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IMPROVEMENT IN POST OFFICE FINANCES

Increase In Total Sale Of Stamps

INSISTENT DEMAND FOR ADDITIONAL SUB-POST OFFICES

THE financial results of the years' (1937-38) working of the Post Office showed some improvement. The total sale of stamps through the post office increased from Rs. 5,930,000 in 1936-37 to Rs. 5,980,000 in 1937-38. The share of stamp revenue allocated by the Treasury to this Department was Rs. 3,530,471, says the Postmaster-General and Director of Telegraphs in his Administration Report for 1937-38.

The following are further extracts from the Report:

The first air mail under the Empire Air Mail Scheme was despatched from the Colombo Airport by Messrs. Tatas air service on February 28, 1938, and in the presence of a large and representative gathering, His Excellency the Governor handed over three official mail bags containing messages to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and their Excellencies the Governors of Bombay and Madras. A photograph of the first despatch is reproduced in this report.

Owing to the heavy cost of the Colombo-Karachi feeder service, it became necessary to revise the postage rate to Empire countries participating in the "All-Up" service, and the Imperial letter rate was increased from 9 cents per oz. to 20 cents per ½ oz. for letters and from 6 cents to 10 cents for postcards. The rate appears to be the highest rate in force in any Empire country served by the scheme. All first class mails, i.e., articles paid for at letter rate and postcards to these countries are despatched by air.

Savings Certificates

Another outstanding event of the year was the inauguration of the issue of Ceylon Savings Certificates on September

1938, by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government. The issue of these certificates had been under consideration for over a decade. The Savings Certificates Ordinance (No. 11 of 1938) was passed in 1938 and as soon as the Ordinance became law the authority of the State Council was obtained for a first issue of Rs. 2,000,000. The inauguration was marked by a simple ceremony at every post office in the Island which took place at 9 o'clock on September 19. In Colombo a large and representative gathering of citizens and Government officials were present at the General Post Office when His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government performed the inauguration ceremony and purchased Savings Certificates of all denominations.

The following denominations of Savings Certificates are available:—Rs. 5, 10, 50, 100, and 1,000. Certificates of the first issue if held to maturity yield interest at 3.8 per cent., an attractive rate at the present time. On the first day of issue Savings Certificates to the value of Rs. 371,770 (face value) were sold. The face value of certificates sold up-to-date has exceeded Rs. 1,600,000 and a further issue of Rs. 3,000,000 is under consideration.

In connection with the Savings Certificates Scheme, stamp savings cards were introduced. The card provides space for stamps to the value of Rs. 4.15 and when completed can be exchanged for a Savings Certificate of Rs. 5 face value.

Another important alteration was the decision to abolish Sunday delivery of letters throughout Ceylon. This has resulted in considerable eco-

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POWERS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES BILL

Standing Committee's Report

MR. FREEMAN DISSENTS AND OPPOSES FURTHER POWERS TO COUNCIL

AMONG the Reports to be presented to the State Council this week is that of Standing Committee "A" on the Privileges Bill, recommending only a single amendment.

Mr. H. R. Freeman has declined to sign the Report, his contribution being a strong dissent in the course of which he declares that "the position is so a-moral that it is out of the question to give the Council more powers or privileges."

The only change Standing Committee "A" has made in the Privileges Bill is in Clause 9 (Privileged Evidence) which now reads:—

Every person summoned to give evidence or to produce any paper, book, record or document before the Council or a committee shall be entitled, in respect of such evidence or the disclosure of any communication or the production of any such paper, book, record or document, to the same right or privilege as before a court of law; and the provisions of the Evidence Ordinance shall apply accordingly; and, for the purposes of such application, the summons to such person shall be deemed to be a summons issued by a court of law and the proceedings before the Council or such Committee shall be deemed to be a proceeding in such a court.

"Bad Assets"

Mr. Freeman, declining to sign the Report, makes the following Dissent:—

Dealing with two of what are declared to be the three principal objects (Nos. 1 and 3) of this Powers, Privileges and Immunities Bill:—"Privilege" is defined (Shorter Oxford Dictionary) as a "peculiar advantage", and, the "possession of an advantage over others and one another"; both these are bad assets and dangerous possessions for human beings and especially for any Parlia-

mentary body in its infancy.

The Bill, in its present form, arises out of a conflict between the State Council and a Newspaper (pages 242-261, Hansard 1938). A Newspaper according to W. T. Stead is a "note of interrogation" (connoting criticism).

The words "Press" and "Public" on the outer walls of the Ceylon Council Chamber invite the Press and the Public to enter; but Clause 14 of the Bill neutralizes "at any time" this right entry, and Clause 12 debars right of entry—so that there are the makings of a Star Chamber in place of a Council Chamber.

Two Samples

Section 2 of the Bill says that there shall be freedom of speech in the Council, and that such freedom of speech shall not be questioned.

A sample of existing freedom of speech (with the Press as a target) is found on page 2318 of Hansard 1938:—

"One of the most venal Newspapers in the terrestrial globe. It is a secret to nobody that the altruism of the (paper named) itself is on the market at fixed international rates."

The second of the declared "objects and reasons" of the Bill (to provide for the production of documents and the attendance of witnesses before the Council) is found in Sections 4, 5, 6 "et seq." of the Bill, viz., power to send for persons, documents and papersto attend before the Council.....to be examined on oath; and there is the penalty for perjury.

In the Bracegirdle debate in Council there is a sample, page 3638 of Hansard 1938, of the mentality of the Council on the subject of credibility on oath of its Members compared with others:—

"I would believe (names a Member of Council) if he was

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IN TOOTH AND CLAW

The Warning In Hitler's "Mein Kampf"

By J. C. Johnstone

THERE had always been a tendency to assume that Herr Hitler would stop at territorial expansion when he reached the limits of the territory inhabited by the German race. That illusion is now utterly exploded, but if the world was deceived, it was not for want of warning in "Mein Kampf." For "the necessity of bringing our territorial area into just proportion with the number of our population" is one of the most persistently reiterated themes in the whole book, and is described as the "supreme objective of every foreign policy." What he calls the "political testament of the German nation" ends with the following exhortation:

Never consider the Reich secure unless, for centuries to come, it is in a position to give every descendant of our race a piece of ground and soil that he can call his own. Never forget that the most sacred of all rights in the world is man's right to the earth he wishes to cultivate for himself and that the holiest of all sacrifices is that of the blood poured out for it.

250,000,000 Germans

The order of magnitude of his expansionist ambitions may be measured by his estimate that, a century hence, there will be 250,000,000 Germans in Europe, who must not be "packed like coolies," but have abundant soil they can call their own. To ensure the provision of this space—presumably thrice the existing area of Greater Germany—is the business of a properly conducted German foreign policy.

In general terms, the east is marked out as the direction of this colonising activity: "When we speak of new territory in Europe to day, we must think of Russia and the border States subject to her. Destiny itself seems to wish to point out the way for us here." Bohemia and Moravia, though not mentioned in this connection in "Mein Kampf," are clearly designated as the first fragmentary instalment in the process of conquest there outlined.

The role assigned to England is that of friend and ally whose benevolent neutrality towards the eastern programme is to be assured by German abstention from rivalry in the colonial sphere. England is also to look on while the destruction of France removes the last possible source of challenge to the German domination of the Continent.

It rather looks as if the Anglo-German Naval Treaty was an attempt to steer England into voluntary conformity with this neat Hitlerist vision of the future Europe.

As a commentary on Herr Hitler's propagandist exploitation of anti-Bolshevism, it may be remarked that he roundly castigates his imperial predecessors for not having adopted a similar course before the war against Tsarist Russia. Tsarism or Bolshevism makes no difference, except that in the circumstances of to-day Bolshevism hap-

pens to provide a convenient propaganda handle.

The Versailles Treaty, it can be seen, was almost generosity itself by the side of the fate held out in "Mein Kampf" for those nations unfortunate enough to find themselves within the area scheduled as "German living space." But when a fraction of what he would inflict on other is inflicted on Germans, it becomes what he calls "saddest cruelty" and "indescribable oppression," such that "they should send up to heaven the glowing prayer: Almighty God bless our arms when the hour comes. Be just, as Thou hast always been just. Judge now if we deserve our freedom. Lord, bless our struggle."

"Might is Right"

Herr Hitler's fainting moral indignation over the alleged "injustices" of Versailles would be more easily intelligible if his pages did not make it abundantly plain that, in his view, justice consists in the ruthless exercise of the power of the stronger, and that it only becomes injustice when this power is not being exercised by Germany. In a curiously revealing passage he remarks:

I shall never believe that France will of herself after her intentions towards us, because in the last analysis they are only the expression of the French instinct of self-preservation. Were I a Frenchman and were the greatness of France so dead to me as that of Germany actually is in the final reckoning, I could not and would not act otherwise than a Clemenceau.

Nature red in tooth and claw is a constantly recurring theme throughout the book. In "the world of everlasting struggle, where one creature feeds on the other, and where the death of the weaker implies the life of the stronger," international solidarity is just an idle dream. He declares:

Nobody can doubt that this world will one day be the scene of dreadful struggles for existence on the part of mankind. In the end, the instinct of self-preservation alone will triumph. Before its consuming fire, this so-called humanitarianism, which connotes only a mixture of famous timidity and conceit, will melt away like snow under the March sunshine. Man has become great in perpetual struggle. In perpetual peace he will go to destruction.

As to Herr Hitler's conception of the character and role of National Socialism, it may suffice to quote the following single passage:

The conviction of the right to employ even the most brutal weapons is always associated with fanatical faith in the necessity for a new and revolutionary transformation of the world. A movement which does not fight for such high aims and ideals will never have recourse to extreme means.

Such is the mental pabulum on which the "foeble minded" German masses are being compulsorily fed, such is the religion which it is the holy duty of every German to accept

without question as his credo, and such the innermost conviction of the founder of that religion himself.

Too long have we imagined or tried to deceive ourselves that it was never meant to be taken quite literally. Can anyone doubt for a moment longer that "the most brutal" weapons will be unhesitatingly employed against whoever opposes that "new and revolutionary transformation" which Herr Hitler fanatically believes to be his mission?

POWERS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES BILL

(Continued from page 1)

contradicted not by (mentions 2 Staff Officers of the Police) but by the whole Police Force"; and two other passages from the Hansard to similar effect were quoted at the Second Reading of the Bill.

Principle Violated

This assertion of a special class value for the evidence on oath of the State Council against all the world arises out of the successful political stunt ('stunt' is defined in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary as "an enterprise set on foot with the object of gaining reputation or signal advantage") crystallised on page 196 of the report of the Braccagirdle Commission in the words "I consider this a matter of conspiracy," when the actual conspiracy was evolved by the witness himself after—or before and after—the words "I inquired from him the part he played...." on page 194.

The universal principle of equality of witnesses before a tribunal is violated by this pretending democracy out of sheer self-interest and for a political advantage; the position is so amoral that it is out of the question to give the Council more powers or privileges, and I decline to sign the Report.

The Leader of the House will move the Third Reading of the Privileges Bill after the consideration of the Standing Committee's Report.

OPPOSITION TO VILLAGE TRIBUNAL

Pt. Pedro Lawyers Protest

Pt. Pedro, Wednesday.

A meeting of the Point Pedro Lawyers' Association was held yesterday at the Law Library, Point Pedro with Mr. K. Muttumaran in the Chair. Mr. N. Ponniah, B. A., proposed and Mr. M. Sivapragasam seconded, that "This meeting of the Lawyers' Association, Point Pedro, disapproves of the establishment of a Village Tribunal in Vadamarachy and a combined Court (District Court, Court of Requests and Magistrate's Court of Point Pedro) and recommends in their place a full time District Court of Point Pedro and, as at present, itinerating Magistrate's Court and Court of Requests as the latter proposal would give better and speedier relief to suitors and would not cost more than the proposed retrenchment suggestions."

The resolution was passed unanimously and forwarded to the Hon'ble the Legal Secretary. (Cor)

Selected for Admission to 'Varsity College

The following students are among those who have been selected for admission to the University College in July, 1939, on the results of the recent Entrance Examination:—

Miss P. Crossette-Thambiah, Miss Parameswari Durairwamy, Miss Puvaneswari Duraiswamy, G. Gulasekharan, Miss S. S. Navaratnam, V. Ratnasabapathy, M. Subramaniam, P. C. Thevathasam, Miss E. M. L. Vairakiam, Miss S. Chinnathambiy, S. Sri Ganesha, A. G. Muttuthambiy, S. Sivalingam, P. G. Somasuntheram, Miss K. Veithanayagam, S. Ponnappah, P. Rajalingam, P. Sivasubramaniam, A. Sivasuppiramaniam, B. Tampoe-Phillips, V. Thambipillai and A. Velum Mailum.

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GIVING EFFECT TO THE REPATRIATION SCHEME

Circular to Heads of Departments

"LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY" DEMANDED

Colombo, June 2.

It is understood that a scheme for the voluntary retirement of non-Ceylonese daily-paid workers in Government departments, whose services were engaged before April, 1934, is to be brought into force at once. This scheme is additional to that already being organised for the discharge and repatriation of non-Ceylonese labourers engaged since that date.

This information is contained in a circular addressed to Heads of Departments by the Chief Secretary.

The circular states that non-Ceylonese daily-paid workers, engaged before April, 1934, will be offered up to the last day of December, this year the opportunity of retirement with tickets to their homes and bonuses, as will be indicated on the printed notices to be issued to them. In view of the inevitability of retrenchment in such employee, the circular emphasises, should be discouraged from accepting the offer made.

The circular adds that in departmental retrenchment, non-Ceylonese will be discontinued before Ceylonese, so that a non-Ceylonese who does not accept the offer before the last day of December, this year runs the risk of being discontinued without free passage or bonus during the next year or two. Heads of Departments are to be held responsible for ensuring that where in any office or workshop, some workers are to be discontinued and others retained, all non-Ceylonese are discontinued before any Ceylonese.

Mr. Bandaranaike's Retort to Mr. Ponnambalam

Sinhala Maha Sabha Sessions at A'pura

Anuradhapura, Friday.

MR S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, (Minister of Local Administration) who was re-elected president of the Sinhala Maha Sabha at the Party's third annual celebrations at Anuradhapura, took Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, (M.S.C. for Point Pedro) to task for his recent statement at a Nawalapitiya meeting that the Sinhalese people were "hybrids without a history."

"Although Mr. Ponnambalam claims to be a descendant of Mohenjodaro, by looking at him we can hazard a guess that he probably hails from Timbuctoo," remarked Mr. Bandaranaike.

He added that whether or not the Sinhalese people had a history and name could be found by referring to history books and by seeing the ancient arts and crafts of their ancestors which were now in ruins.

The sessions were held in a spe-

cially built pavilion and there were about a thousand delegates from the 51 affiliated societies throughout the country.

Mr. Bandaranaike, in his presidential address, thanked the gathering for having re-elected him president.

"The enormous gathering here and the incredible progress which our movement has made throughout the country during the last year are proof enough of the value of our Sabha," he said.

"Though we still have enemies, their activities do more good than harm to us, as happens in the case of any good cause."

He stressed the necessity for unity among the Sinhalese and also the securing of the friendship and co-operation of the other communities.

"I am glad to say that our Sabha contains not only Buddhists, but also Christians of all denominations, who feel that they can trust each other and work together as Sinhalese," he added.

"It is one of our chief objects that while realising the value of religion as one of the principal methods of forming human character, we are prepared to remove religious antagonism and help each other in this regard."

"Abolish Caste Rules"

"The Sinhalese can never achieve any true progress as long as distrust exists between different castes. Therefore, we are determined to do all in our power to remove these distinctions which are a hindrance to our progress."

"It is very unfortunate that some of our Minority friends seem to concentrate on the question of claims seats in the State Council. Claims are put forward for so-called balanced representation and also fifty-fifty demands are made."

"There are two reasons why such claims cannot be granted. In the first place such representations would only tend to perpetuate mutual distrust—rather than remove it, and secondly democratic parliamentary government would scarcely be possible under such a scheme."

He appealed to Minority friends not to persist in an unjustifiable attitude even at this eleventh hour.

Mr. Bandaranaike then referred to the resolutions which were on the agenda and stated the Sabha's views on the Governor's Reforms proposals.

Ban Immigration

Referring to a resolution dealing with the need for restricting immigration, he said that the dismissal or daily-paid non-Ceylonese labourers from Government Service was only a first step. The problem would not be satisfactorily solved until a suitable Immigration Ordinance was framed.

Referring to the programme of work of the Sabha, he said that they now had 20 members in the State Council and wielded the greatest influence.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR VILLAGE BOYS

Education at State Expense

CONDITIONS OF NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

TWO scholarships are to be founded for Batticaloa boys out of the Batticaloa Paddy Bank Trust Fund.

One scholarship is to enable the best boy from Batticaloa who has come up to University standard to go through a course in the Ceylon University College, and the other scholarship is to enable a boy from a Tamil or Bilingual school in the same district to go through a course of training at the Government Training College or in an assisted or Government English School.

Along with these two scholarships, sixty other scholarships from Government funds are being offered, as last year, for competition among village boys attending Sinhalese, Tamil and Bilingual schools, enabling them to go through a six years' course of training at the Government Training College or in an English School maintained or approved by the Government.

New Conditions

The sixty scholarships are valued at Rs. 200 per annum each and are allotted as follows:

Fifty scholarships for the fifty electoral districts of the State Council into which the country is divided; and

Two additional scholarships for the schools in the Western Province and one for each of the other Provinces.

The conditions with regard to the grant of the sixty scholarships have been amended since the scheme of scholarships was decided upon last year. The candidates competing for each scholarship, for instance, are expected to be in attendance at a Sinhalese, Tamil or Bilingual school within the electoral district of the area to which the scholarship is awarded so that only boys within the electoral area could compete with each other.

It is also laid down that the joint income of the parents of the candidates from all sources should not exceed Rs. 600 per annum.

The candidates should not be less than ten years of age, and should have passed at least the third standard.

Primary Object

The primary object of the scheme is to select bright lads from the village schools in all parts of the Island and help them at the expense of the State to pursue their education.

Although this series of scholarships provide them with an education either at the Government Training College or at an English school, a number of Extension scholarships have been provided by which they could compete among themselves at the termination of their primary scholarships and pursue their education up to the Matriculation standard.

If they are exceptionally bright it is said they could compete for the Entrance Scholarships of the University College and go through the

highest scholastic training provided in the Island.

Village School to University

This scheme of connected scholarships would thus take a really clever village boy from the third standard of a village school to the University College, and his talents would thus be made available to the State.

If, however, his education ceases with the primary scholarship, he would either be a trained teacher in Sinhalese or Tamil or he would either be a trained teacher in Sinhalese or Tamil or he would have come up to the J. S. C. standard, enabling him to pursue a career in a mercantile or government office.

It has, however, been found as a result of the experience gained in the conduct of previous competitions for scholarships for village boys, that the standard of intelligence of the boys in the provinces varies, and, therefore it is not always that the brightest village boys win the scholarships, but the brightest boys in the areas to which the competition is limited.

Rs. 50,000 Set Apart

Rs. 50,000 out of the Batticaloa Paddy Bank Trust Fund has been set apart for the purpose of the two scholarships awarded to Batticaloa boys. The interest derived from this sum will be utilised for the maintenance of the scholarships.

This sum is formed into a separate Trust, the trustees being the Director of Education, the Government Agent of the Eastern Province and the Public Trustee.

In the case of the primary scholarship, the boy has to be from a Tamil or Bilingual school in Batticaloa, but in the case of the University College scholarship the boy may be from a secondary school in Batticaloa or in any other part of the Island, but he should have been born in Batticaloa of parents who are bona fide residents of the Batticaloa District.

The examination for the award of the sixty scholarships is to be held at twenty-three centres in the Island towards the end of the year.

"Bravado Is Not Heroism"

Chulipuram, May 31.

Under the auspices of the Chulipuram Youth League a public lecture on "Bravado is not Heroism" will be delivered by Mr. S. D. Tampoe, Advocate, at the Victoria College Hall, Chulipuram on Saturday, 3rd June 1939, at 4 p.m. under the presidentship of Mr. V. Veerasingam B. A. Principal, Manipay Hindu College.

Personal

Mr. V. Nagalingam, Warehouse Officer, Jaffna, has been appointed to act as Superintendent of Excise, Jaffna, in addition to his own duties from June 2 to 15.

Bungalow For Sale

At Mallakam, Stone-built terraced house in 20 lachams garden, fruit and other trees. Good Virgin soil, fine well water. Large frontage on road to Court, 2 furlongs from Kankasanturai Rd. Junction, 1 mile from Station, close to Court. Opp. American Mission School. Property free from encumbrance. Inspection by appointment. Apply to: T. Coomaraswamy, 27 Gangu Reddy St. Egmore, P. O., Madras.

(Mis 52, 29.5.39 & 5.6.39) (M)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1939

SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY

M. MOLOTOV'S FIRST address as Foreign Commissar is firm and conciliatory and follows the lines of the policy which Soviet Russia under Stalin has all along been following. Thus the expectations of those who believed that the resignation of M. LITVINOFF meant a drift towards isolationism on the part of Russia have been falsified. The speech maintains in unambiguous terms the determination of Russia to preserve the peace of Europe and her own honour and dignity. The main principles of that policy are stated to be, (1) peace and the strengthening of trade relations with all countries, (2) close and neighbourly relations with all countries with which she has a common frontier, (3) guarantee to all nations which are victims of aggression, (4) resistance of any aggressions against states on the borders of Russia. To use M. LITVINOFF's expressive phrase, Russia insists on the "indivisibility of peace", and is not prepared to pull other people's chestnuts out of the fire. Thus the speech marks no departure in Russian policy and is eminently reasonable and firm on the question of stopping all further aggressions in Europe.

The Anti-Aggression Pact between the Western Democracies and the Soviet has two main hurdles to negotiate before it can become a reality. M. Molotov considers the Anglo-French draft proposals as hedged in by two important reservations which may prove to be a fictitious step forward. As regards the reference to Article Sixteen of the League Covenant, it is explained by the British press that no formal consultation with the members of the League will become necessary for bringing the Anti-Aggression Pact into operation. As regards the reservation about the inclusion of the Baltic States under the system of guarantees, it must be said that Russian

attitude is more reasonable because there cannot be real reciprocity without the inclusion of all the states on the Russian frontier. The plea that the Pact should not compromise the neutrality of those states which for fear of Germany are anxious to keep on friendly terms with her is not valid. The Soviet rightly insists that the system of security should be rigid and embrace all states in Europe without leaving any loop-hole for the aggressor. The small Baltic states, being in daily terror of aggression, have no other alternative at the present moment but to enter into non-aggression pacts with Germany, as they have done. But when the Peace Bloc is fully formed they will readily range themselves on the side of the new alliance. There is a strong rumour that these states have been secretly given guarantees by Soviet Russia, but the affair is strictly kept a secret for fear of German reactions. Anyhow the Russian standpoint is unexceptionable, as she has every right to insist that the states on her north-western border should enjoy the same guarantees as the states which vitally affect the security of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea are to be provided with. The guarantee of support to the Baltic States seems to be the most difficult obstacle to the conclusion of a tripartite Anti-Aggression Pact between the Western Democracies and the Soviet. The desire for bringing in Russia into the Peace Bloc is so strong that we have no doubt that Russian objections to the Anglo-French proposals will be fully met and the Pact would soon become a reality.

As DR. BENES has made it abundantly clear, Russia was fully prepared to give effective aid to Czechoslovakia in September but it was the Democracies who started false rumours of Soviet reserve so as to further their policy of non-intervention. Soviet Russia still regrets the way in which she was cold shouldered at Munich. The main barrier to a quick understanding between Russia and Britain is psychological. When M. Molotov put forward in the Soviet Parliament Russia's demand for absolute equality, his words evoked the loudest applause. Soviet Russia still considers the intentions of the Democracies to preserve the peace of Europe as half-hearted and halting, though she finds some improvement in their attitude since the absorption of Czechoslovakia and Albania. The appeal of the Chinese delegate for the application of sanctions against Japan was supported by Russia but was rejected by Britain and France. It is this attitude of half-hearted attachment to the principles of the League that has encouraged aggressors and made the League so ineffective as an instrument of peace.

Success of Tobacco Sale Society

Rs. 500,000 For Distribution Among Members

At a general meeting of the Jaffna Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sales Society, Ltd., held at the Regal Theatre hall, Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam, the President of the Board of Directors of the Society, announced amid loud applause that the Society was in a position to distribute a sum of Rs. 50,000 among the members who gave tobacco as surplus sale proceeds of 1937 crop.

The meeting was largely attended, cultivators from the various parts of the district being present. Mr. C. Raghunathan, Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Northern Division, was also present.

In announcing the distribution of profits, Mr. Rajaratnam, speaking in Tamil, said that that result should open the eyes of those who had persisted in spreading false alarms about the stability of the Society's business. He regretted to note some instances of disloyalty, where a few members of that Society had sought the immediate advantage of selling their crop to outsiders. That, Mr. Rajaratnam stressed, should not be the attitude to adopt towards a Co-operative Society which expected from every individual member his unwavering support to it through all its vicissitudes.

A big undertaking of that nature, whose total turnover for the year in question was over six lakhs of rupees, demanded much patience and courage in the face of all difficulties. Success could only be achieved if every member would show determination & grit. Before concluding, Mr. Rajaratnam said that the Society was ever under a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. C. Raghunathan, the Assistant Registrar, and his officers for their invaluable advice and assistance.

KAYTS HARBOUR FOR PASSENGER TRAFFIC

Government's Reported Decision

It is understood that the Government has decided to open the port of Kayts to passenger traffic with India, limiting the traffic only to residents of Jaffna.

It is also understood that the Government does not propose to deepen the Kayts channel. It would therefore be possible only to operate a passenger traffic by shallow draught vessels using the Kayts channel at its existing depth.

Acting Police Magistrate

Mr. R. R. Nalliah is acting today for Mr. E. V. R. Samaraswamikrema, Jaffna Magistrate, who is on leave.

Saiva Training School Tirunelvely

Applications for admission to the entrance examination for the selection of students for training at the Saiva Training Institute, Tirunelvely, close on the 1st of July 1939.

Jaffna And Municipality

"Whip" On The Fuss In Jaffna

The "Whip" writes in the Times:—

Mr. Sam Sabapathy is the "Mayor" of Jaffna. He is the leader of the progressive section of the Jaffna Association.

I met him at the Town Hall after 5.30 p.m. He was furiously busy, but calm and collected.

I asked him what all this fuss was about the proposed municipality. He seemed most amused.

He told me that Jaffna opposed the extension of the railway to the peninsula. Why? Because "the railway brings in its train corruption."

That Jaffna opposed the establishment of a Health Unit. Why? Because "the sanctity of the home would be violated and that modern conveniences were against Tamil culture!"

That Jaffna will oppose anything till it is given.

I had heard the same views earlier in the day from Mr. T. Muttusamypillai, Mr. A. Sambandan, Mr. A. S. Vanigasooriyar, Mr. T. N. Subbiah and a number of others.

I also came across the stoutest opponent of a Municipality, Mr. K. Aiyathurai. He is the vice-Chairman of the U. D. C.

He confessed that he frankly preferred the administration of Jaffna town by a Sanitary Board with the Government Agent as the Chairman.

At the same time he admitted (almost forced by his younger colleagues at the Bar who ragged him) the advantages of a Municipality.

The opponents of a municipality say: "Municipality means civilization; civilization means small-pox, plague and—yes, and so many other plagues."

Curiously enough, I also met the man to whom two bottles of whisky were taken one morning as part of the invitation to speak at an anti-municipality meeting. He said (quite aloud): "I took the two bottles, but never went anywhere near the meeting."

Some people told me that the Catholics were opposed to the proposed change.

Mr. Cosmas Alwines, however, told me that the Catholic Diocesan Union had sent a memorial asking for a Municipality.

Fr. Long spared me a few minutes; and we talked of numerous men and matters. It was difficult to judge his attitude over the municipality question.

He seemed to be thoroughly amused over the whole thing. He can crack a joke as well as enjoy one.

The one whose attitude intrigues me most over this question is Mr. C. Ponnambalam. He is a puzzle.

Will he continue to be one?

"UNJUST, UNFAIR AND PRECIPITATE"

How Indian Congress Views Ceylon's Repatriation Scheme

INDIAN NATION URGED TO DEVISE SANCTIONS

Allahabad, May 29.

THE Foreign Department of the All-India Congress Committee has issued the following statement regarding the Ceylon Government's proposal for repatriating Indian workers:—

India views with grave concern and alarm the proposals of the Ceylon Government to solve the unemployment problem by repatriating the Indian workers settled there. It is unfortunate that the Ceylon Government has chosen to announce their policy at a time when the Indian mind is greatly agitated over the question of giving adequate protection to Indian nationals settled abroad, against whom discriminatory policy has been launched by their respective Governments.

To meet their growing unemployment problem the Ceylon politicians think the only solution that they can suggest is the immediate discontinuance from service of all Indian daily paid Government employees who have worked for less than five years. The rest of the workers are given to understand that their posts will be retrenched within a year or two. The people sought to be dismissed immediately (that is, with one month's notice) are being offered the compensation of a small bonus and railway fare to their homes, while the workers who have worked for longer terms than five years will not have the benefit of bonus or the fare as their cases will come under retrenchment.

"No Option To Workers"

The Government seeks to describe this as voluntary repatriation, but no option is left to the workers but to leave the land. In this connection, we give an extract from the memorandum of Mr. Kotalawala, the Minister of Communications and Works, Ceylon: "If the non-Ceylonese who are discontinued remain in Ceylon, they would, no doubt, enter into competition with Ceylonese in private employment. We must take measure to provide as far as possible that the discontinued non-Ceylonese do return to their homes and remain there or at least make it difficult for them to remain in Ceylon and 'undercut' Ceylonese in private employment."

It must also be remembered that a large number of these workers are born domiciles and have married Ceylonese women. They have lost all connections with their homes and are settled in the island for generations. They are to-day being deported as undesirables, simply because they call themselves Indians. This scheme will affect between eight to ten thousand workers; added to this their dependents and fami-

lies. Thus a vast number of men and women who have contributed their mite to the development of the country will be thrown on the streets. Not only is the scheme unjust, unfair and precipitate, but wiser statesmanship should have suggested to the Ceylon politicians that it is not to their interest to antagonise India. The two countries are bound to each other by ancient ties. Even now they are united in culture and religion. If there are any two countries where commerce can naturally and easily flow, they are Ceylon and India. In India, Ceylon has a vast, near and easy market for her goods. After all, what Ceylon can purchase from India will be small, but what it can sell to India, a vast country, can be very much, if there is goodwill and friendship between the two countries. Then India will always be politically useful to Ceylon. Therefore, to antagonise India is neither commercially nor politically wise. But in these days, when communal and sectional passions run high, far-sighted wisdom is given the go-bye.

Narrow and Insular Policy

Considering all these things, such a drastic solution of the unemployment problem should have suggested itself to the Ceylon Government, only as a last measure when all avenues to solve the problem had been explored. But it appears that Ceylon to-day is bent on following a narrow and insular policy, especially with regard to India. Their first measure was to deprive the Indians of their franchise and curtail their political rights and the second move now is to deprive them of their means of livelihood and deport them from the country.

Ceylon's action powerfully reminds us of our political slavery. If India had been free, a small neighbouring island, instead of treating our nationals with wanton injustice and unfairness, would have been anxious to win our goodwill.

Let the Central Government, who are the agents of British Imperialism here know that under the protection of that Imperialism, Indians are made to suffer economic loss and humiliation everywhere in the Empire. We have a right to know what steps the Government of India propose to take in the matter of Ceylon. We suppose it will be some kind of mild protests which no member of the Empire takes seriously from the Government of India. The nation must devise some form of sanctions against this humiliation of India in Empire countries. It cannot rely upon the foreign Central Government.

A New Two-Storey Ward for Jaffna Hospital

P. W. D. Estimates of Next Year

The Executive Committee of Communications and Works has decided, it is learnt, to include Rs. 2,161,950 in the draft estimates of next year for continuing 106 items of work begun during the last few years.

The continuation works of the Health Department alone absorb Rs. 1,426,300. The various new building and improvement projects of the Health Department are estimated to cost the country Rs. 4,033,025 and of that total Rs. 521,366 was actually spent in 1937-38 and Rs. 1,727,725 is estimated to be spent during the current financial year.

Rs. 150,000 more is to be spent on the new three-storey ward at the Colombo General Hospital, while the new hospital at Kalutara is estimated to cost Rs. 100,000. Rs. 75,000 has been earmarked for the second stage of extensions to the De Soysa Lying-in-home. The estimated cost of the extensions to the Home is Rs. 395,000. Rs. 49,538 was spent in 1937-38, while Rs. 170,000 will be used this year.

Of the Rs. 200,000 voted for the operating theatres at the General Hospital, Rs. 100,000 was included in the current year's budget. The balance Rs. 100,000 will be spent next year to complete the work. The rebuilding scheme of the General Hospital contemplates the provision of six operating theatres.

Outstation Hospitals

Rs. 100,000 is to be spent next year on extensions to the Negombo and Jaffna hospitals. The vote will be shared equally by both institutions. In the case of the Negombo hospital provision has been made for nurses' quarters, administration block, house surgeon's quarters, kitchen blocks, conversion of the present nurses' quarters into paying wards, and quarters for labourers.

The Jaffna hospital estimate provides for the construction of a new two-storey ward of 48 beds similar to the existing male ward, covered ways and the demolition of existing old buildings.

As regards "Public Works Annually Recurrent" expenditure, Rs. 5,042,150 has been provided in the draft estimates of the next financial year. Of this amount Rs. 3,754,150 is to be spent on the maintenance of roads, Rs. 76,000 on inland navigation, Rs. 140,000 on bridges, Rs. 600,000 buildings, Rs. 86,000 on the Government Factory, and Rs. 386,000 on miscellaneous items.

Public Works Annually recurrent expenditure last year was Rs. 5,073,044, while the amount allotted for the current year is Rs. 5,283,900.

BRITISH & FRENCH PACT PROPOSALS

RUSSIAN REPLY

AGREES ON PRINCIPLE: PLEDGES WANTED

Paris, Saturday.

It is reported that the Russian reply to the British and French pact proposals expresses agreement in principle, while making somewhat extensive reservations on certain points.

A Moscow message states that the main demand, it is understood, is that Britain and France extend their system of guarantees to the Baltic States adjoining the Soviet frontier and that the guarantees should be automatic in operation.

BANK OF CEYLON

Prospectus Issued

Colombo, Saturday.

THE prospectus of the Bank of Ceylon was issued yesterday, copies being available to the public at Post Offices and Kachcheries.

Thirty thousand fifty rupees shares, amounting to Rs. 1,500,000 are open to the public.

Foreign Agencies

Numbers of investors were early on the scene yesterday to make their applications for shares.

It is learned that a large number of foreign agencies have already been appointed for the Bank, to enable it to finance exports and imports, although at its inception the Bank will not undertake exchange work.

The foreign agents of the Bank will be utilised to issue letters of credit and to advance money on bills and documents.

Two New Ordinances

Two ordinances will be introduced in the State Council shortly in connection with the inauguration of the Bank.

One Ordinance will be for the purpose of amending the Civil Procedure Code to assist the Bank to make recoveries of monies due to it without delay.

The other Ordinance will enable the mortgage of crops in Ceylon.

Under this Ordinance the misapplication of mortgaged crops will be made a penal offence.

The provisions of this Ordinance as well as the amendments to the Civil Procedure Code to quicken the process of recovery of debts will be applicable to all banks doing business in Ceylon.

WARDHA SCHEME OF EDUCATION

A Public Lecture by Mr. E. W. Ariyanayakam

Mr. E. W. Ariyanayakam, Secretary, Hindustani Talimi Sangh, Wardha, will deliver a public lecture, under the auspices of the Northern Province Teachers Association, on "The Wardha Scheme of Education" on Wednesday the 7th instant at 5 p. m. in the Jaffna Central College Hall.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MUNICIPALITY FOR JAFFNA

Sir,—Many letters have appeared in the papers for and against the establishment of a Municipality in Jaffna. Though the Minister of Local Administration had decided on the recommendation of the U. D. C. to establish a Municipality in Jaffna from January 1941, several meetings have been held against the establishment. It is rather doubtful if the Minister will alter his decision. As meetings have been held against the establishment of a Municipality in Jaffna, there will probably be held meetings for the establishment also.

There is no doubt that both sections for and against the Municipality are actuated by their convictions and one section cannot fool or ridicule the other section as opinions differ. There are both advantages and disadvantages in having a Municipality and the advantages should, I think, preponderate over the disadvantages. The clear advantages are:—

(1) The status of the Jaffna Town will be raised to the level of the Towns of Kandy and Galle. Jaffna is the second largest town in Ceylon and there is no reason why it should not have a Municipality when smaller towns, Kandy and Galle, have a Municipality. Some time ago, Jaffna was ranked as the 3rd important town in Ceylon, but it is now ranked as the 4th town. Perhaps if a Municipality had been established long ago, Jaffna would not have lost its rank.

(2) If a Municipality is established in Jaffna a Commissioner will be appointed. He will be a full-time Officer who could contribute to the efficient management of the local body.

(3) A Municipality will have wider powers than a U.D.C. and the rate-payers will, through their representatives, have a control over the affairs of the Town.

(4) There will be a decided improvement in the sanitation of the Town.

The so-called disadvantages are increased taxes and the oppression of the ratepayers by the Municipal Inspectors. It does not necessarily follow that there will be an increase of taxes as soon as the Municipality is established. No doubt there will be an increase of expenditure by the appointment of the Commissioner and increase of staff but the excess expenditure can I understand be met from Surplus Funds. In course of time, there may be an increase of taxes if expenditure increases; but even with the U.D.C. there will be an increase of taxes if the expenditure increases. Supposing if additional revenue is required, the rich people only will mainly be taxed. As regards the oppression of the ratepayers by Municipal Inspectors there cannot be any undue fear. If ratepayers have their compounds clean which they must do for health sake and which is imperative they will be quite safe.

It is hoped that a Municipality will be established in Jaffna from 1941 as decided by the Minister of Local Government.

K. SIVAPRAGASAM.

Sivapragasam Road,
Jaffna, 2nd June 1939.

Repatriation of Non-Ceylonese Daily Paid Workers

Sir,—The State Council has decided to repatriate 1000 daily paid non-Ceylonese working as labourers under government as a first step towards solving the unemployment problem. But this will not improve the economic situation prevailing here among the educated masses, whose positions are being usurped by the South Indians and Travancorians, and require more immediate attention. If their present condition is to be improved, the non-Ceylonese skilled and semi-skilled employees under government, firms, estates and other private concerns should be repatriated first. If his policy is adopted, it will certainly reduce unemployment among the educated class by at least 75%. This cannot be tackled successfully unless there is co-operation between the Heads of government departments, Managers of mercantile firms and superintendents of estates. The immigration Bill which is to be introduced shortly, will facilitate same if it is so framed as to suit the purpose.

There is no truth in grumbling that the non-Ceylonese unskilled labourers have deprived the earning of the indigenous labourers, because of the fact that the former took up all the works, which the latter were reluctant to take up as they considered, it was below their dignity to do so. First of all, there are no labourers in Ceylon to speak of. If there are any, they want soft jobs and reject the hard ones. They only took works rejected by the Ceylonese labourers. When we don't want a certain thing and throw it away, it does not matter who takes it. It is after the depression, some of the indigenous labourers are prepared to take up such works, but the employers cannot depend upon them always to get their regular supply. There are certain works in the urban areas, such as scavenging and conservancy works. Who will do these works if the non-Ceylonese labourers are repatriated? Labourers in Ceylon are not suitable for estate works. Yet, some planters have agreed to employ them in order to oblige some of the councillors. The unskilled labourers were not detrimental to the welfare of the Ceylonese and by repatriating them at a great expense to the colony, no benefit could be derived, unless it is for political reasons.

Yours etc.,

K. S. Soundaranayagam.

Manipay.

31st May, 1939.

சலிமயிப்பேரன்மை

Sir,—With reference to the letter that appeared in your issue of May 29, 1939, permit me to inform "Antiquarian Student" that the

PROPAGATION OF MALAYAN JAK

Education Dept's New Move

A scheme for the propagation of jak of the Malayan varieties is to be undertaken by the Education Department in connection with its food production campaign.

The object of the scheme is to stimulate the interest of the children and gradually to persuade them to realise the economic value of the activity.

With this end in view, packets of jak seeds of the Malayan varieties are to be distributed in all rural schools.

The Malayan variety is said to have a distinct advantage over the indigenous jak in that the former yields fruit in a comparatively short time compared with the local varieties.

Matrimonial

PARASINGHAM—

SUBRAMANIAM

The marriage of Mr. K. Parasingham, teacher, Kadudal Tamil School with Miss Pavalamany Subramaniam, daughter of the late Mr. P. Subramaniam and Mrs. P. Subramaniam of Aiyankovil, took place at the bride's residence at Aiyankovil on Saturday, the 3rd inst. at 12-30 p.m. and was largely attended by a host of relatives and friends. The nuptial ceremonies over, the party left for the bridegroom's residence in procession to the accompaniment of oriental music and fireworks. The bride is the only sister of Mr. S. Ratnasabapathy, Chief Clerk, Government Electrical Department, Nuwara Eliya and only niece of Mr. S. T. Nadarajah, Booking Clerk, C.G.R., Kuzumegala.

vahanam of Ganesha is not வான் but வெருச்சாணி, the baudycoote. Research students should search for and find out in what work is the vahanam of Ganesha first mentioned. The worship of Pillaiyar is of later origin. He is not invoked in any of the Sangam works. In Sanskrit he is called Mooshika vahana (மூஷிக வாகனம்). மூஷிகம் is a rat. Most of the Tamil works in which Pillaiyar is invoked are later than the 10th century A.D. By that time the usage of வான் for sheep or goat has disappeared. Not one of the Tamil Nighandus has that meaning for வான். It is still retained in Jaffna in the word செம்மென் for sheep. மன் is a female goat, sheep or deer. Therefore the use of the word செம்மென் for sheep is wrong and unwarranted.

Yours faithfully,
"Murugar Amigan."

Broadcasting

AKASH-VANI,
MYSORE

This Week's Programme

Wavelength: 70.2 Meters Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

CALL SIGN: V. U. 7. M. C.

Monday, the 5th June, 1939

6 p.m. Hindustani Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
7 to 7-20 p.m. Everyday Economics: II. "Economic Planning in Foreign Countries" by Prof. V. L. D. Souza, M. A., B. Com. (Lond.)
7-15 to 8-15 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music
8-15 to 8-45 p.m. Recitation from Kannada Literature by Mr. S. D. Brahmasuri Sastry

Tuesday, the 6th June 1939

6 p.m. Flute
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Karikatha: "Bhaktha Kuchela" by Brahmasuri Venugopala Das & Party

Wednesday, the 7th June 1939

6 p.m. Comic Selections
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Veena Recital by Vidwan Srikantha Iyer, accompanied by Vidwan Ramiah (Mridangam)

Thursday, the 8th June 1939

6 p.m. Film Hits
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements
7 to 7-20 p.m. Radio Talk: "Nature and Life" by B. M. Sivaramiah, Esq.
7-45 p.m. Kannada Drama: "Virata Parva"

Friday, the 9th June 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Instrumental Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
7 p.m. Hindusthani Music
7-30 p.m. "Quirat"
8 p.m. Urdu Drama: "Anarkali"

Saturday, the 10th June 1939

6 p.m. Orchestral Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Vidwan T. Puttaswamiah, accompanied by Vidwan Subramanyam (Violin) and Vidwan Ramiah (Mridangam)

Sunday, the 11th June 1939

No Broadcast

NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Insolvency Jurisdiction No. 119.
In the matter of the Insolvency of Abdul Latif Abdul Rahiman of Grand Bazaar Jaffna.

Insolvent.

To the Creditors of the above Estate. You are hereby required to take notice that the Assignee has filed a statement of account specifying the pro-rata share of the amount payable to the several creditors in the above case after deducting the costs of the Proctor for Petitioning Creditor and the commission payable to the Assignee and that the amounts allotted to the various creditors will be paid unless the creditors or any other person interested in the estate shall appear at 10 o'clock in the forenoon on the 15th day of June 1939 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 2nd day of June 1939.

J. N. Culanthaveilu,
Secretary.

(O. 14, 5 & 8-6-39.)

Plans for University Buildings

Public Conference to be Called

Colombo, June 1.

It is understood that tentative plans for the University buildings at Peradeniya will be submitted to a public conference to be called by the Minister of Communications and Works, Mr. J. L. Kotalawala.

One of the questions the conference will be asked to decide is whether expert opinion from abroad should be consulted in regard to the erection of the University buildings.

As previously stated, the name of Monsieur E. Jaspas, the well-known Belgian Architect, who planned the Osmania University in Hyderabad, has been mentioned in this connection.

The tentative plans are to be prepared by the Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, the architecture to be adopted being Kandyan with an Aryan emphasis.

Decisions Reached

These as well as other important decisions were reached at a conference held yesterday morning at the Ministry of Communications and Works.

Others present were the Minister of Education, Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara; the Principal of the University College, Professor Marris; the Town Planning Expert, Mr. A. C. Holliday; the Director of Public Works, Mr. H. K. de Kretser; and the Chief Architect, Mr. T. N. Wynne-Jones.

A number of questions connected with the layout of the University buildings and the accommodation to be provided in them were considered.

Professor Marris, Mr. Holliday and the Chief Architect will visit the University site in the course of a few days.

It was decided that full advantage should be taken of the space available and that the buildings should not be crowded together.

The conference recommended that for the present buildings should not be provided at Peradeniya for the Faculties of Engineering and Medicine.

Convocation Hall

It was decided that the Convocation Hall should be capable of accommodating eight hundred to a thousand students.

The main Library of the University is to be capable of housing one hundred thousand volumes and is to be a separate building while the Physics and Chemistry Departments are to have their own libraries.

A large playground across the river was favoured, with smaller playgrounds at other suitable places, if necessary.

It was recommended that there should be eight to ten hostels capable of accommodating eight hundred students and that the hostels should be laid out in such a manner as to permit of extension.

There is to be one women students' hostel, capable of accom-

PRESIDENT OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL

Applications Invited

Applications for the post of President of the Village Tribunals for the Tenmaradehi, Pachchilaippali Karachchi, and Pooneryn-Tannuk-kai Chief Headmen's Divisions of the Jaffna District will be received by the Government Agent Northern Province, Jaffna, up to 12 noon on June 10, 1939.

House-Craft Class At Point Pedro

Pt. Pedro, Wednesday.

The Housecraft Class organised at Point Pedro by Mr. K. Krishnapillai B. A., Inspector of Schools, was opened by Mrs. C. T. Lorage at the Point Pedro Girls Bilingual School Hall at 3.30 p. m. yesterday. The class comprised of over 60 women teachers. Mr. C. T. Lorage, Div. Inspector of Schools, explained the place of Housecraft in the education of women and emphasised the need of practical training in addition to a theoretical knowledge of the subject. Dr. V. Nadarajah, M. O. H. Jaffna, explained the need for training in Health habits, in First Aid and Sick nursing. Mr. K. Krishnapillai, Inspector of Schools, outlined the course of studies and stated that the several tutors arranged were experts in their several subjects. The classes will be held twice a month i.e. on the second Friday and the fourth Saturday. Tea was served to all present by Miss M. M. Mergatroyd, the Principal of the Girls' Boarding School. Finally a group photograph was taken of the tutors and the students of the course with Mrs. C. T. Lorage as central figure.

modating a hundred, situated close in the staff quarters.

Tutors to be provided, with bachelors' quarters in the hostels while the Wardens are to be provided with married quarters in close proximity to each hostel, as at Oxford and Cambridge.

Nature of Accommodation

It was also recommended that fifty per cent. of the hostel accommodation should consist of what are called bedsitting rooms (i.e., bed-rooms and sitting-rooms combined; forty per cent. of suites of two bed-rooms with a single sitting-room, to be occupied by two students; and the remaining ten per cent. of flats, each consisting of a bed-room, a sitting-room and a bath room.

A printing-press is proposed to be provided for the printing of examination papers.

Survey Work

The survey necessary for the acquisition of the land is now over, and the necessary mandate for the acquisition has been issued to the Government Agent of the Central Province.

The contour surveys are now in progress and will be completed by the middle of July.

It is proposed to take possession of the land within the next four months when the levelling and preparation of the sites will be commenced.

Unemployed will be engaged in this task, preference being given to the unemployed of the district.

IMPROVEMENT IN POST OFFICE FINANCES

Continued from Page 1)

nomy and provides a much needed day of rest to the staff. Sunday delivery was stopped between 1931 and 1933 but re-introduced in 1934. It is to be hoped that Sunday delivery which ceased on October 2, 1938, has now been permanently abolished.

No new post offices were opened during the year. The number of sub-post offices was increased by 14 and the total number at the end of the year was 216. The demand for additional sub-post offices is an insistent one, but the Department has to oppose requests for the extension of facilities to places where there is no likelihood of postal traffic. Thirty-five new receiving offices were opened and 12 were closed.

Alterations in Rates

The rates of commission on money orders, inland and foreign, were increased to cover the loss on the service disclosed by the Commercial Accounts.

The rates of commission on Ceylon Postal Orders were also increased.

A very considerable reduction in telegraph charges on messages to all Empire countries except India and Burma took place with the introduction of an Empire flat rate of 85 cents per word. It is hoped that the reduced rates will tend to an increase in the cable traffic.

Health of Staff

The health of staff during the year was normal. Sixteen Postmasters and clerks retired, 10 on medical grounds, 5 resigned, and 1 Postmaster was dismissed.

Ordinances, Sanitary Rules, &c.

Two Ordinances amending the Ceylon Post Office Ordinance were passed by the State Council. The first amendment enabled rules to be framed regarding the payment of money orders and postal orders. The second amendment extended the provisions applicable to carriage of mails by land to the carriage of mails by air.

With effect from August 1 stamps of denominations of Rs. 5 and under were proclaimed as the stamps which may be used for the payment of charges under the Post Office and Telegraph Ordinances respectively.

The more important amendments to the rules arising out of the decisions of the Cairo Telecommunication Convention were published in December and brought into force on January 1, 1939.

Post Office Savings Bank

For the first time for many years past there was a decrease in the total funds to the credit of the bank at the end of the calendar year. The balance was Rs. 24,252,375 against Rs. 24,446,154 at the end of 1937. The decrease was due to a fall in the value of

the sterling securities held. There was an increase in the amount to the credit of depositors.

Retrenchment

The Executive Committee for Communications and Works set up a committee consisting of the Acting Postmaster-General (as Chairman), a representative each of the Audit Department and the Treasury and the Secretary to the Minister of Communications and Works (as Secretary) to examine certain reorganization proposals submitted by the Department. The committee held a few meetings but ceased to function with the appointment of a commission by His Excellency the Governor to inquire into the question of the reduction of public expenditure in all departments. The preparation and examination of proposals for retrenchment required by the Commission have entailed very heavy work, and I am grateful to the Acting Postmaster-General and the Headquarters staff for all that they have done in this connection. The detailed proposals of the Commission have not yet been received.

Post Offices

No new post offices were opened in 1938. The number of post offices at the end of the year was 235.

Sub-Post Offices

The number of sub-post offices increased from 202 in 1937 to 216. Six sub-post offices were reduced to Receiving Offices. Fourteen were reopened, and 6 new sub post offices were opened.

Village and Railway Receiving Offices

The number of these offices was increased by 12 and there are now 477 Village Receiving Offices and 9 Railway Receiving Offices. Seventeen Receiving Offices were raised to the status of sub-post offices and 6 sub-post offices were reduced to Receiving Offices. Thirty-five new Receiving Offices were opened and 12 were closed.

Buildings

Seventy-four post offices are housed in Government buildings and 161 in rented buildings. There are six buildings rented for use as Assistants' quarters; ten rented buildings for the use of District Inspectors of Telegraphs, &c., as offices, stores, and, in some cases, as quarters also; one rented room for accommodating automatic telephone plant; two rental buildings as office and quarters of two Divisional Superintendents. Seventeen plots of land (about 20 ft. by 20 ft. generally) have been rented for the erection of kiosks to house automatic telephone switchboards. The two new buildings at Maradana and Havelock Town for housing the branch automatic exchanges of the city, post offices and quarters for Postmasters have been completed. The former was occupied in October, 1938, and the latter will be occupied in April, 1939. A new building was constructed during the year for the post office and quarter for Postmaster at Vavuniya. Quarters for 10 members of the uniform staff at Nuwara-Eliya were built.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

(Held at Point Pedro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 23 Pt.

In the matter of the intestate estate
the late Sivacoomarasooriyar of
Udupiddy

Deceased.

Nelliyalingam Vinayalingam of
Irupalai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Sivacoomarasooriyar Ananthacoomarasuriyar of Udupiddy

2. Saravanamuttu Mahadeva and wife

3. Mahasvari Amma both of Sangai

4. Pathamasantarammah daughter of Saravanamuttu of Udupiddy

5. Sivacoomarasooriyar Sathisivacoomarasooriyar of Udupiddy

6. Sathy Ammal wife of Vinayalingam of Irupalai

7. Raja Sathuru 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. Kulavasingam 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.
20-4-39

Extended for 9-6-39.

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

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

No 092

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