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RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE

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PUBLIC RECEPTION TO Dr. D. T. NILES

The public of Jaffna accorded the Rev. Dr. D. T. Niles a reception on his being elected to the Præsidium of the World Council of Churches as one of its six Presidents last evening at 5-30 at the Town Hall, Jaffna.

Mr. Ponnambalam, in the course of his speech, said that it was an honour to preside at this reception, when they were welcoming a man of the calibre of Dr. Niles. Barely does a country produce such a man. In his younger days he was the Chairman of the Methodist Conference in Ceylon.

Mr. K. Ponnambalam, Principal of St. John's College, Jaffna, said that it was not fitting that a reception of this kind should be held in Jaffna.

Dr. Niles, in the course of his speech, said that he felt it was an honour to preside at this reception, when they were welcoming a man of the calibre of Dr. Niles.

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the fact that he meets and moves with great personalities of the world, he has not lost the common touch. He was personally invited to the reception by the wife of the late Mr. J. Jayarajah.

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NEW SALVATION ARMY HALL AT MEESALAI

We are happy to announce the opening of a new Salvation Army building at Meesalai. The Dedication Service will be held on Sunday, September 1, 1968, at 5.00 p.m.

"LAND EVALUATION" SYMPOSIUM: AUSTRALIA

On invitation to participate in the "Land Evaluation" Symposium organized jointly by U.N.E.S.C.O. and C.S.I.R.O.

CORRECTION

Mr. and Mrs. K. Renuvayagam, of 41 Cross Street, Jaffna, whose names were recorded in our issue of the 17th inst.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

A Service of Thanksgiving for the late Caroline Thiruvani Jayarajah, wife of Mr. E. J. Jayarajah, retired Business Manager of the McLeod Hospital, Jaffna.

BOYS' CAMP

The above Camp was successfully completed on the 17th inst. at Trinity College, Jaffna. New features this year included a special session entitled 'Know Your Y.M.C.A. Membership Drive'.

WEDDING

The marriage was solemnized at the Elvalai North Church (C.S.I.) on Monday, the 19th inst.

CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Under the auspices of the Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society, the Rt. Rev. Dr. S. Kulandran, Bishop of South India, delivered a lecture on Saturday, the 10th inst.

AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO SPEND A YEAR IN VADDUKKODI

Miss Brenda Groves, a fourteen year old, 10th grade student from the Porales, Junior High School, New Mexico, arrived in Vaddukkodi last week and resides in the home of Mr. S. Anantharaman.

12th ALL-ISLAND Y. M. C. A. BOYS' CAMP

The above Camp was successfully completed on the 17th inst. at Trinity College, Jaffna. New features this year included a special session entitled 'Know Your Y.M.C.A. Membership Drive'.

On the opening night, the Campers were briefed on the lives of these personalities by Messrs. B. O. Basel, National General Secretary of Y. M. C. A.'s, and Haas Horat Zilber, Fraternal Secretary.

At the Membership Drive held on the last day, 6 boys from different Y. M. C. A. branches, their experiences as Y. M. C. A. members.

A noteworthy feature in Camp this year was the Y. M. C. A. publication of the 'Camp Chronicle'. Copies of this publication were distributed to every one on the last day.

The rest of the activities included Indoor and Outdoor Games, Archery, Rifle shooting, a Quiz Contest, Mr. Camp and Wrestling Contest, Camp-Olympics, Campfire and Camp Concert.

FROM FAR AND NEAR U. S. ORBITS NEW WEATHER WATCH SATELLITE

A new weather watch satellite, ESSA-7, will orbit last Friday to take storm-cloud pictures around the world as the peak of the Atlantic and Pacific hurricane season.

THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) SAID

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said the new satellite is "operating normally" in an orbit only a few kilometers off the path that was planned for it.

major tropical storms (hurricanes and typhoons) in time for advance warning to threatened nations.

In the past two and one-half years, 3,000 warnings based on weather satellite photographs have gone out from the Sulliant Center to threatened areas, resulting in great savings of life and property worldwide.

CHRISTIANS AND OTHER FAITHS

A plea that the Anglican Communion should pay greater awareness to other world faiths was made at the Lambeth Conference by the Archbishop of Perth, the Most Rev. George Appleton.

THE CEYLON BIBLE SOCIETY Special Bible Essay Prizes

The Ceylon Bible Society offers prizes for Seniors (16-18 years old) and Juniors (10-15 years old) for Essays of not more than 1500 words each.

"What the Bible has done for me" or "How we use the Bible in our home"

All persons who wish to compete for these prizes will have to send the Essay with the proper application form supplied by the Ceylon Bible Society duly completed.

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 2255 In the matter of the Intestate estate of the late Kandasamy Rajaratnam of Sandilipai North, Sandilipai

Deceased Veeragathi Rajaratnam of Sandilipai North, Sandilipai. Petitioner.

1. Basuki Rajaratnam, 2. Rajaratnam Kirupakaran, 3. Bakini Rajaratnam, all three Minors of Sandilipai North, Sandilipai, appearing by their Guardian-Ad-Litem the 4th Respondent.

4. Ratanasagam Thevendran of Sandilipai North, Sandilipai. Respondents

This matter coming for disposal before L. M. Ismail, Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 13th day of July, 1968 in the presence of Mr. Kandasamy Gumaratnam, Executor of the estate of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated 13th day of July, 1968 having been read.

It is ordered that the 4th Respondent above-named be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-Ad-Litem of the said 3rd Respondents above-named for the purpose of these proceedings.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner above-named be and he is hereby declared entitled to the estate of the deceased above-named to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased issued to him accordingly unless the respondents above-named or any other person or persons interested shall object or before the 4th day of September, 1968 when sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner do produce to the said minors in Court on the said date, This 12th day of July, 1968.

Sgd. L. M. Ismail, District Court, Jaffna. Drawn by, Sgd. K. Gumaratnam, Proctor for Petitioner.

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UNITY, REVIVAL AND MISSION

Some basic needs of our Churches today

By the Rev. Celestina Fernando (Notes of an address at the Annual Meeting of the National Christian Council held on Monday, 24th June, 1968, at the Y. M. C. A., Colombo.)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN TURMOIL

Writing two weeks back on the compromise reached in Bratislava between Czechoslovakia on the one side and Russia her Warsaw Pact allies on the other, we welcomed the good sense of Russia in not being too exacting in their demands. But we wondered if the matter was going to rest there. We did so because we had fears that Russia would not allow the growth of the movement, launched in Czechoslovakia, for democratic government, free thought and free speech to gain increased momentum and acceptance. Such a movement would have unwelcome repercussions in Russia itself and its satellites. Our fears have now been showed to be justified. And Soviet Russia and four of her Warsaw Pact allies - Poland, East Germany, Hungary and Bulgaria - have today almost completed a military occupation of that country.

Why have the aggressors violated the agreements they came to with Czechoslovakia within two weeks? According to them "the further aggravation of the situation in Czechoslovakia after the Bratislava meeting affects the vital interests of the Soviet Union and other socialist states, and the internal security of the socialist community. The threat to the socialist system in Czechoslovakia constitutes at the same time a threat to the mainstays of European peace." They have also charged Mr. Dubeck, the Czechoslovakian leader of the Communist Party, and his associates with breaking the agreements made two weeks back. That there is no truth in these attacks would be generally accepted. On the other hand, Mr. Dubeck was being criticised in his own country by the advocates of reform and by a large majority of people who were clamouring for them of having given in to the pressure exerted on him by Russia and her allies. And he was urging on the people the importance of continuing friendship with the Communist Bloc. Hence, the attacks we have referred to above and the military intervention, though not surprising, have been altogether indefensible. The claim that the aggressors make that they had to intervene thus because of the request made by some Czechoslovakian leaders to save the country from the reformists would convince no one. For one thing up to date these leaders have been unnamed.

The present military intervention is reminiscent of Russia's invasion of Hungary in 1956. This is Russia's method of dealing with her satellites, who disagree with her and refuse to be wholly subservient to her. Of course, when Romania challenged the Soviet Union's authority, Russia did not resort to armed attack. But that was because of two reasons: first, it did not want to destroy the image of the post-Stalin Russia; and secondly, Romania's challenge did not threaten Russia's boundaries. But in the case of Czechoslovakia it is altogether different. In the words of Ernest Corea in his article in the Daily News of this morning, "For the Soviet Union to lose that boundary line would be for it to lose an important component of its defence system. It would also be to lose the chunk of 'real estate' which bridges the geographical gap between the Soviet Union's northern 'allies' - Poland and East Germany - with those placed to the south. That, again, would threaten the Soviet Union's post-war territorial hegemony". Therefore, naturally this altogether unwarranted military aggression has been almost universally condemned from all over the world. Even Communist China has characterised it as "the worst crime against Czechoslovakia" and "a shameless act in the extreme". Such a military intervention in the inter-

The aim of every National Christian Council is by the faith, fellowship and the practical and courageous wisdom of its members, acting together, to strengthen the constituent Churches and other Christian organisations in their understanding and the sharing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord, according to Holy Scripture and in such a way that all the peoples of the nation may enter God's Kingdom. If this aim is to be fulfilled, all the constituent members and who are their representatives have to understand not only the Gospel, the world in which it has to be preached and our responsibilities in it with a sense of "urgency without panic" but also the spirit, structure and methods of work of the N. C. C. and then play a responsible and continuing (rather than spasmodic) role in its affairs.

It is often stated that just as the World Council of Churches is not, so a National Christian Council too is not a super-Church with general mandatory and administrative powers over its constituent bodies. But there are times when our judgements of the N. C. C. and its work seem to reveal that we forget this important truth. Our Churches often find it quite impossible to take certain actions—emergency or otherwise—not only in the social and political areas of life but even in the religious and ecclesiastical, because our constituencies simply do not care nor understand and support the leaders or because there is a vital and significant minority opposing a proposed course of action. What is true of the Churches, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., and the S. C. M. is surely also true of the N. C. C.

Primarily the N. C. C. is a consultative and advisory body. It can take certain administrative actions on behalf of the constituent bodies only when the officers are mandated to do so on a particular issue. And this we ought to remember very much as we look on the work of the N. C. C. This and the procedures of the N. C. C., both administrative and financial, deserve the careful scrutiny of all of us who belong to it. These procedures are meant to maintain security of the funds and justice in disbursement; and the same rules and procedures have generally to govern the work of all the Committees, lest the officers find (as it often happens in the Churches) that one is favoured over against another. If the rules and procedural forms are inadequate, let us change them; but after seeking to understand the implications of what we propose to do. This kind of understanding support is greatly needed if the N. C. C. is to fulfil its aims today and in the days to come.

Also, it seems to be necessary to appeal to all the constituents of the N. C. C. (and not only for some at certain times) to support it by attending its meetings regularly, reading and commenting on its minutes and other papers, making suggestions for action and,

national affairs of a country is a total violation of the U. N. Charter and all international agreements. And Russia and her allies stand condemned as brigands of the worst order. No words can be too strong to censure them. If they cannot be persuaded to listen to the pleadings of the Czechoslovakian Government to withdraw immediately from the country, the Security Council of the United Nations must take some positive steps against them. We do hope that the Security Council, whose present meeting to consider this situation has been described by the Russian delegate as "a repulsive comedy", would not be deterred from acting positively and promptly,

above all, by providing the personnel and resources for such action. A poor man with ten fingers may be able to do much less than the poorer man with one type-writer and two fingers. The N. C. C. of Ceylon cannot act like the British Council of Churches or the N. C. C. of the U. S. A. with the resources we now have. To understand this requires sympathy, patience and regular attendance at meetings; and when the chief representative of a Constituent body is unable to attend, besides the courtesy of an apology of absence, it would be well, where provision is made for it, to ensure that another representative is present—and not only when a particular item of interest appears on the agenda. All of these factors apply to the Churches in relation to their own Church bodies. The N. C. C. has the same problems as its constituents individually have—and in a larger measure. Sometimes critics whose interest in the N. C. C. is spasmodic and not continuous and who have not checked up on the facts on which their judgements ought to be based, make general allegations against the N. C. C. much to the detriment of its work. What such allegations are untrue or are a substitute for a particular criticism of a particular action—it can do great damage to the very cause such critics purport to support. "As usual the N. C. C. is lethargic," "it always postpones action," "the same persons take the same actions over the years"—these statements have to be substantiated by evidence, if they are to be taken seriously and are to be of any help.

The N. C. C. like every other institution needs criticism and suggestions for its work to be done and for further movement; and the officers who do the greater part of the work welcome such criticisms and suggestions. But like others in like positions they will be helped only if the criticisms and suggestions are based on facts and are responsibly made. If its members understand this and we do all we can to cooperate in its work, make proper use of its present resources, provide more funds from each of our Churches, and, if necessary, change the procedures, then the N. C. C. will surely be a far more useful body than it has been and is. Perhaps what is most necessary now is not so much structural change but more people with Christian commitment, evangelistic zeal and courage for corporate action in a fellowship of mutual forgiveness and revealing the true spirit of the Church. Our General Secretary who is on a part-time basis and his one typist (also on a part-time basis)—and comprising his total staff) and our Hon. Treasurer, with a few other members of the various Committees have done a great deal with resources they have. We must be deeply grateful to them all and do all we can to help them far more than we have done.

We must be grateful; and help, then, not only by asking what the N. C. C. has not done during these past years but what it has done. This spirit of being aware of what the Churches and other Christian institutions have done—a sense of both past and immediate history—is greatly needed in our deoimotional and local Church life today, at least, to give us a sense of God's goodness and to gain a better perspective on our work. With such an understanding, our criticisms too will be more helpful. Unfortunately there are two many people who are simply not aware of the achievements and hard work there are many. I have found, even among Church leaders who are unaware of the hard study engaged in, and the many hours spent, by other Christians who have spent themselves and their substance in our Churches and its organisations to do a great deal of quiet work, arrange services, do pastoral duties, produce studies, resolutions, publications, schemes of work, programmes, projects and scholarships to help scholars with their requirements for travel, arrange Conferences, meetings, assist in educational work, deal with Government departments and business houses, reconcile quarrels, attend to illness, help visitors and do other manifold and necessary jobs of work—all of which also are Christian tasks and are done in response to Christian vocations.

Letters to the Editor IS GOD DEAD?

Sir, I have heard the oft repeated canard that Science and Biblical knowledge are necessarily contradictory. I have read with considerable interest an article entitled "The Miracle of the Cell-building Blocks of all Living Material" by Harold W. Clark, Emeritus Professor of Biology, Pacific Union College. He ends the article as follows: "How many factors are involved in maintaining the function of a cell? We have noted only a few, but every one of them is so complete that by the time we have put them all together, they would constitute an array of several hundred factors that must all fit together perfectly in order to operate."

How much chance do you think these could bear of coming into existence accidentally? How much more evidence is there to show that there must have been a Divine Creator? The cellular mechanisms are too elaborate to have arisen by any natural processes without the intervention of a Supreme Intelligence.

Dan H. Ruse puts it inimitably in verse -

"If God were dead, the moon would give no light, The stars grow dim, the flowers of earth would fade, If God were dead, the day All life upon death's altar would be laid. If God were dead, the sun would never rise, No autumn leaves of gold, No rippling streams, If God were dead, no spring, no cloudless skies, No song of birds, no pain, no wonderland of dreams. If God were dead, the grave would hold its own, No answered prayer, no righteous path to tread, No heart of joy, no grief unknown, No hope of heavenly bliss - If God were dead, But no! God is not dead, In all His wondrous works of life and art, God is not dead, His counsel points the way, I know His voice - He speaks within my heart."

To a real student of the Bible all living phenomena are the work and manifestation of the Holy Spirit (the power of God). Herein you find the coordination of the marvels of Science and the reality of the existence of God.

Genesis 1:2: "and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters." It was an energising creative spirit as the verses following this would indicate. Science is not contradictory to religion. To an earnest Christian it should be complementary to his faith.

Yours in Christian service, (Dr.) G. N. R. NATHANIEL

Trincomalee.

there is also no doubt at all that the N. C. C. of Ceylon and we who are its constituent members and their representatives need a grander vision, a greater wisdom and far more courage in action in all our work for the sake of our Nation and the Churches to which we belong. Our world and our nation need "the Unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace". But we cannot give it, unless we in the Churches have it to share. Our Nation needs the revival of integrity and the renewal of life in almost every sphere. Our Churches cannot give these unless we have them ourselves—enough and to spare. We cannot serve the Nation merely by preaching to it—or giving it good advice in times of crisis.

And so remembering this, we need to find ways of serving the Nation, by our spirit of unity and renewal, despite the many factors that are presently creating difficulties. For the Christian Gospel is a Gospel for a minority with God—His Power and His love—the Power of His love—which can be always victorious; as our Lord was and is victorious every day over the Cross. No Christian need really be disappointed—if he takes the Gospel seriously. For need a Christian be always complaining and critical? There is so much work to be done by us, which we can do, in the Power of the Spirit of God promised by the Lord Jesus Christ. (To be continued)

MAVIDDAPORAM TEMPLE AND THE HARIJANS

Dear Sir, The Harijans are not keen to enter the temple for the sake of worshipping. Many important temples in the Jaffna were thrown open for their worship years ago but they don't seem to go and worship there. The situation at Maviddaporam temple would not have gone to that extent if not for the intervention of the Leftists who set up the Harijans to enter the temple by force. The Harijans who took part in the temple entry movement are not people of that locality. But they were brought from distant villages, such as Kolkalam, Chavakkal, Arichavelly, Anchanthavai and other places, where the Leftists' influence predominates. All we need to do is to listen to the advice of the Leftists who usually lead the people in selfish purposes. The temple entry movement could have been solved by negotiation with the Hindu leaders in a peaceful manner if not for Hence, the Hindus who go to the temple for their worship were unable to tolerate the high-handed action of the Leftists who were appointing volunteers to meet the situation for the sake of self defence.

One of the ultimate aims of the Leftists in setting up the Harijans is to create division among the Tamils for the next general election to help the Opposition Coalition Party to come to power. In this connection the Leftists have made a lot of preliminary arrangements, such as convincing the Harijans to build their own building, building a temple in different parts of Jaffna, providing them land and houses, making them study Sinhala, planning to create new electorates to put their own candidates to contest at the next general election.

The Marxists betrayed the cause of the Tamils hopelessly. After that they did not dare to come to the North for several years. During that period, the Tamils lived peacefully. They started to come here again with the help of the Red stormers in the North under the pretext of helping the Harijans in their entry movement, remove the social disabilities of the depressed class Tamils, etc. Their intervention in the affairs of the Tamils has made matters worse.

Some people in out-stations and some Colombo papers have taken undue advantage of the Maviddaporam temple issue and made capital out of it by exaggerating the incidents in such a manner and publishing same as to create an undue fear among the Tamils. This was done purposely to suit their objects to deny the legitimate rights of the Tamils. Their intervention in the affairs of the Tamils was never called for. The Tamil leaders are quite capable of settling their own affairs among themselves.

The caste system has existed from time unknown or since man was created. The wise men of the past organized societies to distribute men to perform different works which was essential for the existence of man. This classification of men or distribution of labour was done so that the world may get on harmoniously and to thrive in plenty. That was the time when rice was exported to foreign countries. After such organizations were disorganized by the present selfish men, all is confronted with all sorts of evils. The caste system among the Tamils and Sinhalese as well in certain Sinhalese areas this is strictly observed. But they criticise the Tamils without caring to correct themselves. They seem to think that they belong to the majority community and hence they could do so. Caste system is dying away in the North. About 75 per cent are already created and the social disabilities of the rest will be removed in course of time. Centuries old caste system cannot be stopped all of a sudden. The depressed class men are not worried about it, but the Marxists set them up to make more demands in order to create a situation to suit them. They are not a great menace to the welfare of the country. They cripple Government, Firms and other organisations from a time to time for their own good.

WELL-WISHER Manipay.

Appreciation

Mr. G. S. Arumugam, P. J. K.

"In the midst of life we are in death" The truth of this dawned on us only when suddenly in a stroke deaf and near to us eyes. Such an event took place some days back when Mr. Arumugam lost his life as a result of a motor accident when he was on his way to Singapore to attend the Methodist Annual Conference.

Born in 1900 son of the Rev. S. W. D. Arumugam, he joined the staff of the Anglo-Chinese School in 1919 and retired in 1955. He was Principal from 1947 to 1955.

The contribution he made to further the educational expansion of the Methodist Schools and Church are manifold. He enthusiastically promoted the building schemes in the Klang area and was Assistant Secretary (educational) for Methodist schools in Malaya. Till the time of his death he remained a true crusader of Christ.

Possessed of a resilient moral fibre he was unyielding and even militant at times. Methodism in Malaya will no doubt record his full quota of contribution. But to me it looks that his greatest contribution was towards the unification of Churches.

He was unconventional and unswerving and found unalloyed contentment in serving his Master till his death. He is no more with us, but his name rings a melody of single-minded devotion and piety. He was indeed a rare disciple of Christ and he belongs to the world and to eternity.

M. W. N. Kuala Lumpur.

From Far and Near LAMBETH REJECTS THE POPE'S ENCYCLICAL

The Lambeth Conference which is in session now, has rejected the argument of Pope Paul's recent encyclical on birth control and reaffirmed its 1958 decision that family planning was a matter of conscience for parents. The Conference approved a resolution recording its appreciation of the Pope's deep concern for the institution of marriage and the integrity of married life, but asserting its conclusion that artificial forms of contraception were contrary to God's will.

AUSTRALIAN, CHINESE EXPOSITORS TO LEAD CONGRESS BIBLE STUDIES

Archbishop Marcus Loane of the Sydney Diocese of the Anglican Church in Australia and the Rev. Philip Teag of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church Union in Hong Kong will lead the Bible studies during the Asia-South Pacific Congress on Evangelism to be held in Singapore from November 5-13, 1968. The Congress will bring together 1,000 Church leaders from 24 countries, including Ceylon.

Archbishop Loane brings to the Congress a vast storehouse of Bible knowledge, some of which he has shared with the Christian world through his numerous devotional books. Since his enthronement as Archbishop of Sydney and Metropolitan of New South Wales in 1968, Dr. Loane has maintained an undiminished fervour for evangelism as seen in his regular Bible expository ministries which Bible teaching tours overseas which he does two months each year. He is known to have accepted his present post on the condition that he be allowed to continue his regular Bible teaching ministry throughout the world.

Son of a Presbyterian pastor from the National North-western University of China, the Rev. Mr. Teag is Chairman of both C. and M. A. Church Union and the Chinese Missionary Society of Hong Kong which has sent five missionaries to Vietnam. He is advisor to the Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IVF) in several and Southeast Asian countries, the United States and Canada.

1968 Subscriptions of Rs. 15 due now Manager

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