

# The Hindu Organ

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

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

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Anaikottai, S. P. Dist. 16th Oct. 1918.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3682. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Visaladchy wife of Visuvalingam Valupillai of Vaadukkoddai West

Deceased. Visuvalingam Valupillai of Vaadukkoddai West

Petitioner. Maruthagamachchy widow of Nannthamby of Moolai

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Visuvalingam Valupillai of Vaadukkoddai West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Visaladchy wife of Visuvalingam Valupillai, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Doctor of Letters, District Judge, on October 8, 1918, in the presence of Mr. M. Canapattipillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner, and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated October 7, 1918, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before October 29, 1918, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris, District Judge. October 11, 1918.

FOR SALE.

We Sivaramalingam Marimuttu and Marimuttu Sivasuppiramaniam will sell by private negotiation a piece of land situated at Vaonarponnai East called Etchaddy and Erasasingan Valavu, in extent 5 Lachams and 3 Kulis V. C. with stone built house, well, and plantations, excluding a room to the South-West. The first named among us has life interest on the land and the second named is the owner of the land by right of donation. Applications must be made to:

(S. Marimuttu.) (M. Sivasuppiramaniam.)

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1918.

PROGRESS IN MYSORE.

Mysore is one of the most progressive Indian Feudatory States. This State owes its existence to the power of the British Arms by which it was conquered and restored to the old Hindu Dynasty from the hands of a usurper. Its area is nearly 29,000 sq. miles, somewhat larger than Ceylon which has 25,000 sq. miles. The population of this State is about 5,800,000 which is also somewhat larger than Ceylon whose population is about 4,100,000. In spite of these advantages, the revenue of the State is only about one half of that of Ceylon. The wisdom of the generous British policy displayed in the rendition of Mysore to native rule has been amply justified by the subsequent progress of the State under the rule of its native sovereigns and statesmen. In every department of Government this State has shown a remarkable capacity for development on modern lines. The address delivered at the opening of the Dasara Session of the Mysore Representative Assembly by Sir M. Visveswarayya, the Dewan of this State, is so full of suggestive facts and figures, with the enunciation of sound State policies and progressive political principles that it may be studied with advantage by our Administrators in Ceylon with great advantage to the interests of the people over whom they rule. We cull from it and give below a few points which should be of special value to local politicians.

The Dewan of Mysore gives expression to a view of the primary duty of the Government. He says:-"Next to ordinary work of administration and the efficient performance of routine duties, development work occupies an important share of our attention at the present time. We have to develop both the material resources of the country and the energy and capacity of the people. Of the two, the latter is the more important." We have on several occasions shown in these columns how our Island has been less progressive than India in material, moral and political development. There has been recently an awakening among the people to develop themselves in these lines and there are signs that our Government will not stand behind Indian in actively leading and co-operating with the people in this work.

The Mysore State lays the highest importance on its Education Department and spends on it about one-sixth of its revenues. It has a University with fully equipped first grade Colleges giving instruction to the highest degrees in Arts, Sciences, Engineering, and other departments of literary and technical education. Ceylon has to make much headway to rise up to the level of Mysore in the extent of her facilities for University education. It is further stated that last year the Government opened a New English High School, and three District Normal Schools have been raised to the status of Vernacular High Schools. The education of the Depressed Classes engages the special attention of the State and an allotment of Rs. 50,000 was specially earmarked for this purpose. Two Panchama Boarding Schools were opened and measures are being taken to develop the Panchama Boarding School at Mysore into a Central Educational and Technological Institute for Panchamas and other depressed classes. The number of Practi-

cal Instruction Centres rose from 170 to 290. Commercial classes have been opened in the High Schools in three Districts. The Dewan says "Education should come to be regarded as an investment and accepted as a birthright of the meanest citizen of the land. Science and the use of machinery should be made subjects of popular knowledge. A persistent effort should be made for adequately training adult workers in their respective trades and callings. Standards of business ideas and practices should be spread by lectures and leaflets among the entire population." These expressions are not simply the pious wishes of an enthusiastic administrator, for the development of Education. The Government of the State has given practical application to all these in the educational institutions under their charge, with a liberal expenditure of the State funds. They have made University Education free, Secondary education is comparatively cheap and it is also proposed to make it free. Vernacular education is compulsory and free and it has also been made more practical in its scope by the inclusion of commercial and technical education in the vernacular schools.

We are glad to mention in this connection that our Director of Education has submitted a scheme for the establishment of an Anglo-Vernacular Technical-Industrial School in the Jaffna District, which has been accepted by the District School Committee and a Sub-Committee has been appointed to carry out the scheme.

Another department of work in which the enlightened policy of the State is worthy of local adoption is given in the address under the heading of "Civic and Social Progress." It is stated that all activities not deliberately classed as administrative or economic may be said to fall under "Civic and Social." Their object, as the name implies is to train the people to become good citizens and good members of Society. To this end the public of Mysore have recently started an organization known as the "Civic and Social Progress Association" which has the support of the leading public men of the country. The Dewan says-"The object of Government in intruding into this sphere of work is to stimulate effort to induce the people to think out problems for themselves, initiate improvements and build up sound habits and practices and appropriate standards of conduct suited to the times. If the representative leaders investigate the weak points in the political and social life of the country in this way, the means of improvement will suggest themselves in the natural course; and by further discussion and familiarity, the investigators will become enthusiastic supporters and advocates of their own remedies.

The State is ruled by the Maharajah with the advice and consent of an Executive and a Legislative Council. But in addition to these there are two other representative bodies working for the economic and political development of the people. The first is the Representative Assembly which holds two sessions every year. It is stated in the address that as announced in the last April Sessions, the franchise of the Representative Assembly has been broadened and simplified. The Assembly also has been granted the privilege of interpellation. Although 426 subjects were brought up before this Assembly in the two sessions held in 1917-18 only 244 of these were disposed and 182 are under consideration. This Assembly is composed of representatives from all parts of Mysore elected under Government regulations. The Economic Conference is another popular organization in the State, and its objects can be inferred from its name. At the session of this Conference held in June last, the Maharaja's Government was pleased to decide that the Economic Conference Organization should be made permanent, and the exact form of it is under consideration. Conferences were held in every District and Taluk during the past year on the people's own initiative and agricultural, industrial and health exhibitions were arranged in connection with many of them.

Such in brief is an outline of the public activities conducted in a Native State for the advancement of the people. In British India and in many of the other Native States similar activities may be noticed. Can the same be said of Ceylon? The war is happily drawing to a close with prospect of victory for the cause of the allies. It has brought to prominent notice the value of freedom and federal union among the different parts of the Empire. More than all, it has brought India to the forefront and has given the people of that continent a good opportunity to display to the rest of the Empire their high regard for loyalty and patriotism and their readiness to make heroic

sacrifices for the common cause. Ceylon too though small in size and insignificant in her man power, compared with India, has done her best at the hour of need. The years which follow the war will be a period of strenuous reconstruction. England is preparing in every way to meet the new situation and the other parts of the Empire are following suit. In Ceylon too, the Reform Conference that is to meet on the 13th and 14th of December next, must voice the earnest desire of the people for freedom to work for a higher destiny, on the same terms as may be conceded to India. It is to be earnestly hoped that the forthcoming Reform Conference will be fully representative in character and will be marked by such genuine enthusiasm and earnestness of purpose that will convince the authorities of the justice and necessity of our demands.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER—It is now fine. There are places in the Jaffna District which have had no rains when several parts have been benefited by the recent rains.

PERSONAL—Mr. T. S. Tiliayarajam, B. A., Inspector of Schools, E. P. was to leave Batticaloa for Jaffna on the 22nd instant to assume duties as Inspector of Schools, N. P.

SHROFF MUDALIYARSHIP OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE—Mr. S. Soosairajoo, Shroff of the Kandy Kacheberri, has been appointed Shroff Mudaliyar of the General Post Office in succession to the late Mr. W. Saverimuttu. The new Shroff assumed duties on the 22nd instant.

THE RAILWAY DEFEALCATION.—It is understood that Government has caused an audit of the Railway Co-operative Society's Accounts to be made and a responsible officer of the Government Audit Department is auditing books at present. Government interdicted two pay clerks on account of the defalcation of Rs. 36,000 but now one of them, Mr. Sammogan, who sent a memorial to Government stating his position in the affair, has heard from Government that he has been re-instated. The other pay clerk has also sent in a memorial to H. E. the Governor.

THE CEYLON SAIVA PARIPALANA SABHA.—The Saraswathi Pooja was observed by the Ceylon Saiva Paripalana Sabha at their Rooms, "Clairvaux," Darley Road, on the 14th inst. when there was present a good gathering of Hindus. It was more of a religious character than a social function. When the prayers were offered by a Brahmin Priest to Saraswathi, the Goddess of learning, one of the manifestations of Siva ruling as the educational agent, Mr. S. Sinnathamby, a School-master of Kericimalai, Jaffna, and Mr. T. Arumuganaina Pillai, the Sabha Pandit, discoursed on the benefits of education. The Lecturers dwelt mainly on the moral aspect of education and pointed out that, unless a moral basis is laid down for secular education, there cannot be progress of education for its own sake. They said that moral and secular education must go hand in hand to produce the real result of education. The speakers congratulated the Hindus in Ceylon for having the Ceylon Saiva Paripalana Sabha which, they were glad, is trying to revive all the past glories of Hinduism, and every Hindu should leave no stone unturned in doing as much as he or she can to promote the interests of this Sabha. The speeches being over, the audience were treated to fine selections in Theyyaram, Thiruphal and Thiruthandakam songs, to the accompaniment of music. Refreshments were lavishly served. —Cor.

"OUR DAY," 1918 —WAR LEAFLETS TO BE SOLD BY BOY SCOUTS.—The Department of Education will issue a special number of the War leaflet in English and Sinhalese for sale on "Our Day" in aid of the Red Cross. The Boy Scouts will act as agents at different centres in the island. A meeting of Scout Masters has been called for by Mr. E. T. Dyson, District Commissioner, of the Western Province to draw up a scheme of work for Colombo.

INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION; SEED FOR DISTRIBUTION.—The efforts of the Department of Agriculture and the Ceylon Agricultural Society in connection with increasing the cultivation of food products are being maintained this season as in the past. Large quantities of yams and seeds of curry stuffs, vegetables, &c., have been lately sent out by the Society to different Government Agencies at the instance of Government, on the suggestion of Mr. Stockdale, the Director of Agriculture. Another large consignment of seeds is expected daily from Poona and it is gratifying to know that a keen interest is taken by both Government Officials and planters in this respect. The Society's vegetable seed distribution is now going on and will continue throughout the season, as it is felt that many who would have received seeds have by some cause or other been prevented from getting supplies. Hitherto seeds from England and Australia were generally used, but this time arrangements have been made to get acclimatised seed from India which are expected to give better results. Applications for seed should be made to the Secretary, Ceylon Agricultural Society, Peradeniya.

**THE IMPORTATION OF CIGARETTES.**—The Director of Civil Supplies, Madras, states that he will be prepared to grant permits to export up to 10,000 maunds a month from Tuticorin to Colombo between now and February, 1919. This is the normal average quantity imported.

**THE FRIENDS OF INDIAN REFORM.**—The London correspondent of the Times of India writing on August 23rd said:—Mr. Montagu is so tense and earnest that he is understood to chafe somewhat when the friends of reform apply themselves to constructive criticism, although the Report was published for the purpose of elucidating it. His point of view can be well understood. He has to meet a double fire from the Extremists of both wings, and he feels the need for an enthusiastic support, such as has been given by Moderates like Sir S P Saini. There is no party momentum to get his scheme through, for happily (in all other respects) this is no party question. But after all, as the names and utterances of his sympathetic critics attest, their only aim is to save the scheme from defects which may interfere seriously with its chances of successful materialization. The authors should be prepared to stand by their declaration that the proposals can only benefit by reasoned criticism both in England and India, official and non-official alike. It is now doubtful whether the War Cabinet will give the detailed scheme their imprimatur before the material is completed by the conclusions of the two preliminary committees, though they will undoubtedly accept its general principles. Meanwhile Mr. Montagu is not without enthusiastic backers both in the press and in parliament. At Westminster a little group of legislators has been formed for the purpose of watching for and answering hostile or misinformed criticisms. The group includes many hitherto so widely separated as Sir J D Rees and Mr. H E A Cotton.

**THE JAFFNA ASSOCIATION.**

The annual general meeting of this Association was held yesterday at Mr. Proctor S. Kattiresu's office, under the presidency of the Hon'ble Sir A Kanagasabai. The annual report having been read and adopted, a motion was passed according to a hearty welcome to His Excellency Sir William Henry Manning and offering to him the loyal and respectful congratulations of the Association on his assumption of the Government of Ceylon. It was also resolved that the Association should present an Address to His Excellency on the occasion of his first visit to Jaffna. The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—

President: The Hon. Sir A. Kanagasabai.  
Vice-Presidents: The Hon. Mr. A. Sapaty and Mr. J. H. Vanniasingham, Advocate.  
Secretaries: Messrs. J. V. Chelliah, M. A., Professor, Jaffna College, and S. R. Rajaratnam, Advocate.

Treasurer: Mr. M. Assaipillai, Proctor, S. O.  
The Committee also having been elected, Mr. J. V. Chelliah, one of the Secretaries, was appointed to represent this Association at a preliminary meeting of Delegates of Associations to be held in Colombo on the 25th instant, to consider the Resolutions to be submitted to the Conference to be held in December next.

**THE INDIAN REFORMS.**

**THE INDO-BRITISH ASSOCIATION.**

London, Oct. 9.—The Indo-British Association has issued a pamphlet, severely criticizing the main features of the proposals contained in the report and suggesting an alternative scheme. It is suggested that the administration in defined areas shall be handed over to Indians, these areas being increased when experience has proved that Indian interests are being secured and promoted by the transfer. One or two districts of every Province should wholly be under Indian members of the different Services. This has been done in Bengal, but the experiment was inconclusive, owing to the lack of the revenue system. If, after trial, this system is proved to work well, other districts can be similarly staffed. Later a Division can be handed over, and the process, if shown to be successful, can be continued until the whole Province comes under Indian rule. One of the most important points the Association's suggestions do not differ widely in principle from relevant proposals in the report; for example, in the suggested re-adjustment of the responsibilities of the Secretary of State and the Viceroy, the re-constitution of the India Office and the decentralisation of the executive powers of the Government of India. The Association advocates the establishment of Provincial Electorates on a broader basis, the application of the communal principle and the representation of all large communities by their own members. Another main feature of the scheme is the transfer of all municipal and local Government to elected bodies, subject only to the controls of the Executive Government with safeguards ensuring adequate representation of all interests in the areas concerned, and proper protection of the interests which are not confined to such local areas. A uniform franchise for legislative and local bodies is recommended.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DARLEY LITERARY UNION.**

The eighteenth half-yearly general meeting of the Darley Literary Union was held at "Clairvan" Darley Road, on Saturday the 19th instant commencing at 4.30 p. m. In the unavoidable absence of Dr. E. V. Ratanam, M. A., the President of the Union, Mr. O. Nagalingam, Advocate, one of the vice-presidents presided. There was a large number of the members present.

After the preliminaries were gone through, the Secretary read the report of the Managing Committee for the half year ended 30th September, 1918. Comments on the Report were made by Messrs. V. K. Ganesendram, P. Amirthalingam, C. Venkatram, C. Thirugalingam, S. Manuayyakam, R. Somasundaram, P. Thiagarajah and T. Thiagarajah. After a lengthy discussion on the finance of the Association, the report of the Committee was adopted.

The office-bearers and Committee members of the Union then retired, and Messrs. C. Venkatram, and T. Thiagarajah, were elected Chairman and Secretary pro tem respectively. A vote of thanks was passed to the following newspapers viz:—"The People", "The Ceylon Morning Leader", "The Daily News", "The Hindu Organ", and the "Ceylon Patriot".

Then came the most important item in the programme, the election of office-bearers and Committee members for the ensuing half year and it resulted as follows:—

President: Dr. E. V. Ratanam, F. R. C. S., M. A., M. C.  
Vice Presidents: Messrs. M. A. Arulasandam, B. A., Advocate, A. R. J. Vethavanam, B. A., and C. Nagalingam, Advocate and Mudaliyar S. Vythanathan, M. C. B. R. A. S.  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. O. Venkatram.  
Hon. Asst. Secretary: Mr. T. Thiagarajah.  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. V. Sivapragasam.  
Hon. Asst. Treasurer: Mr. M. S. Thiruvilingam.  
Auditor: Mr. S. Kanagasabai.  
Committee: Messrs. P. Amirthalingam, M. Selvadurai, S. Manuayyakam, P. Thiagarajah, P. K. Sivampillai, and L. Bannasabapathy.  
Mr. S. Kanapathipillai, Proctor, S. C., Jaffna, was elected an Hon. Member and Messrs. V. Kathirgampillai, and M. Rasiah were enrolled members of the Union.  
The meeting terminated at about 7.30 p. m. —Cor.

**THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.**

**OFFICIAL DIAGNOSIS.**

Stimla, Oct. 16.—The sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India has issued the following note from Stimla:—It is very unlikely that the pandemic at present afflicting India is common with most other countries in the world is anything other than influenza. No European country has apparently been spared and the disease is at the present time prevailing in an extremely virulent form in South Africa, whence a high mortality rate among both Europeans and natives is being reported. In South Africa, as in India, secondary pneumonia and lung affections appear to be very prevalent. It is nearly thirty years since an influenza pandemic approaching in magnitude to that of the present spread over the world. In the year 1890, India suffered severely, the incidence of the disease being high both in Calcutta and Bombay. In the annual report of the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India for 1899 we read that the town of Calcutta was attacked by influenza early in February and soon after a very large portion of the inhabitants was disabled by it, as many as 50 per cent of the inmates of the large crowded houses in the native town being affected with it, while in some cases offices had to be closed, as so many of the employees were absent from this cause. The outbreak of 1890 appears to have been strikingly similar to the present epidemic. Thus from the Bengal sanitary reports for that year we learn that this disease, which is believed to have been imported from Europe, spread rapidly in India and was found to be a distinct and characterised disorder, becoming rapidly infectious. It was ushered in, in most cases, by high fever and was almost harmless to people in good health and to those whose circumstances permitted them to lie up comfortably during the attack, but highly dangerous and fatal to those who had to expose themselves out of doors in the pursuit of their ordinary avocations. Several cases of consecutive pneumonia came under notice. With care and suitable treatment, the disease was brought to a successful termination in most Europeans and well-to-do natives, but amongst the poorer classes and those who had to expose themselves, there was a high mortality, pneumonia of the catarrhal variety being the usual cause of the death. There were many cases also of a kind of hemorrhagic cough or bronchitis.

The similarity of the present outbreak to that of 1890 has been noted also in Great Britain and Germany. In Europe, Pfeiffer's bacillus, the reputed cause of influenza, has been found in only a small percentage of cases. The reports received indicate similar states of affairs in India. No information is at present forthcoming to explain why this disease, which is rarely completely absent, should from time to time assume the form of such violent outbreaks as the one we are at present experiencing in India. A large amount of literature dealing with the subject has already appeared in the European medical press. Most of this is of an ephemeral kind, but it is sufficient to indicate that serious attention is being given to the subject by research workers in European countries. Investigations are also in progress in India, and we can confidently expect more definite knowledge about this very serious disease in the near future. The disease is extremely infectious, no age is exempt, though a report from Germany states that people under thirty years of age are more liable to fall victims. This was ascribed to a survival immunity in the elder generation, the survivors from the last great pandemic. Overcrowding, lack of ventilation, promiscuous coughing, sneezing and spitting, all play a very important part in the dissemination of infection. The importance of fresh air and free ventilation as preventive measures cannot be exaggerated. The incubation period of the disease is remarkably short and rarely exceeds 48 hours.

In a disease such as this, where close personal contact plays so large a part in the spread of infection, attendance in crowded halls, cinema theatres and such places where people congregate in numbers is attended with very special risk and

it is for consideration whether the meetings should not be prohibited altogether in places where the prevalence of the disease remains high. When associated, rest in bed, light nourishing food and the avoidance of extreme changes of temperature are indicated. To attempt to carry on one's ordinary avocations, whilst still in a feeble condition, is attended with risk. Quinine, as one time vaunted as a preventive of influenza, is of very doubtful value. The regular spraying of the nose and throat with a dilute antiseptic is probably of use, especially to those who are in close attendance upon the sick.

**TRANS-FRONTIER OUTBREAK.**  
News which has been received from the Frontier and Trans Frontier districts as far as Kandahar and Mazari-Sharif speaks of the severe outbreak of influenza which has occurred over the whole of that area during the past month. The epidemic, in certain places, as for example, Meshed has appeared in a very acute form, nearly every house and place of business having been attacked, so that numbers of shops have been closed. The work of the public offices has been interrupted and several members of the European community are suffering. —"M. Mail."

**DURGA PUJA.**

To understand the meaning and significance of the great festival of the Durga Puja one must seize the peculiarity of the Hindu system of religion.

**THE UNIVERSALITY OF RELIGIOUS SYMBOLISM.**  
One must first of all understand that all worship is symbolic. As words are the vehicle of our thought life, so symbols are the vehicle of our spirit life. There may be cognition without words; so there may be, indeed is, clear, full, luminous spiritual consciousness and realization without symbols. But the experience in either case is beyond the reach of the multitudes. They always think in words and so do they always worship in the Eternal Spirit by the inner necessity of their own nature through symbols. There is no religion without symbol. Buddhism set too much value upon the symbols of the great Buddha. Christianity of the Catholic Church uses almost as profusely the symbols not only commemorative of the life and passion of the Christ but also various symbols and relics associated with the saints. Protestant Christianity uses no outward material symbol, but even Protestant Christians have not been able to discard the use of the story of Christ's earthly life and, during the Holy Communion service, use ordinary bread and wine as symbolic of the spiritual blood and flesh of their Master. The Cross is a universal symbol, and such is the use of the holy water during Baptism. The Hindu Vedantists do not use any outward symbol in their worship. But they too, until the highest state of beatitude is reached, meditate on the nature of Brahman with the help of the holy texts.

**THREE CLASSES OF SYMBOLS.**  
These religious symbols may be divided, broadly speaking, into three classes, (i) nature symbols, (ii) poetic symbols, and (iii) human symbols. The highest of these is no doubt, the last. And because it is the highest, it is the most difficult of cultivation. In this symbolism the devotee seeks to cultivate and realise his sonship, for instance, through his love and reverence for his own earthly father and mother, recognising in them the bodily manifestation of the All-Father,—"Our Father which art in Heaven," as the Lord's prayer puts it. This human symbolism has attained its highest perfection in the Hindu Vaishnavic culture. The lowest symbolism is nature symbolism. While poetic symbolism, being oftentimes a combination of both our cognition of nature forces and relations with human beings, stands between these two.

**THE SYMBOLISM OF THE DURGA PUJA.**  
The symbolism of the Durga Puja is neither purely nature-symbolism, though it does admit of a nature interpretation, nor is it purely human symbolism, although in Durga as the All-Mother it does admit of a legitimate human interpretation as well,—but it is a highly poetic symbolism, that combines within itself almost all the planes of our experience.

The central conception of the Durga standing full-armed, with her ten hands pole-dancing the ten points of the compass, her one foot resting upon the Lion, while the other holds down the Auras or the Demons, who is trying to fight her—all this is symbolic of a tremendous conflict between two opposing forces. As such, it admits of a legitimate nature interpretation. It may be viewed as a representation of the eternal conflict between the phenomena of light and darkness that make up so large a part of our experiences of both celestial and terrestrial phenomena. As light is the symbol of life, and darkness that of death, the Durga symbol may be viewed as representing the eternal conflict between the forces of life and those of destruction. Light again is a symbol of joy and pleasure, and darkness of misery and pain. And the conflict between Durga and the demon which she is trying to chastise and put down, may well be interpreted as symbolic of the eternal conflict between pleasure and pain, between happiness and misery. Light again is symbolic of truth and mental illumination; darkness of falsehood and ignorance; and Durga may well stand as a representation of the eternal conflict between truth and falsehood, knowledge and ignorance in this world. Lastly, Durga may well stand for the eternal conflict between sin and virtue, between our lower appetites and our higher intuitions, between the selfish and the altruistic in us.

These are the various ways in which this symbolism may be, and indeed, has been interpreted.

**VALUE OF SYMBOLISM TO THE MULTITUDE.**

But these interpretations are only for those who have advanced sufficiently in their mental and spiritual life to seek something higher and deeper than the mere objects of the senses in this world. To the multitude, however, the appeal is not to the senses, but to the emotions. It is not that they carry with it some mystery of the super-sensuous. The ordinary Indian peasant, who takes his religion from his own understanding of the Hinduism of his church,—the sprinkling of holy water, the touch of the holy sand, the solemn resonance of the Mantra, or the figure of the Madonna or of the Christ upon the Cross, or the altar. The real spiritual significance of these is understood only by the higher minds of Catholic Christendom. It is beyond the comprehension even of the ordinary priests themselves.

But although the simple peasant understands nothing of the great mystery of his religion, the burning incense, the lighted candles, the sacred

oblations and the images on the altar, all these strangely affect his senses and, through his senses, his whole life and being. He finds himself here face to face with a mystery which he cannot unravel but which, all the same, draws his whole being towards it. The sense of the super-sensuous possesses his mind and the very pleasures of the senses,—the scent, the sound, the sight, seem to give him a foretaste of joys which the senses only barker after but can never reach.

The same thing happens with our own masses also, as they stand before the great mystery of the Durga. To the unimaginative it may be idolatry. To the rationalist it may be superstition. But to the student of the processes through which the spirit of man gradually rises to the realization of his Maker, these symbolisms have a supreme educative and cultural value.

**THE VALUE OF HINDU SYMBOLISM.**

The quality of symbolism in religion must always be judged by its capacity to differently appeal to different minds. And, judged by this test, Hindu symbolism, like that of the Durga Puja, stands among the very highest. The children enjoy these Pujas as much as men of mature minds. And every one, ignorant or learned, has a message for him here. Above all, the Durga Puja is a great social institution, and it is difficult to say whether the Beogalee Hindus value it more as a religious than as a social celebration. Indeed, the social and the religious have always so commingled with each other in our religion that it is almost impossible to separate the one from the other aspect of it. And one must enter into the social as well as the religious spirit of it and understand the whole history and philosophy of Hinduism to be able to appreciate the real meaning of these Pujas.—The A. B. Patrika.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

**BY THE WAY.**

**Karamban.**—The inhabitants of Karamban mustered strong to welcome the Swami Sbaravananda who formally opened and blessed the Saiva School on Saraswathi Pooj day. The event was looked forward to with great interest as that was the first time a Hindu Sannyasin set foot on Karamban. The Swami was given an enthusiastic reception and the crowded audience clung to every word spoken by the Swami on the necessity for national education. The learned Swami warned the people of the dangers of sending their children to Christian Mission Schools and exhorted the people to bury their differences and open as many Hindu Schools as they can. He invited the support of the audience to the new School and invoked the blessings of Ishwara. A few boys were taught the alphabet and the function ended with the singing of Thevaram.

It is heartening to note the efforts made by the friends of Karamban in the F. M. S. to collect funds for the new institutions. Our work at Karamban has just begun. A Porana Reading class has been started, so also a night school. There is room for two more schools in Karamban.

**Sandiipay.**—A commodious house has been rented out and arrangements are being made to ensure regular work in this centre. Thanks to our friends who have come forward to do their bit.

**Karativu.**—Going strong as ever. A reading-room is absolutely necessary. Our young friends can do it and they will.

**Narveili.**—Celebrates the anniversary of our Hindu Saints and is doing effective work. Chavakachobari—is as brisk as usual.

**Mallagam.**—is resting over its guns after the recent campaign.

**The Batticaloa Central** has begun in right earnest. Reading-room, lectures, classes have been started. Forward!

**Kurungala.**—All workers join in sympathising with the Kurungala centre at the loss she has sustained by the untimely death of Mr. A. Ponnampalam, the Town Overseer, who was the soul of its activities. His memory should be perpetuated in the place of his endeavours.

**Mannar.**—cannot afford to have the interest of its few Hindu residents drawn away from the Hindu Temple the building of which is almost completed. On eleven acres of good soil and enclosed by wire fencing stands the beautiful edifice facing the sea and bearing evidence to the great spiritual fervour of the late Mr. E. S. Subramaniam and the perseverance and munificence of his friend and fellow-worker Mr. C. Muttukumar of Mannar. A snug little Madam has been put up and Salvite friends who happen to go to Mannar would find it convenient to lodge in the Madam and satisfy themselves of the necessity to contribute towards the building fund. The outer parapet is now building and Priests' and other Servants' quarters have to be built. The daily Pooja expenses cost Rs. 60 a month, part of which is met by voluntary contributions made by friends residing out of Mannar. Hindus everywhere should take an interest in this Temple which is the only Hindu Temple in Mannar.

The Pandemic—is responsible for the inactivity of many of our branch Associations. The Rajivira Examinations—will be held on Saturday, 9th November. Those who have not applied for admission will do well to apply in time. The "Saraswathi Pooj" mentioned in the syllabus refers to the work by St. Apper.

The "Young Hindu"—A number of our Mag zine will be out in November. Those desirous of contributing articles will forward their M. S. S. to the Editor. 24.10.18. M. S. E.

## TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

## The War.

## THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, Oct. 18.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—The German retreat, begun on Oct. 16, is under pressure of the Armies commanded by the King of the Belgians, continued on the whole front between the North Sea and the Lys. By the evening the advance had reached a depth of twenty kilometres on a front of over 50 kilometres. The Belgians entered Ostend and their cavalry are at the gates of Bruges. Belgian cavalry occupied Ingelhamster The French captured Pittem, Meulebeke and Wynghe. Farther South the British Second Army occupied the line of the Lys Northward of Courtrai. Southwards of that town the British crossed the river and reached the outskirts of Tournai.

London, Oct. 17.

The British have entered Lille.

London, Oct. 18.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—We have captured Douai.

Zeebrugge has been occupied.

A French *communiqué* says:—The French cooperating with the Anglo-Belgians today captured Pittem, Meulebeke and Wynghe. Despite vigorous resistance the French in the region of the Oise sharply attacked all day long between Anduy forest and the river and captured Petit Verly, Marbaveuse, Mont Dorigny and 1,200 prisoners. The enemy furiously counter-attacked West of Grandpre where we advanced North of Oigny.

London, Oct. 17.

Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters says:—This morning the British drums were throbbing through the streets of Lille, while the battle patrols were advancing East of the city, making contact with the retreating enemy. It has been one of the most dramatic events of the War. At 4 a. m. today the German Commander ordered all the inhabitants to assemble as promptly as possible and they were told to proceed towards the British lines to meet their friends. Meantime the garrison was parading and sounds of the departing columns soon followed. The departure was not marked by a single fire or explosion. A British airman first espied civilians joyfully carrying out the Commander's instructions. The airman immediately reported the fact and the patrols advanced and entered the city. The inhabitants frantically waved their handkerchiefs and saws. Courtrai is apparently the pivot of the double enemy retirement Northward and Southward. It appears to be a methodical and well-organised retreat. The French and Belgians, pivoting on Lombardzyde, are pushing on Northward.

London, Oct. 18.

A French *communiqué* says:—On the right bank of the Oise there was a violent enemy Artillery reaction. Between the Oise and the Serre our pressure during the past few days obliged the enemy to begin a fresh withdrawal. Emerging from Choisy and Achery at the end of the night we pursued the German rearguards and occupied Angoulcourt. West of Grandpre extremely bitter fighting continued and extended this morning as far as the height at Vouziers. We crossed the Aisne here.

London, Oct. 17.

Amsterdam.—The "Nieuwe Rotterdammer" announces that the German Press to-night publishes a *communiqué* stating that the Army command has brought Military measures into accord with the Peace steps. The Armies have been ordered to cease devastation unless absolutely compelled for defensive reasons.

London, Oct. 18.

Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters wiring last night says:—The Germans at dawn today were obliged to abandon the coast. Belgian and French aeroplanes flying over Ghiselles and Ostend ascertained that the roads were open for the advance, and that there was no opposition. Descending low they saw the inhabitants in Sunday attire enthusiastically waving to them. A French airman who landed in Ostend was carried triumphantly through the town. While the last Germans were leaving the town the British Fleet appeared. When Admiral Keyes and his men landed they were accorded a great ovation.

Paris.—The Tirpitz battery at Ostend was captured with enormous material which the Germans were unable to remove. Violent explosions are being heard to the North, suggesting that the enemy is destroying his heavy batteries.

London, Oct. 16.

Reuter's correspondent at the American Headquarters, wiring today says the American advance, by which the breach in the Kriemhilde position has been widened, was made in the face of very stubborn resistance, including desperate counter-attacks, supported by very heavy Artillery fire. The American gains were accomplished by encircling, not storming, the objectives. The German machine guns filled the woods and heaped, with deluges of gas shells and compelled the Americans to fight for hours in gas-masks while the vast extent of wire, insufficiently cut by gunfire and bridged by the enemy held the advance up. Yet the Americans filtered steadily through to the summits.

London, Oct. 17.

Reuter's correspondent at the American Headquarters, says the capture of Grandpre yesterday was accomplished without Army preparation. The Germans with a view to retarding the pursuit more difficult destroyed the bridges over the Aisne. Instead of bridging it the Americans forced the shallow stream at four points under a murderous fire, and after bitter hand-to-hand fighting drove the Germans out of Grandpre and took possession of the important railroad.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—Early this morning we attacked the enemy's positions on the line of the Selle River Northward of Le Cateau and crossed the river despite considerable opposition. Further North the advance continued yesterday afternoon and evening. We completed the capture of Domain and reached the general line Haveluy-Wandignies-Hameze-Billon-Bonny. The enemy's resistance is increasing on this front.

London, Oct. 19.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports:—The British and Americans continued the attack between Bohain

and Le Cateau. Good progress was made in cooperation with the French on their right. Despite heavy resistance we have once more driven the enemy from positions he took up. We captured Wassigny and Ribesville and entered Bazel where fighting continues. We took over 1,200 prisoners in these operations. Between the Seneze Canal and the Lys the enemy's forced retreat continues. We further advanced five miles despite considerable opposition. General Horne's First Army completed the capture of Douai and progressed Eastwards. On this front we reached the general line Marquette-on-Ostrevant-Massy-Bersee-Fretin-Sainghin-Aesq. Northward of Aesq. General Plumer's Second Army are Eastward of Roubaix and Tournai.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reported:—The day was marked by stubborn resistance on the line Bruges-Oostcamp Wynghe-Thiel-Oostroesebeke. We overcame resistance East of Oostcamp and Oostroesebeke. The Belgians South West of Bruges progressed considerably, crossing the Bruges-Ostend Canal at several points. Advancing Northwards they occupied Oostcamp and reached the approaches of Bruges. The Second British Army improved the line South of the Lys and crossed the Courtrai-Mouscron Railway at a number of points. The British in the afternoon occupied Roubaix and Tournai.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports:—We have further progressed North Eastward of Bohain, capturing the village of Mazinghien and completing the capture of Bazel. The advance continues Northward of the Seneze Canal. We drove out the Germans from Emerohicourt and Pecquencourt and are in contact with the enemy Eastward of Vred and Catelet. Further North we crossed the Marq River between Sainghin and Chereing and are approaching Chereing.

A Belgian *communiqué* says:—The Belgians and French in the morning resumed the advance. The Belgians reached the general line Ostend-Oudenburg-Estelghem-Varsenaere—St. Andre—St. Michel. Towards the East the resistance was strong. As the result of hand-to-hand fighting we reached the Eastern outskirts of Oostcamp and Biengbaek, capturing Oostroesebeke and progressed 1½ kilometre beyond. 200 prisoners were taken today. In advancing on Bruges the Cavalry took 300 prisoners.

London, Oct. 20.

A Belgian *communiqué* says:—Our troops on Oct. 19th continued to pursue the enemy. They occupied Zeebrugge and Bruges and passed the Bruges-Ghent Canal and progressed towards Aeltra.

F. M. Sir D. Haig in a Belgian *communiqué* says:—The Anglo-Belgian and the French Armies commanded by King Albert today developed the results of the last six days. The Belgians occupied Zeebrugge and Heyst and stormed Bruges. Elsewhere the Belgians crossed the Bruges-Ghent Canal. Their left reached the Dutch frontier and their right Aeltra, half-way between Bruges and Ghent. The French carried Thelot adjoining the high ground despite the stubborn resistance of the enemy, who endeavoured to bar the way to the Lys. The French line at the end of the day reached Hullevoort and along the Lys to Gramme and Golthein and wiesbeke. The Second British Army completely cleaned up Courtrai and advanced six kilometres East, thereof Southwards they reached the Courtrai-Tournai road and, although the enemy destroyed all the communications, they advanced almost to the Scheldt. Since the beginning of the operations in Flanders the group of Armies have advanced fifty kilometres on a front of sixty kilometres. The Flanders coast is completely liberated also the whole of Western Flanders.

London, Oct. 18.

Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters says:—The Allies are advancing in Flanders against very little opposition. The British Second Army is moving on a line running nearly North and South from Courtrai, while Southwards the Fifth Army continues to push on East of Lille. Yesterday's attack by the Fourth Army has swung the line forward through strongly defended positions in a direction athwart the main German retreat.

London, Oct. 19.

The Press Bureau says:—British monitors on the 14th shelled the inland areas of the Belgian Coast and drew no reply, suggesting that the enemy had withdrawn his heavy batteries. British ships subsequently under cover of a smoke-screen, making a reconnaissance inshore, met shells of all calibres from the Coast. There was no damage. Coastal motor-boats visited Zeebrugge with a view to torpedoing Captain Fryatt's steamer, the "Brussels," lying alongside the mole. Aeroplanes co-operating dropped flares, afterwards bombing actively. The motor-boats observed the wreck lying in the fairway. Although the chances of failure were great owing to the shallowness of the water and narrowness of the opening, the motor boats fired torpedoes at a range of 400 yards. Officers agree that a torpedo hit the "Brussels" stern. The raiders, despite gun-fire, returned without any casualty.

Paris.—The Havas correspondent at Lille says the enemy yesterday bombarded the town with long range guns. Before leaving the Germans destroyed the Municipal water works, gas and electric installations, and carried off all the electric appliances. They perpetrated a hideous outrage on the female population, forcing women and young girls to undergo a medical inspection on the pretext of safeguarding the health of the Army. They carried off all the securities in the Bank of Lille, and robbed and pillaged in every direction, destroying furniture and breaking open doors and ceilings.

London, Oct. 20.

Paris.—It is stated that the Germans massed forty Divisions on the sixty kilometre front between the Oise and Le Cateau. The Germans asked Douai perhaps more completely than any other town. The contents of the houses were destroyed, many houses burned and all the shop windows broken. The streets were strewn with furniture. Two-thirds of the pictures in the Museum are missing. The stained glass windows in the Churches were broken and the organ pipes wrenched out and flattened, the sacred ornaments being hung on the flag-stones.

F. M. Sir D. Haig, in a special despatch detailing the operations of the 27th and 30th American Divisions operating with the Fourth British Army in the past three weeks, says in the course of the fighting they displayed soldierly qualities of a high order, and materially assisted the success of our attack, especially in breaking the Hindenburg line on Sept. 29th when they fought

with the utmost dash and bravery and captured Bailcourt and Nauray and captured a number of prisoners.

## THE PEACE RUMOURS.

London, Oct. 17.

London was very excited yesterday evening by the prevalence of the reports of Germany's capitulation and the Kaiser's abdication, which caused a great sensation. The evening papers sold like wildfire. There were no unusual demonstrations, but as the evening wore on groups of people assembled at the Mansion House and other centres, apparently anticipating a definite announcement. The newspaper offices were inundated with telephonic inquiries. The fact that the meeting of the Reichstag has been postponed, coupled with the menacing advance of the Allies in Flanders, created a general disposition to believe that Germany would accept President Wilson's terms. There was an air of great expectancy in the Parliamentary Lobbies where it was even reported that Government had already received the German reply to Dr. Wilson, and that a statement would be made in the Commons in the course of the evening. The position was that some of the current rumours had reached Government circles from other than newspaper sources, their place of origin entitling them to more than casual attention. While the tension lasted there was much activity in Downing Street and in the Foreign Office, where the Ambassadors were hurriedly consulting with the Ministers. The official denial late in the evening allayed the excitement. It is believed in reliable quarters that while the German reply will probably constitute a further climb down, it is improbable that the Central Power will at present fully capitulate without a further attempt to secure modifications.

Amsterdam.—A message from Berlin authoritatively states that the reports of the Kaiser's abdication are entirely baseless.

Amsterdam.—A telegram from Vienna says that Baron Burián, the Foreign Minister, declared that after careful examination of President Wilson's reply he was convinced that the cessation of hostilities and the opening of Peace negotiations were near. Baron von Burián indicated that the German reply went far to meet President Wilson's points.

According to the "Tribune de Genève" 20 warships, officered by Germans, have arrived at Constantinople from the Black Sea to prevent Turkey following the example of Bulgaria. A telegram to the "Neue Freie Presse" from Constantinople says that Tewfik Pasha has failed to form a Cabinet. Izzet Pasha has been commissioned to do so.

London, Oct. 18.

Amsterdam.—The "Cologne Gazette" publishes a manifesto issued by the Conservative party signed by the leaders Heydbrand and Westarp. The manifesto declares that after President Wilson's reply the Empire has no choice, the contest of arms must be fought to an end. An appeal is made to the friends of Conservatism to make the populace realise what is at stake.

London, Oct. 17.

Lord Milner, interviewed by the "Evening Standard," said he believed the German people were equally anxious as the Allies to see the complete and ignominious defeat of Militarism. The Allies' main task must therefore, be to hasten the utter wreckage of Militarism. This was to be obtained by complete and decisive victory or by an Armistice by which the Allies' Military supremacy would be strengthened rather than weakened and the Allies be enabled to impose Peace terms which the Germans already accepted. Lord Milner deprecated attempts to dictate drastic changes in the German Government or condemning the new Government too hastily. Complete transformation of that Government now in progress and it was in the interests of the Allies to see a stable Government maintained in Germany, as reparation must be obtained. We did not want Bolshevism to be rampant.

## THE GENERAL SITUATION.

London, Oct. 17.

The latest reliable news of today's new advance from Le Cateau is that we progressed two miles and the Allies are now five miles from Valenciennes Litron railway and eight miles from Valenciennes itself. The Belgians crossed the Yser near Nieuport and are advancing on Ostend. The enemy is probably withdrawing to a line running from Brussels and Namur to the right bank of the Meuse. The Allies took 90,000 prisoners and 800 guns in the Balkans between 15th Sept. to 12th Oct. Two Austrian and parts of four German Divisions are still operating in Serbia. Twelve thousand Turks under Von Sanders are concentrated on Aleppo. With regard to the enemy strength it is pointed out in responsible quarters that he has still altogether 200 Divisions, and although he has lost 300,000 prisoners and 4,000 guns on the Western front in the past three months his line in the West is still unbroken. His Armies are more or less intact and there is no general demoralisation, hence it is still possible for the Germans to protract the War for some months. The point is that there is no actual Military reason alone at the moment why they should capitulate unconditionally.

## FIVE MILLION AMERICANS IN JULY.

London, Oct. 17.

Washington.—The House of Representatives has considered additional Appropriations of six billion dollars to equip and maintain an Army of five million Americans, most of whom will be in the fighting line next July.

## THE PEACE OFFENSIVE.

London, Oct. 20.

Amsterdam.—A message from Berlin states that the reply to President Wilson is delayed owing to differences of opinion at the last moment. Forecasts of the reply published in Berlin declare that it will protest very strongly against the accusations of cruelty, and justify submergence as a reprisal for the starvation blockade, and that it will indicate that Germany will not submit to a Peace destructive to her future.

London, Oct. 19.

Washington.—President Wilson's reply to Austria draws attention to the fact that since his address on Jan. 8th, to the effect that the peoples of Austria Hungary should be accorded the freest autonomous development, the United States had recognised the Czechoslovak National Council as a *de facto* belligerent Government, and also the

justice of the Jug-Slav national aspirations, he is therefore, no longer at liberty to accept the mere autonomy of these peoples as a basis of Peace, but is obliged to insist that they themselves should decide what will satisfy their aspirations and conceptions of their rights and destiny, as members of the family of nations.

London, Oct. 20.

Amsterdam.—It is reported that the German reply to Dr. Wilson was handed to the Swiss Minister at Berlin yesterday evening. Germany therein declares her willingness provisionally to stop submergence in order to advance Peace.

London, Oct. 19.

Amsterdam.—Articles in the inspired German papers indicate that the German reply to President Wilson will invite further discussion. They declare that if Dr. Wilson refuses enlightenment regarding the enemy wishes, then the Armistice must be regarded as synonymous with unconditional capitulation, which Germany's Military position does not justify.

## AUSTRIA.

London, Oct. 20.

Amsterdam.—A message from Buda Pesth states that after Count Tisza's speech an address to the King was read to the Diet, declaring that the result of the War endangered the throne, and adding that Hungary must be completely independent. Hungarian troops, in view of the danger of invasion, must be brought back and foreign troops in Hungary must be withdrawn. Count Karolyi said the public demanded an independent Hungary. He said that the Monarchy's foreign policy was responsible for the War by the ultimatum to Serbia. Von Muehlon, ex-Director of Krupp's, had told him that the Austrian diplomats deliberated the text of the ultimatum in the presence of the Kaiser, who declared that he would show the world that he was not a puppet, and would strike terror into the universe. The situation might have been saved in 1914 if Britain's proposals for a peaceable settlement had been accepted. Austria Hungary might have concluded a Peace during the War times without number, but it preferred to follow Germany. There was, he said, a limit to loyalty to the Alliance.

London, Oct. 19.

A telegram from Buda Pesth says:—Speaking in the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet, Count Tisza, Premier, said:—We must frankly admit we have lost the War. Our task now is to get an advantageous Peace as soon as possible.

## AMERICA'S FIVE MILLIONS.

London, Oct. 19.

Washington.—The House of Representatives has unanimously passed the Six Billion Dollars Appropriation Bill to maintain an Army of five millions.

—The Ceylon Observer.

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