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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1919.

THE APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORALITIES' COMMISSIONERS.

The draft of a proposed Ordinance, further to amend "The Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance 1905" which is published in the "Government Gazette" of the 6th instant contains a provision which is worthy of special attention from the Hindu public. It repeals sections 15 and 16 of the principal Ordinance and provides as follows:—It shall be lawful for the Governor by Proclamation published in the "Government Gazette", to appoint one or more Commissioners for the purpose of controlling and assisting the district committees in the administration and management of the funds and property of their temples. In the "statement of objects and reasons" appended to the draft Ordinance it is stated that under section 15 of the "Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance 1905" the Governor may appoint a Government Agent or an Assistant Government Agent to be a Commissioner within his province or district, as the case may be, to assist and control district committees under that Ordinance in the administration and management of funds and property of their temples. It is impossible for the Government Agents or Assistant Government Agents to find time to perform these duties and consequently provision is sought to be made by this Ordinance for the appointment of one or more Commissioners to undertake this important work, if required.

It may be mentioned here that the Buddhist Temporalities' Ordinance provides that the funds and properties of Buddhist Temples in each District shall be managed by a District Committee elected by the congregation or worshippers of the temples in that District. There appears to have been a general dissatisfaction expressed by the Buddhist public at the conduct of some of these Committees. As a result of this the Government appointed a Commission, with Mr. E. B. Danham as Chairman, to enquire into the complaints and submit suggestions likely to lead to the better working of these Committees. The present draft Ordinance may be the outcome of this inquiry. The appointment of a Commissioner or Commissioners with powers as provided in the Ordinance, is, we believe, a step in the right direction. A Commissioner, who should be an officer of high standing and integrity and who is armed according to the proposed Ordinance, with the powers necessary for the supervision and control of the District Committees, will, we may expect, be able to effect great reforms in the management of Buddhist Temporalities. This will lead to a large increase of temple revenues. It is the opinion of Buddhist leaders like Mr. Ratanayake who has been lately taking an active interest in these matters that it will be possible to devote a good percentage of the increased temple revenues, for the promotion of Buddhist national education in Ceylon.

The Hindu Community of Ceylon suffer under the same disabilities and defects as regards the management of the funds and properties belonging to Hindu temples, Madams, and other religious and charitable trusts as the Buddhist Community. That part of the new Trusts Ordinance which was specially enacted to satisfy the longstanding complaint and prayer of the Hindu Community in this matter, has failed in the main to meet the demand. As we have pointed out in some of our previous articles on this subject, the delay, the expense, and the unwieldy nature of the procedure laid down in the Trusts Ordinance for the prosecution of such cases in the courts, have proved to be prohibitive. We, therefore, find that in many cases where large funds and properties belonging to Hindu Temples and Madams are concerned, abuses and mismanagement still prevail. The Hindu Community must now ask the Government for a law which will meet the circumstance of the case more effectively. In the interests of the religious institutions and trusts themselves as well as in the interests of the purity of public life, some workable legislation should be provided that will help the Hindu Com-

munity to place these trust properties under sound management.

In the preface to the second edition of "The Law relating to Hindu and Mohamedan Endowments" by Mr. P. R. Ganapathy Iyer, B. A., B. L., High Court Vakil, Madras, the Hon'ble Justice, Sir Abdur Rahim of Madras points out as a contrast to the hesitating policy followed by the Government of India in legislating for the better management of Hindu and Mohamedan endowments, that in England, much of the abuses formerly associated with the administration of charitable institutions has been put down as a result of (1) comprehensive and searching inquiries conducted into the condition of these institutions through highly responsible Committees and Commissions, and of (2) the resulting series of legislative measures by which the state has sought to supervise their proper administration. As a preliminary step for the introduction of reforms in the management of Hindu Temporalities we should move for searching inquiries to be made by order of Government into the condition of these trust properties by some responsible Commissioners. Such a measure was adopted in England, as Justice Sir Abdur Rahim says. Such a measure was adopted by the Ceylon Government in the case of Buddhist Temporalities. It is now proposed by the Ceylon Government, to adopt more direct state supervision in the management of Buddhist Temporalities. If the Hindu Community of Ceylon, also move the Government for similar concessions, we have no doubt that they will be granted.

We, therefore, appeal to the leaders of our community to convene without delay a public meeting and appoint a strong Committee and authorise it to undertake this reform. Of all the mismanaged Hindu endowments, the Sivapuri Madam endowment, of whose present state we have acquainted our readers, needs immediate attention. As we have stated above, what the Committee may do is to move the Government to authorise or order a survey of all religious and charitable trust properties and funds belonging to the Hindu Community, noting the present state of their management and such other details as may be deemed necessary to understand their extent and present condition. At the same time the Committee may pray for legislation providing direct State supervision over the management of these trust properties by the appointment of a Commission or Commissioners with powers similar to those provided in the proposed amending Ordinance.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER—The South West wind is blowing very hard since Saturday. Public health is fairly satisfactory.

A LECTURE—was delivered at the Jaffna Hindu College Hall on Friday last by Mr. M. S. Elaitamby, Advocate, on the "Problem before us". Pundit Maitivaganam occupied the chair. The lecturer laid special emphasis on the duty of the Hindu Community to provide for the spiritual and national culture of their children, and to defend them from the influence of proselytising educational institutions.

FISCAL'S OFFICE, JAFFNA—Mr. A. Ariyaratnam, the Head Clerk of the Jaffna Fiscal's Office, has gone to Mandaitivu on a month's leave and Mr. J. B. Ariyanayagam, the Interpreter, is acting for him in addition to his own duties. Mr. Ariyanayagam, is well known as an officer of exceptional intelligence and ability and has had the distinction of earning 2 Bonuses for meritorious services. —Cor.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—It was expected that the next meeting of the Legislative Council would be held about the middle of this month, but on enquiry at the Secretariat it was ascertained that there would be no meeting till probably early in July.

MORE CROWN LAND FOR CHENA CULTIVATION—Last Friday's "Gazette" notifies that H. E. the Governor has been pleased to set apart nearly 970 acres in Nuwaragampala, Anuradhapura District, for Chena Cultivation on free permits from the G. A.

THE REVENUE OF CEYLON—for February last—has amounted to Rs. 5,075,981, compared with Rs. 4,836,838 in February, 1918; Rs. 4,950,043 in February, 1917; and Rs. 3,723,274 in February, 1916. The total for the first five months of the current financial year is Rs. 25,580,939, compared with Rs. 27,354,467 in that period of 1917-18; Rs. 28,781,011 in that of 1916-17; and Rs. 26,135,838 in that of 1915-16.

Y. M. H. A., VADDEKODDAM—A very interesting and instructive lecture on "The Hindu" was delivered by Mr. K. Arumagam, B. A., at the Hindu English Institute Hall, on Wednesday the 11th instant at 3.30 p. m.

Y. M. H. A., CHAVAKACHCHERI—Under the auspices of the above Association a lecture was delivered by S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar on the "Origin of Universe" at the Y. M. H. A. hall on Thursday the 12th instant. —Cor.

Y. M. H. A., KARATIVOE—The Fourth Annual General meeting of the above Association was held at the Ayile Salvi School Hall on the 7th instant. It was largely attended. The meeting proper began at about 7 p. m., with Mr. N. Thillainampalam, Proctor S. C. presiding. Then came reading of the reports by the Secretary and the Treasurer followed by an essay on "The present situation of Hinduism" in Jaffna by Master S. Kathiravelu. The prizes having been distributed by Mr. S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar J. P., Deputy Fiscal, the President introduced the Mudaliyar in well chosen words. Then the Mudaliyar spoke highly about the work done by us and advised the elder people to co-operate with the young men. After his introductory speech being over an interesting and instructive lecture was delivered by him on "Hinduism" which took an hour and a half. After a few remarks by Messrs. Somaskandar, S. T. Sithamparappillai, Jaffna Hindu College and the president, the meeting came to a close at about 10 p. m., the election of office bearers and the vote of thanks to the president and lecturer audience being over proposed by Mr. K. Kathiravelu, Teacher, and seconded by Mr. R. Nagalingam, Secretary. —Cor.

LEPER COLONY IN BATTICALOA—The completed buildings at Mantivu consist of five double blocks with sleeping accommodation each for ten single female inmates, a large dormitory for single men, quarters for nuns, also for M. O., Dispenser, Attendants and Overseers. In addition, there is a separate hospital ward each for men and women patients. One pleasing feature is separate cottages for married couples, of which a sample is ready. Each couple or family is to have a cottage of two rooms and a kitchen of substantial but economical design. The cottages are detached: each is to be surrounded by a garden. There is religious provision for Christians, Hindus, Muhammodans and Buddhists. A water service will be installed from the Town supply: the whole camp is to be well drained. Altogether the scheme is well conceived and splendidly executed. Amazing progress has been made with the buildings and probably in a year the island will be colonized. The entire scheme costs about Rs. 250,000. —The "Lamp," June 12.

A PRETTY WEDDING—A quiet but pretty wedding was solemnised according to Hindu rites on Monday the 9th June, at 11 p. m. at No. 59 Chekku Street, Colombo, the contracting parties being Mr. S. P. Rajasingam of Messrs. Gordon Fraser & Co., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Swaminathapillai of "Lukmigiri" Manipay, Jaffna and Booksepar of Levalon Group Galaha, and Miss Thanka-letohemy Ammal daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Maruthappoo of Messrs. Whittall & Co. Mortlake Stores. The Bridegroom left his uncle Mr. K. Ariyaratnam's residence at 57 Wolfendahl Street at 10-15 p. m. and arrived at the Bride's residence at 10.30 p. m. after which he was escorted to a beautifully decorated "Manavarai" and the "Thaly Ceremony" was performed sharply at the auspicious moment. The Bride and Bridegroom received their congratulations soon after from their many relations, according to oriental fashion. Among those present at the wedding were:—the parents of the Bride and Bridegroom, Mr. and Mrs. S. Somasundaram, Mrs. Kanagasuriyer, Mr. and Mrs. S. Vallipuram, Mr. and Mrs. A. Eyyathambiy, Messrs. C. Thiagarajah, C. Sivaculanthu, Mr. and Mrs. A. Chandarampillai, Advocate E. T. Ratanam, Mr. and Master R. Ariyaratnam, Messrs. C. P. Doray, C. S. Rajaratnam, D. Arudragasam, J. C. Chelliah, Mr. and Mrs. K. A. Wilson S. Ponniah, Mr. and Mrs. K. O. Wilson, Mrs. R. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Samuel, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Lyman, Mrs. T. C. Mather, Messrs. A. Arnold, T. Sabapathy, V. R. Page, T. Canapathipillai, S. S. Appiah, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Lawton, Mr. and Mrs. Williams, A. Mather, Messrs. S. M. Alfred, T. Rasiab, V. Kandiah, T. Nadaraja, Mr. and Mrs. Cook, S. T. Rasiab Proctor Clement Mather, Mr. O. N. Alexander and many others. They all received several congratulatory telegrams from their many relations from outstations and presents. —Cor.

THE LATE REV. W. SRI DHAMMABATANA—Galle is the poorer to-day by the death of Rev. W. Sri Dhammaratana, Principal, Ananda Pirivena, Kitulampitiya. In him the Sinhalese have lost a great scholar. The deceased was a pupil of the late High Priest Sri Sumangala and was widely respected for his scholarly attainments. He was connected with the Vidyodaya College for over 16 years. Among his numerous pupils were the Rt. Rev. Dr. R. S. Coppleston, Messrs. H. C. Bell and J. Harward. He founded the Ananda Pirivena which is now recognised as one of the leading schools for Oriental studies in the Island. The institution has now a registered daily attendance of over 300 pupils. The deceased was ailing for some time with diabetes and expired on Saturday last at 4 p. m., surrounded by a large number of his pupils. The cremation had been fixed for 6.30 p. m. on Monday and long before that hour crowds wended their way to

Kitulampitiya. The gathering was one seldom seen in Galle, and it was estimated at over 4,000 persons.
—Ceylon "Daily News," June 12.

LORD CHALMERS as DIRECTOR, P. & O. S. N. Co.—London, June 5.—Lord Chalmers has been named a Director of the P. & O. Co.
—Ceylon "Times"

LALPAT RAI IN AMERICA.—London, June 6.—In the House of Commons, Colonel Yate drew attention to the attempts by Lala Lajpat Rai to stir up anti-British sentiment in America. Mr. Montagu replied that he was aware of and regretted these efforts to misrepresent to the American public the character of British rule in India.

NON-BRAHMIN DEPUTATIONS.—London, June 5.—In the House of Commons, Colonel Yate asked.—Are the Government of India granting Indian supporters of the Reformers Bill and representatives of the non-Brahmin majority of the Indian people equal facilities to come to England to give evidence before the joint Committee. Mr. Montagu replied that he had no doubt that the pledge of the Government of India to give all possible facilities to properly accredited representatives of all shades of opinion, in limited numbers, to visit England for the purpose mentioned was being and would be faithfully observed.

CEYLON IN EAST AFRICA.—A Ceylonese writes from Nairobi on May 12th.—In view of the fact that the late G. E. A. will be in the hands of the English, this, together with the British East Africa and Uganda, offer good opportunities for the educated young men of Ceylon. I mean the surplus educated young men who cannot find a decent living in Ceylon. German East Africa is a new country and there is a demand for English educated young men. Apothecaries, typists and other professionals will easily get on. If you want any reliable references books or informations you can get same either from the "East African Standard" or the "Leader" of Nairobi. At present the passage is a little costly. Information about this can be had from the Agents in Bombay (Messrs. Smith, Mackenzie & Co.) Those who want to go to the late G. E. A., should book their passage direct from Bombay to Darassalam and not to Mombasa. I hope you will do the best for the Ceylonese. There are about 50 Sinhalese and 20 Tamils from Ceylon in this country. Sickly and unsteady people should not be encouraged to come out. None should accept any work less than R100 per month.

A CHEMICAL SCHOOL FOR CAMBRIDGE.—At the meeting of the Senate of Cambridge University yesterday, the Vice-Chancellor read the following extracts from a letter from Mr. R. Waley Cohen, of 8 Helens Court, Great S. Helens, London.—"It has been an immense pleasure to me to be able to write to Professor Pope and tell him that the British oil companies have agreed to join together in a scheme for endowing a Chemical School at Cambridge. The Barmah Oil Company have agreed to contribute £50,000; the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, £50,000; the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company, £50,000; and Lord Cowdray and the Hon. Olive Pearson between them £50,000, making the total of £200,000 which is required. Mr. Deterding, who has taken very great interest in the scheme from the beginning, has offered to make the £200,000 into guineas by adding a personal contribution of his own of £10,000." The Vice-Chancellor expressed the thanks of the University for this most magnificent gift. Mr. Cohen is a member of the Cambridge Appointments Board, and is one of the largest employers of Cambridge talent.

—London "Times," May 14.

CAN A HINDU BE A CITIZEN OF THE U. S. A.—A question in which the Hindus are vitally interested lately came to be decided by a District Judge in the United States, it being whether a Hindu can be a citizen of the U. S. It arose in this way, Lala Mahan Sing, now residing in America was anxious to be a citizen of the U. S. A. He did not succeed in his efforts in the lower court and so he appealed against this decision to the higher court, presided by Judge Mr. B. F. Bledso. The U. S. Congress has as is well known, declared that citizenship can only be conferred on "free white persons". So the point before the Judge was whether this expression refers generally to race and include all persons of the Aryan race as distinguished from persons belonging to other races, or whether the phrase was intended to restrict the possibilities of naturalisation to Europeans. The Judge has held that Hindus come under "free white persons," while Chinese, Japanese, American Indians do not. He wrote: The preponderance of respectable opinion includes the Hindus of India as members of the Aryan branch or stock of the so-called Caucasian or white race. I have been cited by no other anthropological authorities which include the Hindus in any of the other races of mankind. They belong to the Aryan stock and therefore to the Caucasian or white race because of certain physical and other peculiarities possessed by them and which indubitably mark their descent. Caucasians are white whether they live under the tropic sun and therefore have a very dark skin, or abide in northern climes and possess

a light one. The possession of a "common racial stamp" is the basis of classification. In short, the Judge decided in favour of Lala Mohan Sing, who will have henceforth the same privileges as the American citizen. The case has attracted public notice and the American Press has on the whole welcomed the decision.

INDIA'S FOOD SCARCITY.—Simla, June 10.—The following Press note has been issued:—The attention of the Government of India has been drawn to comments which have appeared in the Press and elsewhere on the extent to which the export of food grains is being permitted from India, and the following statement is therefore published for general information. The export of wheat and export of wheat flour, rice, jowar, bajra, gram, barley, maize and pulse (except besra from Burma) has been prohibited (except under license) from all parts. In a Press note issued on the 17th December 1918, it was announced that licenses for shipment of rice on private account to foreign countries would be granted only in respect of shipments to certain countries with a considerable Indian population, which in the past have depended on India as the nearest source of supply. It was also explained that exports even to these destinations would be subject to quantitative limits, representing a substantial reduction on the average shipments of recent years. The result has been that, whereas in the first four months of 1918 716 383 tons of rice were exported from Burma to destinations other than India, the exports to those destinations in the first four months of the current year were only 286,100 tons. Exports of wheat have in the same way been rigidly curbed, and whereas the first four months of 1918 saw exports aggregating 175,268 tons, only 2 739 tons were exported in the corresponding period of the current year. Similar measures have been taken as regards other food grains. From January to April, 1918, 418 818 tons of such food grains were exported. In the same period of the current year the exports amounted to only 45,425 tons. The total export of grain, pulse and flour during the first four months of the current year, excluding the quantities of rice shipped from Burma, amounted to only 120,031 tons. When it is considered that even the scanty rice crop of 1918—19 was estimated to yield throughout India 23,822,000 tons, it will be realised how relatively trivial is the quantity of food grains which has been allowed to leave the country.

THE FIRST "FORDSEN" TRACTOR IN INDIA.—The Russa Engineering Works recently imported the first batch of "Forsden" tractors that have come to India and a demonstration trial was held at the Imperial Research Institute, Pussa, on Friday, the 30th May. The tractor came down to Pussa from Calcutta in charge of Mr. Plakowitz, (of the Russa Works) who demonstrated the uses to which the "Forsden" can be put. Mr. Wynne Sayer, officiating Imperial Agriculturist, had previously notified all the provincial Agricultural Departments, the military authorities, the Indian Tea Association, the Bihar Planters' Association and all others who might be interested in tractors for agricultural purposes and over sixty people came from different parts of India to see the trials and decide for themselves how far the "Forsden" was likely to be able to replace bullock power on their farms or estate, etc. The ploughing trials were an immense success and every one was most enthusiastic about the tractor for field operations. This enthusiasm was increased tenfold when it was demonstrated how well the tractor would run a pump, a chaff cutter or a thrasher, etc.

HINDUISM AND SPIRITUALISM.

The spiritualist controversy in the West is growing in vigour day by day. Though some are still denouncing the movement, thoughtful men—even among "unbelievers"—are being steadily won over to the new old "theory" of communication with those "passed over." This theory is giving comfort to-day to many a heart, as it is founded upon physical, psychological and spiritual experience. True Hinduism ought to find in modern Spiritualism its best friend. For, the latter claims to verify the foundations of our occult beliefs and practices. "Man is the living spirit (Jivatma), says the Hindu, 'and at death simply passes into life (more life, fuller and richer). He also believes in Devas (shining ones) and other messengers of God operating between this world and the next (Ubhaya Vibhuti). He knows that the facts and philosophy of Samatana Dharma, enriched and demonstrated through ages by our sages and mystics, are akin to the phenomena of spiritualism. Hence true Hinduism and Higher Spiritualism should go hand in hand.

The first stage of man's existence after death is his sojourn in the purgatorial regions—the foul Narakas across the Baitarani, says the Hindu. The coarse sensual passions indulged in during the earth life keep one enchained there. By slow degrees, the pilgrim-soul which is the real man purifies himself of these passions. In this condition, the Mantra Yogi may help the soul consciously as well as unconsciously. Others also—especially the relatives—can help him with rites and prayers. The pilgrim passes on—on to the happier realms of Swarga (paradise). Here the ordinary good folk spend long periods of their lives between their incarnations. They live

happy lives amidst familiar surroundings. They live as it were, under the spreading Kalpa (the 'Giver of all desires') with the divine Kamadhenu by the side. In plain language, they receive each one that which he most desires. As his thoughts turn more and more away from earth and earth life, the Jivatma becomes by a slow and gradual process of growth sufficiently pure in heart to be able to enter the many-mansioned Havens, as far as the Satya-loka itself. Even after entering the Satya-loka, the aspiring soul finds that still before his astonished gaze stretches many a Loka of beauty and love, many a stage of bright joyous growth, many a rung of the Mystic Ladder, before he reaches the Goal and realises the Ideal, where, in the Eternal Home of Imperishable bliss (of the Almighty, All-loving Father) the 'beloved' lives close to the lover—yes!—closer than breathing and nearer than hands and feet. Here he finds himself in the presence of Maha Vishnu Himself, not merely the Vishnu of the Vaishnavas, but the Vishnu of the whole world—the 'All-prevailing One'.

How much the Jiva finds himself able to appreciate the glorious possibilities of the Heavens and the King of all the worlds depends on how far during one's life on this 'Karma-Bhumi' one has striven to live up to the ideal and how much of oneself one has given as Karmikaryam (selfless service) at the feet of his fellows in the royal household of humanity. Generally speaking, each of us receives as much new life and fresh inspiration as we are capable of receiving in the unseen worlds above and around us, and once more strengthened and invigorated we return to life on earth, bound to the mystic wheel of births and deaths, to continue our evolution towards perfection. Such is briefly the teaching of Hindu Spiritualism. The Puranas speak of this in a strange pictorial language. The Yogees, Siddhas, Bhaktas and Mantrikas study the subject from the practical view-point.

Unfortunately we, the degenerate children of the ancient Brahms and mystics, sit at the feet of the materialistic west and consequently have strong prejudices against these studies. In the West the great war came along and made the thinking minds think more earnestly about the mysterious problems of life and death. Some of them had such experiences—and are still having—that they cannot get away from the fact that there is something connecting up this world and the other (including Bhuvanloka and Swarga) and that man is a denizen of more worlds than one. These messages from the other world or worlds are in the nature of God's own gift to a sorrow-stricken world. The consistency of the messages received opens up a whole new realm of knowledge entirely different from anything that preceded it in the West. In the case of the average good folk, all the messages received from the other side (Bhuvanloka and Swarga) describe 'extreme happiness, a sense of freedom, a delightful feeling of equality in that larger and broader future existence'. This knowledge must necessarily be an enormous consolation to all those who tread virtue's ways here below.

Among those who have had spiritualistic experiences and witnessed psychic phenomena including various levitations, some, it may be noted, have had the direct voices of their loved ones speaking to them. This is perfectly possible among those who get the right conditions. It is possible to hear the direct voice of the beloved dead, not only through the usual sense of hearing, but clairaudiently as well. The Hindu believes this.

Man's kosas are many and when the sookha sarira dies the sookhma sarira with its inner ruler, the spirit immortal, does not die with it, but survives and, released, proceeds to 'other and other life abodes where live the departed spirits. The Mantrika knows this and more than this. He knows that not only does the Jiva (spirit) in his spiritual body (sukshma sarira) continue to live on, but that he can, under proper conditions, make himself heard and seen. In fact, our sacred books, the study of which we are sadly and originally neglecting, have many instances of the hearing of the voices of the dead by those who were living on earth.

We are happy to note that even clergymen in the West are taking part in the present controversy regarding psychical and spiritualistic phenomena, not a few like the Rev. F. Fiddling Old (Vicar of Christ Church), Albany Street, Regent's Park) looking upon 'the facts as proved without a shadow of doubt'. And yet the orthodox Church is alarmed at the teaching of spiritualism! Naturally, therefore, we see a tendency on the part of a great number of spiritualists to drift away from the fundamental doctrines of the historic Christian faith. According to Sir A. Conan Doyle, the author of 'Sherlock Holmes', the historian of the War and a great authority on modern spiritualism, Christ and his disciples were great and powerful spiritualists (Yogees as we may say). He chose his disciples not for their virtue, but for their psychic powers. This Super-spiritualist always took his chelas with him in order to form a circle (the Apostolic Circle)—as spiritualists do today. The master and his disciples were 'of one accord'—a necessary condition of a séance, insisted on by our Acharyas like Sri Pillal Lokacharyaswamy, when they describe the characteristic qualifications of the Ideal Teacher and the path of true discipleship.

Extraordinary manifestations have been recorded in connection with a recent spiritualistic séance at Penylan, Cardiff. The paraphernalia used were a curtain, a tambourine and a few rattles and other toys which the medium and his brother brought with them. The curtain was hung across a corner of the room. Behind it was a cabinet in which the toys were placed. The medium was carefully tied with cords to a chair. 'Both the medium and his brother were on the same side of the room as the company of spectators, who hold hands during the séance. The lights were lowered to obtain the proper conditions. For, Ahimsa (other) transmits light and is also the source of all psychic phenomena. In this connection, we may advise our readers who are of a scientific temperament to read and inwardly digest an excellent article 'Ether, Matter and the Soul'

by Sir Oliver Lodge in the January 'Hibbert Journal'. To resume the thread of the narrative, the rattles placed in the cabinet began to fly about the room, soon after the lights were turned down. The tambourine fell on the knee of a spectator. Sir A. Conan Doyle (one of the witnesses) felt her. On that she whispered so to some one near he would send something over to warm her. His coat fell into her lap. The lights were turned on. The medium was still found tied up but without his coat. The company sang some hymns. The whole proceedings were conducted in a religious spirit. Sir A. Conan Doyle was sitting next to the medium's brother. He says that 'things began falling about such as small rattles' and that people were 'tick with the various objects, placed twenty or thirty feet from where the medium sat. The chief constable of Cardiff who was also a witness to these happenings says that he was touched several times. The touch was like that of a human hand. Once a hand grasped his own. The séance lasted about an hour.

Communications from the other side bear some mark of the individuality of the medium, there being some re-ide of the personality in every communication. This should be allowed for by psychic students. What is more important is that the essential part of the investigation should not be missed on any account. Mediums can give us facts even from the distant past, as in the case of the discovery of the buried chapel at Glastonbury through an accurate description of a medium by automatic writing (Refer to Mr. F. B. Bond's book 'The Gate of Remembrance'). Genuine mediums may be useful to us in other ways besides. But, above all, the mission of spiritualism is to enable bereaved people to communicate freely with the departed and to know and take interest in the life led by those who have passed the border. 'In that new life,' says Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (whose thirty years' studies in the highways and byways of psychical research are too thorough and too real a thing to him to be tampered by any passing wind of incredulity, 'the old becomes young again'. 'It is a kind of growing back. But it is very rapid. The man perhaps becomes 35 and the woman 50 again.' So says Sir Arthur (Evening News dated 25-5-19). He the creator of Sherlock Holmes, is at least credulous of persons. He has delved it partially into a subject which attracted him as sceptic. He would 'prove all things' and would not believe in anything without absolute proof without hard facts in plenty. Years of past research have made this 'healthy, robust type of Englishman, a convert to the belief that the 'better land' is a wonderful world very close to us (Bhuvanloka and Swarga). Physical pain is unknown here, as the physical overcoat is laid aside here, to return to rest. But mental pain and anxiety' there is, as the method of purification—the self same pain and anxiety which makes men weep and shed tears of blood. The average good man, however, passes on, comparatively quickly, through the purgatories—on to the planes of unspeakable beauty and bliss. How long does he remain in the sook-hua lokas? Sir Arthur believes that 'it depends on how long the fixed ether of our bodies preserves its individuality in the ether around'. He believes that the beloved dead cannot see us, unless we and they are attuned. 'Continually, the message comes back says he, 'Don't grieve, Your grief saddens and pains me.'

—The Kalpaika.

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION.

Srimat Swami Sharvananda of the above Mission arrived at Port Swettenham by S. S. "Tara" from Madras on the 2nd inst. at 10 a.m.

On arriving at Port Swettenham the Swamiji was received by Messrs. M. Camarasamy, S. Chelliamby, C. A. Veluppillai, S. Srinivasan and Thigarajah of Kuala Lumpur and the leading Hindu residents of Klang and Port Swettenham.

The Swamiji and party then proceeded to Klang where a hearty reception was given by the Hindus of Klang at the Madiamman Temple.

After spending some hours in Klang the Swamiji left by car accompanied by those who went to receive him also some leading gentlemen of Klang and arrived in front of the Vivekananda Ashram at 6.30 p.m. Here many hundreds of Hindus including children attended by two sets of musicians welcomed the Swamiji with unprecedented enthusiasm. The Swamiji was then led to the Ashrama Hall with the Vivekananda school children singing sacred songs and songs specially composed for the occasion.

The Chairman of the meeting, Mr. S. Chelliamby, hailed the Swamiji.

The welcome address which was printed on an exquisite white silk and framed was read by Mr. M. Camarasamy and presented to the Swamiji.

The Swamiji in reply to the address dealt at length with our duty to our religion and instructed that every one should endeavour to bring about the unfoldment of the Atman.

The Swamiji emphasised on the importance of organised efforts to educate the Hindus on their own lines which is the only and proper method for them for the attainment of the light of the head and the heart and the spiritual awakening.

At the request of the Chairman Mr. W. Ponnudurai gave in Tamil a short summary of the welcome address and the Swamiji's reply for the benefit of the Tamil who cannot understand English.

After reverential cheers to the Swamiji and a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting terminated at 9 p.m.

—Cor.

4th June, 1919.

The following Lectures etc., will be delivered by Srimat Swami Sharvananda of the Ramakrishna Mission Madras at 7 p.m. as follows:—

At the Vivekananda Ashrama Hall, B. Hickfields Road, lecture on Hindu Ideals of Life, Saturday, 7th June. Dharma, Sunday, 8th, Practical Vedanta, Sunday, 15th, The Atman or the Reality in Man, Saturday, 21st, The Law of Karma and Reincarnation, Sunday, 22nd, The Ideal of Hindu National Education, Saturday, 28th, The Harmony of Vedants and Sivadantas, Sunday, 29th. A series of discourses on the Bhagavad Gita will be held every Tuesday and Thursday commencing from Tuesday the 10th June.

At the Town Hall, Kuala Lumpur, a lecture on: The Ideal of Universal Religion will be delivered on Saturday, 14th June, at 5 p.m. —Cor.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

Copenhagen.—A message from Vienna states that according to the Press the Cabinet has discussed the Peace terms and unanimously decided that they are unacceptable and impossible.

Berlin.—Herr Erzberger has handed Marshal Foch a second Note, arguing that the Entente's toleration of and reasonable machinations in the Rhenish territory violates Article 19 of the Armistice. Furthermore excepting the Entente to facilitate the prosecution of the principal traitors for high treason, which has been inaugurated by the Supreme Attorney at Leipzig, and to permit arrests and removal for trial.

The newspapers state that the Council of Four has decided to summon the Turkish plenipotentiaries to participate in the negotiations in regard to the future of the Ottoman Empire.

London, June 5.—The Commons today by 187 votes to 84, passed a motion urging Government to appoint a Parliament body to consider and report on a measure for federal devolution, creating subordinate legislatures within the United Kingdom.

Paris.—According to French diplomatic circles the general line of the Upper Silesian frontier will not be changed, but several rectifications will be made affecting some villages containing a few thousand inhabitants. A special Commission is examining the question. As regards the Saar Valley and occupation of the territory on the left of the Rhine, there will be no alteration of the original clauses of the draft Treaty. The Council of Four may, perhaps, fix, but only approximately, the total amount of indemnity to be demanded from Germany under the head of Reparations. The discussions of the last two days have shown that no difference of views exists among the Allies. The Treaty must be upheld. It is hoped that the terms of the German counter-proposals will be conceded to the delegation on 13th June, and the Germans will be given a minimum of three—and maximum of five—days to announce acceptance or non-acceptance.

WILSON'S VIEW.

Paris.—According to the "Matin," President Wilson, after examining in detail the German counter-proposals, declared: "Our Treaty violates none of my principles. I should not hesitate to confess it if I thought otherwise, and try to retrieve the error; but the Treaty which we have drawn up entirely accords with my fourteen point."

The Parliamentary Labour Party has issued a Manifesto, declaring that the Peace Treaty is fundamentally defective, because it is based on the principles which were the cause of the War. The payment by Germany of five thousand millions for damage is not excessive, but the Manifesto protests against the cession of the Saar basin to France, and the method of delimitation of the Polish Frontier, and urges the prohibition of private manufacture of fresh armaments and the admission of Germany to the League of Nations.

Washington.—The Senate has passed a resolution requesting the State Department to furnish the Senate with a copy of the text of the German Treaty, and has ordered an investigation as to how certain copies of the draft reached New York as the Senators alleged.

SUEZ CANAL STRIKE.

London, June 5.—Reuter learns authoritatively that the strike of the Suez Canal workers continues. The outlook is again unfavourable and further trouble is anticipated.

LOANS TO CHINA.

In the Commons, replying to Sir Stuart Coote, Mr. Harmsworth stated that on the initiative of the American Government negotiations had been proceeding for some months for the formation of a new international consortium for finance loans to China. The British Government would naturally fully support and British group formed to participate in such a consortium. With regard to the alleged monopoly Government from the outset of the negotiations had made it clear that there could be no question of exclusive official support to the British group, unless the group was enlarged so as to render it sufficiently representative of financial houses of good standing interested in loans to China.

BOLSHEVISM IN PERSIA.

The War Office states that at the request of the Persian Government Indian troops assisted the Persians Ooesecke to route the Jungal tribe in the Province of Gilan, North-West Persia, whose chief, Kuli Khan, working in collusion with the Bolsheviks at Baku and the Caucasus, aimed at making the Province independent of Persia. One German and two Bolshevik officers were taken prisoner. Fugitives were hunted down, Kuchi Khan driven out and the Province restored to the authority of the Persian Government, the object of the operations being fully accomplished.

FRENCH STRIKE.

Paris.—The strike situation is steadily growing worse. The strikers now number 350,000. Most of the underground railways are closed also the tram. Buses are at a standstill. The strikers demand the immediate application of an eight-hour day without reduction of wages. All the workers in the metal and engineering trades are now out. The electrical workers appear ready to strike. The Military have taken over the electrical works at Ivry and Vitry.

THE COTTON STRIKE.

London, June 4.—The ballot of cotton operatives has resulted in 267,650 votes for insisting on a 4 1/2 hour week and thirty per cent. advance in wages, and 6,347 votes against. A meeting of employers and operatives is now being held in Manchester.

RUSSIA.

London, June 6.—The War Office announces that British tanks have been in action in South Russia with most effective results.

Kharofindar, May 20.—On the upper reaches of the Sar river General Jigal has accounted for the left column of the Bolshevik Tenth Army, consisting of a Division B and a Brigade of Infantry, and a Division of Cavalry, and has taken prisoner the whole Infantry Division and captured a score of guns, many machine-guns and all supply trains.

Reuter learns that the Allies have addressed a Note to General Kolchak with a view to obtaining assurances that any Government recognised shall, at the earliest moment, ascertain the opinions of the Russian people as a whole and be prepared to carry them out. Furthermore, the smaller Baltic States cannot be returned to their former conditions. There will probably be no objection to the desire of the Government of Russia to control the Baltic shores, provided the general status of these States is not prejudiced.

Paris.—General Kolchak's reply to the Allied Note has been received. In the main it is satisfactory, but it makes reservations as regards the Allies' insistence on the convocation of the Constituent Assembly and the recognition of the independence of the new States formed out of Tsarist Russia with the approval of the Allies.

POWDER EXPLOSION IN U. S. A.

Ilkesbarres (Pennsylvania).—An appalling explosion took place in a truck of black powder attached to an electric train conveying men to work, 69 were killed and 40 injured. After the train entered the tunnel the trolley wire broke and fell. Sparks ignited the powder. The explosion was terrific and was followed by flames which caused the greatest loss of life. Others were suffocated. The catastrophe was due to the careless violation of the mine laws prohibiting the transport of men in trains carrying explosives.

AEROPLANE FOR THE COLONIES.

In the Commons, replying to Col. W. V. Ashley, Major-General Seely announced that Government approved of the Air Council that a gift of aeroplanes should be made to each Dominion and India and to any Colonial Governments or Protectorates requiring machines. The object of the Government was to assist the Dominions, India, and the Colonies and Protectorates to establish Air Forces, thereby developing a common air defence of the Empire.

AFGHANISTAN.

London, June 4.—In the Commons, replying to Commander Kenworthy, Mr. Montagu stated that so far as he knew there had been no night air raids on Afghan towns. The Government of India informed him that every care was taken to confine the raids to Military objectives. The well-known conduct of the British Army, and all of His Majesty's Armies needed no explanation, and made it unnecessary to give any assurance that steps would be taken to avoid killing women and children. (Cheers.)

Calcutta, June 10.

A Press communique states that except for occasional sniping there is nothing to report from the Dakka front. Bajaur Swat and the Mohmand country and Tirah are also quiet. Afghan troops are still active at Peshwar, Nadir Khan has reached Maturi were Afghan troops are arriving. Lashbars in Derajat are reported to be dispersing but this area is not yet quiet as the Mullazai post about fifteen miles North of Tank was attacked on the 6th by Chitians. There is an improvement in Zhob but gangs of tribesmen are still about in some localities. There is no change on the Chaman border or Seistan.

The Associated's special correspondent wires through Peshawar, June 8.—The Viceroy's letter reached Jellalabad on Thursday and was taken over by hands sufficiently responsible to ensure its safe arrival at Kabul, and meanwhile reports from Jellalabad speak of the increasing demobilisation of the Afghan Army.

Calcutta, June 12.

A Press communique states that the Mullaes and other emissaries are making attempts on various parts of the frontier to prevent the tribesmen dispersing. The argument they use is that the cessation of hostilities is only temporary, and that fighting will be resumed at an early date. The withdrawal of Afghan troops from Peshawar is proceeding, but some are still reported on our side of the border. Tribal reports indicate the presence of a few troops at Wana. The situation is much quieter at Bannu and the Derajat border, and in Zhob. A few gangs of Shitians and Shiranis are still out. The Viceroy's reply to the Amir was received in Jellalabad on the 5th instant and should have reached Kabul next day.

—The Ceylon Observer.

NOTICE.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3899.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Chellamma wife of Suppiramaniar Thiruchittampalam of Navaly, Manipay

Deceased. Suppiramaniar Thiruchittampalam now of Point Pedro Petitioner. Vs. Thiruchittampalam Balasubramaniam now of Point Pedro, A minor by his Guardian-ad-litem Kanapathipillai Rasakulariar of Navaly, Manipay Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the late Chellamma wife of the Petitioner, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on March 29, 1919, in the presence of Mr. S. Subramaniam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner, having been read: It is ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled as husband of the said deceased to administer the estate of the said deceased and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the Respondent above-named or any other person shall, on or before July 1, 1919, shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. June 6, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3956.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kathirgamer Alvar of Thanakaraourichy

Deceased. Sinnappoe Nallatamby of Thanakaraourichy Petitioner.

- Vs. 1. Karupathi widow of Alvar 2. Alvar Mylvaganam and wife 3. Aochimuttu 4. Karthigesar Ramu and wife 5. Chinnappillai 6. Vairavy Kathiripillai and wife 7. Wallipillai 8. Mylvaganam Sangarapillai and wife 9. Theivanaai 10. Vairavy Ponniah and wife 11. Parupathy 12. Karthiganau Rasa and wife 13. Nagathai 14. Vallipuram Kiddinapillai and wife 15. Eledchumpillai 16. Alvar Sanungam 17. Chinnamma daughter of Alvar all of Thanakaraourichy Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the late Kathirgamer Alvar as creditor of the intestate, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on May 28, 1919, in the presence of Mr. S. Subramaniam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, having been read: It is hereby ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled to Letters of Administration as the creditor of the said deceased to administer the estate of the said deceased unless the Respondents above-named or any other person shall, on or before June 24, 1919, shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. June 2, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3947.

In the Matter of the intestate estate of the late Arumugam Periatamby of Anaikkodda

Deceased. Arumugam Sinnatamby of Anaikkodda Petitioner. Vs. 1. Kathiraspillai widow of Arumugam Periatamby 2. Arumugam Kathiresu 3. Marimuttu daughter of Nagamuttu 4. Kathiraspillai daughter of Nagamuttu of Anaikkodda 5. Nagasatar Kandiah and wife 6. Jellamma of Jaffna Town Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Arumugam Sinnatamby of Anaikkodda, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Arumugam Periatamby, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on May 23, 1919, in the presence of Mr. E. Murgessampillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated May 22, 1919, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is one of the heirs 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 June 19, 1919, shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. May 28, 1919.

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