

# The Hindu Organ.

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

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS  
HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.  
(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.)

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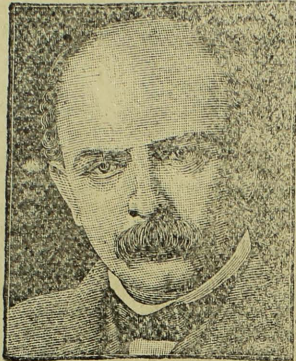
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Notice.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8885. In the Matter of the last will and Codicil of the late J. P. Sanmugampillai of Tellipalai in Jaffna late of Madras Deceased. Saraswathiammah widow of J. P. Sanmugampillai of Tellipalai Petitioner.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8876. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Chellammah wife of Mailvaganam Kandar of Meesalai Deceased. Mutthiah Thiagarasah of Tirunelveli Petitioner.

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PIANO TUNING.

JAFFNA DISTRICT.

Mr. Beck is due in the above district on Wednesday the 21st instant. His services may be obtained by communicating with him not later than the 24th instant at the Rest House, Jaffna.

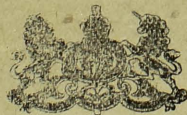
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NOTICE.

I do hereby give notice that, though my name was entered in the Register of Births of A. J. Ragunatha Mudaliyar, Registrar of Valigamam West Division under No. 23252 of 6th March, 1894, as Venasitamby son of Kanapathiar Velupillai and Meenachippillai daughter of Vaithiana her, I have been known during the last 25 years by the name of Nagalingam and that I shall continue to be known by the same name Nagalingam in future also. Tholpuram, V. NAGALINGAM. 21st May, 1919.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE "HINDU ORGAN".

Table with columns: Name and Rs. Cts.



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1919.

LOCAL OPTION WORK IN JAFFNA.

An opportunity of great promise is now before the people of Jaffna, to exercise the privilege of Local Option conceded to them by the Government. It will be no exaggeration to state that the hope of Jaffna's redemption from many of the moral, social, and economic evils that now hamper her progress, depends largely on how she acquires herself in facing this grand opportunity.

The bulk of the population consisting of the agriculturists, the artisans, and the other labouring classes of our country are largely suffering in the grip of poverty. Similarly in our moral, religious, and spiritual conditions too, our people are deteriorating, and have fallen much below the standard maintained by our forefathers for centuries and centuries together in the glorious records of their past history.

Now, what is all this downfall and deterioration of our countrymen due to? Clearly, it is an undisputable fact that the drink evil is one of the most powerful causes of this deplorable condition. Drink contributes powerfully to physical deterioration. Many eminent scientists and medical authorities in Europe and India have testified to the fact, that all alcoholic drinks are injurious to health, they diminish the vitality, and though they act as stimulants for a time, the effect is soon followed by depression which does permanent injury to the body.

As we have stated above, the drink evil is also one of the most powerful causes to the economic and moral decline of the people. It has brought misery and poverty to thousands of families; and has been the cause of innumerable crimes in our land. It will be superfluous on our part to dilate on the manifold evils of drink. It has been found in experience that in every country where this evil was suppressed by the authority of the state, it was invariably followed by a striking diminution in crime and an increase in the savings of the people as revealed in the deposit statistics of the savings banks and similar banking institutions of the country.

In the face of such glaring facts as the above condemning drink, one is dismayed to note the fatal affliction of many of our people for drink, which is daily on the increase. About five years ago, for the 1914-15 rent year, the amount realised by the sale of toddy rents in Jaffna was Rs. 232,300. Next year, 1915-16, it was even less, being Rs. 203,050. But for the year 1919-20, the toddy rents of Jaffna realised Rs. 377,535. Compared with the figures for 1915-16, the toddy rent of Jaffna has increased by nearly 1 lakh and 75 thousand rupees this year. This astounding increase in the midst of the food scarcity and general distress prevailing here for the last four years is really a serious symptom of national decay.

Our future is full of promise. Who among us ever expected that the Governments of Western Nations would take such drastic action against the drink

traffic as the Governments of France and England, and that unfortunate country Russia took during the war. Western nations were long addicted to the drink habit, and it was also believed that drink does not injure a Western man living in cold and temperate climates as it does in the case of his Eastern brother living in hot climates. In spite of all these, the Westerners are now more active in combating the drink demon in their lands than we Easterners are with all our social and religious traditions tabooing drink as a mortal sin.

In Jaffna too the situation is full of hope. Our Government has given us the right of Local Option, and in July we will be called upon to exercise that right in respect of the toddy taverns in our District. We hear of Local Option activities started in the town and in some of our villages, and we earnestly expect that every village in Jaffna will soon start work. We will be glad to publish short accounts of all Local Option activities in our columns, if our correspondents in the villages will take the trouble to send us such accounts. Much is gained by publicity, as our thought and all our activities are, in a way, contagious.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

NEW TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, JAFFNA.—The site selected for the new Technical Schools is on the 3rd mile, Thavadi—Irrupalai Road and is about 5 acres in extent. Preliminary plans have been made and submitted to the Director of Education for approval.

PLANTERS ASSOCIATION FOR JAFFNA.—The leading men of Jaffna are about to form an association to promote the welfare of the planting community of the district. It is said that there over 1,500 coconut estates to be represented.

THE JAFFNA SALT INDUSTRY.—The Hon. Mr. B. Horsburgh, Controller of Revenue, Mr. E. C. Ward, Acting Excise Commissioner, and Mr. C. T. Symons, Acting Government Analyst, were expected at Elephant Pass today. The visit, we learn, is in connection with the Salt Industry.

CONVICTION OF A JAFFNA POSTMASTER.—In the Supreme Court, Colombo, Mr. Justice Schneider delivered judgment on the 21st instant in the Jaffna D.C. case v. a Postmaster, S. A. Ponniah, given a year's rigorous, for breach of trust. His Lordship dismissed his appeal.

RUN OVER BY A TRAIN.—On Monday night a boy of about 10 years of age was run over and killed on the spot, near Chiviateru, by the train arriving from Colombo.

THE JAFFNA ARRACK RENTS.—At the sale of arrack rents which took place in Colombo this week, Mr. K. Kathiresapillai has purchased the following arrack rents, viz. Jaffna, for 1919—20 for Rs. 302,555, an increase of Rs. 70,055 over the current year, Mannar for Rs. 67,555, an increase of Rs. 2,000, Mullaitivu for Rs. 34,555 an increase of Rs. 7,000.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL FOR JAFFNA.—Government has, on the request of the Jaffna Local Board, called upon the D.P.W. to furnish plans and estimates for a new Infectious Diseases Hospital, to be built by the Local Board on a site near the cremation ground at Ka'undai. At a meeting of the Local Board on 31st March, the Board resolved to accept the present site and buildings as a free gift from Government, and to build the new hospital on its own expense.

"THE YOUNG HINDU".—We are in receipt of the February number of this interesting magazine. For the lucidity of its publication we are well compensated by the excellence of its contents. Mr. C. Arulambalam, Editor, S. Sabaratha Mudaliyar, Pandit S. Mylvaganam, Mrs. T. Tirunavukarasu, Mudaliar S. Vythianathan, and Mr. R. R. Gundernam, B.A., are the chief contributors to this number.

RATES OF EXCHANGE FOR MONEY & POSTAL ORDERS.—The Post Offices notify that until further notice Money Orders issued in sterling, and all British Postal Orders issued, will be converted at the rate of 1s. 8d. to the rupee or £1 to R12 Money and Postal Orders issued in sterling in other countries will be cashed at Post Office in Ceylon at the rate of 1s 8d. to the rupee, a penny being equivalent to 5 cts.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL FOR JAFFNA.—The site for the Experiment Station and Agricultural School at Jaffna is situated at Tinnevely. The cost is estimated at R30,000. The proposed station will take the place of the one at Maha Illupallama that was recently abolished.

JAPAN'S TRIUMPH.—Japan scored a great diplomatic triumph at Paris in successfully claiming the reversion of German privileges in China. Still the success may lay the seeds of future trouble while it is viewed by the British Government notably and by others also with keen anxiety. Still Japan, having stood on the letter of the Treaty, the Allies had to give way.—Reuter.

CONFERENCE OF ORIENTALISTS.—The first stage in the realisation of the plans, which the Bhandarkar Institute, Poona, was long maturing for the holding of a Conference of Orientalists in India, and Burma and Ceylon, was reached at a meeting of the Working Committee of the Conference held in the Tata Hall of the Institute on May 1st. Many scholars from outside Poona had specially come for the purpose, and those that could not attend had sent suggestions for consideration. It was decided that the Conference should be held in Poona on the 30th of October next and the succeeding days. Other details pertaining to the inauguration and presidentship, etc., were settled on the lines of other Conferences.—"M Times," May 18.

CHEMICAL SCHOOL AT CAMBRIDGE.—London, May 13.—British Oil Companies have together donated two hundred thousand guineas for the purpose of endowing a Chemical School at Cambridge.—Reuter.

TRANS-ATLANTIC FLIGHT.—London, May 13.—St. John's.—Another British airman has arrived and will attempt the Trans-Atlantic flight. His machine is due during the week.—Ibid.

TRANS-CONTINENTAL FLIGHT.—L o n d o n, May 13.—Lieut. Col. Wilson, of the British Staff in Mesopotamia, flew a biplane from Mosul to England. He crossed the desert from Mosul to Cairo in one day.—Ibid.

HONOURS COMMITTEE MEETING.—A meeting of the Honours Committee was held at the Secretariat this afternoon. The Hon. Mr. A S Pagden, Acting Colonial Secretary, presided, and the others present were the Hon. Messrs. J G Fraser, R B Hellings, C S Vaghan, B Horsburgh, Mr. W O S Ingles and Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranaike.

Y. M. H. A. PETTAH.—Under the auspices of the above Association a lecture will be delivered by Mr. M S Elistamby, Advocate on "Meditation" on the 24th instant in the Library and Reading Room.—Cor.

Y M. H. A. CHULIPURAM.—At the last weekly meeting held on Sunday the 18th ultimo in the Association hall Mr. N Candiah, Teacher, Victoria College delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on "Sivaism" in Tamil with quotations from "Thirukural, Shivaiana Sthiara etc." The lecture was very highly appreciated by the audience. It is proposed that Mr. R Candiah, Student-at-law will deliver a lecture on Education in English at the next meeting. The meeting came to a close with the singing of Devaram and Sivanamam.—Cor.

AFGHAN CAMPAIGN.

Bombay, May 8 (Delayed in transmission).—The "Times of India" states it is a fact regarding Amanullah Khan that in the first days of his reign he announced in a public Durbar that Afghanistan becomes absolutely a free nation bound by no Treaties, an episode which shows in what direction he inclined from the start, even before the danger of opposing factions had become a real one.

The "Times" adds:—The Turkish officer, who is the Principal of the Officers' Military School in Afghanistan, and who is said to be responsible for preparations for War, is believed to claim that in the operations he has planned, fighting will, for the most part, be hand to hand and that the Afghan, with his traditional contempt for death, will, therefore, emerge victorious. That information reaches us from a correspondent at Jellalabad, who writes of the enthusiasm which the Afghans are displaying and of the way in which those who are not already in the Army are volunteering their services. There is not the slightest doubt, he writes on the 30th April, that the Afghans really mean business.

Allahabad, May 17.—The "Pioneer's" special correspondent gives further details of the Peshawar plot and says:—This War was caused by two happenings. The first arose out of the murder of the late Amir. The second was Gandhi's "Batyagraha" movement. The latter was the clock under which the rising in support of Amanullah's force was planned in Peshawar. Eventually it was discovered the Afghan Postmaster

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JAFFNA LOCAL BOARD HELD ON SATURDAY THE 12TH APRIL 1919 AT 10 A. M.

Present:—

- 1. The Govt. Agent N. P. Chairman, L. B.
2. The Provincial Surgeon, N. P.
3. The Provincial Engineer, N. P.
4. Mr. R. R. Nalliah
5. Mr. C. Arulambalam
6. Mr. K. Kanagasabai

Business:—

Considered Applications for the post of Suptd. of Works, Jaffna Local Board

After consideration, Mr. R R Nalliah proposed and the Provincial Engineer seconded that Mr. Welupillai Sinnatamby (Applicant No 19) be appointed to the post. On being put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

In view of the Chairman's transfer to Colombo, Mr. R R Nalliah the Senior Unofficial Member of the Board spoke at length of the keen interest the Chairman had taken in the welfare of the Board, and of the good work which the Board had done during his term of administration and moved that the Board's appreciation of the services rendered by the Chairman be recorded in the minutes of the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. C Arulambalam and supported by Mr. K Kanagasabai who in their turn spoke of the valuable services rendered by the Chairman in promoting the welfare and interest of the Board.

The Chairman thanked the Board for its appreciation of his services and said that he was pleased to see that the Board had done a good work, and added that the Revenue of the Board had been carefully spent for the benefit of the inhabitants.

S. D. STANISLAUS, Secretary, L. B.

THE RAMAKRISHNA MISSION FAMINE RELIEF WORK IN BENGAL AND BEHAR.

REPORT AND APPEAL.

Monthly Abstract of the distribution of rice and cloth from the different centres:—

Table with columns: Districts, Months, No of Receipts, No. of Villages, Mds., St., No Cloth. Data for Manbhum and Bankura districts.

In total, we have distributed in these four months, only Mds. 860 32 seers of rice and 440 pieces of new cloth. And besides one centre at Indpur in the district of Bankura, we have opened another in the same district in Kotulpur Thane. Again to cope with the intense scarcity of water in those districts we have been re-excavating one tank and sinking several wells in Thapa Pancha and Indpur, the report of which will be given later on. And by the first week of the current month we have opened a centre at Brahmanbari in the district of Tippera, wherefrom we have commenced distribution in 17 villages to 195 recipients. We have also started our work of relieving in a small scale at Kunda, near Deoghar, in the district of Santal Parganas. The Fire Relief work at Bhubaneswar, in the district of Puri, is still going on. Moreover we are hearing appeals from all quarters of this province about want of cloth. But to meet this dire want is an enormous task; but, still, we expect with assurance, through the liberal grants of the generous public, we will be able to deal with the situation at least to some extent.

All contributions, however small, will be cordially accepted and acknowledged, under the following addresses.

(a) The President, R. K. Mission, Belur, Howrah.

(b) The Secretary, R. K. Mission, Udbodhan Office, Bagbazar, Calcutta.

Sd/- Saradaranda.

was freely distributing money in raising combatants for a lakhair, and it was arranged, if War was declared, the mob in Peshawar in common with the mobs in the Punjab should rise. On the night of the 5th May there was a rumour that the Afghan Postmaster was going to be arrested within a few minutes. A crowd of two thousand Afghans had assembled and they were at once supplied with arms, which the Postmaster had been collecting for some time past. How the city was surrounded and the Postmaster and the ringleaders arrested is then described. It is commonly stated in responsible quarters that the Afghan plan was to invade British territory with troops and masses of tribesmen, expecting a concerted and simultaneous rising in India to help them. The plans, however, did not mature. —"The Ceylon Observer",

VEGETARIANISM AND MISTAKES ABOUT FOOD.

A recent article in the Daily Mail contained the following useful information. Many of our most influential journals are now educating the public concerning Food Reform, and consequently our Movement is now becoming popular. But it is more essential than ever to emphasise the humane and other principles underlying our Cause—lest those who have been thus educated in the better way of diet lapse to excessive meat eating again when the War shortage of flesh food is removed:—

"Most of us are wont to accept the often-stated as proven truth in dietetic matters. The common fallacies about food are repeated from generation to generation. Scientific analysis disproves many suppositions. Here are instances:

It is often said that beef is more nourishing than bread and cheese. There is, however, far more nutriment in one shilling's worth of bread and cheese than in beef of the value of one shilling. Lean beef is very inferior to cheese as nutriment.

Skim-milk is supposed to be valueless as food. This is an error. Skim-milk taken with bread constitutes a sustaining meal.

Most persons imagine that butter is considerably more nourishing than margarine. The fact is that the best fresh butter and the best kinds of margarine contain almost exactly the same amount of nutriment per pound.

It is believed that costly cheese is the most nourishing. The cheaper cheeses are mostly richer in proteid than the expensive sorts.

That potatoes are a cheaper food than bread is incorrect. If potatoes are eaten as substitutes for wheat bread the quantity must be very large and the cost will not be less than that of bread.

We are often told that oatmeal is not so nutritive as wheatmeal. On the contrary, oats contain more fatty ingredients than wheat and are the most nutritious of grain foods.

Most people think that rice is indigestible. Experiments prove that well-cooked rice is easily digested.

Maize is thought to be inferior to wheat as human food. Maize undoubtedly contains more fat than wheat.

Nuts are regarded as dessert dishes and not as nourishing food. Brazil nuts, almonds, and walnuts, have 50 per cent. of fat and are very good foods.

It is thought that fruit is not a food. This depends on the kind of fruit. Dates are a staple diet in parts of the East, and figs and raisins in a dry state are very nutritive.

Tea and coffee are supposed to be "sustaining." Neither of these beverages contains nutriment. Milk and sugar give a small food value to the ordinary cup of tea or coffee.

—"The Herald of the Golden Age."

CORRESPONDENCE.

OUR DUTY.

Dear Sir, I shall be much obliged of you will kindly allow me a small space in your worthy paper to express my humble views on the above subject.

Each and everyone of us is sent to this world by God Almighty to perform our duty, to play our part in the Drama of the world. To do that duty, steadily we should develop all the faculties which the all knowing Providence has given us. These faculties will only develop if we have freedom to think and act in our own way without being dictated by our official superiors. What I exactly mean is, we should have freedom of thought and action and be free to perform our duty towards God and Man, and for that purpose we should build our character and develop our individuality. I hope you will agree with me when I say that such unfettered thought and action are indispensable for doing our duty towards God and Man.

Now, we as a nation have degenerated mentally, and morally, and perhaps physically, to such an extent that we cannot think or do anything independently of Europeans. Worst of all is we think that we cannot rise to fame by not being Government Servants. Official Service saps a man's intelligence and takes away the power of initiative from him. An officer has got always to subordinate his views to that of his official superiors and do several other things which can hardly be approved by any right thinking man. The officers' backbones become feeble day by day, by the words of Macaulay, 'Simpering at every word and bowing down at every step' whenever he goes before his superiors. The inevitable result of such a life is that it makes many persons a narrow minded and withered up creature unworthy of any useful achievement. It is owing to these defects a great Tamil Poet said,

'எழுதான் டிவான் டிரேகரார் தோரார் மந்தெருல் வாம், தெழுதான் டிபிஸ் செல்பவார்.'

It is again this that made an English lady to tell her son while passing away from her mortal coil: 'My son—trust to yourself and if you have any regard for your Mother's Memory do not look for either Government patronage or pay'. Let me tell you Sir, what these great souls said I find to be more than true. Many enlightened persons have expressed the very same ideas. Some people in their ignorance think that man is intended for the Government Service alone and his book for learning is for passing the blessed Senior or Junior Local or the Clerical Examinations etc. I do not know whether there can be any other idea more sillier than this. I think and many great men tell us that it is more honourable to be merchants or farmers, and that there are better scopes in other walks of life. When some of our perverted people extolled Government Service by saying, 'சொழியேந்தாலும் சேராணைமேல் தில்' I tell you—that day itself was dug the pit for our national progress. How can there be Salvation for such a people. Now, who of our leaders will come forward and tell our people that they—the people—cannot hope to claim the respect of the Western Nations until this inordinate craving for Government Service is given up; until our arts and industries are revived; until we begin to cultivate our national literature and

MALAYA LETTER.

SURPRISES IN RICE PRICES:—What the Food Controller of Malaya tries in season and out of season to impress upon the public is not due to the War has however come upon us in the wake of the War, namely an unconscionable rise in the price of rice. The Controller, who by the way, was found necessary only after the War had come to an end, is very particular in telling the public that there is a shortage of rice due not to the War but to short crops in all the rice growing countries. We know that the War has not eaten up the rice but the fact remains that the price of rice is in the skies, indeed it has been so for several months now. Quite recently the Food Controller calculated that the available supply of rice for Malaya for this year was very much below that of normal year, and began a series of lectures in the important centres on the subject of this shortage and issued circulars in many languages to the public about the threatened scarcity of rice towards the closing month of this and the early months of next year. People were asked to grow foodstuffs and provide supplies of them, such as wheat, ragi and other grains, and were even advised to accustom themselves to new diets. This frantic effort at food growing gave the rice merchants one more chance of profiteering, for while supplies were still available in good quantities and the period of the alleged scarcity was months ahead they at once raised the prices a good deal. People are now running up laying in stores of rice for the impending famine at famine prices and under famine conditions. Whether the Food Controller was unwise in stamping the country before actually taking steps to "control" the prices and supplies of rice, or the dealers were clever in interpreting the language of the Controller as meaning that "now's the time of your life" does not very much concern the consumer. One of the consolations offered by the Controller is that wheat can be had in plenty from Australia where rice becomes scarce which only shows that wheat will also be up in the higher regions as soon as possible.

NOTES AT RANDOM:—Malaya has already prepared for the due celebration of Peace as soon as it is finally settled. Representative and benevolent committees have been entrusted with the arrangements of celebrations, the Government of Straits Settlements has voted \$35,000 for the purpose, Municipality of Singapore \$10,000, F. M. S. Government \$85,000 besides the contribution by private bodies. A leading fire insurance agent has laid in stocks of his commodity to about \$150,000 for use in Malaya and some of the joining islands, so that one of these restless days the people may contemplate the pleasures of peace and gaze at fireworks during the space of a couple of days at the least. Such is the irony of fate that given the opportunity a whole population will tighten their belts in the face of starvation if only to have a general day out in enjoyment. Malaya was losing people by the hundreds by influenza, rice was selling there at famine prices, plague had broken out in a part of the city when last year the Government decided to have the well-known Park Fair. It was held and the gathering was the largest ever seen. So here, so everywhere!

It is not all smoke and fireworks here as may be inferred from the above, we have some solid things also, one of such being the establishment shortly of a full fledged College in Singapore in commemoration of the centenary of the founding of Singapore which was celebrated with much enthusiasm in February last. The funds for the College are rapidly coming in mainly from Chinese sources and higher education, and perhaps also compulsory education will soon be everybody's right. The step to a University will not then be far off.

As with rice so with passage there is scarcity everywhere. Six hundred odd grumbler Europeans from Malaya are just now on their way home after months of waiting, and now it is left all the way for the papers are full of complaints about the want of accommodation and service in the steamer. Passage between Ceylon and Malaya is also becoming increasingly difficult to get so much so that somebody in Colombo is advertising the fact that he specialises in it, I mean in securing passages, not difficulties, and another says they can be arranged easily. Now we don't fear!

I read in the paper that when a lawyer was recently admitted to the Ceylon Bar the Presiding justice wished the lawyer all success in the profession, which reminds me of a lawyer's progression being getting on, then getting honour, and finally getting honest!

In the Editorial on the Hindu New Year which recently appeared in this paper the happy suggestion is made that another step may now be taken in the enlargement of the Hindu Organ. That this is possible speaks well of the Hindu Community, especially the constituents of the paper. I am never tired of hammering at this subject. Let us then start the campaign.

Perhaps it is not fully realised that any scheme of improvement in the paper should take note of the necessity for making the Tamil Edition more widely read, more useful and appear more frequently. The day is on when the masses have to be educated, and that is possible only through the medium of the vernacular.

Whether it is due to the high price of rice or to the recent visit of Sadhu Sunder Singh we have the pleasant spectacle here of a round half dozen Sadhus appearing on the horizon of our intellectual firmament impressing all and sundry with their Sadhu hood. Singapore, IANKA, 10 May 1919. broadcast the ideas contained therein and until we stop thinking that it is a sign of civilized life to imitate only the questionable aspects of western civilization etc. Even if you do not succeed in doing much let us set up a high ideal and strive to work up to it. 'Aim at a lion and miss it rather than hunt at a jackal and catch it.' Senthumaly, V. THANABILLAI, 19th May, 1919.

