

# The Hindu Organ.

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THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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### THE HINDU ORGAN.

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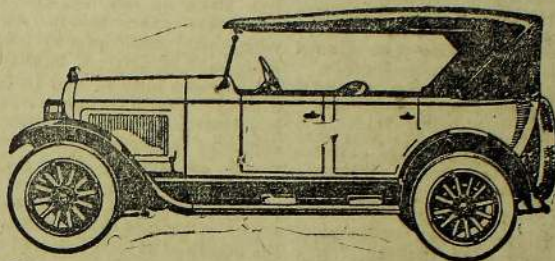
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Q. 77.

## The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1926

## SANITATION IN JAFFNA.

WE PERFECTLY AGREE WITH THE writer of the letter on the above subject, appearing elsewhere, when he says that the Chairman should not be the target of criticism in a matter, which the Jaffna U. D. C. as a body, has empowered him to carry out. We are beginning to feel that Mr. Canagaratnam is being held responsible for a measure of which he is no more the author than any one of us. The members of the U. D. C., who strengthened the hands of Mr. Canagaratnam and promised to stand by him are slowly backing out of their promise and leaving Mr. Canagaratnam in the lurch. They have not the moral courage to tell their constituents that they did what they felt was their duty and that they are determined to stand by Mr. Canagaratnam. No one can deny that the dry-earth latrine system is possibly the only system that can with any advantage be introduced into Jaffna and that it has to be done sooner or later. Simply because there is neither a proper water-supply nor a proper drainage system, it does not necessary follow that a city should go without a conservancy system. As our correspondent points out, there are several rural cities in India which cannot boast of either, and yet have successfully introduced the dry-earth system. We are in full sympathy with those who are too poor to pay the present conservancy charges but we have to tell them that, in every city, the poor always suffer. The only way by which the poor could be helped is to adopt the suggestion made by Messrs. T. H. Crossette and R. R. Nalliah and exempt the poor from paying conservancy taxes as they have done in some places like Ooty in India. We no doubt feel that the present method of conservancy leaves very much to be desired. It is far from satisfactory and it is quite possible that, with a little more trouble, the U. D. C. could make it a little more popular. The present method of removing only the night soil and leaving behind the bucket without washing it should be condemned. There should be a change of buckets every day. The buckets containing the night soil as well as the contents of the catch-pit should be removed every day far out of the city, washed, disinfected and brought back. Either saw-dust or sand should be freely supplied. It will certainly cost more but any amount of money spent to make a sanitary measure more popular will not be considered ill-spent. The members of the U. D. C. appear to be afraid of being on the wrong side as regards their finances. As long as they have a little money locked up in a Colombo bank they need not be afraid. By the time that money has been spent, Jaffna would have grown accustomed to the new order of things. It is not unusual for even municipalities to present a sheet that does not balance. The work of a Local body is not judged by its bank balances but by the amount of good it has done.

It has been made to appear that public latrines would be sufficient to meet the needs of areas that are congested. They should be no doubt welcome in places where we could be sure that they would be used by, besides men, women and children also. Knowing as we do, the peculiar usages of our country, we cannot advocate the construction of public latrines, merely because there is congestion. But the U. D. C. must realise that, whether used or not, public latrines ought to be provided whenever they are found necessary. They are quite necessary in places where there is crowding of poor lower classes of people who lead a hard to mouth existence. They are also necessary by the side of big thoroughfares for the use of passengers. It is the absence of urinals that is really responsible for the abuse of lanes and corners all over the urban area. We are afraid that the U. D. C. is rather parsimonious in its ways. Parsimony is not economy. The

U. D. C. must realise its heavy responsibility. Public service cannot be performed by merely lying on a bed of roses. When once the people realise that they are being properly cared for, they will not only be grateful but they will also show their gratitude in substance. We have now an U. D. C. at constant war with the voters. That is rather a pity. The Unofficial Members are simply sitting on the fence. They do not take the trouble to educate the people. Some of them, we are afraid, are a bit indifferent and inclined to cast all the blame on the Chairman. They may think they are secure in their seats but it is a security which demands a heavy price—the best interests of the people whom they represent.

## EDITORIAL NOTE.

We are quite sure, that so far as Hindus are concerned at least, they will be quite ready to support a measure, when it is explained to them that what the U. D. C. is trying to introduce is in effect the same as was laid down by Manu in his hygienic teachings. Manu lays down that in the case of a village one should ease at least 75 yards away from the nearest habitation and in the case of a town at least four times that distance. It will be found that if Manu's directions are honestly followed, every danger of contamination of water supply would be averted but unfortunately modern conditions are such that these injunctions cannot be followed. So the next possible best thing would be to have the night soil at least removed beyond the distance prescribed.

## LOCAL &amp; GENERAL

A CORRECTION.—In our Editorial of the 27th inst. "Anti Chinese Student Movement" should be read as "Anti Christian Student Movement."

WEATHER.—There was a light shower of rain last night and slight drizzles in the day. The skies are cloudy and more rain is expected.

PERSONAL.—Mr. P. Ramalingam I O S, Sub Collector and Joint Magistrate, Tirupattur, North Arcot, S. India, accompanied by Mrs. Ramalingam has come down to Jaffna for the Christmas and New Year Holidays and is staying at "Ebbazar", Kankesanthurai.

CROWDED TRAINS TO MANKULAM TAVERN.—In spite of the fact that Jaffna is completely dry with the exception of a small portion of wet area in the islands division where one or two solitary toddy taverns exist, the thirst for liquor has not been completely quenched. Both the day and night down-trains from Kankesanthurai to Colombo Fort are daily packed to full with passengers to Mankulam. The "two bottle" rule has, it is said, made several persons to visit Mankulam arrack tavern daily with as many co-operators as could be collected so that each man may return to Jaffna with two bottles of arrack. From Kankesanthurai as far as Elephant Pass these trains have arrack-buying passengers by dozens in every station. What strikes one the most is that whether the arrack brought into Jaffna is for the individual's own use or for illicit sale. Surely a man could not consume two bottles of arrack daily and that too regularly. It is a great source of income for the Railway and the Government distilleries at Kalutara but it is a moral and physical wreck for the consumer.

ALL CEYLON BUDDHIST CONGRESS.—The eighth annual session of the All Ceylon Congress of Buddhist Associations was held at Matara on December 25th at the Rahula Vidyalyaya. Mr. M. H. Jayatilaka presided.

BATTICALOA—TRINCOMALIE ROAD.—The P. W. D. has notified that the floods on the Trincomalie Batticaloa road are subsiding and that the road is now passable for traffic.

JAFFNA STUDENTS' CONGRESS.—The students' Congress opened at Keerimalai on Monday last at the "Vythilingam Madam" under the presidency of Dr. Isaac Thambiiah. The attendance was unusually large. The Congress opened with a welcome address read by Mr. S. Kulendram, which was followed by the formal election of the President. The Secretaries read their report, after which the President addressed the gathering at length. The political conference was next held in which Mr. J. V. Chelliah addressed the students and school-masters on the subject of 'Youth of today and its political responsibilities,' and Mr. M. S. Eliyathambi, Advocate, on the subject of 'Ceylon—a united nation.' The Tamil conference was held on Tuesday under the presidency of Pandit K. C. Nathan, Proctor. Mr. S. Nadesapillai addressed in Tamil on the subject of 'New ways in literature.' Mr. K. Thambiiah, Proctor, delivered an interesting lecture on 'Some ideals of student life.' Mr. M. S. Eliyathambi spoke on 'Swadeshi in Ceylon.' The Economic and Social Conference was held on Wednesday, after which the Congress closed its sessions.

Continued on p.

## Jaffna Training College.

## FINAL EXAMINATION RESULTS, 1926.

The following are the names of the successful candidates in the recent Examination: M. Arunasalam, S. Kandiah, T. M. Kandiah, S. Kannapper, S. Kasipillai, A. Karthigeyan, V. Markandu, R. Maruthiyanar, K. Muthukumar, S. Nadarajah, V. Nadarajah, T. Nallathambiy, K. Namasivayam, S. Poopalapillai, V. Ramalingam, E. Ramalingam, V. Sithamparapillai, M. Sinnappan, M. Sionathambiy, K. Vannithambiy, S. Velayutham and V. Velayuthar.

## Vernacular Teachers' Examination.

The under mentioned candidates are among those that have passed the Assisted Training Schools and Vernacular Teachers' Certificate Examinations, 1926 held on August 24, 1926, and the following days.

## ADMISSION.

## RAMANATHAN COLLEGE.

T. Saravathy, K. Thillaiyanam, M. T. Ayilypillai, K. Gnanambikai, V. Poovathy, V. Sionapillai, S. Annapooranam, V. Rathnam, and M. Manakayakarasai.

## SECOND CLASS.

TAMIL—MALE.

V. Kasilingam.

TAMIL—FEMALE.

R. Thangammal.

## Emperor of Japan's Death.

## 122ND OF THE DYNASTY.

The Emperor of Japan is dead. H. M. Yoshihito is the 122nd Emperor of Japan. He died at 25 minutes past one on the 25th of December. The funeral will probably be held in February or March.

The news of the Emperor's death was immediately broadcast by wireless.

A special hall has been prepared in the Palace, where the body will lie in state.

The business of the Imperial Court will be suspended for five days, during which public dances and singing will be forbidden. Business houses will be closed for one day.

Court mourning has been ordered for a year and general mourning for 50 days.

It is feared that the Emperor's death will strike a very heavy blow to the Japanese financial world, owing to the suspension of business. Retailers will suffer severely as they have already laid in heavy stocks in anticipation of sales at the end of the year, which normally enable them to pay off their debts due to manufacturers.

The British Court will observe three weeks mourning for the Emperor of Japan from December 25th.

## THE NEW EMPEROR.

Hirohito, the new Emperor of Japan, is 25 years of age. He is married and has one daughter. He has been Regent, since he returned from his visit to Europe in 1921, owing to the ill-health of his father, who was never robust, and, apart from other afflictions, recently suffered from complete loss of memory.

Sympathy has been expressed by the heads of all European Governments.

[Hirohito (Mitsuhito) Crown Prince of Japan, was born on April 29th, 1901. He is the eldest son of the Emperor Yoshihito. At the school for the Japanese nobility in Tokyo he received a very thorough education along with the sons of the aristocracy. Special attention was paid to the study of foreign languages at the wish of his father, who owing to his illness, was unable to undertake the extensive tour abroad which he had planned and which would have been the first ever made by an Emperor of Japan, and, therefore, desired his son to be prepared for this journey. The Crown Prince's visit to Europe took place in 1921 and led to the resignation of two old statesmen, Yamagata and Matsukata, who would not tolerate the violation of the long-standing law of the Royal House which forbade the heir to the throne to leave the country.]

After his return Prince Hirohito was appointed Regent in consequence of the serious illness of his father. Since then two attempts had been made on his life. Immediately after he became Regent an attack upon him was planned to take place in front of the Houses of Parliament, but the plot miscarried. Again at the end of December 1923 shots were fired at him as he was on his way to Parliament, but he was not injured.

In January, 1924, the Crown Prince married Princess Nagako, who was born on March 6th, 1903, a daughter of Prince Kuniyoshi, head of the Kuni branch of the Royal House.] —"Times of Ceylon."

## Continued.

VADUKKODAI SAIVA STUDENTS' SABAI.—The 3rd anniversary celebrations of the Vadukkodai Saiva Students' Sabai will come off on the 1st and 2nd of January, 1927 at the Tiru Gnanasambandha Moorthy Nayanar Vidyasalai. On the 1st day, Saturday, the Hon. Mr. W. Duraiwamy, B. A., Crown Advocate, will preside. Messrs. K. Thambiiah, M. Subramaniam and S. Nagalingam will speak on the occasion. The second day, Sunday, will be presided over by Mr. M. S. Raseratnam, B. A., Advocate. Messrs. S. Sivapathasantharam, K. Somasundaram and V. Nagalingam will address the audience.

## OBITUARY.

## MR S. K. SADASIVA IYER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. S. K. Sadasiva Iyer, which sad event took place on the morning of Sunday Dec. 26th at his residence at Pailly after a protracted illness. The deceased Iyer was 77 years old and had been serving for the past 50 years—a record service for the place—Batticaloa's Hindu Community at their leading Temple in the Town. He leaves behind a son and two daughters—Mrs. Retnasamy Kurugal and Mrs. Kanagasabapathy Iyer—to beset his loss. —Cor.

## Punnalaikadduvan Y. M. H. A.

## RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL AND SANITARY ADVANCEMENT.

The annual general meeting of the above Association took place at the "Kovil Madam" at Punnalaikadduvan on Monday the 20th instant at 7.30 p. m. A large number of Hindus from the surrounding villages were present and took a good deal of interest in the proceedings of the meeting.

After the singing of Thevaram the election of Officers bearers took place. Mr. K. O. Bala Subramania Iyer and Mr. A. Ponnampalam were elected as President and Vice-President respectively. Mr. T. Kandiah, a very energetic and enthusiastic gentleman, was unanimously elected as the Hon. Secretary with Mr. T. Duraiappab as the Treasurer. Messrs. T. Chellappab and K. Sinnathambiy were elected as the Auditors of the Association.

It is hoped that under the guidance of the able and enthusiastic President and the Secretary, the Association will take a good deal of interest in getting Hindu pupils educated in Hindu schools by getting Hindu schools opened where necessary.

After a good deal of discussion it was finally decided at the meeting that separate committees should be appointed, each to concentrate its activities on matters concerning the Sanitation of the villages as well as the Education and the Religion of the Hindus.

Five of the leading gentlemen were elected as members of the Education Committee for the express purpose of getting a Hindu English school opened at Punnalaikadduvan and Hindu Vernacular schools opened at the villages of Navakori, Abbelu, Evesai, Punnalaikadduvan North, Urelu, Vasavilan and other villages where there are no Hindu schools at present.

Eight members were elected to take the necessary steps to improve the Sanitation of the villages and to bring to the notice of the authorities concerned cases of bad sanitation which require their interference.

Five of the gentlemen present were elected as members of the "Temple Committee". The object of the committee is to arrange to hold religious lectures in Hindu temples for the benefit of the Hindus and to look after the religious education of the Hindu pupils in Punnalaikadduvan and the surrounding villages. The members are to visit the temple authorities and see that the daily Pujas are conducted properly in the several Temples here.

It was unanimously resolved at the meeting to invite the Hon. Sir P. Ramanathan, the Hon. Sir A. Kanagasabai and other Hindu Leaders to be present at the various public meetings to be held regularly every month commencing from this date.

The following gentlemen were elected as members of the several committees.

## TEMPLE COMMITTEE.

Messrs. S. Nagamuttu, M. Kallapillai, A. Eliatambiy, N. Akilasar and A. Velupillai.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Messrs. K. Sinnathambiy, T. Sellappab, S. Seivadurai, K. Kandiah and N. Kandiah.

## HEALTH AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE.

Messrs. N. Appadurai, S. Kattirippillai, K. Nagamuttu, K. Ramupillai, V. Velupillai, V. Vanniasinghe, A. Sinnappa and P. Appadurai.—Punnalaikadduvan Cor. 28 12 26.

## The Tiny Little Charkka.

## APPEAL TO MAHATMAJI

The following is culled from the speech delivered by Mr. T. R. Poonhun, Chairman of the Reception Committee at the Ganhati Congress:—

"In such a critical state of the country I may be pardoned if I take the liberty of striking a personal note and appeal to Mahatma Gandhi once again to give us the lead.

The magic land of Katurup has an old tradition that people staying here over three nights are converted into sheep, and we all know that the sheep have the peculiarity of following the leader faithfully. Let us hope, therefore, that the magic influence of this land will enable the fighting Hindus and Mahomedans united in love and brotherhood and follow the leadership of the Congress like innocent lambs tended by the gentle shepherd of Babarmati.

That tiny little Charkka,—that wheel of Indian life, moved with unfailing regularity by that mighty little man Mahatma Gandhi, is, in my opinion, not only spinning yarns for the dumb millions of India, it is not merely laying a straight path for the economic salvation of India, but is slowly evolving that irresistible world force of Non-violent Non-cooperation which alone will be able to check effectively the deadly spirit of Imperialism, which is out to crush the soul of Independence of the weak and the helpless nations."



## Charge of Robbery Fails.

## GOVT. CLERK AND ANOTHER ACQUITTED.

Mr. A. G. Ranganatha, Police Magistrate, of Malabar delivered the following judgment in the case in which the Police Viduan of Sargamangal East charged Thampullal, a clerk in the F. M. S. Government Service, and an other man named Kausapathipillai, with having, on the 8th instant, robbed Aravamudan, a coolie, of a sum of Rs. 100.

The Magistrate says, *inter alia*: "The evidence for the prosecution is that one Aravamudan, an employee of the rice mill belonging to one Nagalingam, had received Rs. 100 from the latter to carry it to the Kankapalle when he was held by the second accused and his money was snatched by the first accused, both of whom immediately began running. Nagalingam imparts his workman with regard to the giving of money to him, and the latter's subsequent complaint that it was snatched. Two witnesses, Kathiravelu and Panish, alleged by the Vidan to have stated to him that they saw the incident, giving evidence in the witness box, would state only that they saw Aravamudan complaining of the loss of his money but would deny they saw the snatching. The Vidan's diary is silent on what the witnesses told him precisely."

"The defence is that there was an altercation over some delay on the part of the complainant in attending to some work (pounding of paddy) sent by the first accused to the mill which altercation resulted in first accused assaulting complainant, and a chase by the coolies of the mill, of the first accused. The altercation over the delay is admitted by the complainant two hours prior to the time of robbery, but Nagalingam denies he ever heard of such altercation (having taken place). It seems to me impossible to find the two accused guilty of the charge against them. Presumably, as accused's Counsel suggests the case is a false one, the complainant's master, Nagalingam's, vanity being responsible for it. He would think nothing of blaming the careers of two respectable men, because a workman of his has been assaulted. If this presumption is correct, it is deplorable and is indicative of a very low standard morality. Nevertheless, Nagalingam, complainant's master seems a respectable member of his community. The presumption is strengthened by the absence of any immediate motive for the robbery, for the incident of altercation is placed two hours earlier and according to complainant there was no talk immediately preceding the alleged robbery. I acquit and discharge the accused."

## Arrival of A Floating University.

## "RYNDAM" IN COLOMBO HARBOUR.

With 500 students, including about 50 girls, the Holland American Liner "Ryndam," commonly known as the "University Afloat," arrived in Colombo on Monday last. She left New York on September 18th, on an eight months' cruise around the world. The "Ryndam" continued its voyage on Wednesday.

In addition to the students, there is a faculty of about 50 Professors, who are in charge of various educational works. It is also interesting to note that about 47 States of the Union are represented on board, and about 40 Universities and Colleges have sent their representatives. The cruise is under the direction of Dr. Charles E. Tawing, President of the Western Reserve University. The purpose of the cruise is purely educational. It has been arranged to give the students an opportunity of studying foreign affairs and also to strengthen the international understanding and goodwill amongst the various countries.

The activities are organised under five departments, viz., Department of Instruction, Department of Health Protection, Physical Education and Recreation, Department of Shore Trips and Shore Excursions.

In addition to its other activities, the "Floating University" runs its own newspaper under the Editorship of the ex-Governor of Kansas, Mr. Henry J. Allen.

## Paradise of the East.

## GERMAN CONSUL'S APPRECIATION OF CEYLON.

Dr. Schwarz, who arrived a few weeks ago to take up the appointment of German Consul in Ceylon, stated in the course of an interview to a representative of the Times of Ceylon that the Governmental crisis in Germany would not affect the foreign policy of his country at all. He would only say that Herr Stresemann was not likely to be displaced, and that his present policy would be continued.

Asked for his impressions of Ceylon, Dr. Schwarz said that before he came here he was told by many people that Ceylon was the "Paradise of the East," as it had been the "Tropical Paradise" of old. He was only sorry that he could not say anything stronger to express his appreciation of the Island after what he had seen, although that had been little. He marvelled at the wonderful comforts Ceylon could provide for the tourist or the new comer. It had beautiful hotels, not to speak of the resthouses. In the charming little town of Negombo, where, as on the French Riviera, one could back in the sunshine of a silvery sea; the Government Resthouse could give a better lunch than the "Ritz Hotel" in Paris could ever provide.

The Honeysuckle Botanical Gardens had been very scientifically laid out, and as the Peradeniya Gardens were said to be better, he was looking forward to seeing something wonderful indeed. His wife had been more than struck with the flora of Ceylon. She felt that some of the most beautiful spots on the Riviera could not equal the grandeur of Ceylon scenery. He had been invited to visit a tea estate in the hills and was looking forward with intense pleasure to the opportunity he would get of studying one of the Island's industries as well as visiting the world-famed Honeysuckle.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## SANITATION IN JAFFNA.

To the Editor, "Hindu Organ"

Sir, Of late it has become the fashion among some in Jaffna to criticise unreservedly any measures undertaken to promote the interests of a particular community or the country as a whole. Reasonable and constructive criticisms are quite welcome and are certain indications of the fact that people have begun to think on the utility or otherwise of the measures introduced or proposed to be introduced. It is indeed a pity to see some of the so called well-wishers of our country, to gain a cheap popularity among the people, making the promoters of any measure intended for the common good of the country, however laudable it may be, their target of attack. There have entirely forgotten the fact that they are, however well-intentioned they may be in their criticisms, misguiding the common people and are really doing a disservice to the country. They hinder and not help the welfare of the people whose cause they think they are espousing, by their unseasonable attacks of useful undertakings and their promoters.

For the past few months we find that the Chairman and some of the Members of the Urban District Council have become the target of attacks of some of the citizens of Jaffna. The Chairman, Hon. Mr. A. Canagaratnam, is not a paid servant and the Public are expected to be grateful to him for the great self-sacrifice he has been making in the interest of the town. He has been striving his utmost, in spite of his arduous duties as a Member of the Legislative Council to make the U. D. C. discharge its duties in as efficient and considerate a manner as possible only to make the burlesqueres realise that we can manage our institutions successfully and that any charge of our incapability for self-government cannot hold water.

Any man with even a little knowledge of hygiene will say that the sanitation of a town is the first thing which needs the immediate attention of the authorities concerned. Questions concerning religion, education, etc., of the people are things to be thought of only when people lead a healthy life free from all kinds of infectious and contagious disease. The Jaffna U. D. C. will of course be failing in its duty if it does not direct its attention to the immediate improvement of the sanitation of the town. If a comparison is made between the death rate and the infant mortality in Jaffna and these in towns which are kept in a good sanitary condition it will be obvious how essential it is for the Chairman and the Members of the N. D. C. to improve the insanitary condition of the town. How can one expect any town to be fit for habitation and to be free from infectious and contagious diseases if the town is not kept in a neat condition and proper arrangements are not made to remove the refuse from each house then and there?

Is it the idea of the present day critics that no changes should be made in the old system to suit the modern conditions? The pit system might have worked well at a time when the Jaffna Town was not so congested and when every householder had a big compound with a well very far from the latrine pit. It is a known fact that at present in most places 4 or 5 families are necessitated to remain in a small compound of 3 or 4 Lachams. Can any one reasonably advocate the old pit system in such cases?

Any man with an unbiased mind who has no axe of his own to grind will say that under the present conditions in Jaffna a dry earth latrine in every house is an absolute necessity. The sanitation of the town does not consist in having good roads and in keeping them neat but in providing adequate conservancy arrangements. Nothing is more necessary to make Jaffna of the present day a veritable hell on this globe than allow the pit system (especially in small compounds) any further to continue.

Some gentlemen plead that it is not possible to introduce the dry earth latrine system within the Urban Council limits and make it work satisfactorily in the absence of water supply and proper drainage. It is surprising to find a member of the U. D. C. coming forward with a proposition to defer the introduction of the dry earth latrine system on that plea. These gentlemen would do well to pay a visit to some of the Municipal towns in South India and find out whether the dry earth latrine system has been working satisfactorily or not in those towns though they cannot boast of any water supply. Both Coimbatore and Salem towns (towns much bigger than Jaffna) had the dry

earth latrine system and the same was found to be a necessity in the interest of the towns, long before the Municipal authorities there ever thought of any water supply for these towns. Many Municipal towns in South India much smaller than Jaffna have dry earth latrines in each and every house and the people even in some non-municipal towns under the control of the Taluk Boards agitated for the introduction of dry earth latrine system and got it introduced in their towns realising of course the need for the same to keep themselves free from various kinds of diseases. I may assure the U. D. C. Member and the other gentlemen concerned that there is not even a proposal of any scheme of water supply or proper drainage in those towns. The U. D. C. Member will be surprised to know that in most of the Orthodox Hindu houses in Salem, Coimbatore and other towns scavengers are allowed to go through their houses to remove the refuse in the latrines situated in their backyards, the latrines having no other way of approach. This they consented to do because they were fully convinced of the fact that their health depended on the proper conservancy arrangements in the house. The argument that dry earth latrine system cannot be worked satisfactorily without a water supply and a proper drainage cannot even for a moment bear scrutiny. In almost all the towns in South India the first thing done by any Municipality or a Taluk Board is the introduction of proper conservancy system.

I agree with my friends when they say that the present conservancy rate is very high and will be a great hardship to the poor house owners. The members of the U. D. C. knowing fully well the poor condition of the people should take immediate steps to devise ways and means to have the scavenging done free in the case of the poor house owners. I may here state that the Ottacumund Municipality recently decided not to charge any conservancy fees for houses whose rental value is Rs. 36/- per mensem. In many towns in South India the scavenging is done almost free. Cannot our U. D. C. follow the example of an efficient Municipality like Ottacumund in South India and take the necessary measures to scavenging being done free in houses whose assessment tax (or rather the rental value) is below a certain amount. All of us wanted the iniquitous poll tax to be removed for the main reason that it does not make a difference between the rich and the poor. I am at a loss to know the Chairman and the other members countenance a system of taxation where the rich and the poor are made to pay equally without any difference.

Any one who devotes sometime to think over the matter will say without any hesitation that the proposal of Messrs. T. H. Crossette and R. R. Nalliah to meet the expense of conservancy by raising the percentage of the assessment tax so that the incidence of taxation may fall more on the well-to-do than on the poor, deserved the immediate attention of the Chairman and the other members of the U. D. C. Their proposal is the most reasonable and well thought out one and is one which should commend itself to every one in Jaffna. Their proposal one can gainsay, is one which would easily disarm the opposition of those who object the present conservancy tax levied without any difference between the rich and the poor. In many Municipal Towns in South India the conservancy tax is not levied as a separate tax. The necessary expenditure is met by increasing the other taxes especially the Assessment tax or the house tax.

It is surprising to see that in the very heart of the Northern Province some people have not yet realised the need for proper sanitary arrangements and after 18 years labour the Local Board and the Urban Council have been able to conserve only 550 houses. Even a man without any knowledge of Hygiene or Sanitation will say that the introduction of dry earth latrines in a few houses here and there will never improve the sanitation of the town as long as his neighbours allow the refuse to accumulate in their compounds and at times the stinking smell from the neighbouring compounds makes it unbearable for him to live in his house. If Jaffna is to take its place among the progressive towns in the South if we are to be free from Hookworm, Typhoid and various kinds of other diseases which are eating into our vitality, immediate arrangements to have the dry-earth latrine system in every house in Jaffna should be made. This can easily be done without any opposition from any quarters if the scavenging is done free by devising means

Continued up.

## INDIAN &amp; FOREIGN.

**HINDU IN U. S. A.**—It is stated that Dr. Tarak Nath Das, who was released from prison where he was placed as a result of charges of plotting against King George's life and also possessing bombs, appeared at the head of a deputation to the Senate Immigration Committee asking for the conferment by the United States of citizenship to 69 Hindus, who were without it because of the ruling of the Supreme Court against Hindu naturalisation. Dr. Das declared that if he was deported, the British Government would execute him. The Committee will consider their report later.

**LIBERATION OF SLAVES.**—It is understood that the Burma Government has formulated a scheme for the liberation of slaves in the unadministered area beyond the borders of Myitkya District locally known as triangle. The scheme is more or less on lines with Hukawng Valley expedition carried out last year. It is reported that no human sacrifices is practised by Kachins. The Burma Government is already investigating the effect of last year's expedition in Hukawng Valley including abolition of human sacrifices which the tribes resented as they believed that the only way to propitiate their god was by human sacrifices. It is also learnt that the settlement of liberated slaves has been proceeding fairly well and promises satisfactory results.

**ANTI-CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES IN CHINA.**—Anti-Christian Societies have been springing up lately in many centres where the anti foreign movement is very strong. The agitators broke up two Christian entertainments—one at a Wesleyan mission girls' school, and the other at a blind school—where the invaders distributed anti British literature. A foreign missionary, who attempted to intervene was seized and carried into the streets, where he was manhandled and badly injured. Anti-Christians also invaded a Lutheran mission in a native city on Christmas eve and removed bibles, hymn books and texts from the walls. Native pastors in most places in the native city did not officiate in the Christmas services. Three big anti-Christian and anti British meetings were held at Wuchang, Hanyang and Hankow at which the speakers represented every section of the Government and Army. Foreign women and children have been advised to leave Kiukiang and all foreigners are in readiness, to evacuate Kiangsi, and it is feared that they will also be compelled to evacuate Hunan.

**A WIDOW MARRIAGE.**—At the instance of the young men of the Namastura community of the different Districts of Bengal residing in Calcutta a widow marriage was celebrated strictly according to Hindu rites, at the premises of the Social Service League, on the 11th instant. Pandit Benoy Krishna Bannopadhyaya Kavya Sankhya Vedantatirtha acted as the priest on the occasion. The bride Sm. Maharani and the bridegroom, Babu Surjya Kanta Biswas, both belong to the Namastura community and hail from the district of Jessore. There was a distinguished gathering of about 500 people present on the occasion.

**THE MARRIS COLLEGE OF MUSIC, LUCKNOW.**—Owing to the untiring and zealous efforts of the present Minister of Education, the Hon. Rai Rajeshwar Balli, a College of Hindustani Music is an accomplished fact at Lucknow. The Benares Hindu University has already laid down syllabus in Indian Music for the Matriculation, Intermediate and B. A. examinations, for girl-students who will be allowed to offer the subject as an alternative to any one of the optionals.

**U. S. A. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ORIENTAL WOMEN.**—The Levi L. Barbour Scholarships for oriental Women at the University of Michigan, U. S. A., are open to College women in India. The Barbour scholarships yield \$800,000 each per annum, and University fees are awarded annually upon a basis of merit by a committee consisting of the President of the University, the Dean of the College, and the Dean of the Medical School. All courses of instruction offered at the University of Michigan are open to women students, and the Barbour scholars are not limited to women pursuing any particular course of study. The scholarships are open to women of any Oriental nationality, no definite number being allotted to anyone country. No race restriction nor religious requirements are imposed.

Continued.

to meet the expense from other sources. It is wrong to think that the sanitation can in any way be improved by providing public latrines which no decent man ever thinks of frequenting. It looks very strange to see a member proposing this knowing fully well the local conditions and the conservative nature of most of our people. The member alone can explain how the public latrines can be worked satisfactorily without a proper water supply and drainage (which are in his opinion necessary for the introduction of the dry earth latrine system).

Yours etc,

A. SIVARAMAN.

Jaffna, 30th Dec. 1928.



## Mahatmaji's Autobiography.

## ATTACKED BY THE WHITES.

The following is a further chapter of Mahatma Gandhi's Autobiography:—

So the ships were brought into the dock and the passengers began to go ashore. But Mr. Escombe had sent word to the Captain that as the Whites were highly enraged against me, and my life was in danger, I and my family should be advised to land at dusk when the Port Superintendent, Mr. Tatum, would escort us home. The Captain communicated the message to me and I agreed to act accordingly. But scarcely half an hour after this Mr. Loughton came to the Captain. He said: "I would like to take Mr. Gandhi with me, should he have no objection. As the legal adviser of the Agent Company I tell you that you are not bound to carry out the message you have received from Mr. Escombe." After this he came to me and said somewhat to this effect: "If you are not afraid, I suggest that Mrs. Gandhi and the children should drive to Mr. Ruston's house, whilst you and I follow them on foot. I do not at all like the idea of your entering the city like a thief in the night. I do not think there is any fear of anyone hurting you. Everything is quiet now. The Whites have all dispersed. But in any case I am convinced that you ought not to enter the city stealthily." I readily agreed. My wife and children drove safely to Mr. Ruston's place. With the Captain's permission I went ashore with Mr. Loughton. Mr. Ruston's house was about two miles from the dock.

## PELTED WITH STONES, BRICKBATS &amp; ROTTEN EGGS.

As soon as we landed some youngsters recognised me and shouted "Gandhi, Gandhi." Half a dozen or so rushed to the spot and joined in the shouting. Mr. Loughton feared that the crowd might swell, and he hailed a rickshaw. I had never liked the idea of being in a rickshaw. This was to be my first experience. But the youngsters would not let me get into it. They frightened the rickshaw boy out of his life and he took to his heels. As we went ahead the crowd continued to swell, until it became impossible to proceed further. They first caught hold of Mr. Loughton and separated us. Then they pelted me with stones, brickbats and rotten eggs. Some one snatched away my turban, whilst others began to batter and kick me. I faltered and caught hold of the front railing of the rickshaw and stood there to get my breath. But it was impossible. They came upon me boxing and battering. The wife of the Police Superintendent, who knew me, happened to be passing by. The brave lady came up, opened her parasol (though there was no sun then) and stood between the crowd and me. This checked the fury of the mob, as it was difficult for them to deliver blows on me without harming Mrs. Alexander.

Meanwhile an Indian youth who witnessed the incident had run to the police station. The Police Superintendent Mr. Alexander sent a posse of men to ring me round and escort me safely to my destination. They arrived in time. The police station lay on our way. As we reached there the Superintendent asked me to take refuge in the station, but I gratefully declined the offer. They are sure to quiet down when they realise their mistake," I said. "I have trust in their sense of fairness." Escorted by the police I arrived without further harm at Ruston's place. I had bruises all over, but no abrasions except in one place. Dr. Dadiburjar, the ship's doctor, who was on the spot, rendered the best possible help.

There was quiet inside, but outside the Whites surrounded the house. Night was coming on and the yelling crowd was shouting, "We must have Gandhi!" The quick-sighted Police Superintendent was already there trying to keep the crowd under control, not by threats but by humouring them. But he was not entirely free from anxiety. He sent me a message to the effect: "If you would save your friend's house and property and also your family, you should escape from the house in disguise, as I suggest."

## TWO CONTRADICTORY POSITIONS.

Thus on one and the same day I was faced with two contradictory positions. When danger to life had been no more than imaginary, Mr. Loughton advised me to launch forth openly. I accepted the advice. When the danger was quite real, another friend gave me contrary advice and I accepted that too. Who can say whether I did so because I saw that my life was in jeopardy or because I did not want to put my friend's life and property, or the lives of my wife and children, in danger? Who can say for certain that I was right both when I faced the crowd in the first instance bravely, as it was said, and when I escaped from it in disguise?

It is idle to adjudicate upon the right and wrong of incidents that have already happened. It is useful to understand them and, if possible, to learn a lesson from them for the future. It is difficult to see for certain how a particular man would act under a particular set of circumstances. We can also see that judging a man from his outward act is no more than a doubtful inference in as much as it is not based on sufficient data.

## THE DISGUISED ESCAPE.

Be that as it may, the preparations for escape made me forget my injuries. According to the suggestion of the Superintendent, I put on an Indian constable's uniform and wore on my head a Madras scarf, wrapped round a plate to serve as a helmet. Two detectives accompanied me, one of them disguised as an Indian merchant and with his face painted to resemble that of an Indian. I forgot the disguise of the other. We reached a neighbouring shop by a bye lane, and making our way through the gunny bags piled in the godown, we escaped by the gate of the shop and treaded our way through the crowd to a carriage that had been kept for me at the end of the street. In this I drove off to the same police station where Mr. Alexander had offered me refuge a short time before, and I thanked him and the detective officers.

Whilst I had been thus effecting my escape, Mr. Alexander had kept the crowd amused by singing the tune:—  
"Hang old Gandhi  
On the sour apple tree."

When he was informed of my safe arrival at the police station, he thus broke the news to the crowd: "Well, your victim has made good his escape through a neighbouring shop. You had better go home now." Some of them were angry, some laughed and refused to believe the story.

Continued up.

## The Oldest Human Type.

## FOSSIL TEETH DISCOVERED NEAR PEKING.

What may prove to be the most ancient human fossil known to science is declared to have been brought to light with twenty five miles of Peking. These are two human teeth. This discovery was announced here on October 22, at a joint meeting of the Geological Society of China, Peking Society of Natural History, and the Peking Union Medical College, held to greet the Crown Prince of Sweden, himself a keen student of Chinese archaeology.

In announcing the identification of the teeth, Dr. J. G. Andersson, formerly of the Geological Survey of China and now of the University of Stockholm, said: "The theory I advanced five years ago that at the end of the Stone Age there was an astonishingly uniform culture stretching from the Mediterranean to the shores of the Pacific has now received so much confirmation as to be universally accepted by scientists." He then described the finding of the teeth—the latest link in the chain of evidence that the origin of man's dispersal lay in Central Asia.

In the summer of 1921, Dr. Andersson came across an ancient cavern in the limestone ledges of Chou Kou Tien, 25 miles south west of Peking. Subsequent extensive excavations in the deposits that filled this cavity were undertaken by the Austrian paleontologist, Dr. O. Zdenek, working under the auspices of the Geological Survey of China and of the Swedish Research Committee for Scientific Exploration in Archaeology and Paleontology in China, of which the Crown Prince of Sweden is Chairman. Facilities for the study of the fossils found were lacking in China. They were therefore taken to the paleontological laboratory of Professor Wiman at the University of Upsala in Sweden. Here the material was freed from the adhering rock, preparatory to its illustration and description in the "Palaeontologica Sinica," published by the Geological Survey of China. It was then that the fossil human teeth were revealed.

"What makes this discovery of such momentous interest is the great age of these human remains," said Dr. A. W. Grabau, of the Geological Survey of China, in an interview. "To the non-geologically trained the terms denoting the periods of geological history may have little meaning. They prefer to measure age in terms of human chronology. To them we may say that the man whose teeth have been found lived more than half a million years ago. That is a conservative estimate, for there are those who hold that it was nearer a million years. To those accustomed to think in terms of geological chronology, it will come almost as a shock that the age of the deposits in which these teeth were found has been placed in the Upper Tertiary. Undoubted actual remains of Tertiary man have not hitherto been discovered, and so these finds have the unique interest of possibly being those of the oldest human remains yet known. I say possibly, because it is not yet established beyond doubt that the age of these deposits is Upper Pliocene; that is, that this man lived in the closing stages of the Tertiary era. But the Peking man is at least as old as the Piltdown man, and may have even lived at an earlier date. His less highly developed relative, the ape man "Pithecanthropus," may have lived in Java at the same time, but the Peking man was more advanced than his brother in the south, for he could claim the distinction of belonging to the genus "Homo." The ancient Peking man will take his place by the side of the Piltdown man and the Heidelberg man as a representative of the oldest human type whose remains have been discovered in the strata of the earth." —"Times Illustrated."

## Continued.

"Well then," said the Superintendent, "if you do not believe me, you may appoint one or two representatives, whom I am ready to take inside the house. If they succeeded in finding out Gandhi, I will gladly deliver him to you. But if they fail you must disperse. I am sure that you have no intention of destroying Mr. Ruston's house or of harming Mr. Gandhi's wife and children."

The crowd sent their representatives to search the house. They soon returned with disappointing news, and the crowd broke up at last, most of them admiring the Superintendent's tactful handling of the situation, and a few fretting and fuming.

## NON-VIOLENT ATTITUDE TAKEN.

The late Mr. Chamberlain, who was then Secretary of State for the Colonies, cabled asking the Natal Government to prosecute my assailants. Mr. Escombe sent for me, expressed his regret for the injuries I had sustained and said: "Believe me, I cannot feel happy over the least little injury done to your person. You had a right to accept Mr. Loughton's advice and to face the worst, but I am sure that if you had considered my suggestion favourably, these sad occurrences would not have happened. If you can identify the assailants, I am prepared to arrest and prosecute them. Mr. Chamberlain also desires me to do so."

To which I gave the following reply:—

"I do not want to prosecute any one. It is possible that I may be able to identify one or two of them, but what is the use of getting them punished? Besides I do not hold the assailant to blame. They were given to understand that I had made exaggerated statements in India about the Whites in Natal and colonisation them. If they believed these reports it is no wonder that they were enraged. The leaders and you will permit me to say so, you are to blame. You could have guided the people properly, but you also believed Reuters and assumed that I must have indulged in exaggeration. I do not want to bring any one to book. I am sure that when the truth becomes known, they will be sorry for their conduct."

"Would you mind giving me this in writing," said Mr. Escombe. "Because I shall have to cable to Mr. Chamberlain to that effect. I do not want you to make any statement in haste. You may, if you like, consult Mr. Loughton and your other friends before you come to a final decision. I may confess however, that if you waive the right of bringing your assailants to book, you will considerably help me in restoring quiet, besides enhancing your own reputation."

"Thank you," said I. "I need not consult any one. I had made my decision in the matter before I came to you. It is my conviction that I should not prosecute the assailants and I am prepared this moment to reduce my decision to writing."

With this I gave him the necessary statement.

## Removal of Untouchability.

## CONGRESS PARTY'S PROGRAMME.

The following are excerpts from the address delivered by Mr. S. Srinivasayengar, President, Indian National Congress, Gauhati, Assam, at the opening of the 41st Session on December 26:—

"The removal of untouchability was long confined to the platform of social or religious reform and did not then make rapid progress. By making it one of the items of the constructive programme of the Congress, we have, under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership, almost in the twinkling of an eye, materially changed the attitude towards it alike of the educated classes and of the masses. The final solution of the question, however, depends in great part upon the improvement of the economic conditions of the vast bulk of the untouchables. And the time has, I think, come when, in order to ensure its speedy accomplishment, increasing concentration on it is required. As in the case of Khadi, an ad hoc organisation consisting of enthusiasts and religious and social reformers will if properly led, be able to complete the work so splendidly begun by the Congress. Neither foreign nor domestic critics are, however, right when they assert that untouchability is a formidable obstacle to Swaraj or that its removal will automatically bring about Swaraj. We cannot wait for Swaraj till it is removed any more than we can wait till caste is abolished. There is the capital instance of the United States of America achieving freedom long before the abolition of a very real and wide spread slavery. But we must all agree that we must make an end of untouchability, apart from any question of Swaraj and whether we ever win Swaraj or not. While I would deprecate the reiterated rhetorical stress on untouchability as a serious impediment to Swaraj and the consequent admission in favour of foreign domination, the higher philosophy of Hinduism as well as the history of religious dissidence in our country emboldens me to claim that the rule against untouchability has neither part nor lot with the indestructible soul of Hinduism. Judged by any test, humanitarian, rational or spiritual, patriotic or democratic, we cannot with decency uphold in Hinduism the dogma of an immutable untouchability. It clouds our vision, limits our experience, hardens our heart, narrows our sphere of responsibility and prevents our ideals of justice, love and sincerity from being perfect. The feeling that a particular caste or tribe or sect as such is by divine ordinance invested either with a mystic superiority or spiritual guardianship over others or has been condemned by God to bear the visible symbols of a hopeless degradation is destructive of the divinity in man, which is the central doctrine of Hinduism. It is not good for any one, neither for the guardian nor for the ward. As an Ahval of Kapilur current in my province, puts it "Who can see any unlikeliness of form between men such as there is between bull and buffalo? Vaishya born of lowly mistress to Brahma like red water lily spring up in mire; Sakhi born of a Chandala woman to Vaisht; Parasara born to Sakhi of Palai women; Vyasa born of a fisher girl to Paravara; all these by study of the Vedas rose to high estate and are famous as holy men." And if we are still in doubt, it is dispelled when we listen to Yemana's disconcerting query: "Why should we constantly revile the Pariah? Are not his fish and blood the same as our own? And of what caste is He who pervades the Pariah?"

We must, therefore, realise that untouchability is but the off spring of man-made custom and has no divine sanction behind it. On the other hand, from the point of view of Hinduism, it prevents it from spreading far and wide and sending its roots deeper and robs it of the transforming influence of missionary fervour.

The Congress party in the Legislative Councils will, I have no doubt, attend to these and to the other items of constructive work to the extent to which they can be furthered in and through the legislatures. I trust, it will, in particular take up the educational institutions belonging to or aided by the Government and secure the passage of enactments including in courses of compulsory studies such subjects as will inculcate in boys and girls a consuming patriotism, courage and a wide national outlook.

## POLITICS AND RELIGION.

"The intrusion into politics of religion and very often of dogmatic religion, must be resisted as a primitive or mediaeval idea, born of theocracies, and disastrous alike to religion and to politics. Hinduism and Islam will gain immeasurably in strength and purity if they are not mixed up with secular politics. I do not speak of morality or of that spiritual quality which is common to all great religions; for thereby politics and organisations are cleansed and made sweet and wholesome. In the evolution of States, theocracies have not survived as they were responsible for fanaticism, persecution and internal strife and neglected the material welfare of the people and the proper arts of government."

## NOTICE.

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL WORKS

Rural Education District Committee, Jaffna.  
Salary Rs. 100 (one hundred) per mensem with a travelling allowance of Rs. 25 (twenty five) per mensem.

Written applications will be received up to 15th January, 1937, by the Chairman, Jaffna Rural Education District Committee, College House, Ramanathan College, Chunnakam, for the above post, from candidates who have completed a course of instruction at the Government Technical Schools in Building Construction, and obtained a certificate; or who, holding similar qualification, have had at least two years experience in Building Work in the Public Works Department; or who, holding similar qualifications, have served under approved Building Contractors, and have a practical knowledge of building works and are skilled in the preparation of Plans, Specifications and Estimates for Building Works.

Applicant should state age, and previous history, and forward copies of certificates of qualifications and Character.

P. RAMANATHAN,  
Chairman,

Jaffna Rural Education District Committee  
28th December, 1936.  
Q. 714

## Sir J. C. Bose's Inventions.

No recent contributions from India have created so wide an interest as the discoveries made at the Bose Institute and which renowned so greatly to the credit of India and her Government. Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Irwin have followed the fortunes of the Bose Institute with keen interest, and in spite of numerous engagements, time was found to visit the scene of Sir Jagadish's scientific discoveries. Their Royal Highnesses the Crown Prince and Princess of Sweden, who have heard so much about the Bengal discoveries joined the Viceroy party.

It is only four weeks ago that Sir J. C. Bose resumed his work in Calcutta yet to his very short time, he has succeeded in perfecting four inventions which are ever more wonderful than those which created such a sensation in Europe. Of these, two deserve special attention.

## THE RESONANT CARDIOGRAPH.

The Cardiograph employed for investigations on the heart action of animals has certain inherent defects; this arises mainly from the friction of contact of the writer against the recording surface. Bose's new apparatus completely eliminates all error and the record also gives exact time relations of the different phases of cardiac activity, the exact period of diastole and of systole, as also prosthetic pause. The different phases become strikingly modified under the action of different alkaloids. The new apparatus will greatly advance the study of cardiac reactions.

## SUPER SPHYMOGRAPH.

The optical Sphygmograph by which Sir Jagadish was able to record the pulse beat of plants, is now thrown in the shade by his newly invented Super-Sphygmograph of which the very first demonstration was given before the Viceroy's party. It is too early to forecast marvels that will be revealed by the instrument. This apparatus is so extraordinarily sensitive that special training will be necessary to handle it, without any imperceptible tremor of the hand.

Sir J. C. Bose's distinguished audience followed with wrapt attention, the marvels that were gradually revealed to them.

The original apparatus which established the universal sensitiveness of all matter, living and non-living, was among the historical apparatus which were exhibited. He also demonstrated the possession in the plant world of three of the important characteristics of animal life: Contractility, Conductivity and Rhythmicity. In fact after his demonstration all came to realise in that a plant, after all, was a stationary animal while an animal was a moving plant.

Both their Excellencies and their Royal Highnesses were deeply impressed by what they saw, which surpassed their most sanguine expectations. They will carry with them the most abiding impressions of their life. —"A. B. Patilika."

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