah, Pundit A. Somasundara Iyer, Mr. V. Manickavasagar (Proctor S. C.) and Mr. V. Nagalingam (Proctor S. C.)

Mr. V. Chelvanayagam, Lecturer Ceylon University College in tracing the history of Tamil Literature referred to some of the authentic facts available in the Tamil classics for Tamil scholars doing research work.

Six resolutions for bettering the status and prospects of the Tamil Vidwans and Pandits were unanimously passed

The three daughters of Mr. N. Sabaratnam of Tellippalai contributed items of music which were well appreciated by the vast gathering. In conclusion Mr. M. Peethambaram proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the speakers and the retiring office-bearers.

Viyaville Youth League

"A religious outlook was absolutely necessary in educational institutions I would go further and ask for the establishment of a Shrine in every school big or small" said Mr. S. Shivapadasundaram Vice Principal, Parameshwara College speaking at the annual celebrations of the Viyaville Youth League on Friday last.

Mr. P. Thiagarajah, Principal, Karainagar Hindu College, speaking from the chair exhorted the young men to assume more and better lasting responsibility in the affairs of the village.

Mr. R. N. Sivapirakasam made the suggestion to educational authorities to introduce Thirukural Readers with a view to imparting correct ethical education to the young in their impressionable age. A lecture on "அறநெறி" by Mr. V. Subramaniam of Karainagar Hindu College followed in which the speaker quoted from Thiruvalluvar and stated that no better guide than the Kural would be found in any literature. The Secretary proposed a vote of thanks.

present-day Hindu temple priests really the religious teachers of the Hindu Temple worshippers? What are the duties of religious teachers and how are the present-day temple priests fulfilling them?

Yours faithfully,
S. KANDIAH

Jaffna
19th Dec. 50

Monthly Journal of Community Centres

The Jaffna District Community Centres' Union has decided to publish, commencing from 15th January "Sumooka-Thondan," a monthly journal of common interest to all Centres.

A public-spirited member of this Union, Mr. K. P. Muttiah, who under the pen-name of "Vidy-Velli" has earned a reputation as a writer, will function as its Honorary Editor and Manager. Mr. K. Ananthar B. O. L. of Inuvil Community Centre and other Tamil Scholars and Pandits will collaborate with him in this publication.

Batticaloa Welcomes Tamil Festival Idea

"The Tamil language is passing through a period of renaissance and a marvellous vitality and power for the expression and development of modern thought" said Mr. S. Natesan President of the Jaffna Tamil Festival Committee addressing a public meeting held in Batticaloa on December 23 in support of the Tamil Festival to be held in Jaffna in April 1951.

Mr. V. Nalliah M. P. presided.

A committee of 40 members was appointed in this connection.

All Ceylon Hindu Harijan Mahasabha

A committee meeting of the Harijan Sabha was held at 11 a.m. on 17-12-50 at Vannarponnai Vaidiswara Vidyalyam with Mr. M. Chelliah, President of the Sabha in the chair. Deliberations centred round the report issued by the Committee on Hindu Temporalities. The following resolutions were passed unanimously

(1) This Sabha expresses its gratitude to all members, who served on the Inquiry Committee on Hindu Temporalities for their pronouncement that untouchability and animal sacrifice are quite alien to the Hindu fold and that necessary legislation should be introduced by the Hindu members of the Ceylon Parliament for outlawing these two inhuman practices.

2. This Sabha humbly requests the Hindu members of the Parliament to introduce a motion in the Parliament for the abolition of untouchability and animal sacrifice.

(3) This committee further decided to send a deputation to wait on the Hindu members of the Parliament, Hindu leaders and all prominent Hindu Mahasabhas of the country, in order to acquaint them with our grievances and get their help in the redressal of these grievances.

(4) This committee decides to convene a General meeting of the All Ceylon Hindu Harijan Mahasabha at an early date for the propagation of these ideals amongst the Hindu Harijans and thus bring about an awakening amongst them.

Anti-War Tabloids

(Continued from page 1)

aspirations of equality, opportunity and dignity of all men."

4. Mr. Kendrick Guernsey said:

"Treaties are written by diplomats but lasting peace must be written in the hearts of men."

Condemnation Of War

5. Paul P. Harris stated:

"War pays neither victor nor vanquished, and at its very best is the very worst that human beings can do. War is the result of passions roused by greed and jealousy, arrogance, rivalry and eventually hatred whipped into fury often times by lies."

6. General K. M. Cariappa, Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, in a message says:

"I ask all those who love peace and really want peace, to subordinate their desires to work for their own personal, their own communal or their own racial profits, to that of working collectively regardless of class, creed and community to obtain lasting peace to mankind."

slogans, living on past laurels and expressing vocally, theoretical idealogies are not the cure for the "ills" of life. We should all work for material results and not for mere abstract mental satisfaction. Let us not waste our time on trifling, useless, pursuits of purely local and personal interests. Let us aim high for lasting world peace and NOT for only peace in my time and in my house. In everything we do or say we must all analyse our actions before we do or say anything to see in what manner and to what extent what we do or say will bring good to the people of the world."

7. "Where freedom, justice, truth and the sanctity of the pledged word do not exist peace cannot be found."

8. According to Jawaharlal Nehru:—

"If you come to the conclusion that the world is a pretty bad show, let the Hydrogen Bomb put an end to it. If you want to carry on the world with any decency, then you had better put an end to the Hydrogen Bomb. There is no choice for you. You cannot combine the two—Use of the Hydrogen Bomb and expect any decency afterwards."

Great Thoughts

9. Poet Alexander Pope said:—"Seas should join the regions they divide now"

10. Alfred Lord Tennyson dreamed of a world:—

"Where the war drum throbbed no longer,
And the battle flags were furled
In the Parliament of Man,
The Federation of the world."

11. Victor Hugo said a hundred years ago:—

"I represent a party which does not exist,
A party of revolution—Civilisation;
This party will make the Twentieth Century,
There will issue from it, first,
The United States of Europe;
Then,
The United States of the world."

12. Seneca has spoken over thousand years ago,

"Man is daily in danger of

A Great Event In The Heavens

One of the greatest events in the heavens occurred at midnight on 22-12-50 when the sun apparently reached the Southern most point giving the longest night for us in the Northern hemisphere. Having reached the Southern-most point the sun began his northward course at 12 midnight on 22-12-50. It is also the middle of Mahamari, the night of the Gods which lasts for six months in the North Pole. This winter solstice is an annual event of great significance to the sun worshipper. The cause of this event is the tilting of the axis of the earth in its annual rotation round the sun. When this event is reviewed from the astrological point of view taking into consideration the relative position of the planets with sun and moon and a horoscope is cast for the event we find that the sign of Virgo (Kanya) was rising in the eastern horizon, the sun was in (Dhanu) Saggittarius and the moon in Taurus in

Nakshatra, 9th houses respectively. That a poet can rightly fancy that the sun, the dispeller of darkness, was being born out of the wintry night, Mari, on the night of 22-12-50—with Virgo as the birth sign (Lagna) and Taurus (Bhava) as the Rasi of the moon; a virgo child is born in the manger where the bull is tied. This reminds us of the Biblical description of the birth of Christ who was said to have been born out of Virgin Mary in a manger. This also reminds one of the passage in the Gita where the Lord says that he lays His seed in the womb of Eternity and things happen according to His will, so that all events occur in Time and Space in a relative way, the heavenly bodies having a different relationship to each other for each event. Hence there is unity in variety in this universe. St. Manikavasagar sang "his Thirupallieludhi in this season when the sun was waking from his slumber as it were and leaving the bed chamber (Pallu). The rising sun coming out of the sea gave the inspiration to Nakeerar for his Thirumurgattupada!—Man draws his inspiration from nature even in the worship of his God Man"

13. How superb the declaration of Socrates,

"I am not an Athenian nor a Corinthian,
But I am a citizen of the World"

14. Cicero thought that,
"This Universe is rightly regarded
As one Commonwealth of men".

Hope of 1951

Therefore let every one strive in his own way for International Fellowship and International Peace in one warless world with its motto:—

"UNDER HEAVEN, ONE FAMILY".
WHEN WILL THIS BE?

Can we look upon you to preach this Gospel of Peace and Good-will?

THE SACRED ART OF MUSIC

(Continued from page 2)

common to all and they might be based upon the same fundamental musical notations—Sa, Ri, Ga, Ma, Pa, Da, Ni, Si. But they differed in expression. Songs and the genius peculiar to the language in which they were sung vitally differed from those of other languages. Bible was the common heritage of all Christians but an Englishman went in for an English Bible while a Frenchman preferred a French Bible. When they tuned the Bezwada station of A. I. they heard Telugu songs but were they to expect Eskimo songs when they heard the Tiruchi Station? It might be fun and pastime to listen to such unintelligible songs, but they could never touch the heart of the listening Tamilian. In all countries the art of music was developed through the medium of the mother tongue.

South India, Swami Sudhanandha Bharathi said, could boast of having had a considerable share in shaping Hindustani music. Alauddin Khilji patronised a South Indian musician, Gopal Naik, Muhammad Tughlak had great admiration for South Indian musicians. Kabir, whose songs captivated and overwhelmed the hearts of the people of North India, was the disciple of a Vaishnavite Bhagavata from South India. Hindustani music which was buried fathoms deep during the puritanic rule of the Mughal Emperor, Aurangzeb, was revived only long after him. In recent times a North Indian Mahrastra Scholar who came to Tamil Nad, contacted Abanamb Pandithar of Tanjore, and learnt Tamil isai. From the experience thus gained by him, he contributed a good deal towards the shaping of Hindustani music, Vishnu Digambar established the

Gandharva Vidyalya to spread devotional songs. Hindustani music was fostered under the auspices of the Benares University. When such efforts were made by the people in different parts of the country to foster their own music, who could prevent the Tamilians from advancing their Tamil isai.

Thevaram As Musical

Teacher

Long before the world knew of distant Europe, or the neighbouring Hindustan, Tamil Nad could boast of rich treasures of musical lore. The most ancient of Tamil isai could be seen in Thevaram. Abundant proof is available of the existence of rich musical lore as early as the age of Tholkappiyam. There were as many as 163 pans or ragas. Music in those days was such a highly developed art in Tamil Nad that different Pans (Ragas) and 'Yazh' (musical instruments) were devised, suited to the different geographical regions of Tamil Nad. Classical literature of the Madura Tamil Sangam Age and the hymns of Saivite and Vashnavite Saints were replete with Tamil isai, dance and drama. Unfortunately, the progress of Tamil isai was for sometime retarded owing to foreign invasions. The compositions of the Musical Trinity Thyagaraja, Dikshithar and Syama Sastri were based on the musical treatises of Saranga deva, Govinda Dikshita and Venkatamakhhi. All the three knew Tamil, for they were in Tamil Nad. Syama Sastri had sung in Tamil also. Thyagaraja enjoyed Tamil music and he was enraptured by the songs of Gopalakrishna Bharathi. But, the disciples and adherents of the Musical Trinity propagated the

compositions of the three masters particularly those of Thyagaraja's, throughout Tamil Nad. Despite such spread of Telugu music, a host of Tamil composers sprang up and gave Tamil compositions.

Need For Progress

The speaker said that a number of scholars and composers and patrons had come forward in recent times to give a new impetus to Tamil music. The Annamalai University was doing admirable work in this direction. The service rendered to Tamil isai by the Tiruchi station of A. I. R. deserved praise. The Madras Station also was broadcasting Tamil songs. It was gratifying to note that many musicians, dancers, stage actors and film stars had come to the forefront worthy of public appreciations. It was a sign of their progress and advancement. They were living in the new era.

Our music should serve as an instrument of national advancement. Music concerts should not be treated as mere source of sound where the listeners clap hands and disperse. Music should permeate the body and soul of the people and mould their character through proper direction of the emotions and inspirations of the mind and heart. Tamil stage and Tamil screen require great reforms for they have yet to reflect the true genius of Tamil culture and Tamil civilisation.

Swami Sudhanandha Bharathi, in conclusion, drew attention to the deplorable fact that the art of Kalakshepam, the ethical and aesthetic value of which could not be disputed, was fast becoming extinct. It deserved to be revived. It should be revived in a manner suited to modern times.

Our Astrological Feature

WEEKLY FORECASTS

"SRIPATY"

FROM 31-1-50 TO 6-1-51

ARIES Aswini, Barani, Kartikai 1st part—[Medha Rasi]

Except for Thursday Friday and Saturday morning this week looks promising. You may be able to achieve something new. Your friends will be able to help you out of difficulties midweek.

TAURUS Karkikai 2, 3, 4, Rohini, Mithuna Rasi 1, 2 [Idapa Rasi]

Friend may tax your purse this week; whatever money you make you will spend it off. Avoid tussles with friends second half of week. Last day of the week must be spent with special care.

GEMINI Mirugashirsha 3, 4, Thiruvathirai, Pookarpusam 1, 2, 3—[Mithuna Rasi]

You will be able to overcome all your oppositions this week. Only health must be given particular care for some more time. Don't start anything new.

CANCER Pinaruppoosa 4, Poosha, Aayila [Kataka Rasi]

Domestic troubles may upset peace of mind this week. Avoid argumentative disposition. Give more attention to routine work and don't indulge much in pleasure seeking if you want to achieve anything substantial.

LEO Maha, Pooru, Uttira 1, part—[Singha Rasi]

There will be some improvement in your personal affairs and health this week. Financial gains also promised. A favourable transfer or rise in position likely very soon.

VIRGO Uttira 2, 3, 4, Attai, Chittirai 1, 2—[Kanni Rasi]

There will be some troubles through your children this week. If unmarried some tussles with friends shown. Keep your temper under control and lie low for some time to come.

LIBRA Chittirai 3, 4, Swati, Visaka 1, 2, 3, [Thula Rasi]

Whatever money you make will be spent off within week-end. Entertainments and pleasure may tax your purse much. Some favours from brothers and sisters promised week end.

SCORPIO Visaka 4, Anusha, Kottai [Vrischika Rasi]

Gains through lands and landed properties indicated this week. New pursuits will bring forth the desired results. Petty official troubles shown week end.

SAGITTARIUS Moolam, Pooradam, Uttaradam 1. [Thanu Rasi]

You will be able to settle some of your difficulties this week, but better postpone all your new ventures for some time to come. Week end may bring you some good news about some landed properties.

CAPRICORNUS Uttaradam 2, 3, 4, Thiruvonam, Aavittam 1, 2. [Makura Rasi]

You will triumph over all your competitors this week. New ventures will be successful and domestic harmony also promised. Only take care of health week end. Specially eye-troubles.

AQUARIUS Aavittam 3, 4, Satyanam, Pooraddati 1, 2, 3, [Kumbha Rasi]

A good week for profession or business. But domestic harmony will be very far away from you. Your friends may betray you in some important affairs first part of week.

PISCES Pooraddati 4, Uttaradati, Revathi. [Meena Rasi]

In spite of professional success you will not have any mental peace for some time to come. Fame and success in new undertakings promised week end. Spend Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday morning with care.

Review Of Co-operative Effort In Jaffna

(Continued from page 1)

to be kept "frozen" for a year at the purchasing end till the purchased raw tobacco matures, and another year at the sales end owing to the curious practice in the tobacco trade of selling the finished product to traders on credit. A radical change and reorganization with more training in the technical side of manufacture seems called for if the Society is to continue as an economic unit.

It is of interest to record that in Jaffna District alone the number of cigar workers is estimated at 50,000 and cultivators at over 100,000.

Jaffna Co-op. Dairy

The Jaffna Co-operative Dairy has steadily increased its business and continues to supply milk to consumers in the Town and the hospitals in Jaffna and Kankesanur. Its sales for the year ending April 30, 1950, were Rs. 90,091.

Palmyrah and Basket Weavers

The five Palmyrah Societies of the North were all dormant till the beginning of the period under review, but there has been a welcome revival since, thanks mainly to the Jaffna Textile and Industrial Societies Union. By the enterprise of this Union a demonstrator was engaged from Travancore to train workers in making onica "koodoos" out of palmyrah fibre. Rs. 1,000 was made available for the purpose from its Common Good Fund.

The Northern Division Agricultural Producers' Union in turn has supported these Societies by offering to buy their "koodoos" for onions, despite a slightly higher rate, in preference to the Indian kind imported annually at a cost of Rs. 150,000.

Eluvative Society

The Eluvativu Palmyrah Produce Co-operative Sale Society has started supplying baskets ("naar kadagams") to the Public Works Department, and some of these are supplied as far afield as the Gal Oya Scheme.

Neervely Industrial Union

"The Neervely Kamadchiampal Industrial Society is a spontaneous organization. The members of the Neervely Kamadchiampal Co-operative Credit Society and some of their neighbours, all of whom are either carpenters or blacksmiths, have voluntarily put up a workshop on a Co-operative basis by pooling their various resources. Friends, well-wishers and the Department of Industries who recognized their efforts at self-help placed orders with them. Their prompt executions of these orders coupled with their good workmanship has enhanced their reputation".

Moolai Hospital

The Moolai Co-operative Hospital continues to render very useful service to both members and non-members. The strength of staff during the period under review was 62, including 1 Medical Officer, 3 Assistant Medical Officers, 1 Lady Medical Officer, 7 Apothecaries, 1 Laboratory Assistant, 11 Attendants, 1 Matron, 1 Head Nurse, 2 Midwives and 12 Nurses.

The figures below give a general idea of its working during the past 4 years:

The decline in profits is mainly due to recent increases in concessions such as higher discount from 10 cent to 20 per cent on medicines. Also indoor patients are becoming fewer now owing to reduced purchasing power. Free

treatment was given to 1,189 poor patients at a cost of Rs. 3,082. Other concessions in medicines amounted to Rs. 5,174 and there is still a balance of Rs. 22,867 to the credit of the Free Treatment Fund.

Impressed by the excellent work it is doing, Government has given a building grant of Rs. 100,000 part of which has already been spent on nurses' quarters. The operating theatre and the labour room have now been completed at a cost of Rs. 75,152. Provision has been made for the construction of an administration block and quarters for medical officers and an additional ward at a total cost of Rs. 90,000. The present value of the existing buildings is Rs. 123,989 after depreciation.

An Assistant Medical Officer has obtained a Fellowship in Surgery from the University of Edinburgh.

Tellipalai Co-Op Dispensary

Impressed by Moolai's example, a Co-operative dispensary was opened at Tellipalai last year as a spontaneous organization.

It has on its staff 1 Medical Officer, 1 Apothecary, 1 Cashier-Clerk (an Ayurvedic Physician) and 1 Orderly.

421 members have already joined. The dispensary has also the rudiments of a health insurance scheme, whereunder for 25 cents a month all members are examined free by the doctor, whether well or ill.

An ambitious hospital programme has been launched to cost about 5 lakhs in all, in stages. A member has donated 5 acres bordering the Public Works Department road with an offer of lease of 5 more. Voluntary contributions from sons of Jaffna (including Malayalam pensioners who were the main supporters in the early days for Moolai) have amounted to nearly one lakh already—a great example of self help in such a comparatively poor part of Ceylon.

Co-op Motor Transport

Jaffna has also been the pioneer in Co-operative Motor Transport and its eight Societies were the only ones in Ceylon for a long time. There are 20 in all now, as against 14 last year, and 11 the year before.

The Boat Society Registered in 1932 was the first organised effort to solve the problem of transport between the Jaffna Islands. The story is told, legendary no doubt, how long ago a prospective father set out for the Mainland to obtain medicines for his wife's confinement, but was so long delayed over return transport that the child had meantime seen the light and grown, and was running forward to greet him!

This Boat Society is doing well after reconstitution and has obtained the Government mail contract for all the Islands. It is also of great service at seasons of pilgrimage to Nainativu.

Vadamaradchy

The Vadamaradchy Motor Transport Society next pioneered Motor Transport, and was followed by Mullaitivu, Mannar, and Pooneryn.

Pannai

The Pannai Co-operative Ferry Service has changed its name to Pannai Transport Co-operative Service Society as it proposes to establish a road service from Pannai to Mandaitivu, where most of the members reside.

Two new transport societies have been formed in Vavuniya.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1244

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Seeniar Konar of Puttur West Deceased

Kathirasy widow of Seeniar Ponnar of Puttur West Petitioner Vs

1. Veerakathby Sinniah & wife
2. Theivanai
- Minor 3. Sinniah Nadarejah
4. Veerakathby Kanapathipillai and wife
5. Sithamparam
6. Ponnai Kathiresu
7. Konar Kandiah
8. Konar Kanapathipillai
9. Thamar Vallipuram and wife
10. Muthupillai all of Puttur West Respondents

This matter coming on for dis-

posal before S. S. J. Goonesekere Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 20th day of November 1950 in the presence of Mr. T. Gunaratnam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 20th November 1950 filed of record having been record:

It is ordered that the above-named 1st respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor the 3rd respondent and that the petitioner as the widow of the deceased declared entitled to have letters of administration over the estate of the deceased and the same issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or any others interested shall on or before the 30th day of January 1951 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 1st respondent do produce the minor the 3rd respondent in court on the said date.

This 20th day of November 1950

Sgd. S. S. J. Goonesekere

District Judge, Jaffna

(O, 95 22 & 29)

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