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A Replica Of The Ancient Great

GANDHIJI — SAGE AND PATRIOT

*The Universal Kingdom of God
Fructifying*

THE Hemlock of Socrates, the Cross of Jesus, and the bullets of Gandhiji bear the same seeds. The bullets will flower and fructify in the same way in the Universal Kingdom of God.

Gandhiji is more alive today than ever, risen from the silent ashes in response to the call and cries of his people. Bapuji has laid down his mortal frame, embraced death, his "incomparable friend," and is today shining more resplendently than ever in the minds and conscience of those whom he loved in life and death. No greater love has a man than to lay down his life for his friends. After the hemlock of Socrates and the cross of Christ, the bullet of Mahatmaji will go down in history for thousands of years, for all generations to come. That is how the wheel of his ory moves. Since the birth of Lord Buddha and Sankaracharya, I wonder whether there was another soul purer, greater, nobler, and braver than Gandhiji. With one physical death he has given life to millions in India and abroad, to those to whom Gandhiji's life and living words are the source of faith, inspiration and bread of life through this mortal strife. No, Bapuji, you are not dead; a thousand times more alive today than you ever were, while you were on your pilgrimage underneath the sun.

Since the dawn of political independence, I do not know whether it was my blindness or immaturity or both that made me join the chorus of those who substantially disagreed or thoroughly ignored Gandhian politics. Their contention was that Gandhiji's politics since August 15th 1947 was too saintly, divine, pure, angelic to be effective against the fiendish mechanisation and militarisation of the modern world. Gandhiji's position was that Truth and Love, satya and ahimsa should permeate and leaven the entire political and economic life as well and that there should be no compartmental division between the Kingdom of God—Ram Rajya—and the Kingdom of Caesar or State. His idealism gave him strength to live up to his dreams to the end and die a martyr of his lofty ideals and angelic faith; whereas, we of lesser faith, the so-called realists, joined the mob who preferred power, splendour, glory, majesty to the humility, meekness and love of the Saint. Once the Jews, disappointed with the eternal mission of Jesus of Nazareth, cried that Jesus, the

Anointed and the Holy One of the Israel, should be killed, "least the Romans come and take away our land." In the same way many of us in India thought and vociferated that if Gandhian politics were to succeed Pakistan would take away even what is left of the residual India. We demanded more militarisation, mechanisation and industrialisation to enable us to face any eventuality, whether it was any aggression from outside, or any crack from inside. But Bapuji, like Jesus, relied on divine help and guidance alone. The ideal of Ramraksha, in Indian mind, is so complete that all calculations and human prudence are to be set aside so that divine grace and fruits of a living faith alone may reign supreme. Gandhiji, the prophet, the martyr, the saint has taught us and the world this lofty gospel of resurrection of the Son of Man through his crucifixion.

To me, personally, I have lost my most precious jewel in India—the pride of my heart, the song of my soul. During my many years of exile abroad it was Bapuji's words that continued to strengthen and illumine me more than any of our contemporaries. The more I tried to penetrate into the significance of Sacrifice, qurbani; or Cross, the more my heart began to beat in unison with Bapuji's. While I saw in Ramakrishna a sage, a rishi, seated underneath the mango groves of Dakshineswar, expounding the most profound truths about religious and spiritual life, in Vivekananda the young the fiery idealist and apostle of Neo-Vedantism, in Rabindranath, the sweet nightingale and seer of India's immortal wisdom, I found in Gandhiji a replica of Socrates of old, of Jesus of the Orient. Today I see, the hemlock of Socrates, the Cross of Jesus and the bullets of Gandhiji bearing the same seeds, flowering and fructifying in the same way, in the universal Kingdom of God. The blood of martyrs is indeed the seed of the Church. The seed must fall and die before it could germinate and grow into a tree "so that the birds of the air may come and lodge in the branches thereof." This is how the wheel of history moves, the designs of God are fulfilled.

The mortal frame of our Bapu

Path To Peace

How To Control Yourself

(By) REV. ARTHUR E. MASSEY

HOW to prevent evil thoughts? The learned writer in this contribution makes some suggestions to make the mind less receptive to evil thoughts.

Thought forms are connected with their progenitor by what—for want of a better phrase—we must call a magnetic tie; they react upon him, producing an impression which leads to their reproduction. Where a thought form is reinforced by repetition, a very definite habit of thought may be set up, a mould may be formed into which thought may readily flow—helpful, if it be of a very lofty character, as a noble ideal, but for the most part cramping and a hindrance to mental growth.

When an evil thought enters the mind it is better not to fight with it directly but to utilise the fact that the mind can only think of one thing at a time; let the mind be at once turned to a good thought, and the evil one will be necessarily expelled. Many a man wastes years in combating impure thoughts when quiet occupation of the mind with pure ones would leave no room for his assailants; further, as the mind draws to itself matter which does not respond to the evil, he is gradually becoming positive, unresponsive, to that kind of thought. If a man's thoughts are pure and noble, he will attract around him hosts of beneficent entities, and may sometimes wonder whence came to him the power for achievement that seems—and truly seems—to be much beyond his own. Similarly, a man of foul and base thoughts attracts to himself a host of evil entities and by this added energy for evil commit crimes that astonish him in the retrospect. "Some devil must have tempted me," he will cry; and truly these demonic forces, called to him by his own evil, add strength to it from with-

out. This is the secret of right receptivity; the mind responds according to its constitution; it answers to all that is of like nature with itself; we make it positive towards evil, negative towards good, by habitual good thinking, thus building into its very fabric materials that are respective of good, un-receptive of evil.

We must think of that which we desire to receive and refuse to think of that which we desire not to receive. Such a mind, in thought ocean which surrounds it draws to itself the good thoughts, repels the evil, and thus ever grows purer and stronger amid the very same thought conditions which render another fouler and weaker. If an unkind thought about another person enters the mind, it should at once be replaced by a thought of some virtue he possesses, of some good action he has done. If the mind is harassed by anxiety, turn to the thought of the purpose that runs through life, the Good Law which "mightily and sweetly ordereth all things." If a particular kind of desirable thought persistently obtrude itself, then it is wise to provide a special weapon; some verse or phrase that embodies the opposite idea should be chosen and whenever the objectionable thought presents itself, this verse or phrase should be repeated and dwelt upon. In a week or two the thought will cease to trouble. It is a good plan constantly to furnish the mind with some high thought, some word of cheer, some inspiration to noble living; ere we go forth into life's turmoil day by day we should give the mind this shield of good thought. A few words are enough, taken from some Scripture and this fix on the mind by a few recitations in the early morning will recur to the mind again and again during the day and will be found repeating itself in the mind whenever the mind is disengaged. The way to begin to tread the Path that leads to the Place of Peace is to resolutely and persistently endeavour to identify our consciousness with the True Self, to see as it sees, to judge as it judges, in a word, to live the Divine Life, which shall leave the world better than we found it.

(Continued on page 5)



Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1948.

EDUCATION

THAT EDUCATION HAS TO BE planned on democratic lines suited to the economy of a small self-governing nation like Ceylon was emphasised by a well-known educationist under the name "Agastiyar" in two articles on "Education and the New Era" published in our issues of 17th and the 20th instant. The writer pointed out that even after Ceylon has become independent English still continues to be the medium of education which would secure highly remunerative employment; he suggested a system of practical education which will be helpful to the vast rural population and tend towards the betterment of the health, happiness and prosperity of the majority of the people in the country; according to him, the people will need no language but their own and no subjects are needed in the curriculum except those that assist in providing for a healthy and happy life under natural conditions.

The views of the writer deserve consideration. How many students in Ceylon have wasted their youth in the study of such dead languages as Latin and Greek and in the end found that their energy had been wasted for no useful purpose? From a purely academic point of view one who wishes to specialise in the classics or modern languages may spend his time in the study of classics or modern languages, but more than 99 percent of those who wasted their youth in studying Latin or Greek have had little opportunity for making use of those languages in ordinary life. Education must have, for its aim and object, a practical value. Those who want to specialise in the study of languages may be allowed to do so, but the majority of the students should not be burdened with the task of studying any language but their own. It should be made possible for every student to study in his own mother tongue whatever subjects that may be required for his avocation in life.

In the East the system of education adopted in Japan is worth mentioning. It was possible for every student in Japan to specialise in any branch of knowledge including science through the medium of his mother tongue. In elementary readers taught in primary schools emphasis was laid to kindle in the minds of the young students the desire to study science; the

Bribery Rampant in U. C.

Members' Strong Condemnation

"Chairman Acted In Utter Defiance Of Council"

BECAUSE of the weakness of the Chairman, bribery and corruption were rampant among the employees of the Jaffna Urban Council declared Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai in moving the vote of no-confidence in the Chairman, Mr. C. Ponnambalam, on Friday evening last. As stated elsewhere in this issue, the resolution of no-confidence was withdrawn and instead, a motion of dissatisfaction was passed.

Mr. Sinnadurai said he was forced to move that motion. He did so with personal regret, but without fear and ill-will.

Continuing, Mr. Sinnadurai said: "It is we who were responsible for your election as Chairman, and we hoped every taxpayer would enjoy equal rights under your administration. But as time went on, we found you were weak in your administration."

Continuing Mr. Sinnadurai said the Chairman had shown impartiality in his duties. Now the time had come when they could not bear it any longer, in view of their duty by the taxpayer. The lust for power had made the Chairman blind, and he was anxiously clinging to his office at any cost.

Mr. Sinnadurai next referred to the administration of the Electricity Department and accused the

utility of scientific inventions was explained. The result was Japan was able to develop into a first grade nation before the second World War. Her imperialistic designs in trying to copy the Western Powers has been the cause of her downfall. Ceylon may adopt what was good in the Japanese system of education.

Mahatma Gandhi spent a good deal of his time in devising the Wardha Scheme of Education. The object of the Scheme was to make education useful in ordinary life. The type of education imparted in Ceylon requires radical changes. Schools are still continuing to produce, in large numbers, a class of people who want employment under Government, high salaries and a life of ease. It is to be hoped that the Minister of Education will give his thoughts to this aspect of the matter. The recommendations of the Special Committee on Education appear to have been shelved; some of these recommendations such as free tuition have been adopted. The so-called Central Schools which were expected to impart practical instruction which would be useful in agriculture or industry are functioning like other schools which have existed in the past and continue to exist. Central Schools should be scrapped, or the object for which they were brought into existence should be fulfilled. We recommend that not only Central Schools but also other schools should be made to adopt a system of education which will improve the health, happiness and prosperity of the people.

Chairman of not taking heed to the resolutions passed by the Council. The Council had decided not to give current to any new applicant, as there were several who had applied for it long ago. The Electricity Superintendent had definitely made the Chairman understand that the engines could not stand any further load, but Mr. Ponnambalam had given several connections. Mr. V. K. Nathan, the Education Officer, had applied for a service connection to his new house about a month ago; but the Chairman had refused the application, Mr. Sinnadurai said. Then Mr. Nathan brought Mr. Karalasingham, Proctor, to the Chairman, and Mr. Ponnambalam directed Mr. Nathan to apply for a temporary connection for seven days. He (the speaker) who was present there, asked Mr. Ponnambalam not to give and said that he should not show any difference between man and man. The Electricity Superintendent, who was sent for, told Mr. Ponnambalam that it was impossible to give a service connection. Then Mr. Ponnambalam suggested that the connection for the house Mr. Nathan occupied be discontinued, and that a temporary connection be given for seven days. That was done, but now Mr. Nathan, said the speaker, had a permanent service connection to his new house.

After detailing other instances, the speaker criticised the way the Way and Works Department was run, and referred to the weakness of the Chairman, as the result of which, he said, an officer was openly receiving bribes.

In regard to the Sanitary Department, Mr. Sinnadurai said everything was being done for Pasayur Karayur, Chivatheru and Columbuturai but nothing for the welfare of the taxpayers in other places.

Concluding, Mr. Sinnadurai said that because of the Chairman's weak administration, many of the officers committed corrupt practices.

Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy, supporting the motion said he was only concerned about the purity of public life. The Chairman thought he had a majority of the members in the Council and could defy public opinion with impunity. He (the speaker) would be guilty of a disservice to Jaffna Town if he did not raise his voice in protest against the Chairman's mismanagement of affairs.

Continuing, Mr. Sabapathy characterised the manner of dealing with applications for electricity service connections as scandalous. He also accused the Chairman of not having observed strictly the provisions of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. He particularly referred to black marketers erecting buildings and boundary walls within 75 feet from the centre of the road. He also charged the Chairman with having allowed a building to be erected encroaching on a public pond known as Vannankulam in Chemma Street.

Gandhijis Ideals

Islands Divisions Move

A Public Meeting representative of the Islands was held on Thursday the 12th instant at the Government Central School, Velanai, presided over by Mr. A. Savarimuttu, Mudaliyar, Magistrate's Court, Kayts. The day sacred to the memory of Gandhiji was specially chosen to make it synchronize with the immersion of his "Asthi".

The meeting was convened to commemorate Gandhiji's visit to Kayts, the nerve centre of the northern group of islands and also to erect to him a memorial more biding than bronze.

As the meeting was got up at very short notice it was not possible to send out invitations to all those interested. But those present were sufficiently representative of the people of different walks of life. After a lengthy discussion the views of the house crystallized in the following tentative decisions.

(a) Erection of a statue at the place sanctified by the Mahatma's visit.

(b) Conversion of the place where he preached his "Gospel" into a Park.

(c) An Ashram in keeping to Gandhiji's ideals and knowing no distinction of caste or creed to be built therein.

(d) To work for the removal of untouchability and the uplift of the Harijans and in particular to send some select Harijan youths to Gandhian Ashrams in South India to be trained in rural and Harijan upliftment.

The views of the meeting were communicated to the leading citizens of the different islands and a subsequent meeting representative of the various islands was held at Sivagurunatha Vidyasalai, Karampan Kayts on Monday the 16th instant and the foregoing decisions were ratified. In furtherance of the objectives set before the Sangham a working committee was appointed to take early steps to implement the decisions. The working committee of fifteen with Mr. A. Kanagasabai, Proctor, as President and Messrs N. T. Sivagnanam and M. Sivarajah as joint Secretaries and Mr. K. Saba pathipillai as Treasurer was elected and was delegated plenary powers to achieve the aims.

A sub committee of three from the Working Committee was appointed in connexion with the social aspect of the Sangham.

Constitution Of Free India

India's draft constitution, which runs into 300 pages and contains some 300 clauses and eight schedules is expected to be presented to the Indian Constituent Assembly, by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and published in the Press on or about Tuesday, February 24.

He (the speaker) did not question, he said, the Chairman's integrity.

Before concluding, Mr. Sabapathy said the Chairman had acted in utter defiance of the Council, and having got hold of a majority of the members, had treated them as dust under his feet.

"Either you will mend your ways, or I will cease to be a member of this Council" said Mr. Sabapathy, addressing the Chairman.

KATARAGAMA — WHO BUILT IT?

BUDDHIST CLAIM REFUTED

DUTTUGEMUNU ONLY REBUILT IT

THE claim that the Kataragama Temple was built by King Duttugemunu is refuted in a brochure issued jointly by the Saiva Paripalana Sabhai, Jaffna; Vivekananda Society, A'pura; Saiva Maha Sabhai, Batticaloa; Saiva Maha Sabhai, Kandy; Samathuva Sangam, Badulla; Vivekananda Society, Colombo; Servants of Kataragama Pilgrims Society Colombo; Y. M. H. A. Nawalapitiya; and the Hindu Maha Sabha, Galle. The following are extracts from the brochure.

Pre-Sinhalese and, therefore, pre-Buddhist.—Dr. P. E. Pieris Deraniyagala Samarasinghe, M. A., (Cantab) of the Ceylon Civil Service (now retired) states on page 324 of Volume I of his "Ceylon The Portuguese Era":

"Not far off, buried in the depths of the fever haunted forest, was the Dewle of the terrible war-god of Kataragama, claiming an antiquity more remote than the Sinhalese race itself. Exaggerated rumours of the immense wealth of gold and gems which were stored there, aroused the cupidity of the Portuguese (about 1597), but some secret tower appeared to shield the mystic spot, and in spite of all their efforts no hostile expedition ever crossed its sacred threshold..."

Dr. Pieris is himself a Sinhalese and hails from an ancient family. Although he is a non-Buddhist, he is accepted as a great historian both by the Buddhists and non-Buddhists. For instance, the author of the Buddhist Book "Mirror of the World" the MSS. of which had been revised by the eminent Buddhist Scholar Dr. Cassius A. Pereira (now Rev. Kassapa Thero) had referred to Dr. Pieris as "that great authority on history." We sincerely trust our Buddhist brethren will not dismiss lighting the conclusion arrived at by such an authority regarding the antiquity of the Shrine.

Buddhism was introduced into Ceylon after the advent of the Sinhalese into the Island on the day of the Lord Buddha's Parinibbana and, therefore, Dr. Pieris' conclusions show that the Shrine is pre-Buddhist as well.

Pre-Historic.—Lord Skanda's story is told in the epic poem "Skanda Purana". The original Sanskrit Purana is said to contain a hundred thousand stanzas but it has no existence now in a collective form. The existing Sanskrit epic dates from about the fifth century and the Tamil version of it from the eighth. According to this Purana, the destruction of the Asuras by Lord Skanda, his giving salvation *Mukt* to Surapadman, his marriage with Valli, the Veddha princess, etc., had taken place at a remote period at the time the epic was composed.

The Tradition of the Kataragama Veddhas supports the account given in the Skanda Purana.—Mr. H. Parker, P. Z. S., who was in the Ceylon Irrigation Department during 1873-1904 and whose duties took him to remote villages and forests in the Island, writes in his "Ancient Ceylon—An Account of the Aborigines and of the Early Civilization":

"He (Mr. Nevill) found... a tradition that it was some members of the Dambana section (of the

aboriginal veddhas) who discovered the goddess Valliamma as a child in the forest near Kataragama, and adopted and reared her until the war-god Skanda married her. He learned that it was formerly the duty of this clan to act as guards of the Kataragama temple in south-eastern Ceylon and that they resided in the district adjoining it. "This temple, dedicated to Skanda, is considered to be one of special sanctity and is visited by pilgrims from all parts of India including even the North-West Provinces..."

Even today, the Kappuralas who perform the pujas at the Shrine claim kinship with the God through Valliamma.

NOTE.—The Veddhas and the others in those pre-Buddhist days who lived in these parts were all Hindus. Even today, a Veddha Prince is venerated by the Saiva section of the Hindus as one of their 63 Saints.

The names "Valli" and "Valliamma" and the Temple dedicated to Her confirm the existence of the Kataragama Maha Dewale before the Buddhist era.—The names "Valli" and "Valliamma" are obviously Tamil names. It will be also equally obvious that the Aryan Sinhalese would not have deified "Valli" as "Valliammai" and built a temple for worshipping her—especially after they had become Buddhists.

In the Sinhalese legend which is relied on for claiming that the Maha Dewale in honour of Skanda Kumar was "founded" by King Duttugemunu or in any other legend or tradition of the Sinhalese, there is no reference to the temple built by the Buddhists in honour of Valliamma.

Valli had become a Devi only as a result of her becoming a consort of the war-god; therefore, the temple for the war-god must have been built prior to the one built for His Devi.

For the above reasons we submit that the Temples in honour of Skanda and Valliamma had been built by the aboriginal Hindu Veddhas long before the advent of the Sinhalese into the Island about 2500 years ago.

King Duttugemunu went on a Pilgrimage to Kataragama and worshipped the War-God there several years before he "built" the Temple.—According to the Sinhalese tradition and the Sinhalese poem "Kanda Upata"—which alone are relied on for the claim that King Duttugemunu had "founded" the Kataragama Temple—Prince Duttugemunu had gone to Kataragama on pilgrimage, invoked the aid of the God and received His help and that, after he became King through that help, he built and en-

(Continued on page 4.)

Dissatisfaction!

U. C. & Chairman

A no-confidence resolution moved against the Chairman by Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai at last Friday evening's special meeting of the Jaffna Urban Council was amended by Mr. P. Mortimer to express "dissatisfaction at various acts of the chairman during his term of office."

The amendment, accepted by Mr. Sinnadurai was adopted by seven votes to five.

The Chairman, Mr. C. Ponnambalam, replying to charges of "weak and partial administration" expressed surprise that such allegations should be made four years and two months after he had first held office.

Vipulanandaji's Portrait

Unveiled at A'pura

At a largely attended meeting of the Anuradhapura Vivekananda Society Limited held on the 18th February in the Society Hall under the Presidentship of Mr. N. Krishnadassan, District Judge of Anuradhapura an enlarged Photograph of Swami Vipulanandaji who was Professor of the Tamil language in the Ceylon University and who is lying in "Samadi" in the premises of Shivananda Vidyalayam of Batticaloa was unveiled by Mr. Krishnadassan. This was made an occasion for the annual distribution of Prizes to the school children of Vivekananda Vidyalayam and Mrs. Krishnadassan distributed the prizes. There was a variety entertainment in which the school children and members of the Society took part.

Gandhiji's Ashes

IMMERSED AT KEERIMALAI

NEVER before in the history of Jaffna was there such a vast gathering of men, women and children. As on Saturday evening last, when the whole of Jaffna town turned out to receive the sacred ashes of Mahatma Gandhi at the U. C. limit at Ariyalai. Long before the car which brought the urn containing the ashes appeared at the place, thousands of people gathered at the spot and in groups sang Nam Nam amidst shouts of Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai and similar slogans. The arrival of the station wagon with the urn was the signal for spontaneous shouts of Gandhi ki Jai from the vast gathering.

The decorated station wagon containing the urn arrived at Ariyalai at about 5 p. m. Thousands lined the street as the procession wended its way to the Town Hall. When the procession reached the Kachcheri, the urn was removed from the wagon and was carried shoulder high by Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M. P. for Jaffna through the streets amidst shouts of Gandhi ki Jai. At the Kachcheri a beautiful pandal was erected in which a gaily decorated statue of Gandhiji was placed. The Government Agent Mr. P. J. Hudson garlanded the casket, and flower petals were showered upon it by the Kachcheri staff.

The procession headed by Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam with the urn and other M. P.'s arrived at the Town Hall at 6.30 p. m. The Chairman of the Urban Council Mr. C. Ponnampalam received the urn at the entrance to the Hall. The urn was then placed in a decorated 'Ketakam' and people were allowed to have dharsan. The whole of Saturday night, crowds filed past the urn in solemn silence and paid their homage to the Departed Leader. Priests of all denomination chanted hymns from their respective scriptures.

The urn containing the ashes of Gandhiji was removed from the Town Hall on Sunday morning at 6 p. m. for its destination at Keerimalai. From the Town Hall the procession wended its way through the Grand Bazaar area of Kankesanthurai Road up to Kokuvil Junction. The whole route was gaily decorated. From the Kokuvil Junction, halts were made at important junctions for the people to have dharsan.

The urn was brought to Keerimalai sharp at 10 a. m. Lakhs of people gathered to have dharsan of the last mortal remains of the Mahatma. After chanting of texts from the Vedas, and the necessary rites performed, Mr. K. Kanagasathan M. P. performed the immersion ceremony sharp at 10.30 p. m. at the Keerimalai waters.

For Harijan Worship

Wellawatte Temple Opened

The well-known Pillaiyar Temple at Wellawatte was opened for Harijan entry on Friday last.

Dr. T. Nallainathan, a Vice President of the Vivekananda Society was present on the occasion and spoke on the significance of the occasion. About 50 Harijans entered the temple and offered prayers. The temple's manager is T. Annamalai Mudaliyar.

NOTICE

We S. S. Kandiah and K. Ratnam of Triang, Pahang, Federation of Malaya do hereby give notice that we have revoked the Power of Atto now executed by us on 10th April 1946 in favour of Mr. K. Aiyadurai Proctor & Notary Near viady Jaffna.

This 18th day of February 1948.
S. S. Kandiah Hospital Assistant I/C
Govt. Dispensary, Triang, Pahang.
K. Ratnam (Wife) Triang.

HEADMEN'S REQUEST

WANT HIGHER PAY

THE Headmen of Jaffna want a higher pay than what they are obtaining at present. This is the gist of the speeches made by several speakers at the Second Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna District Headmen's Union held last week at the Vaideeshwara Vidyalyayam, Vannarponnai.

Mr. S. Mandalanayakam, Headman, Chunnakam, presided at the meeting.

The main item discussed at the meeting was the subject of increased salary to headmen. It was stated that in appointing headmen educational qualifications were not felt to be very important some time ago. Now, however, the policy of the Government in making appointments to Headmanship has changed, and importance is attached to educational qualifications of candidates offering for the posts of headmen; and as such, the meeting felt, a salary commensurate with the qualifications should be given to Headmen. In other walks of employment such as clerical service and teaching profession, officers were paid a decent salary, whereas, the village headmen, in spite of the onerous duties they were called upon to perform were merely paid a pittance. The meeting decided to appeal to the Government to end the anomaly, and devise an increased scale of pay for the Headmen.

The following were elected office bearers of the Headmen's Union for the ensuing year:

President: Mr. S. Mandalanayakam, Vice-President: Mr. V. Chelliah (Kokuvil); Hon. Secretary: M. S. Razin (Mushin Ward); Asst. Secretary: Mr. S. Pararajasingham (Pungalaikaduvan); Treasurer: Mr. V. Kanapathy Nallai (Inuvil).

A committee of 14 members elected from the 9 divisions of the Jaffna district was also elected.

World Rice Yield

The 1947-48 (August-July) world rice crop is forecast at 96 per cent. of the pre-war average production, in an estimate of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The harvest is estimated at 7,100,000,000 bushels during the pre-war (1935-36/39-40) average. The output, however, is nearly 15,000,000 bushels larger than the production of 6,950,000,000 bushels the year before.

The largest gain over 1945-47 harvests is in Asia, where crops are gradually recovering from the decrease in production caused by the war. The output of Europe and Africa is larger than that of last year.

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Kataragama—Who Built It?

(Continued from page 3)

dowed the temple in fulfilment of his vow.

Therefore, the very tradition and the poem, which form the sole authorities for the Buddhist claim, show unmistakably that there had been a shrine already for Lord Skanda at Kataragama long before King Dutugemunu re built the Temple and endowed it as a part repayment of the "debt" he owed to the War God for helping him to become the King of the whole Island. The Veddahs would have had only a *paranasalai* (a hut made of leaves) as the Shrine but it was a shrine nevertheless.

There is ample evidence to show that King Dutugemunu was not a hundred per cent. Buddhist; the Buddhist Chronicle, the Mahavamsa, which glorifies him as a zealous champion of Buddhism, had found it prudent to omit all references to his building this Temple for the War-God.

According to "*Attha Maha Purna Kamma*," constructing shines on behalf of the Buddha alone is considered a great meritorious act; constructing a shrine to any one of the 33 crores of devas—of whom Skanda Deva is said to be a minor one—is not consistent with the teachings of Lord Buddha. This aspect of the question is dealt with in greater detail in paragraph 13 below.

We quote here the footnote in S. P. Arunachalam's paper on "The Worship of Muruga or Skanda" which was published in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society (Ceylon Branch) in 1924, and later included in the collection of his writings, "Studies and Translations," published in one volume by his son, Mr. A. Mahadeva (who was the Hon. the Home Minister in the last State Council) as it gives the reason for our submission that King Dutugemunu had re-built the Kataragama Temple as a Hindu and not as a Buddhist in the accepted sense of the term:

"Like most Ceylon Kings he (Dutugemunu) was more of a Hindu than Buddhist. An ancient MS account of Ridi Vihara, which he built and endowed, states that on the occasion of its consecration he was accompanied thither by 500 Bhikkhus (Buddhist monks) and 1,500 Brahmins versed in the Vedas (See Paper read at the R. A. S. B. in June, 1923, on "Palm Leaf MSS in Ridi Vihara"). Throughout Ceylon History the Court religion was Hinduism, and its ritual and worship largely alloyed and affected the popular Buddhism and made it very unlike the religion of the Buddha."

A new department of Social Services has been created under the Ceylon Ministry of Labour and Social Services,

Tamil Congress and Cabinet

Talk of Coalition

THE Political correspondent of the "Times of Ceylon" is responsible for the news that Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam and his party men in the Parliament may be, in the near future asked by Mr. Senanayake to take seats in the Cabinet. The correspondent had an interview with Lord Soulbury on the eve of the latter's departure to England. The correspondent writes:—

When I told Lord Soulbury there was a remote possibility of the Tamil Congress joining the Senanayake Cabinet, he seemed pleased.

"Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam is a very good friend of mine," he remarked, "and I am sure Mr. Ponnambalam, like other citizens of Ceylon who have the interests of this country at heart, will give priority to those interests."

In the course of his interview, he

said he hoped Ceylon would soon have its own Army. Every country, he said, should make provision for its own Army. Every country, should make provision for its own Defence and he was sure the people of Ceylon would rally round its Army.

Incidentally, talk of the Tamil Congress joining the Senanayake Cabinet is common in political circles. Although no direct approach has been made to the Tamil Congress by the Prime Minister, it is felt that any future Cabinet vacancy will be filled by a Congress nominee.

Cabinet and Congress circles both preserve a discreet silence but I learn on good authority that neither the Congress nor the Senanayake Cabinet are opposed to a reconciliation.

Mr. Ponnambalam, the Tamil Congress leader, is said to be pleased at the way the Prime Minister has solved the national flag issue.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester have returned to England on Friday last.

ORDER "NISI" DECLARING WILL PROVED, &c.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 826.

Sangarapillai Ponnampalam of Karainagar west. Petitioner.
Vs.

1. Ponnampalam Thavamany.
2. Ponnampalam Kandiah and
3. Ponnampalam Yokammah all of Karainagar west.
4. Marimuttu Kandiah of do. The 1st to 3rd Respondents are minors appearing by their Guardian-ad-litem the 4th Respondent. Respondents.

In the matter of the Last Will and testament of the late Rasammah wife of Sangarapillai Ponnampalam of Karainagar west. Deceased.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 17th day of December, 1947, in the presence of Mr. A. Kanagasabai, Proctor on the part of the petitioner, and the affidavit of the above-mentioned petitioner and of the witnesses to the Last Will dated 25th November and 10th December 1947 respectively having been read:

It is ordered that the Will of the abovenamed deceased, dated 11th April 1947 be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the respondents or other person or persons interested shall, on or before the 15th day of January 1948 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the said 4th respondent, be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 1st to 3rd respondents and that the said petitioner, is the executor named in the said Will and that he is entitled to have Probate of the same issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or other person or persons interested shall on or before the 15th day of January 1948 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 17th day of December, 1947.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.
Time to show cause extended to 26-2-48.

R. R. S. (Initialled)
D. J.

[O. 154. 20. & 24].

TOLL RENT

Tenders will be received by the Government Agent, N. P. Jaffna, at the Jaffna Kachcheri up to 12 noon on Tuesday the 9th March, 1948 for the purchase of the Kerativu—Sangupiddy Ferry on Mahadeva Causeway Toll rent for the period 1st April, 1948 or the date of proclamation of the ferry whichever is later to 30th September, 1949.

Further particulars can be had on application to the Govt. Agent, N. P. Jaffna.

G. A., N. P.

(G. 157. 24-2-48).

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
(held at Point Pedro)
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 368 P. T.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Walliammaichchy widow of Sampanthakurukkal Subramaniamkurukkal alias Sambandapandara Sanathi Subramania Pandara sanathi of Karanavai South. Deceased. Manikkavasagurukkal Vetharanaiakurukkal of Karanavai South. Vs. Petitioner.

1. Sampanthakurukkal Kumarasamikurukkal and
2. Wife Yalaipalithamoliammai both of Karanavai South
3. Visuvanathakurukkal Vethamanavalan of Varany Karampaikurichy. Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the Estate of the abovenamed deceased Walliammaichchy widow of Sampanthakurukkal Subramaniamkurukkal alias Sampandapandara Sanathi Subramania Pandarasanathi of Karanavai South coming on for disposal before W. Thulgodapitiya Esquire Additional District Judge on the 13th day of February 1948 in the presence of Mr. M. Sivapragasam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 13th day of February 1948 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is as the cousin of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the Estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 18th day of March 1948 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 16th day of February 1948.
Sgd. W. R. D. de Silva,
Drawn by Addl. District Judge, M. Sivapragasam, Proctor for Petitioner, (O. 158. 24 & 27).

To End Red Tape

Transport Minister's Move

An innovation in departmental administration with a view to bringing about closer co-operation and better understanding between Heads of various branches in each administration, was inaugurated on Friday last by Mr. J.L. Kotelawala, Minister for Transport and Works, when he held a conference of Heads of the Ceylon Government Railway at the office of the General Manager of Railways.

The purpose of the conference was to bring together the officers-in-charge of the various sections of the Railway and discuss problems affecting them with a view to expediting the work and to foster better understanding among them.

These conferences will be held once a month and will be summoned by the Head of the whole Department.

The Minister has decided to attend the first conference in each Department and give his advice and guidance. Thereafter the Minister will be represented at the conferences by one of his Secretaries who will keep minutes and keep the Minister informed of the proceedings.

The Minister has decided to make a start with this scheme with the Railway because it is the largest department under his control.

He will inaugurate similar conferences at the offices of the Heads of other Departments under his supervision.

One advantage of these conferences will be that the minor departmental heads will be able to place before their supervisors their problems with expedition and avoid the customary red tape of Government.

Commission to Probe Explosion

Government proposes to set up a commission of inquiry to investigate the circumstances surrounding the recent explosion in the fireworks factory at Ettiligoda, Galle, according to a communication issued by the Ministry of Justice.

Meanwhile a report from Galle says there were no further deaths but the condition of one injured woman is critical.

As there is still no definite information as to how many people were working in the factory at the time of the tragedy, it is not possible to how many more bodies may lie under the debris but from inquiries made from those who came to search for lost relatives it is believed the body of one Gunasena has not been found yet.

The Government Agent has sanctioned more money to enable the debris to be cleared and State workers from another factory in the neighbourhood have been employed on the job.

Stamp In Honour Of Gandhiji

The British Postmaster-General Mr. Wilfred Paling, rejected a suggestion that a special British postage stamp or an overprint on current stamps "drawing attention to Mr. Gandhi's great services to world peace" should be issued.

In reply to Labour Member of Parliament, Mr. John Lewis proposal, he said: "While I cordially appreciate the sentiment, I regret it is not practicable."

A Replica of the Ancient Great

(Continued from page 1)

There should be no room for despair, for Mother India can still bear many more Gandhis and Tagores. Today we cannot go any longer to Bapuji to seek his wise advice and paternal love in our personal and public difficulties. Yet, I know his spirit will pervade this adored land of ours and continue to live and work more fruitfully than ever before. This is at least my fondest dream. Seated alone in my little cell I dream sweet dreams and smile even in the face of this greatest tragedy that has overtaken us. Our mortal frames lay aside we must; but not our dreams, ideas and ideals.

In those jungly lands of Noakhali, my Bapuji dear, you told me; "Wherever we turn our eyes the harvest is indeed great, but only the labourers are few." Now you are gone, my Bapu, the Father of the nation, and I go to join those "few" who are engaged in the harvesting work. This rude shock which you gave me has opened my eyes to see new vistas and horizons veiled unto me hitherto. With you I sing today: "Hold Thou my feet, I do not ask to see the distant scene, one step is enough for me." Now I need not come and stay with you at Sevagram, as we last arranged. Now my Sevagram is Hindustan, this ancient Mother, rich in grace, love and truth. On that day you left me in the dark when, seated by your bedside, you whispered into my heart lyrics about a dedicated life of love and service. Then and thereafter your eyes piercing into mine revealed to me your advice. Now the Isis is fully unveiled. The veil is rent today and Tony sees a light, the Light. As you are gone, so he goes. Let none stop to ask him; Where? Into the Great Unknown he says, but never answers as his own Bapu who is gone.

Another Silk Farm in Jaffna

The Department of Industries and Commerce has decided to purchase 15 acres of cleared land in the village of Atchvely, in the Kopay Constituency, for the purpose of opening a Silk Farm.

The land selected is by the road leading to Vasavilan.

At present, in Ceylon, there are two Government Silk Farms, one at Lunugala in the Uva Province and the other at Puttur in the Jaffna District. Both the Farms were established two years ago.

WANTED

Wanted a Manager and two salesmen with experience in preparing tea and oriental cakes for the Hospital Canteen and one Night Watcher for the Hospital. Salary, Manager Rs. 60/- plus Rs. 25/- allowance, Salesmen Rs. 30/- plus Rs. 12/- allowance, Watcher Rs. 30/- plus Rs. 12/- allowance. The salesmen must be recommended by the Manager, who will furnish Rs. 300/- as security in cash. Applications will be received by the Hon. Sec., Co-operative Hospital Ltd, Moolai, up to 12 noon on 28-2-48. (M. 247, 24)

S.-E. Asian Youth's Conference

The South-East Asia Youth Conference opened its 8-day session last week at Delhi Square. Delegates from Viet Nam, China, Indonesia, Burma, Malaya, Ceylon, Nepal, Pakistan and India were attending the session. Representatives have also come from Yugoslavia and Australia representing the two convening bodies of the World Federation of Democratic Youth and the International Union of Students, Mr. Jean Lautisseur, Personal Representative of the President of the World Federation of Democratic Youth presided.

The Conference adopted two resolutions paying homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and the youth martyrs of South-East Asia and the resolutions were adopted all standing.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 836

In the matter of the intestate estate of Kanmany wife of Thambipillai Muttutampi of Kokuvil West Deceased.

Thambipillai Muttutampi of Kokuvil West Vs.

- 1 Muttutampi Sri Vigneswaran
- 2 Muttutampi Vigneswary
- 3 Muttutampi Rajeswary
- 4 Muttutampi Puvaneswary
- 5 Muttutampi Jagatheswaran
- 6 Muttutampi Kamaleswary
- 7 Muttutampi Mangaleswaran, all of Kokuvil West all being minors appearing by their Guardian-ad-litem the 8th Respondent
- 8 Vallipuram Kanagalingam of Nalore Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire District Judge of Jaffna on the 15th day of January 1948 in the presence of Mr. S. Thirunavukkasu Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read.

It is ordered and decreed that the 8th Respondent abovesigned be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th,

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 842

In the matter of the intestate estate of Ponnusamy Velupillai of Manipay Deceased.
Sengamalam daughter of Velauther of Manipay Petitioner.

- 1 James Ponnusamy Nagalingam of Manipay
- 2 Ponnusamy Visvalingam of Manipay presently of Vavuniya Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire District Judge of Jaffna on the 2nd day of February 1948 in the presence of Mr. S. Thirunavukkasu Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the Petitioner dated 24th day of January 1948 having been read:

It is ordered that the Petitioner be and she is hereby declared as mother and sole heir of the deceased to have Letters of Administration of the estate of the deceased issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 2nd day of March 1948 appear before this Court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 2nd day of February 1948
(Sgd.) G. C. T. A. de Silva,
District Judge.
(O. 152, 24 & 27)

6th and 7th Respondents minors for the purpose of representing them in these Testamentary proceedings and that Letters of Administration of the estate of the late Kanmany wife of Thambipillai Muttutampi of Kokuvil West be issued to the Petitioner unless the Respondents abovesigned or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 16th day of February 1948 appear before this Court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the Court to the contrary.

This 15th day of January 1948.
(Sgd.) R. R. Selvadurai,
District Judge.

16-2-48
Time to show cause is extended till 8-3-48.
(Intld.) R. R. S.
D. J.
(O. 153, 20 & 24)

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(Std 39 24-2 to 21-5-48)



ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 767

In the matter of the estate of the late
Marimuttu wife of Vethavaram
Sellam of Thirunelvely Jaffna
Deceased.
Vethavaram Sellam of Thirunelvely
Jaffna
Vs.
Velupillai Thillaiampalam of do.
Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal
before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire, Dis-
trict Judge, Jaffna on the 22nd day
of September 1947 in the presence of
Mr. M. Mathiaparam Proctor on the
part of the petitioner and the
affidavit of the above named petitioner
dated 9-9-47 having been read.

It is ordered that letters of ad-
ministration to the estate of the
abovenamed deceased be granted to
the petitioner unless the respondents
or others shall on or before the 24th
day of October 1947 show sufficient
cause to the satisfaction of this Court
to the contrary.

This 22nd day of September 1947
Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai,
District Judge.

Time to show cause to the contrary
is extended to 26-2-48.

Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai,
District Judge.
(O. 157 20 & 24)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 839

In the matter of the Last Will and
Testament of the late Sivahamy
wife of Kasiar Duraisamy of Jaffna
Deceased

Kasiar Duraisamy of Jaffna
Petitioner.
Vs.
Duraisamy Sivahamy of Jaffna
Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal
before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire
District Judge, Jaffna on 23rd January
1948 in the presence of Mr. K. V.
Rasiah Proctor for the Petitioner
and the affidavit of the Petitioner
and of the Witnesses having been
read.

It is ordered that the Last Will
and Testament of the said deceased
be declared proved and that Probate
thereof be issued to the petitioner as

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 828

In the matter of the intestate estate
of the late Ponnampalam Guru-
nathapillai Thambiappah of Kan-
keanthurai
Sellam widow of Thambiappah of
Kankesanthurai
Vs.
Petitioner

1. Thambiappah Thavarasan
2. Thambiappah Sivasan—
Minor both of Kankesanthurai
Respondents

This matter of the petition of the
abovenamed Petitioner coming on for
final disposal before R. R. Selvadurai
Esquire, District Judge Jaffna on the
5th day of January 1948 in the
presence of Mr. M. Sithampara-
nathan Proctor on the part of the
petitioner and the affidavit and
petition of the petitioner having been
read.

It is ordered and declared that the
1st respondent abovenamed be
appointed Guardian-ad-litem over
the minor the abovenamed 2nd
respondent for the purpose of repre-
senting him in this case and that the
petitioner be declared entitled to
letters of administration to the estate
of the abovenamed deceased and that
the same be issued to her accordingly
unless the abovenamed respondents
or any other person shall on or
before the 30th day of January 1948
appear before this Court and shew
sufficient cause to the satisfaction of
this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the said
minor respondent shall be produced
before Court on the said date.

Jaffna This 5th day of January 1948
(Sgd) R. R. Selvadurai
District Judge

30-1-48
Time to show cause extended
to 27-2-48
R. R. S. (Intd)
(O. 156 20 & 24)

Executor named therein unless the
Respondent or any other persons
appear before this Court on the 27th
day of February 1948 and show
cause to the contrary.

The 23rd day of January 1948.

(Sgd) R. R. Selvadurai
District Judge, Jaffna.

Drawn by
K. V. Rasiah
Proctor for Petitioner
(O. 155, 20 & 24)

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