

THE Hindu Organ.



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus
PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. LI.

Phone 56,

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1939.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 9.

BEWARE OF STINTING THE EDUCATION VOTE

Proposed Scale of Salaries for Teachers

SOME EDUCATIONAL ANOMALIES

By S. H. Perinbanayagam, B. A.

PERMIT me to make a few comments on the new scale of salaries etc. proposed by the Retrenchment Commission. It seems to be taken for granted that the Education Vote is excessive and should be reduced. This has been the basis of the arguments advanced by every one.

Not Enough

My submission is that enough is not spent on education; or perhaps it will be truer to say enough education is not provided for. Even to-day there are large numbers of children of school-going age who are receiving no education whatever. No effort has yet been made to raise the compulsory school-going age and bring it up to anything approaching conditions obtaining in other countries. Kindergarten work, especially in the mother tongues, and in rural areas, is carried on in primitive style. The languages of other country have begun to receive some attention only very lately. Provision has not yet been made for the training of graduate teachers. There is not a single clinic in Ceylon to treat the delinquent (problem) child according to the approved methods of contemporary psychology. Nothing has been done to provide vocational or industrial education, unless of course we choose to regard the pathetic efforts at the Technical College as provision for such education. No effort whatever has been made to provide education to suit the aptitudes of pupils. Everybody who has the means and the ambition to pursue the stereo-typed elementary and secondary education of our Schools does so until he matriculates and enters the University College or waits at home scanning advertisements and applying for all sorts of posts

and taking up examinations like the Clerical or the Postal until he stumbles upon something to do; and it is not everybody who so stumbles upon something. The appalling waste and maladjustment involved in this process, we fail to take note of, because being so accustomed to this state of affairs, we take it for granted; and yet we speak as though the apex of the educational pinnacle has been reached and that the only thing left to us now is economy or at the best stay where we are. Not a cent more for education is the cry today. Yet all the defects I have mentioned are in regard to the everyday equipment of education in civilized countries, and not in regard to luxuries.

Blind Spots

When I say that there are these glaring defects in our education, and that in setting them right, more money should be spent I do not intend to convey the impression that all the money spent in education is wisely spent. Far from it, there are in our education scheme blind spots that cannot bear scrutiny. If anybody knows it, the teachers know it and that is why they have repeatedly asked for a Commission to investigate the whole fabric of education here and make recommendations for its improvement. If such a Commission after exhaustive and impartial inquiry recommends drastic reductions in the salaries, I feel confident the teachers will accept it. To point to one single anomaly in our scheme of education, is it not a phenomenal absurdity that up-to-date no provision has been made to teach Sinhalese to Tamil boys and Tamil to Sinhalese boys, while Latin,

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THE HONEST MAN AND HIS FATE

By Y. Y.

(in "The New Statesman and Nation")

NEWSPAPERS have often been blamed for giving more space to the sins of human beings than to their good deeds and for telling us the worst news instead of the kind of news that would cheer us all up. This week no such charge could be laid against them, for they have been devoting column after column to the story of the discovery of an honest man.

Needless to say, he was an Irishman. Michael Mannion, a homeless man, sixty-one years old, left Watford Casual Ward on Saturday morning and arrived in the evening at Amersham where he intended to spend the night in the work-house.

On the way there he saw two pound-notes lying on the pavement, and, though he was penniless and had eaten no food since his bread-and-margarine breakfast at Watford, instead of accepting the money as a gift from Heaven, he took it to the police-station where it was ultimately claimed by a poor woman with a family of eight children. "I was brought up not to keep anything that didn't belong to me," he said to the "News Chronicle" correspondent; and again: "I thought whoever lost it would be wanting it." And he would not even take the five-shillings reward the poor woman offered him, declaring that one-and-sixpence was enough. Diogenes would not have needed a lantern to discover an honest man in Amersham.

Is Honesty Rare?

I wonder how foreigners of the prying sort will interpret the publicity given to Michael's story. Will they ask: "Are honest men so rare in England that the discovery of an honest man causes almost as much excitement as the discovery of the North Pole did?"

That, I think, is the line I should take if I were a foreigner engaged in anti-democratic propaganda. I should cite Michael's uniqueness as evidence of the dishonesty of the democracies, and point out that in totalitarian countries

men like Michael were so common as not to be worth mentioning in the newspapers.

Not being a propagandist, however, I think the prominence given to Michael by the newspapers was justified. A widow once became famous by contributing a mite to charity; her mite, indeed, is the most famous charitable donation that has ever been recorded. Michael's honesty was on the same relatively gigantic scale as the widow's charity. Because of it, he is now a figure in a fable.

Some people may think that honesty is an easy virtue: if so, they have lived all their lives well beyond the scope of temptation. I doubt whether it is even a natural virtue. There have been peoples whose moral code made light of it and who condoned or even applauded theft.

Theft—A Clever Trick

"Among some of the Eskimos," according to L. T. Hobhouse, "theft, when discovered, is merely held a clever trick; among the Balantes in Africa it is held honourable. While among the Kaffirs, the children of chiefs may steal within their own tribe."

The Red Indian's code forbade him to rob a guest who was under his roof, but permitted him to rob him when on the prairie. The Moors, again, "do not punish theft by night, but only by day, and then only when the thief is caught in the act." These various attitudes to theft suggest that it is just as natural to be a thief as to be an honest man. Those who maintain that all property is theft would say, perhaps, that it is more natural.

I sometimes wonder whether anybody is naturally honest. There are children, no doubt, who are impeccably honest from an early age, but is this honesty due to their nature or their upbringing? It seems to me to be more natural for a child, given a reasonable amount of temptation, to rob a

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SUMMER SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Distribution of Medals and Certificates

The Music Day and the distribution of gold and silver medals and certificates to the successful students who attended the Summer School of Music conducted by the North Ceylon Oriental Music Society was held at St. John's College, Jaffna, on Saturday.

This is the fifth year of the School run by the Society. The number of students who attended the classes was 140, out of which 50 were girls, thus beating the number in previous years. The President of the Society is Mr. C. T. Lorage, Divisional Inspector of Schools, and the Secretary Mr. M. S. Param, Honorary Supervisor of Music Education.

The function began with a concert by the students of the Summer School. The vocal items rendered by Thillairajah Param and Miss Annalakshmi Oomaraswamy, the veena items by Miss Maheswari Selvadurai and Mrs. Lilly Navaratnam and the violin item by Miss Gertrude Benjamin were highly appreciated.

Others accommodated on the platform for the distribution of prizes were Mr. W. R. Watson, Assistant Director of Education, Dr. G. P. Malalasekera, Professor in Oriental Languages, University College, Mr. C. T. Lorage and Mr. M. S. Param.

Mrs. Saravanamuttu, addressing the gathering, said that she wished to leave behind three ideas with the members of the Society and the students of the Summer School, which she hoped would be fed and nourished into ideals which would inspire all their efforts at reviving their music and making it a moulding influence in their lives.

"Nearest to God"

The first idea was that they Orientals gave to music a higher value than to any other form of art as an ennobler of life. According to their oriental experience, music was nearest to God, was a part of Him, and was His highest revelation to man.

The second idea was that since music was not only a revelation of God but also a part of Him, they in their devotion to it should produce it in its highest and purest form, if it was to inspire and ennoble their lives and living.

This idea led them to the third one, which was that the Raga moulds in which their music had been set were those which their past experience found capable of giving the highest freedom to the singer to find his or her soul. The insistence that they should not be changed and that any song sung outside those moulds was not music arose from the fact that any new moulds were incapable of giving the same extent of freedom to the singer which the old ragas gave.

Harmony and Melody

Nowadays they heard so much talk of harmony being superior to melody. That was true only in a technical sense. Harmony meant a more complicated technique and a consequent restriction of freedom to the artist, whereas melody gave him or her the highest freedom. So that if in terms of technique their music might be said to be simpler than that of the West, in its appeal to the hearer and in its liberating

influence on the singer, it was both universal and unrestrained.

Mrs. Saravanamuttu wished the prize winners, the students of the Summer School and the North Ceylon Oriental Music Society all success in the endeavours which they were making to help them to live their lives in their own way and to contribute their share to the common stock of human achievement.

"Nagadipa" of Old

Dr. G. P. Malalasekera, Professor, University College, speaking next, apologised for his inability to talk of them in Tamil, but expressed the hope that he would be able to do so on his next visit.

For more reasons than one he was glad to have come to Jaffna. He was a Buddhist, and Jaffna was referred to as "Nagadipa", to which place Lord Buddha paid a visit. There were also references to Jaffna in Buddhist books. There were ruins of Buddhist buildings, which awaited investigation by archaeologists and scholars.

He paid his tribute to the North Ceylon Oriental Music Society for the excellent work done by it for reviving their national culture. They have lost their soul and had become slaves as it were by the Westerners' influence in trade and arms. They began to lose their heritage in literature and arts, and it was all due to ignorance and stupidity.

Concluding Dr. Malalasekera said that in that movement he found a great instrument of National regeneration. That should therefore be fostered and encouraged in every way. He hoped that the state would give every support to the movement.

Mr. W. R. Watson, Assistant Director of Education, then spoke in Tamil. He said that although he was eager to speak on many subjects on that occasion, he did not want to stand in the way of their enjoying the very rare treat by the Vidvans that was going to follow.

Referring to the apparent difference between the two communities (the Sinhalese and the Tamils), Mr. Watson said that he was reminded of the question of inter-marriage and the inter change of the languages. What was language after all he asked. Was it possible to achieve anything by talks and talks alone. There was the language of the intellect, which was confined to reading, writing and talking. Talk was limited to one's own knowledge, and was not at all sufficient to change one's mind.

There was the language of emotion, which was music, through which one was able to convey one's own feelings. One was able to draw nearer to God through music. If they were to draw nearer to their brethren, they ought to spread their music not only here but also in all the Sinhalese villages in the Island. Then there was no doubt that there will be concord and amity among the communities.

The Tamils were the possessors of a more highly developed and ancient system of music than the West, which acquired it only a few hundred years ago. Their own music was ancient, scientific and valuable.

A vote of thanks to Mrs. Naysum Saravanamuttu and the speakers was proposed by Miss Jayalakshmi Paranirupasingham.

A delightful programme of music recitals by the Trichy Brothers to the accompaniment of violin music by Marungapuri Gopalakrishnaier and Mirdangam by Alangari Raghavan was then gone through.

The Honest Man and His Fate

(Continued from page 1)

larder or an orchard than not to rob it.

The proof that dishonesty is natural lies in the fact that even in civilised countries it has to be restrained by the threat of all manner of punishments in this world and the next, and that, in spite of everything that is done to suppress it, dishonesty still flourishes in all ranks of society.

Dishonesty Not Unnatural

The Committee of the Stock Exchange has again and again tried to make rules to prevent the dishonest rich man from practising his skill on the widow and orphan; yet in our own time many eminent financiers have preferred risking ruin to earning a living by un-naturally honest ways!

Every now and then, too, we hear of some unfortunate postman who, after many years of service, steals a few postal orders and, as a result, loses both his job and the prospect of a pension. You would imagine that a man in such a job had so many reasons for being honest that dishonesty would have no attractions for him.

But there will always be a number of human beings deficient in that useful emotion, the fear of being found out. Hence the dishonest solicitor who gambles with trust funds. Hence, too, the dishonest policeman who creates an occasional scandal in the force.

Is there any trade or calling or profession, indeed, in which dishonesty has not at some time or other been rife? Dishonest judges seem once to have been fairly common, and even with living memory there were judges, who were widely believed to be dishonest—corrupted, not by bribes, but by political partisanship.

If Dr. Cronin's novel, "The Citadel," is to be taken as an approximately true account of life in the medical profession, it ought not to be difficult to find a dishonest man in Harley Street. Even the English gentleman does not always appear in history as the impersonation of honesty he is commonly supposed to be.

Gang of Thieves

There are peers who would not be sitting in Parliament to-day if their ancestors had been as honest as Michael Mannion.

Such are the charms of dishonesty that will find even men who are usually honest in many matters and who will yet turn to dishonesty for fun. The number of spoons, forks and ash-trays stolen from hotels and restaurants every year as trophies is so enormous that, reading it, you might conclude that the human race is no better than a gang of thieves.

There are thousands of people who see a moral difference between "pinching" and stealing, and who, though they would not steal your ash-tray. I once knew a man who, if he were visiting a house and were left alone for a minute or two, always filled his pockets from his host's cigarette-box.

I have heard him boasting of this as a feat, and it was clear that he thought that, in doing

Relief for Jaffna Farmers

Motion Referred for Report

Colombo, Tuesday.

When the State Council resumed today after the Easter vacation, Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy, the Speaker, read two messages from the Governor relating to the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. H. E. Newnham as a nominated member of the State Council by the Secretary of State, and the ratification of the report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands passed at the last meeting of the State Council sanctioning the training of young men in animal husbandry.

Mr. S. Natesan (Kankasanturai) moved that immediate relief be given to the farmers in Jaffna Peninsula whose tobacco crops and other valuable garden produce were damaged by the recent floods.

Mr. G. C. S. Corea (the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce) said that the matter was being looked into.

Mr. R. Sri Pathmanathan (Mannar) seconded the resolution, which was referred to the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce for report.

The debate on the Reforms motion was then continued.

Assistant Manager For "Jobs" Bureau

Colombo, Tuesday.

The appointment of an Assistant Manager for the Employment Exchange at Staple Street, Colombo, was approved by the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce yesterday.

The new post will carry a salary of Rs. 150 a month.

The appointment was considered necessary by the Committee in view of the large volume of work that at present falls on the Manager of the Exchange, Mr. J. Vincent Mendis.

what he did, he was living in wise obedience to the maxim, God helps those who help themselves.

One of the best men I ever knew used, as a boy, to climb into a railway-station refreshment-room when it was closed and to steal cakes and buns with a gang of other boys. He grew up to be a perfectly honest man, but can we be certain that the honesty of his manhood was an natural as the dishonesty of his boyhood?

Kleptomaniac's Utilitarianism

What, again, are we to say of the kleptomaniacs? The ordinary kleptomaniac, it seems to be generally agreed, steals, not from necessity, but from a natural desire for self expression. The lawyers speak of "an uncontrollable impulse," and what could be more natural than uncontrollable impulse?

An impulse of this kind, I suppose, must be the explanation why so many otherwise virtuous people steal valuable editions of books. There are other equally virtuous people who yield to an uncontrollable impulse to steal plates out of art-books.

Honesty may be, as the proverb says, the best policy, but the

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WHY JAFFNA SHOULD HAVE A MUNICIPALITY

Recognition of Her Importance

JAFFNA ASSOCIATION APPEALS FOR RELIEF TO JAFFNA FARMERS

JAFFNA Town, which was much larger than Kandy or Galle, and which was once the seat of Tamil Kings, should have been granted a Municipality long ago, declared Mr S. Kanagasabai, presiding at a committee meeting of the Jaffna Association held on Friday.

A resolution, moved by him, reiterating the Jaffna Association's demand for the immediate establishment a Municipality for Jaffna was passed unanimously by the meeting.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai presided in the unavoidable absence of the President, the Rev. Dr. Isaac Tambyah.

Seat of Kings

In addressing the meeting, Mr. Kanagasabai said that he was greatly distressed to find that the demand for the establishment of a Municipality for Jaffna had not yet been conceded by the Minister for Local Administration. A Municipality in his (Speaker's) opinion should have been granted to Jaffna 25 years ago. Jaffna town, which was much larger in extent than Kandy or Galle, with a population of nearly half a lakh and which was once the seat of Tamil kings should have had her undoubted importance recognised years ago.

It had been pointed out, continued the speaker, that the majority was only one vote when the Urban Council recently approved of the conversion of the Council into a Municipality.

Was not the Donoughmore Constitution accepted by a majority of one vote? he asked. "A majority is a majority; and the Minister must recognise the demand made by the intelligentsia of Jaffna."

Flood Victims

Need for Relief

Mr. C. Ponnambalam drew attention to the large number of meetings that had been held in various parts of Jaffna praying for relief to those peasants whose crops had been damaged by the recent rains and cyclone. The speaker stressed the necessity for the immediate formulation of adequate relief measures.

The Chairman said that he had been informed by responsible men from various villages that the people had lost their crops and that consequently there was grave distress in the district.

He said the Jaffna man was temperamentally averse to begging for a dole. He had a high sense of self-respect and would rather undergo starvation than beg for relief.

The Rev. James S. Mather said that he had visited a number of villages and had come across hundreds of people who had not only lost the fruit of their labours but

also their capital which generally borrowed from money lenders.

All these unfortunate people would have to sell their small holdings in order to satisfy their creditors. In addition they would have to undergo poverty and starvation for the next few years. Such a state of affairs, the speaker added, would undermine Jaffna's economic stability and would lead to a greater increase in crime.

Appeal to Ministers

Mr. Mather moved:—

"This Association views with grave concern the enormous havoc wrought by the recent floods and cyclone and the consequent distress among the peasant farmers of the Jaffna District and appeals to the Board of Ministers to take immediate measures to afford suitable relief."

Mr. N. Chelvadurai seconded and the resolution was carried unanimously.

It was also resolved that a sub-committee consisting of the Rev. James S. Mather, Messrs. C. Ponnambalam, N. Chelvadurai and A. E. Tambe be appointed to forward a memorandum to the Board of Ministers giving details of the loss incurred and suggesting ways and means of relief.

Gandhiji to Visit Rajkot

"Cannot Desert Comrades"

Brindavan, May 8.

The Associated Press understands that Gandhiji has wired to Darbar Virawala expressing regret that the latter should have caused disappointment to his hopes and requested him not to proceed to Rajkot. Gandhiji stresses the necessity of his proceeding to Rajkot, which he will reach on May 12. He adds that he cannot desert his comrades and the future course of action will be in accordance with "new light," which may dawn on him.

REFORMS COMMITTEE Two Fresh Names Being Submitted

Rajkot, May 8.

Mr. Dhebar is understood to be preparing a list of two names to be proposed in the place of the vacancies created by the rejection of two names proposed by Sardar Patel, consequent on the decision of the Judicial Commissioner.

MR. JINNAH TO VISIT STATE

Sholapur, May 7

It is very likely that Mr. Jinnah will proceed to Rajkot immediately as he has been pressed by Muslims to intervene in Rajkot affairs.

New Antiquities Bill

State To Take Over Ancient Monuments

Colombo, Tuesday.

Provision to ensure that no restoration work of any kind can be made in connexion with ancient monuments in Ceylon without the sanction of the Archaeological Commissioner, is made in the new Antiquities Bill, the draft of which is now ready.

The new Bill is sponsored by the Ministry of Education and was considered by the Executive Committee of Local Administration, with reference to the steps that should be taken for the protection of antiquities within the limits of local governing bodies.

The Town Planner's report on the problem of restricting building operations, mining and quarrying in the vicinity of ancient monuments was also considered.

The object of the Bill is to repeal the Antiquities Ordinance of 1900 and substitute a new Ordinance which will ensure the better preservation of antiquities and monuments in Ceylon.

The most important change introduced in the Bill is in connection with monuments in lands owned by private persons.

Will be Supervised

Under the present law it is possible for any ancient monument which is of historical or religious importance to be in private ownership.

No control can at present be exercised in respect of such monuments and the owner may allow it to fall into ruins or may destroy its archaeological importance by ill-conceived restoration measures.

In the proposed Ordinance an ancient monument of private ownership may be declared a 'protected monument' and will fall under the supervision of the Archaeological Commissioner.

A change of the law is also made regarding the rights of persons who discover antiquities which are movable property. All such will be declared the property of the Government.

According to the present law, the finder of an antiquity and the owner of the land in which it is found are each entitled to one-third share of the value of such article. The remaining one-third share is claimed by Government.

In order to induce the finder more readily to surrender possession of antiquities, in the new Bill it is proposed that the value of the article, in case the Crown retains it, should be shared by the finder and the owner of the land.

No person will in future be allowed to carry out excavations for the purpose of discovering antiquities without a licence from the Archaeological Commissioner.

The penalty for a breach of this regulation will be a fine of Rs. 1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding one year.

Any monument dating prior to the year 1850 will be deemed as an ancient monument for purpose of the Ordinance.

"SAVE HUMANITY FROM TERRIBLE FATE"

DUKE OF WINDSOR'S APPEAL FOR PEACE

BROADCAST TALK TO U. S. A.

"THE greatest success any Government could achieve for its own national policy will be nothing compared with the triumph of contributing to save humanity from the terrible fate threatening it today."

So declared His Royal Highness, the Duke of Windsor, broadcasting to American listeners today from the historic battlefield-town of Verdun, where he is at present staying.

"It is not for me," the Duke went on, "to put forward concrete proposals. That must be left to those with power to guide the nations towards a closer understanding. God grant that they may accomplish this great task before it is too late!"

The Duke commenced his broadcast by saying that "I break my self-imposed silence only because of the manifest danger that we may be approaching the repetition of the grim events of a quarter-of-a century ago."

He emphasised that he was speaking solely for himself as a soldier of the last war whose most earnest prayer is that such cruel and destructive madness should never again overtake mankind.

"Peace is a matter," he said, "too vital to be treated as a political question. In modern warfare, victory will lie with the powers of evil. Anarchy and chaos will be the inevitable results, with misery for all. This is as true of the German nation as of the British and the French."

There are moments when an international understanding has to be deliberately sought and negotiated, and political tension is apt to weaken in a spirit of mutual concession.

"In our personal contacts, we strive to live in harmony with our fellow-men; otherwise, civilisation could never come into existence. Are we now going to destroy civilisation by failing to do internationally what we learnt to do individually?"

The Duke advocated the discouragement of harmful propaganda which tends to poison the minds of peoples.

"I personally," he declared, "deplore the use of terms like 'encirclement' and 'aggression' which arouse dangerous passions which it should be the aim of all of us to subdue. Those statesmen who set themselves to restore international security and confidence must act as good citizens of the world—and not only as good Frenchmen, Italians, Germans, Americans or Britons."

The speech was broadcast all over the United States on a country-wide "hook-up" by the National Broadcasting Company of America.

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

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July 1940

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**Hindu Organ.**

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1939

ANOTHER AXIS MOVE

WHILE THE DEMOCRACIES are actively engaged in organising an effective Peace Barrage to stem the aggression of the Totalitarian states, the Axis Powers are making a counter move to neutralise the Peace Bloc and strengthen their solidarity. Reuter announces that at Milan Count Ciano and HERR VON RIBBENTROP have concluded a political and military pact which places the relationship between the two members of the Axis on a clearly defined and firm foundation. The object of the Pact is stated to be to secure the peace of Europe in an efficacious manner. This move, coming close on the heels of the Fuehrer's attempts to neutralize the smaller powers by the conclusion of non-aggression pacts and thus wean them from the Peace Bloc, should not be ignored by the Democracies. The official communique stresses the complete identity of views existing between the two Governments and their unanimity on all questions of policy. "Italy and Germany recognise that each has a sphere of interest. For Italy it is the whole of the Mediterranean and for Germany it is the Baltic and the Central European Zone. Each carries out the realisation of its task in full autonomy without the other being rigidly compelled to support its partner, but only to facilitate the way. In one case only is the solidarity rigid and entire, namely an ideological war. In this case the two countries are resolved because each knows that the defeat of one would mean a catastrophe for the other." Thus a loop-hole is left for Italy to keep out of war on a question similar to the one of Danzig and the Polish corridor. But if the Democracies or Russia goes to the assistance of Poland, then it would cease to be a

purely local question and would become an ideological war. The solidarity would in that case become rigid and entire.

Thus the Pact is a slap on the face of those who even recently were cherishing the hope of buying off Italian neutrality by making some concessions in Africa. The aim of the Dictators is plainly the domination of Europe. They do not recognise the interests of France and Britain in the Mediterranean or of Russia and other Baltic states on the Baltic. The pact has created no flutter in Paris or in London as creating any new situation. It is regarded as a manoeuvre on the part of the Dictators to warn the Democracies that there is no weakening in the Axis, that Italy is no uneasy partner alarmed at the vast extension of German power. Whether Hungary, Bulgaria and Japan will join the Axis actively is open to doubt. Hungary and Bulgaria have an ambition to regain the territories lost in the Great War and their interests will be with the Axis. The fear of active intervention by the U. S. A. in the event of Japan giving effective help to the Axis in the East will make Japan slow to throw her weight on the side of the Dictators. During the late crisis President ROOSEVELT transferred all his navy to the Pacific so as to be in a position to guard the East against Japan. The moral isolation in which the Dictators have placed themselves by their aggressive actions and the bad faith towards Czecho-Slovakia and by the denunciation of Polish Non-Aggression Pact will make the small States reluctant to take them at their word or to place any confidence in their non-aggression pacts. Unless they convince the world of their peaceful intentions, they will be without moral support and allies. Britain should push on the negotiations with Russia and conclude a military Three Power Pact, which will be an effective check on the aggression of the Totalitarian States. Whatever scruple she may have had against such an alliance has vanished after the Milan Pact between Italy and Germany. The argument that such an alliance would justify HERR HITLER's complaint of encirclement does not hold good any longer.

Railway Changes

Mr. V. Vettivelu Stationmaster Kagawatte, has been transferred to Chavakachcheri vice Mr. S. Nagalingam, Stationmaster who has retired.

Police Sports In Jaffna

The Northern Province Police hold their annual sports meet on Saturday.

Soviet Offers Defensive Guarantees**Talks in Moscow**

London, May 9.

THE full report of Sir William Seed's conversation with M. Molotov, Foreign Commissar, has been received in London and will be carefully studied by the Government.

It is assumed here that the Soviet Government will carefully consider the observation made by Sir William Seed during the conversations, and a second interview will be arranged in a few days.

It is understood that the Soviet is offering all the smaller States in her western neighbourhood general defensive guarantees on the lines of those given by Britain and France to Rumania and Greece.

M. Potemkin has left for Warsaw, where he will arrive on Tuesday night. His visit there is considered significant.

A STRENUOUS WEEK FOR GANDHIJI**Women Pray to Him for Relief**

Brindaban, May 9.

The Gandhi Seva Sangh conference ended yesterday evening with the departure of Mr. Gandhi who went through a strenuous week and a crowded programme.

During the week several lakhs of people had his darshan and many thousands had his darshan yesterday in batches when Mr. Gandhi appeared intermittently. Women were seen praying for various favours and gifts, including relief from ailments.

A TENDER THAT WAS TAMPERED WITH**Figures Altered by Some One**

It is understood that the Director of Public Works has ordered that new tenders shall be called for in a case which was recently investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department.

In this case, a person, who had submitted a tender for a contract work, found that his tender had not been accepted as the result of figures in his tender being altered by some one.

The matter was referred to the Criminal Investigation Department which, it is learned, has expressed the opinion, after inquiry, that the tender in question could have been altered only by somebody in the office in which the tender was opened and dealt with.

The responsibility for tampering with the document has not yet been fixed to any person or persons.

In the circumstances the Director of Public Works has ordered that fresh tenders should be called for the contract in question.

NEXT YEAR'S EDUCATION BILL**Vote for Tamil Lexicon Included**

The Executive Committee of Education has completed its estimates of expenditure for the next financial year to be submitted to the Board of Ministers.

It is understood that these estimates are lower than figures for the current year, drastic reductions having been made in certain branches. There are a few fresh items put in and they include assistance to the Lanka Gandharva Sabha and to the Tamil Lexicon.

INVITATION TO "SHOOT IN CEYLON"**Tourist Bureau's Advertisement Withdrawn**

The advertisement inviting visitors to shoot in Ceylon, which was published in Indian newspapers, has, it is learned, been withdrawn by the Advisory Board of the Ceylon Tourist Bureau.

The advertisement stated "We have all types of birds and animals as targets," and was described by members of the Ceylon Game and Fauna Protection Society as a "pernicious effort" to attract tourists.

Burning Liner Abandoned Off Galle

Splendid rescue work was done by the P. and O. liner Canton and the British gunboat, Grasshopper, when the 12,500-ton Danish motor ship, Alsia, caught fire last night a few miles off Galle. Not a single life was lost.

Thousands gathered this morning on the Galle ramparts and at every vantage point in the town to catch a glimpse of the vessel which was still burning.

Meanwhile the powerful Colombo harbour tug Sinhabahu was despatched to the scene and an attempt was made to tow the Alsia to Galle.

This afternoon it was decided to abandon the burning vessel as it was a danger to navigation. It is likely that it will be sunk by gunfire.

The Captain and 35 men of the Alsia are expected to arrive in Colombo tonight.

The ill-fated vessel, enveloped in a huge volume of smoke, was seen laying near the big rock of Damugalla, off Galle early this morning.

She was on her way to Colombo from Bangkok, and had a considerable number of passengers, a cargo of teak, rubber, rice and copra.

CONGRESS PRESIDENTIAL CHANGE

Dr. Rajendra Prasad's Statement HOW NEGOTIATIONS WITH MR. BOSE FAILED

Brindaban, May 9.
DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD, the Congress President, in the course of a statement in connection with the recent Congress Presidential changes and the events relating to them, says that when it was found as a result of correspondence and personal discussion between Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Bose, that the difference in outlook and view point was so great, that it was impossible for Mr. Gandhi to suggest a working committee that would meet both view points, without being an imposition on Subash, only two courses were left open, either Mr. Bose should form a Cabinet consisting entirely of those who agreed with him in his policy and programme, or he should in agreement with members of the old working committee form a Cabinet, consisting of those who agreed to work with him.

"Our view point was more or less the same as that of Mahatmaji. It was thus clear that the first alternative was the better one."

Dr. Rajendra Prasad then gave details of the assurances and offers they made to Mr. Bose, when they pressed him to accept the first alternative.

Unable to Accept Suggestion

"Unfortunately, however, Mr. Subhas Bose was unable to accept our suggestion to form a homogeneous Cabinet of his own, despite our request, repeatedly made and our assurance earnestly given, and he was equally unwilling to consent to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's resolution.

"After this there was no other course open to the All-India Congress Committee but to allow Mr. Nehru's resolution to be withdrawn and elect another President."

In A Tight Corner

Dr. Prasad concludes "We were put in a very tight corner.

The President would not form a Cabinet of his own, in spite of our assurance and he would not appoint a compact Cabinet as suggested by us after some accommodation in the matter of time necessitated by reason of the absence of some members of the Working Committee, and he would not consent to accept a Working Committee, which the All-India Congress Committee would give him, except on his own terms, and all this when he was aware that the majority of the All-India Congress Committee was not with him.

"We were prepared not to use that majority against him, if he

formed his own Cabinet.

Pitchforked Into Presidentship

"We were prepared to join his Cabinet, if he gave the accommodation mentioned above, or if the A. I. C. C. passed Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's resolution and Mr. Bose withdrew his resignation, which he refused to do. In these circumstances it was not without much regret that someone had to be pitchforked into the Presidentship."

"I can only hope my colleagues and I will prove worthy of the trust reposed in us by the A. I. C. C. and what is more that we shall be able to win the confidence of Mr. Bose and those who agree with him."

Gandhiji to Meet Pandit Malaviya

Benaries, May 7.
Mahatma Gandhi will arrive at Benares on May 9 in order to pay a visit to Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya whom he has not met for a long time, and also, in view of the weak state of his health, to have some rest during the long journey from Brindaban to Bombay en route Rajkot.

One Year for Breach of Trust

Chellappah Kanagasabai of Changanai was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment yesterday by Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge, Jaffna, for criminal breach of trust in respect of jewels worth Rs. 623, belonging to Vaitialingam Kanagasabai.

Obituary

MR. V. KANDIAH

We regret to record the death of Mr. V. Kandiah, of the Land Registry, Jaffna, which occurred at his residence at Aiyankovilady on Friday last. He was a son-in-law of Muhandiram P. Rajagopal. The funeral was largely attended. We convey our sincere condolences to the bereaved family.

SALE OF TODDY RENTS, 1939-40, MANNAR DISTRICT

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling toddy by retail in the toddy taverns of Mannar District for a period of 12 months from July 1, 1939 to June 30, 1940. Tenders should reach the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar, not later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday May 30, 1939.

2. The conditions of sale and any other particulars can be obtained on application at the Mannar Kachcheri.

S. F. AMERASINGHE,
Assistant Government Agent

The Kachcheri,
Mannar, 9th May, 1939.

[G. 4. 11-5-39]

Jaffna Municipality From 1941

Ministry's Decision

Colombo, Wednesday.

JAFFNA will have a municipality from the beginning of 1941. The Executive Committee of Local Administration today decided to convert the Jaffna Urban District Council into a municipality. The present U. D. C. will cease to function at the end of 1940.

Acting Solicitor-General

Mr. M. T. de S. Amerasekera K.C., took the oaths on Monday before the Acting Chief Justice in Chambers, as Acting Solicitor-General.

(Continued)

ese" and Indians would receive as much consideration from him as the Europeans.

Referring to the lament of Mr. Mahadeva that in spite of the services rendered by his forebears he had had to go all the way to Jaffna to find a seat for himself, Mr. Senanayake said that in a democratic age it was individual merit that counted.

He cited the cases of Mrs. Saravanamuttu and her husband who never had based their claims for recognition on what their parents had done, but had made themselves acceptable to the Sinhalese by their own individual actions.

He deduced from Mr. Mahadeva's argument that more seats for Jaffna would mean more people going from Colombo to grab those seats culminating in further grievances against the Sinhalese. It would be better therefore if Colombo were given more seats to enable those people to try their luck!

"I Have Done More"

Mr. Senanayake claimed to have done more for Jaffna than all the Jaffna members put together. He threw out a challenge, but unfortunately the Jaffna members were not in the Chamber at the time. They were in the lobbies engaged in muffled talk with Mr. Jayah and company.

Mr. Senanayake wound up by saying that the Sinhalese and the Tamils were close friends although in Jaffna some tried to paint the Sinhalese in the blackest dye.

"Only for election purposes," observed Mr. George E. de Silva, and the House laughed in endorsement.

Mr. R. C. Kannangara continued the speech he began on March 31st, before the races, and had a few more digs at the "Brahmin from Hatton," and Mr. E. W. Abeygunasekera entertained the house to a history of Ceylon of his own. The others who spoke were Mr. Razik and Mr. Tambimuttu.

The franchise question was being discussed and as Mr. Amarasuriya intimated that he had much more to say, the House adjourned until 2.30 p.m. tomorrow. (Times.)

REFORMS DEBATE IN COUNCIL

FIRST STAGE OVER

MR. SENANAYAKE ON "CEYLON FOR CEYLONESE"

State Council, Tuesday,

SHORTLY after 6-30 p.m. today the first stage of the reforms debate was over when, by 30 votes to nine, the House decided against going into Committee to discuss the various reforms proposals of the Governor embodied in separate motions by the Legal Secretary.

On the general debate 36 members spoke, and spoke at enormous length, but the indications are that all those who spoke, and all those who did not, will repeat all that has been heard one hundred and one times and more in dealing with the several proposals now to be discussed.

A minor but undignified scene marked the closure of the first stage.

Mr. D. P. R. Gunawardene was making a downright onslaught on the Sinhala Maha Sabha, denouncing them as appealing to the basest human instincts, when the Leader of the Sabha, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike (Minister of Local Administration) heckled him.

Unperturbed, Mr. Gunawardene was going on when Mr. Bandaranaike rose from his seat to retire to the lobby, and this drew the remark from Mr. Gunawardene that it was not unusual for the Minister to run away when the atmosphere got hot.

Mr. Bandaranaike, who was near the exit at the time, promptly turned back and without any respect for procedure or decorum, and in spite of protests from the House and the chair, threw out a challenge to Mr. Gunawardene, who burst out that he was prepared to be killed if necessary.

Calm was restored and Mr. Gunawardene made a point of the fact that while Mr. H. E. Newnham had expressed himself against deputy ministers, his colleague, Mr. E. C. Villiers, had supported them. Who represented the European community? he asked. Was it the Chamber of Commerce or the Planters' Association?

Earlier, Mr. Newnham had recognised the fact that, although the Donoughmore Commissioners had said that communal fears should give way to progressive administration, those fears still existed. He opposed an increased Council, and supported a delimitation commission with wider powers.

Plain Talking

Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, in his inimitable way, indulged in some plain and straight talk. He believed in "Ceylon for the Ceylon-

(Continued on Previous Column)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A Penang Resident on
Ceylon Reforms

Sir,

I wish to express my humble views regarding the proposed constitutional changes for Ceylon.

In the first place, I wish to know whether the Ceylonese will get more political freedom by the introduction of the proposed constitution. I am of opinion that this should have been the first point for debate by the Councillors. But I am sorry to say that so far nobody has given a clear exposition of the subject, though several had made long orations and others have spent most of their time in criticising each other. The people of the country chose the Councillors to look after the interests of the country as a whole, and it is the duty of the Councillors to study the problem and give their considered and honest views, so that the future generations may live more happily and contented, and not accuse their ancestors for their short-sighted actions.

The freedom which we should seek now must be such as to bring us more prosperity and happiness, under the guardianship of British rule. What we want is less poverty and less suffering in the country. We do not want to increase the number of "barking dogs" in the Council. More barking and less sense in the Council will make Ceylon a more backward people. The increase in the numbers of Councillors with a re arrangement is not going to bring us more freedom. We should ask for more freedom to use the purse and our powers. If we are going to be weakminded the Governor and the Secretary of State for the Colonies would try to cure their patients with their psychological treatment, i.e. bring about some change in the numbers and form of the Council without granting any more freedom to the country.

Personally, I am led to the conclusion, that there are more defects in our Councillors than in the present constitution. By one of their first acts,—the selection of ministers—the majority community had not only undermined the faith the minorities had in them but also were the first to bring out the communal outlook in the country. Consequently, this "communal ministry" went against the purpose of the Donoughmore Commission. What we have in Ceylon is a form of constitution where communal representation supersedes territorial representation. Is it possible to have any progress with such a constitution? If I remember it correct, the Donoughmore Commission had mentioned in its report, "Communal representation will be detrimental to the progress of a nation." If that is so, it follows that the Commission itself had given the verdict about the present constitution. But I am sure, what the Commission wanted was that the country should be governed by territorial bodies in all its stages—i.e. there must be territorial representations in the Council, in the ministry, etc. Therefore, the failure of the constitution is not entirely due to the defects in it but also due to territorially represented majority community.

Some Councillors have attributed the choice of the pan Sinhalese ministry because of the attitude of Mr.

G. G. Ponnambalam. These Councillors do not seem to have understood that Mr. Ponnambalam represents only a part of Jaffna and not the minority communities as a whole. The election of the Speaker was quoted as a gift by the majority to the minority, but if one were to look back on, how this came to pass, one would say definitely, it was providential. Also, the election of the Mayor of Colombo was mentioned as a sign of the generosity of the majority community. This only goes to prove that the people of Colombo are more territorial-minded, and thus politically more advanced than the present majority community members of the Council. As for the election of Mr. Freeman no comment is necessary. There is only one "Freeman" in Ceylon. I wish Ceylon could produce more "Freemans." If Mr. Freeman was allowed to choose the Ministers he would have elected a "territorial ministry." The British Government had thought it necessary to bring about some change in the present constitution, mainly because I am certain, of the short-circuiting of the territorial Council into a communal ministry.

Now we come to the question why there should be nominated members. The answer is obvious, because the authorities have found that purely territorial representation will not fully represent the interests of all the communities. Therefore, the idea of "community" had a place in the territorial constitution. But what is the purpose of this form of representation (nominated, in other words communal), if such representation has no power behind it to safeguard its interest when such interest is at stake? The majority community have not only the representation but also the power to back up their causes but in the case of the minority, even though they are represented, they are at the mercy of the majority community for the necessary power to fight out their issues. The Governor has the veto to protect the interest of the British Government. Has that not been used so far? Are similar chances given to the minorities to protect their rights and interests? The Burgher members seem to be satisfied with the Governor's recommendations. The reason for this is quite obvious—they usually sit on the fence. The European members also need not worry about their position, because they have the Governor's veto to further protect them.

I personally, do not think that the people of Ceylon are territorially-minded, though the Donoughmore Commission thought of training them in that way. No doubt, the progress of Ceylon depends on such an outlook. The cure for this lies in the hands of the majority community. The minorities should have faith in them. The Sinhalese should produce more "Freemans."

The best constitution for Ceylon will be one with a party system. In this system the various communities will be re-arranged into groups not with communal problems but with party problems. Unless this is done, other forms of constitution are bound to fail, as they would finally end in a "communal rule." A "balanced constitution," with the minorities balancing the majority, as advocated, will do more harm as we will get more and more selfish and think in terms of communities and families.

CEYLONESE OVERSEAS,
Penang, April 28, 1939.

The Affinity Between
Hindus & Buddhists

Ex - Councillor on Unity

"THE Satanic efforts of a few adventurers to divide the Hindus and the Buddhists of Ceylon, that is, the Tamils and the Sinhalese, would vanish into thin air, as the cultural affinity of the Hindus and the Buddhists is built on the permanent foundation of their religions, which have a common heritage," said Mr. S. Rajaratnam Advocate, and a former Member of the Legislative Council, in the course of his address on the position of the Hindus in Ceylon at the golden jubilee celebrations of Subramania Vidyasalai at Karainagar.

The chair was taken by Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy.

Welcome songs, recitations, musical items and Kollaitam were contributed by the students.

Sir Waitialingam rising amidst applause, expressed his pleasure in having been able to participate in that function. He was equally delighted to see the leading residents of Karainagar assembled in such large numbers in that hall.

Sir Waitialingam paid a tribute to the philanthropic founder of that Institution, in the late Mr. Subramaniam, who was not only its first headmaster, but who was well known as one who had contributed a great deal to the cause of Hindu Education. He (the speaker) had been following vicissitudes of that institution from the very beginning, and was happy to note how successive managers, trustees and teachers had assisted in its vigorous development.

Nearly Two Decades Ago

When he (Sir Waitialingam) entered that institution that day, he was forcibly reminded of an election meeting held in that hall in 1920 or 1921 when he was contesting the Northern Province seat in the old Legislative Council. All the leading residents of that place who assembled at that meeting gave him their blessing in his political career and commanded him to live and work for the country, without regard for his own self or his family. Sir Waitialingam said he hoped he had faithfully carried out that commandment (loud applause). He wished the school every success and exhorted the gathering to work for the good of the country as a whole.

Plea for Unity

Mr. S. Rajaratnam on being invited to address the gathering traced the proud position the Hindus had occupied in Ceylon. In spite of the fact that the Portuguese and the Dutch had tried to trample them down, thanks to the efforts of the late Sree La Sree Arumuga Navalar, the torch of Hindu Culture continued undimmed.

Continuing, Mr. Rajaratnam said that if Ceylon were to progress, not only should the Jaffnese be united with each other, but they should form alliances with people who had a common culture and interest. It was dangerous, and even suicidal, he said, for the Tamils to fight among them-

selves or attempt to fight the other races, especially the majority community.

After making the remarks quoted above, the speaker warned the people not to be led away by the communal war-cry of a handful of self seeking Councillors, who being under obligation to Christian block votes, were working unlike their Chairman, against the interest of Hindus. Those Councillors had opposed even the registration of Hindu schools for Government aid.

THE MANAGER

THE MERCANTILE
BANK OF INDIA LTD.

COLOMBO

ANNOUNCES

that a

Branch of the Bank will be
Opened in Hospital Road,

JAFFNA

on the 5th of June next.

Ordinary Banking Business will be transacted on terms similar to those obtaining at present in Colombo.

(Mis. 32, 8-5—29-5-39.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 699.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Nagapooraniammah wife of Suppiah Arunasalam of Karamban Deceased.
Suppiah Arunasalam of Suruvil, Kays Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Chellachipillai widow of Murugesu
2. Murugesu Naganathapillai
3. Murugesu Sinniah
4. Murugesu Nagarajah
5. Thillaiammah widow of Thamotheerampillai
6. Murugesu Kumaraswamy
7. Meenadehiammal daughter of Murugesu
8. Murugesu Manicavasagar all of do. The 7th and 8th Respondents are Minors by their Guardian ad-Litem the 1st Respondent

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 31st day of January 1939 in the presence of Mr. K. V. Sinnathurai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read; It is ordered that the abovenamed 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian ad-Litem over the minors the 7th and 8th Respondents and that the Petitioner be declared entitled to have letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased as her husband unless the Respondents or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on the 22nd March 1939 and state objection or shew sufficient cause to the contrary.

24th February 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

22-3-39.

The above Order Nisi is extended to 17-5-39.

ltd. C. C.
D. J.

O. 5. 11 & 15-5-39.)

RS. 20,000 PURSE TO GANDHIJI

Peasants Advised to be Patient

Brindaban, Monday.

A purse of Rs. 20,000 was presented to Mr. Gandhi when he gave what might be called a farewell speech to the people at Champaram yesterday evening.

Referring to the activities of the kisan (peasant organisation) Mr. Gandhi said it was human nature to be impatient and to wish to have what one desired without delay. So the kisans wanted to have lands from the zemindars (land-lords). While he admitted the claims of the peasants that the land which they tilled should belong to them, they could not have it by force and violence. Those running the administration were now their friends and they should ask the Congress Government to do the needful.

RETIREMENT OF A POPULAR HEADMASTER

A very pleasant and enjoyable afternoon was spent on the occasion of a farewell function that was accorded to Mr. S. P. Krishnamoorthy Aiyar, the veteran Headmaster of the Hindu English School, Tondamannar, on Thursday the 4th instant. The guest was taken in procession from his residence to the school hall at about 3.30 p.m. Then there was profuse display of crackers and rockets.

A large gathering of the parents of pupils, the past and present pupils, friends and well-wishers assembled in the school hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Mr. S. Vanamamalai Ayyangar, Headmaster, Chithampara Vidyalyayam, took the chair. The guest and the chairman were garlanded by two girl-students of the School.

The function commenced with welcome songs in honour of the guest of the evening. A printed address neatly mounted and framed was read and presented to the guest by the acting Headmaster, Mr. M. Rajendram, B. A., on behalf of the staff and pupils. Warm and glowing tributes eulogizing the sterling character, selfless service, and self-sacrificing spirit of the retiring headmaster, were paid both by some of his colleagues Messrs. N. Saravanamuttu and M. Rajanayagam, and by some of his old boys and present pupils. His colleagues who spoke on the occasion emphasised on the unique qualities of his head and heart, and of his wonderful patience and attitude of forbearance shown to them during his regime of over twelve years.

The Chairman in his address thanked the organisers, for having given him an opportunity to express his feelings on the occasion of the retirement of one of his best friends and countryman. Emphasis was laid upon his simplicity of life, versatility and perspicuity, the essentials of an ideal teacher and headmaster.

After a fitting 'social' a group photo was taken with the guest as the central figure. The guest feelingly replied. A hearty vote of thanks was ably proposed by Mr. N. Mylvaganam B. A., an old boy of the School. (Cor)

BEWARE OF STINTING THE EDUCATION VOTE

(Continued from page 1)

Greek, French, Sanskrit and Pali have found favour in the eyes of the Department. This has long been the specific I have prescribed for the evolution of a homogeneous Ceylonese Nation and I am afraid that if once I begin to expatiate upon it, I will not know when to stop.

Latin Can be Dropped

But let me answer those who think that a knowledge of Latin is necessary for the study of Law. I am a teacher of Latin and there have been periods in my life when I taught Latin almost exclusively. I have also attended a course of Lectures in Law. So my conclusions cannot be attributed to ignorance. It is my deliberate opinion that Law can be studied without any knowledge of Latin. Strachey of the London Spectator says in one of his books that people who insist on a first hand knowledge of Latin and Greek as a condition precedent for catching the genius of the classics, forget that they are content to read the Scriptures of their religion in translations. A correct understanding of the Scriptures is necessary for the salvation of our souls and yet we read our Scriptures in translations. But to study Law, we must know Latin! Further look at India; Sanskrit works, e.g. The Code of Manu, are to Hindu Law at least what the Institutes of Justinian are to Modern Roman Dutch Law. But a knowledge of Sanskrit has never been a pre-requisite to Law studies in India. My point is that Latin can be safely dropped from our curriculum and Sinhalese or Tamil can profitably take its place.

Two Criticisms

There is much more I should like to say on the defects of our educational system that cries to Heaven for reform. But I must pass on to the proposals of the Retrenchment Commission. There are two criticisms to which these proposals expose themselves. The poor prospects in the service made many teachers look upon teaching as a jumping-off board to more lucrative walks of life. The present Auditor General is a case in point; and my head reels to imagine what and what he would have done for the teachers if his abilities were available to the cause of education instead of to retrenchment. Since the new scale and the pension scheme were introduced, few people have cared to leave the profession in search of more fruitful avocations. It is not that teachers are rolling in luxury and beaming with contentment. They were tolerably satisfied and were turning their attention to other things besides salaries-scales, when there came the Retrenchment Commission's proposals and here we are again where we were, at the beginning of things; when living wages are assured, teachers will be free to devote their ener-

gies unhampared to the cause of education. But when uncertainty is just round the corner, how can teachers give their thought to other things but salary scales?

Then grading is a misfit in the scheme of things as they are. If there were a national educational service and the state somehow or other were responsible for all promotions, transfers etc. grading is feasible, as it is in the Government services to-day. But since each school is a self-sufficient unit shifts from one grade to another can take place only on the retirement or death of some one in the same school. Seeing that grade V will normally contain the largest number of teachers in any school the changes of all people in grade V being promoted to a higher grade are extremely remote.

Two Serious Evils

As things are the amount of ill-feeling that competition for the one "Special post" in a school breeds is notorious. Even if this is dismissed as inevitable in any scheme, the objection that once the teachers are graded they will have to "Stay put" with hardly any chance of getting into a higher grade cannot be lightly dismissed. The inadequacy of the salary and the rather remote chances of preferment will bring about two serious evils:

(1) The teachers in the lower grades will always be looking out for some chance of preferment outside teaching.

(2) Since promotion depends on the good will of the manager the teacher will, like other human beings, seek to advance his chances by humouring the manager by means fair or foul.

Needless to say, the cause of education will be seriously injured by these factors.

Much has recently been written about Sinhalese and Tamil Teachers who are described as thriving on the fat of the land and playing the part of village usurers. As I understand the facts they are these. These men were at one time very inadequately paid and they shaped the standard of their lives to their poor pay. So when they received an enhanced income some of them have not been able to outgrow their old standards and hence they must be able to save a fair portion of their salaries. This is not true of all. I know the younger generation of these teachers are intelligent, wide awake and well informed citizens eager to play their part in national reconstruction. But why should not teachers be entitled to save the money that others throw away on talkies, drinks and other forms of "high life." I am afraid this charge of usury comes largely from people who have been accustomed to look down upon the village teacher and who are now annoyed to see him hold up his head.

May I say one word more to our Councillors? Adult suffrage can be made to yield its maximum benefit only under a scheme of universal education and let us beware of stinting the Education Vote.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 715.

In the matter of the estate of the late Kandappu Thambiah of Vaddukkodai West late of Manipay Deceased.

Eliatamby Sabapathy of Attiady, Vannarponnai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Manoranjitham daughter of Sabapathy
2. Sabapathy Ananda Nadarajah of Attiady, Vannarponnai
3. K. C. Sinnadurai of Vaddukkodai West
4. Karthigesu Sellappah and wife
5. Valliachchy
6. Kandappu Velupillai and wife
7. Achchy and
8. Nagamuttu widow of Ramu all of Vaddukkodai West

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 16th day of March 1939 in the presence of Mr. R. R. Nalliah Proctor for the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read: It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the Estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner as his son-in-law and father of the heirs and that the 3rd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st and 2nd Respondents for the purpose of protecting their interests and of representing them in the testamentary proceedings, unless the Respondents appear before this Court on the 17th day of May 1939 and state objection to the contrary.

The 21st day of March 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 3. 11 & 15-5-39.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 726.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Kathiravelu Sivaguru of Changanai West

Deceased.

Kanagammah widow of Kathiravelu Sivaguru of Changanai West

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Subramaniam son of Sivaguru
2. Kanagalingam son of Sivaguru
3. Annalechumy daughter of Sivaguru
4. Rasammah daughter of Sivaguru
5. Kathiravelu Kumariah all of Changanai West

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying that the abovenamed 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the minor 1st to 4th Respondents and praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 5th day of April 1939 in the presence of Mr. S. Kandasamy Proctor for Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 1st day of April 1939 having been read. It is ordered that the abovenamed 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the said minors and it is ordered that the Petitioner as the widow of the deceased is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased issued to her accordingly unless the abovenamed Respondents or any others shall on or before the 25th May 1939 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 24th day of April 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 4. 11 & 15-5-39.)

The Honest Man and His Fate

(Continued from page 2)

kleptomaniac is not to be seduced by cold utilitarianism.

It is interesting to speculate on the possibility that a new morality will some day appear in obedience to which we shall look on theft, not as a crime, but as a virtue. There is such a thing as moral evolution—it is going on round us every day—and there seems to be no reason why we should not in the course of it ultimately get back to the point-of-view of the Balantes of Africa who held theft to be honourable.

The chief reason for thinking that theft will probably continue to be regarded as a crime is that other people's dishonesty is so in-

convenient. In our complicated social system, it is almost indispensable that other people should be trustworthy.

Other People's Honesty Essential

We cannot bet comfortably unless we knew our bookmaker to be an honest man. We cannot go to law with any confidence if we suspect our lawyer of readiness to sell us to the other side.

Who, if he were it, would go to specialist notorious for diagnosing appendicitis when there was no appendicitis merely in order to get a hundred guineas for an operation? We may not be particularly honest ourselves, but other people's honesty is clearly essential to the greatest happiness of the greatest number.

Hence, let us praise an honest man when we find him in a world in which the presence of hundreds of thousands of policemen and detectives and judges and magistrates and lawyers and chartered accountants suggest that, whereas an honest man is the noblest work of God, the ordinary man has to be carefully watched.

In such a world, let us take off our hats to Michael Mannion.

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Printed and published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Vannarponnai, East, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannarponnai Jaffna, on THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1939.