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No. 6

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

PLEASE NOTE.

All Subscriptions for 1940 are payable within the first three months. The Manager will be obliged if these are remitted without undue delay.

Events to Come

- Feb. 9-12, Methodist Church, Ceylon Provincial Synod at Jaffna.
- 9 & 10, Annual Meeting of the J. C. S. I. C. C. at Telpallai.
- Islamic Year (1359) commences.
- 11, Hospital Sunday.
- 11, First Sunday in Lent.
- 11, Memorial Service to Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Thiruvengadam at Vaddukoddai Church 4 p.m.
- 11, Celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Mr. S. C. Arnold's services as Sunday School Superintendent at the Naval Church 4.30 p.m.
- 12, Criminal Session of the Supreme Court commences at the Town Hall, Jaffna.

NEWS IN BRIEF

At the adjourned meeting of the American Ceylon Mission held on February 5th at Vaddukoddai the following office-bearers were elected:-

President—Mr. J. V. Chelliah, Secretary—Rev. S. R. Bunker, Treasurer—Mr. E. C. Luckwood.

A vote of appreciation was passed on Miss Peak of the Uduvil Girls' School, who was going back to America. Miss Peak entertained for Colombo on Wednesday the 7th.

The Annual General Meeting of the congregation of St. John's Church, Chundikkai, was held on the 4th instant at 5 p.m. in the Figg Hall, presided over by the Vicar, the Revd. V. B. Muthuvaloe. After accepting the Report and adopting the audited statement of accounts for 1939, the election of office bearers resulted as follows: Vicar's Warden—Mr. F. Mortimer, People's Warden—Mr. C. L. Selvaratnam; Sidesmen—Messrs J. A. J. E. Sivasubramanian, E. T. Scott, C. S. Ponnaturai, S. Sivapragasam, S. V. Eliahambay.

Auditor—Mr. J. S. Lewis; Diocesan Council Representatives—Mr. P. Mortimer, Mrs. V. B. Muthuvaloe, Mr. J. A. J. Sivasubramanian; Messrs. E. T. Scott, V. N. Bartlett and C. S. Ponnaturai.

Mr. G. C. S. Corea, the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce visited the Textile Demonstration Camp at Valveturai on Sunday, the fourth instant, at 3 p.m., with Mr. R. B. Nair, Government Agent N. P., Mr. N. Velupillai, Manager Vadamarachi and Mr. A. Ranganathan, Asst. Registrar Cooperative Societies N. D. The Minister wanted the people of the North to do their part and said that the Government was ready to help them. Further he said that he was glad to see that Jaffna people were very anxious to study new things and were very good in industries. He complimented the workmen on their success in being able to produce new and fancy goods within a short time. Later he visited the other camp at Point Pedro.

The Hartley College ground was the scene of a pleasant function last Saturday when the members of the College Cricket Eleven were at home to Mr. Kenneth De Silva, Supt. of Excise, Point Pedro and to Mrs. De Silva after their recent wedding in Colombo. The event took the form of a cricket match followed by a 'social' at which was present a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen.

Flag Day Collections for the Dead and Blind Mount Lavinia:-

Schools Rs. 345.39 Jaffna Schools Sports Association 100.00 Managers 87.05 Village Committees Rs. 138.75 Hospitals 99.74 Shops, garages, theatres etc 21.67 Rest houses 10.42 Private collecting and Street collecting 312.92 Total Rs. 1115.95.

May Box.

The Point Pedro Lawyers led a Deputation to wait on Mr. J. W. R. Langagoon, Legal Secretary who was on an inspection, to make representations on the questions on the New court buildings at Point Pedro, District Court at Point Pedro. Additional J. P. U. P. A. and Commissioner of Oaths for Point Pedro.

The Legal Secretary gave a full hearing to the Deputation led by Mr. K. Muttanurru, Professor and said that he would do his best to give effect as far as he could to the new wants.

The first State Farm in Ceylon, it is understood will be opened at Kottukachchitaya ten miles from Puttalam.

A garden party was given at Kayts by the members of the Kayts Club on the occasion of the departure of Dr. Charles Ramesar, Medical Officer Kayts, on his transfer to Nawara Elyia. In expressing the thanks of the Roman Catholic Clergy and the Rev. Sisters of the Holy Cross for all his assistance, Father Nicholas said that they were losing a living assistance in open hearted generosity to the poor and the needy.

Wedding

A pretty wedding was solemnized at Christ Church Galle Face Colombo, on Wednesday the 31st January at 7.45 a.m. by the Rev. Henry Isaac Ramalingam Senathirajah, of the General Post Office Colombo, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Ramalingam of Nugaloda, and Nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred D. Tambypillai of Bandarawela, and Miss Gladys Pusharatnam Daisy Winslow, younger daughter of Mrs. M. R. Winslow of Sanguvely, Uduvil, and a sister of Mr. Alagaratnam Winslow, Irrigation Engineer Colombo.

The Rev. D. S. Ratanthalam, with several other Priests assisted by the Church Choir conducted the Service, which was a full and representative one. Rev. Ratanthalam tied the Nuptial Knot. A well attended reception followed at the bride's residence in Colpetty Colombo.

Obituary

We regret to record the death of Mr. John S. Velupillai of Kadavaieli on the 30th of January 1940. His wife predeceased him in June 1933. He is a brother of Mr. D. S. Rasiiah, Chief Inspector of Telegraphs, C. T. O. Colombo, and brother-in-law of Rev. D. Muttiah of Trincomalee. The funeral service was conducted by Revd. C. W. Gunawardana, Dr. Muttiah & Rev. M. S. Chinniah. He was a devoted Christian and took part in all the activities of the Church. He was a Local Preacher. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved.

The death occurred in Colombo of Mr. V. Nallathambi F. M. S. Pensioner on the 28th ultimo.

The deceased who was ailing for the last few months was a patient in the General Hospital, Colombo. His remains were brought down to Telpallai where the funeral ceremonies were conducted, according to Hindu rites in the midst of a large gathering of relatives and friends.

The late Mr. Nallathambi was a well known figure in

gore, particularly in Kapla Kubu Public Works Department where he was a Chief Clerk for a considerable time.

He is the father-in-law of Mr. K. Alvapillai, C.C.S. Even after his retirement he had been of great service to his countrymen.

Personal

Mr. N. Ramanam, passed Apothecary, has been appointed as Apothecary in Class II in the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services with effect from 1st February 1940 and he is posted for duty at Sizerakalanda Hospital.

Dr. W. H. O. Ramesar, D.M.O. Civil Hospital, Kayts, has been transferred to Civil Hospital Nawara Elyia, and is succeeded by Dr. H. E. Hoor.

The Rev. J. W. Stopford, has been appointed Manager of St. John's College Jaffna in place of the Rev. E. W. Jackson.

The Rev. B. Peiris, has been appointed Manager of the Kopya C. M. S. English School, the Kalthady C. M. S. English School, Urumpuray J. M. School, and Kopya Girls' Boarding School in place of the Rev. J. T. Arulanandam.

Miss M. V. Hutchins has been appointed Manager of the Kopya Girls' (C. M. S.) Industrial School in place of Miss E. G. MacIntyre.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY.

A special service is to be held at the Uduvil Church at 6 p.m. to which all are cordially invited. There is to be special music by the Uduvil choir as well as numbers by the nurses of both McLeod Hospital and Green Hospital. The speakers will be Miss Hutchins speaking in Tamil, and Dr. Kennedy. February 11, 1940.

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MEMORIAL SERVICE.

A service in memory of the late Mr. A. Mrs. J. R. Thiruvengadam will be held at the Vaddukoddai Church on Sunday the 11th at 4 p.m.

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MEMBERS

OF THE NAVALY CHURCH cordially invite all friends to attend the Golden Jubilee Celebration.

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The Morning Star

Friday Feb. 9, 1940.

"ON BEING RICH"

"As having nothing, and yet possessing all things" said St. Paul about himself, to the Corinthian Church. Though he had given up practically all that the world counted dear, St. Paul did not consider himself poor. This penniless, persecuted, itinerant preacher was actually gloating over his riches. "O the depth" he says "of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God." When Christianity began to spread over the Roman World people did not give up security and worldly competence, merely to be poor and to invite persecution or death. They gave up what they had, not in exchange for nothing, but to be rich in a definite sense—in point of fact, a far higher and better sense. The view that a man's life consisteth in the abundance of goods he possesseth has seemed pitiful and crude in the light of the joy and glory of being a Christian to many men and women the world over. Had it been different what progress to Christianity have made during these many centuries, for has it not often gone out into the world literally "with no scrip, no bread, and no money in its purse?"

Another interpretation of Christianity is however working itself out in our own country. To some extent perhaps it is common to all countries where Christian Missions have gone during the last 150 years. Western countries in the last century were in the midst of a big industrial expansion. There was a great spirit of optimism prevalent. Money was plentiful. Organisations and Institutions seemed to be the most efficient method of getting things done. Efficiency, prosperity and education seemed to be absolutely inseparable concomitants of Christianity. On any sea shore it is common to see boats brought there when the tide was high and the waves powerful, now lying on dry land with the sea rather far away. Efficiency, prosperity and education are high and dry, the waves have retreated far away.

Out in the villages Christianity is often identified with being prosperous, educated and living on a higher economic level. Has it the charge considerable justification? Are't we becoming a caste with certain distinguishing economic social and educational traits? Are't these rather often the criteria of membership in our community than any particular faith or experience or attitude to life. I know of many Christians without much Christian faith or any Christian experience, but to find a manual labourer among Protestant Christians is almost impossible. Even here in my parish at Earlsland the tradition of Christians who worked as farmers is fast becoming a memory.

Now there is no special virtue in being poor and nothing specially un-Christian about being rich. It is however false theology and bad Missionary policy to have given the impression that one could not be a good Christian without a good Boarding School education first and a secure job later. But we have spent much effort and money in instilling the idea. Is it therefore a great wonder that people should have come to think that these were sufficient qualifications to be a Christian?

"As having nothing, and yet possessing all things" said St. Paul. Think of Paul speaking before Festus the representative of Imperial Rome and King Agrippa with his consort Bernice, even the Biblical Chronicler cannot help commenting on

the pomp that surrounded them. "With but little persuasion that wouldst fain make me a Christian" says Agrippa. "I would to God that not thou only, but all that hear me this day might become such as I am, excepting these bonds," says Paul. "The audacity of the words! you say. The words were scarcely audacious to Paul. As far as he was concerned, it was plain common sense he was talking. The pomp before him was tawdry before the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus his Lord.

Prosperity and comfort, educational, social and economic respectability these are good things. Christianity however is something different. "I have toiled after tobacco as some men toil after virtue" said Chas. Lamb. Local Christianity has toiled after many things with a devotion worthy of a better cause. "Let the Church sell whatsoever it hath and follow after Jesus of Nazareth" said H. G. Wells. There is much wisdom in the words,

S. Kulendran, "Thought for the month— "We find happiness by scattering it"

THE JAFFNA FRIEND-IN-NEED SOCIETY LIMITED.

NINETY EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society was held on the 29th January 1940 at the Town Hall at 4-45 p.m.

Mr. R. B. Naish, President, occupied the Chair and there was a large attendance of members.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. R. R. Nalliah, Hony. Secretary presented the following report for the year 1939.

"We are on the eve of celebrating the centenary of our Society which will complete its hundred years of existence on the 9th March 1941. We can justly be proud of this unbroken lease of life and the useful work done by the Society during a century when we see all around us many societies and associations springing up every day like mushrooms, only to die on the morrow; but we should not allow ourselves to be lulled into a false sense of the permanency of our association if the usefulness of the Society is to grow more and wider year by year. Claims for relief and pensions are ever on the increase which the Society finds hard to meet. However we have the satisfaction that we never refused aid to the really deserving needy.

In spite of the increase of membership by sixty-eight during the year and the consequent increase in subscriptions, our financial position is far from satisfactory, as we had to take some money from our reserve funds to meet the year's expenditure. At the end of the year under review our balance in hand is about Rs. 1667-11 lower than it was at the end of the previous year. If this state of affairs is allowed to continue the whole reserve fund will be exhausted in a few years and the extent of our work will have to be curtailed considerably. Therefore the best way of celebrating our centenary will be to devise ways and means and start a campaign at least to double our membership and our reserve funds during the centenary year and we appeal to every member to enter in this campaign with zest.

(To be continued.)

'EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD.'

Dear Friends, We are glad to be able to write to you again. We hope 1940 dawned well with us, even as it has done with us. It has meant to us a call to greater trust and faith in God for ALL our needs. Right through the last year and now already during January we have seen the wonderful Hand of God sustaining us. During Christmas we had a few friends sending us greetings. One of the cards

had a beautiful verse which I want to quote here because I believe it brings us to the right attitude to life and relationship with God. It runs thus:—

Overheard in an Orchard Said the Robin to the Sparrow; "I should really like to know Why these anxious human beings Rush about and worry so." Said the Sparrow to the Robin. "Friend, I think that it might be They have no Heavenly Father Such as care for you and me. Is't that the real trouble? We have lost the real pivot and hence we rush about and worry so. If only we can trust Him!

Since writing our last letter we had a Conference for lay leaders during Christmas week. It was just for a day but it was thoroughly worthwhile that they decided to meet more often. They discussed the Christian task in the Church and the Institution. They hoped to circulate their findings, and if any of you want a copy please let me know. January has been a free month with us, I was away with Navam Appadurai to speak at a Conference at Peradeniya in connection with the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Peradeniya Training Colony. We discussed Christian National Culture. Davar Suriya Sena was also there and he spoke on Sinhalese worship. I spoke about Christian Ashrams and about our Ashram. Since then the Colony authorities sent us a Sunday chapel collection. It is a token of love and good wishes. From Peradeniya we went to Colombo for three days meeting some Ashram friends. (Not a collection ton! We have't any such). This last week-end we had a Retreat for the ones staying in the Ashram. We had a very helpful time and we have decided to make it a monthly affair on the last week-end and anybody who likes to join is welcome. The garden has been a real joy, thanks to the untiring efforts of 'Francis' who stayed in a couple of days before Christmas.

We were able to send our first fruits from the tomato garden to the Uduval Church and it was a joy indeed. We took it to our Chapel first before it was sent to Uduval. We decided to work more. The Church of Ceylon Cottage has been coming up during the month and we hope to have the dedication on the 18th of February. The Bishop of Colombo will be present at the inunction. We mean to make use of the day to get up a Young People's Rally. From the programme for Feb. below you will find a 'Quiet Day for workers' and another for 'Others'. Will as many of you please fit yourself into either and come and have a day in the Ashram. That will be every month on that particular day. Please accept this as an invitation. Let this not prevent you from spending any other day or days with us. We are twelve strong now and so we can very ably look after you. I have heard from our friend Neri and he has asked me to buy a Tamil Typewriter and says that Dr. Vissert Boelt and another friend are going to pay for it. We are thankful to them for that and it means that we will be sending out a Tamil bulletin also very soon. And now, will you please pray for us and the programme for the next month? That reminds me—if any of you wish us to remember you or any particular thing in the Chapel at the intercession hour please let us know.

Yours sincerely In His Service, S. Selvaratnam, 23,24,25—Ashram Retreat, Quiet time from Friday 6 p.m., 29th, 5.15 p.m. Study Group—Kraemer: The Christian Message. "The self would shine with higher light as it is surrendered to higher life"

JAFFNA DOWRY HUNTER.

There was relishing fun at the Museum Theatre on Saturday when students of the Theological College, Bangalore staged the Jaffna Dowry Hunter, Jaffna is

said to be the arch-sinner in this respect and that presumably was the meaning of the title. It was chivalrous of Ceylonese students to turn the shaft upon their own homes. Others from South India must have had many prickings of conscience at this display of self-condemnation for hunters of different grades of skill abound elsewhere too. The young actors were true to facts when they made the evil a patriarchal sin. But as actors, are bridegrooms any less blame-worthy? Lawyer Arul, if modern enough to raise a romance with a young lady of another "race", is pliable enough to let old folks extract the dowry and enjoy it themselves. It is good luck at themselves when theologians make the padre the arbitrator in the settlement of the bounty and not its enemy as he should be. There is hope when prospective pastors get the dowry business upon their conscience. It is to be hoped in later life they will not forget this and choose other worldliness as safer themes for their pulpit.

In that other home of the dowry system—Tinnevely District, the Sawyerparam Laymen's Conference, passed a resolution during Christmas week, calling upon the Government to legislate against dowry Legislation is a counsel of despair in this matter. Christian laymen might have more profitably advised their pastors to exploit the pulpit for this purpose rather than for many other broad sides they discharge in odd ways. The Guardian.

Jaffna Central College

A whole day programme was gone through on Saturday in connection with the Cash Day and Old Boys' Day Celebrations at Jaffna Central College. There was Tennis and Cricket in the morning. In the evening the Principal was "At Home" and at 6 p.m. there was a Public Meeting in the Hall where Mr. G. C. S. Corea unveiled the photograph of the Rev. P. T. Cash who had been Principal of the College for 17 years, and who since retired and is now living in England.

The Meeting was presided over by the Rev. E. M. Weaver, Chairman of the North-Ceylon Wesleyan Methodist Mission, in the unavoidable absence of Sir Waitalingam Duraiswamy who was expected to take the Chair. The meeting was started with a prayer by the Rev. James S. Mather. Rev. E. M. Weaver addressed the gathering first. Then Mr. Corea unveiled the photograph of the Rev. Cash and addressed the gathering.

At the Old Boys' dinner Mr. J. W. Arudipiragasam, Acting Principal of the College presided, and covers were laid for nearly 80.

Mr. C. Coomaraswamy District Judge proposed the toast of the College, Mr. Arudipiragasam replied. Rev. E. M. Weaver pro-

posed the toast of the Old Boys' Association Mr. C. Ponnampalam replied. Dr. S. C. Thurairajah proposed the toast of the guests, Mr. Corea replied. Mr. J. S. Selvaratnam proposed the toast of Sister Colleges, Rev. H. Peto replied.

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