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

At the Annual Meeting of the American Ceylon Mission held on Jany. 15th at Inuvil, Dr. Robert M. Kennedy M. D. was appointed Superintendent of Green Memorial Hospital, Manipay and McLeod Hospital, Inuvil. He has already assumed work in both institutions. Dr. Kennedy is also an L. R. C. P., London and M. B. S. England. We trust the medical work of the A. C. M. will flourish greatly under his able guidance.

We understand that the Annual Meeting of the Jaffna Council of the S. I. U. C. takes place on the 9th, and the 10th of February.

The Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society Limited will be held at the Town Hall on Monday the 29th January at 4.45 p.m.

Mr. R. B. Naish, G. A. N. P., President will preside.

A Criminal Session of the Supreme Court for the District of Jaffna, Mannar and Mullaitivu will be held at the Town Hall, Jaffna, on February 12.

A register of managers and proprietors of Assisted Schools is being prepared by the Education Department in accordance with the requirements of the new Education Ordinance.

North Ceylon Methodist Synod.

The following transfers and changes were made by the Synod which met last week in Batticaloa:

Rev. C. A. Smith, Jaffna to Trincomalee; Rev. C. W. Gnanamuttu, Kaddaveily to Tirukoil; Rev. R. J. M. Wilkes, Trincomalee to Arasadi Training School.

Rev. R. V. Thambipillai, Chelkandi to Kallar; Rev. S. W. Arasaratnam, Bangalore to Chenkaidi; Mr. V. J. Arumugam, Akharappattu to Pattur; Mr. S. N. Arumugam, Mannar to Pt. Pedro; Rev. S. R. Winslow, Tirukoil to Kaddaveily; Mr. S. A. Solomon Gundy to Puthukamam and Mannar.

Mr. V. E. Chelliah, Kallar to Kodamunai; Rev. B. Holland to go on furlough.

Mr. R. S. I. Williams to be Principal Jaffna Central College; Miss M. B. Barber to be Principal of Vembadi when Miss Seowcroft goes on furlough; Miss M. Murugattoy to go on furlough; E. Everatt to be Principal of Pt. Pedro Girls' School; Rev. M. S. Chinniah to be Manager of all Vernacular Schools in Jaffna Peninsula in addition to Circuit work.

The Synod itself was a memorable one, and will always be remembered for some of its important resolutions and decisions. The Synod decided to appoint one of its ministers as Manager of all Vernacular Schools, and release the other ministers and workers in the area for full time evangelistic and pastoral work. The Synod also made history by electing Rev. James S. Mather as the first Ceylonese minister for the office of Chairman of a District. We understand that the election was conducted by Rev. Weaver in a most solemn manner. He got the whole Synod to be in silent prayer and meditation for some time, and seek divine guidance. There was no name proposed or seconded; and the members were asked to write the name of the minister they were urged to write from within. The vote was by secret ballot.

The Synod also decided to ask the Provincial Synod to invite other Protestant denominations to send representatives to form a Board to study the possibility of a scheme of reunion for the Churches in Ceylon.

The marriage took place at Udavil Church on Monday the 22nd January at 4 p.m. of Mr. Alfred Thambapillai Guraratnam son of Mr. & Mrs. N. Thambapillai of Chivakachehery, (of Messrs Walker Sons & Co. Ltd.) and Miss Atuptham Ganapushanani Murugesu of Sanguvaly, Manipalay.

OBITUARY

The death of Mrs. Anna Claveland Kasanmah Thuraiasingham, the widow of the late Mr. J. R. Thuraiasingham, Retired Chief Sanitary Engineer of the Madras Presidency, took place at her residence in Jaffna Town on the 12th inst. She had heart trouble for about ten days and the death came rather suddenly.

Mrs. Thuraiasingham was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Arudachalam of Vaddukoddai, and a grand-daughter of Mr. J. P. Cooke. Her father was an Engineer in the Public Works Department of Ceylon. The Thuraiasingham family lived for many years in Madras, and Mrs. Thuraiasingham was a well-known figure in the higher circles of the City. She was an admirable hostess and used to entertain some of the most prominent people in the City. She was also an exceptionally able lady and managed her family affairs very well. She was a devoted mother and trained her children in simple and godly ways. She was prominent in many of the social service activities in the City, and was an active member of her Church. When she returned to Jaffna, she continued her religious and social activities. Her faith was evident in her last hours, when, surrounded by her family, she commended them to God. She died in peace.

She was 52 years old at the time of her death and leaves eight children, five daughters and three sons. Her married daughter is the wife of Mr. Edwin Black of the P. W. D. Besides her children, she leaves Mrs. Thangammam Arudachalam, her aged mother, two brothers and a sister, Mrs. Nesam Saravanamuttu M. S. C. To these and to her numerous relations we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

The funeral services were conducted by Revs. R. C. P. Welch B. C. D. Mather, and G. M. Kanagaratnam. Rev. E. T. Williams and Mr. J. V. Chelliah spoke at the service held in the house. She rests besides her husband in the Vaddukoddai Cemetery.

The death took place on the 17th instant at his residence at Barnes Place, Colombo of Muddahyar C. Rasanayagam, J.P. He was seventy years old and retired from Government Service about thirteen years ago. The outstanding abilities of the deceased was recognized by the Government and he was promoted from Clerical Service to Civil Service. His remains were cremated the following morning at the General Cemetery, Kavatte.

In his retirement he devoted a good deal of his time in research work, and particularly in the history of Jaffna. He will be much missed in literary circles.

The remains of J. M. Canaganayagam (son-in-law of Mr. A. V. Charles of Navaly brother of Mr. J. M. Kathirgamar, Head Clerk, Irrigation Office, Anuradhapura, and father of Mr. Anantban of the Railway Audit Office) were interred at the Naval Buryal Ground on the 19th inst.

Personal

The Rt. Rev. C. D. Horsley Bishop of Colombo, left for India on the 19th inst. to attend the Episcopal Synod at Calcutta and will be away for about a month.

The Rev. K. S. Murugesu B.A. of the Methodist Church retires next month after thirty years of faithful service.

Mr. A. C. Lawton, retired Secretary of the Oriental Insurance Company has returned to Jaffna permanently and is residing at "Lawton (Walawa)" Udavil Road, Manipalay.

Mr. E. B. Tissaverasinghe has been appointed to a cadetship in the Ceylon Civil Service and to be attached to the Jaffna Kachehery with effect from the 3rd instant.

Mr. J. W. A. Kadirgamar, who entered the ministry of the Methodist Church, Malaya in 1938 and was then ordained a deacon, was now admitted into full membership of the Methodist Conference and was ordained an Elder, on Sunday the 7th inst. at a special Ordination Service at the Wesley Church Singapore by Bishop Edwin F. Lee B. D. L. L. D. Rev. Kadirgamar continues as pastor Methodist Church, Seremban and Minister-in-Charge, Tamil work, Negri Sembilan State.

Rev. S. M. Thevathason, M. A. who for many years has been a leading Minister of the Methodist Church of Malaya has been appointed a District Superintendent and has charge of the Mission work in the Southern district, the whole of Johore State and Singapore.

New Tamil Proctors: K. Sinnatambay, N. Catheraswamy, K. N. Coomarasamy, R. Kanaharathnam, K. Kathirgamassekharan, M. Mathiparanathan, C. C. Niles, S. Patiramsobhy E. R. Rajaratnam, R. D. P. Rajandran, T. Sangarapillai, G. S. Sivapiragasam C. A. R. Sittampalam, V. Thamotheerampillai.

Inter-Arts Results - Tamils: - B. Vaitthianathan, C. Thamotheerampillai, P. V. Mahadeva, J. P. Sanders, B. Mahadeva, M. Nadarajah, N. T. Rasiah, P. Kumariah, T. W. Rajaratnam, V. V. Rajaratnam, N. Ramalingam, E. I. Ponnammal, R. Kanthaswamy, S. Nagalingam, M. F. Selviah, P. T. Sivapiragasam, C. Sivapiragasam, K. Sivasubramanian, K. T. Wilson M. Thambo, A. R. R. Thambayrajah, S. S. Edward, J. Kandappu, A. Maruthalingam, M. Nadarajah, K. Sellathurai, S. Sivaguru, K. Charavanamuttu, C. Thiruvavakkarasu, D. E. Nesammai, V. Kumarasamy, Rev. P. C. T. Emmanuel, A. Thiruvavakkarasu, A. Vaitthilingam, M. V. S. C. Savundranayagam, S. Subramaniam.

According to the reports submitted to the North Ceylon District Methodist Synod there were in the District 2097 full members, 963 trial members and 4615 members of the Christian Community.

There were 80 elementary day Schools and 11 Secondary and bilingual boarding Schools.

The total contributions for the support of the Church work from members were about Rs. 40,000 of which Rs. 27,200 was for the support of the Ministry.

Between 60 and 70 Social Hygiene clinics are to be established in various parts of the Island in 1940.

Six Students have qualified as Advocates and 37 as Proctors in the Law examination held last month.

About 600 applications have been received for the Government Civil Service examination to be held this year.

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The Morning Star

Friday Jan. 26, 1940.

CHRISTIANITY AND NATIONALISM

Some days back somewhere in Ceylon, some person raised what it seemed to him an incontrovertible argument that Buddhism is the national religion of Ceylon and therefore no Christian can be a nationalist. And ever since the Press has been inundated with frantic effusions in support of this argument. We are glad, nay we are proud, that Christianity cannot be confined to Ceylon only as her national religion, for Christ is universal transcending all barriers of race or country, and Christianity can be acclaimed by every country in the world as its own national religion. Hence, we are not concerned in these columns with examining the weight of the argument, so pontifically adduced by a 'nationalist' Buddhist. However, we cannot let this opportunity pass without reminding such fanatic as he of how much harm such a remark as the one referred to above can do to the country. The state of affairs in the Island is already bad with the communal tension between the various communities. And now an attempt is being made to create communal feelings with regard to the various religious communities in our midst. The more this attempt succeeds, the more will the country's progress be retarded. Therefore we are particularly happy that Devar Surya Sena, who is the son of one of the greatest nationalists of Ceylon—the late Sir James Peiris and who is himself a nationalist of no ordinary type, took the earliest opportunity to explode the myth that no Christian can be a nationalist. At the lunch held in Colombo recently in connection with the Methodist Synod, he said, in meeting this argument: "I am a Christian and I am proud to be a nationalist because I feel that if I am a Christian, that must enhance my primary loyalty. For if I am a Christian I must be a better man, I must be a better husband, I must be a better friend and a better Sinhalese." These words sum up the Christian attitude.

A word to our Christian readers. The Christians themselves should be blamed for having made it possible for their non-Christian friends to speak of them in such disparaging terms. In the past, the bringing of Westernised Christianity, in the words of Devar Surya Sena, to the East had led to a certain amount of confused thinking. There were some people who appeared to think that those who accepted Christ had to cut themselves off from their own culture, music and literature. The result was an exclusive, anglicised community living and worshipping in a manner entirely alien to the land of their birth. Specially in the manner of worship, there was nothing suited to the tradition, genius or culture of our land. Time was when to think of having a thevaram, Christian though in matter it was, chanted during a service, in a Church was considered sacrilegious. But those days have gone, we are happy to say. Today indigenisation of our church service has progressed fairly well though not to perfection. Without compromising our loyalty to Christ, we Christians should do all in our power to make Christianity recognisable and acceptable to the people of this country. The time is come for the Church to meet this challenge and move forward, making its own contribution vital and dynamic towards Christianity. And what is the attitude of us, Christians, towards the legitimate aspiration of our country for responsible Government? Do we wish

to allow ourselves to be termed reactionaries? The answer is an unhesitating 'no'. We are sure we are voicing the sentiment of the Christian public when we say that the Christians are one with the others who are labouring hard to usher in the day when Ceylon can enjoy a responsible, even an independent, Government. We would not be dealing in any exaggeration when we say that the following tribute paid to the Indian Christians by the Madras Hindu recently in one of its editorials may well be applied to the local Christians: "The Christians who in point of numbers come only next to the Moslems among the minorities are permeated more and more by the staunch nationalism that the leaders of the community have always displayed." Nevertheless, the Christian community cannot be silent when its loyalty to Christ comes into conflict with its loyalty to the country.

MISSIONARY RE-VISITS JAFFNA.

That there was still immense scope for progress, if only the Jaffna man ceased to lead a self-centred life, was the opinion expressed by Dr. M. H. Harrison, Principal, Theological College, Bangalore, speaking at the Town Hall, where Mrs. Harrison and he were entertained by the Jaffna College Alumni Association some days back. In thanking the gathering Dr. Harrison said that he was overcome by the cordiality and the generosity of the old boys of Jaffna College, and was taken up by the expression of their goodwill.

He was always strongly impressed with the Jaffna life, because unlike India there was ample and free opportunities for the Westerner to study her life. The gulf between East and West was not so great in Jaffna as in India. It was not because the Jaffna people were highly westernised, but because they mingled freely with the Westerner. This inferiority complex that was prominent in Indian life was absolutely absent in Jaffna.

When he (the speaker) came to Jaffna one of the things that struck him most was that she had undergone much change. He was glad to see signs of progress in Jaffna, though many people had said much against it. There was still immense scope for progress, if only the Jaffna man ceased to lead a self-centred life. In every walk of life progress was due to self-forgetfulness.

Mrs. Harrison, speaking next, said that she found a little pessimism in Jaffna. The Jaffna man did not believe that he was capable of growth. He was fond of talking about the good old days and boasting about the glories of the past.

Citing the present war, she said that people fought it in a half-hearted way, because they hated to destroy their fellowmen. During the previous war the people found a thrill in fighting. This revealed that though the future was dark and uncertain, there was hope for the ideals of man. They must conquer their pessimism and have hope. Otherwise they would defeat their own ends. If they believed in growth they could grow.

She expressed her good wishes to the gathering and thanked them for the honour they had accorded them that evening.

Mr. A. W. Natarajah, Advocate, (Secretary), thanked Dr. and Mrs. Harrison.

THE AMERICAN MISSION GIRLS' BILINGUAL SCHOOL, PANDATERUPPU, OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony of the American Mission Girls' Bilingual School, Pandateruppu, came off on Saturday the 13th inst. This school is the former Girls' Bilingual School, which was at Udavil for a period of 113 years and which was decided to be transferred to the present site owing to congestion in the school compound at Udavil.

The ceremony consisted of two parts, one the opening of Houses and the other a public meeting.

The four boarding houses have been named after four persons who were connected with the school at Udavil for long periods of time, two of whom were missionaries, the late Miss Susan R. Howland and the late Miss Hillis, and the other two of whom were nationals—the late Rev. S. Elyathamby and the late Mr. C. S. Lyman. The Howland and the Hillis Houses were declared open by two of their pupils, Mrs. B. Lawton and Mrs. D. N. Ira Gould respectively. The Elyathamby and the Lyman Houses were declared open by Miss Grace Raju, a grand daughter of the Rev. Elyathamby, and by Mrs. A. J. Lyman, the wife of the late Mr. C. S. Lyman.

The public meeting which followed the opening of the Houses was presided over by Mr. R. B. Nair, the Government Agent, N.P. The devotions were led by Rev. K. A. Kandiah, the Principal, Mrs. W. B. Kanagathammam read the annual report, in the course of which she briefly traced the history of the school and gave the reasons for the change of site. The greetings of the Jaffna Council of the S. L. U. C. the Pandateruppu Church, and the Pandateruppu community were conveyed by Rev. K. C. P. Welch, the President of the Council, Dr. C. E. Chelliah, and Mr. M. Thampa a member of the Pandateruppu Village Committee respectively. Remarks were also offered by Messrs. C. T. Louage, the Divisional Inspector of Schools N. D. and J. V. Chelliah. In between the speeches the school girls entertained the audience with some songs.

The chief address of the evening was delivered by Mrs. M. H. Harrison of the United Theological College, Bangalore, who was connected with the school at Udavil as a teacher (Miss M. K. Hastings). In the course of her very interesting and instructive address, she first spoke of the significance of the transfer of the school from its former site to the present site.

She then referred to some men and women, who had laboured to mould the school into shape. Particular mention was made to the late Miss Susan Howland, the late Mr. C. S. Lyman, Mrs. E. G. Nichols, (formerly) Miss Grace Vining, Miss Grace L. Paul and Mrs. W. B. Kanagathammam, the present Principal, speaking of the early days of the school, she specially referred to the days of Mrs. Winslow, and paid a tribute to the beautiful qualities that characterised the girls of that generation. Happiness and cheerfulness under difficulties were found in these girls, who never worked for themselves but strove for the welfare of others. Mrs. Harrison expressed the hope that the girls who would be turned out of the school would continue in them these characteristics and those of modern civility—courage especially. She urged the girls of Jaffna to learn from the Women's Movement in India which was moving very much faster than any such movement in Ceylon. Women as a team, should become leaders of public opinion. Education should create in them a critical spirit, which could make them not merely to see the truth, behind an advertisement about a patent medicine and understand political speeches better, but, what is more, distinguish propaganda from truth.

Mr. Nair, in his remarks from the chair, said that a community that educated only its men was half educated. A sound cultural tradition was essential to the civilisation of a community. The education of men only could not build such a sound tradition. Hence, the aim of education should be to train the mothers in such a way as to make them build the tradition which might be passed on to their children.

The benediction pronounced by Rev. S. T. Assocatham brought the very successful function to a close.

Manipay Parish Social Service League

The following was a message sent by Rev. Esther S. Gramaprasad, O. M. I. in connection with the League's Anniversary

"The first annual report is very gratifying. It evidences the spirit of self-sacrifice and service with which you are animated. Your League is to be congratulated for having done so much good work in spite of its infancy and the lack of financial support. Your reference to carping criticism actuated by personal jealousies or malice, spite and ill-will; is distressing. This sort of evil disposition—the bane of all co-operative work, arises from a wrong outlook. Man is a social being and as such has duties towards the various members of the society in which he lives and moves. Those who are placed above others by their position, education etc. have to contribute to the well-being of the less favoured members. The head presides over the body not for its own sake but in order to guide and benefit all the members of the body. So too the leading members of every society are intended to guide and benefit the other members. They should be persuaded that wealth and influence have been given them not so much for themselves as for the service of others. This ideal alone will give the Social Service League its real power for good. I wish your league all prosperity and pray the almighty to imbue all its members with the true spirit of neighbourly love which is based on the love of God, the common Father of us all."

The Vadamaratchi Co-operative Societies Point Pedro.

A training class of the Vadamaratchi Co-operative Societies was held at Vigneshwara College Hall Karaveddy on Saturday the 20th inst., under the auspices of the Vadamaratchi Co-operative Union. More than 150 delegates were present.

Mr. C. Raghunathan Asst. Registrar of Co-operative Societies Jaffna presided. In his opening address he stressed the members to cooperate in all the activities and to see that these Societies are brought to a very good footing and that he is very happy to see that a good number of Societies were registered last year.

The Mudaliyar K. Chinnathambiyar, Retired Manager spoke on local industries and he requested the Co-operative Societies to start some industries and promised to render all co-operation to bring same to a success. He said that this co-operative Society is able to work without any financial assistance from the Central Bank, and there are three hundred members in his Society.

Mr. P. Nadesan Sanitary Inspector, Point Pedro, spoke on Rural Sanitation and requested the delegates to organise health activities through their Co-operative Societies. He volunteered to give health talks to the Societies if he is invited. He urged them to start Comunal Conservatory system through the Co-operative Societies.

Mr. V. Ponnusamy, Co-operative Inspector, Point Pedro, the organiser of this Training Class spoke on 'How to keep Books and accounts of co-operative Societies.'

Mr. E. J. Sandrasegaram, Supervising Inspector of Co-operative Societies dealt on the procedure to be followed in conducting a General Meeting.

Mr. R. C. S. Cooke, Supervising Inspector of Co-operative Societies also spoke on the subject.

Then Mr. V. Selvanayagam Agricultural Inspector, Jaffna, gave an interesting and instructive lecture on local agricultural products viz. Chillies, onions, pepper, peas etc. He promised to render all assistance if the Societies take a lead.

Mr. S. Gurusampillai, spoke on 'Poultry Farming'. In a discussion Mr. Sam T. Solomons wanted the members of the Societies who are earnest in starting the industry to send a

delegate to a Government Poultry farm to study.

The class came to a close at 5 p. m. when Mr. S. Gurusampillai proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, to the lecturers, to Mr. V. Ponnusamy and to the Union for having got up the Class. All the delegates and lecturers were entertained for lunch.

Mr. Sam T. Solomons, last year's Chairman of the Vadamaratchi Co-operative Society Union was unanimously re-elected Chairman for the current year at the Annual General Meeting at Vigneshwara College Karaveddy.

Mr. Solomons took the chair and thanked all the delegates who represented the 42 Co-operative Societies in this District. Mr. V. K. Subramaniam asked the Chairman what they should do for the Societies which have not sent their delegates to the training class that morning. After a discussion it was decided to bring the matter before the Asst. Registrar of Co-operative Societies Jaffna.

The following Office bearers were elected for the current year:—

Chairman: Mr. Sam T. Solomons; Vice Chairman: Mr. V. K. Subramaniam; Secretary: Mr. K. Velantham; Asst. Secretary: Mr. S. Kanagasigam; Treasurer: Mr. S. Gurusampillai.

Mudaliyar K. Chinnathambiyar, Retired Manager and Mr. Sam T. Solomons were elected as delegates from Vadamaratchy to the Central Bank and to the Federation Committee respectively.

U. D. C. Jaffna. At a general meeting of the Jaffna U. D. C. held on the 12th inst. the following committees were appointed:—

The Board of Survey of 1939, Finance Committee, Housing Scheme Committee, Law Committee, Light Committee, Works Committee and Board of management of the Jaffna Central Library.

It was also decided to spend Rs. 300 out of Rs. 1,500 provided under head "B. 12" for the Kaladdy Amman Kovil Road.

To appoint the Secretary to verify on oath the Annual Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Council for the year 1939

To spend Rs. 2,500 out of the Council's funds and request the Central Government to contribute Rs. 2,500.

To renew the fixed deposit of Rs. 10,000 together with the interest accrued thereon for a period of one year in the Jaffna Co-operative Central Bank Ltd.

To appoint 2 additional midwives and to call for applications for the posts.

Before the end of the meeting, Mr. C. Ponnambalam moved that the Council do place on record its appreciation of the services rendered to the Council by Mr. S. A. Sabapathy as Chairman for three years.

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