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## THE STRUGGLE STARTED BY SIR P. RAMANATHAN

### The Cause of Minorities and Tamil People

*"We are Continuing It"*

#### MR. S. NATESAN'S SPEECH ON THE REFORMS MOTION

**S**PEAKING on the Reforms motion in the State Council last week, Mr. S. Natesan (Member for Kankasanturai) said:

Sir, I do not know if I can emulate the hon. Lady who has just finished her speech. She has set up a record which it is difficult to break—a record of compressing so many ideas into such a short speech. I would fain follow her example, Sir, but when remarks which require elaborate replies have been made by certain members I must confess that the difficulty in trying to follow the praiseworthy example set by the hon. Lady representing Colombo North is very great indeed. While I was listening to the speech of the hon. Member for Colombo Central, Sir, my mind went back to the times of Robert Knox who has left a memorable tribute to some of the finest characteristics of the Sinhalese race—their innate courtesy and natural dignity. It is a tribute which will last as the Sinhalese race endures. You know, Sir, in his account of Ceylon, Robert Knox says that if you take a Sinhalese peasant from the paddy fields and put the robes of a King on him and make him sit on a throne, he will speak like a king and conduct himself like a king. I wish, Sir, the hon. Member for Colombo Central were here. I hope those words of Knox would be engraved in his heart and he would live to the reputation of his forefathers.

#### Comic Interlude

The hon. Member for Colombo Central indulged in certain remarks which one does not know how to explain unless one thinks that he intended to

provide a comic interlude, that he intended to give the members respite from those great exercises in eloquence, from those magnificent speeches which we heard from the hon. Member for Point Pedro, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration and the Nominated Member, Mr. Jayah. One would find it difficult otherwise to explain either the tenor of the remarks of the Member for Colombo Central or the tone in which he made those remarks. I am sorry, Sir, that I have to make these comments while he is not present here. I am mentioning this just to show how the hon. Member missed an opportunity of rising to a great occasion, because it will be conceded on all hands, Sir, that we are engaged in one of the most momentous deliberations that this Council was ever called upon to face.

#### Of Supreme Importance

Rightly did the Hon. Minister for Local Administration say that we are on the eve of great changes in the Constitution of this country and we have to consider the question that has been presented to us on a very high plane of political thinking and I believed he himself would appreciate the significance of the occasion, as he said that we are dealing with the welfare of millions of people inhabiting this country. While making these remarks, he said, what I consider to be a left-handed compliment to the hon. Member for Point Pedro, whom he described as an advocate speaking to his case. I think that the hon. Member for Point Pedro made a speech of which any Parliamentarian in any part of

(Continued on page 2)

## OUR INDIAN LETTER

### THE BENGALI—COMPLEX

#### Bose Beats Time

(By Lanka)

Madras,  
25th March 1939.

**T**O the average Bengali, nationalist or otherwise, who is first Bengali and then only Indian, nothing will be more hurting to his self-esteem than to be ignored as a Bengali. The tallest among them are no exception, except a handful. This is the solution to the tangle in which Congress politics were found since some months ago and still are struggling thereabouts. It does not matter in what field it is, the Bengali must feel he is IT in it. There used to be a joke, some years ago among newspaper men, about a discussion in a club as to the greatest criminals in India. Up rose a patriotic Bengali and claimed the distinction for his brothers. I remember being in the office of the 'Forward' newspaper in its early days, talking to the then acting editor, an American returned Bengali who had many friends among Ceylonese. We talked about many things and touched on Ceylonese politics. He made interested inquiries about Sir P. Arunachalam, who, of course was then dead, Sir P. Ramanathan and their work for the Ceylon National Congress. A few sub-editors, all Bengalis, also joined us in the chat. I said that Sir P. Arunachalam was the father and founder of the Congress though at that time it had started on the way of its destruction. One of the subs who had heard me mention Sir P. as the father and founder of the Congress could not contain his angry surprise at this audacious claim, for he reminded me that it was his own W. C. Bonnerjee! In his eagerness to establish a claim he had overlooked the fact that he had only heard me in part, thinking it was the Indian National

Congress that I designed to annex for the glory of a Ceylonese. He even condescended to say that Sir P. might have been a collaborator with his own distinguished countryman, before I admitted I had no such ambition, and that we were only discussing tiny Ceylon.

#### The Piqued President.

THE Bose Brothers are not happy over the events subsequent to the Tiripuri Congress, and as ill becomes men of their eminence, they have given a cessation to all Congress activity hoping meanwhile to get round the main resolution. That is typically Bengali-like. The country is becoming more and more anti-Bose and if Bose, the president, tries to get the resolution reversed he will find himself left severely alone. He has found that Jawaharlal could not toe the line with him, and today Jawaharlal is a red rag to Bengal.

It is indeed distressing to see that Bose is helping to split the country and put Congress in a weak position by his unworthy tactics born of personal pique and wounded pride. How far the Bengalis have taken the defeat of Bose to heart may be estimated from the fact that not one newspaper of that province, claiming to be Bengali, has accepted the Tiripuri decision in good grace, not one has the least rebuke to the hordes from that province that tried to disgrace Jawaharlal in the Congress pandal.

#### A Bepin Babu Story.

THE Bengali has always been keen about his place first. When Desabandhu C. R. Das died and Mahatma Gandhi as the closest friend of the Das family went to the house and was given first place and was near Das's wife and his sister, Bepin Chandra Pal, the demagogue of a previous decade,

(Continued on page 6)



## THE STRUGGLE STARTED BY SIR P. RAMANATHAN

(Continued from Page 1)

the world could be proud. I do not think there will be any dissentient voice here when I say that he did rise to the occasion. That means, he treated this matter as one of supreme importance and I only wish the Hon. Minister of Local Administration also rose to the occasion in a similar manner and dealt with the problems in a statesmanlike way which we have a right to expect of him.

### The Debt the Sinhalese Owe

The Hon. Minister of Local Administration when referring to the speech of the Hon. Member for Point Pedro reminded us of a great and eloquent speech that was delivered in the legislature of this country some years ago during the dark days of 1915. He said, Sir, that on that occasion the great patriot, Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan, was pleading for the Sinhalese race, pleading for lives, for their property, for their honour and for justice to be done to them. I expected, Sir, that the Hon. Minister of Local Administration, for whose eloquence and debating skill I have a profound admiration, would return the debt which the Sinhalese owe to the Tamil community which produced the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan. If there was an occasion, Sir, when a Sinhalese leader could have discharged that debt, this was the occasion. But the Hon. Minister of Local Administration came down from the dizzy heights of eloquence to which I thought he was ascending at the beginning of his speech; he came down from the sublime to the ridiculous. He spoke about the speech of the Hon. Member for Point Pedro in a rather contemptuous way comparing his performance to that of a prize-fighter and he also said that if the shade of the great Tamil patriot who had fought so nobly in the cause of this country had been hovering around this place—a visionary picture which the hon. Member for Point Pedro had conjured up—the Minister for Local Administration said that if the spirit of the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan had been here, he would have been greatly disappointed with what the hon. Member for Point Pedro was doing and with what his colleagues from the North were doing in this country. Far from it, Sir, if mundane matters could still move the departed spirit of that great man he would consider it some consolation that the great struggle which he started for the cause of the minorities and the Tamil people, the cause for which he would have fought most strenuously if he were alive now, the struggle which he had just started before his end came—being continued and carried on with some courage and faith by those who, however unworthy they may be, happen to follow his footsteps at the present moment.

### Sir Ramanathan's View

I was very intimately associated with him, Sir, during those last

days of this life when he went on his trip to Whitehall soon after the Donoughmore Constitution was accepted by the then Legislative Council. He went to England, Sir, at that ripe old age when he was past eighty and when anybody else in his position would have shrunk from such a voyage. And when he was in England he worked hard and tried to present the case for the minorities; not only for the minorities, but he tried to present the case for the good government of Ceylon. He did not think of matters political in a partisan spirit. He had worked during the greater part of his life for the welfare of the Sinhalese race. I do not think, Sir, that any Sinhalese would deny the great and undoubted services which he had done to them more than to any other community in this country.

He, Sir, took a long view of the future of Ceylon and he did present a case for the good government of Ceylon which was in accordance with the ideals which he had formed in the course of his long political career. Sir, he wrote a memorandum which he submitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. And when he found that the Order in Council had already been prepared and that it was too late for him to make any impression upon the Parliament and to move the Members of Parliament so as to set aside the Order-in-Council which had been framed, he had anguish in his heart. When he penned the last words of his memorandum I was close by his side and I believe this was the sentence which he wrote last of all. After speaking about the disappointments he had met with in regard to his mission, speaking of the misguided manner in which the problems of Ceylon had been dealt with both in this country and in England, he concluded, Sir:—"There is no doubt in the minds of the faithful that justice will triumph in the end". He paused, Sir, just before he completed that sentence after writing these words: "There is no doubt in the minds of the faithful". He paused for a while and wanted to say what he exactly had in his mind; and then came these words: "There is no doubt in the minds of the faithful that justice will triumph in the end".

This is his political will and testament. And if we Members from the North are trying to make ourselves felt in this Council, Sir, it is with the sole object, I might say, of carrying out a trust which he has imposed upon all the people who are interested in the public life of this country. We who happen to represent the constituencies of the North, Sir, have a special, particular duty to fulfil in this regard.

### Communal Representation

Amongst the many points which the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan condemned as undesirable features in the Donoughmore Constitution, one was the abolition of the principle of communal representation. That was a matter, Sir, about which he felt very keenly. I remember his address to Members of the Houses of Parliament in a Committee Room at Westminster. My hon. friend,

the Nominated Member, Mr. Jayah also happened to be present. It is a scene of poignant memory to me. There he raised up his hands and appealed to Members of Parliament and said:—"A grave injustice was being done to certain communities in the Island which deserve, under the British Government, a better political destiny in Ceylon. It was then, Sir, that he placed before the Members of Parliament those memorable words of the Duke of Devonshire which the hon. Member for Point Pedro quoted at such full length in his speech. It was there, Sir, in the hallowed atmosphere of the Houses of Parliament in Westminster that he called upon the Members of Parliament to redress a grievance which the minority communities justly had and which has not yet been redressed.

The Hon. Minister of Local Administration said that the agitation with which we members of the North are associated in particular, the agitation for getting the rights of the minority communities in this country recognised, was an artificial one. I should like to say that that agitation springs from depths of the hearts of the people of the North. And if we have been sent by those people to represent them here in this Council it is primarily for the redress of those grievances which still rankle in the hearts of the people of the North. Not only that, Sir. It is an agitation which has the sanction of all the people of the North and Mr. G. E. De Silva: Question!

Mr. Natesan: The hon. member for Kandy is always fond of questioning these facts. He, Sir, I believe in the course of his speech said that if the minority Members found fault with him they should get hold of him and drown him in the sea. I say, Sir, that we shall not do anything of the sort.

Mr. G. E. De Silva: I said that if I was a traitor to my country they could get hold of me and drown me.

Mr. Natesan: What I am saying is that we shall allow him to sail smoothly in a sea of inaccuracies. He is not a traitor, Sir. He is a patriot. The only thing is in the exuberance of his feelings he goes wrong with regard to facts.

### Mandate from Constituencies

I was commenting upon the mandate which we have obtained from the constituencies that we represent in this Council when the hon. member questioned my statement. The agitation is so pronounced, so genuine, that the Tamil people of the North are not very particular about the language in which their Members have to address them, but they are more particular about the interests which they want to be safeguarded in this Council.

The hon. Member for Colombo Central made certain remarks about the Members of the North. He was good enough to exclude me from his condemnation and ridicule. But he said that the other Members, excluding you also, Sir, were not true representatives of Tamil culture. He said particularly that my hon. friend, the Member for Mannar-Mullaitivu, spoke French at home.

Mr. Sri Pathmanathan: On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I was not present at the time that the hon. Member made those remarks.

Mr. Sri Natesan: I will explain.

I rather thought, Sir, that the hon. Member for Mannar-Mullaitivu did something which redounds to the credit of the community to which he belongs, namely that he was able to charm a French Lady and make her marry him. He speaks the French language and he is versatile in many other languages. No Tamil would say that the hon. Member for Mannar-Mullaitivu is unworthy of representing his community. But on the other hand, the Tamils are proud of his attainments, his linguistic and cultural attainments. These are irrelevant remarks which the hon. Member for Colombo Central made in order to cloud the real issue. He wanted to make it appear as if we Members of the North were putting up some impossible demands which had not the sanction of the people of Jaffna.

He referred in glowing terms to the Youth Congress of Jaffna. He referred to that boycott with which some of us were associated and the true inwardness of which we all know. It was a political freak, a phenomenon which would not repeat itself in the history of Ceylon now that the utter futility of that boycott was completely realised by all the people concerned in it.

### The Boycott

That boycott, Sir, was sprung upon the candidates as a surprise, and there was the feeling amongst the people that the Donoughmore recommendations had gone against them though Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan himself had carried on an agitation against this Constitution; and these issues were confused with what the Youth Congress attempted to do. That was how the candidates from the Jaffna constituencies happened to boycott the Council at that moment. But the movement for getting the Tamil point of view presented to the authorities not only here in Ceylon but in England, began to grow in volume in the North, and those of us who felt that the necessity for the representation of the Jaffna constituencies in the State Council was becoming imperative took steps to get an amending Order-in-Council so that we might be able to present the Tamil point of view in this Council.

We know that we have attempted to do our duty to the best of our ability. I do not think that it is right for the hon. Minister of Local Administration or any other Member for that matter to discredit our credentials and say that we do not represent anybody. People, Sir, whose opinions have been quoted at such great length by my hon. friend, the Member for Colombo Central, do not reflect the views of the masses that inhabit the Jaffna Peninsula.

Mr. Ponnambalam: Not one per cent.

Mr. G. E. de Silva: Question.

Mr. Natesan: The hon. Member for Colombo Central sought to give importance to such views, thinking that those views correctly represent the views of the people of the North than the views which we submit before this Council. I challenge the writer of that letter which appeared in the press, or any others of his way of thinking, to contest a seat in Jaffna and be returned to this Council on those principles. That is the proof of the importance to be attached to the views that are

(Continued on Page 7.)



## PENSION SCHEME FOR TEACHERS' WIDOWS

### Treasury Proposals Not Acceptable

#### QUESTION OF ENLISTING INSURANCE COMPANY'S AID DISCUSSED

THE question of inviting an insurance company to formulate a scheme for a widows and orphans pension fund for teachers in assisted schools was discussed on Monday at a special meeting of the Colombo Teachers' Association and was referred to the executive committee of the All-Ceylon Teachers' Union for consideration and report

The proposals of the Treasury on this subject came in for much criticism. It was decided to allow the A.C.T.U. to examine the implications of these proposals before arriving at a final decision.

The meeting was held at Zahira College, Mr. T. B. Jayah (President of the Association), presiding.

Mr. Jayah said that the question of a pension scheme had been first mooted by the Jaffna Teachers' Association at the recent annual A.C.T.U. sessions in Jaffna. On that occasion it had more or less been the wish of teachers that Government should devise a scheme similar to the Government Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme.

The Education Department, owing to certain practical difficulties, had not entertained the proposal. At one stage the Director of Education had suggested referring the matter to some insurance company.

Some teachers, Mr. Jayah added, were of opinion that a scheme might be worked by the teachers themselves, but there were many others who were not sure whether such a scheme could be worked in conjunction with their Benevolent Association.

They were also not sure whether the Teachers' Associations were so stable that members would have confidence in the ultimate success of the scheme.

#### 2 and 4 per cent

Explaining the memorandum received from the Treasury on the subject, Mr. Jayah said that he was not personally satisfied with the Treasury proposals.

"I see no reason why teachers should be called upon to contribute 2 per cent for the W. and O. P. in addition to the contribution of 4 per cent for pensions.

"And then we are told that we are entitled to less than one-fourth of the benefits that officers under the Government Fund enjoyed," he added.

Judging from the replies to the questionnaire which had been issued by the Association, Mr. Jayah said that all the teachers did not appear to have understood the proposals.

One teacher had expressed willingness to contribute 6 per cent., ten teachers were prepared to contribute 5 per cent.; twenty were willing to

contribute 4 per cent.; twenty-eight 3 per cent. and seven 2 per cent.

Thirty teachers had expressed the view that such a scheme was the duty of the Government and that teachers should not be called upon to contribute anything at all.

#### "Start it Ourselves"

Three teachers on the other hand thought that it was useless calling upon the Government to devise a scheme and that it was much better to get in touch with some insurance company and get a scheme prepared which the teachers themselves could control.

Mr. A. M. Caldera said that the Government would find it useful to organise a fund of the type suggested.

Mr. V. T. S. Sivagurunathan said that they had to remember that here was a time when revenue was paying 9 per cent. interest on W. and O. P. funds.

The interest proposed to be paid on the pension scheme for their fund was less than even 6 per cent. Mr. G. Weeramantry said that the Government could not invest money today at more than 3 per cent. because all gilt-edged securities carried interest ranging from 3 to 3½ per cent. at present.

Mr. J. N. Jinendradasa moved that the Treasury scheme be referred to the Executive Committee of the All-Ceylon Teachers' Union to be considered along with the proposals to ask an insurance company to devise a scheme.

Mr. R. S. Jayawickreme seconded. Mr. W. B. de Alwis suggested that they should definitely turn down the proposal of the Treasury regarding the contributions.

After discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the Executive Committee of the A.C.T.U. as suggested by Mr. Jinendradasa.

## INTER-COLLEGIATE CRICKET

### St. Patrick's the Champions

The Jaffna Inter-Collegiate Cricket season concluded last week. St. Patrick's become the Champions, winning all the matches.

The points obtained by the various colleges are:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
St. Patrick's	6	6	0	0	18
Jaffna Central	6	4	1	1	13
Jaffna	6	2	3	1	12
Jaffna Hindu	6	2	1	3	7
St. Henry's	6	2	0	4	6
St. John's	6	1	2	3	5
Hartley	6	0	1	5	3

## TECHNICAL ADVISER LEAVES CEYLON

### Mr. K. D. Guha's Contract Terminates

Colombo, Monday. Mr. K. D. Guha, Technical Adviser to the Government on Industries, left Ceylon last night on the termination of his contract.

He has been offered by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Chairman of the Planning Committee for Indian Industrial Development, the post of Secretary to the Committee.

This Committee was initiated by Congress Ministries in India. Many Indian States have also joined in the movement to start planned industries in India.

Mr. Guha hopes to visit Ceylon again to find out the progress of the schemes of his which have been accepted by the Government.

## Health, Art and Handwork Exhibition at Vadamaradchy

Point Pedro, March 27.

A general meeting of the Vadamaradchy Teachers Association was held at the Central Bilingual School. Mr. M. Thambipillai District Inspector of Schools presided.

Mr. K. Krishnapillai, B. A., Inspector of schools, spoke on Domestic Science and touched on various aspects of the work to be carried on by the teachers in their Schools. He appealed to them to pay visits to the Sanitary Inspector's Office with the children and make them interested in Health Work.

The Chairman, Mr. Thambipillai, spoke on the method of getting children interested in Tamil Literature and while introducing the other lecturer Mr. P. Nadesan, Sanitary Inspector, Point Pedro, said that he was very enthusiastic about Health work in this District and that teachers should not miss the opportunity of availing of his services to do systematic health work in their schools. He said that he visited his office very recently and that he was very much pleased with the work he was doing in the area.

Mr. P. Nadesan outlined the scheme for the Health Exhibition and impressed on the necessity of doing Health Work on systematic lines so as to enable them to compete for the School Health Shield, and promised to render all assistance in making models, posters and charts for the exhibition. He further promised to give a special prize for the best Health Essay.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the speakers by Mr. A. Kanapathipillai, the Secretary of the Association.

(Cor.)

## Personal

Rao Sahib M. Chinnatamby Pillai, Superintendent, Forest Department, Rangoon, has come over to Jaffna on leave preparatory to retirement and is staying at his residence, "Vetharanian Valavu," Uduvil.

## INFECTION FROM STRINGHOPPERS

### A CASE FROM KOPAY

#### MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS BLAMED

Colombo, Monday

PRIVATE medical practitioners in the Jaffna district, including qualified doctors in charge of private institutions and ayurvedic physicians, are not as prompt and careful as they should be in notifying cases of enteric fever which come under their care for treatment, according to a health work report for the Northern Province, placed before the Executive Committee of Health.

Consequently, it is stated, contact infection operates as a major cause in the transmission of disease in that part of the Northern Province.

A glaring case of such infection is cited in the report.

#### Six Victims

In December last, a young mother who was nursing a five-year-old child suffering from typhoid fever was supplying stringhoppers to the C. M. S. Girls' Boarding School at Kopay.

A party of twelve young men who went to Kopay to stage a play were entertained at the school to a meal which included stringhoppers supplied by this woman. Six of them developed enteric fever.

The child in question was under the treatment of a medical man who had failed to notify the case to the Medical Officer of Health, Jaffna, or to the sanitary inspector of the area.

It was ascertained on investigation that on the day the young actors staged their play at Kopay, the infant was very ill.

Evidently the poor woman attended to her sick child, and then with her infected fingers prepared and handled the stringhoppers which she supplied to the school.

#### Would not have Happened

If the case had been notified by the partitioner treating the child, states the report, the woman would have been prohibited from supplying stringhoppers to the school.

The report recommends that in future legal action should be taken against medical men who fail to notify cases of infectious diseases.

## Two New Proctors

Messrs. V. Venasitamby and N. Navaratnam were admitted as Proctors on Monday before Mr. Justice Kenueman and Mr. Justice Wijewardene. The new Proctors were congratulated by the judges who wished them success in the profession.



**'MANI MEKALAI'**  
(மலர்வளம்புக்க காதை  
பரிக்கறைப்புக்க காதை)

A NEW EDITION

JUST OUT

with Notes and Comments

BY

**Vidwan N. Subbiahpillai**

[Headmaster, Navalar Saivaprakasa  
Vidyasalai, Vannarponnai]

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(Mis. 291. 23-3-39 to —)

**MATRIMONIAL**

**MUTTUKUMARU—  
PONNUDURAI**

The marriage of Miss Ananda  
Savitri Devi, daughter of Mr. and  
Mrs. W. Ponnudurai, with Mr.  
Sivaloganathan Muttukumaru, son  
of the late Mulaliyar V. M. Mut-  
tukumar, Maniagar, will take  
place at "Poomanai", the Bride's  
residence, on Monday the 3rd April  
1939 at 12 midnight.

Mr. and Mrs. Ponnudurai on be-  
half of the Bride and Mrs. V. M.  
Muttukumaru and Mr. and Mrs. V.  
Ponnusamy of "Wijia As'rama"-  
on behalf of the Bridegroom will  
be pleased to see their friends and  
relations on the occasion.

**NO CARDS.**

Maruthanamadam,  
Chunnakam.

(Mis 298 20 & 30-3-39)



**Hindu Organ.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1939

**MUNICIPALITY FOR  
JAFFNA**

WE ALMOST FEARED THAT IN  
the heat and confusion of the  
Reforms controversy, the sub-  
ject of a Municipality for Jaffna  
had gone into cold storage.  
But it is gratifying to find that,  
after a long silence over this  
question, the Minister for Lo-  
cal Administration has again  
broached the subject. He has  
asked the Chairman of the  
Jaffna Urban District Council  
to convey to him the decision  
of the Council on the proposal  
to establish in 1941 a Muni-  
cipality in Jaffna. The ques-  
tion has been before the public  
and the Urban Councillors for  
pretty long time. The Coun-  
cil will therefore find the least  
difficulty in registering its de-  
cision in favour of the proposal.  
We have no reason to think

that there is any serious differ-  
ence of views on this subject.  
There was full and frank dis-  
cussion about the proposal in  
the press and on the platform  
when the question was first  
mooted, and enlightened opi-  
nion has expressed itself un-  
mistakably in favour of the pro-  
posal. It will be a purposeless  
waste of time to go over the  
merits of the question again.

A Municipality for Jaffna is  
long overdue. The growth of  
the town and the consequent  
problems arising out of it  
should have moved the autho-  
rities at least ten years ago to  
establish a Municipality in  
Jaffna to effectively tackle the  
most vital and pressing pro-  
blems that remain unsolved  
even today. Water-supply,  
drainage and slum clearance  
are still "under consideration,"  
and remain in the "problem"  
stage as they were a quarter of  
a century ago. Another ques-  
tion which deserves particular  
attention is town-planning.  
With the increase in popula-  
tion and the growth of com-  
merce and other activities, the  
town has been allowed to devel-  
op indiscriminately without  
any plan. The result has been  
a confusion of buildings and  
overcrowding of certain areas  
and consequent insanitary con-  
ditions. Health and aesthetics  
have been sacrificed for con-  
venience and a false idea of  
economy. If the town was al-  
lowed to grow according to a  
defined plan with an eye to its  
sanitation and beauty, we  
would now be having a Jaffna  
different from the one we  
have now. Though late it  
is not yet impossible with  
the assistance of an expert  
town-planner to rectify, no  
doubt at some cost, the present  
unsatisfactory position. The  
question of drainage, perhaps  
the most serious problem which  
affects its sanitation, could also  
be solved together with the  
problem of water supply. The  
town can no longer mark time  
over these questions, which are  
too big and too technical for  
an Urban Council with non-  
experts on its staff to tackle  
efficiently. The need therefore  
for a greater authority with  
wider powers is inevitable to  
manage the affairs of the town  
whose importance both politi-  
cally and otherwise is not  
second to that of Galle or  
Kandy, which have been enjoy-  
ing municipal administration  
since many years. We are cer-  
tain that the Urban Councillors  
will demand with one voice the  
supercession of the Urban Coun-  
cil by a Municipality without  
further delay. We would urge  
on them to press on the autho-  
rities for the establishment of  
the Municipality in Jaffna on  
the dissolution of the present  
Council.

**15 Lakhs More For  
Relief Of Distress**

**More Money For  
Defence**

Colombe, Wednesday.

WHEN the State Council sat  
yesterday to transact Govern-  
ment business, the Chief Secre-  
tary obtained a sum of Rs.  
80,000 for the construction of  
emplacements for two gun  
batteries.

The Council approved a sup-  
plementary estimate for the pur-  
chase of seed paddy to be  
issued to needy cultivators of  
the Kurunegala district. Seve-  
ral members took the oppor-  
tunity of urging the need for  
free seed paddy outside the  
North-Central Province.

Mr. A. Ratnayake expressed  
his disapproval of the Legal  
Secretary's criticism of State  
Councillors at an outstation,  
when a vote for the State Coun-  
cil election was asked by that  
officer.

The Council granted a further  
vote for the relief of drought  
distress. Criticisms of the super-  
visors, and allegations of bribery  
against supervisors and headmen,  
were made by members. The  
Minister of Health was asked  
to make preparations to combat  
a possible epidemic of malaria  
after the drought.

The Council passed the salary  
of a Trade Commissioner to in-  
vestigate the effect of the textile  
quota on the Island.

The Speaker read out a com-  
munication from the Governor  
intimating that the Ordinance  
establishing a Debt Conciliation  
Board had been reserved for  
His Majesty's assent.

**CASE TO BE  
RE-TRIED**

**Jury Divided Four  
To Three**

As the jury were divided 4 to 3  
and as there was no possibility  
of their coming to a unanimous  
verdict, the judge ordered a re-  
trial by another set of jurors  
of the Irupalai conspiracy case  
in which a woman named Chin-  
tamani and four others stood  
charged with conspiracy and  
perjury at the Northern Assizes.

The accused were ordered to  
furnish fresh security.

**AN INTERESTING  
CRICKET MATCH**

**THE STAFF VS. THE  
STUDENTS OF J.H.C.**

**BRILLIANT CAPTAINCY  
BY MR. N. N. SASTRI**

The New Playground of the Jaffna  
Hindu College was the venue of an  
interesting Cricket Match yesterday  
between the staff and the students of  
the Jaffna Hindu College. The  
match (according to the Score-book)  
ended in a last-minute win for the  
staff by 4 runs. The students had  
their regular Inter-collegiate team  
and, having lost the toss, were sent  
in to bat. Mr. Rajaretnam and Mr.  
Tampoe, who were famous bowlers  
during their younger days, opened the  
bowling, and the former got the first  
two wickets for no runs, the second  
man being out to a difficult running  
catch at deep fine leg by Mr. Saba-  
retnam, a quondam Inter-collegiate  
player.

With the arrival of the Students'  
captain, the runs came easily as the  
fieldsmen seemed immovable in their  
calm fixity. Most of them were fat  
and forty but they fought though  
fatty. Special mention must be made  
of the brilliant fielding of the Staff  
captain, Mr. N. N. Sastri, and of Mr.  
Jayaveerasinghe, Mr. K. V. Mylva-  
ganam, the well-known sportsman,  
moved lithely along the boundary  
line like a panther, all dark grace.  
After about 175 runs had been scored,  
Mr. Asaipillai captured 2 wickets in  
consecutive balls, the first of which  
was due to a brilliant bit of stumping  
by Mr. SundaraRajah. The Students'  
total realised 210 runs, Pancha-  
ratnam, Ramalingam and Perera scor-  
ing 70, 48, and 38 respectively before  
they retired. Mr. Asaipillai had the  
best bowling average capturing 2  
wickets in 3 overs for 17 runs.

After a sumptuous tea Mr. Sastri  
and Mr. Sinnathamby (the Hostel  
Warden) opened the College inn-  
ings. The former swung his bat  
in an orthodox manner, but, after  
a good stay at the wickets, had to  
retire having tired and defied the  
bowlers who were forced to lose  
their length. It transpired that he  
had been misdirected by the stu-  
dents who had told him that he  
should not step out of the pop-  
ping crease. As he stated later he  
could have hit the balls more easily  
had he not been misinformed.

Mr. Sinnathamby played some  
beautiful shots and scored 27 before  
he was run out. Mr. Rajaratnam  
and Mr. Sabaretnam reproduced  
some of the shots of their playing  
days, the former scoring 15 and  
the latter, 12. Mr. Thiagaraja, the  
College Librarian and Sports Master  
and one time famous athlete, play-  
ed good cricket, though he was not  
so dashing in his play as his cap-  
tain. He scored 25 including a glori-  
ous six before he was run out.  
Messrs. Sundararajah, Rasiah and  
K. V. Mylvaganam displayed excel-  
lent form the last named playing a  
very loud innings which included a  
six. They scored 13, 6 and 13 res-  
pectively. Mr. Saravanamuttu and  
Mr. Thambu then put up a good  
partnership. The latter, scoring  
chiefly with hooks to square leg,  
made the top score of 36 before he  
retired. Then followed another  
partnership between Mr. Jayaveera-  
singhe and Mr. Asaipillai, the former  
scoring 14 which included two crisp  
shots to the off and the latter scoring  
25 not out.

The Staff innings realised 214  
walks. Thus the match ended in a  
victory for the Staff by 4 runs.

The large crowd of spectators in-  
cluded several ladies. A really in-  
teresting afternoon.

(Cricket-Fan.)



## THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

### Republicans Surrender

#### GENERAL FRANCO CONGRATULATED BY MUSSOLINI AND HITLER

March 29.

THE Spanish civil war, which started on July 18th, 1936, ended yesterday, with the surrender of Madrid. It is believed that General Franco will enter the city on Saturday. The Republicans surrendered under the orders of Colonel Pradas who assumed charge in the absence of Colonel Casado who negotiated the terms of surrender.

Reuter's correspondent, who toured the city immediately after the news of the surrender became known, reports wonderful scenes of popular enthusiasm with the streets filled with crowds of cheering, singing, dancing people. During the entry of the nationalist troops not a single shot was fired.

The members of the National Defence Council, who reached Valencia yesterday, are now deliberating under the chairmanship of General Miaja, terms for an early entry of the Nationalist troops into that city.

Both Signor Mussolini and Herr Hitler have telegraphed to General Franco congratulating him on the virtual end of the civil war. (Times)

### A SERIES OF RICE MILLS

#### Scheme Formulated by Government

The Financial Secretary, Mr. H. J. Huxham, has formulated a scheme sponsored by Government for the opening of a series of rice mills in Ceylon.

A prominent firm of rice millers in the East, it is learned, has been invited to construct and operate the Mills.

It is proposed to form a company in which half the shares will be held by the Ceylon Government, one-fourth by the Company and the balance by the Ceylon public.

The participating Company will draw a commission as Managing Agents. The terms on which it is proposed to invite the Company are that paddy should be milled at a fixed rate, in the neighbourhood of 35 to 37 cents per bushel.

#### Ministry's Approval

At present the cost of milling a bushel at the Anuradhapura Mills is 78 cents per bushel.

The scheme has been approved by the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

A joint Sub-Committee, consisting of members of the Exe-

### Britain Consults Other Govts

#### Issues Arising from Recent Events

London, Tuesday.

The British Government is actively continuing its consultations with other Governments on the issues arising from recent events.

So the Prime Minister assured the House of Commons this afternoon, while pointing out that it was essential that, during the progress of such consultations, their confidential character should be respected.

He requested members not to press him for a further statement till he was in a position to make a complete one, which could only be when the British Government was in possession of the final views of the other Governments concerned.

Mr. Chamberlain was urged, however, by M. Greenwood, Mr. Dalton and others to say more.

The Premier invoked objection to placing all his cards on the table till the hand was played out. At the same time, in supplementary answers, he expressed understanding of the desire for a closer definition of the British Government's position.

He said it would be readily understood from what he had previously said that what the Government had in mind went a good deal further than consultation, and added that he did not think he would like to give more details at the moment.

He also gave an assurance that the British Government had, in the consultations now in progress, made perfectly clear to the other Governments what the British Government was prepared to do in certain circumstances.

Finally, he promised a debate at the earliest opportunity after a complete statement was made.

Asked to consider an increase in the establishment of the Territorial Army to 2,000,000, the Secretary for War, Mr. Leslie Hore-Belisha, pointed out in the House of Commons the organisational difficulties of such a sudden great increase; but added that the Government had certain proposals under examination.

Executive Committees of Labour, Industry and Commerce and Agriculture and Lands will examine the proposal and work out the necessary details.

### Time-limit for Reforms Motions

#### Speaker's Proposals

#### To Complete Debate Before Easter

OWING to the inordinate length of the speeches that are being delivered in the Reforms debate, the Speaker, Sir W. Duraiswamy, and the Deputy Speaker, Mr. D. S. de Fonseka, have, it is learned, held consultations on the desirability of enforcing a time limit.

It is the wish of the State Council to complete the debate before the Easter recess, and it is thought that it would be almost impossible to do so unless a time limit is enforced.

There are 21 separate motions on the Governor's Reforms despatch placed by the Legal Secretary on the agenda paper, and all these motions will be discussed when the Council goes into Committee.

There are also a large number of amendments to these motions, notice of which have been given by private members.

#### Overlapping Amendments

It is stated that several of these amendments will be dropped by a process of elimination, as some of them contain the same amendments.

A time limit of about an hour or a little more may be allowed for each motion, and it is likely that the time limit for the speeches will also be accordingly restricted.

At the end of the specified time the Speaker is likely to close the debate on each motion under discussion, and call upon the Council to vote.

The Speaker will shortly place his proposals before the State Council.

### No Quorum in Council

Colombo, March 29.

Owing to the lack of a quorum when the State Council resumed at 2-30 this afternoon, the Deputy Speaker, Mr. D. S. de Fonseka, adjourned the Council till 10-30 a.m. tomorrow.

### Germany Warns Poland

#### Maintain Friendly Relations

Berlin, Tuesday.

A sharp reminder to Poland to maintain friendly relations with Germany is contained in the official "Diplomatische Korrespondenz" almost on the eve of Colonel Beck's departure for London. (He leaves Warsaw on Monday).

In curt words, Poland is informed of the danger of diverging from the course laid down in the German-Polish treaty and is warned against heeding "siren calls which would lure her away".

### THREE ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

#### RICE, FLOUR AND SUGAR

#### ORDINANCE TO RESERVE 2 MONTHS' STOCKS

A GAZETTE Extraordinary issued on Monday declares that rice, sugar and flour are essential commodities under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Reserves Ordinance recently passed by the State Council and proclaimed by the Governor.

The regulations under the Ordinance, applicable for the present to rice, are published in the Gazette Extraordinary.

These regulations will be later applied to flour and sugar.

It is proposed to create two months' reserve stocks of rice.

#### Conference Of Importers

The Director of Commerce and Industries will shortly call a conference of rice importers to make the arrangements necessary for creating rice reserves.

Under the regulations, where application for registration as an importer of rice is made by any person who should, in the opinion of the Director of Commerce and Industries, who is also the Food Controller, be required to keep a reserve stock of rice, the Director may refuse to register that person as an importer of rice;

(a) If he is satisfied that that person will be unable to maintain a reserve stock of rice in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance; or

(b) If he is satisfied that that person is not in occupation of a store at which the reserve stock can be stored to the satisfaction of the Director.

### Manipay Udaiyar

Mr. K. T. Rajaiyah, Udaiyar of Manipay Parish, has left for F. M. S. and Mr. C. Navaratnam, Police Vidane, Navaly, has been appointed to act for him in addition to his own duties. (Cor.)

#### Ceylon Government Railway

##### TRAIN ARRANGEMENTS FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS, 1939.

On April 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14 & 15 1939 a special train will leave Nannoya at 9-30 p.m. for Maradana.

On April 6, the 7-50 p.m. train from Fort will run to Badulla as usual and the 10-0 p.m. train from Fort will terminate at Nannoya.

On April 5, a special train will leave Fort at 6-15 p.m. for Kankasanturai. On April 10, a special train for Colombo will leave Kankasanturai at 5-0 p.m. and run through to Mt. Lavinia.

For details of alterations, cancellations and specials in connection with Easter Holidays and Nuwara Eliya Races, please see poster notices exhibited at stations.

W. G. Hills  
Actg. General Manager.

Colombo, March 27, 1939.



## Elephant Menace at Minneriya

### Jaffna Gunman to the Rescue

Pt. Pedro, March 27.

At the special request of the Conservator of Forests and Warden, Mr. S. C. Rasaratnam, Teacher, Hartley College, Pt. Pedro, proceeded by car to Minneriya on the evening of the 17th March and spent nine days in contralling the elephant menace. He was specially sent to shoot down the elephant which killed the Railway labourer and the Korale. This elephant was frequenting the Polonnaruwa cart road and rail track. Many tourists intending to visit the ruined city had to give up the trip. In the evenings no traffic was to be seen on this road. Plenty of false rumours are afloat though it is a fact that this brute is causing great panic. It has been chasing cars and cyclists. The Railway gang refused to work and the Railway authorities represented matters to the Warden, culminating in the proceeding of Mr. Rasaratnam to the spot.

He combed the whole adjoining jungle near the Railway cooly line where the labourer was killed for three days without success. On the fourth day as he proceeded by car to Polonnaruwa, the R. M. had sent a message, requesting his assistance to track the rogue at which three amateur Matale hunters had fired and wounded. Mr. Rasaratnam proceeded to the spot and with one of the Archaeological guards whom the Commissioner kindly lent to Mr. Rasaratnam followed the trail. There were plenty of blood marks and the search continued for two hours. There was great excitement as the animal always charged at sight. The search was in vain. The amateur hunters had clung to a big palm tree and at 4 a. m. when the animal was walking along the main road near the spot where the Korale was killed fired at the animal. One shot clean missed it and hit the ground. The animal charged at the tree. Then two shots rang out. One was an S. G. Cartridge. Plenty of blood was seen. Mr. Rajaratnam continued the search the next day but no success met his efforts. In the meantime S. O. S. messages were sent to him by the Colonists that one of the animals smelling badly was charging and chasing people. The animal had chased a cooly three times round a hut. Three shots were fired. Mr. Rasaratnam went after this animal and found it feeding near the chena at about 5-30 p. m. The owner was only fifty yards away and the man ran helter skelter when he was made aware of the presence of the animal by Mr. Rasaratnam. One shot from the D. B. rifle and the huge beast lay dead. The usual crowds collected. In the night two other elephants destroyed the chena near about the spot where this animal was shot. Another animal which had kept the owner from 6 p. m. till 8 a. m. on the tree and which had a circumference of 56 inches at the front foot was shot on Saturday evening by Mr. Rajaratnam.

Complaints are many but as Mr. Rasaratnam had to get back for work he returned today. He hopes to go again on the first of April in the company of the Deputy Warden Major Jayawardana to shoot the rogue man-killer and also to control the elephant menace. (Cor)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Keerimalai Tank.

Sir,—I wish to draw the attention of the members of the Tellipallai Village Committee and others interested to the deplorable condition of the Keerimalai Tank. It is not necessary for me to write at length about the necessity for keeping it clean. It is one of the few things that attract tourists to Jaffna and it is the only holiday resort for the poor Jaffna man.

The Tellipallai V. C. realised its duty to the people of Jaffna and with the help of the other Village Committees appointed a watcher to keep the place clean, but the person holding the post at present does not seem to do his duty. For some time past people have been complaining about this negligence but the authorities do not seem to realise their responsibilities. Yesterday there was a large number of bathers but the watcher was not seen about the place till 8 a. m. The tank was full of moss, sea weeds and rags. Hope the V. C. will not tolerate this state of affairs any further.

Yours truly,  
A. BATHER.

Vannarponnai.  
27-3-39.

## REFORMS

SIR,—I have read the various speeches made by the Members of the State Council regarding the Governor's despatch about the reforms and I wish to make the following observations rebalanced representation.

The minority communities especially the Tamils should be ever grateful to Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam for the very efficient manner in which he put forward valid reasons for balanced representation. Though young he has well mastered the whole situation. I should think that he deserves a monument to be erected in his honour as his speech was a standout one.

The Donoughmore Commission meant well when they recommended the new constitutional reforms fully believing that all communalism would disappear when they came into force and never suspecting that communal hatred would be so rampant. Now communal hatred has advanced to the highest degree and has come to a climax. How is this to be remedied? The Governor recommended 10 additional seats for the minorities (58 to be increased to 68). The distribution of the present 58 members is as follows:—Sinhalese 36, Tamils 11, Europeans 5, Indians 3, Muslims 2 and Burghers 1. Out of the 10 additional seats, a fairly good number—say 3 or 4—will go to the Kandyans. Even if the whole balance, 6 or 7, go to the other minorities, there will be no balanced representation as the Sinhalese including the Kandyans will capture about 40 seats and only the balance 28 will go to the minorities. If there be no balanced representation even if the minorities get a few seats more, I am sure that there will be the communal hatred. It matters little if a motion in the Council is carried by 36 votes to 22 or 40 to 28. I should therefore think that the Sinhalese members including the Kandyans should not be more than 34 out of 68. The division of electoral areas according to population basis will

never bring balanced representation as most of the Sinhalese Districts are very populous and as most of the Tamil Districts are not even fairly populous owing to bad climatic conditions. If the electoral areas can be divided according to territorial or geographical basis, then balanced representation might be possible. Or some such ways should be adopted as to make balanced representation possible. In a country like Great Britain where there is a homogeneous population and where a party system exists there will be no such difficulties as are felt here in Ceylon. If the Sinhalese leaders really desire political union and advancement, they should consent to balanced representation as Sinhalese members in Council appeal to the Tamil members not to stand aloof from them and to work for the common good of the country.

Yours faithfully,  
K. Sivapragasam.  
Sivapragasam Road,  
Jaffna 28th March, 1939.

## Correction

In line 16 of paragraph 3 of Mr. Sivapragasam's letter of the 24th March 1939 which appeared in the issue of the 27th inst. re "Mr. D. Obeyesekere and the Sinhalese Girl," the word "front" should be read as "part".

## Art Exhibition at Kalmunai

Kalmunai, March 26.

This is the first occasion on which the Public and Art students of Kalmunai have the privilege of seeing an Exhibition Mr. Sam T. Solomons' work. Some of his figure-studies and sketches are drawn with but one sweep of the crayon or pencil. It is in portrait painting that he excels. The few studies on view at the present exhibition seem a glow with life. Mr. Solomons' studies are true to nature and pleasing alike to the Artist and the Subject. His skill in portraiture is due to his correct sense of values and the application of a well-balanced judgment. He works chiefly with the pencil. As President of the Art Association during the last few years he has given a fillip to modern art developments in the North.

### Exhibits

The following drawings are put up for exhibition at Kalmunai, sent by the Artist of the North, Mr. Sam. T. Solomons:

The Hon'ble Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara; Mr. Mc. D. Robison Director of Education; Mrs. C. T. Lorake; Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam M. S. C. (Point Pedro); Sir. W. Duraiswamy; Point Pedro Lighthouse; Artist himself and Governor (Sir. A. Caldecott). (Cor.)

## Obituary

MRS. C. ARASARATNAM

The death occurred at the General Hospital, Colombo, on the 24th instant of Mercy Nesamalar Arasaratnam, wife of Mr. C. Arasaratnam (of Income Tax Department) and a daughter of Dr. & Mrs. C. Yesudason, Anaicottai, Jaffna, and sister of Dr. & Mrs. W. S. Nathaniel. The funeral took place at her residence at Anaicottai, Jaffna, on the 25th instant before a large gathering of friends and relations from different parts of the Island.

Revs. G. M. Kanagaratnam, N. J. Singanayagam, James S. Mather, S. T. Williams, S. K. Jesuthason, J. V. J. Arnold, S. Selvaratnam and S. P. Wijeratnam conducted the funeral service both at the residence and at the Cemetery.

## Our Indian Letter

(Continued from page 1)

so far lost his balance in the annoyance thus caused to all Bengalis in his estimation, as to make open mention of his dissatisfaction at a stranger from a different province taking a leading place in the domestic affairs of a Bengali. And Bepin Babu, though by then a rank reactionary, had been among the pioneers of Indian nationalism. Highly emotional, rather intellectual, the Bengali is utterly provincial. Allow him this failing he will stand shoulder to shoulder with the rest of India in the national fight. Somehow Bengalis feel that Congress has become the property of Bombayites. Bombay has many claims on Congress, for it was born, fed and brought up there, and if today Bombay feels that it has a duty to see that Congress does not go off the rails, there is some reason for it.

### The Mischief of the Press.

ABOUT half the trouble in Congress politics in recent months may be traced to the mischief of journalism. As a journalist I am ashamed to make this confession, but the fact remains that it is the scare-mongering of irresponsible modern journalists that has created difficulties in the way of national leaders settling disputes. Ever itching for sensation the average newspaper man is always on the lookout for something that will create sensation. More often than not it is manufactured from stray conversation or even from imagination. Papers vying each with the others for popularity weave fine fabrics of this fabrication. One has only to set one of these things going, and it gathers counter-statements, replies, rejoinders, rebukes. All is grist to the mill in the newspaper office. Jawaharlal Nehru said the right thing, the other day, when he said that Indian leaders talk too much and write too much, accusing himself also. He also said that newspapers encourage them in this business. As a journalist of experience once stated, slightly more than half the number of newspapers in the world could cease to exist, and for the rest about half the space they use might be enough for all legitimate purposes. There is such a waste of paper in India. And Indians are famous for statements, and if they are Madrassis, they can prolong an argument into a half-year's volume. Read any Indian paper and you will see the truth of this. The newspapers create bad blood among people in every walk of life in this country. Some years ago they did the same mischief in the field of sport. Every sportsman of note was drawn into the vortex, the exception being Major Nayudu, the famous cricketer, who consistently refused to break his silence even when mean newspapers put things into his mouth to provoke him. He set an example to the country by his scrupulous avoidance of the bait and thereby prevented the sports sensation being prolonged to the discredit of the country. It is painful to say so, but it is the fact that the Indian press is generally more on the side of national mischief than progress.



# THE STRUGGLE STARTED BY SIR P. RAMANATHAN

(Continued from page 2)

placed before the country at large and before the authorities in England.

I am taking so much time with regard to this particular point because I am anxious to make it clear that the people of Jaffna, the people of the Northern Province, to a man would endorse what action we are taking, and what proposals we are formulating in order to get what they want and what they are all anxious to get within as short a time as possible.

I need not remind hon. Members of the house that at the last two elections which were fought in Jaffna, this was the main issue.

## No Ill-Will Towards Singalese

I wish to contradict another statement which the Hon. Minister of Local Administration made in the course of his remarks. He said that in our election speeches we tried to create communal or racial hatred. When he made that remark I challenged the accuracy of his statement. I wish to reiterate, not only on my behalf but on behalf of all the other members from the North, that we are not actuated by any ill-will towards the great Sinhalese community. What we are attempting to do is to bring about a lasting unity between the Sinhalese community and the Tamil community.

If that is understood properly, if justice is done to our claims, I am sure those of us who are placing the correct view point of the people whom we represent are doing a real service to the country. It may be easy, Sir, to bask in the sunshine of Ministerial favours here; it would certainly be a great pleasure to us to say things sweet and pleasant, but, Sir, we prefer the other course, the course of truth, of making this Council understand the real feelings in that part of the country which we represent.

It is no use trying to build the political future of the country on camouflage. Let us be frank about our objectives, about our methods and from that point of view, I join my hon. friend the Member for Jaffna in giving a due mead of praise to the Hon. Minister of Local Administration for one thing. He states his views and his objectives and that of the Sinhala Maha Sabha, of which he is the President, with frankness, and that frankness we all certainly appreciate. It is one thing to deal with a person who lets us know what his aim is, what his methods are, but it is another thing to deal with political hypocrites, people who have one thing in their hearts but say another thing when they speak in public. These latter set themselves up as patriots, in whose vision all the communities in this country lose their separate character and rise as a single, undivided political entity. They say that they are Ceylonese leaders, that they are actuated by a common aim but all the time they are manoeuvring, trying, to gain political ascendancy for their own community at the expense, and to the detriment of, the other people.

If that is the political ideal which some politicians in our midst have, are we not justified in condemning those ideals? We

on this side shall not be wanting in candour, and we expect others to be equally candid. But when we deal with those politicians who are communalists masquerading as advanced political thinkers who will have nothing to do with communal representation but who swear only by territorial representation, it is difficult for us to come to grips with the real problems that affect our welfare.

## An Understandable Policy

The Hon. Minister of Local Administration enunciated his policy. He said that he wanted the unity of the Sinhalese community in the first instance; he wanted to revive the greatness of the Sinhalese race; he wanted to reproduce the historical past of the Sinhalese race; he wanted to bring about a renaissance among the Sinhalese people; he wanted achievements for the Sinhalese people not only in the political sphere but in the cultural sphere also.

That is a point of view which we can understand; it is a point of view which we also share. We Tamil people have also an ideal. We realise that in this country there are many communities, many social entities. When we realise that the condition of society in Ceylon is such, it is idle—it would be rank political hypocrisy—to speak of a state of things which do not exist in the country. Here we are a community; we have our own past; we have our own customs; we have our own religion; we have our own language, and we have a past of which we can be proud.

Now, Sir, If the Hon. Minister of Local Administration concedes that all these things are good and worthy of preservation, then I say he really grants the truth of the proposition upon which our claims are based. If the Hon. Minister feels that his community should have free play for development, and if, as he himself concedes, he will not have any quarrel with us for wishing for our community free play so that we may attain to the highest achievement of the revival of Tamil grandeur; if he concedes that the Muslim community has a right to develop on its own lines, then, Sir, the inevitable logic of that concession is this, that you should have a constitution under which all the communities and societies would have the fullest possible facilities for bringing out their ideals in the best possible way.

## Balanced Representation

We want, Sir, free scope for the development of our community and that is what the hon. Member for Point Pedro meant when he said that we also want a place under the sun. It does not mean anything else. It means that we should have unhampered freedom to develop on our own lines, to be considered the equal of other communities. We do not want to be considered as subservient entities in the body politic.

If that claim is conceded, then our demand for balanced representation is the only conclusion, the inevitable, the irresistible conclusion at which we have to arrive. How then can the Hon. Minister of Local Administration poo-poo the claims we are making? When he says that he aims at that

higher unity where all the communities will have a place, though as a Sinhalese he is primarily interested in his own community, then, sir, we expect him to be not only the Leader of the Sinhala Maha Sabha but the leader of all the other communities which have the same political ideals. He ought to fight our battles, but instead of that, having enunciated a proposition like that, he recedes from it and tries to take up the view point which has been placed before him by other people whose political ideology is certainly different from his.

They want, Sir, territorial representation; they speak of a Ceylonese nationality. They will not think in terms of communities. These people want all the communities to disappear as separate entities, they want the communities to be merged or fused with others. That is their view point, and they certainly cannot have any room for the principle of communal representation in their scheme of politics.

That is the point which I would like the Hon. Minister of Local Administration to understand. I am particularly sorry that he is not present today, but I hope, Sir, he will understand and appreciate our point of view which is based upon the same political philosophy as the one he has developed in recent years.

(7-25 p.m.)

Mr. Natesan: May I stop at this stage, Sir...

The Speaker: It is not yet 7-30...  
A Member: We have five minutes more.

Mr. Natesan: I do not mind continuing my remarks. I wish to be understood that once our point of view is understood and conceded, we have a right to expect not only sympathy but co-operation in the attainment of the demands that we are putting forward.

Mr. Wille: Shall we adjourn now, Sir?

## Gandhiji Quoted

Mr. Natesan: The hon. Member for Colombo Central is a politician of a different order. His outlook upon politics is vastly different from that of the other members. He has no patience with us. He wants us to suppress ourselves. That has been the *mantram* which he has been uttering the whole day. Somehow or other he has got hold of a certain speech made by the great Mahatma during his sojourn in Ceylon several years ago. He quoted those passages with great gusto, and he turned at every moment this side and that side...

Mr. Goonesinha: That side only!  
Mr. Natesan: No, Sir, The hon. Member for Jaffna sits there.

He was uttering this *mantram* the whole day...

Mr. Goonesinha: I quoted Mahatma Gandhi's words, not a *mantram*.

Mr. Natesan: "Mantram" means "sanctified words". It is not anything trivial or wrong.

I am going to repeat another "mantram" taken from a great passage in a speech delivered by Mahatma Gandhi when he represented the whole Indian National Congress as its sole delegate at the second Round-Table conference in England. He said, Sir...

Mr. G. E. de Silva: That is in India!

Mr. Natesan: He said, addressing the Prime Minister of England and the other delegates who went from India, delegates representing all shades of political opinion, delegates representing all the communities

of India—on that memorable occasion these are the words he used:—

"Believe me, that problem..." he was referring to the communal problem,—

"Believe, me, that problem exists, and I repeat what I used to say in India—I have not forgotten those words—that without the problem of Minorities being solved, there is no Swaraj for India, there is no freedom for India."

I suggest, Sir, that at least the hon. Member for Colombo Central...

Mr. Goonesinha: A personal explanation, Sir...

The Speaker: The hon. Member is not giving way.

Mr. Natesan: I really hope that after hearing these words the hon. Member of Colombo Central would suppress himself.

The Council was on its rising adjourned till 10.30 a. m. on Friday, March 24, 1939.

## Obituary

### MR. K. SABARATNAM

We regret to record the death which occurred on Friday last at the Green Hospital, Manipay, of Mr. K. Sabaratnam, Retired Station Master. The funeral which took place the next day at his residence at Thalalayali, Vannarponnai East, was largely attended. He leaves behind a widow and six children, one of whom is Mrs. V. Kandiah, wife of Mr. V. Kandiah of the Audit Office, with all of whom much sympathy will be felt.

### MR. C. PATANJALI

We regret to record the death of Mr. C. Patanjali (60), Sworn Translator, District Court, Jaffna, which occurred at his residence at Kokuvil on the 14th instant. The funeral took place the following day and was largely attended. The deceased was the brother of the late Mr. C. Thiruvukkarasu, Advocate, and uncle of Mr. R. S. Subramaniam, Deputy Shroff, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Colombo.

## Order Nisi

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 710

In the matter of the intestate, estate and effects of the late Ampalavanar Murugesoe of Karaitive West Deceased, Theiwanaipillai widow of Murugesoe, Karaitive West Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Murugesoe Thillainathan
  2. Murugesoe Shanmugalingam
  3. Nageswari daughter of Murugesu of Karaitive West Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on the 6th day of March 1939 in the presence of Mr. P. Sabaratnam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 23rd day of February 1939 having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 1st respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd and 3rd respondents who are minors and the petitioner be declared the administratrix of the estate of the deceased and that letters of Administration be issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or any other person interested shall on or before the 15th day of May 1939 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 21st day of March 1939.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.  
(O. 97, 30 & 3-3-35.)



### Urumparai Health Association

The sixth annual general meeting of the Health Association, Urumparai, was held on Sunday the 5th inst. at 5 p. m. The meeting was preceded by a social.

The following office-bearers were elected:-

President: Mr. K. Manickam.  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. Seenivasagam.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Kandiah.  
**Members of Committee**  
Messrs. V. Nalliah, M. Ponniah, K. V. Mylvaganam, D. S. Saravanamuttu, K. Kumaravelu and G. R. Gunaratnam.

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction N° 8515.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Chellappah Appapillai of Thavadi

Deceased  
Appapillai Sivagurunathan of Thavadi

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Appapillai Sithamparanathan of do
2. Nagaratnam daughter of Appapillai of do
3. Retnam daughter of Appapillai

of do

4. Appapillai Nawaratnam of do
5. Makeswari daughter of Appapillai of do
6. Chellaehchi widow of Appapillai of do

The 1st to 5th Respondents are minors appearing by their guardian-ad-litem the 6th Respondent

The matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the Estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner coming for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 1st day of November 1934 in the presence of Mr. T. N. Subbiah Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 29th day of October 1934 having been read:

It is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful son and one of the heirs of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before the 23rd day of November 1934 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 16th day of November 1934.

(Sd.) C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended to 31-3-39.)

Initialled C. C., D. J.

(O. 96. 27 & 30-3-39.)

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[Y. 160. 29-9-38 to 28-9-39.]

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