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## MEDICAL VALUE OF GANGES WATER

### Mystery Of The Sanctity Attached To It

#### ELECTROCULTURE EXPLAINS

By A. R. Sreenivas Row

THE water of the Ganges has been prescribed as a panacea for all human ills in Ayurveda, which directs that this water must be administered as medicine after invoking the blessings of Lord Narayana for setting right all derangements in the human system. Of all the rivers in the world, why should the water of the Ganges be chosen for this purpose? The significance remains a mystery.

The religious-minded among the Hindus attach a certain amount of sanctity to the water of the Ganges. It is carefully preserved in air-tight copper vessels in the Puja room and is found to remain as fresh as ever, even after the lapse of a number of years. Any other water treated likewise gets spoiled and does not possess the keeping quality. What is the speciality in the Ganges water?

Among the articles considered to be fit for presentation as gifts to earn merit from the religious point of view the water of the Ganges has been given a prominent place. Is it a mere design to deceive the unwary or is there any special significance in it?

Leaving religion apart, let us come to brass tacks. It has been found, in practice, that the water, stored from the river Hughli in the Calcutta Port is able to serve the purpose till the vessel reaches the London Port, whereas when any other water is taken in any other port, it has to be replaced when the steamer reaches Aden, as the water becomes unfit for human consumption. Science has so far been unable to furnish the answer.

When cholera vibrios are added to the water of the Ganges, they die out in 24 hours, while they multiply in other waters. When Ganges water is boiled,

the loss of the vibriocidal power is noticed. The mystery has yet to be unravelled.

It is a matter of common occurrence which every pilgrim to Benares would have observed that the water at the bathing ghats is subjected to such insanitary condition that it would be obnoxious to any decent man to use it, much less to attach any sanctity to it. Not only is the gutter water of the whole city diverted into the main river, but it is also a normal feature that half-burnt corpses are being dragged and thrown in the river to give room in the cremation ground for fresh corpses that come in for cremation. In the absence of Health Bills, this practice persists even to-day. Nevertheless, no untoward event has so far happened, whereas when the Madras Corporation mixed the filtered and unfiltered water a few years ago to meet the excess demand for human consumption, that was traced to be the cause for all ills in the City and therefore the special name of Moly's Mixture was given to it. What is the special phenomenon in the water of the Ganges that does not disclose any contamination under such adverse circumstances?

There is a feeling of freshness and vigour experienced when a bath is taken in the water of the Ganges at all times of the year. Such a feeling is found to exist only in some parts of the year in the case of all other rivers, more especially after the monsoon freshes. What is it due to?

#### Answer Found In Electroculture

Electroculture furnishes the answer to these questions. When a liquid is subjected to

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## UP-TO-DATE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES LAW

### Amending Ordinance To Be Introduced Shortly

THE draft of an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to Weights and Measures has been prepared for the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce, and will be placed before the State Council shortly.

The object of the amending Ordinance is to introduce a better and more satisfactory method of supervision, check and revision of the existing standards of weights and measures to ensure that all trading transactions are conducted on a satisfactory basis.

The proposed Bill provides for the appointment by the Governor of a Warden of Standards and a Superintendent of Weights and Measures for the proper administration of the law.

The Minister is at present obtaining the views of local business interests on the draft amending bill.

If the proposed Bill is adopted by the State Council and becomes law four amending Ordinances, which have come into existence since 1876, will be repealed. The most recent of these is the Weights and Measures (Second Amendment) Ordinance, No. 30 of 1935.

#### Authorised Standards

The activities of the officers to be appointed under this Bill may, as in the case in England, be classified under one or other of the two headings—verification and inspection.

The bill describes the authorised weights and measures that shall be used in this country for various businesses and trades and makes it obligatory on the Governor to cause every Ceylon standard to be verified and, if necessary, adjusted or renewed at the Standards Department of the Board of Trade in England once at least in each period of fifteen years.

#### Warden and Inspectors

Under the new Ordinance Inspectors of Weights and Measures will be appointed by the Warden of Standards. The

Inspectors will be required to furnish sufficient security for the due discharge of their duties, for the due payment of all fees received by them under the Ordinance and for the safety of the working standards and stamps and other appliances entrusted to them. All fees paid to Inspectors for adjusting weights and measures will be credited to general revenue.

#### Manufacturing Licences

Provision is made for the granting of licences, for the manufacture or repair of any authorised weight or measure, but no person will be permitted to sell or expose for sale any weight or measure, which has not been verified and stamped by an Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The Superintendent of Weights and Measures to be appointed under this Ordinance will be in direct control of the Inspectors, and it will be one of his duties to fix the times and places at which each Inspector should examine and verify weights and measures. The Superintendent will also be required to hold inquiries with respect to the administration of the Ordinance in any area in Ceylon.

#### Penalties

The penal provisions of the Ordinance prescribe the imposition of fines ranging from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500 and, or, imprisonment of either description for terms extending to one year for any breach of the law.

Any Inspector who commits a breach of any provision, or of any regulation relating to the examination, verification or stamping of weights and measures or weighing or measuring instruments, will lay himself open, on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, to a fine not exceeding Rs. 500 or to imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding one year, or to both fine and imprisonment.

Heavy penalties are also pro-

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## WAS THERE A SINHALESE RACE?

### Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam Faces A Battery of Questions

Nawalapitiya, Tuesday.

**SINHALESE** members in the audience at a meeting of the Ruhunania Young Men's Muslim Association put Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C. for Point Pedro, a battery of questions after a provocative speech in which he had described the Sinhalese as "a hybrid nation without a history."

Mr. T. A. Sahabdeen, the Kigalle proctor, who presided over the meeting, which was held at the Kathiresan School hall, Nawalapitiya, introduced Mr. Ponnambalam as "the Champion of the Minorities."

Mr. Ponnambalam said that he sympathised with the Muslims in their demands and acclaimed that the time had now come to work for the political welfare of the Minorities.

He claimed that the Tamils had an unparalleled history and an unequalled traditional culture and deplored that such a people were being driven to the back of the political arena.

A Catholic priest excavating at the foot of the Himalayas, near the Indus, recently had discovered, he said, that the Tamils had been the purest nation in the world then and were so even now.

The Sinhalese, he asserted, could not call themselves a race. They were a hybridization of a small class of people who had come to Ceylon from Northern India.

Mr. W. G. Perera, a teacher at St. Andrew's College, Nawalapitiya, interrupted Mr. Ponnambalam with the question, "Does not that apply to the Tamils themselves?"

Mr. Ponnambalam: Not

Mr. Perera: I say it does.

Mr. Ponnambalam: You can question me after I finish.

#### Tamils Would Go On

Continuing, Mr. Ponnambalam said, that if the Tamils in Ceylon were annihilated, the race would go on still, but if the Sinhalese in Ceylon were annihilated, their race would not go on.

The Sinhalese, he added, boasted of their history and of their traditions, but several places of worship and interest in Polonnaruwa belonged to the Tamils. There were also Tamil inscriptions.

He inferred that that was why more was said about Anuradhapura by the Sinhalese than of Polonnaruwa.

He declared that the "so-called" Sinhalese Kings had been pure Tamil. Even the Kandyan Convention had been signed in Tamil.

Parakrama Bahu the Great, characterized by the Sinhalese as their most famous sovereign, was two-third Tamil, Mr. Ponnambalam added.

Referring to communal representation in the Ceylon legislature in recent times, Mr. Ponnambalam explained that from 1911 to 1931 there had been three

Tamils to two Sinhalese in the Legislative Council. It was not fifty-fifty then. He asked whether this basis was unfair.

He said he wanted it clearly understood that he had not been responsible for the evolution of the fifty-fifty idea. He had advocated it on a solution arising from a Sinhalese hegemony.

Mr. Ponnambalam threw out the suggestion, which he said should be seriously considered of starting a newspaper for the Tamils. He added that he had definitely undertaken the task and in the next few months he was certain that the Tamils would be proud to have a newspaper of their own which would give correct versions of their point of view.

He referred to an article of the "Ceylon Daily News" on the Palestine Constitution as being "a garbled, distorted and disgruntled version."

"It is the journalism in this country today of that most ridiculous gutter-press of Lake House," he said vehemently.

Communal representation was bad for the Sinhalese, Mr. Ponnambalam said, because the Sinhalese would not be able to dominate the other communities. His aim was that the parliamentary majority should rule and not the majority community.

#### Donoughmore "Windfall"

The Sinhalese, he added, had had a windfall under the Donoughmore Constitution. They had 80 per cent. representation in the State Council. The Tamils, on a population basis, had a disproportionate measure of representation.

In conclusion Mr. Ponnambalam said that he was prepared to join the Sinhalese in their strife for Self-Government if the problem was looked at from the point of view of a united Ceylon. But if the aim was only a Sinhalese hegemony he would fight to the last in an attempt to achieve political freedom for the realisation of a United Ceylon.

Mr. M. Gunasinghe, a teacher at St. Mary's English school, Nawalapitiya, asked whether only the Sinhalese were a hybrid race and whether it was fair of the Tamils to try to tread down the Sinhalese.

Mr. Ponnambalam replied that when Vijaya and his men left India there was no race called the Sinhalese. He added that he had no intention of treading down the Sinhalese: he only wanted balanced representation in the Legislature.

#### Steel Denounced

Mr. W. G. Perera, rising amidst applause, said that Mr. Ponnambalam's religion was communal representation and he did not want the audience to go away with wrong impressions.

Mr. Perera added that according to history there was not a single distinct race in the world. "Can you say that you a pure

## Up-to-Date Weights and Measures Law

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vided for the sale, use and possession of unstamped weights, forgery of stamps or marks used by the Inspectors, the manufacture of weights and measures for inspection.

There is also a general penalty provision in the bill which prescribes a fine of Rs. 100 for a breach of any provision of the Ordinance or of any regulation for which no punishment has been expressly provided. No prosecution, however, shall be instituted except by or under the authority of the Warden.

#### Local Authorities

The draft bill also makes provision for the administration of the Ordinance by local authorities. In such areas the Chairman of the local authority will be entrusted with powers similar to those granted to the Superintendent of Weights and Measures.

"Family?" he asked Mr. Ponnambalam, who replied amidst laughter, "Goodness knows what mixture there is in my blood!"

Mr. Perera said that for the first time he had heard it from Mr. Ponnambalam that Parakramabahu the Great had been two-thirds a Tamil.

Mr. Ponnambalam explained that he had quoted a statement of John Steel.

Mr. Perera: I have then to change the epithet I was to use on Mr. Ponnambalam and say that John Steel was an imaginative fool. He is no authority on history.

Mr. Ponnambalam: I thought John Steel was an impartial writer. His statement has not yet been challenged by any Sinhalese; therefore it has to be accepted.

Mr. Ponnambalam instanced Col. T. G. Jayawardana's victory at the Balangoda by-election over his Tamil opponent, with family connexions in the place for three generations, in reply to an assertion by Mr. Perera that anyone with political integrity could pave his way to the State Council under universal franchise.

Messrs. W. G. Perera and Gunasinghe were garlanded by a Sinhalese, Mr. David Weerasinghe.

Mr. Sahabdeen also spoke and the Secretary, Mr. S. L. M. Hasniff, proposed a vote of thanks.

This meeting followed the annual meeting of the Nawalapitiya Young Men's Hindu Association which was held in the same hall. The audience stayed on to hear Mr. Ponnambalam speak at the other meeting.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai congratulated the Association on its progress and paid a tribute to the late Mr. Gana Sambadam, its founder.

Mr. J. G. Rajakulendran, Chairman, of the Nawalapitiya Urban District Council, also congratulated the Association.

Mr. Ponnambalam, who was present, clad in a silk national costume, said he would be speaking under the auspices of the Ruhunania Young Men's Muslim Association at the meeting to follow immediately.

Mr. A. Viswalingam, head teacher of Kathiresan School and the Chairman spoke. Mr. K. Selladurai, Principal, Kathiresan School, proposed a vote of thanks.

## IMAGE OF VISHNU STRIPPED OF JEWELS

### BERUWELA TEMPLE BURGLARY

#### TWO LAKHS LOSS

Colombo, May 29.

**THE** desecration of the image of Vishnu in the famous temple known as Kande Vihare Beruwela, by the removal of over two lakhs of rupees' worth of gold chains and ornaments with which it was heavily adorned, has cast a gloom not only over the temple authorities, but also over thousands of people from various parts of the Island who have for years past made pilgrimages to the shrine to fulfil vows for favours received.

The jewellery is believed to have been stolen on Thursday night by a band of professional burglars who are employed by others to commit crimes of this nature for which they receive handsome payment.

The shrine of the Hindu God Vishnu at Kande Vihare is held in the highest reverence by its devotees, and is not easily accessible to pilgrims and visitors, who have to obtain the special permission of the priest in charge. It stands enshrined in an elaborate repository securely curtained from the gaze of the public.

#### Accumulated Offerings

The accumulated offerings of years, chains of sovereigns and other gold ornaments of great value, were all left round the neck of the image as they were offered by grateful pilgrims.

It is well known that many public men in Ceylon, before leaving the island on a holiday or embarking on an important undertaking, make vows before the revered statue of Vishnu in Kande Vihare.

It is learned that on the day before the burglary took place certain suspicious-looking characters were noticed by the priest trespassing on the premises and were ordered to leave. Their presence caused some apprehension in the mind of the priest, who fearing that the residential quarters of the priest where, also, there was a certain amount of cash recovered from temple property, might be burgled, had special precautions taken against such an attempt.

The possibility that the jewellery on the statue itself might be stolen does not appear to have entered into the priest's mind, because it was taken for granted that, commanding as it did the awe and reverence of thousands from all over the Island, no person would dare approach the image of Vishnu.

#### A Sad Spectacle

The living rooms of the priest being not adjoining the temple itself the activities of the burglars on Thursday night were not detected by the priest or the servants, and it was only on Friday morning that the theft was discovered.

The burglars are believed to have first opened a window over the shrine room by making a breach in the wall and then broken open the locked door of the shrine room. They found the key of the glass case where the image was enshrined, on a table, and with that they had opened the case and removed the jewellery, consisting of necklaces, bangles and armlets.

The famous image, divested of its load of jewellery, now stands unadorned presenting to the visitor a sad spectacle.

## A WORD TO THE RATE-PAYERS OF JAFFNA

### Anti-Municipality Agitation Based on Fictitious Grounds

#### WHY JAFFNA SHOULD HAVE A MUNICIPALITY

By S. Patanjali  
(Member, U. D. C., Jaffna.)

EVER since the Urban District Council passed a resolution supporting the introduction of a Municipality for Jaffna, a group of men have been going about attempting to set up an artificial agitation against that proposal and in order to gain popular support have sedulously attempted to misrepresent facts. Although the general body of the ratepayers is intelligent enough to see through such misrepresentations, still there may be some who may innocently believe the fictitious reasons that are being spread as to why Jaffna should not have a Municipality.

Some of the ratepayers in my Ward have asked me if it is true that when a Municipality is established we cannot have cadjan or ola fences and that all of us will be compelled to erect parapet walls round our compounds and to tile our houses. This is the type of argument that is being secretly but, persistently, advanced by the champions of the anti-Municipality crusade. The one point these crusaders forget is that it may be possible to fool some of the people all the time or all the people some of the time but that they cannot fool all the people all the time.

The Municipal Council will necessarily consist of a clear majority of elected representatives and any new law that is passed will have to be passed by these elected representatives. So that it will be within the power of the ratepayers to return such members as will look after their interests and not impose repressive measures on them. The establishment of a Municipality does not mean the automatic imposition of new laws, new ordinances, or new taxes by an outside authority. The primary object of a Municipality is to grant larger powers of local self government to the people. This is a fundamental fact which is being suppressed consciously or unconsciously by those who are agitating against the establishment of a Municipality. A vigorous attempt is made to scare away people as though the establishment of a Municipality is like the imposition of martial law or something akin to it. The other reason that is being shouted from the housetops is that there would be increased taxation. This again is not an inevitable or necessary accompaniment of the establishment of a Municipality. The new appointments that may have to be made are very few and it should be possible to effect sufficient saving in the current expenditure to meet the salaries of the new staff without resorting to additional taxation. The annual revenue of Galle is less than ours. If the people of Galle could have successfully run a Mu-

nicipality for so many years on their revenue, there is no reason why we should not be able to do so on our larger revenue without imposing additional taxes.

In these days of democracy it has become the fashion for everyone to put himself forward as a champion of the poor and to shout himself hoarse regarding the "Poor Man's Burden". This anti-Municipality agitation may be good tactics for vote-catching but the damage to our country's future will turn out to be irreparable. When the Government proposed to establish a Health Unit some years ago, these selfsame agitators took a leading part in opposing it. Then too the cry was the poor man's burden. The result is that we have lost for ever the benefits of a Health Unit. Had these agitators not cared for temporary popularity but had the country's welfare at heart we would probably not be having the Karayur slum today. Rumour has it that when it was originally proposed to extend the Railway to Jaffna a public meeting was held to oppose the measure and that the meeting was presided over by a Barrister-at-Law.

I may state that when this question of a Municipality for Jaffna was first mooted in 1936, I was one of those who wrote against it, for I myself was under the impression then that it will involve increased taxation. But having studied the question in all its aspects since that time and having examined the workings of the Municipalities of Kandy and Galle and having watched the workings of the Urban Council and realised its shortcomings I came to the conclusion that we cannot and should not delay the establishment of a Municipality for Jaffna any further. A Municipality will be able to render better and more efficient service to the people.

These are days when everywhere in the world people are clamouring and fighting for larger powers in the government of their countries, for self-determination, for "Poorna Swaraj". Are the people of Jaffna alone to lag behind in the forward march of progress? We Tamils have always claimed to be the leaders of thought and action in this country in all walks of life. Is the Capital Town of the Tamils to be governed by an out-of-date Urban Council with limited powers and lacking freedom of action while less important towns in the Island have enjoyed Municipal constitutions for several years? A Municipality means greater power in the hands of the people to guide and control their own affairs. Those who oppose a Municipality evidently do not want the public to assume powers that

## King Meets Reporters

### They Make Him Laugh

Ottawa, May 10.

THE King and Queen had their first meeting with wisecracking American newspapers in Ottawa this evening when, at the end of a busy day, they received reporters accompanying them on their tour in the royal train.

"Don't you get tired of all this?" asked one American reporter, and the King, smiling, replied "Yes."

Then the King asked one reporter, George Dixon, of the New York "Daily News," how he managed to get from function to function in each city. "By carrying enough credentials to choke a horse," said Dixon. And the King laughed.

Before the King moved away, Dixon added: "Gee-your Majesty you can certainly take it!" and the King laughed again.

The King and Queen, during their first reception of the Press, asked many questions.

Dixie Tighe, columnist for the "New York Post," was asked if she managed to get any sleep on the train. "The train is beautiful and rides so smoothly,"

The King was interested in the work of Walter Kiernan, a correspondent who represented an American news service and an American newspaper. "The difference in time must be very confusing," he said, "but it will be worse when we get out west."

"Yes," said Kiernan, "I'll have to get six watches."

"Well, they will all be wrong," said the King.

## GOVERNOR'S REFORM PROPOSALS

### Will Secy. of State Accept Them?

Colombo, Tuesday.

"Unless there is proper constructive criticism in the Island, I think the Governor's Reform proposals will be accepted by the Secretary of State for the Colonies," declared Mr. L. M. D. de Silva, K.C., Ceylon's former Solicitor-General, in the course of an interview with a "Daily News" representative yesterday.

Mr. de Silva returned to the Island yesterday morning by the Derbyshire, accompanied by Mrs. de Silva, after an absence of four-and-a-half years during which time he has built up a large practice in the Privy Council.

are their due. I am sure that all right thinking persons who have no axes of their own to grind will come to only one conclusion, viz. that Jaffna should have had a Municipality long long ago and that its establishment should not be delayed any longer.

I would earnestly request all ratepayers not to be taken in by the false reasons and deliberate misrepresentations of interested individuals but to view this question calmly and dispassionately and with the full realisation that the future of our country is in their hands.

## BEGGAR PROBLEM IN CEYLON

### "Appalling Sight"

#### Indian Social Worker's Suggestions

Colombo, Monday.

Mrs. Bapsy Sabhawalla, the well-known Indian social uplift worker, who is now on a world-tour studying social problems, passed through Colombo yesterday on the P. and O. liner Rawalpindi from Bombay en route to the Far East.

Mrs. Sabhawalla, who is a sister of Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, has for several years taken a keen interest in the Parsi Housing Scheme and has been responsible for the provision of a Home for the Blind. She is also connected with the Bombay Presidency Women's Council, which deals with parliamentary, health and beggar problems.

Mrs. Sabhawalla, who spent a previous holiday in Ceylon, in conversation with "Daily News" representative drew attention to what she described as the "appalling sight" of beggars on the pavements in Colombo. In Bombay, she said, this evil had been successfully controlled through the efforts of the Bombay Presidency Women's Council working in close co-operation with the Hon. Mr. Munshi.

"We have taken up the question of child beggars," she said, "and have founded thirty homes for such children where, under good conditions, they are trained into useful citizens. They are taught agriculture so that they may be able to earn their own livelihood in the provinces."

The question of adult beggars is also to be taken in hand shortly by the Council, she said, and they hoped to introduce legislation in the near future.

In April, the Women's Council launched a "Beggars Day" appeal which brought Rs. 10,000 in Bombay, and in February a "Beggars' Ball" was held at the Taj Mahal Hotel, which realized Rs. 11,000. All this served as a reserve fund for the schemes being launched to combat the problem of beggars in Bombay.

She advised similar steps for Ceylon.

## Muslim Nations Unite

### Anti-Aggression Pact

Teheran, May 28.

The Council of Representatives of the four countries, Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan, who have entered into an anti-aggression pact among themselves, held its third session at Teheran on April 28 and 29, with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Iran, as President.

The Council examined a number of questions of common interest and found themselves in accord on all.

The next session of the Council is due to meet in Kabul on a date to be fixed later.



## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1939

### A MUNICIPALITY FOR JAFFNA

WE WOULD DRAW THE ATTENTION of our readers to a contribution appearing in this issue under the heading "A word to the ratepayers of Jaffna." The author of the letter Mr. PATANJALI maintains that the agitation against a Municipality for Jaffna is based on misrepresentations and misconceptions, and does not reflect the opinion of the bulk of the inhabitants on this question. The overwhelming fact is the ignorant man can be easily duped in this matter and made to believe that the establishment of a Municipality will result in the imposition of enhanced taxes. The danger of increased taxes seems to be the most handy weapon with which the anti-municipality campaign is carried on to serve as an effective counterblast to the decision of the Urban Council in favour of a Municipality for Jaffna. Who does not know that almost all changes—even those calculated to promote the best interests of the people—have had their opponents and opposition in Jaffna? Mr. PATANJALI pertinently refers in his letter to the opposition at that time even to the Northern Railway! We are not sure if the change from a Local Board to the Urban Council had its share of protest meetings. No wonder therefore that this question of a Municipality on which honest difference of opinion is possible has easily lent itself to an agitation which has produced more heat than light.

Since 1936 the "Hindu Organ" has supported the establishment of a Municipality for Jaffna in the conviction that it will serve the best interests of the inhabitants. At the meeting of the Urban Council which considered this question the Chairman, Mr. Sam Sabapathy, who has given a good account of his stewardship, is reported to have observed that the growing needs of the town demanded the services of a full-time Executive Officer. The fact must be admitted that our councillors most of whom are busy professional men cannot be expected to devote the necessary attention and knowledge to the administration of the Urban Council. It is under a Municipality that Jaffna can have the benefits of a full-time officer who could contribute to the efficient management of its affairs. Its comparatively large population and revenue

notwithstanding, Jaffna does lag behind other towns such as Kandy and Galle in point of amenities of life. The scheme to supply water for Jaffna has been revealed to be a century-old project which has not yet materialised. The Karayur slum still remains a stain on the fair name of Jaffna. A Municipal Council is bound to render more efficient service to the ratepayers and will prove a potent instrument of their health and progress. Further, the example of Galle is a convincing proof of the hollowness and unsoundness of the popular argument that a Municipality necessarily means increased expenses and enhanced taxes. If Galle with a revenue less than that of Jaffna can successfully run a Municipality, providing better amenities of life for the inhabitants, there is no reason why Jaffna cannot do so. "Increased taxes" is perhaps a slogan to charm the rate-payers and a bogey to scare them.

A Municipality is vested with greater and wider self-governing powers. Consequently, it is bound to be a self-reliant and independent body, free from irritating and humiliating interference by external authorities. The elected representatives will therefore have a decisive control over the management of the affairs of the inhabitants. The rate-payers would be the ultimate masters who could legitimately guide and control the decisions of their elected representatives. Any opposition to a Municipality in these circumstances is an offence against the legitimate and natural aspirations of a people to order its own affairs. It is indeed an unwarranted reflection on the capacity and patriotism of the elected representatives. It is to be hoped that wiser counsels will prevail, putting an end to this artificial agitation.

### One Judge Less For Jaffna?

If there is any truth in the rumour that the Retrenchment Commission proposes to reduce the number of judicial posts by one in the Jaffna District, then the protest of the Jaffna Lawyers' Association against the proposal is but timely. Law's delays in the District are proverbial, and the blame for it could be laid as much on the lawyers as on the judiciary. It is common knowledge how cases are postponed from date to date on flimsy grounds and on account of pressure of work in Court. Litigants suffer a great deal on this score. If in circumstances which call for additional hands the authorities decide to reduce the turn-out of work by cutting down the number of judges, there need be little doubt that justice in

Jaffna will become synonymous with delay. We hope that nothing will be done by the authorities to make matters worse than what they are now, and that steps will be taken for the speedy administration of justice.

### Protest Against Municipality

#### "Unnecessary Luxury"

REGRET that the members representing the different Wards had not given themselves the opportunity of consulting the rate-payers, before arriving at a decision with regard to the conversion of the Urban Council into a Municipality, was expressed by Mr. R. Sivagurusather, presiding at a public meeting of the rate-payers of ward No. 7 held on Sunday evening at the Jaffna Hindu College grounds.

He added that he was certain that when the ratepayers expressed definite views on that question, the Urban Councillors who voted for a Municipality would be only too glad to acknowledge their mistake and to join with the rate-payers in taking steps to relieve the consequences.

In his opening speech the Chairman stated that after nearly 18 years of the U.D.C. a Municipality was contemplated to be established in Jaffna as from the year 1941.

From the proceedings appearing in the papers, he said, that at the U.D.C. meeting six members including an official had voted for the Municipality, five against and one member, an official abstained from voting. From his personal experience he knew that there was a ruling of the Attorney General, binding on the Council on such matters. It was that a member present and abstaining from voting should be counted as having voted against the motion before the house.

#### That Casting Vote

He therefore submitted that the voting at the U. D. C. should have been held to be six against six. That would have necessitated the casting vote of the Chairman.

The vote was not cast, but it was certain that Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy with his profound knowledge of precedents and law would not have violated the age-long convention of the House of Parliament recently enforced in Ceylon by the Speaker in the State Council that the existing state of things should not be disturbed by the casting vote.

If that line of argument was correct, the U. D. C. had not voted for the establishment of a Municipality.

The Chairman then invited discussion.

Mr. C. C. Somasegaram, Proctor, one time member of the U.D.C., said that from his experience of the U.D.C., and knowledge of the ratepayers he felt confident that the U.D.C. could continue to satisfy their requirements.

Mr. A. Thillaiampalam proposed:—"That in view of the present financial depression of the ratepayers of the town, this public

## BANK OF CEYLON

### Manager Arrives

Colombo, Tuesday.

Mr. W. B. Mackay, the Manager of the newly-created Bank of Ceylon, arrived in Colombo yesterday by the Bibby liner Derbyshire from Liverpool.

He was met on board by Mr. J. H. Morlock, Accountant of the Bank of Ceylon, and at the jetty by Sir Wilfred de Soysa.

Mr. Mackay told a press representative that he was very glad to come to Ceylon.

He was specially interested in his appointment, as he had already made a careful study of the report of the Banking Commission, and the proposed development of the Bank of Ceylon.

Mr. Mackay who is 49 years of age, began his career in 1906 in the North of Scotland Bank.

He was responsible for the opening of a branch of the P. and O. Banking Corporation, Ltd., in Shanghai in 1921, and was its Manager until 1927, when he went to London.

He is married and has two children.

### Branch of Mercantile Bank in Jaffna

A branch of the Mercantile Bank of India Ltd., Colombo, will be opened in the Hospital, Road, Jaffna on Saturday, the 3rd instant and an A. T. Home will be held on the occasion at 5 p.m. at the premises.

meeting is of opinion that a Municipality will be an unnecessary luxury and is therefore not required for some time to come."

Mr. P. V. Ponnudurai seconded. Mr. K. Aiyadurai, member, U. D. C., in supporting the motion said that when he voted against a Municipality at the U. D. C. meeting he had but voiced the opinion of the majority of his constituents.

The Chairman in putting the motion before the House said that with every devolution of power to the local bodies, the Central Government had been cutting down its grants.

#### Government's Contribution

There was the danger of the Central Government discontinuing their contribution of Rs. 18,000 to the Municipality, which they are granting at present to the U. D. C. in lieu of the labour tax. There was also the suggestion by the Central Government that elementary education should be financed by the local authority. This he (speaker) understood would be compulsory in the case of a Municipality and optional in the case of the U. D. C.

The long-expected provision of pipeborne water to Jaffna could no longer be delayed. There were other public and health amenities also, which required immediate attention. "Was this the time," asked Mr. Sivagurusather, "to saddle the poor citizens of Jaffna with increased taxation, which was bound to follow in the wake of the establishment of a Municipality in Jaffna."

The motion was carried unanimously.

## THE NEXT STEPS IN GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY

### Reaction to Anglo-Soviet Pact

### MILITARY ALLIANCE WITH JAPAN OR SPAIN

Berlin, Tuesday.

At his mountain home at Berchtesgaden—where he is expected to remain until tomorrow—Herr Hitler is now considering the next steps in German foreign policy.

Many fear that the conclusion of an Anglo-Soviet Pact, which Germany regards as the final link in the chain of "encirclement," will be met with some counter-move, the nature of which is, of course, not known.

Certain circles believe that the conclusion of an Anglo-Soviet agreement will be met with the announcement of a military alliance with Japan or with Spain and that this will constitute the reply of the Axis Powers to the Democracies.

### Deep Chagrin Throughout Reich

The alarm felt over an Anglo-Soviet pact is only second to the consternation in Berlin when the decision of Britain and Turkey to conclude a reciprocal security agreement became known. This caused profound alarm in Germany.

Her chagrin at that agreement, which will enable Britain and France to lend material aid to Rumania if needed is voiced by the German Foreign Office's "Diplomatic Correspondence," which states: "Turkey apparently forgets that a Mediterranean conflict in which Turkey was involved, would find Germany beside Italy. Turkey appears to be on the way to becoming a bridgehead for foreign aggression and imperialistic aims in this region." The Essen "National Zeitung" says: "A short time ago Turkey gave the Reich binding assurances that she would maintain strict neutrality. Now she has become a vassal of a policy of which the only goal is collective war for Britain's benefit."

The "Giornale d'Italia" (Rome) alludes to a report that Britain is furnishing Turkey with 500 planes and £3,000,000 of credit to fortify the Dardanelles. "This is fresh evidence of the Anglo-French encirclement policy, it declares, 'which is offensive and directed against Italy, who has the most immediate interests in the Mediterranean area.' The 'Stampa' says:—'A vicious war psychosis seems to have taken hold of Mr. Chamberlain and M. Daladier.'

## Russia's Parliament Opens

### The Most Colourful in Europe

Moscow, May 28.

The Supreme Council probably the most colourful Parliament in Europe, began its first session for 1939 in the former court throne room at the Kremlin.

About 1,200 Deputies will represent over 100 races. Russians in khaki tunics will mingle with shawled peasant women, turbaned Uzbeks and Turcomans from Central Asia, sliteyed Siberian Mongols, Cossack horsemen and Eskimos wearing reindeer coats.

A signal for the proceedings to begin was the entry of M. Stalin and the Inner Cabinet. M. Stalin is not likely to participate in the debates.

An important item on the agenda will be foreign policy, and M. Molotov, Commissar of Foreign Affairs, is expected to make a statement, after which there will be a general debate on the international situation. M. Molotov may indicate the cause of M. Litvinov's resignation.

Other subjects for debate include national defence and the third five-year plan. The session will last a week or ten days.

## PONNUDURAI DIES IN PRISON

### Convicted Person in Arms Chopping Case

Colombo, Tuesday.

Arumugam Ponnuthurai, who was sentenced on April 19 last to fourteen years' rigorous imprisonment in the Sandilipay arms chopping case has died at the Welikade Jail hospital.

From the day he was committed to prison, Ponnuthurai had been an inmate of the Jail hospital.

Ponnuthurai pleaded guilty at the Jaffna Assizes on April 19 to a charge of attempted murder of a 16 years-old girl, Nageswari, daughter of an F. M. S. pensioner of Sandilipay, by chopping off both her arms with a koduwa knife.

The Welikade Prison authorities, who informed the prisoner's relatives of his death, had to bury the body before their arrival as it was found impossible to keep it longer.

## One Judge Less for Jaffna?

### Lawyers Protest Against Proposal

THE Jaffna Lawyers Association has protested against a proposal of the Retrenchment Commission to suppress one post in the judiciary in the Jaffna District.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai, presided at the meeting of the Association which was held at the Jaffna Law Library. Members representing the local Bar as well as Chavakacheheri, Mallakam, Kayls and Point Pedro were present.

The following resolution moved by Mr. A. S. Vanigasoori was passed unanimously:—

"That the Jaffna Lawyers' Association is strongly of opinion that far from reducing the existing number of judicial posts in the Jaffna District, an additional post of District Judge, Point Pedro, should be established to promote the speedy and efficient administration of justice."

It was also resolved that a deputation consisting of Messrs S. Kanagasabai, A. S. Vanigasoori, C. Ponnambalam, C. R. Thambiah, R. R. Nalliah, V. S. Karthigesu, Alfred Swampillai, A. Sambandan, M. Vythilingam, and the Secretary, should meet Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge, and urge the need for the appointment of another additional Judge.

## Gurupooja of Saint Tirugnanasampanther

The Gurupooja of St. Tirugnanasampanther will be celebrated by the Jaffna Hindu College Y.M.H.A. on Saturday, the 3rd instant in the College Tamil School commencing at 4 p.m.

(Continued)

initial salary provided for Grade IV. It is, however, understood, that graduate teachers should, as far as possible, be appointed to posts in Grade III.

### Quota system

According to the present proposals teachers are to be classed into five grades, and each school will be permitted to employ only a specified number of trained teachers and graduates based on the number of pupils on the register. The object of the introduction of this quota system is to curtail expenditure.

### Trained Teachers

The restriction on the employment of trained teachers is, it is pointed out, not likely to cause any great hardship, as statistics prepared by the Education Department have, it is learned, revealed the fact that there are comparatively very few trained teachers, out of billet at present.

On the other hand, there are said to be a number of untrained teachers, who are unemployed.

The new scheme, it is stated, is likely to assist the latter class of teachers, as schools will be permitted to employ a larger number of teachers for the lower classes, but a smaller number of teachers for the higher classes.

## TEACHERS' SALARIES

### RETRENCHMENT PROPOSALS MODIFIED

### THOSE IN SERVICE NOT AFFECTED

Colombo, Wednesday.

THE retrenchment proposals affecting teachers have, it is understood, been revised in such a manner that the present members of the profession will not suffer any loss whatsoever by the operation of the new scheme.

The revised proposals have been unanimously adopted by the Board of Education. The Executive Committee of Education does not propose to interfere with the decision of the Board of Education in this connection.

The new scheme, which is a temporary measure to enable the Government to tide over the present financial difficulties, will be in operation for only five years, at the end of which period the whole question will be revised again.

According to the revised scheme the minimum salary payable to a graduate teacher will be Rs 1,140 per annum.

### Modifications Introduced

The original proposals of the Retrenchment Commission evoked protests from the different teachers' associations all over the island and it was urged that the scheme, if put into effect, would adversely affect the present members of the profession and, at the same time, result in the educational development of the country suffering by reason of the fact that the profession would cease to attract a good type of teacher.

### Sub-Committee's Revision

The Minister of Education, Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara, suggested certain modifications to the proposals, and the scheme was then forwarded to the Board of Education for its views. The Board of Education thereupon appointed a sub-committee to go into the whole question, and the latter, in consultation with the Retrenchment Commission, examined the proposals carefully and recommended certain amendments embodying the modifications suggested by the Minister.

The scheme, as revised by the sub-committee, then went before the Board of Education, which has unanimously approved of the proposals.

### "Misinterpreted"

The Minister of Education told a representative of the "Daily News" yesterday that the revised proposals will not affect the existing members of the profession. A good deal of the recent agitation was, he thought, due to the fact that the proposals had been misinterpreted.

The fear that a graduate might have to start on a salary of Rs. 50 a month is unfounded because, according to the new scheme a graduate cannot be appointed on a lower initial salary than Rs. 1,140 per annum.

Even if a school should appoint a graduate teacher to a post in Grade V it will be obligatory on such school to pay the teacher the

(Continued on Previous Column)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## PARTY SYSTEM IN VILLAGE COMMITTEES

## The Original Name for Dondra—No "Sinhalese" Race

Sir,—By virtue of Ordinance No. 9 of 1924 the system of the Village Committee administration came into operation in Ceylon. Certain Sections of this Ordinance had been revised ever since this date to suit the local conditions, after encountering certain difficulties in its operation. In Jaffna for some years the members of the Village Committee were elected at a general meeting of the residents of every parish and the Government Agent of the Northern Province acted as the presiding Officer. In all matters concerning the procedure at elections the Government Agent's decision was final. Several difficulties arose on account of summary decisions of this Presiding Officer. But there was no remedy provided in law.

For some years, the Chief Headman or the Maniagar of the Division presided over the deliberations of the Village Committee. In short the Chairmen of the Village Committees were paid Officers under Government. Later on, the members of the Village Committee were given the privilege of electing their Chairman. At the start, the choices were not bad. A time went on and as the village magnates envied the high position taken up by the Chairman of the Village Committee and several aspirants started to work in the elections of the Village Committee with the object of being elevated as Chairman, Village Committee. Corruption and bribery has entered even in the Village Committee politics. Now the parishes are divided into wards and candidates are nominated for each ward and the polling is by secret ballot.

In Tellipalai, aspirants are seen very busy night and day out on canvassing. All sorts of proposals and conditions are preached about by these aspirants. While examining the past history of the Village Committee of Tellipalai one could see that the administration of the Village Committee of Tellipalai had to undergo changes to suit the laudies of each chairman. In fact, the principle and procedure is laid down in law and the Chairman should administer justice without fear of favour.

The nomination of members is fixed for the 2nd June and the polling is fixed for the 16th and 17th of June next. The canvassing is being effected on the principle of "who is to be the Chairman". Well, an efficient gentleman who can understand the local conditions, principles of sanitation, taxation and administration and who can administer impartial justice must be selected.

Therefore it is the duty of every citizen to exercise his vote without any fear or favour and to elect the proper man who can honestly and faithfully serve the public.

Yours etc.

V. THAMBIPILLAI

Keerimalai,  
29th May, 1939.

## The Original Name For Dondra

Sir,—There has been much controversy over the original name for Dondra. It has been called Devapura and Devanagara in the Mahavamsa Chapters 83, V49, and 85, V. V. 85-89 respectively. But it was commonly called Devinuvara right up to the times of the Portuguese who refer to it in their histories as Tanavare. The names Devapura, Devanagara and Devinuvara all convey the same meaning namely the "City of the Gods".

As regards the origin of the name Devinuvara, there seems to be a conflict of theories. Some say that the God Skanda having descended from heaven to the Milky Ocean, landed here from a miraculous raft of granite, and thence made his progress to Kataragama where his shrine now stands. Some others say that the place owes its name to the celebrated temple of Vishnu, who was worshipped here with lesser deities of the Hindu Pantheon. There are still others who seem to think that the place received its name after the introduction of Kannaki or Pattini worship in Ceylon by Gajabahu (113-135 A.D.) who built for her a temple at Dondra also.

According to the Yalpana Vinaya Malai, Vijaya seems to have raised Sathidasekaran Koil later known as Naga-risavilla temple at this place (Ancient Jaffna p.186). To the Tamils this place was known by the name of Deivam-durai (the port of the God). It is the habit of the ancients to weave a tradition around a flourishing institution or name, ostensibly, to explain the origin, but often designedly to add lustre to it and thus ensure its permanence or fame. The story of the Red Sandal Wood Image is perhaps an example.

Ibn Batuta, the famous Moorish traveller who starting from Tangier in 1344, devoted 34 years to travel mentions this temple. As a good Mohammedan, he could not enter an idolatrous temple, but he had heard of an idol of pure gold of the size of a man, with rubies that shone like stars for its eyes. There were about a thousand Brahmins and Jogees and five hundred young women, daughters of the nobility of India who sing and dance all night before the image.

Mr. Wilmet, P. Wijetunge writing to the "Times of Ceylon" Sunday Illustrated of January 18, 1925, says, "perhaps no other Sinhalese village retains so markedly the impress of the Hindu cults, Hindu myths and Hindu Legends abound, and the sea coast itself is definitely apportioned according to Hindu beliefs."

It is therefore evident that the place was a Tamil colony right up to the times of the Portuguese as will be seen from their accounts of the destruction of the temple in 1585 and the name too

had shortened to Tanavare. The religious fury of the Portuguese must have brought about the destruction of all books and documents connected with the temple and the place and hence no documentary evidence is available to support this theory.

The recommendation of the Royal Asiatic Society adopting the change to Deundra was perhaps due to the idea that Deundra was earlier than Devinuvara and that Dondra was a corruption of Deundra. The learned Society were also unaware that Deundra itself was a corruption of the Tamil name Deivam-durai (the port of the God), a name which suggests that the origin of the name was due to the landing of God Skanda or the Sandal Wood Image of Vishnu according to the prevailing legends. The existence of the temple even before the advent of Vijaya according to the tradition recorded in the Vaipava Malai precludes all names except that of a Tamil one and the recommendation of the Royal Asiatic Society should be adhered to and change has to be made.

After all, why should so much anxiety be displayed by the Executive Committee of Education to have the name this insignificant village changed, where as such important Towns like Jaffna, Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Chilaw are relegated to enjoy their Europeanised meaningless transformations?

"MURUGAR AMMAN."

Colombe, 30-5-39.

## No "Sinhalese Race"

Sir,—Time and again responsible Ministers of State and leading Sinhalese politicians are in the habit of making very absurd and historically inaccurate statements in the public that Ceylon belongs to them. Recently I read Mr. A. E. Goonasinghe's speech on the Wesak Day and I have to pity the Labour Leaders' gross lack of vision and political sagacity and stupendous ignorance in making that statement in the public. He wanted to know who were the earliest inhabitants of Ceylon? I can emphatically assert that the Tamils are the original and earliest inhabitants, colonizers and civilizers of Ceylon. If anybody presumes to deny this fact the they are colossal ignorant of the early history of Ceylon, its culture and heritage. The present history books have made many to misunderstand by their misinterpretation of true historical facts and taught them wrongly the early history of Ceylon. It has been stated that the followers of Vijaya and the Tamils intermarried and brought into being the Sinhalese. If this is true then the Sinhalese are the offshoots of the Tamil race and as such there is no Sinhalese race or nation. Please permit me to quote Prof. Griffith Taylor, who said in an address delivered before the British Association for the Advancement of Science: "One of the main results of a knowledge of cultural geography is a much clearer conception of the distinctions between race, nation, language and religion than most educated people possess. It clearly defines the danger resulting from powerful political groups dabbling in sciences of which they are ignorant. For example the term "Aryan" can only be applied to speech; and Nordic indicated a "breed" and can only be applied

to race". But few folk realize that the term "Sinhalese" or "Bengalee" should be applied in connection with language. It is much too common an experience to have to argue with folk however, influential who insist on talking of a "Sinhalese" or a "Bengalee" race.

## Sinhalese "Cult"

We need a new term to express a group linked by purely cultural characters such as language and religion. For such groups I have been extending use of the word "Cult". For instance in Canada we have in reality no "French race" but only a "French Cult" linked by common language and Religion and in Palestine there is no "Jewish race" but only a "Jewish Cult", so also in Ceylon we should learn to speak of a "Sinhalese Cult" since this group is linked closely by Religion and language. Thus the accurate student of social science would describe the Sinhalese as a "culture group" like the other Dravidian peoples, Malayalees, Telugus etc., as there is no "Sinhalese" race or Nation.

Yours etc.,  
P. SABAPATHY.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFFNA

(Held at Point P. dro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 23 Pt.  
In the matter of the intestate estate  
of the late Sivacoomarasooriyar of  
Udupiddy.Deceased.  
Nelliyalangam Vinayalingam of  
Irupalai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Sivacoomarasooriyar Ananthacoomarasuriyar of Udupiddy
2. Saravanamuttu Mahadeva and wife
3. Mahasvari Amma both of Sangunai
4. Pathamasamutarammah daughter of Saravanamuttu of Udupiddy
5. Sivacoomarasuriyar Sathisivaracoomarasooriyar of Udupiddy
6. Sathy Ammah wife of Vinayalingam of Irupalai
7. Rasa Sathkuru and wife
8. Vaitheesvariammah of Chulipuram.

The 4th Respondent is a minor  
appearing by her guardian-ad-  
litem the 1st Respondent.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before S. Rodrigo Esqr. Additional District Judge of Jaffna on the 17th day of November 1938 in the presence of Mr. C. Kulaveerasingam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read it is ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled to take out letters of the deceased as his son-in-law and that Letters of Administration be issued to the Petitioner unless the Respondents or any other person shall appear before this Court on or before the 20th April 1939 and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 9th day of March 1939.

Sgd. S. Rodrigo,  
Additional District Judge.  
10-4-39

Extended for 9-6-39.

Sgd. S. Rodrigo,  
A. D. J.

O. 13. 1 &amp; 5-6-39.

## Did Prohibition Fail?

By C. F. Evans

(Registrar, The Monteverde School, Florida)

After suffering long in silence I now lift my voice to say that I am thoroughly tired of, and disgusted with, the oft-repeated statement that "Prohibition failed," particularly when this statement is made by leaders, and spread over printed pages for the unthinking world to read.

If the matter is properly analyzed, a different aspect is given to the whole matter.

Prohibition eliminated the saloon during its reign. It made impossible a place bearing the mark of respectability into which women could go and illustrate how some women can degrade their sex, cheapen themselves in the eyes of thinking people and lower the ideals which have been built around womanhood during centuries. It made impossible a place where parents—they are not fathers and mother, just parents—could take innocent and unsuspecting children and create an appetite which in later years will completely destroy thousands of them.

Prohibition eliminated all things which pertain to decency and respectability in connection with alcoholic beverages, and placed upon them the rightful stigma as a disgrace and enemy of the human race. Prohibition proclaimed alcohol as a poison, not a food.

Prohibition made it possible to attend public functions without being made conspicuous by declining to participate in the general drinking of alcoholic beverages so commonly followed today, and gave parents a feeling of security in the knowledge that instead of drinking being made easy and honourable, it was held up as law-breaking and disgraceful.

Prohibition made liquor an outlaw; classified the bootlegger and saloon keeper as law-breakers; made it unpopular among thinking people to sidestep responsibility; eliminated the guise of respectability on whole liquor business, and placed upon the whole picture the light which brought out all of its points.

On and on one could go reciting what prohibition did without exhausting the supply of material, but there things illustrate and perhaps will stir thinking.

No one who can think two thoughts the same day will suggest that prohibition did all expected of it, but why point out its failures in that which is supposedly a suggestive and educational article or speech? Let's stop thinking and speaking negatively, and direct all minds into constructive channels by pointing out the helpful features of prohibition, and outline plans which will ultimately lead to total elimination of alcoholic beverages of every kind, under every circumstance, for every person, under every condition, at all times, and in all places. Liquor cannot be controlled, guided, socialized, respectabilized, or minimized. It must be eliminated.

## PUBLIC LECTURE AT TELLIPPALAI

A public lecture was delivered under the auspices of the Tellippalai Mahajana English School Y. M. S. A., by Srinath Swami Vipitanda on "Pilgrimage to Kadas" in the school hall on Monday the 22nd ultimo at 7 p.m. Mr. K. Chinnappa, Head Master of the school and Patron of the Association, presided. A large gathering composed of the residents of Tellippalai and the adjoining villages attended the lecture. After the singing of thevaram and a few remarks from the chair by way of introduction the Swami delivered a very inspiring address embodying in it all the enviable experiences he had during his unique pilgrimage to Thirukailayam, and the audience listened to this soul stirring address with rapt attention. The lecture was unanimously regarded as a real spiritual feast, and the language in which the Swami expressed his ideas was superb. At the end of the lecture the Chairman and Master S. Kathiresapillai, one of the members of the Y.M.S.A., thanked the speaker and the audience.

The meeting then terminated at about 8-30 p.m. with the singing of Thevaram. (Cor.)

## Personal

Dr. S. C. Thumirajah, of the D. M. S. S. Office, Colombo, who has been in England, returned to the Island on Sunday.

## Order Nisi

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 782.

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Vairavappillai Kandiah of Tellippalai East

Deceased.

Kanalammal widow of Vairavappillai Kandiah of Tellippalai East

Petitioner.

Va.

1. Kanthimathiammai daughter of Vairavappillai Kandiah of Tellippalai East
2. Kandiah Vairavanathan of do
3. Thandikal Kanagasabapathipillai of Maviddapuram

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner coming on for disposal before G. Coomaraswamy, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 5th day of May 1939 in the presence of Mr. S. Ilayathanbi, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavits and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 3rd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the abovenamed 1st and 2nd Respondents minors for the purpose of protecting their interests and of representing them in the Testamentary proceedings and that the petitioner as the lawful widow of the deceased be granted Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased, unless the Respondents or any other person shall appear before this Court on or before the 23rd day of June 1939 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 9th day of May 1939.

Sgt. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge  
(O. 13. 29-5 & 1-6-39.)

## MEDICAL VALUE OF GANGES WATER

(Continued from page 1)

an electric shock, certain transformations take place. It was Mr. Agaskar, one of the pioneers of the Electroculture Brotherhood, that was first responsible for this suggestion. Dr. Nehru utilises it to the fullest advantage with the result that it has now become an excellent means of making bad specimens good, and good better, whether in plants, animals or humans. When a high tension spark is shot in water the whole mass of it undergoes a transformation. It is believed that the film of Oxygen surrounding each atom of water is smashed and in that process certain chargeless neutrons are formed. The formation of the neutrons takes place as rapidly as the passage of the current through a good conductor. Water being a good conductor, electricity travels millions of miles per second and the formation of the neutrons keeps pace with it. The fundamental research as to the causes and details of the transformation will have to continue for many long years to come, before definite ideas on the subject could be ascertained. But it has been found in experience that certain striking results have invariably been obtained, which are of far-reaching value to the biological kingdom. It has also been noted that cohesion, adhesion and communion cause the escape of the neutrons. That is why agaskarised water loses the electroculture effect after boiling.

The improvement in the taste of water immediately after the administration of spark is the first transformation worthy of mention. This could for instance, be made use of in practical life by the improvement of the taste of many a brackish water in interior villages, where for many more years to come the water supply problem will remain unsolved.

### Germicidal Effect of Electric Sparks

Another outstanding result that has been noticed in shooting a spark in water is the killing of the germs and other living beings in the liquid that are generally responsible for levying a heavy human toll in the form of epidemics. The treatment at the source of water supply by electroculture method will render water harmless and free from many water-borne diseases. It need hardly be said that public institutions will save a lot by using this simple technique without having recourse to complicated and costly methods of treating water under special conditions. When it is remembered that this process is so cheap and simple, that every village, nay every house hold could adopt it, of what enormous value it would be to the public could more easily be imagined than described.

When the treated water comes in contact with living cells, it energises them to the extent of bringing forth the best out of the

cells. The practical purposes to which this principle could be put to are endless and in each direction it has the definite and distinct advantage of adding to the health, wealth and prosperity of the people. By soaking seeds in electrified water, they are energised and their germination is improved. By irrigating the crops with activated water, better health and better production are ensured. By spraying treated water over pest-infected trees, they become free from infection. By the continuous use of such water in the case of animals and humans, the system is cleansed of great many impurities by the transformation caused in the blood and the extra energy derived by the generality of the cells in the system. By taking a bath in this water, one feels quite fresh and energetic because whenever activated water comes in contact with living cells further activity is evoked on their part. When the whole system gets energised, however slightly it may be, there is freshness, briskness and real life coming to play.

When water is subjected to high tension spark, not only is the bad and poisonous matter rendered ineffective, but also its purity is improved and ensured. This converts it into an useful antiseptic. Dr. Hanoka of New York has found it so valuable that in his nursing home wounds are dressed only with activated water not only as a substitute for lotions, etc., but also as an effective curative agency because of its prophylactic qualities. When a spark is shot in water and this water is freely given to patients affected by cholera, the patient recovers as the germs are killed. By agaskarising the liquid in the affected area the epidemic is most effectively controlled without any cost. In a poor country like ours, will the medical profession give this a fair trial? Not only would it stop the import of costly chemicals in enormous quantities, but would also reduce the state expenditure to a considerable extent. In such matters, as the state generally moves last because vested interests are affected, it is the duty of every well wisher of the country to give it himself a fair trial and then do propaganda in his own circle, if the results are found to be satisfactory.

### Ganges Water Charged With Electricity

Let us now examine how far these principles would apply to the water of the Ganges. The source of the Ganges is in the Himalayas, the highest mountain in the world, where thunder and lightning prevail in all parts of the year. The very atmosphere in that height is always ionised and the water in the river having its source there is subjected to a continuous treatment of electric current available from nature. Further the continuous course of the river through miles of passage of mineral rocks possessing valuable ores is also responsible for the transformation referred to above, as the rocks form effective magnets with nature's energy stored in them. It is no wonder therefore that the ancient seers should

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## Medical Value of Ganges Water

*Continued from Page 7)*

have perceived the utility of a water possessing such valuable medical properties and prescribed this as medicine in Ayurveda just as we are able to produce sparked water with our magnetoes. This should further explain the other special qualities enumerated in the beginning of this article.

Warmed by the rays of the Sun during the day, cooled by the rays of the Moon during the night, and by the virtues of the season, exceedingly clear, and its injuriousness dispelled by the Rishi Agastya (in days of old), the limpid and pure water of Carat (Karthika) is called Hamsodaka. For purposes of bathing and drinking and immersing the body, that water is highly applauded, even as heaven's nectar.

Why should the water of Karthika be chosen? The answer is "in the virtues of the season." It is the season of downpours from the clouds; when Nature charges the rain drops with electric current causing the transformations referred to above. The opportuneness of practices pertaining to daily conduct have been expounded

ed with special reference to the several seasons and the electrified water of the downpours from the clouds has been described as heaven's nectar. Electroculture is thus the underlying principle on which stands the greatness.

It is hoped this explanation would serve effectively to dispel all doubts and suspicions arising in the technique evolved in electroculture from anxious and respectable sources. It is also hoped that its simplicity and enormous utility would stimulate the spirit of enquiry in the minds of the public to understand what electroculture is and induce an honest and fair trial which it undoubtedly deserves.

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