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THE EDITOR THE MORNING STAR

NO. 39, FUSSELS LANE, COLOMBO-06. SRI LANKA.

THE MORNING STAR

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Righteousness Exalteth A Nation But Sin is a Reproach to any people.

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CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE COUNCIL, **VELLORE - 2000**

The meeting of the CMC Vellore Association & ate emergency assistance to those in need. The Council was held at the Scudder Auditorium at Bagayam, Vellore Diocese was one of the first organisations to on the 22nd & 23rd June 2000.

& college on the 22nd morning. The business sessions started with grant received from ACT International, Gedevotions each day. The present Office Bearers continue for the neva and the contribution from the Christian next year too. Mr. Thomas Abraham as Chairman, Dr. Joyce Conference of Asia, Hong Kong. Ponniah Director and Dr. Ravi Jacob Korula as Principal and Dr.Suranjan Bhattacharji as Council Secretary.

sentations of sponsorship bodies and council members was held at gency response. The ACTInternational coorthe auditorium lawn on the 22nd evening, followed by a fellowship dinating office is based with the World Coundinner. Various mid term evaluations, reports and mid term assess- cil of Churches (WCC) and the Lutheran ments were taken up, accepted and passed.

VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT BY THE YOUTH OF COLOMBO:

Saturday the 6th May 2000, Saraswathy Hall was the scene of a variety entertainment organized by the Youth Fellowship of the Colombo Church of the C.S.I. This program was conducted in order to raise money for relief and rehabilitation work among the der, tin fish, green gram, bath & washing soap, poor people in Wanni (uncleared area). The program consisted of mat and hurricane lamp. musical items, dances and a social drama. The parts played by Bro. A. Soundararai (House Hunter in Colombo), Master

(Landlord), Miss. K. Chowmika (daughter of the House Hunter) and Miss. Koshali(wife) were very much appreciated. The Youth lief work in the Jaffna Peninsula. of Colombo was able to raiseabout Rs.250,000/= by this variety entertainment, to help the poor and the needyin the Wanni area.

MATHEWS GEORGE CHUNAKARA MOVES TO WCC

Rev. Dr. Mathews George Chunakara who had been serving the ChristianConferenceof Asia for the past 7 years handling pray for God's guidance in our service to the two programme desks will be moving to World Council of Churches needy and down trodden. as Asia Secretary of the W C C. He will assume duties in Geneva in July 2000.

His address is "Rev. Dr. Mathews George Chunakara

Asia Secretary World Council of Churches PO Box 2100 150 route de Ferney, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland E-mail: mgc@wcc-coe.org

Tele: 41-22-791 6213 (Direct) / 791 61 11 Fax: 41 22-788 0067 (Direct) / 791 03 61

DIOCESAN **RELIEF WORK:**

The Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India is involved in rendering immedivisit and render relief assistance to the most vulnerable victims of disaster. It was possi-The Council Members were taken on a tour of the hospitals ble to render this service through the initial

ACT International is a worldwide network of churches and related agencies meet-A meeting of the sponsored students with the church repre- ing human need through coordinated emer-World Federation (LWF) in Switzerland.

> The Diocese was able to obtain permission to render relief assistance at Wanni. The work at Wanni is a real challenge. A large number of families are living in very poor conditions. Food & non food relief items were procured in the local market for distribution. The items included in the relief parcel were; rice, flour, dhal, sugar, tea leaves, milk pow-

> The ACT International is very supportive towards our relief work and they have contributed a further sum towards re-

Mr. N.S.P. Thampoe project coordinator of the diocese had the opportunity to visit Geneva and meet with the ACT International officials. The Diocese is grateful to the ACT International for their commitment and support in helping the people in need. We

Millennium Vishranthi Day:

The Vishranthi Nilayam at Infantry Road, Bangalore 560 001 celebrated itsMillennium Day on the 30th of March 2000. The Chief Guest was Mr. S.T. Sangliana, I.P.S. Additional Director General of Police, Railways. Thanks to friends and all who contributed the amount collected totalling to

Rs.63,741/=.

New Child Care Officer:

Mr. V. Mithira Ranjan has been appointed Child Care Officer, Jaffna by the Sri Lanka Churches Council for Child Care Association as from 15th April 2000. Project Officer, JDCSI:Mr. S. Stephen Raj , B.A.(Hons) has been appointed Project Officer (for KNH) by the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India. He assumed duties on the 1st of May 2000.

Alaveddy V T C:

The Vocational Training Centre at Alaveddy had its Annual Certificate Awarding Ceremony on the 8th July, 2000. 32 students completed six months course in typing, sewing, hair styling and cake icing.

United Theological College, **Bangalore:**

United Theological College said good bye to Rev, Dr. Gnana Robinson. He served as Principal for the past seven years at the United Theological College, Bangalore. He was accorded a farewell on Tuesday the 30th May 2000

Charles Ranson Hall. On the following day at a Worship Service Rev. Gnana Robinson formally handed over the charge of the Institution to Rev. Dr. O.V. Jathanna, the Principal designate.

New address: Rev. Dr. Gnana Robinson Geeva Ratna

Gnana Lane Zion Street

19 G Lutheran Road Nagercoil

L29 001 INDIA

Only One School in Thenmaradchy East:

In Thenmaradchy East only one school, "Kamalasini Vidyalayam" in Vidathal Palai is functioning now. There are four hundred students and thirty three teachers. Among the Post Offices only Mirusuvil Sub Post Office is functioning. Buyers and sellers are found at Kodikamam Market only in the mornings. Quite a number of people are living in Thenmaradchi East which is now under the Army control.

Committee for Relief Work:

A Committee consisting of Mr. C.V. Bavinck, Mr. C. Jeyaratnam, Rev. A.A.Paul, Mr. N.A. Vimalendran and Mrs. S.V. Jebanesan was set up to be in charge of relief and rehabilitation work of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of SouthIndia in the Jaffna Pe-

Professor Alfred Jeyaratnam Wilson (1928 - 2000)

An Appreciation Professor Alfred Jeyaratnam Wilson, Sri Lanka's foremost political scientist and the doyen of Sri Lanka studies in the West, passed away on 31 May, 2000, at his home in Toronto, Canada. He was seventy one, past the Bibilical milestone of three scores and ten. Although he had lived in Canada for the last 28 years, he never really left the "old Ceylon", and was equally at home in England where he did his doctoral and post doctoral studies. An alumnus of the London School of Economics, he obtained a Ph.D. and a D.Sc., emulating the feat of Dr. N.M. Perera, Lanka's first political scientist, socialist and parliamentarian par excellence, whom Wilson personally knew and admired. At various times he held visiting fellowships in a number of British Universities, including the prestigious Simon Research Professor position at Manchester in 1987, an honour earlier bestowed on M.N. Srinivas the renowned Indian Sociologist. Beside the impressive public persona, there was an engaging personal side, warm and gentle, soft-spoken but witty. Professor Wilson was neither overbearing nor patronising, and was a happy blend of the old values of integrity and generosity with the new awareness of gender equality. His wife and constant companion for 48 years, Susili, is now retired after a career of her own as a Librarian. Their two daughters, Malliha and Maithili, and son, Kumanan, excelled in their studies and are now well established in the learned professions of law and medicine in Canada.

Professor Wilson belonged to the golden age of the University of Ceylon when it produced the best and the brightest of its graduates in the social sciences. The alumni of the calibre of (Bishop) Lakshman Wickremasinghe, 1.D.S. Weerawardena, H.A. de S. Gunasekera, Ralph Pieris, S. Arasaratnam, Stanley

Tambiah, Gananath Obeysekera and Wilson himself would have been toweringfaculty giants in any university anywhere in the English speaking world. Another icon from that era is Ian Goonetileke, the erudite custodian of the Peradeniya University Library until 1977. Until the 1960s the Peradeniya Campus was the proud possessor of all of them in one capacity or another. The campus itself was the last bastion of what turned out to be only an anticipation of the Ceylonese nation. Like the rest of the Ceylonese society the university too fell apart, and what began as a trickle of academic exodus soon turned into a hemorrhage as the whole country was bled of its academics and professionals in quality and in quantity. Wilson taught for 20 years at Peradeniya following a short stint as an editorial writer for the Ceylon Daily News. He would later remark that the early experi

ence of writing daily to earn his living served him well in becoming a prolific academic writer. As a teacher, Professor Wilson was loved and respected by his students, Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims, who kept him informed of developments at every level of the Sri Lankan polity. He was a teacher not only to those who sat in his Peradeniya classes, but to the several hundred more students and their teachers in schools across the island, who read his seminal text book, " Introduction to Civics and Government", first publishedin 1954 and later reedited and reprinted several times including translations in the Sinhala and Tamil languages. The "Wilson" name, his good looks and elegant manners often made students who saw him for the first time wonder as towhich of the island's half a dozen nationalities he belonged, even though they knew he was the son-in-law of S.J.V. Chelvanayakam, Q.C., the founder leader of the Tamil Federal Party. They were not alone in being curious, for Prime Minister S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike after giving an interview to Wilson and a fellow Peradeniya colleague in his Horogolla residence, in the 1950s, asked Wilson, then young University Lecturer, "Are you, pray, a Burgher, Ceylon Tamil, Indian Tamil, or Sinhalese? "I am a Ceylon Tamil, Sir", Wilson replied.

I first came to know Professor Wilson in 1972, when I was an Engineering student at Peradeniya. That year, I was one of the organizers for the annual Dean's Day activities at the Peradeniya Engineering Faculty, and we invited Dr. Colvin R. de Silva, then the Minister of Constitutional Affairs and the architect of the First Republic, to deliver the keynote address on the new Republican Constitution, and Prof. Wilson to speak on the "History of Constitutionalism in Sri Lanka" as a prelude to Dr. de Silva's main address. It turned out to be more than a prelude, as Wilson delivered an incisive critique of the new constitution without ever mincing words about its objectionable provisions relation to minorities. When we broke for tea following Dr. Wilson's address before Dr. de Silva began his, Wilson told some of us around, "Colvin is going to clobber me". But "Colvin" did not clobber Wilson or cavil at his critique of the constitution, for Dr de Silva was too seasoned a performer who knew when to pick on and whom. He graciously acknowledged Wilson's expertise and concerns, and later, over lunch, suggested a meeting in Colombo to go over the constitution "with a fine tooth comb". Years later, Professor Wilson told me in Canada that the meeting never materialized owing to interference by political middlemen.

More Facilities at the Synod Secretariat

A long-felt need was fulfilled when the deputy Moderator, The Rt. Rev. B.P. Sugandhar declared open the canteen at the secretariat complex in the August presence of the general secretary Rev. G. Dyvasirvasam and the Hon. Tresurer Mr. Frederick William and other directors and staff on May 2, 2000. All these years the canteen functioned only when the meetings and programs were being held and on other days the visitors, staff and other guests had to go outside to quench their thirst and appease their hunger which was a great inconvenience to them all. The members of the staff heaved a great sigh of relief and profusely thanked the general secretary for his thoughtfulness in getting this long felt need fulfilled. Now there is a full-fledged canteen functioning 24 hours a day every day!



The Deputy Moderator the Rt. Rev. B.P. Sugandhar dedicating the canteen to the glory of God and for the use of the people.

Uduvil Girls College - P.T. Squad



Uduvil Girls CollegeWon the first place in the Jaffna District Physical Training competition held recently. They won the first place in the inter school P.T. competition held in the Divisional and Zonal level too. The picture shows the P.T. squad with the principal of the college Dr. Mr. C.V. Selliah on the left and Mrs. Angeline Kalanithi Mahendrakumar (Vice Principal) on the right (Pic. Jaffna Special Correspondent)

EDITORIAL -

WATCHMAN WHAT OF THE NIGHT

"Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: If ye will inquire,

inquire ye; return, come. Issiah 21: 11-12

The people of Israel were in Babylonian Captivity in the 6th century B.C. They were crying for deliverance. The great prophets of this period namely Issiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel were comforting them. Their message was crisp and simple.

"If we love God, and keep His commandments, God will deliver us from all evils. It is not God, but we who broke the covenant."

Among the prophets, Issiah was most cryptic. He was not overtly optimistic about the future of the nations which were suffering under the yoke of Babylon.

He tells the nations the morning cometh and also the night. Your judgement days are drawing nigh. Turn again to God. Sad that I cannot give you better news. Seek for Him and then come and then come and ask again.

The Tamils of Sri Lanka have undergone much suffering during the past 17 years. The question that is upper most in the mind of every Tamil is "Watchman what of the night? Watchman what of the night? No doubt the morning cometh!

God does not keep a person or a nation in Marah all the time. Marah is followed by Elim and Elim is followed by Marah. Very soon there will be an end to the misery that the Tamil people are experiencing.

But the warning of Issiah is quite clear, what he said was "Morning cometh and also a night". If we wish sunlight all the time we have to change ourselves. Mahatma Gandhi along with freedom movement was also running many social reform movements. The Social fabric had to be reformed and strengthened in order to keep Political Freedom. It is sad that moral and ethical standards among our people have deteriorated during the past 17 years. North-East province was the most vulnerable flash point in the world. People were loosing their lives, their limbs, their loved ones and their belongings. But at the same time there were people who were trying to fish in troubled waters. Houses were robbed when people fled to safer places; ornaments from the dead bodies were mercilessly removed. Can we hope for a lasting solution? At first there has to be a reformation. The ethics of Valluvar, Navalar and Puritans must be taught among the people, with utmost care.

OBITUARY:

We are sorry to record the death of Miss. Jesmy Kirubarajah which took place in the early hours of Friday the 30th June at Chankanai. Jesmy was the youngest child of the late Knight Kirubarajah and Mrs. Kirubarajah. She studied at Jaffna College and then joined the teaching staff of St. John's College in Jaffna. As an external student she passed the B.Com. Examination of the University of Jaffna in 1996. She topped the list of the external candidates. She also passed the 4th Grade in Vocal Music conducted by the N.C.O.M.S.

She was a devout member of the Chankanai Church and contributed

Rs.50,000/= just before her demise. As a student at Jaffna College she took part in all the extra curricular activities and brightened every function with her presence. She leaves behind her mother who is now living at Chankanai, three brothers and two sisters who have migrated to Canada. Jesmy was 30 years old at the time of her death.photograph Miss. Jesmy Kirubairajah



Professor con.....

From Peradeniya Wilson moved to the far away University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, Canada, as the Chair of Political Science. He was already familiar with Canada, having spent the whole of his sabbatical, in 1971, at McGill University in Montreal, using outstanding monographs, Electoral Politics in an Emergent State: The Ceylon General Election of 1970, published by the Cambridge University Press in 1975. Unlike the bustling, bilingual and relatively radical metropolis of Montreal in Quebec in Canada's heartland, Fredericton is a sleepy, conservative town and the capital of New Brunswick,

one of the older Provinces in the country's hinterland. But the University of New Brunswick, as Canada's oldest university, is possessed of tradition and enjoys a certain prestige. Professor Wilson taught at New Brunswick for 23 years until his retirement in 1995. In a Department of diverse specialization, Wilson's teaching covered the politics of Commonwealth countries and of China. During his tenure, he arranged for three of his former Political Science students at Peradeniya, a Sinhalese, a Tamil and a Muslim, to do their M.A. under him in Fredericton. Professor Gail Pool, Chair of Anthroplogy at New Brunswick, wrote to me upon hearing Wilson's death that his old colleagues miss his "kindness, sincerity and intelligence". Living in Fredericton and teaching at the university could not consume the energies of a man with a phenomenal memory, abundant organizational and communication skills and capable of several hours of sustained intellectual work everyday. The upshot was a flurry of publications, totalling a dozen books, symposiums and several dozens of academic articles. Among them are his comprehensive Politics in Sri Lanka (the Sri Lankan companion to Hugh Tinker's. The Union of Burma), published in two editions by Macmillan in 1975 and 1979, and The States of South Asia: Problems of National Integration, co-edited with Dennis Dalton and published in honour of Professor Morris Jones. Wilson sat on the editorial boards of a number of journals, including The Round Table, Asian Survey, The Journal of Commonwealth and Comparative Politics, and The Parliamentarian. All his writings were no more than a mere tip of the iceberg considering his vast knowledge of the politics of different societies and his mastery of the comparative method. He was not just a bookish political scientist but an applied political scientist. He travelled widely to several countries and cities in every continent to attend conferences, present papers and compare notes with fellow political scientists. At various times he was consultant to both the Canadian and US government on South Asia, immigration and foreign aid. It was from the University of New Bruns

wick that Professor Wilson made his foray into Sri Lanka's constitutional politics as an intermediary between the government of President J.R. Jayewardene and the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) led by Mr. A. Amirthalingam. The late Mervyn de Silva called Wilson the "Brahmin from New Brunswick" for his role in the long-distance and shuttle diplomacy between 1978 and 1983. The process came to an abrupt end with the government-orchestrated violence of 1983, and the ill-advised passage of the Sixth Amendment which shut the accredited Tamil leaders out of the political process and sent them packing to India.

We can now say that Professor Wilson's involvement as an intermediary gave Sri Lanka its last chance to resolve its internal problems without outside mediation. In his book, The Break-up of Sri Lanka (1988), Professor Wilson has documented how his and the TULF's efforts were thwarted by the government's lack of political will and persistent failure to act promptly on agreed decisions when time was of the essence. Two more books followed, S.J.V. Chelvanayakam: A Political Biography (1994) and Sri Lankan Tamil Nationalism (2000), completing an authoritative triology on Sri Lanka's national question and Lankan Tamil nationalism. He wrote his last book between illnesses. What

he wrote there may not be the last word on Sri Lanka's national question, but would certainly be a lasting contribution to the broader discussion of the new manifestations and new theories of nationalism, as the phenomenon of nationalism in the age of globalism moves away from the rigid territorial matrix of state and national economy to the nebulous nursery of culture and anthropology. Professor Wilson's writings are his legacy and they will always remind us and future students of his scholarly eminence.

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE co..

The Director and the Principal were authorized to explore avenues (like "Deemed to be a University Status"; "Center of Excellence) to secure a higher institutional status for CMC, that will enable the institution to function with greater academic autonomy, without compromising the objectives of the Association, especially the right of sponsorship of candidates for the various courses.

The meeting of the Council in June, was represented by Mr. Milroy R. Selvarajah of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India.

The Christian Medical College Vellore and Hospital started in 1900, as a one-bed clinic by Dr. Ida Sophia Scudder, as a young American Missionary, celebrates its 100 year anniversary this year. One night as a young girl Ida was asked to help three women in South India, from different families struggling in difficult child birth. Custom prevented them from accepting help from a male doctor, and being without training, she could do nothing. Next morning she was shocked to learn that these three women had died. She believed this was a calling and challenge from God, to help the women and children of India. She went back to America, entered Medical College and was one of the first women graduates of Cornell Medical College USA. Ida then returned to India and opened a one-bed clinic in Vellore in 1900. Two years later in 1902 she built a 40 bed Mary Taber Schell Memorial Hospital, the forerunner of todays well known 1811 bed medical centre; which moved to its present site in 1924. Six years later she started a nursing school in 1909. Her fondest dream, a medical school for women in 1918 which trained licentiates in medicine. In 1942 it became a Medical College and in 1947 men too were admitted. Today CMC offers

94 recognised training programmes in medical, nursing and allied health fields. The CMC now occupies a prominent place among the Medical Institutions in India. CMC is unique in being both a centre which gives attention to the needs of the disadvantaged, taking health care to their doorstep and a leading referral hospital, offering tertiary care using the latest in technology.

A mission outreach programme is planned for the week-end, Nov 17 to 19th, 2000; to focus attention on CMC's partnership with mission hospitals, a weekend of interaction. They would expect as many alumni to participate. Please feel free to contact before end of July 2000 Dr. George Chandy, Convener, Mission Outreach, or Dr. Anand Job, Co-convener Mission Outreach; or Dr. John Muthusami Organising Secretaries, Mission Outreach.

The new 8 storeyed centenary block now under construction would be ready in September and would be formally opened in November 2000.

New Regional Commissioner:

• Mr. T. Vathilingam of Jaffna who served as A.G.A. has been appointed Provincial Commissioner for the North East Province from the 1st of July 2000. Mr. A.C. Sebanayagam who served in this position retired in June 2000.

St. John's re-opens in Jaffna:

St. John's College Jaffna conducted classes at its premises in Chundikuli onMonday 3rd July. However a part of the college is functioning in the after noon at Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai.

அடுத்து முயன்றாலும் ஆகுநா என்றி எடுத்த கருமங்க னாகா — கொடுத்க உருவத்தால் நீண்ட உயர்மரங்க எெல்லாம் பருவத்தா லன்றிப் பழா.

Whatever effort men may put forth, except at the due season no act will fructify; the many branched and tall - grown trees do not yield fruit except in season.

Miss Christine Nirnalini Manoranjit

Miss Christine Nirnalini Manoranjit daughter of Mr. Princly Manoranjit of Manipay and Mrs. Vanaja Manoranjit of Kopay, has been selected as a sponsored candidate of the JD, CSI to the christian medical college at Vellore, Tamil Nadu for the year 2000. She had her entire education at Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya. She is a member of the Colombo Church of the C.S.I.

Rev. A. Jeyakumaran & Mr A. Gnanadasan have returned to the island after attending the executive committee meeting of the synod of the C.S.I. at Chennai, which was held on 17th and 18th July.

Markfed gives Kerosene:

Markfed, a service organisation of Jaffna gave 5 Litres Kerosene Oil for everyRelief Card Holder within the Jaffna Municipal Area.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

A beautiful service of thanksgiving was held at the Ladies' College Chapel, at Flower Road, Colombo 7 to celebrate 45 years of married life of Professor Chandran & Ranee Chinnappah, Ranee is the daughter of Dr. & Dr. (Mrs) A.B.C. Dorai of Mirusuvil, Chavakachcheri. Chandran & Ranee's daughter Renuka married Mr. Amal Clarke, son of former CSI Bishop of Madras; Rt. Rev. Dr. Sundar Clarke, Their second daughter Premala is a medical Doctor. This service was conducted by Rev. James Ratnanayagam, a very close friend of both families. A special choir was in attendance. A song composed for the occasion was rendered by the choir and their two little grandchildren Priyanka and Anushka sang choruses. The service was followed by a fellowship tea, in the church lawn.

We would wish to once again remind our readers who have still not paid in their subscriptions for year 2000 to please do so early. Cheques may be drawn in favour of "Morning Star" A/c. No. 16400760 - 01- Commercial Bank of Ceylon Ltd., Wellawatta & sent to Mr. Noel S.P. Thampoe, 39, Fussels Lane, Colombo 06. Sri Lanka.

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- 4. Medical Laboratory Technology Course 2 years-leading CMAI diploma (male/female)
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Prospectus and application forms are available at Enquiry Counter No.11, Holdsworth Memorial Hospital, Mysore 570 021, or by post send Rs.100/= by M.O./DD



Parimalam Athputharajah (Retired Teacher, Atchuvely Christian College and Mother of Rev. Mathanarajah, Sakundala Roberts and Chandiraraj)
Who entered glory on 17th July 1999.
Her Sisters Mrs. Arunthathy Arasaratnam
Mrs. E.P. Rajaratnam.

உற்ற இடத்தில் உயிர்வழங்குந் தன்மையோர் பற்றலரைக் கண்டாற் பணிவரோ — கற்றூண் பிளந்திறுவ தல்லால் பெரும்பாழந் தாங்கின் தளர்ந்து வளையுமோ தான்.

Those that prefer honour to life will not yield to their enemies; the pillar of stone when loaded very heavily breaks but does not bend.

நல்லாரைக் காண்பதுவும் நன்றே நலமிக்க நல்லார்சொற் கேட்பதுவும் நன்றே அவரோ டிணங்கி மிருப்பதுவும் நன்று.

It is pleasant to see good people; pleasant to listen to their good words; pleasant too to speak of their goodness; to associate with them is also pleasant.