

MORNING STAR

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NOTICE

Please send all editorial correspondence as well as all business matters to Tellippalai. This will ensure prompt attention to the matter sent.

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

Calendar of Events

- May 19: A whole day Conference of the Friends of the Ashram at the Christa Seva Ashram.
- " 25-J. N. E. S. Annual Meeting.
- " 25-29 J. I. C. C. F. Teachers' Camp at the Girls' English School, Uduvil.
- " 30-H. E. the Governor's visit to Jaffna.

NEWS

LOCAL

Landmarks in the History of the Christa Seva Ashram

The following dates of important events in the history of our Ashram are gleaned from "A Review of the Christa Seva Ashram from May 1939 to April 1945" published recently. As the Sevaks, Rev. Selvaretnam, proceeds to India on study leave for two years, the Ashram enters a new phase and the occasion we believe, is appropriate for a peep into the past history of the Ashram, an institution which he with God's guidance has been building up during the last six years.

Nov. 9, 1935: Dr. Miss I. H. Orr, cut the first sod for a well in the compound.

Jan. 3, 1939: Dr. Visser't Hooft of the World's Student Christian Federation laid the foundation for the Chapel, the gift of the J. I. C. C. F.

—Foundations laid for the following Cottages: Lambert Memorial Cottage, Bethel, and Shanti. May 20, 1939: Rev. Selvaretnam and one other associate took up residence in the compound. In the little Chapel Shed, the members of the Board of Management and a few other friends assembled to commit the work to God's Gracious protection and keeping.

Aug. 21, 1939: The Ashram was dedicated. Lambert Memorial Cottage was blessed.

Oct. (St. Francis Day): Shanti was blessed for use.

July 1940: "Bethel" declared open by the Metropolitan of India, Burma and Ceylon.

Dec. 19, 1940: The Ashram Chapel dedicated. Visit of Dr. T. Z. Koo to the Ashram.

Dec. 19, 1940: The Chapel Bell, the thank-offering gift of Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Lewis blessed for use at the Service.

Jan. 1941: 'Balusthan,' the gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Handy in memory of their son Balu, blessed by Rt. Rev. Bishop Mar Theodosius of the Bethany Ashram.

Aug. 1943: "Ebenezer" blessed for use.

21st Aug. 1943. Rev. Selvaretnam initiated as the first Sevak of the Ashram at a Special Service led by Dr. S. Jesudason of the Christa Kula Ashram, and assisted by Rev. S. Kulan ran, Rev. J. T. Arulandham and Rev. D. T. Niles.

June 15, 1944: The initiation of Mr. Yesusagayam as Sevaka Apedshakan.

April 2, 1945: Mr. Yesusagayam initiated as Prethama Sevaka to act for Rev. S. Selvaretnam.

Claim to Hindu Temple

It is understood that Mr. Pararajasingham Mudaliyar Sagarasingham of Sandilpaya has filed action in the District Court of Jaffna for the recovery of the possession of Villudai Pillayar Temple and its temporalities. The claim is against Mr. Kishan Vyramurti, the present manager of the temple. The Urban Council of Jaffna is also made a party as the Council is said to have claimed an interest in the Crematorium. The plaint has been accepted and summons have been ordered on both the defendants returnable on May 29th.

Killed by the Gold he Swallowed

The swallowing of over Rs. 3,000 worth of gold to evade the Indo-Ceylon Customs resulted in the death of Ponnambalam Mylvaganam, a car driver of Jaffna. The man had returned from South India four or five days prior to his death. Dr. S. Ponniah who held the post-mortem examination produced at the Jaffna Magistrate's Court 32 pieces of smoothly made globoid gold the weight of which was about 32 tolas valued at Rs. 3,000. The Coroner returned a verdict of death due to gangrene of the small intestines, caused by swallowing gold pieces.

VE Day Celebration at Chundikul

The C. D. C. Milk Centres at Chundikul celebrated the Victory by feeding the children at the 3 centres of Chundikul. The biggest crowd was at the St. John's Church Centre. Each child was given one bun, rice, cakes, and plantains. Several parents were present and Mr. Lewis Subramaniam spoke explaining the meaning of VE Day. Mr. C. Panampalam, Chairman, U. C. and Mr. S. N. Nadarajah of Jaffna Apothecaries kindly contributed towards the cost of this feeding.

Wedding

The marriage was solemnised at the Uduvil Church on Monday of Mr. G. J. Stephen, Manager, Rice Mill, Anuradhapura and Miss Freda Fenent, only daughter of the late Mr. Elishappah Tennent and Mrs. Tennent of Uduvil. Rev. G. D. Thomas officiated. A reception was held at the bride's residence.

Personal

Miss Pushpam Hensman of Vincent Girls' High School, Batticaloa is taking an advanced course of studies in Dancing at Gopinath's School in Madras. She is a daughter of Mr. J. T. Hensman of Chavakachcheri and an Old Girl of Uduvil Girls' Eng. School.

—Dr. G. C. Mendis, Lecturer in History, University of Ceylon will be in Jaffna next week-end to lead a conference organised by the N. P. E. A. on the teaching of Ceylon History in the H. S. C. and University Entrance Classes.

Obituary

The remains of Mr. Solomon Mather whose death occurred recently at the age of 68 were interred at the family burial ground, Manipay. The Revs. K. S. Jayasingam, assisted by J. M. Singarasingham, J. V. J. Arnold and D. T. Niles officiated at the services held at his residence "Ratna Mahal" Manipay and the Revs. K. S. Jayasingam and B. C. D. Mather officiated at the grave side. The late Mr. Mather leaves a widow 4 children, and Mr. & Mrs. Julius Mather (son and daughter-in-law) or. and Mrs. S. Saravanamurti (daughter and son-in-law) Mr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Samuel (daughter and son-in-law).

—The death occurred on the 7th inst at the age of 60 of Mr. B. N. Chellish, retired Sanitary Inspector. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Muthuvein assisted by Rev. Somasundaram, Rev. J. T. Arulandham and Rev. Chinaiab. He leaves behind besides his wife and six children, two brothers, Mr. G. S. Chellish, Principal, Christian College, Kopy and Dr. C. Kanagasabai, M. O. B. Battota, two sisters, Mrs. N. S. Samuel and Mrs. T. S. Fry and an uncle, Mr. V. A. Duraimuthu.

ENGAGEMENT

DANIEL—LAWRENCE

The engagement is announced and marriage will take place shortly of Mr. John Fredrick Nesaretnam Daniel, Sanitary Assistant with Miss Mary Ann Meswary Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawrence.

THE NAZI DOOM

1. The War-boys cheer, the Joy-bells peal, Sweet Freedom's banners wave! The Odysseus that ends in weal Proclaims the Britons brave!
2. Mad Feubrer's ruthless blitzkrieg failed, Earning eternal hate! Though smaller States in weakness quailed, Allies redeemed their fate!
3. The winged Lion with swelling ire, Flaw over Europe's skies; Aloft he roared, oft spitting fire, Amidst unnumbered sighs!
4. Vexed Axis legions stand aghast, With leaders shelled or shot; Allied guns boom the Victor's blast, To seal the Nazi's lot.
5. The Eastern clouds are clearing fast— Quake Japs in mortal fret; Not long can cunning prowess last— The Rising Sun must set!
6. Soften men's hearts, O Prince of Peace, The wrath of greed restrain; Cause hideous wars for ever cease, Harmony reign again!
7. Let not strife strife for ever bring, Strength aiding still the strong; Let peaceful bells for ever ring, Science toil not for wrong!
8. May nation with nation, creed with creed, Unarmed, as comrades move; May statesmen wise on goodwill feed, And righteous brethren prove!

G. A. E.

The J. N. E. S. 97th Annual Meeting

UDUVIL CHURCH, 25-5-45—10 A. M.

MORNING: Consecration Service and Communion.

Preacher: J. J. Ratnarajah, Esq. B. A., B. D.

AFTERNOON: Missionary Meeting.

Speakers: Dr. G. D. Boaz Rev. M. S. Adisesiah,

M. A., PH. D. A. C. Thamby Rajah, Secretary.

Estate for Sale

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Jaffna Inter-Collegiate Christian Fellowship Teachers' Camp May 25-28.

Leader: DR. MALCOLM ADISESHIAH, (Professor of Economics, Christian College, Tambaram.) Please keep the dates free. 15, 18 & 19

NORTHERN PROVINCE TEACHERS' PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

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"Awake, arise, or be for ever fall'n." Further particulars or Application Forms can be obtained from:

S. P. Rasiyah, Hony. Secy., N. P. T. P. Society Ltd Saras Anandias Giri, Vannarponnai, 13-8.

THE SHOP FOR THE BEST BOOKS

- General and Regional Geography by Unstead and Taylor.
- Geography of Ceylon by E. K. Cook.
- Introduction to Tropical Botany by M. J. Legock.
- Light and Sound by Stewart.
- Heat, Light, Sound and Magnetism and Electricity by Mac'enzie.
- A Class Book of Physical Chemistry by Lawry and Sagden.
- Introduction to organic Chemistry by E. J. Holmyard.
- Higher Algebra by Hall and Knight.
- Pitman's Shorthand New Era Edition.

THE C. L. S. BOOK SHOP, First Cross Street, Jaffna.

The Morning Star

Friday, May 18, 1945.

THE POET OF INDIAN FREEDOM

Last week was celebrated the birthday of India's greatest poet-philosopher, Rabindranath Tagore. The VE Day announcement following as it did almost in the wake of the birthday celebrations, was a happy coincidence indeed, for it is but fitting that the mortal duel with Fascism's dark forces should end almost on the eve of the birthday of one whose humanitarianism and love for his oppressed and down-trodden countrymen tower above all his other achievements. Had he lived to see the day, no one would have felt gladder than he on hearing the doom of the squad plans of Hitlerite robbers who sought to fetter the peoples of the world in eternal chains of social inequality, hunger and death.

Freedom to Rabindranath Tagore meant much more than political freedom. It meant freedom from grinding poverty and inhuman social customs. As the singer and prophet of India's new nationalism, he strove to put into the tongues of the ignorant masses the language of protest and grim purpose. He tried to fulfil his dreams in his Shuntinketan and Srieketan, the two sister institutions where he had sown the seed of a "healthier, simpler and humbler life, self-reliant but un-aggressive, rooted in honest labour but disdainful to exploit the labour of others, unafraid because knowledge illuminated the path and wisdom guided the journey." Today these twin dreams of Rabindranath have become patterns of constructive nationalism in India.

As we stand today on the threshold of a new era and as the leaders of the nations are busy with the task of making out of this multiple world a single Society guaranteeing peace, justice and equal opportunity for all nations, it is worthwhile to recall the historic birthday message of Rabindranath Tagore on the completion of his eightieth year. Incidentally it may be mentioned that this was his swan song too. "As I look around I see the crumbling ruins of a proud civilisation strewn like a vast heap of futility. And yet I shall not commit the grievous sins of losing faith in Man, I would rather look forward to the opening of a new chapter in his history. After this cataclysm is over and the atmosphere rendered clean with the spirit of service and sacrifice, a day will come when unvanquished man will retrace his path of conquest despite all barriers to win back his lost human heritage".

Rabindranath Tagore never lost faith in the essential goodness of man. The cardinal faith of his life was universal brotherhood, the faith on which he lived, the faith that was the guiding spirit of his life. The loss of "human heritage" is War's inevitable and tragic liability and it is only by the redemption of this human heritage that the civilisation that has been shattered can be restored and preserved against future outrage.

GERMANY MEETS THE INEVITABLE END

[Thomas Mann, the great German author, a Nobel Prize winner in Literature, was one of the German intellectuals who clearly saw in the rise of Hitler to power the ruin that has now overtaken the German nation. Holding such anti-Nazi views, Mann could not remain in his country and he therefore went abroad.

Never did he lose an opportunity to tell the world that Hitlerism was bound to fail involving the German nation in utter disaster. Even when Hitler was within an ace of victory, Thomas Mann did not lose his faith in Democracy's ultimate triumph.

The following article by Thomas Mann will therefore be read with intense interest and conviction.]

The destiny of the most repulsive monster of our era, National Socialism, has been fulfilled—a destiny appropriate to its character, a destiny that from the start was graven on its forehead, visible to every seeing eye, a destiny whose fulfilment was always only a question of time. If its agony were only its own and not at the same time that of a great and unfortunate nation that is now suffering for its credulity, its seductibility and besottedness, its lack of political judgment, we could view the catastrophe with greater equanimity with a colder sense of satisfaction for that which is right, just, and necessary.

It is impossible to demand of the abused nations of Europe of the world, that they shall draw a neat dividing line between 'Nazism' and the German people. If there is such a thing as a Germany as an historical entity, then there is also such a thing as responsibility,—quite independent of the precarious concept of 'guilt.' The world has gone through five years of a war full of suffering and sacrifice, a war unleashed by Germany; and from the very first day of this war Germany's opponents were faced by the combined German ingenuity, courage, intelligence, discipline, military efficiency—in short, by the whole power of the German nation which stood as such behind the regime and fought its battles. They were not faced by Hitler and Himmler who would be nothing at all if the strength and blind loyalty of German manhood were not fighting and dying with misguided valour for these criminals to this very day.

Damned from the Start

No one can deny that the national awakening of 1933 of this delirium that carried the seeds of war in it, possessed the meagreness of a genuine revolution. But hopelessness and damnation were written on its features, "Great revolutions," I wrote in my diary at that time, "usually attract the sympathy and admiration of the world by their bloody and passionate generosity. That was true of the Russian revolution as well as of the French, which deeply moved all thinking and feeling intellects in the world.

"What is there about this 'German' revolution that isolates the country and breeds only uncomprehending loathing roundabout? It boasts of its bloodlessness and yet it is the most vindictive and blood-thirsty that ever was. Its basic character, no matter what one may imagine, is not exaltation, joy, nobility, love, which might always be connected with great blood sacrifices to faith and to the future of mankind—but hatred, resentment, vengeance, baseness. It could be much bloodier and the world would still admire it, if it were at the same time finer, brighter, nobler.

It was left for the Germans to bring about a revolution of a cha-

acter never seen before: a revolution without ideas, opposed to ideas; to everything higher, better, decent; opposed to liberty, truth and justice. Nothing like it has ever occurred in human history. And all this is accompanied by tremendous rejoicing of the masses who believe they have accomplished their intent, while, in reality, they have only been deceived by mad cunning, a fact which as yet they do not dare admit to themselves. And behind it all lies the absolute certainty on the part of the better people that everything is headed for a horrible catastrophe.

False Frenzy

What I saw at that time was a people lashed and intoxicated again and again into a nationalistic and falsely revolutionary frenzy, but a people nevertheless depressed, fearful of future ills, fatalistically indifferent; a people that seized avidly upon every foreign newspaper and that saw itself delivered up to a questionable adventure without the slightest chance of resistance. The people foresaw every conceivable misfortune, war, economic catastrophe, dissolution of the nation, disquieted as they were by their ignorance by their impotence in the face of propaganda, by a thousand horrors that took place in their midst and by their moral isolation.

As time passed it seemed that things had always been like this and that they had to be so. The regime was not only recognised abroad but its interests were even promoted—partly for the sake of peace and partly out of admiration for a country that denied labour the right to strike. The older generation resigned and a young generation grew up that knew nothing but the 'heroic life.'

Then the war came, the real war, which to an uncritical people like the Germans, is simply a challenge to its manhood, its biological soundness—its willingness to sacrifice. The Germans did their best—and their worst. In their name, through their hands, bestial rulers committed atrocities at which the heart of humanity trembles,—unatonable, unforgettable. At the same time the war was lost as soon as the 'Blitz' had—once more—failed. As long as possible they refused to recognise the fact, and when they finally did recognise it, then ingrained fanaticism and Gothic pathos in the face of destruction were made to replace the lost faith in victory.

Rushing To Hell

It was a terrible sight to see an entire nation gambling des-

perately and rushing to hell with its eyes wide open. Attempts to break away, to unseat the regime, to save what of substance and of future might still be saved, failed ignominiously. Never had a nation acquired more cruel rulers, masters who more ruthlessly insisted that it should perish with them.

The national catastrophe which the regime carried in its bosom has come. For twelve years we had to wait for it with a mingling of horror and hope. Yes, we wished it for the sake of the logic of morality, out of genuine hatred, out of desire for the punishment of absurd wickedness in accord with the moral lesson. And now that the debacle is here, ruin of unprecedented extent, an all-embracing, moral, spiritual, military, economic bankruptcy without parallel—now our pity for so much misguided history, for so much imprudence, for so much loyalty to dead ideals, for so much defiance of the real demands of the present world—now our pity nevertheless equals our satisfaction: it is a pity that is by no means purely altruistic, for everything German is concerned and is placed in jeopardy, including the German spirit, German thought, the German word; and we are forced to face this question whether in future 'Germany' in any of its manifestations can dare to open its lips in human affairs.

Underworld Scum

The downfall of National Socialism into limbo, into the underworld to which it always belonged—for it was scum of the underworld, the lowest, that had risen with it to the surface—why should it not fill us with satisfaction! And more than satisfaction—it is comfort and bliss to experience the restitution of the honour and liberty of the European peoples, particularly, the renaissance of France from the deepest humiliation.

One thing is certain; there must be an end of the martial Reich that never understood the meaning of the word 'liberty' that regarded as 'liberty' only its own right to enslave others. The mechanical romanticism called Germany was such a curse for the world that no measure whatever that tends to destroy it as a state of mind can be disapproved. The hope remains that with the co-operation of the German will itself purified by cruel suffering, a form of government and of life for the German people may be found that will encourage the development of its best power, and educate it to become a sincere co-worker for a brighter future of mankind.

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