

Rates

Subscription: Rs. 6 per year, (including postage). Single copy: 15 cts. (including postage). Advertisement: On application. 'In Memoriam': (within 4 inches) Rs. 5 per insertion. 'Order Nisi': Rs. 3 per insertion.

THE



MORNING STAR

Registered as a Newspaper (Established 1841) Published every Friday

VOL. 105 } JAFFNA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1945. } NO. 36.

Notice

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

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

EVENTS TO COME

- Sept. 14-23 : Parochial Mission at Christ Church, Jaffna conducted by Rev. P. J. R. Dassanayake, Vicar, St. Saviour's Church, Galle.
" 15 : Jaffna College Prize-giving.
" 15-22 : All Ceylon Scout Week.
" 23 : Fancy Bazaar in aid of Christ Church, Jaffna at Chundikuli Girls' College, commencing at 5 p.m.

of the host and hostess thanked the guests for their presence. -The marriage of Mr. S. Srinivasan, D. K. O., Pallai, son of Mr. S. Sathasivampillai of Kokuvil, with Miss Selenayaki, eldest daughter of Mr. R. S. Poologasingam, Apothecary in-Charge, Madipay, took place according to Hindu rites last Friday at the bride's residence.

Personal

Mr. T. Velautham of the Department of Agriculture, Kilinochchi, is proceeding shortly on a scholarship granted by the Government for further studies at the Imperial Agricultural College, New Delhi. -The transfer of Dr. (Miss) Candiah to the Civil Hospital, Jaffna (announced in our columns last week) has, we understand, been subsequently cancelled. -Dr. R. Arunachalam D. M. O., Kilinochchi, has been transferred to Dandagamwa, and Dr. A. Sinnathambi has taken his place. -Mr. S. Arumugam, Station Master, Chunnakam and Mr. S. Sanagarappillai, Post Master, Chunnakam, have left on transfer to Kakaipalli and Kagalge respectively. -Mr. N. Ponniah, Managing Editor of the 'Eelakasari' has been elected Chairman of the Village Committee, Myliddy. -Rev. A. J. C. Selvaratnam, Chaplain, St. John's College, Jaffna, has been appointed Assistant Priest, St. Paul's, Kandy.

INDIAN

-The real crisis in Education was due to the fact that everything is now being specialised and there were several departments, each self-contained. There is no unity of purpose in the various stages of education, Elementary, Secondary and Collegiate," said Dr. M. S. Adikesiah, Professor of Economics, Madras Christian College, speaking from the chair at the 18th Anniversary Celebrations of the Bishop Heber High School, Pappakulam. -The Bardoli Swaraj Ashram, connected with the early part of the Indian freedom struggle was returned to its trustees on September 4, having been in possession of the Government for the last three years. This Ashram housed in 1928, the Directorate headed by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, when he conducted the no-tax campaign. -Miss Bina Das who was sentenced to nine years rigorous imprisonment in connection with the attempt on the life of Sir Stanley Jackson, former Governor of Bengal, at the Calcutta University Convocation on February 6, 1932, was released on the 6th of September, from the Presidency Jail, Calcutta. Miss Das' term of nine years expired early in 1941. Though she was released, she was immediately re-arrested and kept in detention as a security prisoner for the last three and a half years.

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NEWS

LOCAL

Jaffna College Prize-giving The Annual prize giving of Jaffna College takes place tomorrow at 6 p.m. The Hon. Mr. Justice Alan Rose, M. A., L. B. (Cantab) will be the chief speaker. Miss K. Kanagaratnam will distribute the prizes.

Tamil Teachers' Retreat A Retreat for the Tamil Teachers of the three Missions, American, Anglican and Methodist, organised by Rev. D. T. Niles, Secretary of the National Christian Council, was held at Jaffna College, Vaddukottai on the 4th 5th and 6th of this month. Rev. Paul Ramaseshan and Rev. S. W. Sivaramulu led the Retreat.

Food Crisis Imminent in January As a meeting of the Karachchi cultivators held recently at the Jaffna Kachcheri, the Government Agent, read a letter from the Additional Land Commissioner who has stated that as the Government expected a food crisis in January, the acreage under cultivation in the Karachchi area should be increased as it afforded ample scope for expansion. The Commissioner has also asked for two bushels of paddy per acre ploughed by the tractor. Mr. K. Marugesan, the Land Officer, who was present at the meeting estimated that at Kilinochchi a tractor was capable of cultivating about sixty acres for a season. The farmers present unanimously agreed to give grants to the Government two bushels for every acre ploughed by the tractor.

Two Govt. Officers Remanded

Two Government officers have been remanded in connection with the death of a boy. Mr. M. W. F. Abeyakoon, Magistrate, Chavakachcheri, motored to Kilinochchi and held an inquiry regarding the death of a boy named Pappatham. Mr. P. K. de S. Senewiratne, Assistant superintendent of Police, Jaffna, led evidence at the inquiry. It appears that on the night of 7th instant at about 2 a.m. two officers of the Agricultural Department, Kilinochchi arrested two boys named Simeon and Pappatham on suspicion of the theft of a suit case. It is alleged, to elicit information from the boys, the accused assaulted the boys. Later the boys were produced at Kilinochchi Police Station. The Police found that Pappatham was unable to make any statement and he was in an unconscious state. The Police removed him immediately to Kilinochchi hospital where he died one hour after admission. The Magistrate, after recording the evidence of five witnesses, remanded the two officers till the 21st inst.

Wedding

The marriage was solemnised on Monday at the Uduvil Church, of Miss Mercy Sinnathural, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Sinnathural of Uduvil and Mr. J. T. Thambiratanam, B. A., of the Tutorial Staff of A. M. English School, Achenvely. Rev. G. D. Thomas officiated at the service. A well attended reception followed at the bride's residence. The toast of the bride and bridegroom was proposed by Miss L. G. Bookwala, supported by Mr. T. Busell. The bridegroom replied thanks, Rev. A. B. Kanagaratnam, on behalf





# The Morning Star

Friday, September 14, 1945.

## THE MAJOR PROBLEM IN JAPAN

Stories of starvation, solitary confinement, torture, bestiality, Jap cannibalism and terrorism have kept pouring in from liberated Far Eastern territories during the last few days. It may be recalled that immediately after the surrender of Germany, we had similar tales of the sadistic brutalities practised by the Germans in Concentration Camps. These atrocity tales have naturally the desired effect of rousing the indignation of the world against the perpetrators of such crimes and of expecting the maximum punishment to be meted out to the war criminals so as to avoid "the grossest defeat of justice and a travesty of the principles for which the war was fought," in the words of the Australian Minister for External Affairs. Much as we may be in sympathy with the victims of these horrible atrocities, we cannot be blind to the fact that the major problem before the allies is not the meting out of justice to the war criminals and of indicting a whole nation as being sub-human and irretrievably brutal but the redeeming of a whole nation out of the bondage into which it had fallen. Japan has been captive in her own land for several years, having been herself a prisoner to doctrines which have brought such prolonged misery to mankind and the allies have, above everything else, the stupendous task of restoring a new mental health among the people and leading them out of the house of bondage.

Suzuki San, the average man of Japan and his 75,000,000 fellow citizens present, says Henry C. Wolfe writing in the New York "Times Magazine," by far the greatest problem in Japan. The structure of the Japanese Society has been compared to a pyramid. The Emperor is at the apex. Just under him are a few great feudal families. But the pyramid consists largely of impoverished masses with a low standard of living. They are mainly farmers, fishermen, industrial workers, tradesmen and servants. They live under a system of serfdom, and most of them are debt-ridden and abjectly poor. Life which was always hard for Suzuki San became harder when the war with China began. Taxes had to be increased to buy scrap iron and oil from abroad for Japan's war industries and armies. Scant food rations at home had to be cut, and Suzuki San had to endure innumerable hardships about which he thought little and talked less.

There was no such thing as public opinion in Japan. The soldiers which the Japanese warlords sent abroad had plenty of men in the corps known as "thought police." When a citizen incautiously expressed an opinion out of line with national policy he was seized by the police. As for the morals and ethics of Suzuki San, they are moulded by State policy-makers. In Japanese aggression he sees only the "manifest destiny" of the world mission of his fatherland. The ruling powers of Japan have thus kept Suzuki San in subjection by "an extraordinary combination of religious mysticism, force and thought control."

No matter how poor he may be, he is encouraged to believe that he is a descendant of the Gods.

With the surrender of Japan, Suzuki San has entered a new era. Under the Potsdam ultimatum, he has been promised a new day. He has been promised freedom of religion, of speech and of thought. These are rights which he and his ancestors have never known. On the re-education of Suzuki San, and the ability of the allies to win him to their side, will depend the answer to the question as to how far we have really won the war in the Pacific.

## IDEALS

[Extracts from the inaugural address delivered by Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam at the opening of the Batticaloa Y. M. C. A.]

What has aroused my interest is that it is an association of Young men.

If men, young in the true sense as I shall explain later, band themselves together as associates or friends in the execution of some common purpose, there is nothing in the world to equal their strength. Youth, youth can go where elders cannot, because youth knows no despair and can break all barriers with its fervour and its determination. Youth, healthy and its spirit is never satisfied and is ever aspiring, is constantly seeking something higher and nobler. Youth, vigorous youth is more ready to shatter conventions and to test all values in the lights of its own experience. Youth can be inspired more readily with ideals. Hence the great strength of youth organizations.

It is written in no less an authority than the Holy Writ; "I shall pour out my spirit upon all flesh and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; your old men shall dream dreams and your young men shall see visions." It is also written in the same Book: "Where there is no vision the people perish." It is impossible to find anything fresher and truer anywhere in modern literature. With the right inspiration your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, that is, shall be the leaders of thought and shall teach the people—they, and not their fathers and grand-fathers. Your old men will only dream dreams. But your young men under divine guidance shall see visions—a big difference!

What are 'dreams' as contrasted with 'visions'? Though in some contexts 'dreams' mean 'visions'—as contrasted with 'visions' it stands for 'idle dreams'—vague idle wishes and anticipations of "old" men, men incapable of action, men without an urge, without power.

It is not a question of chronological age. All men (and women) for a matter of that, who dream idle dreams are "old" whatever their age in years may be. It is one of the saddest sights in our Society—the sight of men and women old at twenty and thirty. They have only idle wishes or vague anticipations—no vitality, no forward outlook, no courage, no dynamic force, distracted by vague fears, disintegrated for want of purpose, with a disarming sense of futility—hide bound by conventions and prejudices, worshipping the past almost with reverence, they get demoralised and degenerated before they are fifty. You will see these walking and talking fossils every day of your life in your churches and your prayer meetings, in your clubs and your offices, in your Councils and your Committees. You will even see them in high places!

What are the visions that it is the privilege of young men to see? A "vision" is an appearance, a voice commonly thought of as supernatural, mysterious and symbolic presenting itself to the bodily eye or ear either in sleep or in an exalted waking mood. But visions of the spirit, visions without which a people perish, also take the form of high ideas and lofty ideals. Those who are inspired by such visions, and such ideals are driven forward to dare and to do filled with power, they alone are young—ever young. Your young men shall see visions!

James Allen in his Essay "As a man thinketh" says: "The dreamers (not idle dreamers) are the saviours of the world.

Composer, sculptor, painter, poet, prophet, sage, these are the makers of the after-world, the architects of heaven. The world is beautiful because they have lived; without them haunting humanity would perish.

Cherish your visions; cherish your ideals; cherish the music that stirs your heart, the rhapsody that forms in your mind, the rapture that forms in your soul, the pure thoughts that flow out of them with heavenly environment; of those, if you but remain true to

them, your world will at last be built."

That is the place a vision, an ideal has in the life of a man as well as that of an institution. In fact what makes a young man a true young man, a Y. M. C. A. a truly Christian institution is the finding and cherishing of an ideal. It is not only individuals that lose the "one thing needful" and like Martha, become "careful" and troubled about many things, but even institutions—Churches, Schools, Y. M. C. A.'s—lose hold of the ideal and become careful and troubled about many things—numbers, finance, and what not!

If we truly appreciate the value of the wonderful drug for rejuvenation or rather perennial youth we shall not anxiously run after monkey glands or their substitutes.

One young man with a vision, may be just a few leaves and fishes, will save a multitude from perishing from hunger in the wilderness of barren materialism. Where there is no vision the people perish!

One significant defect in our Society, you will pardon me mentioning it, is the absence of high ideals. What may I ask, are the aims and ideals most popular in the country? Power and money, and material at all costs, by fair means or foul; to go up the Social ladder, to get to advantages somehow, anyhow for one's family and friends—these seem to be the common ends of life. What are the subjects of discussion when men meet? Salaries, promotions, profits and the like. What, when women meet? Servants, clothes, prices and other women. What are the topics of conversation among adults generally? Business gossip, and things out of the newspapers. What is the aim of an officer of whatever standing? To get to the next higher office by hook or by crook.

What is a man respected for? Not his worth, but his position and possessions. Who are called upon to do religious ceremonies? State Councilors or high Govt. Officials. What is the effect produced on the Young by the stories of bribery and corruption in high places? What are the ideals of the doctors and lawyers, that avoid the stult gate and the narrow way of service to enter the wide gate and walk the broad way that leads to a big bank balance? Whose vision is higher, that of the Young Civil Servant letting himself be led for at the fancy fair or the young woman who is willing to go with the man, who marries her father's money? Or is my story exaggerated and you see all round you responsiveness to what is noble and beautiful?

How many stories can we relate of men and women devoted to an idea and ready to suffer and strive heroically for a conviction, to dare all, trusting in "the evidence of things not seen"? The devotion to an idea, that be a noble one, will confer benefits on the world a thousand fold more than the devotion to wife, child or friend or any number of dear ones! There are many among us devoted to persons—may more, there are some proud of their devotion to a dog!

But the world is moved by ideas! Bolivar and his dream of freedom for S. America; John Brown, whose body lies a mouldering in the grave, but whose spirit moves on with his aim of breaking slavery; Lincoln with his ideal for the Union of States; Garibaldi with his desire to redeem Italy; Livingstone wanting to let light into Africa, Florence Nightingale, Pasteur, Father Damien, Gordon, Baden Powell, Tagore, Gandhi, why are they heroes? Because they all devoted themselves to ideas larger than themselves and their families—ideas of humanity, that that influence has been profoundly felt in the whole world.

Visions do not just come by chance or haphazard. Saul did not meet his vision as he was idly walking about the streets of Damascus. No, he was active and enthusiastic and was on a vigorous mission—incompatible, no doubt, with his nobility of purpose—hence the vision. Are we to imagine that the vision to save Orleans and France came to Joan of Arc, when she was an idle gossip scrubbing pans? Those who have visions are those who are prepared—not for a vision, that always comes as a surprise—prepared for service, for devoted service. The man or woman with no aim above the daily round, the common task, will never have a vision!

I hope it is not felt by the young men here that these are far off things; that great men, men who have pursued high ideals or have devoted themselves to lofty ideas are to be found only in America, and Europe and India, — in distant lands and distant times. Here in Batticaloa we have no great men. There is no chance here, we must at least go to Colombo, or join the Civil Service or enter the State Council!

"Greatness consists not in holding some high office; greatness really consists in doing some great deed with little means, in the accomplishment of vast purposes from the private ranks of life; that is true greatness.

He who can give his people better streets, better homes, better schools, better churches, more religion, more of happiness, more of God, he that can be a blessing to the community in which he lives tonight will be great any where but he, who cannot be a blessing where he now lives, will never be great anywhere on God's earth."

"We live in deeds not years; in feeling, not in figures on a dial; in thought not in breaths; we should count time by heart throbs, in the cause of right."

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Printed and published for the American Ceylon Mission by Mr. V. Joseph Ariyanayagam, residing at Tallipalai, at the American Ceylon Mission Press, Tallipalai.