

The Hindu Organ.

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

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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THE HINDU ORGAN.

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1924

HINDU LEADERS AND HINDU INSTITUTIONS.

We are glad that the Hindu leaders of this country are showing an increasing disposition to feel their duties and responsibilities in the matter of making adequate provision for the giving of Hindu Education to Hindu Children. All Hindus who are truly interested in the all important subject of giving Hindu children a good training in the Hindu religion and Hindu national ideals will feel very much gratified at the enthusiasm shown by our leaders for the cause of Hindu education. We are, however, far from thinking that the zeal shown by them in furthering the objects dear to the heart of every Hindu is sufficient to accomplish the vast and stupendous amount of work which has to be done. Organisations have to be formed on sound and satisfactory lines for the promotion of Hindu education, and enough funds should be collected to carry on the great work efficiently and with success. The existing educational institutions as well as new ones which must be started in places where they are needed should have the full sympathy and support of our Hindu leaders and the Hindu public. A new life has got to be infused into all our schools, Vernacular and English. And whose work is it but that of our men of light and leading and true zeal for the cause of our religion and national ideals? We are glad that good proofs are not wanting that there is an awakening among the Hindus of this country in regard to the promotion of Hindu education and Hindu national ideals. We are of opinion that whether or not this awakening will be taken advantage of and made to serve the grand purpose of promoting the objects with which all Hindu institutions have been started depends entirely on the manner and methods of the work which our Hindu leaders will do at this critical juncture in the history of Hindu education in Ceylon.

We wish to impress on Hindu leaders three important things which they must have in order to achieve success in the great work which our Hindu schools are endeavouring to do. They are right feeling, hearty co-operation and genuine self-sacrifice. Unless those who lead are inspired with right feeling for the advancement and betterment of Hindu education, the work can never be done successfully. We know of no work of abiding interest and importance in the history of any department of human activity in the world, which has been accomplished without right feeling in those who undertook and accomplished it. It is needless for us to dwell at length on the need of hearty and sincere co-operation among our leaders and among our people in regard to Hindu educational and religious work in this country. We are firmly of opinion that co-operation is the thing needed by the Hindus of this country to do great things for their country and religion. It must be clear to any thinking Hindu that hearty and well directed co-operation will solve most of the grave difficulties our Hindu patriots have to face in their work. These difficulties appear insuperable simply because there is no co-operation among those who have the duty of overcoming them for the highest religious, educational and national welfare of the people. The third thing needed to ensure success in all the efforts of our leaders to make Hindu schools the media of religious and national education is self-sacrifice. We have always been of opinion that if our leaders and people show sufficient willingness to sacrifice some at least of the material comforts they hold dear for the good of their motherland, the results will exceed even the most sanguine expectations of those who work for it. We wish our readers to realise the important truth that no phase of national work requires greater self sacrifice from the people, especially the leaders, at the present moment than Hindu educational work.

NOTES & COMMENTS

We publish elsewhere a letter from Mr. B. M. F. Jayaratne on "An Ayurvedic College and Hospital," and commend it to the earnest attention of our readers. It is undeniable that an Ayurvedic College and

Hospital are among the greatest needs of Ceylon at the present moment. As our correspondent rightly points out, the Government which is wedded to the Western system of medicine will not take the initiative. It is, therefore, a great duty incumbent on the representatives of the people in Council to press the very important needs on the attention of the Government and secure from it the sympathy and support indispensable to the supplying of the needs at the earliest opportunity. We are of opinion that the matter deserves the prompt and whole-hearted attention of all Ceylonese leaders who are conscious of the fact that more than 90 per cent of the people of Ceylon depend entirely on the Ayurvedic system of medicine for relief.

LOCAL & GENERAL

THE WEATHER—The heat is oppressive. The dew during night is not so heavy. Very slight showers of rain fell in some places during the past week.

HEALTH—The general state of health of the people is not satisfactory. Fever, measles and chicken pox prevail in various parts of the peninsula.

SUCCESS OF A CEYLON ENGINEER—Mr. C. M. Jervings of the Irrigation Department, Trincomalee, has passed in Sections A and B of the Associate Membership Examination held in October last. He is the only candidate who appeared for this examination from Ceylon.

NEW REGISTRAR GENERAL—The following appointment in the Civil Service has been sanctioned by His Excellency the Governor:—Mr. H. W. Codrington to be Registrar General vice Mr. E. T. Millington who has been granted leave from March 5, 1924. (Press communiqué.)

MEDICAL—We understand that Dr. J. P. Subramaniam, D. M. O., Elipitiya and J. P. Sabapathy of Monaragalla will soon be going to England on long leave to obtain British qualifications.

THE CODE FOR ASSISTED ENGLISH SCHOOLS—Certain amendments to this Code have been passed by the Board of Education and confirmed by His Excellency the Governor in the Executive Council. These amendments have been published for the information of the public, and they appear in the Government Gazette of the 22nd ultimo.

B. A. RESULTS—The following are among the candidates who have come out successful in the last B. A. Examination of the London University:—Rajadurai Ganapiragasam, Nagabanshanam Gona-gurtha and Seevaratnam Michael Samuel. All these three candidates have been placed in the Second Division. Mr. Rajadurai secured for the examination from the University College and the other two took up the examination by private study.

THE GOVERNMENT SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP—We are glad to note that Mr. Peterpillai, a Jaffna Tamil candidate, has won the Government Science Scholarship. He is one of the three Tamils who have passed the B. Sc. Examination in the First Division, and his educational career has all along been attended with brilliant success.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—This Committee met at 11 a.m. on the 21st ultimo with the Colonial Secretary as President. The appointment of a Ceylonese Doctor as an Assistant to the Malariologist was sanctioned at this meeting. The Extension of the period of the Scholarship awarded to Mr. D. R. Ratnam, the University Scholar, was allowed.

THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT—An examination for candidates wishing to enter class II of the examination for clerks and Draughtsmen of the Survey Department will commence on Monday 22, 1924. The Government Gazette of February 22, 1924, contains particulars of this examination.

THE ATCHUVALY Y. M. S. A.—A meeting of the above Association was held on the 16th February in the Saraswati Vithiyasalai Hall under the presidency of Mr. S. Ticcum Chellappillai, the patron of the above Sangam. The chief item of the day was a lecture on "The True Greatness of Saiva Religion" by Mr. R. C. Sankunasingham, teacher at the Kandarodai English School. The lecturer delivered an eloquent address, which gave a true insight into the Saiva Saththantha Religion. The Chairman offered remarks. The Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer and the President. At about 9.30 p.m. the meeting came to a close with the usual singing of Devaram.—Cor.

THE GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL SCHOOL.—A new Department has been created in this school to be in charge of a correspondence course in telegraphy, telephony, electricity and magnetism. The course was started in January, and is meant only for officers in the Post and Telegraph Department. The students go to Colombo once a month to work in the Laboratory for three hours, and they are taught the technological part of the subjects by post. The duration of the course is one year and is similar to the one in England which has proved to be a great success.

"THE CEYLON (LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL) ORDER IN COUNCIL"—We have received from the Government Agent of the Northern Province a copy of a notice appearing in the Government "Gazette" dated 21st February. It informs the public that all persons desirous of having their names inserted in the Register of Voters for any constituency created under the provisions of the said Order must, within one month from the publication of the notification forward their claims to the prescribed Registering Officers. It is also notified that claims relating to the Burgher, Commercial, Colombo Town (North), and Colombo Town (South) Electorates must be forwarded to the Registering Officer respectively of each such electorate, and claims relating to any other constituency to the Registering Officer of the Electoral district within which the claimant resides. Claims should be in the form prescribed in rule 1 (c) of schedule 1 to the said Order.

A FAREWELL—Mr. R. V. Alagacane, Chief Overseer, P. W. D., Kuala Pilah, and Mr. K. Easiah, Head Overseer, P. W. D., Kuala Pilah, were entertained by the public of Kuala Pilah at a dinner on Thursday, 31st January, on the eve of their departure on transfer to Perak and Seremban respectively. The dinner was on a grand and oriental style. There was a large and representative gathering in spite of the short notices given to them. Mr. C. Nagalingam, Chief Clerk, District Office, who presided, delivered a short and sweet speech in honour of the worthy guests, especially of Mr. R. V. Alagacane, who had worked for the betterment of the Y. M. H. A., since the Association was started and taken a leading part in the temple affairs. Remarks were offered by Messrs. A. Nagalingam, M. Thambiab, P. Saravanamuttu, A. Ampigapager, S. Chelliah, C. Ponniah and V. Saravanamuttu. The guests feelingly replied, and the function came to a close at about 10 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the chair.—Cor.

THE POINT PEDRO SAIVA PABIPALANA SABHAI.

The first General Meeting of the Point Pedro Saiva Paripalana Sabhai was held at Siththivanyagar temple madam on the 2nd February at 6.30 p.m. presided over by Mr. V. Muthuvelupillai. There were present about 75 members. The Committee which was appointed at the previous informal meeting to draft the rules of the Sabhai, submitted a set of rules which were read and passed.

Thereafter the election of office-bearers for the current year took place and resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. V. Muthuvelupillai; Secretary: Mr. N. Mudr. Krishnanilla; Treasurer: Mr. N. Mudr. Theivappillai; Executive Committee: Messrs. V. Mudr. Vaidyulu, N. Mudr. Sithamparappillai, T. Muthukumarappillai, Y. Mudr. Oulandavelu, S. Vethavayam, V. Navaratnam, A. Sandrasagaram, K. Veithirasaamy, A. Sandrasagaram, K. Veithirasaamy, M. Sanmugam, T. Vathallegam, V. Karthigesu, N. Veuppillai, N. Arunachalam, V. Visuvanayagam, N. Vairamoulu, K. Chelliah, T. Poothathambay, V. Ramasamy, S. Sivasambas, M. Sdamparappillai, V. Kana-pathippillai, V. Muthuvaran and the President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Committee, besides its other functions, is also to act as the Board of Directors of "Siththivanyagar Viththiyalayam," which is to be opened at Point Pedro in March 1924. A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on the 17th February at which several matters relating to the proposed "Siththivanyagar Viththiyalayam" were discussed and necessary arrangements were made for the erection of the School building out of the donations paid and promised by members of the Hindu public of Point Pedro residing here and abroad. It was also decided by the Committee to take active interest in the great cause of temperance.—Cor.

THE ORDER IN COUNCIL.

PROCLAMATION.

Continued from our last issue.

3. The Colombo District shall include the Town of Colombo, and the Colombo Revenue District, other than the Negombo District,

and the Negombo District shall include Hapitagama korale, the administrative limits of the Local Board of Minuwangoda and of the Urban District Council of Negombo, Alutkura korale North, Alutkura korale South, and Sivasakora West.

4. (a) The Central Province (Urban Division) shall include the Town of Kandy, all Local Board or Sanitary Board towns, and the administrative limits of the Board of Improvement of Nuwara Eliya and of all Urban District Councils within such Province.

(b) The Central Province (Rural Division) shall include all other portions of the Central Province not mentioned in paragraph (a) of this clause.

5. The several divisions of the Northern Province shall include, respectively, such portions of the Northern Province as may be declared by the Governor in Executive Council by Proclamation in the "Government Gazette" to be included therein.

6. The several divisions of the Southern Province as may be declared by the Governor in Executive Council by Proclamation in the "Government Gazette" to be included therein.

7. (a) The Northern Western Province (Western Division) shall include the Chilaw and Puttalam Revenue Districts except Demala hatpattam.

(b) The North-Western Province (Eastern Division) shall include all other portions of the North-Western Province not included in the Western Division as mentioned in paragraph (a) of this clause.

8. One Member shall be elected for each constituency, except that the Burgher Electorate shall have the right to elect two Members.

XX—1. For the purpose of electing a Member to represent the European Electorate (Urban), the areas from time to time within the Municipal limits of the towns of Colombo, Kandy, and Galle shall respectively be electoral districts, and the Government Agents of the Western, Central, and Southern Provinces shall respectively be registering officers for such electoral districts.

2. For the purpose of electing Members to represent the European Electorate (Rural), the Burgher Electorate, and the several constituencies named in sub-heads to (both inclusive) in clause (1) of the last preceding article, each revenue district or part of a revenue district in the Island contained within any such constituency shall be an electoral district, and, subject to the exception contained in Article 23 of this Order with regard to the Burgher Electorate, the Government Agent or Assistant Government Agent, as the case may be, of such revenue district or part thereof, shall be the registering officer of each such electoral district.

3. For the purpose of electing a Member to represent the Town of Colombo (North) and the Town of Colombo (South), each division or part of a division into which such town is from time to time divided under the provisions of "The Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1910," or any Ordinance amending the same, falling respectively into the said constituencies of Colombo Town (North) and Colombo Town (South), shall be an electoral district, and the Chairman of the Municipality thereof shall be the registering officer for every such electoral district.

4. For the purpose of electing a Member to represent the Commercial Electorate, the Island shall be deemed to constitute a single electoral district, and the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Ceylon shall be the registering officer.

XXI—(1) If and when the Governor decides that the Muhamadan or Indian Members shall be elected and shall cease to be nominated, the Governor in Executive Council may, by Proclamation in the "Government Gazette," make such orders and give such directions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Order, as he, in his opinion, from time to time required for the purpose of any such election or elections.

2. A Muhamadan or Indian Member elected in accordance with provisions of this Article shall become and be in all respects an Elected Member within the meaning of that expression as used in this Order.

XXII—(1) For the Burgher Electorate the Governor shall from time to time appoint a registering officer (styled the registering officer for the Burgher Electorate), who shall be resident at Colombo, and shall perform the duties of a registering officer for the Burgher Electorate with respect to all the electoral districts of such constituency in the Island.

2. The registering officer for the Burgher Electorate shall be assisted by a Board of not more than three persons nominated from time to time by the Governor, and holding office during the Governor's pleasure.

3. It shall be the duty of such Board to advise and assist the registering officer in preparing the register of voters. The duties of the Board shall be advisory, and in the event of any difference between the registering officer and the Board, the opinion of the registering officer shall prevail.

XXIII—(1) For every electoral district separate registers of the persons entitled to vote for the election of members to represent the several constituencies hereinbefore specified shall be prepared and revised in the manner prescribed by the rules contained in Schedule I to this Order.

2 If any register is not prepared in due time, the register in operation immediately before the time at which the new register ought to have been prepared shall continue in operation until the new register is prepared.

3 A registering or revising officer may, on the consideration of hearing of any claim, objection, or appeal, require that the evidence tendered by any person shall be given on oath or affirmation and may administer an oath or affirmation for this purpose; and any person who in the course of any such consideration or hearing knowingly swears or affirms anything material to the validity of such claim or objection which is false or incorrect shall be guilty of the offence of giving false evidence, and shall be liable to the punishment provided thereof.

(To be continued)

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SALVATION ARMY AND HON. MR. DURAISWAMY.

Sir,
After a perusal of the letter dated the 5th February which appeared in the "Morning Star", of the 9th February signed by Mr. J. M. Hensman, one cannot but feel that the whole letter is conceived in haste and steeped in prejudice.

To start with, Mr. Hensman begins with a misstatement of fact, when he says that the Hon. Mr. Duraiswamy based his opposition to the grant of Rs. 60,000/- by the Legislative Council on religious grounds. Mr. Duraiswamy wanted a scheme to be submitted to it by the Salvation Army before the Legislative Council voted the Rs. 60,000/-. The religious question also had to be considered as the inmates of the Borstal Institute would have to go there. *Nolens Volens*. If it were an institute to which the convicts could go only if they wished, it would be a different matter. But to send them there like dumb driven cattle forced by the strong arm of the law and to leave them, poor souls, to the mercy of those whose principal business is to tickle men out of their religious faiths and convictions by lurid pictures of hell fire and brim-stone is, to say the least, objectionable, however sincere the Salvation Army may be from its point of view.

Mr. Hensman lays down as an axiomatic truth that the Salvation Army in such institutions makes no proselytizing efforts, but concentrates on the reclamation work. But in the same breath he says that the conversations and lives of the Salvation Army workers are eloquent sermons of their teaching. The only conclusion to be drawn from these statements is that the Salvation Army even in reclamation work preaches Christianity by conversation and influence, which I dare say, are just as effective, if not more than eloquent sermons. The lesson in consistency is not very happy, as the students who attend the various schools and colleges go there of their own accord without any pressure from any outside authority. Even in this case, the Government is now reluctant to advance grants to educational institutions whose primary object is proselytizing. The Government by its indifference and woeful neglect of its duties and responsibilities has allowed missionary bodies to undertake them, duties and responsibilities which were incumbent on the British Government from the day this country of ours passed into their hands.

On the other hand the Missionary bodies ought to be thankful that they are recipients today of large grants which are quite out of proportion to the numbers they represent.

To come back to our argument, it seems according to Mr. Hensman, who is co-sure in this as in very many other things, that some legislatures of India have contributed large sums for similar purposes. Even if this is true, it must have been in the last century when the bureaucracy created its own legislatures to carry on things according to its own sweet will and pleasure. In any case our Legislative Council is not going to do anything which is palpably wrong, for "two wrongs cannot make one right".

The attack on the two Knights and Mr. Duraiswamy for championing the cause of Hinduism is unwarranted, irrelevant and highly offensive to the Hindu community. Most of Mr. Hensman's remarks on this, as on the other points, may be acceptable to narrow-minded Christians but they are absolutely insulting to the Hindus.

About three years ago when Mr. Duraiswamy stood out as a candidate for the Northern Province, Mr. Hensman, who was an ardent supporter of Mr. Chatterjee, indulged in virulent attacks in the Press belittling the public work of Mr. Duraiswamy, especially with regard to the Jaffna Association from its very inception, till he was silenced by the witer of this letter by a contribution giving historical details of the formation of the Jaffna Association. Now after a silence of three years, during which Mr. Duraiswamy has done invaluable services to his country in the Legislative Council, the old prejudices of Mr. Hensman has broken out afresh. These "flowers of Christianity" who do services to humanity in India and Ceylon will not indulge in cheap criticisms of this sort against men who do work fearlessly and conscientiously. Let

Mr. Hensman, who is co-sure in this as in very many other things, indulge in cheap criticisms of this sort against men who do work fearlessly and conscientiously. Let

Jaffna, I remain, Sir,
Yours sincerely,
F. B. Myvaganam.

THE DRINK QUESTION.

Sir,
The abuses of the toddy trade are manifold. They arise out of the many channels of illicit traffic that is carried on in the country, and these channels of illicit traffic are not far to seek. They spring from licensed sources and flourish under cover of licenses principally.

The gist, or perhaps the intention, of Government in opening toddy taverns was to stop the many abuse consequent on the indiscriminate and unrestrained use of toddy but I should say that they have not been successful in carrying out their intention. The centralization of the toddy trade was their chief object, but this has been a great failure. Every tapping garden and every tapper's home are serving the purpose of a tavern, and abuses are increasingly abundant and are greater in intensity than before the so-called centralization took its shape. It is not that the authorities are unaware of and are not wakened against these abuses, but they are only powerless to conquer the force of circumstances that have resulted through their undue propensity to popularize the toddy traffic. One of Government's greedy and injurious acts connected with the toddy traffic is the selling of its rights at exorbitant prices, and this followed by their indiscriminate allotment of tapper areas and the extravagant issue of tapping licenses, which are of course unavoidable consequences, in as much as the renter who has paid a hard price for his rent should be given facilities to find his toddy supply.

The principal mischief leading to the toddy abuse begins with the over-supplying of the whole toddy drawn to a tavern, and this is in the majority of cases done with the connivance of the renter who has his own reasons for doing so. His sale transaction is peculiarly not let free. There are several blockades on his way in respect of off sales, hours of sale, hours of transport etc., and in the midst of these blockades should his toddy find a store and sale in the tavern premises alone, it would simply inundate the tavern and the renter would be obliged to find an exit either illicit or illicit. If it is illicit, it can only bring him a loss irreparable, and if illicit, he incurs the risk of being cornered easily by the Excise Department. It is, therefore, not impossible to expect the renter to find place or place other than the tavern to have the whole toddy disposed of. I shall here quote some facts and figures relating to an average tavern that may be in favour of the renter's illicit propagation. He buys a rent for Rs. 9000. To meet this amount which is payable to Government and also the cost of establishment etc. he has to see that the sale proceeds of his tavern reach at least Rs. 12,000 in the year. This means Rs. 1000 in a month or over Rs. 33 per day. Taking the average selling price of toddy per gallon as 60 cents there should be a daily sale of 55 gallons at the tavern. The hours of sale are limited and are between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Therefore there are only ten full hours. In these ten hours the renter cannot in most cases expect his toddy to reach the tavern from the tapping gardens which may be miles away before 10 a.m. in the morning. In the evening it is entirely out of the question, for I know that tappers do not start on their evening work even after 5 p.m. The renter cannot also expect the toddy-drinkers who are mostly of the labouring class to visit the tavern earlier than 12 a.m. in the morning and 5 p.m. in the evening, and so the hours for sale are still narrowed, but for argument sake I shall take the number of hours available to the renter at ten. The amount of 55 gallons as shown above has to be sold during these ten hours, and this means that there should be an average sale of 5.5 gallons per hour, which is a sheer impossibility in view of the additional restriction against off-sale. The necessity for the renter to have recourse to illicit sale is, therefore, seen from this and I shall detail below a few of his illegal acts.

Having bought a rent at exorbitant price the renter puts in a successful application for licenses to tap trees even off a three miles radius from the tavern, and the licenses are granted and trees are marked. The tree-marking is done by the Excise Department under the supervision of a responsible officer, but this supervision is in the generality of cases only in name or perfunctory. Some of the Excise Department are unscrupulous with the tree marking, but I know sometimes the police take the position of the supervising officer and transfer their job to the tappers. It is all right even after this transfer of work, if the police supervisor is impartial, honest and over-strict, but it is not so and the result is that when there should be, say only a three thousand trees to be marked in an area, the number actually marked might very much be in excess of that figure. How this is done, it may be interesting to know. Tapping areas are divided into blocks, and the division of these blocks is generally by means of roads that may pass through these

areas. Each block has separate consecutive marking numbers of its own, and sometimes the number of trees that will be marked in a block may be more than a thousand. In systematic tree marking it is supposed that the 1st number will appear at one end and the last at the other end of the block, so that an inspecting officer on seeing these numbers at both extremities will be satisfied that more trees in excess of the number licensed have not been marked, but the tappers who marked their own trees would have already added their illicit trees in that block. For instance a tapper has twenty trees on his license, and if these twenty trees have to bear the numbers 21 to 40, he may actually have 25 trees marked and for the five extra illicit trees he will have to carry five numbers between 21 and 40. These five trees may not be easily detectable for their situation in the block will have been shrewdly made. Within the block there may be lots which will not be easily accessible to an inspecting officer or where he will not care to take the trouble to go, and the illicit trees may sometimes stand in such lots. Even if the inspecting officer detects these trees it will not be possible for him to verify and prove their illegality, unless he traverses the whole block and catches sight of the other five trees bearing the same numbers which is seldom done. In this way the renter manages to have trees marked considerably in excess of the number licensed and kept in record by the Excise Department, which sometimes helps the latter to find out the estimated supply of a tavern. So much about the renter's fault connected with the tree marking alone. I shall now explain the artifice employed in the disposal of the toddy that is drawn from the total number of trees marked. I have pointed out already the necessity for the renter to find out illicit means to dispose of the toddy drawn even from the legitimately marked trees and, therefore, how much more of such means he has to seek for the disposal of the illicit stock. It is so easy to dispose of the illicit stock that the renter is not even troubled by the extension of tapping areas in distant dry villages several tapping gardens have become closer to several aboriginal taverns than to the existing ones for which the extension was granted. If the toddy drawn from such distant gardens has to be transported to the tavern right away the renter meets twofold disadvantages. They are first the impossibility of the toddy reaching the tavern in time, and secondly the little chance of attracting toddy-drinkers from distant places that are incidentally closer to the tapping gardens from where the toddy is to be transported to the distant tavern. These two disadvantages the renter tries to overcome even at some risk and in ninety nine per cent of cases I know he runs an illicit booth. One may ask whether the Excise Department which is ever vigilant in the detection of Excise offences is incapable of putting a stop to this, but I may say that even taking for granted that hundred per cent of the illicit cases in our country are being detected, it is seldom that 100 per cent of them result in the total eradication, and in this particular line of illicit traffic the chances of successful detection and eradication are far and few.

There are multitudes of other ways whereby the renter tries to hood-wink the authorities and pollute the morality of the country which I cannot narrate in the short space. What I would ever like to see is not better supervision or better checking of the renter's lawless acts which the authorities may prevent that can save our country from the deleterious influence of the toddy abuse, for my reason is that no good can come out of evil and that no charm can be effective against the evil. The only way to remove the evil is to remove the cause of the evil. The entire disappearance of toddy following the total abolition of all toddy taverns that could be an effective panacea to work against the evils produced by the toddy consumption. Let our Government Agent therefore help us not thwart our endeavours to achieve the real object for which we are having the taverns abolished, bearing in mind that total prohibition is our final goal and that we are determined to reach this goal gradually.

Kuala Lumpur, V. W. Thambiah.
13-2-21.

THE LATE SIR P. ARUNACHALAM.

Dear Sir,
With the benumbing sense of an irreparable loss so incidentally fresh in the minds of Ceylonese in Malaya over the lamented death of that great leader and patriot, Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, any attempt to express the feeling of keen disappointment caused by the failure of Jaffna sympathizers to notify the sad news to their brothers in this country will indeed be very feeble.

It was with a feeling of shame that we, a respectable and not an insignificant section of your countrymen, received the news through newspapers after the lapse of nine days from the date of the sad occurrence. The silence thus maintained lamentably betrays the want of the sense of duty Jaffna owes us and has treacherously robbed us of the chance of condoling, in appropriate time, with the afflicted family, and mingling in tears with the nation at its hour of mourning. Can there be anything more excruciating than this?

We fail not to win appreciation as money-making machines and liberal supporters of financial undertakings, but not as an essential limb of the corporate life of the people of our motherland.

Our hearts yearn in vain to learn if there is any reasonable excuse for the marked indifference exhibited in this respect by our Association and Sabhas. Nay more than this, we expected much from the newly formed Overseas Association. We wonder what it is doing. It certainly owes a word of explanation for this neglect, and, incidentally the members at the helm may be reminded that if they hold the genuine belief that they intend early piloting it to its destined port, they should be more practical.

To be frank, dear Editor, we are grievously hurt and feel insulted and slighted. The mortal coil of that great personality has gone, but our feelings of segregation have not.

A belated vote of condolence was passed and enabled to Lady Arunachalam as follows:—

"Ceylonese of all nationalities resident in the Ceylon districts of the State of Selangor in mass meeting assembled at Klang on Tuesday the 23rd January, 1921, record their profound sorrow at the irreparable loss their mother country has sustained by the death of Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, the father and founder of the Ceylon National Congress—whose contribution to the general advancement of the political consciousness of the people is unsurpassed."

Let those who have eyes see the injustices done to Ceylonese in Malaya.

Thanking you for the valuable space in your paper.

Klang, Yours truly,
25th January, 1921, CEYLONESE.

THE WORK OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

Sir,
May I sound a note of warning to my Hindu brothers of the North regarding the "well-intentioned" activities of the different Christian Missionary bodies. They have opened up schools not so much out of love for you, as for gaining their own ends. Under the guise of educating your youths, they carry on a vigorous campaign to proselytize you "heathens". If the Christian Missionary Bodies deny this, I ask them, how is it that there is a large number of Christians there in the North? My Hindu brothers, do you for a moment think that they have come a long way from Europe and America to do social work? Have they not come there to propagate "Missionary Christianity"? Then if you Hindus are proud of your culture, proud of your ancient art, proud of your philosophy, will you suffer your children to be "educated" by these missionaries any longer? The Buddhist people in the South have realized the danger, and at present they are up and doing. They are opening up schools for their children, and their cry is Buddhist schools for Buddhist children. I make a very strong and earnest appeal to you, my Hindu brothers, to study the motives of these missionaries and to open up Hindu institutions for your children. If you fail to do this, you are to be blamed, for generations yet unborn will be at the mercy of the missionaries. Let "Hindu schools for Hindu children" be your watch word.

W. H. M. DE SILVA.

AN AYURVEDIC COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL.

THE REFERRED COUNCIL AND ELECTIONS.

Sir,
It will be admitted on all hands that over 90% of the people of Ceylon depend entirely on the Ayurvedic System of medicine for relief. In spite of this fact it is regrettable to find that Government has taken no steps for the improvement of the system nor encouraged its study. The reason is obvious: Government depend for advice in matters medical on practitioners of the Western System of medicine, who either through ignorance of the Eastern System, or for professional reasons could hardly be expected to take the initiative.

So I think, Sir, it is the duty of the public through their representatives in the Legislative Council to urge Government to move in the matter. As a start an Ayurvedic College and a Hospital should be built in Colombo and also a grant of about 5 acres of land given for growing the necessary medicinal herbs and plants. A sum of Rs. 3 Lacs out of the Surplus Balance may reasonably be allocated for these purposes. Will the members of the present Finance Committee of the Council be pleased to bring these wants of a majority of the people before Government?

Should this appeal fail, Ayurvedic wants throughout the Colony should be made an Election issue, and the public should be prepared to obtain from the prospective candidates definite pledges to support necessary action in the new Council.

I trust all Associations in the Island and eligible voters in the new Electorates will join in this agitation to have this long neglected want adjusted.

Can we not expect your support too, Mr. Editor?
Colombo, Yours fa.,
29th February, 1921. B. M. E. JAYARATNE.

