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# The Morning Star

Friday, November 30, 1945.

## THE S. I. U. C. FOREIGN MISSION

The letter addressed by Dr. C. T. Chelliah, Convener of the Foreign Mission Fund Committee, to every member of the S. I. U. C. which we published in our last issue is, we believe, quite opportune. As we have pointed out once before in these columns, the time is now ripe for a re-orientation of our policy and programme of work with regard to our Churches. The present cataclysmic changes in the educational field, we should consider, in a sense, as providential as they are bound to bring about such a re-orientation which is long overdue.

It is no secret that hitherto we, as members of the Jaffna Council of the South India United Church, have been giving our minds and our money to what was not properly the work of the Church. Our general policy, though conceived with the best of intentions, have been more school-centric rather than Church-centric. Recent events have, however, proved that not only have many of our schools not justified our expectations of them but that we can no longer retain them as necessary adjuncts of the Church. We should therefore accept the Government decision with a sense of relief because "without any serious injury to our children we are relieved of what even in present conditions is a very great burden—both administrative and financial."

We feel, at the same time that now is the time quite opportune for the Jaffna Council of the South India United Church to think of bigger things and to do something more worthy of its rich traditions. Before we can respond to the invitation of the S. I. U. C. to take a share in the Foreign Missionary enterprise which they have launched, we have lot of spade work to do at home. First and foremost we must prepare the "seed-bed" that is necessary for the training of young men with talents who could see visions of foreign missionary enterprises. This is a task which the Church should undertake with all the seriousness and all the earnestness it can command. Our Senior Ministers should be relieved of as many duties as could be conveniently taken off from them, in order that they can give more of their time to the Youth of the Church. The formation of Youth Auxiliaries to our Churches was, as we commented sometime before in these columns, a step in the right direction. But without proper guidance and sound organisation, these auxiliaries may very well degenerate into secular Clubs and Associations which will be more of a liability to the Church than an asset. Whatever the activities of these Auxiliaries, there should be a strong religious bias given to them so that their ultimate object should be to provide the seed-bed necessary for young men with talents to get a call for the Master's Service. With the Youth of the Church receiving the right training and with the members of our Churches keenly alive to their obligations to the Church and to the Council, we have little doubt that we can confidently embark on Foreign Missionary Enterprises, a task which though hitherto neglected, is by no means the least important work of the Church.

## CEYLON ASSOCIATION OF SELANGOR PASSES 2 RESOLUTIONS

Two resolutions, the first thanking the people and the Government of Ceylon for the internal interest they have taken over them in this time of trial and tribulation, and extending a cordial welcome to the representatives of the Government of Ceylon in Malaya, and the second, reaffirming the loyalty of members to the British and extending co-operation to the B. M. A. in all its activities, were passed at the extraordinary general meeting of the Ceylon Association of Selangor held at the Town Hall, Kuala Lumpur, on Saturday the 17th.

In the course of his address to the meeting, Mr. M. W. Navaratnam, the President, asked those present to direct their thoughts with feelings of thankfulness to the vast number of gallant men who laid down their lives in the field of battle for the cause of right and freedom which the Allied victory had secured for them.

He appealed to all patriotic Ceylonese to join the Association and stated that in the new drive for membership already launched 200 applicants had been considered at the last meeting by the Committee.

### SUITABLE PREMISES

Arrangements were being made, he said, to rent out a suitable building for housing the Association, and also to maintain a library and reading room. He also revealed that the Provident Fund for members, inaugurated before the war, would begin to function from January, 1946.

Dealing with the visit to Malaya of Mr. Rajasingham of the Government of Ceylon to study local conditions of Ceylonese, the President stated that the coming of a representative from Ceylon did not mean that the interests of Ceylonese had not received and would not receive the consideration of the local Government.

On the question of the proposed Malaya Union, the President stated the announcement was a welcome one and in keeping with Great Britain's ideal of gradual development by which the masses of mankind should have a share in the government of their countries.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. M. W. Navaratnam; Vice-Presidents: Mr. A. L. Stabel and Mr. S. Karalasingam; Hon. Secretary: Mr. P. Ratnadurai; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. W. W. Fernando; Hon. Literary Secretary: Mr. L. C. Jayatilaka; Hon. Sports Secretary: Mr. A. de N. Frugiet; Committee of Management: Messrs. J. F. Leenbruggen, A. C. Chandrasegarey, H. J. C. Kulasingha, V. Kana. pathipillai, P. Mylvaganam, K. Subramaniam, V. Saravananth; Hon. Auditors: Mr. S. Vaitilingam and Mr. J. D. A. Puvirajasinghe; Provident Fund Association Members: Messrs. V. Chelliah, V. Kanagasabay, C. O. La Brooy and K. Sammuram.

## CORRESPONDENCE

(I)

### WHITE PAPER PROPOSALS

Sir,

Your Editorial of Nov 16, 1945, under the beautiful Caption "Silver Linings" is very optimistic. I wish every-body could share your optimism. You say that you hope "that all this friendliness (shown by the Leader in his speech) would be translated into action." It is indeed the hope of everyone. But at the same time it must be mentioned that what the Tamil people were making a demand for was not this variable quantity (which may vary from infinity to zero) of good-will and friendliness from individuals in government and administration, but their legitimate right as a significant minority for a reasonable share in the Government, provided in the Constitution. If this attitude of friendliness and good-will had been displayed at an earlier stage of the agitation for reform (in your own words) and the claims asserted were admitted and provided for even to an attenuated form in the Constitution, a great deal of time, energy and man power, not to speak of heat, would have been saved on both sides. Again it is this great desire to get this personal friendliness and good will and what may result from it to them that made our Tamil members forget the people and succumb to the wail of the Magician waved though not so artfully in the Council Chamber. It is easy for one to say that he never speaks as a Sinhalese but the true test is not studied words read from a written speech particularly on such special occasions, but deeds and sentiments expressed at other times. If this test is applied to Mr. Senanayake.....?

There was no doubt at any time in anybody's mind that when a new Constitution was granted that it would be accepted by the Tamil in any case. It is only an occasion for the Tamil to say for "betrayal" paraded by the

recalcitrant Tamil Members on the plea that voting against the Motion for acceptance of the White Paper proposals implied non-co-operation when the Constitution became law. They did not want to see that such an adverse vote would only have meant that the proposals were not satisfactory to the Tamils. And it was such an indication that was wanted by H. M. Government. A White Paper after all is not a final decision promulgated by the Government. It is only a report published for information and discussion.

Now that the Tamil Members by their vote have helped to make it final, it is every-body's duty to operate it in the right spirit when it comes, and as you say "the extent to which the Tamils would collaborate will have to depend on the degree of confidence the majority community is able to command among the minorities".

But the work of the Tamils and their organization the All Ceylon Tamil Congress does not end here. This is only an incident in their life. They must go on pursuing this policy of holding up the principle of racial non domination and continue to work for the political, economic and cultural advance of the Tamil people and to promote the welfare of the people of Ceylon as a whole, Esto Perpetua.

Yours truly,

A. J. R. Vethanayam.

(II)

## THE UNITY MOVEMENT AND EUPHONY

In sponsoring, introducing and advocating the new united way of life in Ceylon it is highly desirable that thinkers, writers, speakers and journalists should scrupulously avoid the use of such disruptive, corrosive and cacophonous terms as Race and Community and instead underline and emphasise the adhesive, accretive and harmonic term *unity*. Words, like atomic bombs, can accomplish much if aptly used. There is wisdom and statesmanship in the right use of words, spoken and written. The word Ceylonese is melodious and all embracing for unity purposes for common and national ends.

Yours etc,  
S. J. C. Kadirgamar.

Lalita,  
Colombo.

## Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs

The undermentioned commodities will be issued in the Jaffna District to all consumers except those served by Co-operative Stores on the basis of the rations given below for the period 5.11.45 to 2.12.45.

Mathe seed	— 3/4 oz. per consumer
Coriander	— 3/4 oz. " "
Turmeric	— 3/4 oz. " "
Garlic	— 3/4 oz. " "

E. Goonaratne

Asst. Government Agent (Emergency)  
The Kachcheri,  
Jaffna, 20th November, 1945.

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