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PRIVILEGES BILL PASSES THIRD READING

"A Statutory Monstrosity," Says
Mr. Wille

AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO SHELVE BILL

THE Privileges Bill, which will make State Councillors immune from the consequences of libellous statements and gives them other special privileges, passed its third reading in the State Council on Wednesday.

AN attempt to have the third reading of the Bill shelved for six months was defeated.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka presented the report of Standing Committee "A" on the Privileges Bill on Wednesday.

After the House had accepted the report, Sir Baron moved that the Bill be read a third time and passed.

Mr. Geo Wille (Nominated) moved as an amendment that the third reading of the Bill be taken up six months later.

He said that the Leader of the House had given his reasons for the Bill only when he was replying to the speeches of other Members. The main reason given had been freedom of speech, but the liability to abuse of that privilege had been freely acknowledged.

Illusory Check

They had been told that there would be a check, but that check, said Mr. Wille, was illusory, because the check was to be public opinion, and the Bill really tried to gag the public mouth.

"It will be impossible for public opinion to be brought to bear on any instance of abuse," Mr. Wille said.

If anything derogatory of a judge or other public servant was said there would be no remedy because a public servant could not vindicate himself in the newspapers. He belonged to the silent army, and the public would be left in doubt whether the official concerned was worthy of holding office.

"That is why I say that this Bill is a statutory monstrosity,"

Mr. Wille explained. "The wording of this Bill has been taken from the Bill of Rights, which was drawn up for totally different purpose.

"I ask whether it is not anomalous for us, who represent the public, to assume to ourselves rights which can be exercised against the public in a way which makes us liable to a charge of cowardice.

Only Nine Ayes

The amendment was seconded by Mr. H. R. Freeman (Anuradhapura) and on being put to the House was lost, nine voting in favour of the amendment and 25 against.

Those who voted for the amendment were: Messrs. H. R. Freeman, H. A. Gunasekera, H. E. Newnham, J. W. Oldfield, H. F. Parfitt, G. G. Ponnambalam, Mrs. N. Saravanamuttu, Mr. Geo. Wille and Mr. E. C. Villiers.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka presented the report of Standing Committee "A" on the Bill to amend the Tea Control Ordinance No. 17 of 1938.

Mr. S. D. Senanayake (Minister of Agriculture and Lands) moved that the amendments made by the Standing Committee be accepted and that the Bill be read a third time and passed. The Bill was passed.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka next presented the report of Standing Committee "A" on the Bill to regulate the importa-

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INDIA TODAY

Impressions of a European Visitor

By Jean Herbert

THIS year, as during previous visits, I came to India as a pilgrim, only desirous of gathering from the wisdom of great Indian sages whatever little crumbs I could hope to grasp and assimilate, and it had not been my intention to give any critical opinion as to what those few months enabled me to see in present-day India. But many of my Indian friends came to me again and again with the same question, which after all was quite a natural one: "What is your impression of India this time?" and I felt it would not be quite fair to withhold from them any thoughts that might have arisen in my mind about the country of which I had the great honour of being a guest.

I shall do so in a spirit of great humility, realising full well that I saw only a very few of the numberless facets of life in that sub-continent which is called India, where hundreds of millions of people have evolved a unique civilisation and culture in the course of thousands of years, and where everything now seems to be moving so swiftly. If I carefully avoid expressing any opinion on subjects of political controversy, it is not owing to any lack of interest on my part, but merely because I feel that the only internal politics about which a Frenchman should venture to take a stand are French politics, and that it would be highly improper for me to meddle with those of any other country.

Progress in Education

What struck me most is the considerable progress which seems to have been achieved recently in the field of education. I do not know what results statistics can show, and those after all are only of secondary importance, since they record quantity and not quality, but I felt that everybody in India was giving much more attention to the problem than was the case two years

ago. I was amazed by the number of new education institutions of all kinds which have been springing up all over the country, by the stupendous growth of many of those already existing, and by keen effort made by all concerned to adapt the teaching to local needs. The time seems now gone when the ideal of educators in India was to implant in the minds of the pupils a number of foreign ideas and habits without considering whether those would ultimately prove beneficial or otherwise. A great attempt is now being made to devise and apply methods chosen for their own merits, and not blindly taken over from some other civilisation. Both Swami Vivekananda and Sister Nivedita would certainly feel very proud of the turn education is taking in India.

The results which I was privileged to see in the kindergarten, primary, secondary and industrial schools in Indian universities, in classes for children and for adults, in institutions for Harijans and for other special groups of society have convinced me that the effort is bound to succeed in bringing a rich harvest of results. While I do not wish to give undue prominence to any institution which I happened to visit I cannot refrain from mentioning particularly, as being worthy of careful study and whole-hearted support, the Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home in Madras, the Kindergarten school of the National High School in Bangalore, the Ramakrishna Gurukul in Trichur, the efforts of Miss Gokhale among the poorer classes in Bombay, and the Nivedita School in Calcutta.

But to me the greatest marvel was to see the extraordinary body of workers, most of them young men and women, who have devoted themselves heart and soul to the cause many of them renouncing the joys of family life

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REFORMS DEBATE RESUMED

Re-Allocation of Seats

MINORITIES AND KANDYAN RURAL INTERESTS

THE Reforms debate was resumed on Wednesday on the following motion of the Legal Secretary:—

That with a view to securing greater representation for minority communities a Committee shall be appointed by His Excellency the Governor with the following terms of reference:—

"To consider the present electoral areas of the Island and to advise what changes or additions could be reasonably made with a view to affording more chances for the return of candidates belonging to the minority communities and to securing adequate representation of the Kandyan rural interest."

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam (Pt. Pedro) continued his speech on the following amendment moved by Mr. Siripala Samarakody:—

"That after the words 'minority communities' the following words be added: 'and Kandyan rural interests.'"

Mr. Ponnambalam contended that the amendment before the House was nothing but an attempt to camouflage their real demand for communal representation of the Kandyans.

The Minister for Local Administration had let the cat out of the bag when he said that there must be segregation. But a large majority of the House were against communal segregation. The proposal before the House amounted to territorial segregation, and this Mr. Ponnambalam deplored.

The Member for G.agedera had definitely admitted that what he wanted was that there should be Kandyans in place of the Indian Members for Talawakelle and Hatton. Was it then surprising that the Members from the North should demand more representation for themselves?

Continuing, Mr. Ponnambalam said that the Governor himself had in his despatch sought to perpetuate communal representation of the worst kind by the introduction of a new communal bogey, namely the Kandyan rural interests.

"Accession of Strength"

Continuing, Mr. Ponnambalam contended that there was a definite accession of strength to the Kandyan districts by the influx and infiltration of Indian plantation labour. The 553,000 Indians, who were spread over the Kandyan districts, should, according to numerical strength, be entitled to at least five seats, but as a matter of fact they had been able to obtain only two seats. If the Kandyan Sinhalese in the country, or in that Council felt that, although they had 22 electoral areas, in fact they had only five or six Kandyans in that House and that that representation was not adequate, they could understand that point of view and support it. But if their contention was that the Kandyan districts should be repre-

sented only by Sinhalese and by no one else, then they would be advocating the worst kind of communal representation, because it would mean communal representation with weightage for the major community.

Mr. S. P. Vytilingam (Talawakelle) said that the object of the amendment, as had been explained by the Leader of the Sinhala Maha Sabha, was to segregate the Indians. He protested against any such attempt and added that they would use all the power in their hands to oppose such a move. He was, he said, returned to that Council not entirely by the Indian vote. Some Kandyans, too, had voted for him. He knew what the Kandyan rural interests were and he had, he said, done his little bit, not merely for his own constituency but for the country as a whole.

Amendment Carried

Mr. K. Natesa Iyer (Hatton) said that some members wanted to have the Indians for the purpose of weightage and for getting more seats, but when it came to a question of the franchise and of seats, those very members

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PRIVILEGES BILL, PASSES THIRD READING

(Continued from page 1)

tion of agricultural commodities and to facilitate the sale of agricultural products of Ceylon.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake moved that the amendments made in the Bill by the Standing Committee be accepted.

Mr. B. H. Aluwihare (Matale) opposed Section 10 of the Bill, which he said made Government into a trader and a contractor.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake replied that there was no desire on the part of Government to repudiate a contract.

An amendment to delete sub-clause 11 in Section 10 was lost.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake then moved that the Bill be read a third time and passed.

Dr. N. M. Perera (Ruwanwella) opposed the third reading and said that there was not the slightest doubt that the natural consequence of that Bill would be a rise in the price of essential commodities.

The third reading was passed by 26 votes to five.

Tuberculosis Not Inherited

Some False Notions Exposed

TUBERCULOSIS, though one of the widespread of diseases, is not so dreadful an affliction as popular imagination makes it out to be.

Many false notions about tuberculosis were dispelled by a radio talk given from Colombo Station by Dr. D. M. de Silva, Medical Officer of Health, Horana.

For instance it is a popular belief that tuberculosis is highly infectious and very easily contracted by adults.

"That this is a false notion will be realised when attention is drawn to the fact of the freedom from signs and symptoms of the disease usually enjoyed by doctors, nurses and attendants in various tuberculosis institutions whose lives and services are dedicated to the gradual betterment of the victims of tuberculosis placed in their charge," said Dr. de Silva.

"The most popular school of thought of today is that adult tuberculosis is a disease which occurs in persons who have been infected with the germs of tuberculosis many years before the onset of the active signs and symptoms of the disease.

"It should be more generally known that the average consumptive is not as great a source of danger to the adult society as he is to infants and young children.

"It is of the greatest importance to rigidly and continuously exclude the new-born infant from all association with consumptive mother or other consumptive person, if infection is to be prevented.

Not Inherited

"Another false notion is that it is dangerous to occupy a house in

which a consumptive had lived. However, if reasonable precautions are taken there need be no fear in going into occupation, after final consultation with the local health authorities.

"Yet another false notion is that tuberculosis can be directly inherited, in the same way as the colour of one's hair, eyes, features and other traits are inherited.

"There were grounds for this false notion when prior to our present day knowledge it was observed how often members of the same family were attacked frequently at an early age. Even Lagneec, the French physician and tuberculosis authority, fully believed that the disease could be inherited.

"The view held by the majority of authorities at the present day is that most often the infant becomes infected from its tuberculosis mother or father not through direct inheritance but after its birth.

"There are numerous instances on record of infants born of tuberculosis mothers, who were so ill with the disease that they have died after child-birth. Such infants, however, when immediately placed in a healthy wholesome non-tuberculous environment have almost invariably grown up as sound and healthy as the average child.

They Resist Better

"It is a popular belief that persons who suffer from tuberculosis of the glands, joints or bones in childhood are especially prone to develop consumption or tuberculosis of the lungs in later life.

"This is, however, a false notion and in actual fact it is noted that such persons only very rarely develop tuberculosis of the lungs in later life, and then it is usually of a mild type.

"It would appear that such individuals have acquired a certain degree of resistance and immunity to tuberculosis from their early attacks.

"Another false notion is that a tuberculosis sanatorium or hospital is a source of danger to the neighbourhood.

"Mention should be made of the fact that it is better to keep tubercular patients in a hospital ward and look after them than to allow them to stay in their homes and spread infection. The ward is no source of infection to the neighbourhood."

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THE NEW URBAN COUNCILS ORDINANCE

Local Government Board to be Abolished

POWERS UNDER THE NEW ORDINANCE

THE two most important changes proposed to be effected by the Urban Councils Ordinance are the abolition of the Local Government Board and the omission of the provisions of the Local Government Ordinance by which the inhabitants of an area are given an opportunity to make representations for or against the establishment of District Councils under that Ordinance.

The powers and functions of the Local Government Board are to be vested partly in the Executive Committee of Local Administration and partly in the Commissioner of Local Government.

The new Ordinance makes provision to secure prompt action whenever it becomes necessary to remove an unsatisfactory Chairman from office or to remove the entire body of members and to elect new members, or to dissolve the Council and to appoint a Commissioner, as circumstances may require.

Vesting of Lands

The object of the Bill, which was published in last Friday's Gazette, is to establish new local authorities to be known as Urban Councils in urban areas of the class for which Urban District Councils have hitherto been constituted.

It reproduces, with a few variations, all the provisions of the Local Government Ordinance, as amended from time to time, with the exception of those parts which relate to General and Rural District Councils and to the constitution of Minor Local Authorities.

Amendments

The other changes are designed partly to introduce the amendments which in the course of the administration of the existing Ordinance were found to be either desirable or necessary, and partly to give effect to such of the recommendations made by the Association of Urban District Councils in February, 1937, as the Executive Committee of Local Administration has been prepared to accept.

Nomination

Each Council is to consist of such number of members as the Governor may determine, not being less than six or more than twelve, and of the number of members prescribed for each Council two are to be elected. No special provision is made for the Government Agent or the Assistant Government Agent to be a member by virtue of office.

Votes For Women

The provisions relating to the qualifications of voters and members are to be similar to the corresponding provisions of the Colombo Municipal Council (cons-

titution) Ordinance. The franchise is to be extended to women also.

Provision is made for a deposit of Rs. 200 by each candidate for election. The date of the general elections is to be so fixed as to ensure that the elections and the nomination of members are completed well before the end of the year in which the retiring members go out of office.

Two clauses are designed to meet difficulties experienced under the existing law in certain towns, such as at Kalutara—to obviate the deadlocks that have occurred in connection with the election of Chairman.

The Chairman will hold office during his term of office as a member, that is to say, three years. The Vice-Chairman will hold office for one year as at present.

Vesting of Lands

Comprehensive provision is to be made as to the vesting of lands in Urban Councils and as regards the powers of the Councils in respect of lands so vested.

Power is to be given in future to Urban Councils to spend money on maternity and child welfare services, housing schemes, and charities specially approved by the Executive Committee of Local Administration.

The law that will apply to buildings along roads and the principles on which compensation will be awarded when lands are acquired for the widening of roads are clearly laid down.

New provisions have been taken from the Municipal Councils Ordinance in respect of the discharge of drainage and of rain water.

The powers of Urban Councils to establish and maintain public services have been changed and will hereafter include power to provide housing accommodation for the poorer classes.

Urban Councils will be allowed surplus funds in Ceylon Savings Certificates or in trustee securities.

An Urban Council, with the approval of the Executive Committee of Local Administration, will be allowed to incur expenses in connection with civic receptions or the celebration or observance of any event or occasion of public interest, and to make such contributions as may be voted by the Council towards the support of any library or any educational institution.

Removal of Chairman

The following are the reasons for which the Governor may remove the Chairman of an Urban Council or its entire body of members from office and order the election of new members:

(a) Persistent refusal to hold or

National Planning Committee

Objective, India's Self-Sufficiency

Bombay, Friday.

The National Planning Committee in resuming its sitting today adopted the following instructions for incorporating in a note for the guidance of all sub-Committees. (1) The principal objective of planning national economy is to attain as far as possible national self-sufficiency and not primarily for the purpose of foreign markets. This does not exclude international trade which should be encouraged but, with a view to avoiding economic imperialism, the first charge on the country's produce, agricultural and industrial, should be to meet domestic needs, but outlets for surplus goods will be explored to meet the requirements of India's international indebtedness; (2) in the planned economy of India, emigration should not be based on a deliberate policy of developing the population so as to create a surplus to settle in other countries, but such surplus should be allowed to emigrate through agreements with other countries, with due regard to the rights of such settlers in those parts.

attend meetings or to vote or to transact business at any meetings that may be held; or

(b) Wilful neglect, or misconduct in the performance, of the duties imposed by this Ordinance; or

(c) Persistent disobedience to or disregard of the directions, instructions or recommendations of the Executive Committee or of the Commissioner; or

(d) Incompetence and mismanagement; or

(e) Abuse of the power conferred by this Ordinance.

Under the provisions of the same section, the Governor may also dissolve the Council as the circumstances may require.

The Governor is to take action under this section by notification in the Government Gazette.

Special Commissioners

When the Governor takes such action, he will direct the Government Agent to take steps for the election of new members.

He may also appoint a special Commissioner or Commissioners to administer the affairs of the town for which the Urban Council was constituted.

Committee's Powers

Ample power is to be given to the Executive Committee of Local Administration to make general rules for the guidance of Urban Councils in matters relating to elections, the administration of finance and property, the formation of a Local Government Service and other matters on which a uniform set of rules would be desirable.

Provision is to be made for the use of coloured ballot boxes on lines similar to procedure laid down for the State Council elections.

REDUCTION OF RLY STAFF

A MILLION SAVING ANTICIPATED

PROPOSAL OF COMMISSION

Colombo, June 10.

SAVINGS of a million and quarter rupees are anticipated by the reduction of staff and other proposals of the Retrenchment Commission in regard to the Railway Department.

These proposals have, it is understood, been accepted by the Railway management on the assumption that there will be no appreciable increase of traffic, and that if there is a marked improvement in traffic, consequent on the introduction of the Motor Ordinance, it will be absolutely essential to augment the staff at the various stations and goods sheds.

The strength of the Railway clerical service, as indicated in the estimates for the current financial year, is 1,351. The retrenchment proposals suggest the down-grading of a number of posts and a reduction of 31 posts.

The Retrenchment Commissioners state that in most cases the suggestion for economies emanated from the Railway officials themselves.

ALL-CEYLON MANGO SHOW

In Jaffna on July 14 and 15

The All-Ceylon Mango Show organised by the Jaffna District Mango Growers' Association will be held at the Jaffna Hindu College on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th July.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held recently Mr. S. K. Thuraisingham, Agricultural Officer, Jaffna and Mr. Cosmas W. D. Alwines were appointed Show Secretaries. Mr. W. F. Ratnagopal was elected Ground Secretary. The original date of 30th June and 1st July had to be altered as it was felt that Mangoes would not be in season at that time. Arrangements are being made to exhibit mangoes even from India and Java. At present mangoes from Bombay are finding a wide market in Europe. The modern methods adopted by the merchants of Bombay to ship mangoes will be shown. The Advance Catalogue of the Show is in the hands of the printers and will be issued in a few days. The varieties of mangoes listed are comprehensive. The judges will find it a hard task to select the best of the bunch, especially when a number of delicious varieties are offered for competition.

A number of Firms exhibiting manures, agricultural implements etc. are booking stalls. In order to give a chance to the small trader, the officials of the Show are charging very low rates as stall rents. Negotiations are also afoot to persuade makers of radios to give demonstrations and make Jaffna radio-minded.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1939

THE POWERS AND PRIVILEGES BILL

THE STATE COUNCIL HAS passed the Powers and Privileges Bill with the objectionable clauses unmodified, and it is only the Governor's veto that can now prevent the Bill from becoming law. We have on a previous occasion dwelt on the objectionable features of the Bill and made it plain to our readers how these features might prove a menace to the liberty of the subject. It is rather unfortunate that the State Council should have disregarded public criticism and persisted in enacting all those clauses which seek to vest in the Council unheard of powers which will make of the assembly a sacrosanct body irresponsible to outside opinion and immune from the salutary restraints of the law. The Bill is evidently uncalled for as a measure in defence of the prestige and dignity of the legislature, which needs no other defence except the high standard of honour and efficiency which the members maintain in its proceedings. It is only by falling away from that standard which can bring the State Council into contempt and provoke criticism and exposure. If the Council attracts within its doors men who look upon membership not as a career for themselves, as many seem to do at present, but as an opportunity for public service, which not a few seem to forget, there will be no occasion for vitulent criticism, much less for scathing attack and insinuation. Any attempt to shield the State Council against well-merited criticism and exposure, far from enhancing its prestige, will only tend to lower its standards and undermine the confidence and respect of the public. The past record of the State Council, its lack of a sense of responsibility and weakness for group psychology, give us no ground for believing that these powers will be allowed to lapse by disuse and will not be utilised for the suppression of free criticism. Rather, taking shelter behind its provision, some member may assume the privilege of slandering some citizen who owes him a grudge or of harassing some

press critic for his outspoken writings.

We do feel that certain objectionable clauses in the Bill ought to have been removed. In the interest of free criticism, the Governor will do well to send the Bill back to the House with a recommendation that these clauses be removed or at least substantially modified. The clause regarding freedom of speech within the House is a serious encroachment on the liberty of the subject. For by placing all statements and allegations, of whatever character they may be, outside the purview of the courts of law, it may confer on individual members the licence to make defamatory statements. The public will in that case be deprived of any legal remedy. It is not safe to trust the honour of individual members of the House and hope that the privilege will never be abused. The law should not allow any loophole for the abuse of its provisions by irresponsible individuals. Another clause in the Bill constitutes the State Council into a sort of Star Chamber with powers to summon any member of the public to appear before it and produce any documents, even of a private character, and to impose penalties for disobedience. This provision also, we feel no doubt, is a serious inroad into the rights of the public. There is no guarantee that judicial forms of procedure will be observed in the State Council or that the findings of the Council will be free from prejudice. The Council should not arrogate to itself the powers to require a member of the public to produce a private document or to divulge a private source of information. If a member of the House or the House as a whole is maligned or unjustly assailed, the best course would be to seek a legal remedy. In a court of law one can always be sure that the ordinary forms of procedure will be scrupulously observed and that justice will not be prejudiced. Besides in every case an appeal lies to a higher tribunal. It is a salutary principle of law that no individual or body of persons should be placed above the restraints of the law. The provision for checking corruption among members of the council also makes a discrimination in their favour by making the penalty one of fine without the option of imprisonment, whereas a private person is liable to either. This privilege also should not be allowed, though the occasion may seldom rise for the enforcement of this provision. Mr. FREEMAN in his minute of dissent has made it plain that it is unsafe to vest such powers and privileges in the State Council, and it is now open to the Governor to use his veto and safeguard the liberties of the public.

CEYLON STANDS STILL

EDUCATIONAL REVOLUTION ALL OVER WORLD

LECTURES ON WARDHA SCHEME OF EDUCATION

THAT while all the world over, new methods and new educational experiments had been tried and adopted, he was distressed to find that nothing new in the educational sphere in Ceylon had been attempted during the last 25 years, said Mr. E. W. Ariyanayagam, M.A. Secretary Hindustani T. Limi Singh, Wardha, who with Mrs. Ariyanayagam is here on a short holiday, in the course of a public address delivered by him at the Jaffna Central College Hill. The address which was under the auspices of the Northern Province Teachers' Association was presided over by Mr. A. Gomaraswamy.

The chairman invited Mrs. Ariyanayagam to address the gathering first.

Mrs. Ariyanayagam speaking said that education must have a national basis and a rural bias. They at Wardha proposed to call Elementary education basic education. The Wardha scheme might be described as a scheme of basic rural national education. Western civilisation was of the industrial type but India was a land of villages. "Our civilisation is rural and the village is the Unit of our culture. Mahatma Gandhi's hut in Warcha is in the midst of 600 huts"

Outline of Scheme

The outline of the Wardha scheme might be summed up thus. Education should be free and compulsory for all children between the ages 7 to 14, that basic education should be imparted through the mother tongue and that all knowledge should be centred round some form of productive activity. Mahatmaji had carried to the logical conclusion the result of many an educational experiment like the Project method, etc. to centre Education round some handicraft.

It was a common psychological and educational truth that by combining manual labour and education they were harmonising the mind and body. Culture of the intellect must be centred round work and according to Gandhiji the work must be of the productive type. They were determined to eliminate the stigma attached to productive work.

They were preparing children for life and their education must be correlated and integrated to the realities of life. In India it was possible to relate the child to handicrafts and such handicrafts must in the first place be educative and secondly it must have a place in the economy of national life. They must utilise the raw materials available in the country and work on lines suited to local tradition and produce things of national utility.

The physical life must be adapted not only to the educational environment but to the social environment. The craft selected must be adaptable to scientific

study, must correlate the hand and the brain, train the keenness of the eye and the mind and rouse the spirit of intellectual curiosity. In such a scheme Inspectors could not be critics but should be guides and advisers.

Weaving was an invariably Common craft in India and round cotton they had, said the speaker, evolved a syllabus in Arithmetic, History, Geography, Economics and civics intelligible to the growing villager.

Before concluding Mrs. Ariyanayagam stressed the fact that what they aimed at was an educational revolution based on a new social philosophy. They were evolving a new order of Society based on Truth Justice and Service (applause)

Ceylon Going West

Mr. Ariyanayagam on being invited to address the gathering did so in Tamil.

Mr. Ariyanayagam said that when the Secretary invited him to speak that evening he (speaker) almost declined it as he felt that no useful purpose could be served.

Every time he had visited Jaffna, he was distressed to find that the country was deeply engrossed in the adoption of false and artificial standards of life based on imitation of Western life. Westernisation of the schools and colleges in the island had ruined it and made the teachers an army of spineless and supine men with no sense of national consciousness or self-respect. They merely took orders from the western or westernised principals. Ceylon including Jaffna was the only country in the world where nothing new in the form of educational experiments had been attempted for the last 25 years.

Referring to the Jaffna teachers, the speaker said that it pained him to note that men who had grown grey in the profession allowed themselves to be led by raw and junior missionaries who had no knowledge of the educational need of the country. He was also surprised to note that Hindu Colleges and schools had not thought of formulating and adopting a national scheme of education suited to the genius of the people.

It was painful for him (speaker) to see his countrymen going about attired in foreign costume and yet talking about self-government. Ceylon lacked a national outlook. In India a great deal of emphasis was being laid on the wearing of Kaddar which was the symbol of the awakened national consciousness of the people. In the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Kaddar was the "livery of freedom". They in Ceylon should discard European clothes for their own livery of freedom. (Applause).

Continuing the speaker said that in India the social and educational revolution formed an integral part of the Congress programme. According to Gandhiji who in his (speaker) opinion was the greatest living Christian. Education must be correlated to everyday life and must lead the children to prepare themselves for life lessons in self-respect.

Living at Wardha in a small hut which had been put up at the magnificent cost of Rs. 120/- Gandhiji held out to India—the ashramic ideal. He was privileged to live in a hut about 100 Yds. away from Gandhiji and to derive

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UNITED STATES WELCOME THEIR MAJESTIES

Anglo U. S. Example to World

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TOASTS THEIR MAJESTIES

Washington, June 8

PRESIDENT Roosevelt, proposing the toast of Their Majesties at tonight's State banquet, said that the entire United States welcomed the King and Queen of Great Britain, their neighbour Canada and all the far-flung British Commonwealth of Nations. It was an occasion for festivities, but it was also fitting to give thanks for the bonds of friendship linking their two peoples.

He was persuaded that the great single contribution their two countries were enabled to make to civilisation and the welfare of the peoples of the world, was the example they jointly set by their manner of conducting their relations.

Because each nation lacked fear of the other, they had not fortified the borders between them, and because neither feared aggression on the part of the other, they entered into no race of armaments, one against the other.

Mr. Roosevelt concluded, "May this understanding between our countries grow ever closer and may our friendship prosper."

King's Reply

The King replying thanked Mr. Roosevelt for his kind invitation and still kinder welcome.

He said that they were deeply touched by the manner in which Washington had already received them.

They expected to enjoy every minute of their remaining time in the United States.

"From Canada I bring you the warm greetings of a neighbour and trusted friend; from my other Dominions, the United Kingdom and all my Empire I carry to you expressions of the utmost cordiality and goodwill."

He wished Mr. Roosevelt every possible health and happiness, and trusted and believed that the future history of the United States would continue to be marked by the order, progress and prosperity which had been theirs in the past.

He concluded: "I pray that our great nation may ever in the future walk together along the path of friendship in world peace."

Rule Issued on Proctor

Sequel to Jaffna Conviction

Colombo, Saturday.

The Supreme Court has issued a Rule on J. M. T. Cooke, of Jaffna, to shew cause why he should not be struck off the roll of proctor.

Cooke was convicted in the District Court of Jaffna, on Janu-

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Programme

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

Monday, the 12th June, 1939

6 p.m. Film Hits.
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Karnatic Instrumental Music

Tuesday, the 13th June 1939

6 p.m. Orchestral Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements.
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music

Wednesday, the 14th June 1939

6 p.m. Violin
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Flute Recital by Vidwan Rangappa, accompanied by Vidwan Subrahmanyam, (Violin) & Vidwan Ramiiah, (Mridangam)

Thursday, the 15th June 1939

6 p.m. Comic Selections arranged by Mr. M. V. Madappa
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Radio Play: "Chandra Hasa" by Sri Saraswathi Prasadika Nataka Sabha, conducted by Mr. M. V. Sivappa

Ceylon Stands Still

(Continued from page 4)

inspiration from that greatest of teachers.

Mr. S. H. Perinpanayagam in proposing a vote of thanks to the speakers, said that he always thought of them as one soul in two bodies working with a united purpose for the achievement of one ideal. After referring to the great service being performed by Mr. Ariyanayagam in India, he expressed the hope that within a few years he and his wife would settle down in Ceylon and give a lead to the cultural and educational reorientation of the Island.

On the 22nd last, of a charge of criminal breach of trust in respect of a sum of Rs. 300, entrusted to him by Mr. S. Nalliah, of Kondavil, Jaffna, for investment, and was sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of the Court and fined Rs. 400.

The matter will come up on June 19th before a Divisional Bench of three Judges.

King's Birthday Celebration

Children Have A Happy Time

CELEBRATION of the King's Birthday on Thursday began in Jaffna with a ceremonial parade at the police grounds by the cadets of St. John's College and St. Patrick's College, under the command of Lieutenants M. Jacob and D. C. Arulanandam. Mr. R. B. Naish, Government Agent, took the salute.

Later there was a scout display at the Jaffna Central College grounds by the scouts of Jaffna Central, St. John's, Jaffna Hindu and Kilner Colleges. Mr. R. R. Nalliah took the salute.

In the afternoon the vernacular schools held a sports meet at the Jaffna Central College grounds. The children who numbered nearly two thousand were treated to refreshments by the Birthday Celebrations Committee. Mrs. R. B. Nalliah distributed the prizes.

At Point Pedro

Point Pedro, Friday.

The King's Birthday was celebrated on a very grand scale at Point Pedro. The celebrations commenced with the saluting of the flag at 2 p.m. at the Hartley College Playground which was gaily decorated for the occasion. There was then a Parade by the Police force who turned out smartly under Sub-Inspector M. M. A. Cathar. After the hoisting of the Union Jack there was spectacular March Past of the Police Force and the Scout Troop of the Hartley College. Mr. W. Richard D. de Silva the Point Pedro Magistrate, took the salute and inspected the company and troop. The Chief Headman, Udayas and the Minor Headmen were all present in ceremonial dress.

The next item that followed was the sports meet which included various items for the Schools, ladies the Officers and the public. Mrs. W. Richard D. de Silva distributed the prizes. Sweets were freely distributed to the children in paper bags printed specially for the occasion. Then speeches were made by Mr. W. Richard D. de Silva the Magistrate, Mr. P. Nadesan, Sanitary Inspector, Pt. Pedro and Mr. N. Sivagnanasundaram, Advocate, the Secretary of the Sports Meet.

A procession headed by the Magistrate went along the Main Road which was gaily decorated and illuminated for the occasion. Two bands of Tamil Musicians played throughout the procession which ended at the Magistrate's bungalow which was brilliantly illuminated electrically for the night. There was a fine display of fireworks and light refreshments were served. At the end of the proceedings cheers were called for His Majesty the King by Mr. W. Richard D. de Silva and the spectators joined in the cheering.

Later the Officials of the different Committees entertained Mr. W. Richard D. de Silva to a Dinner at the Rest House and the party broke up later in the night. (Cor.)

At Mallakam

Mallakam, June 9.

The Birthday of His Majesty King George VI was celebrated at Mallakam English School in a fitting manner.

The proceedings began at 9 a.m. when the pupils and the staff assembled for prayer in the school

INDO-CEYLON PROBLEMS

Round Table Conference for Solution

Colombo, Saturday.

A Round Table Conference between representatives of the Indian and Ceylon Governments in order to discuss, inter alia, the problem of Indian immigration and trade between the two countries, "so that a satisfactory solution of these problems may be evolved" is suggested in a State Council motion, notice of which was given at yesterday's meeting by Mr. G. E. de Silva (Kandy).

New Agricultural Ordinance

Colombo, Saturday,

The Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands recommended yesterday that the Ordinance for the grading of agricultural produce and the Ordinance for the licensing of agricultural produce agents should be introduced without delay in the State Council.

These two ordinances and another for the organisation of primary produce and marketing were suggested by Mr. R. H. Bassett, Commissioner for the Development of Agricultural Marketing.

A sub-Committee of the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands appointed to consider the three proposed Ordinances, recommended the acceptance of the first two ordinances and the rejection of the third ordinance.

Coconut Pavilion at Madhu Camp

The Ceylon Coconut Products Pavilion at Madhu Camp will be formally opened by Mr. R. Sri Pathmanathan, M. A. (Oxon) M. S. C., Member for Mannar and Mullaitivu, on the 23rd instant at 4.30 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Sri Pathmanathan and other visitors present will be entertained to tea by Mr. M. M. Alexander, the officer-in-charge.

This was followed by sports which began at about 9.30 a.m.

The school was divided into four houses viz. Rose, Lotus, Lily, Jasmine. The pupils took part in various items such as Dashes, Relay race, sack race, three-legged race, jumps, arithmetic race and tug of war. The Rose House were duly declared champions amidst thunderous cheers.

The school children were served with light refreshments. A meeting was held in the school hall with the Headmaster in the chair. The Headmaster in the opening address spoke on the significance of the day and the necessity of celebrating it. Messrs. P. Kanagasabai and K. Somasunderam spoke on "The King's Life" and "Loyalty to the King" respectively. The next day was declared a holiday by the Head Master at the request of the pupils. The meeting came to close at about 12.30 P. M. with the singing of Devaram.

(Cor.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE REPATRIATION SCHEME

Sir,—The Tamil members of the State Council, at least some of them, may not be fully aware of the far-reaching consequences of the decision of the Ceylon Government to give effect to the repatriation scheme. The approval of the State Council for the scheme is due to the fact that the majority of the members in the Council belong to a community which will be the last to be adversely affected and perhaps the most to be benefitted by the scheme. It is the Tamils who will be the greatest losers in the long run as the result of the scheme, and whether a fair number of the unemployed Tamils will be benefitted by the scheme is yet to be seen.

A timely warning has come from India and if the Ceylon Government is determined to ignore it and persist in the policy already planned out without any appreciable foresight, one can easily imagine what the result is likely to be. It is not easy to find out whether the Indians or the Ceylonese have been benefiting more by the relationship that has existed between the two countries all this time. But it cannot be denied that there has been mutual benefit and that the repatriation scheme will be detrimental more to the interests of the Tamils than to those of any other race in Ceylon.

The All-India Congress Committee feels as one would have expected that the scheme is unjust, unfair and precipitate. There are other ways of helping the unemployed Ceylonese, and it is up to the Government of Ceylon to find out ways and means of doing it. Instead of doing so, it is pursuing a suicidal policy in irritating a country which has been helping Ceylon in a variety of ways. It may be that Ceylonese are not employed in India in such a large number as the Indians in Ceylon. But we should not overlook the fact that the two countries are bound to each other by ancient ties and that even now they are united in religion and culture. In India Ceylon has the most easily accessible market for her goods, and if there is no mutual friendship and goodwill between the two countries, we can easily imagine what our fate is likely to be.

The relationship between India and Ceylon has not recently been what it was in the past on account of the question of franchise to Indians in Ceylon and due to the tax on some articles like ghee and the so-called dumping of Ceylon coconut products to the disadvantage and loss of the Indian industry. The Indian Government is sure to resort to some retaliatory measures which are bound to be very prejudicial to the interests of the Ceylonese. The Ceylon Government had recourse to a method of removing or reducing a state of affairs and has thereby caused another more serious to crop up in its place. Some of us who are lacking in foresight may have a temporary satisfaction that a fair number of the unemployed Ceylonese are going to get employed in consequence of the repatriation scheme, without taking into account what this scheme is going

to mean to us in the not distant future, unless the Indian Government is made to feel that the repatriation scheme is to be put into effect not with a view to doing any wilful harm to the Indians but in self-defence and at a time when the Ceylon Government is unable to think of or discover any other practicable alternative.

India and Ceylon are bound to be interdependent for ever, and it will be wise statesmanship not to do anything more than what is absolutely imperative for the welfare of the latter without at the same time doing anything detrimental to the interests of the former. It is only then that the Ceylon Government can be said to be managing its affairs with prudence, tact and foresight. May we hope that the two Governments will see eye to eye in regard to this matter, so that there may not be any serious misunderstanding which may result in a heavy loss to this country politically, economically, commercially or in any other way.

Tellippalai

9-6-39

Spectator.

எலியைப்போக்கை

Sir,—'Murukar Amman' says that the Vahanam of Ganesha 'is not எலி but பெருச்சாணி, the bandy-coote' and at the same time he admits that in Sanskrit 'Ganesha was known as Mooshika Vahana and Mooshika is rat.' I am afraid 'Amman' is self-contradictory.

பெருச்சாணி (Bandycoote) is no other than பன்றிஎலி a large-sized rat and Amman would have this modern regarded as belonging to a different genus!

When the question of எலி is under discussion Amman takes a wide stride off it and talks about the 10th century A. D. as if he is an authority on mythological dates.

Kravungen, a Khandharva King became transformed (according to Hindu mythology) into a rat as a result of a curse pronounced by Sawpari Muni and the transformed rat went on committing the mischief of burrowing into alters when Vinayagar (Pillayar) commandeered the rat to his service as Vahana.

Does Amman claim that this occurred some time before the arrival of Portuguese in Ceylon?

Avvai was a contemporary of Tiruvalluvar and Tirukural was anterior to Manimekalai and Silappatikaram. The date of the latter works could be fixed in the light thrown by the Mahavamsa. Avvai's works can by no means be assigned to a date later than the beginning of the Christian era and Avvai invokes the aid of Vinayagar in her works.

Therefore it is clear that M. Amman is wrong in assigning the 11th century A. D. to Pillayar worship.

I have seen no authority which sanctions the word எலி to de-

vote the sheep. The correct word is செம்மலி and எலி has been used to express common gender. செம்மலி is in corrupt usage in the remote villages and that only by illiterate shepherd boys.

Yours etc.,
Antiquarian Student

Rajakadalawe,
7-6-39.

Closing of Jaffna Ports for Goods Traffic

Sir,—It is very painful to hear that the Jaffna Ports will be closed for goods traffic with India and other countries. While the people of Jaffna urge the necessity of opening the Northern Ports, or at least one Port for the present for passenger traffic with India, the authorities decide to close them for goods traffic. Where was the fear, that plague would break out, for the past several years? The reason that there are no appliances for fumigation in Jaffna Ports cannot be justified. Why Fumigation cannot be established in these Ports when they yield a revenue of about twenty lakhs of rupees a year? One of the reasons is that in Jaffna thousands of people depend upon the earning derived from importing paddy, rice etc. and that they should be deprived of their earning, and to give room for further starvation and unemployment in Jaffna. If these Ports are closed what are these poor men to do and what is to be done with the hundreds of cargo boats, carts, and lorries etc? This is one of the tricks of the trade.

Can you, Sir, use your powerful pen to rid the poor of this menace?

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
A. THEEDHANA MOORTHY.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

(Held at Point Pedro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 99/Pt.

In the matter of the estate of the late Sithihiraledshumy widow of Saravanamuttu of Imayanan
Deceased.

Saravanamuttu Senathirajah of Imayanan
Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal before S. Rodrigo Esquire Additional District Judge on the 25 day of May 1939 in the presence of Mr. V. Somasundram 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 declared entitled to take out letters of Administration as the sole heir of the deceased and that letters of administration be issued to him unless any person shall appear before this Court on or before the 22nd day of June 1939 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 25th day of May 1939
(Sgd.) S. Rodrigo,
Addl District Judge.

(O15, 8&12-6-39.)

REFORMS DEBATE RESUMED

(Continued from Page 2)

wanted to have the Indians segregated.

The amendment was then put to the House and declared carried, the Council dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Messrs C. W. W. Kannangara, D. S. Senanayake, Bandaranaike, Corea, Abeygunasekara, Aluwihare Amarasuriya, G. E. de Silva, H. A. Gunasekera, D. D. Gunasekera, Neil Hewavitarna, A. P. Jayasuriya, R. C. Kannangara, Kuruppu, Newham, Nugawela, Oldfield, Parfitt, Dudley Senanayake Tambimuttu, Tennekoon and Villiers.—23.

Noes: Dr. A. P. de Zoysa, Messrs. Francis de Zoysa, Freeman, D. P. R. Gunawardena, Jayah, Mahadeva, Natesa Iyer, Natesan, Sri Pathmanathan, I. X. Persira, N. M. Perera, Ponnambalam, Rajapakse, Vytilingam, Wille and Mrs. Saravanamuttu.—16.

Declined to Vote: R. S. S. Gunawardena.—1.

Muslim Interests

Mr. T. B. Jayah (Nominated) then moved the following amendment:

(a) That after the words "minority communities" in the first line, the following be inserted:—"in a scheme in which the Muslim community will have 8 seats in a Council of 68 members."

(b) That after the words "adequate representation" in the last line the following be inserted.

"of the Muslim interest and"

Having dwelt at some length on the interest the Muslims had taken in elections in days gone by, he recalled the part they had played in the election of a member to the Educated Ceylonese Seat in the Legislative Council when the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan was returned to the Council, his opponent on that occasion being the late Dr. H. Marcus Fernando. The Muslims had also taken part in the deliberations of the Ceylon National Congress and had supported the decisions of that body in connection with the political advancement of the country. Even when the Tamils seceded from the Congress the Muslims continued to remain in its fold.

The political changes that were introduced under the Manning Constitution, he observed, opened the eyes of the Muslims and they had made an effort to give their boys and girls the necessary educational facilities.

The Council, at this stage (7.30 p.m.) adjourned till 2.0 p.m. tomorrow.

T E E O N

SURVEY OF PORTS IN THE NORTH

Shoals Discovered

H. M. S. "Stork" resumed the surveys of the approaches to the Port of Jaffna in the middle of September. The survey of West Channel was completed and a number of shoals discovered. It is proposed to buoy these shoals as a warning to vessels, says the Chairman of the Colombo Port Commission in his Administration Report for the year 1938. The report further says:

Tondaimannar anchorage was also surveyed. The results of this survey indicate that there are three rocks with less than six feet of water over them in the main approach to Tondaimannar and that the bridge is approached through a tortuous channel with an average depth of about 2 to 3 feet. The Officer Commanding H. M. S. "Stork" is of opinion that it would be an expensive business to dredge out a channel into Tondaimannar to admit vessels up to 10 feet and that in anything but a moderate North East Monsoon this channel would be too dangerous for vessels to use unless protected by a breakwater.

The survey of Pedro channel has been carried out to a point about 10 miles South-East from Point Pedro Lighthouse leaving about 15 more miles of this channel to complete the survey. H. M. S. "Stork" will not be available to complete this survey but it is hoped that the Admiralty may be able to spare another vessel for the purpose sometime in 1939.

The result of these surveys is in process of being incorporated in the Admiralty Charts and all changes of importance have been promulgated in Notices of Mariners.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 735. In the Matter of the Estate of the late S. T. Thomas of Chapel street, Jaffna Deceased. Victoria Thomas, widow of S. T. Thomas, 4th Cross street

Vs. Petitioner.

- (1) Mary Hermerue Dhanapakkiam, minor, of 4th Cross street, Jaffna
- (2) Raphielpillai Rajadurai of Alveddy

Respondents

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor, 1st respondent, and praying for letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy, Esq., District Judge, Jaffna, on May 10, 1939, in the presence of Mr. V. K. Subramaniam, Proctor for petitioner; and the affidavit of the petitioner dated May 10, 1939, having been read: It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the said minor; and it is further ordered that the petitioner, as the widow of the deceased, is entitled to have letters of administration to the estate of the said deceased issued to her accordingly, unless the abovenamed respondents or any others shall, on or before June 21, 1939, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

C. COOMARASWAMY,
District Judge.

May 15, 1939.
(O 16, 12 & 15-6-39)

INDIA TODAY

(Continued from page 1)

for the sake of their work, and embracing Brahmacharya. The value of a teaching given by a staff of that category cannot be overestimated. Whereas the natural tendency of a paid teacher who has chosen his profession mostly for the sake of earning a salary is to cram book-knowledge into his pupils in order to show good results at various examinations, those devoted young people, who are patriots in the truest and noblest sense of the word, are endeavouring to build up men and women who many prove a credit and an asset to their country. The enthusiasm and the remarkable technical efficiency with which I have seen them work is one of the main reasons why I have such great hopes in the coming generations of Indians.

Another great reason for looking confidently forward to the future of India is that in spite of the considerable spread of Western science, technique and culture, the thirst for spirituality remains practically unabated. It is only natural that young and immature students especially, attracted by the lure of what the West can teach them, anxious to give their country the full benefit of the power and knowledge accumulated by Western nations, should be ready, or even desirous, to brush away some at least of the spiritual pre-occupation which have been the keynote of India through many centuries, and should feel inclined to substitute for the old Indian spirit of service that spirit of keen competition which has become characteristic of the West. They may justly feel that this spirit of competition was one of the conditions without which the West would never have advanced so far and so fast in the realms of science and technique and worldly power. But many of them, even in their student days, and far more still in after life, have discovered under the wise guidance of their great spiritual leaders that Western acquisitions and Indian spirituality are not mutually exclusive. While the West probably needed the incentive of that spirit of competition to make all those wonderful scientific discoveries and technical inventions thanks to which we could now— for the first time in recorded history—feed and clothe and house all men, women and children on the face of this earth, it is nevertheless true that the results of all that research are now available for any individual and any nation to take and to use, without needing the incentive.

And it is equally true that if the West has so utterly failed to utilise its wealth and power for the benefit of humanity, but rather uses them for purposes of destruction, it is because it has not yet been able to disentangle itself from that spirit of competition which was once one of its most valuable tools. Many people in India seem to realise that the spirit of service and the thirst for spirituality which their country has preserved throughout the ages for the greater benefit of mankind can and should provide the answer to the great riddle of the modern world and show how the invaluable acquisitions of Western

science and technique can be put to truly constructive uses.

Therefore it was most gratifying to me to see so many of the finest specimens of Indian youth and of the Indian intelligentsia still flocking to all the spiritual teachers to obtain instruction and guidance in all the problems of life, and eagerly taking the advice given.

Another extremely encouraging indication is to be found in the type of men whom the various groups in India, political and otherwise, have chosen as their leaders. Whereas in the West astuteness and clever oratory are too often considered as the highest qualifications for political leadership, regardless of the spiritual, ethical or even intellectual worth of the man—so much so that in some countries, calling somebody a politician is tantamount to an insult—India seems to have preserved an entirely different scale of values, even in the great recent developments in the political situation. If India can maintain at the head of all groups and parties men who are exclusively actuated by an interest in the public weal, and whose character commands respect from their fellow-countrymen, irrespective of their opinions on debatable topics, she will have brought one more invaluable contribution to mankind, not to speak of all the benefit she will derive from it herself.

It is true that of late there have been some charges of corruption. If they are founded, it is a very serious matter, and if they are not, it is perhaps more alarming still that they should have been made. But the stir which they created is a definite proof that in this as in other matters, the masses are still healthy and uncontaminated.

As regards the problem of caste restrictions, which still looms sufficiently large on the social horizon of India to engage much of the attention of many great leaders, I will frankly admit that I have not been able to study it enough to give any considered opinion on what has been done or remains to be done, although I am full of admiration for many of the activities I have witnessed in this connection. The same applies to the various problems arising out of the adjustment of communal differences.

I was glad to see that the inferiority complex which was manifest mostly among the young people educated on Western lines is gradually waning. Indians are now less prone than they were even a few years ago to be apologetic for everything that in their country does not conform to Western standards. They seem less inclined to use about Indian life deprecatory words like "idols" or "vernaculars" with which they were saddled by people suffering from a sad superiority complex. They no longer seem to believe that India is the only country in the world where dirt and filth and dire poverty can be found and that Western countries and people are all like the pictures on the magazine-cover. Many of them now admit that forks and spoons are not a sure criterion of civilisation or even of social standing, and that table-manners should

RECIPIENTS OF BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Ceylon's share of this year's King's Birthday Honours includes a Companionship of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George for Mr. G. S. Wodeham, the Deputy Chief Secretary.

Among the other Imperial honours conferred on Ceylon residents are four Empire Orders in the Civil Division and one in the Military Division.

Dr. A. M. de Silva, the Colombo surgeon, has been awarded a C.B.E., and Mudaliyar A. C. G. S. Amerasekera, the well-known artist, receives the O. B. E., while Mrs. Alice Kotalawala receives the M.B.E. Mr. R. Sivagnanam, of Nuwara Eliya, is another recipient of the M.B.E.

An M.B.E. in the Military Division has been awarded to Lieut. H. M. Cadman, of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps.

Imperial Service Orders have been conferred on Mr. C. V. Gooneratne, Superintendent of Police, Criminal Investigation Department, Mr. J. J. Jacob, the Deputy Auditor-General and Mr. A. Visvanadhar, extra Office Assistant, Jaffna Kacheri.

Local Honours

The local honours conferred by His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of the King's Birthday include six Justices of the Peace, one Disawa, two Gate Mudaliyars, one Gate Muhandiram, four Mudaliyars and ten Muhandirams.

The following are among those who have been conferred local honours:

J. P. for the Northern Province
Mr. Ramalingam Chintamani.

Gate Muhandiram (Tamil)
Suriya Cumara Nitchinga Senathiraya Naganatha Adigar Thaudigai Canaganayagam.

(Mudaliyar Tamil)
Ponniabpillai Rajagopal.

Muhandirams
Duttu Kanagasundaram
Ponnampalam Narayanan.

vary with the kind of food taken at meals.

On the other hand I found little or no decline in what I might call the spirit of provincialism, particularly in the case of people from one province who have come to live in another. Indians too often look down with something akin to contempt on the people, the customs, the language, the art, the food, the culture of whatever does not hail from their own native region. While that is quite natural in a country where family, caste and local traditions are so strong and have contributed so much that is of great value, it nevertheless might some day prove a source of serious problems and even lead to the appearing of linguistic and ethnical minorities in various provinces. A European who knows what terrible calamities the existence of such minorities

(Continued on Page 8)

INDIA TODAY

(Continued from Page 7)

cities has led to may be excused if he expresses the hope that such a situation should never arise in India and that steps should be taken in good time to prevent it

Generally speaking, and with many notable exception, I also found little improvement in the Indian's sense of the value of time. I fully realise that all his traditions, religious and otherwise, have taught him to appreciate values for which the purely quantitative notion of time does not play a preponderant part, and that he is not trained to work "against the watch," and I am only too well aware of the fact that Westerners have gone to the other extreme and made a sad confusion between perpetual agitation and constructive activity. But in spite of that, and whatever philosophical or metaphysical excuses may be adduced by well-intentioned people, it remains a fact that if we want to achieve anything on the physical plane on which most of us still live, we must make the best possible use of the materials at our disposal, and time is one of them. When

Indians have learnt not to waste their own or other people's time any more than is really necessary, their country will make a bigger step forward than most of them can possibly imagine.

The last few points however are of very minor importance as compared with the preceding ones, and in a country with such vast potentialities, such a capacity for whole-hearted devotion to a high ideal and such strong foundations in a noble civilisation thousands of years old, they are easy to remedy. Even if they should not be completely removed, they can at the most very slightly retard the full blossoming out of one of the most magnificent periods which Mother India has known in the course of time, and which even a very superficial observer cannot fail to see coming in the near future.

(Prabuddha Bharata)

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