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Calendar of Events

27th October:
Reformation Sunday.

1st November:
All Saints' Day

2nd November:
A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the late Navarajan Gunaratnam at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wellawatte, at 6.30 p.m.

THE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF THE COLOMBO CHURCH

The Colombo Church of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India celebrated its Silver Jubilee beginning with a Thanksgiving Service at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wellawatte, on Friday, the 18th inst., at 6.00 p.m. and closing with a concluding service at 6.30 p.m. on Monday, the 21st inst., at the same church. In connection with the jubilee it also organised Revival Meetings for three days from Saturday evening, the 19th inst. All the past ministers of the Colombo Church and the present ministers participated in the Thanksgiving Service which began with a procession of the ministers and their wives and also some pastors of other denominations. A special song was rendered by the choir and Bishop Kulandran presided at the service.

On Saturday the Revival Meeting was held at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wellawatte, at 6.00 p.m. and the Revs. K. J. Mills and J. J. Ratnasarasu were again the preachers. A photograph of the Executive Committee of the Church together with the Bishop and his wife and the pastors and their wives was taken.

On Sunday morning at 9.30 the Rev. J. J. Ratnasarasu met the Youth of the Church at a special meeting and a very frank discussion on a number of matters affecting the minds of the Youth took place.

The same evening at 4.30 the Rev. K. S. Jayasingham and the Laymen of the Church met to discuss matters concerning the Laymen, the Community and the Church.

On Sunday evening the Revs. K. J. Mills and K. S. Jayasingham preached at the Revival Meeting held in the re-structured Chapel at 39, Fussells Lane, Wellawatte.

On Monday morning a very special service—Choral Liturgy and Confirmation—was held at the Church by the Bishop and the sermon was preached by the Rev. D. K. Wilson of the Methodist Church, Moor Road, Wellawatte. Nine candidates—5 boys and 4 girls—were confirmed and the Church was fully packed. This service reached the highest point of the meetings in grandeur and experience.

At 4.40 p.m. that evening Mrs. S. Kulandran presided over a very well attended social and special meeting of the Women of the Church at the Parish Hall at 39, Fussells Lane, Wellawatte. The meeting came to a close with sermons preached by the Revs. J. J. Ratnasarasu and the Bishop.

Special mention must be made of the Choir of this Church. In the City of Colombo, it has earned for itself, and very legitimately, commendation as the best Choir to render Tamil songs in Carnatic music. The singing at the musical was of a high order. Mrs. Pushpam Gunaratnam and Mrs. Rev. Philip Aruladurai in the past and now Mrs. K. Vijayarajam and the choir reaching such ability in singing Tamil lyrics.

The meetings were all well attended and the keenness and the sense of oneness of the Church was much in evidence. Here one young and old, men and women, were all active and keen to participate in every part of the life of the Church. I am glad I was there to share in the joy of the growing Church and also to thank much alike to its task and looking forward to faith. May God richly bless this Church and lead it to the highest point of its mission. One present

One present

FOREIGN VISITOR COMPLIMENTS LOCAL C. N. A. P. T. WORK

"I have been in many parts of the world, but this is the first time I have come to this beautiful island of Ceylon, where I have seen for myself the activities of the Valigamam West Branch of the C. N. A. P. T. I have not come here as a tourist. I am here to see the countrymen about the novel ideas and activities I have seen here in the Vali-West Branch. T. B. patients have to buy their drugs in India, but here in Ceylon I find they are supplied free of charge. I have been greatly impressed by the discipline of the children of Holy Family Convent, Ilavai. Though I could not understand the language, I was very much taken up by the T. B. song that was sung by them which I would like to take to my country and get translated. In my language, I said Dr. S. M. Pradhan, a member of the Maharashtra T. B. Association, Bombay, and Director of the Lions Club, Adachi, Bombay, at the meeting held at the Holy Family English School, Ilavai, organised by the Vali West Branch of the C. N. A. P. T.

Rev. Fr. Alfred Benjamin, O.M.I., Principal of St. Henry's College, Ilavai, presided and welcomed Dr. Pradhan.

The President of the above Branch, Dr. T. Gangadharan, and Mr. W. N. Thevasakudam, the Secretary, explained the various activities of the Branch and also about the bi-weekly treatment which is successfully practised in Jaffna. In the presence of the first visit to Ceylon by Dr. Pradhan, Dr. Gangadharan presented him a medal in the shape of Ceylon on behalf of the Vali-West Branch. Mrs. Kumar, Deputy Principal of the School, proposed the vote of thanks.

NEW AMERICAN MISSIONARIES TO JAFFNA COLLEGE

The Rev. W. Alan Gilburg, Mrs. Gilburg and their two young daughters arrived in Jaffna College, Vaddukottai, last Friday. Mr. Gilburg has already assumed duties as the Chaplain of the Undergraduate Department of the College. His home town is Chappaqua, New York, a small suburban town, 35 miles north of New York City. He had his high school education at the Holy Cross High School, New York, finishing it in 1955. He entered Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, for his higher studies. He graduated from it in 1959, securing the B. A. degree in English Literature. Following that he followed a course of studies in the Union Theological Seminary, from which he graduated in 1963 with a B. D. degree in Theology. From 1963 till a few months back this year he served as Associate Pastor of the Westminster Congregational Church, Washington, D. C. In this Church with a membership of 1950, he was directly responsible for youth work, social action and pastoral care of the elderly.

His wife, Alice Ann, comes from Goeben, Indiana—a small town in Northeast Indiana. She had her early education at the Goeben High School, from which she graduated in 1955. She entered Denison University, Granville, Ohio, for her higher studies, and graduated from it in 1959 with a B. A. degree in History. She also had her theological education in the Union Theological Seminary, and secured the B. D. in Theology in 1963. Her stay in Denison University also included a year of study at Edinburgh University, Scotland, and a semester at Howard University, Washington University.

They are both 31 years of age and were married in 1962. They have two daughters—Deborah Jeanne (4) and Amy Elizabeth (3).

AUXILIARY BISHOP OF JAFFNA

The Rev. Fr. L. R. Anthony, M.A., Parish Priest, St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna, has been under-stand, been appointed Auxiliary Bishop to Mr. J. Emiliano Pillai, O.M.I., Bishop of Jaffna. Fr. Anthony is 41 years old, and went through his Scholasticate in Rome, where he was ordained Priest on 9th December, 1954. He holds from Karampal, his father being the late Mr. Basilanthan. Fr. Anthony served for six years as Private Secretary to the Bishop of Trincomalee with much benevolence. On a general, kind and benevolent position, Fr. Anthony has left the impression of his personality on the different Missions in which he has served, and his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop has caused intense satisfaction and delight to those who know him.

CO-OPERATIVE HARBOUR SERVICES UNION'S FINE RECORD

The Jaffna District Co-operative Harbour Services Union has so far unloaded over 120,000 tons this year, the highest since the Union was founded. This year it discharged 15 ships—at Jaffna and 8 at Kankesanthurai.

During the K. K. S. season, which is almost over, the Union worked 8 ships (last time it was 6) and unloaded 55,000 tons.

During September this year, the Union unloaded 1,000 tons of Gypsum for the Cement Factory brought by 7 sailing boats from Tuticorin. By the end of this month or early next month, the Union expects to unload 9,500 tons of Gypsum at Jaffna.

THE MOTHERS' UNION'S 60th ANNIVERSARY

The 60th Anniversary celebrations of the Mothers' Union of the Church of Ceylon began at 6 p.m. on Saturday, the 12th inst., at Christ Church, Jaffna. The Worship Service was conducted by the Rev. J. T. N. Handu. Bible Lessons were read by Mrs. S. P. K. Solomon, the President of the Mothers' Union, and Mrs. Williams, the oldest member. Dr. Miss E. M. Thilliamppalam gave the Message.

After the service Tea followed in the Parish Hall. There were over seventy members present from the various Parishes in Jaffna.

KUNRAKKUDI ADIKAL AT JAFFNA CENTRAL

His Holiness Kunrakkudi Adikal visited Jaffna Central College on the 17th inst., and delivered a talk in Tamil on "Literature and Life".

Mr. E. Sabalingam, Principal of the College, presiding over the function recalled that "Nine years ago Adikal had visited this institution and therefore this was his second visit."

Mr. S. R. Kumaresan who made the welcome speech said, "Arumuga Navalar, a product of Jaffna Central, was honoured by more than one Adikal (Mun) of South India. It is fitting that Adikal from an Aethnam is going to speak at Navalar's old school today."

Kunrakkudi Adikal said, "Literature is a lot of meaning in life. It is meant for life. Most of us disregard what is found in literature. Jesus Christ, Mohamed Nabi and other seers taught us much by their lives. Still society thinks of attack and destruction. Families should be proud of Navalar, whose translation of the Bible won fame."

"Thiruvalluvar has given us much. We must follow his ideal. If a few Sinhalese admire Thiruvalluvar we can be really proud of it. When the gap between literature and life becomes narrower, society will progress."

Mrs. S. Suthanthirajah proposed a vote of thanks.

VALIKAMAM WEST BRANCH OF THE C. N. A. P. T.

The following Office-bearers for 1968-1969 were elected:

President: Dr. T. Gangadharan, (Moolai Co-operative Hospital).

Vice-Presidents: Mudir. V. Mahesan, I. R. and Mrs. B. Chinnasabai.

Hony. Secretary & Propaganda Officer: Mr. W. N. Thevasakudam.

Hony. Treasurer: Mrs. Peary Athanasias.

Official Advisors: Mr. N. Manick Nadarajah, Dr. B. O. Vail - Wai, and Dr. S. Raguathan, M. O. B., Manipay.

Chairman of the Education and Philanthropy Committee: Mrs. O. B. Bavinck.

Chairman of the Finance Committee: Mudir. V. Mahesan.

Chairman of the Rehabilitation Committee: Mrs. B. Chinnasabai.

Chairman of the Men's Welfare Committee: Mr. J. Suresh.

FROM MY LONDON NOTEBOOK

R. D. KARUNAIRAJAN

Collection Bag

(Picked from various publications)

A British business-man was entertaining an old friend from India. They were having a meal in an expensive London restaurant and the Englishman was very surprised when the Indian ordered a large, rare, fillet steak.

He couldn't stop himself saying jokingly, 'I thought you Hindus didn't eat beef because you're afraid you might be eating your re-incarnated grandmother!'

'That's true', said the Indian blandly, 'but it's all right, it'll be your grandmother I'm eating here!'

One day while at my work ... disaster struck! The giant Rotallish machine came to a shuddering halt ... Work came to a standstill. Men rushed to the machine, trying desperately to get it started. But all in vain. The men stood there, grim and silent, thinking of the money they would lose. (Some of them had houses, wives and children to think about) ... I could stand the suffering of my comrades no longer. 'I know what's wrong,' I cried, rushing forward ... I worked in a silence broken only by the encouraging shouts of my workmates. A few minutes later, the mighty machine started. The day's production was saved ... Yes, it's certainly an exciting life as a factory sweeper ... especially when occasionally you get a chance to use your higher degrees in science and engineering.

A coloured Factory Sweeper

A coloured conductor of a crowded bus to a white waiting at the bus stop, 'There was a vacancy, but I'm afraid it's been filled.'

English people are fond of thinking that the Germans have no sense of humour. Oddly enough, the Germans are convinced that the English have no sense of humour. If a German (in Germany) tells a terrible joke that falls completely flat, his listeners might well reply politely, 'Oh yes, an English joke!'

A favourite old joke in France and America:

An Englishman had just spent three years on a desert island with a beautiful blonde. A newspaperman who was interviewing him after his rescue could not believe that they had not spoken to each other all the time they were on the island.

'The trouble was,' explained the Englishman, 'we hadn't been introduced.'

OBTAINS F. R. C. S.

News is to hand that Dr. W. N. Donald Watson, who retired in September of last year as Clinical Pathologist, Colombo Group C. S. (Edinburgh) examination following degrees: M. B. B. S. (Ceylon and London), L. R. C. P. (London), L. R. C. O. P. (London), L. R. C. P. (Edinburgh) and L. R. C. P. (London).

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

for

THE LIFE

of

THE LATE

NAVARAJAN GUNARATNAM

(Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Gunaratnam of the United Electricals, Colombo)

will be held

at the

Dutch Reformed Church,

Wellawatte,

on

Saturday, 2nd November, 1968,

at 6-30 p.m.

All are cordially invited.

'It' (Teenager today)

(An extract from an 'O' Level English class essay by an adult student.)

'It, I can only describe it as an it, because you never know these days, wears frayed jeans with a patch on them, flowered shirts, and has long, flowing, dirty locks, probably crawling with lice, because it never occurs to its tiny brain to wash. It earns about £25 a week which it spends on records and motor cycles and things of that sort, is completely promiscuous in its dealings with the opposite sex. It takes drugs all the time and because it has no respect for its parents it has left home.

Now, does it have any good qualities? It's loyal to its friends, that's all I can say.

Names

One of the great difficulties we people of Asia and Africa face in this country is getting the natives here to pronounce our names correctly. Our names do tickle quite a few here. All they have to do, as far as most of the Asian names are concerned, is to pronounce every alphabet in our names. This is perhaps understandable because the natives spell quite a few names far differently from the way they are pronounced. Warwickshire is Warwickshire and Worcestershire is Worcestershire and a whole lot of them, not to mention the various 'pne', 'phy' phenomena.

Telephone Call for Me

When I returned from lunch one day, on my desk in my office was a note to the effect that I had a telephone call from Mr. Fox along with his telephone number as 722-8333.

When I rang up Mr. Fox, a young lady answered the phone and very politely told me that she was Miss Crane and that Mr. Fox had gone for lunch and whether Mr. Lion could take the call! 722-8333 is the telephone number of the Regents Park Zoo!!!!!!

Some Names they Are

Mrs. Irons comes from Somerset and so are Mr. Good and the Rev. Peach. While Dr. Eatwell takes care of the local dispensary, Mr. Tingle assists him with the dispensation. Mr. House is the rent collector while Mr. Standing is the handyman. Mr. Town minds

Notice
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(2) All news to the News Editor Vaddukottai.
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(4) All Business correspondence re Advertisements and Subscriptions and all remittances to:
The Manager, The Morning Star - A. Kadigamar, Esq. Principal's Bungalow, Jaffna College Vaddukottai.

IN MEMORIAM



IN AFFECTIONATE MEMORY

of

LILY PAVALAN MUTTIAH

Born: 19-2-1908

Called to rest: 25-10-1965.

"Years may pass but memories stay Not just today but everyday."

Remembered by her beloved ones.

Nunavil, Chavakkacherry, 25-10-65.

IN MEMORIAM

of

PERINPANAYAGAM WILLIAM

RUTNAM

Called to rest: 26th October, 1967.

"Ever green and precious are memories of you, In silence and prayer we remember you."

Fondly remembered by his loved ones.

332, Navalar Road, Jaffna.

IN MEMORIAM

of

SAMUEL VAITHILINGAM

ALAGARATNAM

Promoted to Glory on 3rd November, 1963.

In our hearts you'll ever stay, Loved and remembered every day.

(Inserted by his loved ones.)

Manipay, 26th October, 1968.

the grocery and Mr. Butcher is not the butcher but the carpenter, while Mr. Carpenter minds the pigsty, Mr. Coffin is the child-pop man who helps the children across the road, Mr. Money is the door to door salesman and Mr. Dahl the politician, but the best of all in this beautiful countryside village is the amiable assistant in the village pub, Mrs. Bastard.

(ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय)

[இதழ் 41]

॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥

The Morning Star

25TH OCTOBER, 1968.

THE U. N. AND OURSELVES

Just what are the feelings that have been evoked in the world by the U. N. reaching the 25th anniversary of its life yesterday? Are they of satisfaction that it has justified the hopes which the peoples of the world placed on it when it was inaugurated? Or are they of frustration that it is only another League of Nations languishing and in its last days because of its ineffectiveness to solve international crises? A writer in an international publication recently, while referring to the efforts of the U. N. in the political field, said: "The General Assembly is powerless, the Security Council is powerless, the Secretariat is powerless, the Organisation has ceased to be a useful instrument for achieving the purposes for which it was created." While one may not agree entirely with this statement, one sees some justification for this opinion. As one recalls the failure of the U. N. to bring about as yet the necessary and desired solutions in issues like those in Vietnam, Rhodesia, South Africa, Nigeria and the Middle East, one cannot but be struck by its ineffectiveness. And as late as last August, its powerlessness was demonstrated when it was not able to do anything about the altogether unjustified "invasion" of Czechoslovakia by Soviet Russia and her Warsaw Pact allies. It was a flagrant violation of the U. N. Charter, and still the U. N. could do nothing more than express its condemnation of the aggression.

Two more criticisms may be made about it at this stage. One is that it is hindered very much in its working by the power of veto granted to the big states in the Security Council. This veto power nullifies the equality of status given to each member state of the U. N. The veto means that the bigger nations have still the whip hand in the deliberations and decisions of the U. N. and its Security Council. Such a concession to these bigger nations might have been necessary in the early years of the U. N., but now the sooner it is done away with, the better would it be for its own effectiveness and for world peace. Secondly, keeping away the Republic of China from membership in the U. N. is not a realistic action, to say the least. The argument tendered recently by the spokesman of Nationalist China at the U. N. Assembly, which is now in session, that it is altogether inadvisable to give a new lease of life to the Republic of China by extending to it U. N. membership because the Communist power there is now crumbling is far from convincing. It may be that Taiwan has more insights into the happenings in Communist China than others; still one wonders if it is not more a wishful thinking on its part, which naturally longs for the time when the Communist power is totally eliminated from China.

However, in spite of its powerlessness in the political field, it is an incontrovertible fact that the record of the U. N. in its contributions to the social, economic, educational, and cultural well-being of countries, especially the developing peoples whose resources are limited, is formidable and lasting. Mr. Horace Perera, the Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, in an article he contributed to yesterday's Supplement of the *Ceylon Daily News*, issued by the United Nations Association of Ceylon, refers to the fact that "the U. N. spends only 15% of its funds on its political work, while it devotes 85% of its revenue to its constructive activities in the other fields mentioned." He also points out "W. H. O.'s victories against smallpox, malaria and yaws; U. N. E. S. C. O.'s achievements in the fields of education, science and culture; I. L. O.'s efforts to improve the

CHURCH, HOME AND FAMILY

(Address given by the Ven. James L. H. Amarasekera, Archdeacon of Kurunegala, at the J. D. C. S. I. Festival on 28-9-68.)

(Continued from last issue)

4. Fourthly, the family can contribute to the Church's life and witness by cultivating the practice of the faith—cultivating the Christian way of life, which included—

(i) Family worship. In the campaign to encourage family worship we must develop spontaneously. The Church must help with suggestions but not impose forms. Whatever else a family may not do, it eats and this is a rallying point—three times a day. Grace at meals is a reminder that it is a Christian family. Family prayers may be said in the bedroom, sitting room, dining room, family altar, in any convenient place in the home. Great care must be taken to make each session a thing of joy and love before the Heavenly Father. The programme should be flexible, avoiding long passages of scripture and long, long prayers—read by children. All could participate or take it in turn, and eventually an act of family worship is like a non-liturgical service in church—reading, acts of prayer, hymns, silent prayer and meditation. Family worship should be regular or it may easily lapse. Now, it is very important for the family to realise that this is their offering to God, and so we come to God just as we are. It may be after a conflict that the husband and wife have had, but they come together, just as they are, to seek God's forgiveness. The husband or wife must not make this an opportunity of spite by keeping out. This is not the way to lead our children in the art of family prayer. It must be an offering to God. It is not a thing used to our own ends. The family needs some focal point like family worship to establish and remind in some outward way the fact that it is a Christian family.

(ii) The Christian family must establish a quality of relationship, there is the difference between the Christian Home and some others. Within the Christian family we have an opportunity to practise forbearance. A Christian family has conflicts like any other family, but it has the resources to overcome those conflicts and through the resolution of conflicts comes the reward of relationships—i.e. results in renewal of relationships—Good relationship is not the absence of conflicts but comes from the mature handling of conflicts by the grace of God, and by resolving conflicts we create mature relationships.

(iii) Thirdly, Hospitality: Using the home as the place that others may share the friendship and love that a Christian family has to give.

(iv) Fourthly, the Christian family can contribute to the Church by communicating the Christian message, by witnessing to its particular quality—show the world a working model of the Kingdom of Heaven, the only unit that has been Christianised. For nineteen hundred years the

economic and social conditions of all classes of workers; F. A. O.'s campaign against hunger; the rehabilitation projects of the High Commissioner for Refugees; and the varied activities financed by the United Nations Development Programme. We are sure the world appreciates this positive and worth-while work of the U. N. and hopes that it will never relax in such efforts.

Mr. Horace Perera rightly reminds all the peoples of the world that "The U. N. belongs as much to the peoples of the world as to its member states". And he asks: "How often have 'we the peoples' failed to see that our governments acted according to the letter and spirit of the U. N. Charter? How often have we allowed our governments to get away with voting for resolutions at international conferences, and not implementing them? How many of us have remained indifferent while human rights and fundamental freedoms were being subtly eroded or flagrantly violated?" What is the answer we in Ceylon can give to these pertinent questions?

THE COLOMBO CHURCH, C. S. I.

By LYMAN S. KULATHUNGAM

Today

It is always a great joy to me to visit the Colombo Church of the Jaffna Diocese, which celebrated its Silver Jubilee last week-end. A visit there gives me a delightful opportunity to renew old friendships and to make new ones. It also is an occasion when I renew contacts with the Alumni of Jaffna College. More than all this, it is altogether invigorating to see a live Church, flourishing in the midst of great difficulties.

One of these difficulties is the far-flung nature of the residences of its members, with Rattalana on one extreme and Grandpass on the other. Distances do not prevent its members attending regularly worship services at the Dutch Reformed Church, Wellawatte, in spite of the fact that these services are held as early as 8 in the mornings of Sundays. In the evenings the Parish Hall in Fussell's Lane, Wellawatte, is always fully packed with worshippers.

Secondly, preoccupations with their official duties, distracting but suggesting attractions of a city, or multiplicity of social obligations do not prevent members from actively and enthusiastically taking part in the varied activities of the Church. The Choir is not made up of, as in several other churches of our Diocese, small children or very young people, but of young men and women, even adults holding positions of executive responsibility in the Government, Banks and Business Firms. That this Choir has made a very valuable contribution to popularising in Colombo the use of carastic music in worship services is a most welcome fact. Its programmes over the Radio have been deeply appreciated. Various Branches of the Church—the Youth League, the Women's Guild, the Church School, and the Laymen's Association—are ever active, never languishing for want of people to fill them or lead them. The Church has also a parish paper, entitled "Vinnoli", published monthly. It is, therefore, not surprising to hear the pastors who have been at its head during the twenty-

Gospel has been preached; no whole nation has been Christianised; no whole country has been Christianised; only the family has been Christianised. And here is a great witness that the Christian family has to make—to show to the world a working model of the Kingdom of Heaven. The Fruits of the Spirit have appeared again and again in the Christian family—Christians out-thought, out-lived and out-died their pagan neighbours. The Church grew in those days by the contagion of Christian living and that may soon be the only effective means of Evangelism left to us in these lands.

(v) Fifthly, through Evangelism: The most effective way and its most powerful medium is the Christian family. Friends and neighbours can share the secrets of its vitality. The Christian home and family then share with the pastor the task of Evangelism. There is always the possibility of gathering groups of people to talk about the deep things of life. In the long run, the family is the best of all agencies for evangelism—it can not only help but it can follow up when it sees interest.

(vi) Sixthly, the Christian family can encourage its members to answer the call of Christian service. The Christian family opens up the way of Christian vocation. True Christian values in the home may be all that is required to discover a vocation to the ministry. Even if they go into secular vocations, they go with a consciousness of seeking the will of God. Christian vocation is the inevitable call of Christian living, just as Christian giving is very much a part of Christian living.

The Colombo Church, C. S. I., is a living witness to the fact that the Christian family is the best of all agencies for evangelism—it can not only help but it can follow up when it sees interest.

five years under review always glow over the meaningful role played by its laity in its growth and development.

Thirdly, the bond of Christian fellowship and love that knits the members together is deep and strong. In spite of distances, which separate them inevitably, they regard and treat each other as neighbours, whom they are enjoined by their Lord to love as themselves. They never hesitate to go to the help of their brethren in times of need to ease, as far as they could, their burdens. And they never grumble at, nor get weary of, continuing with such help even for a long time. I am happy to pay the tribute borne out of my own personal experience.

During the last 25 years it has, under God, registered not simply a steady, but a truly remarkable, growth. It is today an important part of our Diocese. It is a strong witness to its Lord in the city, collaborating with the other branches of the Christian Church meaningfully and actively in all inter-denominational activities.

Therefore, we cannot but rejoice with it in its Silver Jubilee, and render thanks to the Lord for the strength and inspiration, the vision and the guidance He has bestowed on it.

Beginnings

As I do so, I cannot but recall the various stages which had to be passed and the difficulties that had to be overcome before this Church was inaugurated as a part of our Diocese in Colombo. Though some of our leaders like the late Rev. G. G. Brown and the late Mr. J. C. Amarasingham had urged the then Jaffna Council of the South India United Church to take positive steps to start a Church in Colombo, the Council was reluctant to do so. However, in 1938 the Council launched a Contact Campaign to visit the outstation members of its Churches. In April of that year a deputation made up of the Rev. S. Kulandran (now Bishop) and myself (I was at that time the Secretary of the Council) spent nearly a fortnight visiting our members in Colombo, Matara, Kandy, Trincomalee, and so on. Though we were welcomed heartily everywhere we went, I remember two fears sometimes expressed openly, but surely lurking in their minds. One was that we had gone to them for their money or that they were merely meant to pave the way for some future collection campaign. When relieved by us of this dread, they expressed satisfaction and joy at the Council's solicitude for them. In Colombo some of those we visited wondered if we were out to start a Church. We had to tell them it was not the Council's plan.

The second Contact Campaign of the Council was in the latter part of April 1941. The Deputation, consisting of the late Rev. G. D. Thomas and myself, spent a month visiting Colombo, Kandy, Matara and Gampola, but spending most of the time in Colombo. In addition to personal visits the Deputation made, they were able to meet groups of friends at the services in which they preached, through the kindness of the late Rev. N. K. Nalliah and the Rev. S. B. Saravanamuttu, at the Methodist Churches in Moor Road, Wellawatte, and Jampettah. The climax of the campaign was a Social organised by our members on the 8th May at the Central Y. M. C. A. At the meeting that followed, presided over by the late Mr. T. V. Edwards, Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam stressed how the Council and its outstation members were complementary, and hence absolutely necessary, to each other. He urged on the Deputation to attempt more than establishing contacts on their visits. As a consequence, the Deputation reported, on their return to Jaffna, to the Executive Committee of the Council that the feeling in Colombo was strong, and almost unanimous, that some sort of an Outstation Members' Association, like the Jaffna College Alumni Association, should be formed. So they recommended that the Council should

steps to establish such an Association. This recommendation was accepted and led at the semi-annual meet-

ing of the Council in August 1943 it was decided to set up two such Associations, one in Colombo and the other in the Jaffna town. The Council's Constitution was also amended to give representation to the Associations on the Council.

Another Deputation, consisting of the late Rev. G. D. Thomas and the Rev. K. S. Jayasingham, was then sent to organise the Association in Colombo. I remember well the keenness and the enthusiasm with which our members mustered strongly to inaugurate the Association in the latter part of 1942. A strong delegation from the Council was present at this inaugural meeting. The late Dr. S. L. Navaratnam became its President and Mr. S. K. Nalliah, Secretary. The former was also elected the Association's delegate to the Council, but since he could not be present at the Council's annual meeting in 1943, Mr. Nalliah represented the Association.

The Rev. G. M. Kanagaratnam was the first minister of the Council to be in full-time charge of the Colombo work. His was difficult, but exciting, pioneer work, which he did from 1943 till 1947 exceptionally well. A Hostel was established, which served as a home to many young men from Jaffna working or studying in Colombo. Services were held in the Hostel and in the homes—later, in the evenings, in the Baptist Church, Grandpass. Soon the membership of the Association rose to 275.

Inauguration of the Church

By and by the feeling grew that the Association should give way to a full-fledged Church. After much prayer and thought in 1948 the Jaffna Diocesan Council of the Church of South India, which had taken the place of the J. C. S. I. U. C. the previous year, finally decided to organize the Church. The Rev. K. S. Jayasingham, who had succeeded Mr. Kanagaratnam in 1947 as the Colombo worker, laboured tirelessly to implement this decision.

The Church was formally inaugurated in November, 1949. A substantial delegation from the Council was present at the Garden Party and the inaugural meeting that followed on the lawn of the Dutch Reformed Church, Arethusa Lane, Wellawatte. The Secretary of the Council, the late Mr. S. V. Alagaratnam, read out the decision of the Council to establish the Church and the Treasurer, Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam, presented a Church Record Book to its minister. Greetings were conveyed by the late Miss L. G. Bookwalter from the Council and by the Rev. L. N. Hitchcock from the Dutch Reformed Church. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. A. Nelson and the late Rev. W. M. P. Jayatunge. Bishop Kulandran presided at this meeting, and also conducted a Holy Communion Service at the Arethusa Church on the following morning, at which nine persons were confirmed.

The Council Bulletin of 1950 in recording this inauguration expressed happiness "at the vigour shown by the new Church". This vigour has been manifest in an abundant measure in the Church through the years, helped by its ministers—the Rev. G. M. Kanagaratnam from 1943 to 1947, the Rev. K. S. Jayasingham from 1947 to 1955, the Rev. J. J. Ratnarajah from 1956 to 1963, the Rev. K. J. Mills from 1963 to 1968, and the Rev. D. R. Ambalavanar from May of this year.

Letter to the Editor

POLITICAL RELIGION

Dear Sir,

I was interested to see the prominence given to the ordination of youths from Nepal and a businessman from Indonesia as priests, in the press, as it would appear to me that the same enthusiasm is not displayed by authorities concerned to the ordination of priests, towards sons of the soil, who have expressed willingness to be so ordained.

By this I refer to a letter from Dr. C. E. Godakumbura where he drew the attention of the authorities concerned to the desire of some Tamil youths of the country who wished to become Buddhist priests, but would appear to have been completely ignored.

I suppose if he had pointed out that some youths in Germany, Denmark, Indonesia or Nepal wanted to become priests, the information would have been high-lighted in the press and action taken with the utmost expedition, by the authorities concerned.

The irony of it all is that all the important missionaries who come on Buddhist missionary work to Ceylon were South Indians according to Gaiger, and South India was the home of Pali Buddhism according to B. O. Law till as late as 1290 A. D.

What we see today is not genuine religious zeal but religious bigotry with a political objective.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. SINNATAMBY.

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ORDER ABSOLUTE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 2279.

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of Velupillai Thambipillai of Navaly North, Deceased

Vaithilingam Seenivasagam of Ammanakovilady, Tholapuram, Chulapuram, Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal before I, M. Ismail, Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 31st day of August, 1968, in the presence of Mr. Kandiah Gunaratnam on the part of the Petitioner and the Petitioner and Affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 18th day of August, 1968 and the Last Will No. 318 and affidavit of the attesting Notary and witnesses having been read.

It is hereby ordered and declared that the Last Will No. 318 dated the 22nd December, 1957 be proved and that the Probate of the said Last Will be issued to the Petitioner as the Executor and the sole legatee named therein on payment of estate duty and taking the Oath of office.

This 31st day of August, 1968.

Sgd. I. M. Ismail,

District Judge, Jaffna.

Drawn by:

Sgd. K. Gunaratnam,

Proctor for Petitioner.

1968 Subscriptions of Rs. 15 due now

Manager

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