

THE MORNING STAR.

Registered as a Newspaper

Published Every Friday



JAFFNA, FRIDAY, NOV. 29, 1940.

No. 46

VOL. 100.

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

The King's Speech

"My peoples and my Allies are united in their resolve to continue to fight against the aggressor nations until freedom is made secure. Then only can the nations be released from oppression and violence, again to work together on a basis of ordered liberty and social justice."

"The present war is not only a struggle between nations. It springs from the clash of fundamental ideals. We shall not falter or lay aside our arms until the high purposes to which we have pledged our faith are achieved."

Said HIS MAJESTY THE KING opening, in person the new session of Parliament.

Reception to Rev. and Mrs. Arulantham

The Old Boys' Association of St. John's College gave a reception to Rev. J. P. and Mrs. Arulantham last Saturday in the College grounds. In response to invitation over five hundred guests were present, Old Boys, parents and friends. The weather was fine and the big football field, where the garden party was held, was a pretty sight. Mr. Arulantham went round the party in the company of Mr. A. J. R. Vethavannam and the Rev. James Mather, two of the Vice-presidents of the Association.

Later in the evening the gathering repaired to the College Hall where a public meeting was held with Mr. Vethavannam in the Chair. The Secretary, Mr. C. A. Sannungam, read telegrams received from absent friends. The Chairman then addressed the meeting. It gave him peculiar pleasure, he said, to see an old student of his to have become the first Old Boy head of the College. Rev. R. W. Stopford then spoke on behalf of the Governing Body and expressed confidence in the future of St. John's. Rev. S. K. Bunker spoke next. He deplored the attitude adopted by a recent writer in the Morning Star. The greater share of the responsibility to make a success of the new principalship rested not on Mr. Arulantham but on them and the attitude they would adopt. Mr. S. Thambudurai, Advocate, an old student of Mr. Arulantham, was the next speaker. He assured Mr. Arulantham of the loyalty and cooperation of Old Boys. St. John's was a national institution, he observed even in a truer sense, than the so-called national Colleges and the Johnian was everywhere noted for his character. Mr. Gnanam Spencer joined in felicitating Mr. and Mrs. Arulantham. St. John's, he thought had stolen a march over her sister institutions.

There was a special Dedication Service on Sunday in the College chapel. Rev. Canon Somasundaram gave an inspiring address at the service in which he held the ideal of the Prophet Jeremiah before the new Principal, who took part in the beautiful service which included all the Churches of Ceylon ministers in Jaffna.

Farewell to Bank Shroff

A farewell party was given on the 23rd inst. at the premises of the Mercantile Bank, Jaffna, by the Jaffna Bazaar and the staff of the bank, in honour of Mr. R. Krishnapillai. He had been acting as shroff of the Jaffna office of the bank since its opening 15 months ago. And the members of Jaffna's business community joined with the bank staff to express their good wishes on his return to his Colombo office.

Before taking a group photograph, Mr. R. Krishnapillai was garlanded by Mr. V. Rajasagaram

Mr. S. Jeganathan, the new shroff by the Manager of P. K. N. Firm and Mr. R. Wyeth, Jaffna Agent of the bank, by the Manager of Messrs. Abdullhusein Jafferjee.

After the serving of refreshments, Mr. R. Wyeth expressed the sentiments of all present by referring to the cheerful smile and fair-mindedness which had characterised the guest during the course of his work in making the bank known in Jaffna. The Agent referred to the relations of Mr. Krishnapillai with the bazaar, the staff and with himself, and asserted that the spirit of co-operation between the bank and the bazaar could be still further developed by the free expression of opinion, both suggestive and critical, in the right quarters, and by complete frankness on both sides. Mr. Krishnapillai had fulfilled his function as link between the bank and the bazaar in a very creditable manner, and there was no doubt that his successor Mr. S. Jeganathan, would be equally affective, belonging as he does to a well known and respectable family of shroffs. As leader of the bank staff, Mr. Krishnapillai had engendered a co-operative spirit in the office, which, in spite of containing four different nationalities is a unit working very happily together.

An address in honour of the guest was very ably read by the author, Mr. K. K. Nadarajah, and presented by Mr. C. S. K. Namasiyam Chettiar. On behalf of the bazaar Mr. C. Thendantapany thanked Mr. Krishnapillai for the way he had been able to bring the services of the bank to the help of the local business community, and though sorry that he was going, he was sure that they would find that Mr. Jeganathan would be a worthy successor.

Then the presentation of a ring engraved with the words "From the Merchants of Jaffna", was made by Mr. V. Arunasampillai. Mr. N. K. Nagalingam expressed the good wishes of the office staff.

Mr. Krishnapillai replied in well chosen words, thanking the assembly for their friendly felicitations, and the meeting closed with three cheers for him called by Mr. E. Tirachelvam.

The Police Department

The recent promotion of Messrs. P. R. Krisharatne and P. C. Selvaratnam to the rank of Superintendent of Police brings the total of Ceylonese Superintendents in the Force to five.

All of them are in Grade II, and with the exception of Mr. Selvaratnam are veterans in the Service, having risen from the rank of sub-inspector. Most senior of the lot is Mr. C. V. Gouernatne of the C. I. D. He counts no less than 34 years' service having joined the Force in May, 1906—the year, incidentally, in which the latest entrant to this rank, Mr. Selvaratnam was born.

Mr. Selvaratnam holds the distinction of being the youngest Superintendent of Police. Born on December 8, 1906, he received his first appointment in January, 1930.

Mr. Selvaratnam is a son of the late Thambiah Cooke Proctor S. C. Government of Ceylon War Purposes Fund

(List of Contributions No. 20—Up to 23rd November 1940)—A sum of Rs 128,936 has been collected since the last list was issued, making a total up to date of Rs 985,852. This includes the second magnificent contribution of one lakh of rupees from the Ceylon Turf Club. This generous donation ensures that the aim of reaching Rs 1,000,000, before Christmas will be easily achieved. In fact, the million mark should

be passed by a good margin before the end of the year. The section of the list devoted to subscriptions from the general public bears evidence of the success attending various local entrants to raise funds. This section includes a generous donation of Rs 500 from the Dutch Burgher Comrades Association being the part profits of St. Leonard's Fair School concerts and other school functions continue to give good support to the Fund.



In Ever-Loving Memory of

EMILY GNANAPIRAGASAM

who departed this life on the 27th Nov. 1939.

Just one year today since thou left us Dear Thy pleasant smile, Thy cheery face we no more behold Thou art lost in sight; but in memory we hold thee firm Since thou left us our home a darkness we see But alas, we wait awhile to meet thee on that eternal shore, Where sorrows vanish Love and Joy intervene.

(Inserted by her husband and children).
"Singha Nivasa",
Manipay.

In Ever-Loving Memory OF

Our Dearest Sister EMILY GNANAPIRAGASAM

Who departed this life on the 27th November, 1939

Just one year today since thou has been snatched away from our midst. Not a day passes without a thought for thee.

In silence do we mourn and sigh in vain. None can soothe our aching hearts We loved thee well; but God loved thee best, and gave eternal rest.

(Inserted by her brother and sisters)
"Francis House,"
Francis Place,
Nugegoda.

In Ever-Loving Memory OF

ALLAN THAMBIAH YESUTHASAN

Born: 8th April 1894
Died: 29th Nov. 1940

Thy form so sweet to all hath gone before, Thy voice we love to hear is heard no more. Yet doth thy memory shed a mournful tear, And keeps thy name afresh, Oh, Loving Dear,

(Inserted by his wife, sons and father)
Tallipalai,
28th Nov. 1940.

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The Morning Star

Friday Nov. 29, 1940

THE A. B. C. ASHRAM LIFE

BY C. F. ANDERKWS

Tonight I want to carry further this question of the Ashram and to point out some of the serious difficulties and dangers of the Ashram life.

Yesterday I told you how in Australia and New Zealand and other countries of the West there is a great longing for quiet and peace amid the rush of modern life. I also said how people out there felt that India had something to offer to them in this direction. They wanted to know more about India.

But when we actually live in an Ashram like this we begin to find that this quiet and peace of soul about which we speak to others is not so easy to maintain. The one thing above all others that we have to avoid at all costs is merely to receive the name of 'Ashram' without having the inner spirit. For this would be to make profession to others while not practising what we profess.

Sometimes in Australia, when they spoke to me about India, and how peaceful India was compared with their own country, I felt almost ashamed to think how little yet we have learned that true peace of soul. The first thing of all, if we live in an Ashram like this, is to be very humble, we must not think anything of ourselves. Christ laid more stress on humility than on all the other virtues, because He knew how hard it is to be truly humble. Let us think of two or three instances. Christ took a little child and said: "Except ye be humble as this little child, ye cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven." Again He said: "Learn of me, for I am meek and lowly of heart." The one thing He tells us to learn from Him is humility. That is the hardest lesson of all.

On the night of His betrayal He took the bowl of water and washed His disciples' feet, and said: "Ye call me Master and Lord, and ye say well; for so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet." (John 13, 14). Therefore let us remember that though in our Ashrams we have truly a great ideal, a great principle, that is thousands of years old nevertheless in this Ashram of ours, as a way of life, we have not learnt it even yet. We have only learnt the A. B. C. of it. Here is, perhaps the first lesson we have to learn, to be always humble, taking the lowest place; not to think anything of ourselves but to think always about God.

The first lesson, therefore, that we should learn is that the Ashram life has this great opportunity of silence and quiet and being alone with God. In the crowded quarters of a city, it is difficult for any one to enter into his inner chamber and shut the door and pray to his Father in secret. But here it should not be difficult. There are great advantages given us every day, and we have a golden opportunity of living that life of prayer wherein we may learn more of Christ's great humility.

The next lesson that we have to learn is this, that is in our quiet time we should seek more and more to love Christ as our Friend. We can find Him near to us, and we can know His loving presence with us in those times of quiet. That is the most important thing for us to learn. And then, when we come out of our silence and have the joy of the love of Christ in our hearts, we shall be able to manifest this love in all our work.

This love should be witnessed also in our friendships with one another. Here in the Ashram we

THE PASSNIC HOUR

A TAMIL PLAY
A good Tamil play is a *rara avis* in Jaffna. To me a Tamil play has connoted something fantastic, wanting in a sense of proportion, and dealing with extraordinary actions couched in extraordinary language. The usual run of Tamil plays has appeared to me to resemble those ridiculous heroic plays that held their stage in the classical period of English literature.

I was therefore, agreeably surprised the other day when I had the good fortune to witness what I consider a good Tamil play well acted. It was a translation of a Shakespeare play. The acting of the Shylock part was consummate, and, I thought, could not be improved upon. The clown kept the audience in roars of laughter. Shakespeare intended that Lancelot should be laughed at, but this clown made the audience laugh with him. But that does not matter.

I will put down here a few thoughts that passed through my mind when I witnessed the play. There is so much dramatic talent in Jaffna, and that people love to see plays acted. The Tamil language is capable of being an excellent vehicle for rendering a Western play. By the way, the translation made by an Indian was such as could pass muster in Jaffna, and not of that hybrid variety that passes for Tamil in South India. The translation was literal, and still it sounded natural enough, and the fine points of the play were appreciated by the audience. Here the credit is due to the immortal Dramatist whose plays are universal in their appeal, appreciated by peoples of all countries, races, and ages. Why should not local talent produce original Tamil plays that do not outrage common sense and a sense of proportion? I commend this suggestion to the rising generation of the educated youth of Jaffna.

THE BITER BIT
The Italian jackal, instead of quietly sitting on its haunches waiting for the tiger to make its kill, has been venturing to hunt all by itself, and attacked the Grecian lamb. But suddenly this lamb developed biting qualities, and the biter has been bit. In plain words, the Greeks have carried the war into the enemy's territories, and Koritza, a stronghold of the Italians, has fallen into Greek hands. But this victory may be short-lived, especially as the German tiger itself may rush to the help of the jackal. But there is also the British lion that has developed wings on the side of the lamb. We do not know what the Russian bear would do. Things are moving fast.

Scrutary

are not alone. We are in a family and in that family we bring our love of Christ right into our daily lives. The whole family will share that love and feel that joy in the daily companionship.

No one can ever be the real friend of Jesus Christ without wanting to be friends with those who are all around him. The friendship of Jesus must go out from us to others. It is never a selfish friendship but in every way unselfish.

Last of all, we should go on further, and I have said before to bring that love, that friendship, that joy in Jesus Christ, into the Hospital, to our patients, to all who work there, to all who are in pain. We should bring it into our day schools, to those who are our pupils; and also into the night schools to those whom we serve there.

Thus if every day is begun continued and ended in Christ, and the whole of each day is spent in His loving service then this Ashram of ours will have a very real message to give to others, not the message of ourselves but of Christ. We should not consider ourselves in anything we do. The joy will be that Christ here has shown Himself, and has become manifest to others.

THE NORTHERN PROVINCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY

I. P. Thuraiatnam, Esq. B. Sc.,
Principal Union High School,
Teltippalai
Nov. 23, 1940

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

In his very comprehensive report the Secretary has touched upon practically all matters of interest and concern to the teaching profession. I shall try not to repeat them in my address this morning. But if I do refer to some, it is because they cannot be overemphasised.

Freedom of Teachers—Economic and Moral Fronts

This meeting marks the end of yet another year of the Association's activities. It also marks the end of the first decade of its existence under its present constitution. During the last decade we fought and won many a privilege. During this we have stood in perpetual danger of losing some of them. During the next we must make sure that we do not yield any ground. These are critical days for us. We are assailed on many fronts. On the economic front there is the question of reduction of salaries. On what might be called the moral front, there is the question of the curtailment of our freedom. We may be compelled to work on half our salaries but we shall not be compelled to surrender an iota of the freedom we possess now in common with the average citizen. The world is in a critical stage. Totalitarianism has reared its ugly head. It requires the complete surrender of personal liberty to the state. The very thought process of man is changing.

Citadels of the Mind

The citadels of the mind are open to danger no less than the citadels of steel and concrete. Fortunately for us in the British Empire, this freedom is intact subject of course to some temporary limitations very necessary during war time. As an enlightened body of people, we have a definite contribution to make towards the Government of the country. Politics as well as the cause of education will be the poorer if the elementary right of a citizen is withdrawn from teachers. The state of the country with universal franchise, but teachers out of politics, in name and in fact, can better be imagined than described. I am not arguing for full time politics for teachers. A prudent teacher knows how far to delve into politics. If he wishes to go for he will find himself compelled to give up one or the other. But what I do wish to say is that we cannot have our moral right cut down.

Special Committee—know-it-alls, Diehards and Experts

During the year several attempts were made to reduce teachers' salaries. We were shocked by some—perhaps this was a studied technique—but we recovered quick enough to meet the others. The officers of the Association have been at their watch posts constantly looking out for raiders. Some of them were seen and chased away. Others were heard but not seen. But one which took us almost by surprise was the Special Committee of Education. I am not giving away any secret when I say that the N. P. T. A. was profoundly disappointed, at the appointment of this Committee composed of some self-complacent know-it-alls, some diehards and some experts. The All-Ceylon Union of Teachers agitated for an efficient and impartial commission from abroad. The Headmasters Conference asked for one and the same wish was echoed throughout the length and breadth of the Island. Yet, we were to be denied. What surprised us was the readiness with which some of the headmasters accepted places on this Committee, after having insistently asked for nothing short of a commission.

Letter to the Editor

OUR DEBT TO THE MISSIONARIES

Sir,
The chief point at issue in this controversy is in respect of the leadership of the Church and of its Institutions. The point at issue is blurred by political and nationalistic considerations. A church knows no distinction of colour or caste and it is not a place for power-politics. It does not even recognise benefactors and beneficiaries.

The quota of Missionaries allowed for Jaffna is decreasing while the number of nationals who may be in charge of our institutions and manage them with distinction and ability from an administrative point of view is increasing. From the point of view of politics and national consciousness, The question of who should wield power, the foreign or the national is very pertinent. But a living church is does not recognise either politics or nationality. What it demands of its members is church consciousness and Christ-loyalty. To such a body of people the question of leadership is not a choice between a foreigner and a national, but between a missionary and a non-missionary.

The Church institutions the church, the school and the hospital have only one purpose evangelistic and missionary. Unless our institutions are to become commercial enterprises, they should continue to be missionary-managed. The last hundred years' experience has justified the missionary-management. The leadership of these institutions must be confined to missionaries, i.e. missionary motivated men and women, foreign or national. The foreign missionary had presented the challenge to young men of this country in respect of church work. Three generations of our young men have had the challenge before them and some of them have nobly responded. They had spurned lucrative positions elsewhere for the service of the missionary call. The same challenge has not been put before young men and women in respect of the education-ministry and the health-ministry of the church. With the withdrawal of the foreign missionary from the fields, the missions are now putting the challenge before our young people, and perhaps even older people, for missionary service in these two spheres of the Christian enterprise. The challenge is not a mere call for employment in Mission schools or hospitals—for which there are more applicants than the Missions can find employment for but for missionary service on a basis of Church-consciousness, Christ-loyalty and self-sacrifice. The vacancy created by the withdrawal of the foreign missionary needs to be filled by missionary motivated nationals on a basis of service and sacrifice. The leadership in our church and headship of our institution should be only for such people. They and the remaining of the missionaries will then form brotherhood and the question of one dominating over the other will not arise. Who will accept the challenge?

J. C. Amarasingham
Chavakacheheri
11 11 40

Notice

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE JAFFNA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
WILL BE HELD ON
SATURDAY, 7th DEC. 1940
at 3.30 p. m.
IN THE OTTLEY HALL,
JAFFNA COLLEGE, VADDUKODAI.

AGENDA:

- (1) To consider the reply of the Board of Directors to our Memorandum regarding representation on the Board.
- (2) To consider the proposal for the Joint Management and publication of the Miscellany by the College and our Association.

J. F. Ponnambalam,
Hony. Secy. J. C. A. A.

Jaffna,
27th Nov. 1940,
46-47.

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In the matter of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank Ltd., Jaffna Branch (In Liquidation.)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Creditors are hereby notified that the second dividend of 30% of their claims will be paid to them, commencing from the 9th December 1940, on their application to the District Court of Jaffna.

Application should be made in the prescribed form, which can be obtained from the undersigned.
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Printed and published for the Proprietor Mr. Chelliah H. Cooke, J. F. by V. Joseph Ariyaratnam, residing at Teltippalai, at the American Ceylon Mission Press, Teltippalai.