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THE TECHNIQUE OF APPEAL TO THE LORD

Fruitful If On The Basis Of Truth

[SWAMI LOKESWARANANDA in his contribution to the Vedanta Kesari has answered the question 'Why do we pray' and we reproduce it here]

WHY do we pray? What do we gain or expect to gain by prayer? Is there any known benefit that it can confer on man? If so, what?

These questions have become pertinent these days, for a great many people have now not only stopped praying but have also stopped believing that prayer can serve any useful purpose. There are some who even regard with pity and contempt, those who are in the habit of praying, for to them they represent an age which is long past. They see in this practice the last traces of medievalism which still persist but which must go as scientific knowledge spreads.

The chief objection to prayer, according to those who accept the standpoint of material sciences, is that, there being no satisfactory proof that God exists, no intelligent man should waste his valuable time in an undertaking of such dubious value as this. Another objection to prayer is that, even assuming that God exists, it is not likely that prayer will yield any worthwhile advantage. The argument on which this contention seems to be based is that the universe is governed by some inflexible laws which even God, probably their maker, cannot alter. He is just as much bound by them as any mortal. So what purpose would it serve if anyone prayed to Him?

Does God Exist?

Now it is not possible to convince anybody by argument that God exists. Only direct experience can do so. But direct experience of God is a rare good fortune which few in the world can claim to have had. The price of it is a life-long effort, though there is no guarantee even then that it will come. There is, however, the curious fact that to some lucky souls it comes almost unasked, taking them, as it were unawares. But the question is: So long as this experience does not come to you, either as a gift or as a reward for your toils, how can you bring yourself to pray?

The answer to this is that you should go on praying as if you have already had that direct experience. In other words, you should accept God on trust. The proposition is not as illogical as it may sound at first. Even in applied science where the scientist claims to go by severely objective evidence he has to accept a great many things on trust, at least to begin with. This is an inescapable necessity. He first makes an assumption and then proceeds to examine if it is correct or not. At any rate the assumption is his starting-point.

Without an assumption he cannot make a beginning.

Accept Presumption

In religion also you start by accepting that God exists and then go on investigating whether He does or not. You investigate the question thoroughly and in all its aspects till you have satisfied yourself that you know as much about it as possible. In religion the only acceptable test of truth is in personal experience. You must have a direct personal experience of God before you are competent to say that God exists. Till then the question is open to doubt and you reserve final judgment, though your investigation must go on.

The name chosen for this sort of investigation in the field of religion is—prayer. Not a happy name, to be sure, but then there is nothing better, nothing, at any rate, more easily understood. Whatever the word may connote literally, it is used to cover, with a stretch of its meaning of course, any effort that a religious aspirant may make with regard to God. It may be that he does not specifically seek knowledge of God, being modest or being, as the case may be, not too inquisitive. Nevertheless God is such a self-revealing force that the aspirant gets to know about Him in the course of his investigation. In any case there is nothing in the field of religion that is to be taken for granted. The whole field is open to exploration, and everyone has to explore the field himself. The discoveries made by others cannot satisfy your needs. The problem is a personal problem and you have to solve it yourself. If another man eats for you, it does not satisfy your hunger. It is just like that in the matter of religious problems, also.

Mental Equipment

The point that needs to be emphasised is that in the process of prayer nothing is so very important as mental health; mental faculties must be kept intact and used to the full. Even a slight deterioration of these, or slackness in their application, would retard progress. Almost the very qualities that a scientific worker is required to possess in order that he may succeed in his experiments a religious aspirant also must possess. In fact, more, for here the field of the experiment is inside the experimenter himself. He must possess also a sound and strong body, for in his endeavours the body plays as vital a part as the mind. Anyone who has the least knowledge of the lives of saints knows what ordeals,

(Continued on page 4)

Gandhi Seva Sangam

Annual Conference

The Annual Conference of the All-Ceylon Gandhi Seva Sangam, presided over by Mr. K. Rajagopal of Trincomalee was held on the 16th instant at the Vaidheswara Vidyalayam, Vannarponnai.

Thiruvagasamani K. M. Bala subramaniam, Proctor A. Aquilabalam, Messrs. A. Sadacharam and A. M. Selvadurai and Pandit I. Saravanamuttu also spoke at the conference.

Mr. Handy S. Perinpanayakam was re-elected President.

Mr. S. K. Velayuthapillai was elected Secretary.

Muslim Crescent in Malayan Flag

The new flag of the Federation of Malaya has been chosen by the Federal Council

Valigamam North Tamil Teachers' Association

20th Annual Meeting

At the 20th Annual Meeting of the Valigamam North Tamil Teachers' Association held at the Malakam English School Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam, K. C., M. P., delivered an address.

Mr. S. Ampikaipakan and several others also spoke, after eleven resolutions had been passed.

oil at Kuala Lumpur.

The flag has red and white horizontal stripes with a blue quarter, bearing the Muslim crescent.

Singapore, the third of the former Straits Settlements, is now a separate colony.

The Federation of Malaya came into force on February 1, 1948.

CHALLENGE TO CIVILISATION

Western Way Of Life And Totalitarian Theory

WRITING under the heading "The Roots of the West", *The Times* of London says: "Like all good historians since the time of Herodotus, Mr. Hugh Last, Principal of Brazenose College Oxford, showed himself in his presidential address to the Classical Association profoundly interested in the problems of the contemporary world. 'The century in which we live,' he said, 'is the first for over 2,000 years to see a considered challenge flung down to the essence of our civilisation.'

"The scholar, no less than the statesman or soldier, has a duty to contribute to defence. Civilisation under any form of Government, however popular, is always in a sense aristocratic. It must depend for its idens upon what Dr. Arnold Toynbee calls the creative minority. So much Mr. Last acknowledges. But he declines to give an affirmative answer to Professor Restovtzeff's question: 'Is not every civilisation bound to decay as soon as it begins to penetrate the masses?' Totalitarianism the present enemy, attacks by weight of numbers. By

weight of numbers, too, it must be withstood."

The Times adds: "If it is for the many as well as for the few to defend civilisation, or, 'the Western way of life', then they must not only believe in it but be able to give the reason for the faith that is in them. As Mr. Last insisted, it is not enough to revolt against the inhumanity of a totalitarian power which, for reasons of state, imposes a permanent separation between its subjects and the foreign husbands they have married. According to the totalitarian philosophy of complete subordination of the individual to the State such action is morally right. To know that it is wrong it is necessary to have a firm hold on the primary standards of civilisation, by virtue of which this philosophy can be judged to be the doctrine of barbarians.

"These standards depend upon two principles—the intrinsic value of the human personality and the absolute distinction between right and wrong—and these principles can be grasped only if acquired by persuasion, not learned by rote."

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

BOTH SEARCH FOR TRUTH

BOTH Science and Religion are engaged in the search for truth. Their attitudes are fundamentally the same; but the fields of application vary. Truth to reveal itself to man, dictates its own terms of procedure and where such procedure is lacking, either in science or religion, there truth is not revealed. Science is, in a way, Religion as applied to the investigation of truth in finite Nature outside—the Object—and Religion is Science as applied to the realization of the Infinite Spirit, the Reality underlying all existence—the Subject. The divorce of science from religion is the cause of much confusion in our times. Where this harmonious relation has been recognized, as in India, there has never been any real conflict between the two. The spirit of objective enquiry, accompanied by a passion for experiencing the religious truths by a systematized method and seeking corroboration of these experiences in other lives devoted to their realization has been a characteristic of Indian religious Sadhana which is fundamentally a scientific method.

In this connection, Sri C. Rajagopalachari's observations, on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the national Physical Laboratory, are highly illuminating. He said: "There are then people who look on science as an enemy of religion. Nothing can be farther from truth or more unjustified. Science, that is truth, is an enemy to superstition but not to religion. The ancient Rishis of India did not think so. They said, in immortal words:

"*Satyameva jayate nanritam*
Satyana pantha vitato deveyanah,
Yenakramanti rishayahyapta-
kamak,
Yatra tatsatyasya paramam
nidhanam."

"Truth wins ever, and not untruth; with truth is paved the divine road on which walk the Rishis, with desire quenched, to reach the supreme abode."

"This emphatic dependence on truth is the dominating characteristic of the teaching of Indian seers. A superficial knowledge of the laws of nature and the wonders of science, especially when that knowledge is acquired second-hand, without the chastening influence of effort and investigation, may act as a heady wine on some natures.

"But those who struggle to obtain a deeper knowledge of the physical sciences automatically develop, towards the mystery of the universe, an attitude of reverence which is the essence of religion. 'Flower in the crannied wall sang Tennyson, 'I pluck you out of the crannies. I hold you here root and all in my hand, little flower. But if I could understand what you are, root and all, and all in all, I should know what God and man is.'"

'Men of science, on account of their very knowledge of some of

the secrets of nature, contemplate with increased humility and reverence that which must ever remain outside the pale of human analysis.'

Similarly, men of religion, inspired by their realization of the eternal Spirit, have perceived the ecstatic 'Dance of Shiva' in the wonderful grandeur of Nature. Mystics are transported with infinite bliss into Samadhi in close communion with the beauties of Nature.

The Scientific Temper

During the last two centuries the achievements of science for the comfort and convenience of man have been so vast that generally science has come to be associated in the mind of the majority of people with such achievements, inventions and discoveries. They do not realize the mental attitude which has led to these discoveries and the trial of errors and failures behind it. "Those who talked glibly of science," Pandit Nehru once said, "forgot that science was not a matter of testubes mixing certain things, but it provided training to the minds of men and women for functioning effectively in social and other functions. The development of a scientific mind and scientific temper was therefore more important than the actual discovery, because out of this many more discoveries would follow."

It is the cultivation of the true scientific mind and temper behind these discoveries that will help us to build up a character and a personality, and ensure success in every department of life. The scientific temper is characterized by a sincere passion for truth as a whole, suspension of judgment in the absence of evidence, cautiousness of statement, an objective detached view of things free from all personal likes and dislikes, seeking corroboration from others for results arrived at, and a readiness to discard one's own theories—maybe the fruits of one's lifelong labour—if they are proved to be inadequate to explain later facts that have come to light. Theories must be able to suit facts and not vice versa.

It is not that the scientific temper has a limited field for its operation. The scientific attitude can be brought to bear on the study of any knowledge and for the solution of our day-to-day problems. It may be the movement of a bird in the air or the art of making a speech as much as the investigation into the properties of matter. Everything can be done scientifically, and that alone ensures the best results. According to an Indian saying, it is easier for one to give up a son than one's 'mental sons'—one's pet ideas to which one has got attached. It shows that the cultivation of the scientific temper is a difficult process requiring all

(Continued on page 4)

NOTICE

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Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1950

Treasure These Thoughts

"O mother of the world never have I worshipped thy feet nor given abundant wealth in thy name, yet the affection thou hast for me without compare is because a bad son may sometimes be born but a bad mother never."

BOYCOTT OF CEYLON CITIZENSHIP ACT

THE HALL-MARK OF POLITICAL prudence in leaders is their ability to view matters in a practical perspective and to take decisions in the interest of the masses uninfluenced by considerations of their personal prestige. We are glad that the Ceylon Indian Congress at its tenth Annual Sessions had approached this international problem in a statesmanlike manner and had decided to empower a Special Committee of the Congress to review the entire question in the light of practical experience. It is apparent that the Ceylon Indian leaders have realised the futility of waging a non-violent constitutional battle with the Ceylon Government from without and have preferred to use persuasive propaganda from within to secure amendments to the Act. The veteran Indian statesman Sri C. Rajagopalachari has congratulated the Ceylon Indian Congress leaders on their practical-minded proposal.

Here is a chance for the Government of Sri Lanka to appreciate the change of outlook of the Ceylon Indian leaders and to reciprocate their feelings by getting closer to each other in the international plane in order to establish mutual confidence and good-will. No piece of legislation can be considered to be without anomalies. No good Government can ever refuse to revise existing statutes if a genuine request is made with a view to making them as perfect as possible by clearing them of unsatisfactory aspects. The Ceylon Indian Community is a factor to be reckoned with purely on its numerical strength though such statistical estimate is not the correct criterion to determine the rights and privileges of citizens. Human rights have to be defined and determined unequivocally in the context of international politics and the citizenship of Nationals

Hydrogenated Oil Not Harmful!

A doctors' dilemma that got started some years ago has gone on gathering trouble when the harmfulness or harmlessness of what is known as vegetable ghee gave headaches to people in India, what time capitalists invested their lakhs in establishing vegetable oil mills all over the country. A quasi-Congress body once condemned the stuff as definitely harmful not only to present users but also to children in the second or third generation. Chemists from all sides proceeded to analyse the stuff and came to conflicting verdicts. Meanwhile the production and sale of vegetable oils came to a virtual stop. The change of name to hydrogenated oils could not improve matters. Thus the question was left in as fluid a state as the oils. And now Bombay's Minister for Health, Dr. M. D. D. Gilder, assures the public that Vanaspathi ghee or vegetable oil, or hydrogenated oil, is not only not harmful but is in certain respects helpful to humans. To obviate its misuse in adulterating ghee the Bombay government might have it cloured at the source.

The Next Move?

Whatever satisfaction or solace may derive from the signing of a treaty between Indian and Pakistan Prime Ministers over the East Bengal affair time alone will show. Pictures showing the signing ceremony have appeared as well as newspaper comments and opinions. To certain people in the West and papers this coming together of the two contending parts of erstwhile India has caused much trouble and misgiving though it is sought to be veiled. When Britain and America in great generosity offered to place their good offices at the disposal of India and Pakistan they hardly expected the two parties to agree to meet suo moto. Uncharitable but clever observers attributed the U. K. and U. S. offer to a desire to be in the affair, whatever happens, as has been usual in power politics. At every stage they had had their hand in it, so how could they withdraw it now? Nehru and Liaquat Ali have somehow done together a thing which will not be altogether to the pleasure of onlookers. Their "good offices" might well have prevented or put off a meeting between the

should be governed by both ethical and political codes. India and Sri Lanka, two Asiatic Nations bound together by bonds of blood and culture should have no difficulty in jointly determining what provisions should be made in their respective Citizenship Bills to ensure the friendliest of relations between them both in the interest of world harmony. We wish to suggest that a Round Table Conference of leaders of India and Sri Lanka should be convened at the earliest opportunity to consider all outstanding Indo-Lanka problems without giving the red revolutionary a chance to fan the flames of communal hatred.

Indian Letter

(By Lanka)

P. Ms. For once they have shown they could act together. And both of them say they are to meet from time to time!

This India

The Dawn, the Karachi daily, founded in Delhi by the late Mr. Jinnah; recently changed its name to the Herald, to circumvent certain claims of proprietary interest. After three days under the new name the paper had to revert to the original Dawn as a result of public demonstration against it. Angry crowds had burnt copies of the Herald or torn them to shreds. What's in a name? Read on.

Pakistan had recently decided to refer to India as Bharat, and Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan and Pak Radio actually used the name Bharat in references. The idea was that after partition India was no more, and that Bharat was just a communally divided portion. However the pretence was dropped when only a few days ago Pak Radio reverted to the name India. What's not in a name? Read on further.

Punjab Province having been divided in partition it became East and West Punjab for India and Pakistan respectively. For administrative convenience India chose to name E. Punjab as the Punjab. Back came the report from Pakistan that W. Punjab would also be called the Punjab. And thus what's in a name, again?

Blundering Through

By trial and error the Indian Railway authorities have after fifteen months of camouflage and beating about the bush come back to the old classification of railway carriages. The trial is stated to have cost the Treasury over two crores of rupees. From First, Second, Inter and Third they went to upper and ordinary, and then to I, II, III, and now back again, after so much public hue and cry and inconvenience. A false sense of prestige would not allow of correction of error in a straight forward manner, so further errors were committed under pretext of investigation, what time, wiping out old numbers, repainting new, and the reverse process added to the heavy cost of loss of revenue arising from change of fares. This was a most damaging commentary on the efficiency of those who have risen to power on the crest of Independence. This month another trial and error process will be set afoot when Indian post offices will close completely on Sundays and holidays in new-found enthusiasm for rest for postal workers. Result will be known in good time.

Five Years President of U. S. A. Truman's Achievements

THE Daily Telegraph of London, writing of President Truman's five years in the White House, says: "It is in the field of international affairs that American policy has undergone the most dramatic development during Mr. Truman's five years."

"He it was who took the decision, so large in its implications, to assume military and financial responsibilities in Greece and Turkey which had come to be beyond this country's capacity. If he had hesitated then, the whole structure of Western European resistance to Russian pressure might have crumbled. Congress at the time was far from sympathetically disposed towards him but none the less endorsed his action, thereby reversing the traditional refusal to undertake specific commitments outside the Western Hemisphere."

"The next stage was the Marshall Plan, behind which the President threw the whole weight of his authority and administration. Through its operation the economy of Western Europe has been wonderfully revived and the Atlantic Pact, with all its ancillary agreements, has been made possible. Even now, despite Communist efforts to prevent it, American arms are being landed in Italian and French ports and the free world is slowly but surely gathering the material, economic and moral strength to defend itself."

The Telegraph adds: "In the Far East, it is true the policy of Mr. Truman's administration has been as vacillating and ineffectual as in Western Europe it has been steady and effective. There the Kremlin's gains have been vast indeed, and present possibilities for further pressure on Indo-China, Malaya, Burma and, perhaps, India. It may be doubted, however, short of actual American armed intervention in China, the victory of Mao Tse-tung could in the long run have been prevented. In any case, as Mr. Acheson has so lucidly pointed out, the cold war must be fought and won on a world-wide strategy."

Force on the side of Freedom

Saying that Mr. Truman's contribution has been immeasurable, the Daily Telegraph continues: "As the chief executive and mouthpiece of the American people his influence has always been on the side of freedom; the enslaved could derive encouragement and hope from his words and deeds and those who had reason to fear enslavement were strengthened in their resolution. There can be no possible doubt that without American aid and leadership the shadow of Communist terrorism would have fallen much further than it has, and that Mr. Truman's presence in the White House provides the assurance that they will continue to be forthcoming to draw together all those who care to be free into ever closer association."

The Telegraph also says: "It is not without significance that the first consignment of American arms to France was unloaded yesterday by local dockers at Cherbourg not only without hitch but with positive enthusiasm. The collapse of the Communist attempt to prevent the unloading was complete, and though the

dockers were not ungrateful enough to refuse acceptance of the pamphlets handed to them by a lady Communist deputy, they did not refrain from rudeness to the pamphlets themselves.

"Did some memory stir in their hearts of M. Reynaud's appeal for American arms in France's darkest hour in 1940 when there were no arms to send? Did they recognise in the Communist of today the counterpart of the crawlers of that fearful time? Did they remember that Cherbourg was the first big ship to be flaked off Hitler's fortress of Europe by an American army? At least we may be sure these men are determined that it shall not be said of them as the Song of Roland says of Charlemagne's belated rush to save the 12 Paladins of what good was that? They had delayed too long."

Silver Jubilee Of Oriental Studies Society

The untiring efforts of Mr. A. Saravanamuttu Dt. Inspector of Schools, Jaffna to re-organise the Jaffna Oriental Studies Society took the form of the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Society on the 11th and 12th April.

In the unavoidable absence of the Premier, his son Mr. Dudley Senanayake, Minister of Agriculture & Lands laid the foundation stone of the Research Institute of the Sangam at Tinnevely adjoining Parameshwara College.

The proceedings began with the presidential address of Mr. S. Natesan, B. A., B. L. Mr. Dudley Senanayake in the course of his speech declared that both Sinhalese and Tamil should grow side by side as the national languages of the Island.

In the evening sessions Mr. K. S. Arunachandry delivered a learned address on "சமீப இலங்கையின் அரசியல்" (Srimaty Sathasivam Amirtham spoke on "செந்திரர் புகைமலை").

Mudaliyar Samarapuri opened the second day's proceedings with an instructive lecture on "குந்திய பரணை" Pandit Periyathampillai and Pandit S. Kanathampillai also delivered addresses. A dramatic recital of Silaspathikaram was appreciated by the audience. At the end of the proceedings Mr. Saravanamuttu (the Secretary) proposed a vote of thanks.

A Silver Jubilee Souvenir was beautifully got up and released for sale.

Supreme Court Sessions, Northern Circuit.

Attempt to Murder Wife

6 Yrs' Jail for husband

In the case in which one Veeragathiyar Chelliah of Karaveddy West was charged with having attempted to commit the murder of his wife Sellammah, the jury unanimously brought in a verdict of guilty of the lesser offence of attempt to commit culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

His Lordship sentenced the accused to 6 years rigorous imprisonment.

Advocate M. Balasundaram instructed by Proctor R. C. Subramaniam appeared for the accused.

Acquittal in Murder Charge

Vaity Sebamalai of Mannar who was charged with having committed murder by causing the death of Sebastian Augustine by stabbing him with a knife was acquitted after trial before Justice Mr. M. F. S. Palle at the Supreme Court Sessions in Jaffna, the Jury arriving at a unanimous verdict of 'not guilty'.

Advocate M. Balasundaram defended the accused instructed by Proctor P. D. S. Ponrajah of Mannar.

Three Million Increase

India's population, as estimated on March 1, 1950 by the Census Commissioner is 347.34 million the annual increase being 3.19 million.

The estimates which have been worked out under the Constitution (Determination of Population) Order, 1950 of the President have been computed in following ways: Firstly, after taking into account the population of a State as ascertained at the census of 1941 and such vital statistics as are available to the Census Commissioner, regarding deaths and births since the last census; secondly on the basis of the population figures of a State as ascertained at the last five decennial censuses, commencing from 1901, in both instances due allowance being given for the movement of refugees.

After arriving at figures in these two ways, the Census Commissioner determined the population by taking the average of the two estimates in every State.

The Census Commissioner claims at least 95 per cent accuracy for his estimates in respect of all States, except Assam. In certain provinces like Madras and Madhya Pradesh, it is stated that the actual variation will not exceed half per cent when the actual census is taken in February-March 1951.

In these computations due adjustment was made with regard to 1921 census figures, which were abnormally low owing to an unprecedented outbreak of influenza all over the country in that year, when several thousands of deaths occurred.

The estimates arrived at for each State have been compared with the figures estimated on the basis of completed electoral rolls in twelve States—Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, Orissa, Saurashtra, Mysore and Madhya Bharat. Since the adult population of voters bears a definite proportion to the total population, the estimates of the Census Commissioner were nearly accurate.

The Census Commissioner has determined the population of the States as follows. Assam 8.51 million, Bihar 39.42, Bombay 32.68, Madhya Pradesh 20.92, Madras 54.29, Orissa 14.41, Punjab 12.61, Uttar Pradesh 61.62, West Bengal 24.32, Hyderabad 17.69, Jammu and Kashmir 4.37, Madhya Bharat 7.87, Mysore 8.06, Patiala and East Punjab States Union 3.32, Rajasthan 14.69, Saurashtra 3.96, Travancore and Cochin 8.58, Ajmer 0.73, Bhopal 0.85, Bilaspur 0.13, Coorg 0.17, Delhi 1.51, Himachal Pradesh 1.08, Cutch 0.55, Manipur 0.54, Tripura 0.58, Vindhya Pradesh 3.88.

M. P. Tours his Electorate on Foot First Hand Study Of Constituency

Mr. V. Kumaraswamy M. P. Chavakachcheri has just now completed a week's tour of his constituency which is about 950 square miles in extent.

Mr. Kumaraswamy commenced his tour from Poonakari 16 miles away from Chavakachcheri town through dense jungles and foot paths and reached Ponnavaivi Veravil and Valaipaddu dozens of miles away.

Valaipadu is 8 miles from Iranaithivoo which is about 45 miles from Jaffna by sea. The Catholic families of a few dozens lead a life similar to that of the inhabitants of Iranaithivoo.

At Veravil there is a Dispensary about 50 years old and is to be provided with a Maternity Hall soon, yet there is not a single well.

Kumulamunai, Pallavarayan-kaddu, Thenayankulam, Kunch-chukulam, Puthukkaddumurippu, Periyakonamalai, Paththampalam, Elaniveddusolai, Edduk-kulam, Alamkulam, Uilankulam and Kachchikuda are few of the places which the M. P. patiently toured.

Pallavarayan-kaddu and Thenayankulam and a few others were named after Indian Kings who were much impressed with the fertility of the soil and inhabited the area with their own descendants.

The residents of Vanny areas know the value of self-help and clear a small fraction of the lands themselves. If the Government could improve a few of the important tanks they could contribute much to the resources of the country.

Puthukulam and Kunchchukulam are being repaired. The entire Vanny area are studded with a series of tanks which suggest that once they were all flourishing villages with smiling paddy fields.

By touring these areas one could easily get the impression that if the lands were developed the Food Production would be much improved.

Ceylon Citizenship Act

Withdrawal Of Boycott

Rajaji's Views

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari commenting on the decision of the Ceylon Indian Congress, empowering its Working Committee to withdraw its boycott of the Ceylon Citizenship Act, said "The Ceylon Indian Congress has done well in empowering its Working Committee to withdraw its boycott of the Ceylon Citizenship Act and to open negotiations for removing the defects and anomalies in the existing law."

"I have no doubt, it is possible to bring about a permanent settlement of the problem, so that the Indians of Ceylon may be settled in contented democratic life along with other citizens. The Sinhalese members of Parliament should seize the occasion and tackle the problem with courage, sympathy and imagination."

"There is no more valuable asset for independent nations than good understanding and friendship among neighbouring peoples. And for marching into the hearts of neighbouring peoples, there is no better bridge head than the relevant permanently-settled minority in each State."

"We have spent enough time", Mr. Rajagopalachari said, "looking upon religious and racial minorities as so many nuisances. It is now time to realise the true purpose they serve in God's world. They form the precious nucleus in each State for the creation and expansion of goodwill abroad and to secure the lasting friendship of nations between whom and these minorities there happens to be spiritual affiliation. Not discrimination, national isolation or apartheid but an enlightened attitude towards minorities will help to create the new world-fellowship to which civilisation so eagerly looks forward."

OBITUARY

The death took place on Saturday the 15th instant at the General Hospital Colombo of Master Sri Skanda Rajah son of the late Mr. S. T. Rajadurai of the Railway Transportation Department. The funeral took place at Anaicottai on Sunday morning the 16th inst.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1147

In the matter of the estate of the late Kanapathippillai Sivasithamparam of Periyavilan

Deceased Thangamuttu widow of Kanapathippillai Sivasithamparam of Periyavilan

1. Karthigesu Vythilingam and

2. Poopathy of Periyavilan wife

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire, District Judge Jaffna on the 7th day of February 1950 in the presence of Mr. C. C. Somasegaram Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner as the lawful widow of the abovenamed deceased, unless the abovenamed respondents appear before this court on the 4th day of May 1950 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 14th day of February 1950. Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai District Judge.

O B 25 & 28)



(By Squint Eye)

Burma is to supply Ceylon with 350,000 tons of No 1 quality Milchard rice at £ 40 a ton. Papers report that Ceylon is the only country getting this rice at this price, and that our Minister in Burma was instrumental in putting this deal through.

The intending purchasers deprived of their clothes would have ducked into the water even if it was the dirty, muddy Irrawaddy.

If among them there were Ambassadors what would they be without "dresses"?

Stealing the clothes "off" the purchasers, suggests they must have been pulled off their persons while they were bathing with clothes on by the shore. Ordinarily we speak of stealing the clothes of persons while they are bathing, the clothes being supposed to be on the shore. That's what Sri Krishna did with the Gopis.

The pressman who writes this kind of brilliant stuff for the Daily News deserves to get a ducking in the lake (house).

Now let's get down to Milchard. The live-wire pressman had also gathered that the suddenness and the volume of the Ceylon contract had taken everyone, by surprise, for where India had asked for 120,000 tons Burma promised only 30,000 to her, and applications from Indonesia, Malaya, and Japan had been rejected.

Hurrah. Fonseka. It must

ALL-CEYLON SAIVA HARIJAN CONFERENCE

Inaugural Meeting in Jaffna

LEGISLATION to ensure the Harijans of the enjoyment of human rights is long over-due. The great example set by the Indian Government is worthy to be emulated by Ceylon," remarked Thiruvivasagamani K. M. Balasubramaniam in the course of his Presidential address at the first All Ceylon Saiva Harijan Conference held on the 15th instant at the Town Hall, Jaffna.

Welcoming the President, Mr. M. Chelliah, the Chairman of the Reception Committee said that legislation or not, the Harijans of Ceylon will not keep off the path of "non-violence" practically demonstrated to the world by the Greatest Reformer of recent times Mahatma Gandhi.

Mr. T. Muttuswami Pillai, Crown Advocate speaking next hoped that the next sessions of the conference would not be

have been the Tooth Relic Exposition that worked.

But should we mention our clever work so loudly? We swear by South East Asia, and the disappointed countries are S. E. A. Any respect for their feelings?

That's how newspapers score scoops!

Baghdad, April 5. A stone tablet, discovered by an Iraqi archaeological mission just outside Baghdad, over 4000 years old tends to prove that Pythagoras was not the originator of the theory, "the square on the hypotenuse of a right angled triangle is equal to the human genetics, for they serve as "mar."

On this stone slab, inscriptions showing a geometrical and algebraical problem are clearly seen. The solving of this problem involves the use of the theorem.

Pythagoras, sure, would not own the authorship of this square on the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle being equal to human genetics etc. The originator here is our friend P. D.

Toddy Rent Sal s-1st July, 1950 to 30th June, 1951

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling toddy by retail in the Toddy Taverns of Mannar District during the period 1st July, 1950 to 30th June, 1951. Tenders should reach the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar, not later than 9-30 A. M. on Friday the 12th May, 1950.

2. The conditions of sale and any other particulars can be obtained on application at the Mannar Kachcheri.

R. L. ARNOLDA Assistant Government Agent, Mannar

The Kachcheri, Mannar, 18th April, 1950. Lods/Emn. (G. 10. 25)

Malayan News

Ceylon Tamils' Assn. New Year Social On Friday

The members of the Ceylon Tamil community and their friends in Singapore had a very enjoyable evening on Friday night when they celebrated their New Year at their Association at Handy Road with a highly entertaining programme of music and speeches.

Dr. P. T. Nathan, the President of the Association, wished those present a happy and prosperous New Year. Mr. M. Saravanamuttu, the Commissioner of Ceylon, was also present at the function. Dr. Nathan said that Mr. Saravanamuttu distinguished himself not only as an eminent journalist and sportsman but also as an eminent citizen of Malaya taking part in all Malayan public affairs. He recalled how Mr. Saravanamuttu had done his most unique service to the people of the settlement of Penang without distinction of race or creed when the Settlement of Penang became the first victim of the Japanese invasion. For this service alone he would be remembered for ever by all Malaysians.

Dr. Nathan's speech was followed by a talk in Tamil by Mr. C. Somasundaram who spoke on "My Dream". He said that the Ceylonese in Malaya have even at present accredited themselves well in Public Service but only a few had taken up to business he urged more and more of his country men should take up to commerce which would take them a great way.

Misses Kasamalar Sinnaduurai and Vijayalakshmi Subramaniam rendered excellent vocal music while Mrs. L. Nadarajah played on the "Veena". Mr. L. Vincent and Company rendered a few Hindustani songs and stayed a mimic show.

The musical item were followed up by light refreshments, and the much awaited reply from the Ceylon Commissioner, Mr. Saravanamuttu who addressed at some length on several important aspects which concerned the Ceylonese in Malaya.

Mr. Saravanamuttu said, among other things, that he was greatly delighted to be present at this important New Year function. The Tamil New Year day was also the new year day for the Sinhalese and some other people of the world including the ancient Egyptians. On this day the sun enters the first zodiac of Aries or Ram and traverses the twelve zodiacal signs during the ensuing twelve months. Therefore he explained, this New Year (occurring in the middle of April every year) has a unique significance to all people living in this solar system.

He praised the very high standard of music he heard there and said that through the language of music and art unity could be achieved among his people. In

this connection he emphasised the importance of the existence, side by side, of the Ceylon Tamils' Association, the Sinhalese Association and the Ceylonese Association as all of them had different functions to perform especially in the sphere of literature, music and art for the good of the whole community.

He also endorsed the talk given by Mr. Mr. Somasundaram by saying that if at all the Ceylonese wanted to be heard adequately on all Malayan affairs they make themselves strong in the business and commerce of Malaya.

He thanked Dr. Nathan and other members of the Association for their cordial welcome to him. Dr. Nathan, in his concluding remarks, thanked the organisers and the various contributors to the programme of the night and appealed to the members of his community to look after the wellbeing of their association and their temple at Ceylon Road which institutions were handed to them by their predecessors as a sort of trust for their future generations in this city. The temple was affected by the Japanese bombing in 1942 and some more renovation work has to be carried on with their help to bring it to pre-war position. He also announced the formation of a ladies section in the association in due course and appealed to all ladies present to take part in the activities of the section to impart their inherent but hidden and unexplored talents in music and art to others in their community who need them most.

Karainagar Hindu College Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Date: 29th to 31st May 1950. A Committee of 33 gentlemen has been appointed which includes the following: President: Mr. A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate, Jaffna. Vice Presidents: Mr. A. S. Kandiah, V. C. Chairman, Karainagar and Mr. V. Arunasalam Jewel Merchant, Jaffna. Joint Secretaries: Mr. V. Kandappu and Mr. M. Arumugam, Karainagar. General Treasurer: Mr. M. Veluppillai Pensioner, Karainagar. Regional Treasurers for Jaffna: Mr. K. A. Kanagasabai, "Yappan", Jaffna and Mr. A. Veluppillai, Wine Merchant, Jaffna.

It has been decided to raise a diamond jubilee fund of Rs. 100,000/- in aid of the College. All old boys and well wishers are kindly requested to contribute liberally towards the fund. Further information can be had from the undersigned. Suggestions are welcome.

V. Kandappu Sgd. M. Arumugam (M. 15. 21 & 25).

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Messrs. Hoare & Co. (Engineers) Ltd, Colombo, have pleasure in announcing that their engineering representative, Mr. K. A. Sanders, will be available in the Jaffna Rest House from 12 to 1 p. m. and 5 to 6 p. m. on Mondays for the purpose of dealing with trade enquiries and giving advice on engineering problems. All assistance will be gladly given FREE AND WITHOUT OBLIGATION.

The Technique Of Appeal To The Lord

(Continued from page 1)

physical and mental, they had to pass through before they reached the final goal. Only the strongest body and the keenest mind could have withstood them.

It is well-known that, just like any experimental science, religion also has its own rules, its own technique, which those who want to pursue it seriously, must observe. These rules are very exacting and even a slight deviation has a vitiating effect. Further, like science, religion also guarantees a large measure of success provided the rules are strictly followed. The difference, however, is that even if you do not follow the rules correctly, due to ignorance, or due, say, to laziness, your effort is not altogether wasted. Prayer, no matter how ill-performed, is never in vain. But if the rules are observed, the result is so much greater.

Core of Truth

A remarkable thing is that these rules are very much the same in different countries and different ages. Mystics all over the world, irrespective of the denomination or the age to which they belonged have prayed in the same manner, sometimes even in the same words. And as might be expected, they have had the same experience, too. They may have described this experience differently, but it is obvious enough that it is the same. One definition of truth is that it is valid in all countries and in all times. If the experience did not have a core of truth, it could not have been the same everywhere.

Advocates of religion do not believe in academic discussions. They say it involves making statements about religion which must inevitably be vague and inadequate. Religion is essentially a matter of experience. Only by experience can any idea be had of what it means and what it stands for. Words, rather than helping to understand it, may even confuse. That is why they stress the need for practice, for only by practice can the truths of religion be experienced.

Benefits of Prayer

But what are the advantages of prayer? Again, only experience can provide the answer to this. 'The proof of the pudding is in the eating.' Unless you pray—and with sincerity, devotion and longing, that is to say, in the manner prescribed by teachers, you are not likely to understand what advantages prayer has to offer. The fact that to this day a large number of people are found in the habit of praying is proof that prayer undoubtedly yields a good return. It is well-known that religious aspirants have often to undergo incredible hardship. If they can still go on, it clearly implies that they find something in prayer which sustains them and gives them hope of ultimate success. Saints of all ages testify that no prayer is altogether wasted. Provided the necessary conditions are fulfilled, every prayer is answered.

But it must be understood that there are different ways in which a prayer can be answered. There are instances showing that even prayers for material gifts may be answered. Miracles of that kind have happened all over the world. But it is a wrong way of judging the benefit of prayer to insist upon a miracle of this kind. The object of prayer is not mere-

ly to solve the problems of physical existence, though, indirectly, it does help to solve them. There are far more difficult problems inside oneself which have to be solved and to solve which prayer is necessary. Until these problems are solved, one is not a complete being, not even a normal being. Everyone is only too well aware of the tangles within himself and how they warp his personality, making him utterly miserable. Prayer, being an exercise in self-understanding, helps to remove these tangles; and the best miracle that can happen is the removal of these tangles.

Corrective Effect

Prayer has truly a corrective effect on man. Passions, which eat into a man's soul eventually overpowering his reason and judgment, can be conquered only by prayer. And in being so conquered they turn into a great benign force. This is why saints are found to possess incredible energy and vitality which they devote to the service of humanity. An illustrious example of this was Mahatma Gandhi.

It is not that prayer brings to a man that which is not already in him. It rather sets free in him forces which ordinarily remain inactive, but which, if properly organised co-ordinated and disciplined, can prove of immense value. Moral courage, devotion to duty in the face of utmost difficulties, a keen sense of right and wrong, love of his fellow-beings, cheerfulness—all these which usually adorn the character of a saint, do not come from without, but from within. Like the fragrance of a flower they are an integral part of his personality. They come not at the end of a special search, but naturally, almost inevitably, for prayer has so transformed his personality that he cannot help being what he is—kind, good, selfless, strong and bold. He is like that, again not as a matter of policy, nor from a narrow appeal of party or country, but because it is his nature. He is like that unconditionally, also unreservedly.

Purging Dress

There is much that is dross in a man and this needs purging. Selfishness, egotism and jealousy are what may be called the dross in a man. They come from ignorance—ignorance of the basic purpose of life. Through prayer this ignorance is dispelled, as is seen in the lives of saints. Truth reveals itself to the man whose ignorance has thus been removed. It is only saints who can possess true knowledge and understanding. It is remarkable how when intricate questions are simple and clear to saints, scholars utterly fail to grasp them. This is because saints apprehend a truth through something higher than intellect—superconsciousness—which develops when the limitation of the ego have been overcome through prayer) while scholars try to understand it through the weak medium of intellect.

The peace, joy and blessedness which saints possess and radiate are well-known. Their love and good-will towards others transcend all geographical and racial boundaries. When afflicted, humanity turns to saints for comfort and guidance rather than to scholars or political leaders.

In these days when, thanks to industrial civilisation, everybody

Science and Religion

(Continued from page 1)

our energy and attention for it means the building up of a character. It is not enough to carry a scientific frame of mind to a laboratory or some special field of work; the scientific attitude must penetrate our lives through and through. It is interesting to note what the great Shankaracharya has said in his commentary on the Gita: 'To one whose mind is subject to the passions of desire and aversion, there cannot indeed arise a knowledge of things as they are even of the external world; and it needs no saying that to a man whose intellect is overpowered by passion there cannot arise a knowledge of the Innermost Self inasmuch as there are many obstacles in its way.' (Gita, VII, 27)

A well-disciplined and trained mind is a sine qua non of success in any walk of life. Those who are anxious to foster the scientific temper cannot but condemn the prostitution of scientific knowledge for purposes of political aggrandizement. How often is the pure passion for truth sullied by mercenary and commercial interests?

(From the Prabuddha Bharata)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1168

In the matter of the estate of the late Samuel Chinniah Jebaratnam of Adiapatham Road Nallur, Jaffna. Deceased.
Joseph Velupillai Chinniah of Adiapatham Road Nallur Jaffna. Petitioner.

1. Lonita Chellammah Chinniah of Nallur Jaffna
2. Kanagambigai widow of Jebaratnam of Urumpirai South. Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that he be declared entitled to administer the estate of the abovenamed deceased and letters of administration issued to him, coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 3rd day of April, 1950 in the presence of Mr. S. Kanagaratnam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioner abovenamed be and he is hereby declared entitled to administer the estate of the deceased abovenamed and letters of administration issued to him accordingly, unless the respondents or any others shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on or before the 17th day of May 1950 at 10 a. m.

This 20th day of April, 1950.
Sgd. R. K. SELVADURAI.

Drawn by District Judge, Sgd. S. Kanagaratnam, Proctor for Petitioner.

(O. 9, 25 & 28).

finds his nerves shattered and temper frayed, the healing effects of prayer should prove most welcome. Today pride and conceit which man feels because of his achievements in the domain of science, have blurred his vision; and he is not able even to see his own follies. Only prayer will give him the humility necessary for him to have a true and correct understanding. Never before was man in greater need for the habit of prayer.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1149

Ratnam widow of Kanapathipillai Muttuvolu of Chulipuram. Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Pareporanam daughter of Muttuvolu and
2. Perampalam Vaitilingam both of Chulipuram. The 1st Respondent is a minor appearing by her guardian ad litem the 2nd Respondent.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Kanapathipillai Muttuvolu of Chulipuram. Deceased.

This matter coming on for disposal before T. Muttusampillai Esq., Acting District Judge, Jaffna on the 9th day of February 1950, in the presence of Mr. A. K. Navaratnam, Proctor on the part of the petitioner, and the affidavit of the abovenamed petitioner dated 7th February, 1950, having been read

It is ordered that the 2nd respondent, be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st respondent and that the said petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of administration to the estate of the said intestate as his lawful widow and that he is entitled to have Letters of administration and the same issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 5th day of May, 1950, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner do produce the minor before this court.

This 9th day of February 1950,
Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI, District Judge.

ORDER "NISI" DECLARING WILL PROVED &c.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1150

Chellammah widow of Ponnampalam Muttukumaru of Chulipuram. Petitioner.

Vs.

- 1 Muttukumaru Sathananthan 2 Parameswari daughter of Muttukumaru 3 Puvaneswary daughter of Muttukumaru 4 Muttukumaru Sachchithanathan 5 Muttukumaru Paramathan 6 Rajeswary daughter of Muttukumaru 7 Maheswary daughter of Muttukumaru 8 Muttukumaru Vivekanandhan all of Chulipuram 9 Muttukumaru Nadarajah and 10 Muttukumaru Ratnasabapathy of do. The 2nd to 8th Respondents are minors by their guardian-ad-litem the 9th respondent

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Ponnampalam Muttukumaru of Chulipuram Deceased

This matter coming on for disposal before T. Muttusampillai Esq., Acting District Judge Jaffna on the 9th day of February 1950 in the presence of Mr. A. K. Navaratnam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the abovenamed petitioner dated 7th February 1950 having been read.

It is ordered that the Last Will and testament dated 12th May 1937 and attested by Mr. E. Murugesampillai Notary Public under No. 1260 and filed of record in this case be declared proved.

It is further ordered that the said 9th respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors 2-8 respondents and that the said petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate with the copy of will annexed and that he is entitled to have Letters of administration with the copy of will annexed and the same issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 5th day of May 1950 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner do produce the minors in court on or before the said date.

This 9th day of February 1950
Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI, District Judge.
(O. 7, 21 & 25)

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T. S. Muttulingasamy
Agent

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Chief Editor T. MUTTUSAMPILLAI