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OUR INDIAN LETTER

MADMAN, MAGICIAN OR MYSTIC?

Twisting the Elephant's Tail

(By Lanka)

Madras, June 8.

BANIA that he is and admits himself to be. Mahatma Gandhi has always in his actions allowed the trait of striking bargains to dominate. Bania is Hindustani for the Chetty class or traders and connotes the Chetty trait of striking bargains. Of course in the Mahatma's case it does not descend to taking mean advantage of the opponent but it really is having an eye to obtain the maximum benefit. The recent actions from the Mahatmic quarter that have so much puzzled friend and foe alike have all this Bania trait as their basis. When he retreated from the victorious position afforded by the Gwyer Award at Rajkot and put on sack cloth and ashes and made sundry uncomfortable confessions of failure and defeat and *himsa* it was the true bania that functioned. Circumstances had not been too kind to Gandhiji in the Rajkot affair, in spite of the temporary victory, and things began to look very black indeed all round. His purpose was the good of the people as he conceived it to be, and was he to be balked of the fruit of his plans? His own personality and pride he put in the background and struck out on a new line to attain his object. The whole world was confounded and called him either a charlatan or a mad man. Only a few knew his real mind and the plan he had set for his purpose. To those who hated his methods he was now a failure, self-condemned and complete. Some of his closest associates began to feel depressed at the sight of this General practically giving up the fight. Jawaharlal, though he expressed his inability to understand the ways of the Mahatma in regard to recent actions, stated the fact of the real inwardness of the situation when he wrote that woo-

ing the opponent was invariably the precedent of a tremendous struggle in the plans of Gandhiji. Behind Gandhiji's apparently foolish and self-abasing statements and actions is the grim determination to play his part in the liberation of his people. Mystic, magician, fanatic, diplomat, statesman, seer, saviour, he is all rolled into one, this man Gandhi. When things begin to become hot or inconvenient in one quarter astutely enough he would start a hare, if affairs go awry he would start a course of self-torture, if the opponent proves a tough customer he would draw a red herring across the trail; by this and like means Gandhiji attains for his people what he thinks is for their good. They know not that he is all the time working for them and many of them often abuse him and heap contumely on the poor man. He knows it all, the clever man that he is. If he were otherwise would the people on all occasions seek or look for his help, as they invariably do, whether friend or foe? His opponents heap ridicule on him because they feel he would get them what they want. Read between the lines of leaders to see that everyone of them, in spite of his or her own position, would rather that Gandhiji did this or that or the other thing. If Gandhiji is the most misunderstood man in Modern India he is the most successful man too.

PERHAPS two decades ago when there was an attempt in Madras among the circle of Ceylonese residents, when a good many of them occupied high places in government and other services, to organise an Association, wise heads at the helm quietly snuffed out the idea. The fear was that needless attention would be drawn to the fact of Ceylonese holding important places in the Indian

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OUR SHORT STORY

THE RAJPUT WARRIOR

BY S. R. MUTTUKUMARU

ABDULLAH Mirza, Governor of Chandahar, was a young Moghul noble keenly addicted to the sports of the field. He had built an elegant mansion in a village on the borders of the jungle, to which he occasionally retired when disposed to enjoy the pleasures of the chase, especially hunting the tiger and the rhinoceros—both dangerous pastimes, and therefore the more acceptable to the tastes of eastern princes.

Abdullah was scarcely more than twenty years of age, with a remarkably fine appearance; but, as is very often the case with men of rank, when their depravity is aided and abetted by the graces of person, he was grossly addicted to the most debasing pleasures, the excessive indulgence of which is no less forbidden in the moral code of Mohamet than in the canons of any other religion. He was, therefore, extremely unpopular among the Hindu chiefs who resided in the provinces under his jurisdiction, owing to the tyranny he exercised over them, frequently tearing daughters away from the arms of their parents and adding them to the number of his degraded favourites.

II

Bulwunt Singh was a Rajput who boasted of his descent from the royal line of his race. Though greatly reduced in circumstances, he was far more haughty than poor. Like the high blooded members of his tribe, he was proud of the distinction that belonged to the name of a Rajput. Nothing could bend the inflexible stubbornness of his pride. He was a noble specimen of the high minded and independent Rajput. His personal appearance was not less imposing than his mental calibre. Though at this time he was of the age of forty five, he was tall and muscular, remarkably erect, and quite capable of enduring the extremes of fatigue, privation and of physical pain.

For years this Rajput had been deprived of his sight. An

arrow discharged by him at a deer during the chase in his younger days had glanced from a tree and entered his eye. The supervening inflammation was communicated to the other eye, and total loss of sight was the consequence. Notwithstanding so severe an affliction, and so great an impediment to his practice of archery, in which he had always shown prodigious skill, he did not forego the exercise of his favourite pastime. Such was his acquired dexterity in the course of years, that he could hit a pigeon on the wing at a distance of twenty yards, being directed to the bird by the sound of its pinions. Long and persevering practice had given him this extraordinary precision of hand, and it became a great marvel among his neighbours.

III

Abdullah Mirza had ordered preparations for a hunt, at which the young nobles of his court were invited to be present. He was popular with his equally dissipated nobles who were permitted the same licence of sensual enjoyments in which Abdullah himself indulged without any restraint. The forest mansion that evening was, therefore, the scene of high debauchery.

Early next morning the Governor of Chandahar thought of taking a solitary ramble to shake off the stupifying effects of the previous night's revels. As he approached the adjoining village, he saw a group of women repairing to the well for their daily supply of water, which throughout India is always the first thing procured in the morning before the refreshing element is heated by the warm rays of a tropical sun. His approach created some confusion among the bright-eyed Hindu damsels, who quickly dispersed at the sight of a Mohammedan who would have been to any one of them a personal contamination. Their retreat, however, was not so precipitate but the Moghul was able to

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EDUCATIONAL RE-CONSTRUCTION OF INDIA

The Wardha Scheme

UNDER the auspices of the Saiva Training School, Tinnevely, Literary Association, Mr. E. W. Ariyanayagam and Mrs. Ariyanayagam, of the Hindustani Tamil Sangha, Wardha, delivered addresses on "Educational Re-Construction of India" before a crowded audience of teachers, parents and students at the Saiva Training School, Tinnevely.

Mr. S. Swaminathan, Principal of the Institute, presided.

Mrs. Ariyanayagam speaking first said that she regretted not being able to speak to them in their own language and asked to be excused for that deficiency in her.

She said that before they discussed the new educational reconstruction in India they had to examine the aims of the system of education that obtained today. That system made education to have one aim—preparation of the student to a means of Livelihood. Education cannot have this as an aim. It might be a result of education but it would only be a secondary and subsidiary result. "Let us examine the position in India" she said.

When India was politically free and had her own system of education she made her contribution in Literature, Music, Sculpture, and in all other fine arts, to the world. The ancient ruins in the Island bore eloquent testimony to the existence of a similar period in Ceylon history too. They lost their own independence and they were made to be content to exist and not to live. Then there came a new light, a new hope in their lives in the person of the "Mahatmaji". He it was who gave a new life in their lives. He gave them a new life, a new mission, and a new hope. They regained their self-respect. That awakening asserted itself not only in political agitation but also in economic, social and educational reconstruction.

The economic life of Western civilisation was based on the city, the machine and the workshop. India was predominantly a country of village; ninety per cent of their brothers and sisters lived in villages. Their economic life should be centred round the villages. That was the economic policy of the reconstruction in that sphere. To have any lasting success in any branch, economic, social, or otherwise they had to depend on the progress to be made in education. There must be a way, a new way of looking at life. There must be a different attitude of mind. There must be a complete re-orientation.

What then were the fundamentals of the basic national education or what the journalists call the "Wardha" Scheme?

Firstly they had to examine closely their national life. Western civilisation was based on the city. There was a land of village where more than 90% of the people lived. Their

civilization would be and must be centred round the villages. That being so it was an anomaly that even the meagre education that their children received fitted them to life. There was no attempt made to educate the village child. Education was made the monopoly of the rich. The new scheme will make education village centred. Every child would be given an education fitting him or her to life which he or she would be called upon to live. That was the first fundamental, to educate the child and in his own environment. That, the speaker said, applied to Ceylon conditions also.

Secondly, education was not something meant to suppress, or stunt the growth of the child. The education of the child should be and fully though the medium of the mother tongue of the child.

That was the second essential of their scheme.

Thirdly, the words and books played a very major role in their system of education. Though words and books had a place in the scheme too, they could and must have a secondary and unimportant place. Production was a thing born in the guiding factor of life. Education fits the child to take its place in life.

Mr. Ariyanayagam then addressed the gathering and said a great struggle had been carried on in India for more than a century. Thousands of men and women had sacrificed their health, wealth, life and all in the cause of that struggle. After a long series of strife and struggle they had wrested power of some sort in 8 out of 11 provinces of British India. In those 8 provinces they could do a few things they liked and they had already started doing that. The Wardha Scheme of Education was the experiment in the educational field. When one from the New India, A wakened India, Self Respecting India, returned to Ceylon, he found the same old smug satisfaction in the slave status, the same enthusiasm for blindly sping the West, the same ignorance. If they had not work enough for the population in the Island the next best thing for them to do would be to start some new work.

The speaker emphasised the need for economic security and dependence.

Pandit Kanapathippillai proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers.

Our Indian Letter

(Continued from page 1)

world and would be the means of creating a consciousness among the Indian population that outsiders were getting the palm of success in their land. This is brought to mind when I read the accounts of the anti-Indian drive in Ceylon and the probable off-shoots of the mad methods undertaken. Of course

Mudaliyar P. Rajagopal Feted

Reception at Pallai

The residents of Pachchilaipali and Karaichi Divisions where Mudaliyar P. Rajagopal was the Maniagar before he retired from Government service entertained the Mudaliyar at a garden party at Pallai on Monday evening when he returned from Colombo after his investive. He was received at the Pallai Railway Station by Mr. P. J. R. Wickremasingham, acting Maniagar and the residents of the place. Mr. P. Rasiah, the station master, garlanded the Mudaliyar. He was then taken in procession on Nilapavada under a canopy of flowers to the accompaniment of music, to the specious decorated pandal erected at the residence of the acting Maniagar. The Mudaliyar on his route was garlanded by Mr. S. P. Rasanayagam, Post Master, Pallai. The post office premises were also gaily decorated for the occasion.

After refreshments there was a public meeting presided over by Mr. Wickremasingham who said that the Mudaliyar being a close relative of his it was not proper for him to speak much about the Mudaliyar but he wished to state that the Mudaliyar's services had been duly recognised by Government by the conferment of the title of Muhandiram previously and now by investing him with the title of Mudaliyar.

Mr. N. Thambipillai, Maniagar of Thenmaradchi spoke on the sterling qualities of Mudaliyar Rajagopal who did not push himself forward but was very quiet and simple in his habits and worked very hard for the people.

Mudaliyar Rajagopal said:

I feel greatly moved to see you all gathered here this evening to meet me and give your wishes on this occasion.

In fact, when the request was made that I should get down here at Pallai to enable you to meet me I was strongly reminded of the advice given to me by the then Deputy Fiscal, the late Mudir. Sabaratnam, when I left the Fiscal's Office 25 years ago to Puneryn to take up duties as Maniagar of the place. His words were "Mr. Rajagopal, now that you are about to take a very responsible office, I will give you one advice,—that is hold the scales evenly between the Government and the public. If you find the public abusing any privilege given by Government take immediate steps to put it down. If any Government measure is oppressive to the public bring it to the notice of Government and have it remedied." I stuck to his advice to the very last and it helped me to discharge my duties honourably and to win the appreciation of both the Government and the public.

I was here with you as Maniagar and Chairman of 5 Village Committees for 2 years and when I left you on retirement, you expressed your appreciation of me by meeting

the hot-heads in Colombo do not realise the danger ahead, but for a tiny bit of island to try to twist the tail of a big continent is foolish in the extreme. It will not be long before the fools see things for themselves.

RS. 100,000 STONE FOR RUANWELISAYA DAGABA

Gift to Ceylon by Mogok Merchants

Rangoon, Tuesday.

Unforgettable scenes were enacted in Rangoon when the "Seinbu" (gold-n casket) containing the Rs. 100,000 jewel which will adorn the Ruanwelisaya Dagaba in Anuradhapura, Ceylon, arrived by special train from Mandalay.

The "Seinbu" was received by the trustees of the Shwedagon Pagoda. A large number of Buddhist priests and laymen placed it in a golden chariot which was taken in a two mile long procession to the Shwedagon Pagoda, where it will remain till November.

An elaborate religious ceremony will be performed before the "Seinbu" is taken to Colombo.

The precious stone is the gift of ruby merchants and residents of Mogok.

Auction Sale

D. C. J. 13973

Kandar Thambiah of Chundicully presently of Pasyala Veyangoda Plaintiff.

Vs.

1. Elizabeth Ponnachy widow of Seemampillai of Eachamaddai, Jaffna
2. S. Aseervatham
3. S. Silvester both of Colombo

Defendants.

In pursuance of the commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna, in the above case, I shall sell the below mentioned property by Public Auction on Wednesday the 19th July 1939 commencing at 4 P.M. at the spot.

PROPERTY REFERRED TO:

A piece of land situated at Chundicully called "Muthalaikulamvayal" in extent 8 Lms. P. C. and $6\frac{1}{2}$ kls. Out of this the Eastern half in extent 4 Lms. P. C. and $3\frac{1}{2}$ kls. with house, kitchen and cultivated plants and bounded on the East by the property belonging to the heirs of the late John Martyn, North by Road, West by the property belonging to the defendants and on the South by the property of Agnes Annamah Joseph.

The whole hereof together with share of well standing on the aforesaid land and the right of way and water course.

S. MUTTURUMARASWAMY,
Commissioner of Sales.

"Siva Villa"

Manipay,

13-6-39.

(Mis 62. 15-6-39)

together and wishing a farewell. Now, after 7 years, when you heard that Government has invested me with the rank of Mudir: you all assemble here and welcome me I do not know how well I can pay you back this deep debt of gratitude now that I am declining in age. I can only express my sincere wish that God will bless you all with every success and prosperity. I thank you all for having done me this great honour.

It gives me great pleasure indeed to find many of my friends who have come from Jaffna and made this occasion a happy one.

I thank all from the bottom of my heart.

The function came to a close with a grand display of fireworks.

(Cor.)

DOES JAFFNA NEED A MUNICIPALITY?

A Plea for the "Status Quo" with Certain Improvements

'PEOPLE TOO POOR TO BEAR ADDITIONAL TAXATION'

By K. Aiyadurai
(Member, U.D.C.)

MUCH has been said in the press in support of the establishment of a Municipality for Yalpanam and unfair and uncharitable criticisms have been levelled by a section of the press and by the flying and airy "Whip" and others against the members of the Council who voted against the resolution to convert the Urban District Council of Yalpanam to a Municipality - unfair and uncharitable because there is a sting of a lack of honesty of purpose and ignorance alleged to have been displayed by those members when they voted against the proposal.

Leaving puzzles and interested and ambitious persons alone, I think it is my duty to say a word about this matter to those who can view this question dispassionately solely in the interests of the bulk of the ratepayers and other residents of Yalpanam.

I came to know that this question was placed on the Agenda of the meeting that was held on the 24th April 1939 just after the court vacation. A few days prior to that date when the Agenda paper was handed to me I ascertained the wishes of the intelligent section of my Ward and found that they were not for a change for good reasons and when the question was discussed in Council I suggested the postponement of the consideration of the question to a subsequent meeting, so that we may refer the matter to the rate-payers as it was vital a issue, but the sense of the house was against the proposal and the question was rushed through in Council. Once decided I had to submit to the decision though I disagreed.

But when the rate-payers heard of the change, they, through the agency of the Cigar Workers' Federation convened meetings in various wards and invited all the members to address their meetings and to explain to them the advantages and disadvantages that accrue from such a change in the system. I, as their representative, could not and should not refuse to address them in those meetings. I explained to them the advantages of a Municipality and those of the Urban District Council and the defects in the system so far as I know and said, as my opinion, that at the present juncture, when all the avenues of income are closed and when the cigar industry, the mainstay of the bulk of the inhabitants of the urban area is dwindling, the establishment of a Municipality will merely give a status to Yalpanam - a fact which cannot be ignored - but considering the hardships which are not imaginary but real and which the rate-payers have to undergo I preferred to allow things to go on till conditions improved

and till real necessity arose, as it is suicidal for a person of limited means who may occupy a significant place in public life to ape a rich neighbour who goes about decked with costly ornaments and apparel.

In voting against a Municipality for Yalpanam at the present juncture I had no ulterior motive but the welfare of the people at heart and it is idle to assume or presume that the action of those who voted against Municipality was an election move. It is not becoming of those to ascribe motives to those members who voted against the Municipality. There is an honest difference of opinion on this matter and it is puerile to expect to win at elections which are to come off two years hence by this short wave which will disappear by the end of this year when the official elections take place in the Council. When I was personally attending to the wants of the contacts at the Chemmani Camp during the small-pox epidemic and spent money and almost risked my life there was the uncharitable criticism of some of the educated men who ought to know better that it was a vote catching move. It was the unkindest cut and I ignored it and continued to do service.

Malice, intrigues, unfair criticisms and misrepresentation of facts have not spared the educated as well as the uneducated in public life. Uneducated man becomes a prey to those evils for small material rewards but the educated succumb to those evils when they scramble or expect to scramble for power and position.

To become the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Council is the natural and legitimate aspiration of every member but once the Executive Officers are elected the members and the public should sink all personal differences and give full support and encouragement to the Executive Head whose responsibilities are greater and who has to deal with every question, fairly, squarely and impartially and has greater chances of incurring the displeasure of the officers and the public. Hence it is the paramount duty of each member to see that no obstruction is placed in the way of the Chairman, carrying out his official duties. If we can achieve this object I dare say that our present Council can tackle all the problems that confront us and make the Town sanitary, healthy and beautiful with the present staff and the present rates and taxes. I have had some experience of the working of the Council and I can with confidence say that if each staff officer and the officers of the secretariat know their functions and duties and do their utmost

(Continued on Page 6)

SIDE LIGHTS AND LIGHT SIDES

(By Squint Eye)

OUR Ponnambalam was thorough-going in his efforts to snuff the Sinhalese out of existence, when he embarked on that blood-test at Nuwara Eliya, but his opposite in the other camp can be nastier still.

These bloo-y fellows, one is forced to swear!

This blood-test business seems to have caught on quite nicely these days. Across the strait in South India some men are intent on dividing into two bloody camps, Aryans and Dravidians.

In the South African Council debate over the Segregation of Indians Bill Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr said that Dr. Malan had tried to show that two blacks make a white.

In the Colonies and Dominions where there are two whites there will be no place for a black.

I have always admired the noseyness of newspaper reporters for news that is sought to be kept from them. "While the strictest secrecy is being maintained both in the Gandhi and Bose camps with regard to the trend of today's negotiations, it is gathered etc. etc." That was in India. "Complete secrecy is maintained regarding the subject of today's meeting, writes Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent, but there is good reason to believe etc. etc." That was in Europe. When a certain ruler recently started on a special flight in secret, the news hound was behind him, and promptly told the world through the wires that "though So and So's flying route is kept a closely guarded secret and the timings are confidential, it is understood that he will pass a certain town at a certain hour, etc."

After this, it looks as if the best thing to do when one wants secrecy is to take special pains to issue communiques to the press. Then they will ignore one altogether.

There is no truth in the rumour that a number of brahmin graduates from South India have applied to the Ceylon Government to be employed in the Retirement Office on the plea that they could manage the thing of disemploying Indians more satisfactorily and expeditiously.

The story is not confirmed that Ceylonese employed or unemployed in India are to be recalled by the Ceylon Government to fill up places in the new heaven on earth under construction by the Sinhalese Ministry.

President Roosevelt with his silk hat lying near his feet frequently laughed heartily, we were told by Reuter in regard to the

King's visit to America. *He must have been beside himself with joy for the hat to have changed places.*

An Indian professor of Hindustani at the Osaka Foreign Language School has, with the help of his Japanese wife, produced the first Japanese-Hindustani and Hindustani-Japanese dictionaries. The former book contains 35,000 Japanese words and the latter 7,000 Hindustani words, we are informed.

The Japanese woman is no exception to her species in its capacity for a wider and more extensive vocabulary than the mere male.

The British filmstar Merle Oberon married Alexander Korda, the wellknown British producer at the Town Hall, Antites, this afternoon. —(Reuter.)

Now that he has hitched his waggon to a star let us hope the new productions will be even more well-known.

A new Motor Tyre is advertised to possess "2000 teeth, to bite the road".

Road-makers ought to beware. These tyre people used to say that iron-tired bullock carts ruined the roads, and now one of them admits their tyres are built to bite the road!

450 Poona teachers, men and women, recently observed a one-day fast to demonstrate to the authorities their hardships. In the evening their leader, at a meeting, demanded a living wage for the primary teachers who could not be expected to work up to the ideal on empty stomachs and by leading a miserable existence.

This demonstration of empty-stomached misery must have worked alright.

Sgr. Mussolini recently said that the friendship between Germany and Italy had survived many tests.

But not a contest yet.

An Allahabad message recently stated that to deal with the communal riots there a "motor petrol had been introduced" with orders to fire immediately on any one engaged in rioting, murder, looting etc."

That's the advantage over a patrol, immediate fire.

A South Indian sportsman, member of Tennis Associations in England, has suggested that complete independence and swaraj could not be got by India trying to reach for a front place in physical sports, without exchange of a single shot.

But he has been known to revel in sharp shots in tennis before winning a game.

A Chinese sailor man at Galle drank eight mugs of Japanese beer and ate four pounds of roasted fowl and a large plate of boiled rice and then died of heart failure.

He must have expected to have
(Continued on page 6)

PURE MUSK

For pure Musk, Pure Kashmir Saffron (Kunkampoo), Pure Pearls, Pure Garochanam, Superior Shilajit, Amber Gris, Pachakarpuram, Gold & Silver Leaves and other valuable and precious drugs for medicinal purposes, please communicate with us. Prominent doctors & Scholars have tested our goods and found them best to their entire satisfaction. We are suppliers to Government Hospitals, Maharajas, Prominent Doctors.

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Aur (Jullundur) Punjab,
India.

(Y 64 14 6-39—13-6-40) T.

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, ¼ mile from Station, close to Court. Opp. American Mission School. Property free from encumbrance. Inspection by appointment. Apply to: T. Coomaraswamy, 27 Gengu Reddy St Egmore, P. O., Madras.
(Mis. 63. 15 & 22-6-39.)

Cancellation of Attorney Power

It is hereby notified that the Attorney power granted to Mr. Ponnampalam Thamboo of Kaithady North by Mr. A. Elankiar and wife Sithamparam on 3rd August 1928 has been cancelled this 14th day of June 1939.

A. ELANKIAR.

Kaithady North,
14-6-39.
(Mis. 60. 15 & 19-6-39.)



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1939

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY

IT IS GRATIFYING TO LEARN that, despite the fears entertained in this country to the contrary, the Government of India have expressed their readiness to begin trade negotiations with Ceylon. A delegation from Ceylon is therefore expected to leave shortly for Simla. A Simla report states that the personnel of the Indian delegation will largely depend upon the composition of the Ceylon delegation and that the Government of India will keep in touch with com-

mercial opinion in that country. We are glad of the opportunity that is being offered by this decision of the Raj, in that it will afford a chance for the two countries to have a free and full discussion of the differences that have recently arisen between them and to find a solution whereby the cordiality of feeling may be restored to the advantage of the two countries.

While we are happy over the opportunity thus offered, we fear that the task which awaits the Ceylon delegation will be very heavy and trying. Ceylon now is not in the good books of India. The repatriation measure of this Government has served as the "last straw on the back of the Indian camel", as an Indian leader observed. The trade negotiations therefore begin in an atmosphere of suspicion and resentment. The feeling in India has been whipped up against Ceylon to such an extent that even threats of boycott of Ceylon goods have been made in South India from where come most of those adversely affected by the repatriation measure. The Raj too has been called upon to take retaliatory measures against Ceylon, and we would not be surprised if as a result of this universal call for action against Ceylon prohibitive duties are contemplated by the Raj on some Ceylon exports such as copra and tobacco. There has been a persistent agitation, as all are aware, to impose a heavy duty on Ceylon coconut products, and the cry has gained volume and strength now. And the Raj cannot afford to ignore the feelings of the people whose voice is now effectively heard in the Councils of the country since the acceptance of office by the Indian National Congress. We have, therefore, a well grounded fear that the proposed trade talks may not be so fruitful unless the strained feelings are repaired and mutual understanding is restored.

We would therefore urge on the Ceylon Government to exercise great care in the selection of its delegation who would not only be able to gain concessions for Ceylon's trade, but also serve as peace-makers to restore good feelings between the two countries. As the personnel of the Indian delegation, it is understood, will depend on the composition of the Ceylon delegation, it is imperative that men of character and broad outlook should form the personnel of the delegation from Ceylon. We may then be certain that the Conference would serve not only to adjust the trade relations between the two countries but also help to bridge the gulf that seems to be widening between them.

The Anti-Municipality Agitation

Unsubstantial Fears

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

SUBSEQUENT to my writing to your valuable journal an article regarding the above subject, my attention was drawn to the report in the papers of the proceedings of a meeting presided over by my esteemed friend Mr. R. Sivagurunathar, ex-Chairman of the U. D. C. at which a resolution was passed opposing the establishment of a Municipality. The main arguments that appear to have been advanced by the speakers at that meeting are of the variety with which I have already dealt in my previous article. I find however that there are certain misconceptions which have to be cleared.

The learned ex-Chairman in his opening speech appears to have dealt at length on the legal aspect as to whether the resolution that was passed at the meeting of the Urban Council was passed by a majority. It is unfortunate that a lawyer of his standing should have thought it fit to discuss law at a meeting of laymen, and still more unfortunate he should have caught hold of a ruling of the Attorney General as the sole support of his argument. In the first place I am yet to learn that a ruling of the Attorney General has the force of law. Even granting that a ruling is a correct interpretation of the relevant section of the Local Government Ordinance, the main point that the learned ex-Chairman has ignored is the fact that the ruling applies only to "acts authorised or required by virtue of the Local Government Ordinance or any other Ordinance to be done by any Council."

In the present instance the Hon'ble the Minister of Local Administration desired to have the views of the members of the Urban District Council on the subject of the establishment of a Municipality for Jaffna and the voting showed that six members were in favour of the establishment while five were against it. One fails to understand how a resolution of this nature can be deemed to be "authorised or required by virtue of the Local Government Ordinance or any other Ordinance to be done by the council," or why the opinion of six should not be treated as against the opinion of five as the opinion of the majority. It was not a pursuance of any of the provisions of the Local Government Ordinance that the views of the members were sought. The system of treating a vote not cast or having been cast against a resolution is not heard of anywhere else.

Having discoursed on law and procedure Mr. Sivagurunathar appears to have proceeded "to deplore the fact that the members representing the different wards had not given themselves the opportunity of consulting the ratepayers". By ratepayers does he mean the vociferous few who become self-constituted leaders for the nonce or the large body of enlightened men who do not care to shout from housetops? Does he suggest that each member should have organised a referendum in his ward? If only he had, during his long tenure as a member of the Urban Council, set the example of holding referendums in his

MUNICIPAL MEMBER SPEAKS IN SINHALESE

First Meeting of New Galle Council

Galle, Monday.

The Mayor of Galle, Mr. W. Dahanayake, allowed a member to speak in Sinhalese and himself interpreted into Sinhalese for the benefit of that member what other members said in English at the first business meeting of the Reformed Municipal Council held this afternoon.

A large gathering of ratepayers watched the proceedings. The Mayor presided and all the members were present.

The Council adopted a motion by the Mayor delegating to the Commissioner powers under the Municipal Councils Constitution Ordinance, pending consideration of the best means of carrying on the work of the Council.

ward, before he voted on questions that came up for discussion before the Urban Council, the present members would not have committed the "mistake" which they are now asked to "acknowledge." The holding of a public meeting to ascertain the real opinion of the people is practically useless as a large majority never attend these so-called "public meetings" and opinion expressed at these meetings is the opinion of a small minority. Further is a man who becomes an Elected Member of any Democratic Assembly expected, as soon as he is elected, to cast to the winds the benefits of his experience, knowledge and education and become a mere automaton registering the wishes of the vociferous few and throwing aside his own judgment and discretion. I believe it is a very wrong conception of the duties of an elected member.

In the course of the second speech at the same meeting Mr. Sivagurunathar appears to have said that on the establishment of a Municipality the Central Government would withdraw all grants and that there was a danger of the present grant of Rs. 18000/- in view of the Labour Tax being discontinued if a Municipality were established. If Mr. Sivagurunathar refers to the budgets of the Kandy and Galle Municipalities, he will find that the Central Government has not discontinued these grants in these cases. Why then should we imagine that it will be discontinued in the case of Jaffna alone?

A further argument urged by him was that a Municipality would have to bear the cost of the Elementary Education within its limits. If he had taken the trouble to look up the draft Education Ordinance, he would have found that Municipalities and Urban Councils are placed on the same footing in this respect. Besides, it is well known that the Hon. the Minister of Education has given an assurance that this clause will be dropped in the final draft.

One would have expected a person of the mature experience and calm deliberation of Mr. Sivagurunathar to have verified his facts and made sure of his ground before spreading such alarmist views. If his opposition to a Municipality was based on such unsubstantial fears as the above, I hope, he will even at this stage, be "only too glad to acknowledge his mistake" and take such steps as would ensure the early establishment of a Municipality.

JAPANESE BLOCKADE BRITISH AND FRENCH CONCESSIONS

Situation Admitted to be Grave

BRITISH OFFICER DETAINED BY JAPANESE POLICE

June, 14.

THE British and French Concessions in Tientsin are being blockaded and isolated by the Japanese and a tense situation has arisen there.

Britons are determined to stick out the blockade. The situation is admitted to be grave, but anger rather than apprehension is the dominant feeling in the Concession. Units of the Durham Light Infantry are patrolling the Concession boundaries in lorries. A British officer, Major Low, has been detained by the Japanese police in Tientsin on an allegation that he took photographs in the forbidden zone in Tientsin.

Asked in the House of Commons if the Japanese authorities realised the serious results of the action they were taking, Mr. R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, replied: "I think the Japanese authorities are aware of the attitude of His Majesty's Government." Mr. Butler described the Tientsin position as serious, but added that negotiations were still proceeding and that it was hoped that a settlement could still be reached.

"LIBEL ON OUR GREAT DHARMA"

Untouchability Has No Religious Sanction

Madura, Tuesday.

"It is the old repeated truth. Untouchability has nothing to do with religion. Any religion would not be worth the name if it sponsored the slightest trace of untouchability. It is a libel on our great dharma to say that it sanctions untouchability" observed Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru, Vice-President of the All-India Harijan Sevak Sangh, presiding over the Tamil Nad Harijan Temple Entry Conference which commenced here today.

Concluding, she said: "Let me proclaim it for the thousandth time: For me as for my co-workers, the removal of untouchability is an indispensable religious need and the opening of the temples to harijans is a pure spiritual act."

JAFFNA RECEIVES NEW MUHANDIRAM

A grand reception was given by the residents of Valigamam West to Mr. P. Narayanan, one of the two Tamils who were raised to the rank of Muhandiram. After attending the Governor's levee on Saturday last, Muhandiram Narayanan accompanied by Mr. P. Muttukumar returned to Jaffna by car and arrived at the Tholpuram Mariammur temple at 4 p.m. on Sunday the 11th instant. On arrival he was congratulated by his friends, garlanded by Mr. V. Ponnampalam, the ex-Chairman, V. C. Changkanai, and taken in procession in an artistically decorated phreton drawn by two greys. By his side sat Mr. M. Krishnaar, J. P., another philanthropist and social worker of the area. Two sets of musicians from India specially summoned for the occasion, played music along the route, where the Muhandiram was profusely garlanded. The entrance to his house, all along the way, was decorated with flags and festoons and on arrival at his residence which was tastefully decorated, he was received in the Hindu way. After refreshments were lavishly served to the large gathering present, speeches were made by Messrs M. Krishnaar, J. P., S. U. Somasegaram, District Inspector of Schools, Thesoolian N. Senathirajah, V. Sellathurai, P. Subramaniam and Pandit K. P. Ratnam. Later, songs specially composed for the occasion were sung by the local playwright Mr. K. Krishnaar. Rising amidst applause Muhandiram Narayanan briefly replied and thanked the speakers and those present for the warm reception accorded to him. (Cor.)

PROTEST AGAINST REPATRIATION

Public Meeting Of Indians In Jaffna

A public meeting of Indians to protest against the repatriation and other schemes launched by the "homogeneous Sinhalese Ministry" will be held at the Ayurvedic Medical College, Stanley Road, Jaffna, on Saturday, the 17th instant at 4.30 p.m.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, the Indian members of the Ceylon State Council and certain Jaffna leaders are expected to speak at the meeting.

School Tests to be Standardised

Department's New Scheme

With the adoption of a uniform academic year for all Ceylon schools, a scheme is also to be brought into operation to standardise the inspection of schools so that the promotion tests carried out by the Education Department may be as far as possible of the same standard.

When the school academic year is brought into line with the calendar year, the Education Department is to hold its promotion tests in December so that the promotions in all schools will take place with the beginning of the academic year in January.

Divisional Inspectors of Schools, who are responsible for holding these examinations, have been instructed by the Director of Education to confer with each other before arranging for these tests, particularly for Standard Five so that promotion tests held in all schools may be uniform.

COCONUT BOARD MANAGER

Promotion for Secretary

June 13.

The casting vote of the Chairman decided the issue yesterday when Mr. J. R. Sri Chandrasekera was appointed to the post of Manager of the Coconut Board.

It was a close contest between Mr. Sri Chandrasekera, the present Secretary of the Board, and Mr. Marcus S. Rockwood, each of whom secured six votes.

Mr. R. L. Rutnam, at present Office Assistant to the Board, was appointed to the post of Secretary, and it was decided to abolish the post of Office Assistant.

ALLEGED LEVIES BY APOTHECARIES

C. I. D. to Inquire

The Medical Department has launched an island-wide drive to discover the truth of the alleged frauds said to have been committed by apothecaries of the Department.

Dr. S. T. Gunasekera, the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, told a "Times of Ceylon" reporter that in view of complaints, received by the Department that apothecaries were illegally charging money for medicines at free dispensaries he had requested the C. I. D. to investigate.

30 MILLIONS DEFICIT?

NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET ESTIMATES

MINISTERS FACED WITH PRUNING TASK

Colombo, Tuesday.

THE Board of Ministers, who began yesterday their consideration of the Budget estimates for the next financial year, it is understood, are faced with the task of pruning the expenditure by a sum of between twenty and thirty million rupees.

The expenditure in the next financial year placed before the Ministers yesterday, it is learned, amounted approximately to Rs. 146,500,000 as compared with an estimated expenditure for the present financial year of Rs. 126,502,590.

The sum budgeted for expenditure from current revenue in the present financial year amounts to Rs. 96,071,043. Together with a sum of Rs. 939,947 from the Special Reserve, the budgeted expenditure, exclusive of the sums provided by Special Law, amounts to Rs. 97,010,990. With a sum of Rs. 23,491,600 provided by Special Law, the total expenditure voted for the present financial year amounts to Rs. 120,502,590.

Out of a sum of nearly Rs. 146,500,000 at present estimated for expenditure in the next financial year, the sum provided by Special Law is Rs. 26,317,416. The increase of this figure over the sum provided by Special Law for the current financial year, amounting to nearly three million rupees, is due to the normal increases of salaries in Government Departments.

INDO-CEYLON TRADE TALKS

Simla Expresses Readiness

Simla, Tuesday.

Replying to a communication from the Ceylon Government the Government of India is understood to have expressed its readiness to begin trade negotiations with Ceylon.

It is expected that the delegation from Ceylon will shortly come up to Simla.

It is gathered that that the Government of India will keep in touch with commercial opinion in this country, how this is to be done is under consideration.

The personnel of the Indian delegation, it is pointed out, must largely depend upon the composition of the Ceylon delegation.

BOYCOTT OF CEYLON GOODS

Indians Contemplate Retaliation

Madras, June 10th.

The urgent need for taking effective steps to safeguard the interests of Indians in Ceylon, whose legitimate rights were now in danger, was stressed in a statement to the Press by Mr. C. K. Kunhiraman, President of the Ceylon Malayali Mahajana Sabha, who arrived here today.

Mr. Kunhiraman is one of the deputation who will wait on the Viceroy in this connexion.

"I am proceeding, after a couple of days here, to Bombay and other places to find out whether the All India Congress Committee would be prepared for the boycott of Ceylon copra and oil," he declared. "I understand that Bombay, Karachi and Bhavnagar buy a very large quantity of copra and any immediate action will bring Ceylon to her senses.

"If there is any difficulty regarding boycott, it is my intention to approach the All-India Trade Union Congress in order that that body might organise a strike among the workers who are handling copra goods in the three ports.

"I feel that the time has come for taking some definite and decisive action on the part of the people of India.

Tobacco Trade

"We shall adjure every Malayali using Ceylon tobacco to boycott it. For years the Malayalis have been solely supporting the tobacco industry in Jaffna.

"It was stated openly in the State Council in Ceylon that the boycott of Jaffna tobacco would deprive three lakhs of people of work. It is hard to believe that the country which has been depending to a great extent on the support of Malayalis for one of its chief industries, should now turn against the Malayalis.

"The dumping of copra and oil in India affects Malayalis most; for this also is the chief industry on the West coast. I would personally be sorry to initiate any retaliatory measure.

"I am myself a Buddhist and Ceylon is a Buddhist country. The Sinhalese are a very fine set of people, generous and kind and always well disposed towards Indians. This anti-Indian feeling is of recent growth, and this has been brought about, I believe, by some politicians who have an eye on the approaching elections."

Side Lights and Light Sides

(Continued from Page 3)

vanquished the Japanese, but when he saw he hadn't his heart sank within him.

Maulana Salir Ur Rehman a 120-year old Pathan who had emigrated to Afghanistan thirty years ago from the North West Provinces has returned to his town. The leaders of both Congress and Muslim League parties in the province have been having interviews with him.

They must have been hoping to get the doughty old warrior on their side.

Sinhalese Crowd Attack Indians

Thought Mr. Ponnambalam was at the Meeting

Passara, Monday.

Thinking Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam was going to repeat his recent Nawalapitiya speech at Passara, a crowd of 300 Sinhalese attacked a group of Indians who were planning a meeting here. Actually Mr. Ponnambalam was nowhere near Passara.

After attending a meeting of the Badulla Samathuwa Saagam Ballakatuwa yesterday, presided over by Mr. V. Guanapandithan, held in support of the formation of a Ceylon Indian Congress Party, the visitors, Mr. Satiavagiswara, Mr. Abdul Azeez and Mr. A.S.A. Samy Sethuraman Chettiyar, came on to Passara to hold a meeting.

The Sinhalese population began throwing stones from all directions on the roof of the restaurant to which the party went, and shouted. "This is not Nawalapitiya", and "Ponnambalam Parippua".

Attempts were made to damage the party's car, which was slightly dented. An Indian boy was badly injured in the forehead, while brickbats and rotten mangoes were aimed at Mr. Wagiswara Iyer, who was mistaken for Mr. Ponnambalam.

The local police were unable to cope with the situation and armed police from Badulla, accompanied by the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. J.G.C.S. de Saram and Inspector W. B. Perkins, rushed to the scene at about 3 p.m. All the hooting and commotion stopped and the hostile crowd ran in all directions.

Later, a meeting was held at the Kadiresan Kovil under police protection. All last night the police patrolled Passara's street.

SINHALESE MUCH HURT

Tamil M. S. C.'s Remark Regretted

Nawalapitiya, Monday.

Regret was expressed at certain remarks made by Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C., at a meeting of the Ruhumania Young Men's Muslim Association, Nawalapitiya, on May 28 last.

Mr. M. Mohideen, the President of the Association, referring to that address said that he thought the feelings of the Sinhalese people had been greatly hurt by certain remarks Mr. Ponnambalam had given utterance to at a meeting of the Association.

The aims of their Association were to promote religious activities in the district and to render financial assistance to poor and needy Muslims. They had no interest in politics.

Mr. Mohideen continuing said that he deeply regretted the incident as the Sinhalese were evidently much hurt. The Sinhalese, he hoped, would treat the incident as a trivial matter.

DOES JAFFNA NEED A MUNICIPALITY?

(Continued from Page 3)

conscientiously and honestly to serve the rate-payer first because he is paid by the rate-payer, and himself afterwards, then the Chairman's task or the work of the Commissioner who will have to take up the whip in case of a Municipality is made simple and the question of a full time Chairman does not arise.

The Chairman will remain at the apex of the whole organisation as the Chief Citizen, preside over meetings, conduct his official business and can give a good lead in matters affecting the general welfare of the people, and, if we can achieve this state of things, a Municipality for Jaffna becomes unnecessary at this juncture except for the mere name and a domestic and local status.

The whole question is this "Are there such problems that confront us which cannot be tackled by the present Council and its Officers?" if so, what are they? All that we know are (1) Health and Sanitation (2) Water Supply and Drainage (3) Works and (4) Light. We have a part time Medical Officer of Health who spares no pains for the improvement of the Town and attends to all its sanitary needs, and the Council pays a nominal sum of Rs. 50 a month as his travelling allowances. We have our Superintendents of Works and of Light who can, if given full freedom, perform their duties efficiently and well; if an executive officer is to be appointed to supervise them who will be the same person with a higher title, perhaps, he can only supervise their official papers but not their will or the works.

Water Service and Drainage are problems which present real difficulty and baffle all attempts at solution; the solution of those problems seems to be somewhat distant and even if undertaken with the assistance of experts lent by the Central Government the cost will be prohibitive and the Council which is already burdened with a debt which has to be liquidated by instalment payments extending over 20 years cannot bear the additional burden at present.

By the establishment of a Municipality, an Engineer in charge of the water service and drainage, a full time Medical Officer of Health and their staff and the Commissioner have to be appointed which means that the overhead charges, salaries and emoluments have to be increased, which necessitates the increase of taxation or reduction in Works and other amenities of a substantial nature for the benefit of the people.

In this connection it is worth while to remember that Galle Municipality with a population of about 38000 and an income of about Rs. 298000, almost the same income of the Jaffna Council, receives a rate of 17.3/4 percent of the annual income as consolidated rate for properties, water and conservancy.

Every rate-payer in any part of the country will be only too willing to pay increased rates provided he gets a good return for the money he pays. What he is at a loss to know is about the special benefits that may accrue to them by the establishment of a Municipality which

cannot be conferred by the Urban Council with the present income, the present rates and taxes and the existing staff. Health suffers not because we don't have a full time Medical Officer but because the people are too poor to maintain their health. Their income is so small that they cannot take that quantity of nutritive food to keep the disease out of their doors. Just imagine the health of an expectant mother who has five children all of school-going age managing her livelihood with an average income of Rs. 20- earned by her husband. Can she maintain her health under these conditions? Is it strange that infantile and maternal death rate is increasing? It is more a case of poverty than insanitation. That is the cause of such premature deaths, and the full time Medical Officer of Health will prepare a chart showing the death rate and write in his report that the death rate is appalling but cannot remove malnutrition.

A word to "Whip". He is a stranger to the land and its conditions but poor "Whip" having spent sometime with the armchair politicians here and there without seeing me or knowing anything from me let his "Whip" fall on his back. There was no rag of any kind at any time and I can well afford to ignore pranks on men who have a permanent stake in the country and who are answerable to their conscience and constituents.

I am, therefore, strongly of opinion that the Urban District Council with some amendments to the existing provisions to give more freedom to the Chairman and less control from the local Government Board or the Executive Committee of Local Administration, is quite a good institution to manage our local affairs with less burden and more benefit to the rate-payer and more independence to the Council, would only councillors represent the rate-payers and not themselves and co-operate with the Chairman and help the administrative machinery to move on swiftly and smoothly.

The establishment of a Municipality is an advance in Local Self-Government but not self-Government politically which is yet a mirage. Let us strive to remove the local petty strifes and show to the powers that be that we are politically a vigorous and healthy race, that we can rise above personal considerations and that we are not after phantoms but reality. Then we are a race worth existing. Municipal institution is an illusion to silence the self Government mongers. Let us arise and awake and stop not till full self-Government is attained and for that purpose let us make ourselves fit by education, culture, self sacrifice and honesty of purpose to be able to be real partners in the Government of this spicy and beautiful Island of ours.

OUR SHORT STORY

(Continued from page 1)

take a hasty survey of the numerous young maidens present with their water pots. Among the group was a girl in the full bloom of youth and extremely beautiful. The elegant simplicity of dress, that covered her finely-moulded form, imparted to her a grace greatly enhanced by the animated interest with which she evidently heard the conversation of her young companions.

Abdullah mused with a most exciting interest upon this lovely houri, after whom he earnestly gazed till the walls of the house, into which she hastily retired, shut her from his view. He had no difficulty in finding out that she was a maiden of of high caste and blood, being the daughter of Bulwant Singh, an independent Rajput, whose prejudices were not easy to be overcome. He was, however, determined by whatever means to add her to the degraded members of his harem.

IV

A few days after, as Pelvahi (that was the name of the Rajput girl) was returning homewards from the well according to her custom, a horseman suddenly appeared in a narrow curve of the path that led to the village. The girl happened to be alone, though followed at a distance by an attendant. The horseman advanced at a rapid pace, and, halting before the girl, sprang from his steed, took the astonished Pelvahi in his arms, and galloping off with his lovely burden, was out of sight in a few seconds.

V

In one of the luxurious apartments in the palace of the Governor of Chandahar a lovely girl was reclining on a Persian carpet. She was Pelvahi, the Rajputani. She was so deeply absorbed in thought, that at first she did not observe the Governor's entrance.

"Lovely Hindu", Abdullah said approaching her tenderly, "why wilt thou thus give way to sad reflections?"

"Can the tyrant ask such a question, after he has torn me from the society of my father? This trifling is a mockery."

"If I have removed thee from a home where thou wert under a grievous domestic tyranny, it was to instil thee in one where thou wilt reign dominant over the heart of an adoring lover, who can live only in the sunshine of thy smile."

"Address these honied phrases to humbler ears", replied the maiden with haughty resolution. "It is useless to encourage the expectation of my ever acquiescing to your desires, which will only degrade me. No power on earth can prevent a Rajputani from dying, when she has ceased to live with honour. Leave me to the undisturbed quiet of my captivity, if you have not the generosity to restore me to liberty."

VI

Within a few minutes after Pelvahi had been borne off by the horseman, the circumstance was communicated to her father by

the attendant who had been following her. Bulwant Singh was for the moment stunned at so unexpected an announcement, but quickly recovered himself. From the village gossip he had come to know of the visit paid last week by the Governor of Chandahar to the well in the village. He, therefore, suspected that the Moghul was at the bottom of this dastardly outrage.

Three days after the disappearance of Pelvahi, her undaunted parent quitted his home on a camel and proceeded with a small train of attendants to the city under the government of Abdullah Mirzar. On reaching Chandahar, the injured father took up his abode in a remote suburb of the city, and despatched a message to the Governor demanding the immediate restoration of his daughter, and in case of refusal, threatening him with the implacable hatred of an insulted Rajput.

Abdullah was highly pleased at the turn of events. He had the Rajput now at his mercy. He ordered his minions to seize the blind man and confine him in one of the prison cells.

VII

The second morning of his imprisonment Bulwant Singh was conducted into the presence of the Governor in a private chamber of the prison set apart for special purposes. On his entrance the blind man stood before his judge erect as a column, his rayless eyes fixed in an inexpressive stare upon the half-awed Mohammedan, who was well aware of the Rajput's sternness and his dexterity in the use of his bow and arrow.

"Prisoner", said the Governor, "wouldst thou save thy life?" The Rajput did not reply, but twirling the ends of his moustachios on either side of his scornful lip, he turned his back upon the speaker. The ire of the Mirza was raised.

"Man," he angrily exclaimed, "it is insane policy to inflame the anger of one who, with a word, can consign thee to the executioner."

"Do thy worst," cried the Rajput, turning suddenly roused. "I would not be indebted to thee for even the semblance of a boon. I defy thee."

"Nay", continued Abdullah softening, "this is too extravagant for heroism. Hear what I have to propose, and then consider well before you rashly reject it. You know that your daughter is in my power. She refuses to become the favourite of my harem. I would rather win than force her consent. Do you, therefore, compel her compliance, and you shall immediately be restored to liberty."

"Dastard! This to a father!—to a Rajput father!—who would rather see his daughter writhing under death's hardest agonies than living with the brand of infamy upon her. If thou hast the courage of a man, arm thyself and me; and, though old and blind, with thy odds of sight and of youth, I will fight thee to the end. I have yet nerve enough to reach thy cowardly heart, for my wrongs would guide my impatient weapon home."

Abdullah Mirza at once ordered the guards to take the prisoner back to the cell, and to hand him

King's Birthday Celebration at Sithankerny

His Majesty the King's Birthday was celebrated by the school children of the mixed school on a more elaborate scale than in previous years.

The events of the day began at 9 a.m. with musical entertainment. Then the school children sang a special song and gave three hearty cheers for the king. Next the Headmaster and his assistants addressed the children and the parents, who assembled in the gaily decorated hall, on how they should be loyal to their king.

A sports meet followed in the afternoon. A crowded program of interesting items for girls and boys was worked through.

The prizes were distributed by the Headmaster. The school children were given refreshments by Mr. M. Kanagasabapathy, Manager, who is presently at Meddeccombra Estate, Watagoda. (Cor.)

over to the executioner early next morning.

VIII

Though the Mirza had resolved that the following day should be the end of his captive's life, his vanity prompted him to make the blind archer exhibit his extraordinary skill in archery to the nobles of Chandahar, who were, therefore, invited to witness the feat. About two hours after sunrise the State dignitary assembled the nobles present under an awning in the Court. A messenger was despatched to summon the prisoner before the Governor and his guests. When the Governor's pleasure was communicated to the haughty Rajput, his sardonic laugh resounded within the walks of the cell.

When Bulwant Singh appeared before the assembly, his bow and quiver were put into his hands. Having selected three arrows, he poised them severally, pressed their points against his finger, and then signified by a motion of his hand that he was ready. A tall Hindu stepped thirty-five paces, and at the end a pole was erected with a transverse beam, at either end of which was suspended a small bell. One of the bells, being struck with a long brass rod, was almost instantly hit with an arrow, which caused the bell to vibrate for several seconds. A murmur of applause followed. The bell on the reverse end of the beam was likewise struck with the brass rod, and it was immediately put into a state of rapid oscillation. From every quarter of the court were now heard loud expressions of surprise and admiration. The Governor who sat apart from his guests on a crimson velvet ottoman, was not at all gratified at the universal manifestations of admiration. He, therefore, requested the nobles in a loud tone to take their seats in silence. The words were scarcely uttered, when a shaft passed through his brain from the bow of Bulwant Singh.

One of the guards, who had been stationed at the door, hearing the conclusion within, entered the area; and on ascertaining what had happened, thrust his spear through the blind archer's body. With an exclamation of triumph, the Rajput Warrior fell dead to the ground.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 748. In the matter of the estate of the late Karthigesu Veluppillai of Vaddukoddai East Deceased. Ravalasingam Annamalai of Vaddukoddai East Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Sivakolunthu daughter of Karthigesu Veluppillai of Vaddukoddai East
2. Veluppillai Sivasubramaniam of do
3. Sivamankaiyathkarasi daughter of Karthigesu Veluppillai of do
4. Veluppillai Thanikasalam of do, presently of Raub in F. M. S.
5. Veluppillai Selvarajah of do presently of Bentong in F. M. S.
6. Veluppillai Rajaledchumy of do
7. Karthigesu Murugasu of do

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the abovenamed 7th respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor respondents 2nd to 6th respondents for the purpose of representing them in this case and that the petitioner be entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomarasamy, Esq. District Judge, Jaffna on the 5th day of June 1939 in the presence of Mr. P. Canapathy Pillay Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 2nd day of June 1939 having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 7th respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 2nd to 6th respondents and that the petitioner as the cousin of the deceased is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 19th day of June 1939 shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 9th day of June

Sgd. R. R. Nalliah,

Act. District Judge.

(O. 18. 15 & 19-6-39.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 461.

In the matter of the estate of the late Kanapathippillai Kayilayanthan of Chhanganai West

Deceased.

1. Asaipillai Kandasamy and wife
2. Sinnammah both of Chhanganai West

Vs.

Petitioners.

1. Kanapathippillai Kandasamy and
2. Sinnappillai widow of Mootatamby Kanapathippillai of Chhanganai West.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomarasamy Esquire District Judge, Jaffna, on the 23rd day of March 1939 in the presence of Mr. R. R. Nalliah Proctor for the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read, It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st Respondent for the purpose of protecting his interests and of representing in these Testamentary proceedings and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the 2nd Petitioner as one of his heir and sister of the deceased unless the abovenamed Respondents appear before this Court on the 17th day of May 1939 and state objection to the contrary.

The 24th day of March 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomarasamy,

District Judge.

Time to show cause extended

to 21-6-39

Ild. C. C.

D. J.

(O 17 15-19 & 6-39)

Broadcasting

AKASH-VANI,
MYSORE

Programme

Wavelength: 70.2 Meters Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

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

Friday, the 16th June 1939

6. Karnatic Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6 45 p.m. Hindusthani Music
7 p.m. "Quirat"
8 p.m. Recitation from "Masnavi Moulana-Rome" by Mir Md. Husaine Esq.

Saturday, the 17th June 1939

6 p.m. Nadaswaram
6.15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8 45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Ast'ana Sangi-the Vidwan Swaramurthy V. N. Rao, accompanied by Vidwan Subramanyam (Violin) and Vidwan Ranniah (Mridangan)

Sunday, the 18th June 1939

No Broadcast

No 271

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) Rapielpillai Rajadurai of Aleveddy 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)

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