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JAFFNA THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1929

MISSIONARIES AND THEIR BIBLE

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS OF the Bible Society had been generally of a dull and prosaic nature in the past. But the meeting held this year has assumed a militant and aggressive aspect which cannot be allowed to go unnoticed. The speakers at the meeting did not remain satisfied with merely emphasizing the value of the study of their Bible for the Christians but they have gone out of the way to declare that Ceylon cannot get on without the study of their Bible. This is an extraordinary claim to make. The speakers may have great enthusiasm for their scriptures but they should not allow it to outrun their discretion. We do not propose here to discuss the merits or the demerits of the Bible of the Christians, both from the moral and spiritual standpoint. We shall leave it to critics like 'the student of Christian religion' whose illuminating criticism on the Bible has been published in these columns. It is our duty to tell these well-meaning but mistaken Missionary enthusiasts that their Bible is not regarded in the same light by the non-Christians of Ceylon who form ninety per cent. of the population. It is news to learn from the Chairman, Mr F G Tyrrell of the Ceylon Civil Service, that non-Christian sages regard Bible as the supreme book. Neither Mahatma Gandhi nor Dr Tagore, referred to by him, whatever admiration they may have for certain teachings in the Bible, ever declared that it was the supreme book which should be studied by all. In fact on more than one occasion Mahatma Gandhi himself has pointed out the superiority of the Bhagavad Gita to the teachings of the Sermon in the Mount.

Rev. Noble's speech nearly amounts to a threat to the Government as well as to the people. One redeeming feature of his speech is that he is bluntly frank. He does not conceal the objects of the Christian missions under any diplomatic verbiage. He candidly admits that their schools were established for Christian propaganda. And if any obstacles should be placed to such propaganda, he is of opinion that there is no reason why they should maintain schools at all. On the admission of this Missionary the Christian schools exist for the purpose of proselytisation. The Government knows it. It has declared in public documents that it is wrong to use institutions subsidised out of public funds for proselytisation. Still the Government has not taken adequate measures to safeguard the interest of non-Christian children in Christian schools. The conscience Clause to which Mr Noble introduced is now a dead letter. It is ineffective to meet the situation. As the Hon. Mr. D B. Jayatilaka has pointed out, it was dishonestly framed. Non-Christian organisations have already representations to the Government to modify it so as to prevent the teaching of Christian scriptures to non-Christian children unless the consent of their parents is previously obtained. No doubt Mr Noble and people of his ilk will kick against it. They will threaten to close their schools. If they adopt the latter course the non-Christian people will welcome it with a sense of relief that the agencies that have been established to destroy non-Christian religions and to demoralise non-Christian societies have disappeared. We can tell Mr Noble that the people of the Island are now conscious of their rights. They realise the great harm that is being done to their religions by the Missionary agencies and they will not tolerate the present state of affairs to continue any longer.

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE Y. M. H. A.—A grand variety entertainment will be given in aid of the Jaffna Hindu College Young Men's Hindu Association at the College Hall, on Saturday, the 2nd March, 1929, commencing at 6.30 p.m. Special features will include Ventriculism, Music, both vocal and instrumental, Mimic Scenes, a Farce, Scenes from Ramayana, etc. Special accommodation for ladies will be provided. The Patronage of the public is earnestly solicited.

PERSONAL:—Mr. A I Daray, Head Overseer, Sitawana, Perak, has come to Jaffna on short leave in connection with the death of his brother, the late Mr. A S Daray, and is staying at his residence in Araly South.

COLOMBO'S PART IN EMPIRE AIRWAYS:—Sir Harry Brittain, M. P., asked the Secretary of State for the Air on Wednesday whether, having regard to the importance of Colombo as the capital of a Colony of industrial importance, the question of linking up the Colony with the air route to Australia has been considered, and what progress is being made with the scheme for a Bombay-Colombo service.

THREE KILLED BY LIGHTNING:—During heavy rain at Tangalle on the 18th instant, three men, of that District, who took shelter under a tamarind tree, were struck by lightning and killed instantaneously.

LARGE INCREASE OF ISLANDS IMPORTS:—An excess of Rs 2,234,866 of imports over exports is indicated in the Customs Returns for January this year. The imports in January amounted to Rs 37,904,689. The exports for January this year, which totalled Rs 35,669,823.

ANOTHER CADET IN THE C. C. S.:—Mr. S. D. Cumaraswami who has returned to Ceylon will be attached as a Cadet to the Badulla Kachocheri from the 24th inst.

NO INDIAN CATTLE FOR SLAUGHTER.—From April 1, no slaughter cattle will be allowed to be imported from India. In the Government Gazette of January 4, notice of a new Ordinance totally prohibiting the importation of slaughter cattle from India was published. Under the Ordinance, which will take effect from April 1, only milch cattle can be imported from India under a license from the Government Veterinary Surgeon.

TO OBTAIN BRITISH QUALIFICATION:—Dr. M. E. Tiruchelvan, formerly of Ceylon, who was a surgeon in the Ipoh Hospital, was in Colombo on Wednesday (yesterday) en route to England to obtain British qualifications. Dr. Tiruchelvan hopes to settle down in Ceylon on his return.

RETURN OF LADY STANLEY:—Lady Stanley, wife of H E the Governor, who was away in England on a holiday returned to the Island by the P and O "Mongolia" on Saturday evening.

DISABILITIES OF CEYLON STUDENTS IN BRITAIN:—A well attended meeting of the Ceylon Students Association, in London on Saturday last unanimously resolved on the following motion by Dr. S R Gunawardene, that:—"In view of the difficulties experienced by Ceylon students in gaining admission to educational institutions in this country, particularly medical schools and hospitals, and in view of the existence of prejudice in many institutions against coloured students, this Association do immediately appoint a sub-committee to investigate this matter, to inquire into the facilities available for study on the Continent and in America, and the advantages of such study, and to report as to what steps should be taken by the Association here and in Ceylon." The Association also decided to engage a room at the Buddhist Mission, Gloucester Road, as temporary headquarters London.—"C. D. N."

APOLOGY ENDS LIBEL ACTION.—On tendering an apology on the 18th instant in the District Court of Colombo, before Mr. W S de Sarao, the Editor, Mr. A P Van Reyk and Publisher, Mr. E P Mendis of the "Ceylon Independent" were discharged in the action brought against them by the Hon. Mr. D B Jayatilaka for original defamation.

LABOUR LEADER'S REPORT ON RIOTS.—Criticism of the police and a justification of his own actions in connexion with the recent rioting at Maradana are the two main themes of a report which Mr. A. E. Goonesinghe, President of the Ceylon Labour Union, has submitted to the Colonial Secretary, and which has now been issued by the labour leader to the Press. One of the most interesting passages is that in which he describes his actions on the evening of the riot and the efforts of two Legislative Councillors to get in touch with the Colonial Secretary with a view to providing facilities for Mr. Goonesinghe to visit the scene and endeavour to pacify the mob.—"Times of Ceylon."

FIRST CASE: ATTEMPT TO MURDER

The first case that was taken up for trial at the Criminal Session of the Supreme Court (Northern Circuit), before Mr. Justice L. C. Dalton and an English-speaking Jury with Mr. A. Ponniah, Principal, Ceylon Govt. Training College, as the Foreman was one of attempted murder from the Police Court of Pt. Pedro.

In this case two men, Ponnau Kanthan and his brother Nagan were charged with having attempted to murder one Poothan Thampan on August 10, 1928. In the course of the trial the 2nd accused Nagan was discharged as there was no evidence against him. At the close of the trial the Jury brought in a verdict of guilty against the first accused, whom His Lordship sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment.

The second case was one of rape from Mannar in which a certain Mooraman was charged with having committed the said offence on a certain Pariah girl. After trial the Jury brought in a verdict in favour of the accused and His Lordship accordingly acquitted and discharged the accused.

KUDATHANAI MURDER CASE.

The third case that was taken up for trial on Tuesday last before an English-speaking Jury with Mr. E. R. Sandrasegara, as Foreman was one of murder from the village of Kudaththansi in Point Pedro, in which Kantar Kanapathipillai, one Kandiah, Ahilantam, wife of the first accused, and Subramaniam son of the 1st and 3rd accused, were charged with having committed murder on the 8th of August last of Velan Vyavan of the same village.

All the four accused who severally pleaded "not guilty" were defended by Mr. S. D. Thampoe, Advocate, instructed by Mr. K. Muttucumar, Proctor. S. C.

Dr. S. Kaesalingam, M. B. Ch. B., P. M. O., Paloly, said that Vyavan was brought to hospital at 2 p.m. in a semi-conscious state that was due to the depressed fracture of the skull.

Dr. S. K. Chinniah, D. M. O., Paloly, said that he examined Vyavan at 6 a.m. There were 4 injuries on the deceased who died 17 days after. Death was due to depressed fracture of the skull. Two or three days after his admission into the Hospital a piece of bone that was causing the depression was removed without any operation. The deceased had no shock on the 24th but showed signs of meningitis. Kadiah Pillayanar, cultivator, of Kudaththani, giving evidence for the prosecution said that the accused assaulted Vyavan the deceased on the 8th of August last while he was ploughing his field called Kundumpan Vayal with two others Velan and Cheliah at 8 a.m. He saw the injured man standing in his field adjoining that of the witness on the western side. There was a ridge to separate both the fields. Deceased came after witness began ploughing. He tried to plough but his soil was very hard. He was alone. He then went to repair the ridge. There was no one else at the time. The four accused came to the spot along the Pt. Pedro-Maruthankerni Road. The 1st accused held a katty in his hand while the 4th accused had a mamotty.

The 1st accused asked witness why he was ploughing the field. Witness retorted "who are you to question when I am ploughing my field?" The 1st accused said turning to the deceased, "You Nalava fellow, have you also come to plough?" The 1st accused said again, "why are you ploughing the field without a receipt?" and asked him not to plough. But the deceased replied, who are you to ask me not to plough when the case was decided in favour of me. Then the 1st accused gave a blow with a knife which lighted on the arm of Vyavan. Deceased seized the katty & a struggle ensued. The 4th accused Subramaniam dealt a blow on the head of Vyavan with the mamotty by the blunt side. The deceased fell down. Subramaniam dealt another blow when the deceased was down. The 1st and 4th accused went away in the direction of their house. The 2nd and 3rd accused trampled the deceased with their feet.

Two other witnesses corroborated the evidence of the first witness.

The whole of Wednesday was taken in the examining and cross-examining of the witnesses.

After nearly two days' trial the case was concluded this noon (Thursday).

The Crown Counsel summed up his case in twenty minutes and Mr. Thampoe addressed the Jury for 45 minutes. His Lordship's charge to the Jury took about one hour after which the Jury retired and brought in a verdict of guilty against the 4th accused on a lesser offence of causing grievous hurt, and not guilty against the other accused.

His Lordship wished to know from the 4th accused if he had anything to say before sentence was passed on him. The accused replied in the affirmative. The Proctor for the accused Mr. Muttucumar wished to say Continued up.

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS IN HEALTH.

Rugby, Feb. 18th. "The King is much better and is getting on nicely", said the Queen, replying to an inquiry regarding the King's progress when she visited the Exhibition of English decorative art in London today.

Rugby, Feb. 19th. It was officially stated at Craigwell House, Bognor, this evening that the King had passed a satisfactory day. It is understood that members of the Royal suite are quite satisfied with the King's progress.—"Times, Guntong".

Recent Rioting Sequel.

GOV'T'S STRONG DETERMINATION.

Government has issued the following statement in connexion with the riot at Maradana:—

"In view of recent events in which the Police in the performance of their duty were compelled to open fire in order to disperse a disorderly and riotous crowd with the result that some lives were lost Government considers it desirable to issue the following notice:—

"Government is determined to maintain law and order. This is a duty which involves the prevention so far as possible, and the prompt suppression when it occurs, of any attempt by any person or class to interfere with other members of the public who are doing what they have a legal right to do. In the performance of this duty Government and the Police, who are the officers of Government, do not take sides or favour one party or class against another. It is the duty of the Police to take action impartially against anyone who commits or causes a breach of the peace and to give protection so far as possible to anyone who is threatened with unlawful interference. It is the duty of every member of the public to assist the Police by ready obedience to Police orders and directions in taking action against those who break the law or who defy authority the Police are doing their duty in the interests of the whole community and are entitled to the support of every citizen.

"All members of the public are warned that anyone who remains in or near a crowd at a time of civil disorder, even as a passive onlooker, does so at very grave risk to himself."

OBITUARY.

MR. A. SITHAMBARANATHAPILLAI

We regret to record the death of Mr. A. Sithambarathapillai, Notary Public, and Chairman, Village Committee, Vaddukoddai, on the night of Monday last after a brief illness. The deceased gentleman was about 50 years of age at the time of his death. The funeral took place the following day and was largely attended. He leaves behind to himself his widow, two sons and a daughter, and a host of friends and relatives. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

VIVEKANANDA SOCIETY, COLOMBO.

The Sixty Seventh Birthday of Srimath Swami Vivekananda of blessed memory will be celebrated at the Vivekananda Society, Colombo on Sunday the 24th February, 1929, from 8.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. The following program will be gone through:—Thevaraparayanam, Kathaprasangam, Address by Srimath Swami Vipulananda, Poojish, Members' Breakfast, Feeding of the Poor, Music, Lecture by Srimath Swami Vipulananda, Lecture by Hon. Sir P. Ramanathan, Kt., and Dramatic Scenes by the Students of the Vidyalayam.

Calendars for 1929.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Wall Calendars for this year from the following:—

Messrs. Masey & Co., Ltd., Madras, Visvanath & Co., Pioneers of Sata Industry, Madras, and The Art Printing Works, Kuala Lumpur, F. M. S.

Continued.

something. But his Lordship wanted to know where the Counsel was. The Proctor said that the Counsel had gone away. His Lordship remarked that with due respect to the Court, he (Counsel) should have been there, and refused permission for the Proctor to say anything.

The accused when asked, said that he had been on remand for six months. That on the day of the incident, when he saw his father and mother being assaulted, he ran up and hit the accused with the idea of releasing his parents.

His Lordship said that in consideration of the facts placed before him and that because he was a young man of 25 and of good character, he gave the minimum possible punishment and sentenced him to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

Mr. W. E. Johnson, or "Pussyfoot" as he is more popularly known all the world over, made the following statements: in an interview to a representative of the Times of Ceylon on Thursday last, the day of his arrival in Ceylon, at "St. Ravi," the residence of Dr. W. A. de Silva, where he will stay during his visit to Ceylon.

"I am just making a tour of the world, not for the first time, to correct a whole lot of misinformation about America."

"I left America three months ago, stopping over at Honolulu, Japan, the Philippines Islands, British Malaya and Burma."

"I passed through Madras in connexion with the temperance campaign for the 'World League Against Alcohol.' I am in charge of the principal office of the League at No. 69, Fleet Street, London. The League is made up of the 'Antialcohol League' and similar organizations in forty different countries, the Ceylon Total Abstinence Union being also a part of the World League."

"So far as America is concerned, the question of prohibition is settled for ever. At the last elections they decided by 6,300,000 votes against alcohol. Out of 48 States, 44 voted against it. The Governor of New York, who was a 'wet' candidate for the Presidency, was out voted, and he has publicly announced that he has retired from politics."

Asked what he thought of prohibition in the Far East, Mr. Johnson said:—

"The idea of prohibition has grown very rapidly in the East. The people have been taught by their religion that drink is bad. They have been taught that, for a thousand years before America was discovered, Americans agreed with that idea, and we decided that drink should not be sold in the country. In other words we applied the Oriental teaching to our own land."

"Prohibition in America is nothing new. It is an Eastern idea. When the West made automobiles and threshing machines, but you folks out here make ideas. You buy our automobiles and we accept your ideas."

What has prohibition done for America?

"It has revolutionized our whole life. Our labour per man produces twice as much as it formerly did. At the same time the labourer gets twice the wages he did before. We have three times as many students in our colleges as we had ten years ago. We have two or three times as much money in the savings banks. America has prospered far more, and the spiritual life is much higher than it was ever before."

Replying to a question as to whether "bootlegging" was as common as it was stated to be, "Pussyfoot" emphatically denied that it was so.

Such stories, he said, were "enormously exaggerated." He did not think they had more of it now than before prohibition came in.

For that matter, there was bootlegging in every country in Europe. England had it. Excise statistics there showed that there were upwards of 4,000 cases a year ago. When he left Berlin, there were 6,000 cases pending. England had a very high tax on liquor, much higher than it ever was in America, while the tax in France was low. The result was that every night liquor was being run into England from France.

Mr. Johnson mentioned the following incident when he was asked whether he thought prohibition would come into force in England at an early date: "When I was in Egypt I was summoned to appear before King Feud who asked me when England was going 'dry.' I said I was no prophet and so I could not say. Then he asked me when I thought she would go 'dry.' I said, it will be a long time because England is not a progressive country like Egypt and America."

"He thought that very funny." "However," he said "they have prohibition in England for 15 hours of the day. It is 24 hours a day in America, so they are only nine hours behind."

"The League of Nations has decided to consider the liquor problem. They decided that a few weeks ago. Probably they will appoint a Commission to make a study of it. That has no connexion with our organization except this. Our organization promoted the idea and induced the League of Nations to take that stand. It was representatives of our organization inside the League of Nations that brought it about."

Mr. Johnson emphatically denied that twelve out of fourteen countries which had taken up prohibition had given it up.

"If anybody says so, he doesn't know what he is talking about," he said. Referring to Finland, he said that that country had not given up prohibition. They had voted for it by a larger majority than ever before.

"Canada never had prohibition in the same way as we had it, and Norway never had it at all. They had a prohibition law, but it did not prohibit anything less than 21 per cent alcohol. They only prohibited it above 21 per cent. That did not make much difference as a man can get drunk on beer which has only 5 per cent alcohol."

Mr. Johnson hopes to go on to India from Ceylon and then to Egypt and back to his London office.

MADRAS COUNCIL BUDGET.—The Budget of the Madras Legislative Council for the year 1929 will be presented to the Council on the 27th inst.

BAN ON POLITICS IN SPAIN.—A Spain Royal Ordinance prohibits discussion of politics in public under penalty of arrest.

INTERNATIONAL AIRCRAFT EXHIBITION.—An International Aircraft Exhibition, the biggest of the kind, will be held in Olympia, London in July.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN PERSIA.—Slave trading in Persia has been prohibited by an Act. Slaves entering the country will be considered freemen.

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS.—India's contribution towards the League of Nations for the year 1929 will be about £57,080 or about £5,180 more than it was in 1928.

EUROPEANISED TURKISH WOMEN.—The Turkish women are becoming more and more Europeanised. Great numbers of them are now being employed in all public offices, including the Post Office.

INVESTITURE OF THE JAPANESE EMPEROR.—The Duke of Gloucester is to leave London for Tokyo at the end of March to invest the Emperor of Japan with the insignia of Garter.

TUNNEL CHANNEL RAILWAY.—The total length of the proposed English Channel Tunnel Railway would be 253 miles, of which about 24 miles would be actual under water tunnel.

MYSORE BOARD OF EDUCATION.—The Board of Education in Mysore is now engaged on a new educational experiment. It is to provide the Rural Science Instruction Scheme in middle schools in rural areas, giving an agricultural training in the curriculum thus bringing it into closer relation with the environment of the pupils.

MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION.—Professor Osell of Harvard University, who was a member of the 1924 expedition, announces that the British expedition will make another attempt to conquer Mount Everest. He says that it is hoped that difficulty regarding Dala Lama's refusal of permission will soon be overcome.

INDIAN PRINCES AND SWARAJ.—The Princes and Chiefs composing the Chamber have adopted, among others, a resolution that they cannot assent to any proposals having for their object the advancement of equitable relations between Indian States and British India, unless such proposals proceed upon the initial basis of the British connection.

HONOURS NOT WASTED IN CANADA.—The House of Commons at Ottawa, on Friday last by 114 votes to 60 rejected a motion which the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, said the Government was ready to adopt, namely in favour of amending the address passed in 1919 praying the King to cease the bestowal of honours on Canadians.

LALA LAJPAT RAI'S DEATH.—The Legislative Assembly, by 57 votes to 45, despite strong Government opposition, carried an Unofficial motion for the appointment of a Committee, comprising Party leaders and the Home Member, to inquire into the allegations regarding the assault on Lala Lajpat Rai by the Police and its effect in causing or hastening his death. Feeling ran high during the Debate.

CALCUTTA MAGISTRATE'S DIVORCE SUIT.—Mr. N. Gupta, Municipal Magistrate, has petitioned the High Court for a divorce from his wife, who is the daughter of the late Lord Sinha, on the ground of her adultery, and is claiming damages of one and a half lakhs from Mr. M. T. Goswami, a member of the Legislative Assembly, who is cited as correspondent.

A DOUBLE SUN.—The City of Rome was startled at noon on Monday last by the strange phenomenon of two suns in a blue sky joined by a luminous arch, which made them appear like inverted eyeglasses. Suppositions to be expressed the opinion that it was a good omen. The Astronomical Observatory, however, coldly declared that the phenomenon was due to an optical illusion caused by the refraction of the light of the sun against small particles floating in the atmosphere. The phenomenon is scientifically called parheliion.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION.—Speculation with regard to the date of the General Election is becoming more and more active daily. There is considerable support for the belief that polling-day will occur in the last week of May.

THE MUSICAL TRAFFIC TOWER.—While anxious motorists wait for the green "go" light in Florida City they are entertained with a musical programme from four huge amplifiers, constructed on the traffic tower of the main avenue, thus relieving the patience of motorists who feel they are being unnecessarily delayed.

INFLUENZA INFLUENZA GERM KILLER.—In view of the rapid increase of influenza, both in England and abroad, the opening of the anti-influenza chamber, where, at the cost of three pence, medical fumes to kill the influenza germ and prevent infection may be inhaled, is of great interest. The "Influenza Chamber" is at the British Human Association Clinic, Banergh Road, Pimlico, and has already been visited by a number of people.

LONDON, Addressing a large public meeting of Hindus Dr. Mookji Chhapra, a leading member of the Hindu Maha Sabha which could be considered antagonistic to the national interests. Gandhi had stated that Swaraj could be attained without violence if only Hindus and Muslims united in the task, within a period of six months. But Mr. Gandhi had also stated that it would be impossible to maintain the Swaraj attained in such a manner from external invasion without soldiers. Muslims could provide one source of soldiers but the Hindu community was handicapped by certain important classes claiming exemption from military service, and it was only the so-called untouchables who could stand up in defence of the country. The speaker quoted from Manu Smriti to show that it was the duty of every citizen, whatever his caste, to bear arms in an emergency. He urged that the ill-treatment of the untouchables was not only foolish, but positively suicidal and urged Hindus to train their sons in Akharas, and teach them Ishi play. He brooded that the time would come when he would succeed in securing training in rifle practice also for youngmen. Concluding he appealed for Rs. 100,000 for the Lala Lajpat Rai Memorial.

Dr. Gokulchandra Narang, who presided, announced a donation of Rs. 12,000 by Rai Bahadur Sewakram, son of Sir Ganga Ram, the philanthropist, for the purchase of a site for a Hindu Sabha Hall in Lahore.

—Lahore Mail.

Why Men drink?

BY DR. AXEL EMIL GIBSON.

It was Plato who one said that no man of sane mind will injure himself knowingly. Consequently if we see an individual signing his own physiological and moral death warrant by deliberately delaying the strongest of all human and animal instincts—his self-survival—we cannot escape from the conviction that this man is moved by some alien power stronger than his own will.

Now the will is to the mind what a commander is to his vessel—its guiding and promoting power. And just as a ship for its destination depends on the knowledge and sagacity of its captain, so an individual, for the safety of his career, depends on the firmness and integrity of his immortal will.

Of all the habits that murder mankind there is perhaps none less fitfully criticized, and more dangerous to ethical standards, than plain drunkenness. While an addict to morphine, opium, heroin, or some other narcotic poison, by the very degeneracy of his physical condition, becomes in himself a forbidding example of the error of his indulgence—the whiskey drunkard can dress up his vice into an appearance of respectability and social colorfulness, quite interesting and attractive to our present age of romance and adventure.

For in alcohol we have a power which can remove from the mind its sense of personal responsibility that keeps the functions of moral life in order and balance, so the removal or weakening of this responsibility removes that sense of caution and self-restraint without which the individual becomes as useless and unreliable as a machine that has lost its control of brake and steering gear.

The sense of responsibility constitutes a definite and distinct department in the human mind—a department which holds all the virtues and genes of civilization: honour, self-respect, justice, truthfulness, generosity, fidelity, chastity, friendship. And as alcohol has the power to short circuit these moral conductors its influence may bereave the individual of all ethical and moral control.

DEPLORABLE CONDITION

In this fact lies the deplorable condition of the drunken man. His reason, having lost its moral gear, may move the man to commit acts of brutality and senselessness which may lead to incalculable misfortunes both to himself and to others. From every psychopathic and psychological point of view the man who is drunk is as irresponsible for his acts and, at the same time, as dangerous to his community, as the madman who has escaped from an insane asylum.

It is the realization of what drunkenness really means—its dangers both to the individual himself and to the commonwealth of which he forms a part—that gives to the prohibition movement the character of a colossal self-defence involving the "to be or not to be" of our civilization the struggle of a nation against a monster polypus that sends its deadly tentacles into the very heart life of home and society, demoralizing and devastating at every point of its withering contract.

In dealing with drunkenness no middle course is possible. Every departure in life or industry, to be progressive and safe must be under the control of fixed laws. No loose sermons or jerky levers can be trusted. The law of progress is expressed in the simple term: No substitution for a lesser good for a greater good.

Now from every standpoint of science—physiologically, psychologically and sociologically—alcohol is not only unnecessary to life and progress, but absolutely against it. Outside the field of medicine, which deals with life only on a diseased and exceptional basis, alcohol acts as a dangerous irritant on the body, whipping its functions into an abnormal and unequal activity. In other words, alcohol does to the body what a haphazard distribution of power would do to an engine: it forces the wheels and levers out of relation to each other. And this is exactly what happens to the human machine under the influence of alcohol.

Even more disastrous than its effects on the human body, is the effect of alcohol on the human mind. A return to bonded liquor and licensed distributors would turn half of the nation into drunkards, and fill the high ways with human wreckage. Any compromise with inferior standards of life, means a reversion of evolutionary levers, and a crushing out of life by forcing it backwards.—Boston Ideas.

LONDON, Feb. 18th. In the House of Commons today, Mr. W. G. A. Oramby Gore, replying to Colonel Josiah Wedgwood (Labour), outlined the arrangements made for the children of Indian laborers in Malaya and Ceylon for English or Vernacular education. He was satisfied that the conditions for the education of these children in Ceylon were equal to those in Malaya, and the development of education in English in Ceylon was up to the standard recently set by Malaya. "As a matter of fact," continued the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, "there is a great similarity between English education in Ceylon and Malaya. Both have the same virtues and the same weaknesses."

"It is a very broad question. Undoubtedly there is room for great improvement in the quality of some English school in both territories."

—Times of Ceylon.

THE MAILS.

(G P O Colombo.)

RECEIPTS.

London Mails per the O L "Orford" are due on Saturday, February 23; per the P & O "Moldavia" on Saturday, March 2; and per O. L. "Oronsay" on Saturday, March 9.

Straits & China Mails per the R. L. "Patria" and the P & O "Kidderpore" are due today (Thursday); per the M. M. "Sphinx" on Tuesday, February 26; and per the P & O "Kashgar" on Wednesday, February 27.

DESPATCHES.

London Mails per the P & O "Kashgar" will close on Thursday, February 28.

Straits & China Mails per the S. M. N. "Pieter Cza Hofst" will close on Saturday, February 23; per the M. M. "Porihos" on Monday, February 25 and per the R. L. "Indrapoera" on Saturday March 2.

Special Show

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—Ridgeway Hall, Esplanade.—

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M. THAMOTHARAMPILLAI,

Proprietor.

Mis. 1391.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6718.

In the matter of the estate of the late Rasaldharmiah Rajaretnam daughter of Ratuasabathikurukkal of Sivayambal deceased.

- 1. Markandeykurukkal Vaitianthakurukkal and wife Sivayansavathi alias Sivayansambal of Pattoor Va. Petitioners.

- 1. Ratnasabathikurukkal Gnanasam of Point Pedro and
- 2. A. Nagenthakurukkal of Point Pedro Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner praying that the above-named Respondent be appointed Guardian-Ad-Litem over the minor 1st Respondent and for grant of Letters of Administration over the estate of the deceased coming on for disposal before J. C. W. Reek Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on March 16, 1928, in the presence of Messrs. Sreeragasam & Kattiesu, Executors, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the 1st Petitioner dated February 24, 1928, having been read.

It is ordered that the above-named Respondent be appointed Guardian-Ad-Litem over the minor 1st Respondent for the purpose of representing him in this action and that Letters of Administration be granted to the 2nd Petitioner and she is one of the heirs of the deceased and she is issued to her unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before May 3, 1929, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

J. C. W. Reek, District Judge.

March 27, 1928.

Extended for 15th January, 1929.

James Joseph, Addl. District Judge.

Further extended for 26th February, 1929.

K. Kanyasambath, Acting Additional District Judge.

Q. 1690.

The following is the Editorial in the January Number of the "Tropical Agriculturist":—

In this number of the Tropical Agriculturist is reprinted an article on the manuring of paddy in Lower Burma which is of particular interest in that it points the way to the possible use of artificial fertilisers. Profits have been made not only by the discovery of a particularly suitable manure but by the increase of paddy prices and the fall in the price of fertilisers since the war. The fertilisers which proved successful were two forms of the comparatively lately introduced ammonium phosphate, ammonium, the 20-20 grade and the 18-48 grade. These figures show the respective percentages of an amount of phosphoric acid. In Burma the 20-20 grade has given better immediate effects and the 18-48 grade better residual effects. It will be seen that the profits from the use of the 20-20 grade are considerable; an increase of 47 per cent. of grain has been obtained from a 50 lb. dressing.

The Department of Agriculture, Ceylon, has not failed to realise the importance of obtaining accurate data on the manuring of paddy in Ceylon and during the present season carefully designed experimental plots have been laid out which will admit of statistical interpretation have been put down at Peradeniya and Galle.

Although the beneficial effects of manuring with green leaves such as keppitiya (Crotalaria) and with steamed bone meal are widely known and the practice of using steamed bone meal is fairly general in the Southern Province at least, previous experiments have not been sufficiently accurate to give precise figures of profit and loss. Such figures will be obtainable from the new series of experiments now in progress. These experiments have been designed to determine the effect of fertilisers such as sulphate of ammonium, super-phosphate and steamed bone meal both alone and in conjunction with green manure. The effect of the 20-20 grade of ammonium phosphate on the market.

The effect of green manuring of paddy and of puddling in the green material at different dates is also being investigated at Peradeniya.

The production of paddy in Ceylon may be increased by the use of pedigreed seed, by a more certain water supply, by more efficient methods of cultivation and by manuring. Manuring would appear to be one of the simplest means of increasing yields but the problem of manuring paddy in Ceylon is complex. The price of paddy, the supply transport charges and unit costs of manure; the effect of manures on lodging; these are matters which must all be considered, and it must be remembered that cultivators under a lease system of tenancy will not be willing to bear the whole or a large proportion of the cost of the manure. But, if manuring is definitely shown to be profitable and if tenants can enter into satisfactory arrangements with their landlords over the supply of manure, a considerable increase in the output of paddy will be assured.

MANURING OF PADDY IN LOWER BURMA.

The following are excerpts from the article mentioned above from the pen of Mr. David Hendry M.C., B.A., Deputy Director of Agriculture, Southern Circle, Burma:—

On the 24 million acres of swamp paddy land in Lower Burma where almost the whole of the Burma rice of commerce is produced, the paddy crop has hitherto been grown practically without manure. There is an impression abroad that this land receives an annual coating of river silt which enriches the soil and maintains its fertility. But, so far as the main paddy is concerned, this is not so, and the land which does receive this coating of silt, with the exception of some parts of the lower Delta, is generally in such a precarious position, liable to severe damage by floods, that paddy growing there is a very speculative business and may be left out of consideration in the present paper entirely. The main part of the paddy area receives no annual coating of silt, but is on such a level that, while by means of small field embankments it can hold enough rain water to mature a crop with a growing period of 150 to 200 days, it is high enough to be comparatively safe from the flood waters of the Burma rivers during the monsoon.

The comparatively high prices ruling for paddy since the war have encouraged the extension of cultivation into the low lying and more precarious tracts which do receive silt, and it is chiefly owing to this fact that so much has been heard in the past few years of the increasing damage done by floods to the paddy crop; for these low lying areas on the margin of cultivation, and more or less recently brought under the plough, have suffered most.

CONCLUSION.

This then is the situation we have arrived at. The cultivation of rice in Burma on the present enormous scale is of comparatively recent origin; from 1865 until the present year the paddy area has grown from 1,700,271 to 11,828,700 acres; and in this time the original virgin fertility of the soil has been largely exhausted. To maintain the standard of fertility at the present level, the indigenous manures are barely sufficient, and to increase it they are quite inadequate. To achieve the desirable end of increasing the production per acre, there are several lines of approach; improved implements and cultivation can do a little, and the use of improved and higher yielding strains of paddy can also do a little; but the total improvement which can be attained by these means is small, and a really significant increase can only be brought about by better feeding of the crop.

Before the war and for some time after, the relation between the price of paddy and the price of the artificial fertilisers which were suitable for this purpose was such that manuring of this sort could not be undertaken at a profit. Since the war the position has changed; the price of paddy has risen and the cost of the old manures has fallen to its previous level. Furthermore, a new class of manure has become available, peculiarly adapted to the needs of Lower Burma soils, and considerably cheaper than the sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate which have been the standard manures in the past. The consequence is that artificial manuring has now become a paying proposition for paddy, as it has been for more valuable crops in the past, and the Agricultural Department is now for the first time in a position to recommend these manures to the cultivators.

Continued up.

TIMELY ACTION ADVISED.

The following is one of the series of Weekly Health Bulletins issued by the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services:—

Fatigue which comes as a natural result of work play or exercise in regular or moderate amounts is not harmful. In fact it is usually beneficial, for it results in a quality of rest and sleep which repays the wear and tear of daily life.

But it is not fatigue of this kind which will be discussed in this health talk, but that complete physical or mental exhaustion which is a danger signal, that, if unheeded, may lead to material injury or a complete breakdown. Only this phase of fatigue which is commonly an early symptom of oncoming disease will be considered in the present discussion.

Fatigue extending over a number of days which rest and sleep does not cure and which cannot be explained by over use of muscle or brain frequently is caused by one form of infection. It may be the first sign of acute illness such as typhoid fever or influenza; on the other hand it may be due to a low grade

CHRONIC INFECTION

which the individual may not even know he has. A pus pocket at the root of some tooth a "gum-bug" appendix, spotty, tonsils or enlarged adenoids can each throw enough poison into the human system to cause that "dread feeling" which patients and medicine manufacturers so fond of talking about. But don't try to dose yourself with such nostrums. At best you will succeed only in a temporary stimulation leaving the body in worse condition than before. The safe and sure way is to find and remove the cause. Consult a competent physician and find out what is the matter with you.

On returning from a vacation the nervous system is relaxed and there is a natural inertia to be overcome before you are fully "on the job". But if you find yourself unable to carry on after one or two days of your usual tasks and develop a headache or a fever, it is high time to see your physician. It is possible that you may have acquired the germs of typhoid fever from impure water or milk or from other sources while you were away from home. Under such conditions the sooner you put yourself under your physician's care, the better it will be for you.

If your work, which for years has seldom annoyed you, begins to look pretty big; if each day brings an increasing dread of the long hours of labour; if quitting time seems far off and the hours drag; and if all this is accompanied by a slight but definite loss of weight, be sure to visit your physician. See also that a very thorough examination is made, particularly of the chest, and find out if this excessive weariness is the early danger signal of a beginning disease of the lungs. Should you be told that you have tuberculosis do not worry too much about it, but congratulate yourself that the condition was discovered at a time when it is usually curable. If you are fagged out at the end of the day, if you are

DROWSY AT YOUR WORK

and stay so several days, you owe it to yourself to see your doctor. Otherwise, if you are a foreman, every man under you will know that there is something the matter with you; if you are a workman, the boss will doubtless debate with himself whether to fire you, or to give you a quiet lecture about your crankiness. The fact is you are sick; it may be perhaps a relighting of an old infection; or it may be only the result of constipation. In any event consult your wise old family doctor, and he will determine whether you need castor oil or something else.

If you are a parent, you may some day note that your small child is not as active as usual; that the usual play hours are not as eagerly sought; that there is an increasing disposition to sit on mother's lap; or perhaps there is an unusual irritability and a like appetite. An abnormally quiet child is frequently a sick child. When symptoms such as have been described are noted put the youngster to bed. If the temperature is above 100 degrees, it is time to call a doctor.

If an expectant mother finds herself tired all day and every day with a fatigue which should not be due to ordinary household duties, she should see her medical adviser promptly. She has too much at stake to neglect a definite warning and this jeopardize two lives. It may be that her kidneys are overtaxed; that her intestines are not functioning properly or perhaps both. Whatever it is, this fatigue deserves speedy and continuous medical supervision in order to avoid disaster. Poisonous products manufactured inside the body at this time give ample warning by the occurrence of fatigue that dangerous results may develop. They should be headed off by early and continuous treatment.

Continued.

with the assurance that under suitable conditions a reasonably good profit will result. It is most decidedly not intended that these manures should displace cattle manure which is still the best of all, but that they should be used to supplement what little supplies of this are available under the rather abnormal system of agriculture which obtains in Lower Burma. Thirty six district trials were carried out with Ammono Phos in the Southern Circle last year, and although the conditions for carrying out experiments in the district are not such as to yield data comparable in accuracy with that obtainable in a fully equipped Experiment Station, the results showed that the response to the manure was sufficient to justify the belief that the Hmawbi experience is likely to be repeated further afield. About one hundred field demonstrations are therefore being put down on cultivators' holdings this year, and, as experience accumulates, this work will be extended.

The question may be asked whether the Burmese cultivator will take to these new manures; I think he will. The process will be a slow one, but there are indications that a beginning will not be difficult to make. Bone meal and rice bran are beginning to be bought for manurial purposes even now, and I know of one village which bought twenty tons of bone meal last year for its paddy land. These last mentioned substances are slow acting and return a very meagre profit, so that when new and more profitable manures are put at his disposal, the cultivator is likely to respond.

Continued up.

CUTTING THE GORMAN KNOT

SEQUEL TO JAFFNA U. D. C. RESOLUTION.

The following are the minutes of the ninety-ninth meeting of the Local Government Board held at the Colombo Kachcheri on Wednesday, February 13, 1929, at 9:30 a. m.

Mr. E. T. Millington, C. C. S., President, presided and there were five other members present. The minutes of the ninety-third meeting having been circulated were confirmed.

The Board resolved to recommend to Government, in terms of a draft order under sections 11 and 26, that the proposed Urban District Council for Kurunegala should consist of nine members and that its administrative area should be divided into six electoral divisions as recommended by the Local Board and approved by the Government Agent, North Western Province.

JAFFNA U. D. C.'S LOAN.

The Board gave further consideration to the application of the Jaffna Council for a loan of Rs. 250,000 for an electric lighting scheme and resolved to call for the necessary documents from the Council and to inquire from the Local Loans and Development Commissioners whether they can grant the loan and, if so, on what terms.

Considered an application from the Negombo Council to purchase by private treaty for Rs. 5,500 an acre of land at Udayapattana belonging to Mr. H. K. de Zylva, for the purpose of striking wells. The Board deferred consideration of the matter pending a report on the analysis of the water and its chemical and bacteriological examination.

Considered the request of the Panadura Council for the early amendment of the Local Government Ordinance by the inclusion of a section on the lines of section 188D of the Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1910, providing for the enactment of by laws in regard to rain water drainage. It was resolved to recommend to Government the early amendment of the ordinance on the lines proposed.

JAFFNA U. D. C.'S CONSERVANCY RATES.

Considered a draft by-law proposed by the Jaffna Council providing for the re-introduction of conservancy fees in addition to the recently increased property rate, or in lieu of that rate in cases in which premises are exempt under section 172 (b). The Board reviewed the history of the question and the circumstances under which the property rate came to be raised from 5% to 7 1/2%. The Board resolved:—

(a) to withhold its approval from the proposed by-law in view of the undesirability of levying bucket fees in addition to the present consolidated property rate;

(b) to refer the Council to the alternative suggestions put forward in letter No. B. 57 of the 8th December, 1928, from the President, Local Government Board, to the Chairman, Urban District Council, Jaffna.

The Board considered and approved a by-law made by the Kalutara Council in amendment of its existing by-law regarding the time and place of its meetings.

The Board considered and approved a by-law by the Matiale Council regarding the putting up of posters etc.

The Board considered the question of the regulation and control of laundries by the Panadura Council and the report of the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services thereon. It was resolved that it was very desirable that laundries should be brought under control and that a copy of Dr. Bridger's memorandum should be sent to the Chairman for consideration by the Council and report. Resolved further to advise the Council to give consideration to the erection of model laundries.

The Board considered the report of its Secretary made in pursuance of a resolution passed at its meeting held on the 19th December, 1928, authorising him, under section 208 (b), to make a detailed inspection of the Kalutara Kesthouse and to report on its alleged insanitary condition. Resolved to refer the report to the Council with the observation that the Board regrets to learn that the condition of the Kesthouse is far from satisfactory. Resolved further to inquire from the Council what steps it proposes to take to remedy the various defects referred to in the report.

JAFFNA U. D. C.'S ELECTORAL LIMITS.

Read Colonial Secretary's letter No. U. S. 29 of 7th February, 1929, intimating the decision of His Excellency the Governor in Executive Council to vary and re-adjust the Jaffna Council's limits in terms of section 14 (c) by the exclusion of certain areas in electoral divisions Nos. 4 and 7.

The Board approved under section 47 (c) the proposed acquisition by the Ratnapura Council of certain lots of land required in connection with its water supply scheme.

Tabled Circulation Paper No. E. 54/1929 regarding the proposed honorarium to Mr. D. A. Peiris, P. W. D. Inspector, for supervising the building of the Town Hall.

Considered Circulation Paper No. E. 55/1929—application of the Ratnapura Council for the acquisition of land in connection with its electric lighting scheme. The acquisition was approved under section 47 (c).

The alternative suggestion put forward by President Local Government Board to the Chairman, J. U. D. C. is that, we understand, the levying of bucket fees is not desirable and the Council may increase the already increased property tax (from 5 to 7 1/2%) still further.—Ed. H. O.

Continued.

It is even just possible that experience of such manures may have an indirect effect of creating a keener appreciation of the manurial substances already at his hand. The chief difficulties lie in his chronic indolence and the excessive rates of interest he has to pay for any money he may have to borrow for additional expenditure, and one can only hope that the Co-operative Department may be able to do something to lighten this difficulty. Still, there is a sufficient number of land owners with means to make a beginning, and when a co-operative country like China with its traditional methods of maintaining soil fertility doubled its already considerable consumption of sulphate of ammonia between 1925 and 1926, mainly for paddy as I am informed, there appears to be no reason to doubt that some progress can be made here too.

A VICE CHANCELLOR'S VIEWS

Colombo, Feb. 13

Addressing the Calcutta University Convocation for the first time as Vice-Chancellor, Dr. W. S. Ugartur, referred to the question as to whether University was properly preparing the students for the duties of citizenship. He said: "There are on the one hand those who acclaim that students are at present active and efficient leaders in public movements, and on the other, those who hold that it must not even be whispered in their ears that there is such a thing as politics. Both the extremes seem to me frankly impossible; but I am not going to traverse the well-worn theme save to say that preparation for life, includes consideration of political problems, and that such consideration should be permitted unless we are to force the students into one or other of the dogmatisms which produce either conservatism or anarchy. Such preparation however does not mean participation in the sense of premature assumption of the responsibilities of the post preparatory period. The difficulties in regard to this particular problem would not arise if there were more sympathy and co-operation between the University authorities and the general community. But if the University is divided within itself, or if there is a cleavage of opinion between it and the general public, such difficulties are inevitable.

To the graduates the Vice-Chancellor said:— "You will have many difficult problems to face. The problem of unemployment immediately affects some of you as in many other countries. At the present day, you may be inclined to say that your education has been a mistake, and altogether wasted. Do not rush too hastily to this conclusion. Vocational training, however desirable it may be, will not itself solve economic problems; and the more general form of education which is given in the University can never be wasted. Looking forward to the future, do not think too much of the provision of posts for you as of preparation of yourselves for the post. Do not rely on external influence, but make yourselves fit to avail yourselves of the opportunities, taking as the ideal the principle that none should press forward to a position for which he was not fit. Rights and duties belong to all of you; but you can secure your rights if you think first of your duties not merely to your own class; but to your country and humanity as a whole.

BENGAL GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

"One of the gravest problems confronting the educationist and the statesman in India to-day, is the cultural disparity between the sexes which must become more pronounced as the rapid progress in the West towards educational equality affects the East," declared His Excellency Sir Stanley Jackson, Chancellor addressing the Convocation this afternoon. He added: "One of the most hopeful features of recent years has been the eager interest of educated women in the education of their sex. The spread of education among women is a determining factor in the social progress of the country; and this can only be fully achieved through the guidance and service of educated women themselves. Those women who have graduated to-day should regard themselves as the pioneers and initiators and they have an obligation to use their opportunities and qualifications to bring the light of learning within the reach of women in Bengal and help them to help themselves towards those positions in life, which women can well fill to the inestimable advantage of the community."

Addressing the new graduates, His Excellency said: "Knowledge without wisdom is dangerous, as wisdom without knowledge is defenceless. In the present state of this country's affairs, at a time full of hope, but not free from anxieties, there is need for those who have been so trained as to be able to test all things and hold fast to what is good to value tradition without being enslaved by it, to have the courage of their convictions and yet be tolerant towards those of others, and to reconcile the claims of liberty with those of order. A degree well earned is the outward symbol of qualities of mind and character, of a critical and yet receptive habit of thought, and of the union of knowledge and independence with reverence and respect. These are the qualities which it should be the primary function of the university to create."

His Excellency said in conclusion, "No university education and training can assure individual success; but an obligation rests upon us to strive to provide such opportunities for students which, if taken full advantage of, will assure a qualification which cannot be ignored and fit the successful candidate for any branch of service."

—Hindu.

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Mis. 1384.

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