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## A PEEP INTO COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION

### An Unbroken History of Cruelty, Greed and Stupidity

### NO NATION IS FIT TO HAVE COLONIES

By Frank C. H. nighen

PRESIDENT Roosevelt's telegram to Hitler and Mussolini has revived the talk of a possible general conference of the powers and this in turn has inevitably revived discussion of a possible redistribution of colonies. The present is, therefore, a good moment to remark that on the face of the record, no one of the "great" nations either among the democracies or the totalitarian powers is fit to have any colonies at all. Every one of them, in its colonial administration, shows an almost unbroken history of cruelty, greed and stupidity sufficient to make the angels weep.

If in this article I seem to stress the iniquities of "the democracies," I hope no one will accuse me of pro-Germanism. England and France and their friends have sinned more greatly only because they had more opportunity. Germany, of course, has had no colonies since the War; but before that, her savage cruelty to the natives in her grip was a disgrace to civilization. The same has been true in later years of Italy and her treatment of the populations of Libya, Ethiopia and other areas.

#### Imperial Misrule

Britain offers a conspicuous example. Untold wealth has poured into British purses from India, but very little has filtered down to the Indian masses. British coal-mining companies, for example, have paid dividends of as much as 112 per cent., while native workers were getting about five cents a day. Peasants fare no better than workers. The Official Health Report of Bengal throws a lurid light on rural India: "The present peasantry

of Bengal are taking a dietary on which rats could not live more than five weeks." In short, after a century and a half of British rule, India's population has a per capita income of only \$ 35 a year and a consumption of about \$ 18. Is it any surprise, then, that the average life expectation of an Indian is only twenty-three, while that of a resident of England is fifty-three?

The French Empire makes no better showing. Italy today challenges the right of the French to rule Tunis, but the Arab majority in this protectorate can raise the issue with more justice than the Italians. Poverty, depression and the inevitable consequences of the exploitation of the country by French capitalists has given rise to the Neo-Destour Party, which demands independence. When the Neo-Destourians rioted in 1938, the French government officially suppressed the party and threw its leaders into jail. It is ironical to note how approvingly the press in democratic countries reported the "firmness against the aggressor" voyage of M. Daladier to Tunis recently, during which Neo-Destourians demonstrated and were sent to jail for their pains.

Three other empires huddle precariously behind the British and French. Their rulers are fearful of losing territory by a deal between the Great Powers. Two of them—the Dutch and the Belgian—are ruled by democracies, the third by a Fascist State—Portugal. But their imperialist policies toward subject natives are practically identical.

#### Slave Trading

Portugal several centuries  
(Continued on Page 2)

## APPLIED SCIENCES IN ANCIENT INDIA

By S. R. Mullukumar

HINDU investigations in Applied Sciences come down to about 1200 A.D. They cover the period from the Atharva Veda (c. 800 B.C.) to Bhas-karacharya (c. 1150 A.D.), mathematician and astronomer, or rather to the middle of the fourteenth century represented by Madayacharya (1332 A.D.), the compiler of the Sixteen Systems of Philosophy; Gunaratne (1350 A.D.) the logician; and Madampala (1374 A.D.) the author of the *Materia Medica* named after himself. Some of these investigations were solid achievements in positive knowledge, which were applied to practical purposes in the domain of Chemistry, Physics, Botany, Medicine, Magnetism, Mathematics, Engineering, and so on.

### I Chemistry

It was India's wonderful achievements in Applied Chemistry more than her skill in handicraft which enabled her to command for more than a thousand years, from Pliny to Tavernier, the markets of the East as well as the West. Pliny noticed the industrial position of the Hindus as paramount in the world. India maintained the same position even in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when the modern European nation began to come into intimate touch with her.

Seal in his *Positive Sciences of the Ancient Hindus* says that during the sixth century the Hindu chemists could prepare

1. Fixed or coagulated mercury,
2. A chemical powder, the inhalation of which would bring on sleep or stupor,
3. A chemically prepared stick or wick for producing light without fire, and
4. A powder, which like anaesthetic drugs or curare paralyzes sensory and motor organs.

What we may infer from No. 1 is that the Hindus at that time could make mirrors; from Nos. 2 and 4, that they

applied these chemical preparations in the practice of medicine as the Europeans use chloroform; and form No. 3 that they had something similar to the modern safety matches.

Royle in his *Arts and Manufactures of India* states that "some of the arts for which the people of India have had traditional fame are those connected with

1. Bleaching
2. Dyeing
3. Calico-printing
4. Tanning
5. Soap-making
6. Glass-making
7. Manufacture of steel
8. Gunpowder and fireworks, and
9. Preparation of cement

### Dyeing

Moorkerji says that "the ancient Hindus were so far advanced in their knowledge of Applied Chemistry that they were able to produce many beautiful and fast colours. Two of their great discoveries, to which India owed her capture of the world market were (1) the production of fast dyes for textile fabrics by the treatment of natural dyes like *manjishta* with alum and other chemicals, and (2) the extraction of indigotin from the indigo plant by a process which, however crude, was essentially an anticipation of modern chemical methods" (1).

The elementary colours manufactured by the ancient Hindus were indigo (blue), lac (red) and lycium (yellow).

These colours were made fast with the following mordants (ආර්ථි): (1) ජාච්චාර්ථ (chavakkaram), a kind of alkaline salt; (2) සිනක්කාර්ථ (sinakkaram) alum; (3) පරිකාර්ථ (porikaram), another kind of alum (4) වෙක්කාර්ථ (venkaram), borax; and (5) කර්දිකාර්ථ (kardikkaram), lunar caustic.

Varaha Mibvia, who is said to have lived about the sixth century A.D., alludes in his *Brihat Sambuta* to the professional experts in the composition

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(1). *Indian Shipping*, p. 181.

## DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING

### Three Spheres Of Activity

#### PUBLIC INDUCED TO USE LOCAL PRODUCTS

THE Development of Agricultural Marketing falls into three inter-dependant spheres, each of which forms a separate line of activity, but none of which can be developed independently of the others. These three spheres are:—

To increase the demand for products of Ceylon, by educating the Ceylon public to consume Ceylon produce in greater quantities and in preference to foreign goods.

To increase the supply of Ceylon to meet this increased demand.

To organize orderly Marketing to provide the necessary link between this increased Demand and Supply, which will give the Ceylon consuming Public their Ceylon Products at a reasonable price, while at the same time ensuring to the Ceylon Producer a fair price for his produce.

Thus observes the Commissioner for Development of Agricultural Marketing in his Administration Report for 1938.

To deal with each of these spheres of the department's policy in brief detail, adds the Commissioner, it will be seen that the first, i.e., increasing of demand for products of Ceylon is in effect a campaign corresponding exactly to the industrial Swadeshi movement in India, except that in India the movement is unofficial, whereas in Ceylon, as there is no such unofficial organization, the Marketing Department has taken its place. Under this sphere come such activities as the Exhibition of Ceylon Produce of every kind at "Ceylon Products" in Chatham Street, the Stockists' Scheme, lectures, newspaper articles and interviews, the Market Information Bulletin, and miscellaneous advertisements. The second sphere of activity, i.e., the increase of supply, is effected by means of Commodity Marketing Schemes, such as Government Rice Mill, the Milk and Egg Marketing Schemes and others enumerated later in this report.

#### Orderly Marketing

The third sphere, i.e., the organization of Orderly Marketing is actuated to a large extent by the same commodity schemes, but cannot be effectively organized without the passing of Marketing legislation such as is now in force in Queensland. Two such Ordinances "The Primary Producers Organization and Marketing Act" and the "Agricultural Produce Agents Act" ready framed, were placed before the Executive Committee for Agriculture and Lands in March, 1938. The third Act, "The National Mark Act" ready framed, was placed before the Executive Committee for Agriculture and Lands in June, 1938.

In carrying out this policy I have continued, as in former years, to act strictly upon the principles advised in paragraph 347 of the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India. These principles,

when put into practice, constitute in sequence preliminary investigation, experiment by trial and error, test by means of formulated schemes, and finally, the acceptance of the scheme as a practical marketing organization, run by the producers themselves or their agents. The stages of the sequence usually overlap, and frequently the development of a commodity will remain for a year or two at the test stage, until the necessary reliable private organization can be found to take it up, while occasionally a scheme is seen at some stage to be impracticable and is discarded.

#### Comments

Two comments have occasionally been made to me, both of which in effect mean the same thing. "The Marketing Department does not do enough outside Colombo", and "The Marketing Department does nothing for people in my district."

It has to be remembered that the Marketing Department Staff consists of 26 officers, of whom 22 are necessary to run the Head Office, "Ceylon Products," Old Town Hall Market, Rice Depot, Process Room and the Government Rice Mill, Anuradhapura. It is not possible with the remaining staff of four to have an officer in every part of Ceylon. It has in fact been eminently undesirable to diffuse the energies of the department by trying to organize small individual enterprises in a large number of places. It is the obvious mistake of the beginner. Practical experience has taught us that orderly marketing has to expand outwards from a highly organized and severely tested central foundation or clearing depot, assisted by and in case of vegetables and fruit, beyond which commodities very few people look, depending almost entirely, in Ceylon, upon adequate marketing legislation. The department has, after overcoming a very large number of difficulties, some of which are not yet entirely conquered, established its central organization, while the necessary Legislation is framed and awaits sanction of the State Council. In the meantime, the remainder of this report will demonstrate that marketing activities based on sound central organization have expanded all over the Island. As examples of this I would mention the Stockists' Scheme, which, based upon the Colombo depot, feeds stockists of Ceylon produce in 80 different towns, while our Colombo market for Ceylon Rice takes 2,000 bushels per month from the North-Central Province and a large quantity from other parts of the Island.

It is the policy of the department to initiate fresh steps of development so that they became normal habits of the public, not grandiose and expensive schemes. In this way the public are learning to eat more Ceylon rice, drink more milk, and consume more Ceylon ghee, oil,

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## A Peep Into Colonial Administration

(Continued from page 1)

ago led the field as a slave-trader. She is still in the business down in her African Empire—and with much the same picturesque trimmings. The new word for it, however, is "forced labour". Forced-labour agents, accompanied by soldiers, visit native villages and "persuade" chiefs to furnish them with labourers. The latter, chained around the neck, are marched hundreds of miles to the coast, where they are auctioned off to cocoa-plantation owners from the islands of St. Thome and Principe. These victims never get paid for their labour, the agents receive about \$150 a head for adults and \$75 to \$100 for boys and girls.

Americans need not indulge in too much righteous horror over these doings. The record of the United States' imperialism in the past—in Haiti, Santo Domingo, Nicaragua and Mexico—is no source of pride. Although we have now withdrawn from these republics and granted autonomy to the Philippines, we have not repented. We are repeating the old errors in Puerto Rico, where a nationalist movement has arisen, marked by hatred of "Yanqui" imperialism. In 1936, Nationalist terrorist assassinated Colonel Riggs, head of the insular police. American officials charged Albizu Campos and other Nationalist leaders with "conspiracy to overthrow the government of the United States." These Nationalists were sentenced to six years in jail. Police killed twenty members of a peaceful assemblage of Nationalists called to protest against the arrest of Albizu Campos and his companions.

If the colonial demands of Cer-

many and Italy are granted, what treatment could the natives expect from their new masters?

#### Germany's Colonies

Germany's treatment of her pre-war colonies leaves no doubt about the fate of natives in case she wins colonial appeasement. The First Reich treated natives with the cruelty characteristic of colonial exploiters. The Germans drove natives off the best land, which they appropriated for themselves, and forced the blacks to work in mines and plantations. In German South-west Africa, they mercilessly liquidated the Herreros who had put up a resistance to these policies. Over 1,00,000 of these unfortunates were driven into the desert and kept there by armed detachments until they died. Although the Germans attempted to reform their colonial administration after this horrifying scandal, they apparently made little progress in winning back the natives. For when the War broke out in 1914, no natives in German East Africa remained loyal to Germany. To-day Africans fear return of German rule—and with reason.

This is the picture of what the imperial powers have done. It is already being blurred, however, by hypocritical propaganda from both Haves and Have-Nots. British imperialists, in order to justify their retention of African colonies, glibly quote Hitler's "ape-head" remarks. They keep silent about the racial doctrines of the Union of South Africa. The Germans, for their part, harp on their "reformed" colonial era (following the Herrero massacre) when Dr. Deraburg introduced many social-welfare reforms in the interests of the natives. The British could retort to this by pointing to many benevolent measures carried out in their colonies. Yet all this begs the question.

The point is that, whatever the alleviating details, the basic exploitation and the native resistance to it continue. Jomo Kenyatta, speaking for the inhabitants of Kenya, put the matter well, "No one in his senses fights for the difference between 11/1 and a shilling." What the natives really want is their independence.

(The New Republic.)

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# INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS VIEWS WITH CONCERN

## The Anti-Indian Measures Of Ceylon Government

### PUNDIT NEHRU COMING TO CEYLON TO NEGOTIATE

Bombay, Friday.

**P**ANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU is definitely going to Ceylon in connection with the repatriation problem.

Mr. S. Kripalani, General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee, has released the following resolution on Indians in Ceylon: "The A.I.C.C. views with grave concern the measures proposed by the Ceylon Government with reference to their Indian employees and hopes it will be possible to find a way to avoid the most undesirable and grave conflict that as a result of these measures is present between such near and ancient neighbours as India and Ceylon.

"The Committee cannot contemplate without much concern the quarrel between two countries which are separated only by a strip of water, which have a common culture and which have been intimately connected from time immemorial.

"The Committee desires to explore every means of avoiding a conflict and, therefore, has appointed Pandit Nehru to go to Ceylon, to confer with the authorities, representative associations, and individuals on behalf of the Working Committee, and do all that may be possible to effect a just and honourable settlement."

The Government of India is reported to have adopted a firm attitude with regard to the scope of the forthcoming Indo-Ceylon trade talks, according to information received here by some members of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, who have been keenly watching developments in Ceylon and making representations to the Government in India.

The preliminary exchange of correspondence between the two Governments appears to show that the Ceylon Government is not anxious to begin negotiations before October this year. The Government of India, which is in constant touch with Indian opinion in Ceylon, is said to have no serious objection to such a late date provided one important condition is fulfilled.

This is that the status of Indians in Ceylon should definitely form part of the negotiations and, what is even more important, that till negotiations are concluded no action should be taken by the Ceylon Government to alter that status.

This main point which the Government of India intends to secure by their insistence on this provision is to obviate the possibility of being presented, when negotiations begin, with a "fait accompli" in pursuance of the Ceylon Government's declared policy of removing Indians from

Ceylon to make room for Ceylonese unemployed.

It is emphasised in these circles that there will be no relaxation of the Government of India's attitude on this point.

### Travancore Upset

Trivandrum, Friday.

"The Travancore Government is taking every possible step to bring home to the Government of India the seriousness of the situation relating to Indians in Ceylon, a large number of whom are Travancoreans," said Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Dewan and President of the Travancore Legislative Assembly, with reference to four adjournment motions relating to Travancoreans in Ceylon.

The President added that there were some features in the situation which the Ceylon Government should bear in mind in dealing with the matter. It was a fact that at present the Travancore duty on Jaffna tobacco was much lower than that in British India.

"The Government of Travancore has jurisdiction enabling them to levy a differential duty on foreign tobacco imported into the State. I feel pretty sure that the Ceylon Government will be as much alive as anyone else to the significance of this provision. I am also sure that the Travancore Government, to which this matter has a special leverage possibility, will take action to make legitimate use of it for the purpose of getting adequate treatment for Travancoreans."

At the same time the President stated that the Travancore Legislative Reforms Act precluded such matters as were raised by the present adjournment motions from cognisance and he, therefore, felt obliged to disallow the motion.

### Mr. Desai's Fears

Bombay, Saturday.

The view that unless strong measures are taken in India the Ceylon Ministers might complete their scheme of repatriation of Indian daily paid workers in the employ of the Ceylon Government before the Indo-Ceylon trade talks begin in October was expressed by Mr. H. M. Desai, President of the Indian Mercantile Chamber of Ceylon and Secretary of the Committee of the central organization of Indians in Ceylon, who has arrived in Bombay from Colombo.

On Friday night Mr. Desai will meet Mr. Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and other Congress leaders and acquaint them with the situation in Ceylon and endeavour to enlist the active sympathy of the Congress.

Mr. Desai revealed that the Vice-

## Protest Against Municipality

### Deputation to See Minister

**A** PROTEST against the proposed Municipality was made at a meeting of the Committee of the Jaffna Urban Ratepayers' Central Association, held at the Mankayakarasi Vidiyasalai, Nallur.

Chevalier P. Moses, the President, said that the cigar industry, the mainstay of Jaffna, had fallen on evil days. The export trade in tobacco to Malabar was not flourishing as it used to be.

It now threatened to become extinct altogether on account of the contemplated reprisals of the Indian authorities on account of the anti-Indian activities of the homogenous ministry. It was a shame that Jaffna should be made to suffer for the iniquities of the majority community.

The inflow from F.M.S. had dwindled to a paltry sum which also might in a few years stop altogether. The value of lands had also been steadily going down. Ninety per cent. of the people in the Urban area could not afford to have a full meal a day.

The people found it difficult to pay the present taxes and they would find it difficult to pay the higher taxes when a Municipality was established. No sane man could say that a Municipality could run on the same taxes.

Chevalier S. Arulanandam moved that a memorial be sent to the Minister for Local Administration.

### Urgent Schemes

Mr. R. Sivagurunathar, seconding, said that reference should be made in the memorial to the heavy commitments the U. D. C. had undertaken in providing for a pipe borne water system to Wards 1, 2, and 8 and to the housing scheme at Karayur, both of which were necessities which could not be postponed.

Messrs. V. Muttucumar and Sam Seevaratnam supported the motion, which was carried.

Mr. A. Mahadeva, M. S. C., said the question had been put to him what action he had taken in regard to the Municipality. The Minister consulted him more than a year ago and he replied that he was personally in favour of the establishment of a Municipality, but whatever his personal views he would be guided by the wishes of the people. He therefore suggested that the Minister obtain the opinion of the members of the U. D. C.

He would have liked very much if Mr. Sam Sabapathy, Chairman of the U. D. C., and Mr. B. R. Nalliah had also been invited to the meeting so that they could meet the arguments that had been urged against

roy had agreed to receive a deputation of Indians on behalf of the Indians in Ceylon in October, about the time of the Indo-Ceylon trade talks.

## PROVINCIAL COUNCILS FOR CEYLON

### DONOUGHMORE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FAVOURS PROPOSAL

**T**HE Executive Committee of Local Administration is in favour of the establishment of Provincial Councils and concurs with the recommendation of the Donoughmore Commissioners that the Councils should be tried as an experiment in a single area.

A report of the Executive Committee, outlining the general principles for the creation of a system of Provincial Councils throughout the country will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the State Council.

It is suggested that the proposed Provincial Councils should be set up in respect of the revenue districts, on the lines of the English County Councils, with statutory or non-statutory committees of the Council to which will be delegated various duties, the ultimate responsibility for which will be vested in the Council.

The form of election recommended to the Provincial Councils is indirect election by the local bodies concerned.

The following scheme of representation in the new Councils is recommended for local bodies:—

(1) For Urban District Councils: Two members if the population at the last preceding census was 10,000 and under; four members if the population was between 10,000 and 20,000 and five members if the population exceeds 20,000.

(2) For Small Towns: One member if the population is under 5,000 and two members otherwise.

(3) For Village Committees: One member if the population is under 30,000 and two otherwise.

a Municipality. They were not urging the establishment of a Municipality from selfish or personal motives.

He would be happy to introduce to the Minister any deputation that this meeting might decide to send. He would tell the Minister the opinion expressed at that meeting.

Mr. C. Nadarajah proposed that a deputation, consisting of Messrs. R. Sivagurunathar (leader) C. Arulanandam, Sam Seevaratnam, A. K. Subramaniam, Kathi S. M. Abocbucker and Chevalier S. Arulanandam should see the Minister for Local Administration. Mr. N. Mailvaganam seconded carried.

## Motor Insurance

We beg to remind you that under the New Motor Ordinance No. 45 of 1938, you must insure your Motor Vehicles against Third Party or Public Risk before July 1939. It has been notified by Government that from 1st July 1939 license will be issued only to such vehicles as have been duly and properly insured under requirements of the said Ordinance.

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## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 1939

### BAN ON NORTHERN PORTS

WE HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL letters from public-spirited men, protesting emphatically against the proposed closure of Northern ports for goods from infected ports on the pretext that there do not exist in Jaffna facilities for fumigation of such goods. On the face of it, it is clear the authorities have not given sufficient thought to the repercussions of the contemplated measure. For three decades and more Jaffna ports have had goods traffic with India to the distinct advantage of the people, even in times when Bubonic plague raged virulently in some parts of the neighbouring continent. It is well-known that for some years the people have been made to hope that Jaffna ports will be permitted to have passenger traffic with India. We know for certain the Government propose to open one port for passenger traffic, confining it only to the residents of this peninsula. At a time like this the *fiat* has gone forth that from September 1st no paddy, rice or any other article of food will be permitted to be landed at Northern ports from infected ports. It passes our understanding that the Government are so resourceless as to contemplate the proposed ban on the ground that Jaffna

does not possess the machinery necessary for fumigation of goods from infected ports. Surely it should be possible for our Government to devise such means as would afford facilities for fumigation in Jaffna. Instead, the proposal of the Quarantine Authorities looks like a punitive measure calculated to strike the poor people of Jaffna. For who does not know that the effect of this ban will be increased unemployment, poverty and prices of food products? At a time like this when our Government are bending all their resources to solve the problem of unemployment and poverty in this country, we cannot bring ourselves to believe that it will seriously resort to the proposed ban on Northern Ports which will prove positively detrimental to the welfare of the people. It is to us a matter of special gratification that Mr. K. BALASINGHAM, than whom we cannot think of one who has made a deeper and more intimate study of the question of Northern Ports and other allied matters, has interviewed the Board of Ministers on this subject, endeavouring to the best of his ability to bring home to them how seriously the public mind is agitated over it. We deem it our duty to urge upon the Ministers with all earnestness at our command the imperative need for revising the proposed ban in the best interests of the people, providing necessary facilities in Jaffna for fumigation of goods.

### An Education Commission

We have on more than one occasion urged in these columns the need for an Education Commission presided over by some expert from abroad to take stock of our entire educational system and to formulate a coherent unified policy for the Island. We then pointed out that our system is a tangle of cross purposes and competing sectional and personal interests without a clear vision or any definite goal, and entirely out of harmony with the changing social, economic and political needs of the country. We are glad to note that at long last the Executive Committee of Education have come to realise the urgency of appointing a commission or at least find it necessary to make some grudging concession to the repeated demands for a commission made by the Teachers' Associations, though in their self-complacency they have been all this time resisting the demand as a reflection on their capacity to review the educational policy of the Island.

Be that as it may, we understand that certain educationists have been asked to draft the terms of reference for the Commission and the personnel will be announced soon. But we

are afraid that the Executive Committee are depriving their decision of a good deal of its usefulness and of something of its grace by confining the personnel to local men. Those who have advocated the calling of some expert from abroad have not done so in any spirit of snobbery or even diffidence in local capacity. Local men, however capable and conscientious they may be, cannot bring to the consideration of our educational problems that measure of detachment and openness of mind which it is possible for an outsider to assume, and without which the conclusions of any commission are apt to be vitiated by sectional bias and preconceived notions. An expert from outside has the further advantage of a broader vision and a clearer grasp of the essentials, which local men are too often apt to lose sight of. There is also the possibility that men may be offered a seat on the Commission on considerations other than their capacity as educationists. Though there was never any lack of expert educationists, India has not been slow to avail herself of experts from England to review her educational policy and to draw up schemes of reform. In India it has been the invariable practice to get British experts to review the educational policy periodically. The Wood-Abbot report on vocational education has justly won the praise of all educationists. The State Council which is spending lavishly on so many minor matters should not grudge the expense of calling an expert from Britain, as the advantage of securing one will far outweigh any expenses incurred on that score.

### CHIEF TAMIL TRANSLATOR

#### Two Posts To Be Amalgamated

The posts of Chief Tamil Translator to the Ceylon Government is to be amalgamated with the post of Chief Tamil Translator to the Education Department, and the office is also to be shifted from the Chief Secretary's Department to the Education Department.

These changes are to take place shortly with the retirement of Gate-Mudaliyar N. N. Thamotheeram, Tamil Interpreter to the Governor and Chief Tamil Translator to the Ceylon Government, who is at present on leave preparatory to retirement.

Mr. A. B. Rajendra, Chief Tamil Translator to the Education Department, is to succeed Gate-Mudaliyar Thamotheeram as Chief Tamil Translator to the Ceylon Government; but the question of the appointment of a Tamil Interpreter to the Governor has not yet been decided.

## BAN ON NORTHERN PORTS

### FUMIGATION FACILITIES FOR JAFFNA

#### MR. K. BALASINGHAM INTERVIEWS MINISTERS

THE Board of Ministers, it is learned, will reconsider their decision in regard to enforcing the rule whereby the Northern ports will be closed for the importation of paddy, rice and other articles of food from September this year.

It is learned that Mr. K. Balasingham interviewed the Ministers and explained to them the hardship and inconvenience that will be caused to the people of the N. r. h. should the rule be enforced.

The rule is sought to be enforced because of the absence of facilities for the fumigation of the articles imported through the Northern Ports.

It is now understood that arrangements can be easily made for fumigation in Jaffna itself and that therefore the ban need not be enforced.

### Excess Expenditure of 21 Lakhs

#### Treasury Statement for May

An excess of expenditure over revenue, amounting to Rs. 2,122,053, occurred last month according to a Treasury Statement issued on Friday.

The revenue for the month amounted to Rs. 9,266,194 and the expenditure to Rs. 11,388,252 compared with a revenue of Rs. 8,471,220 and an expenditure of Rs. 10,382,380 in May, 1938.

The Customs revenue of Rs. 4,777,095 for last month was a lakh and a half more than on May, 1938, and the revenue from Income Tax, (Rs. 1,726,318) was eight lakhs more than in the corresponding month of last year.

On the expenditure side, more was spent on Education and Health.

From the beginning of the current financial year (October, 1938) up to May, the revenue has amounted to Rs. 78,957,484, compared with Rs. 77,204,004 for the corresponding period of the previous year.

### "AN URGENT NECESSITY"

#### Appointment Of Education Commission

The Colombo Teachers Association at its general meeting on Friday, passed the following resolution:-

"The appointment of an Education Commission is an urgent necessity".

## ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN COALITION FOR PEACE

### France and Turkey Sign Mutual Assistance Pact

#### A FURTHER SET-BACK TO HERR HITLER

THE coalition for peace, sponsored by Britain and France, took another step forward on Friday when France and Turkey signed a mutual assistance pact.

The conclusion of this agreement is a further set-back to Herr Hitler who, after the success of the Anglo-Turkish mutual defence talks last month, instructed the Reich Ambassador in Ankara, Herr Fritz von Papen, to submit counter-proposals to secure Turkish neutrality at least where France was concerned.

The Franco-Turkish pact is virtually on the same lines as the Anglo-Turkish agreement. It is, in effect, a long-term pact of reciprocal aid by which, should an act of aggression lead to war in the Mediterranean area, the two countries would lend each other all the aid in their power.

### SINGAPORE PREPARES FOR WAR

#### Battle-Fleet to be Stationed

Singapore, Friday.

Full preparations have already been made for stationing a battle-fleet based on Singapore in the event of war.

If hostilities should break out, Vice-Admiral Sir Percy Noble, Commander-in-Chief of the British China Squadron, will be Supreme Commander of the joint Anglo-French naval forces.

He is at present in Singapore, attending the Conference here for the purpose of formulating plans for Anglo-French co-ordination of defence. It is thought that if the Far Eastern situation takes a turn for the worse, he will accelerate his return to China.

A serious view of the situation in Tientsin and Swatow, it is believed, is being taken by the Anglo-French defence conference here, although confirmation is lacking.

### BANK OF CEYLON Shares Oversubscribed

Colombo, Saturday.

The applications for Bank of Ceylon ordinary shares closed yesterday.

There has been a good response from the public who have applied for over 40,000 shares, though the shares offered were 30,000.

The registration of application was carried out till late yesterday afternoon and the actual figures, it is understood, will be available this afternoon.

### RELIEF TO JAFFNA CULTIVATORS

#### Youth Congress Appeals to Ministry

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Youth Congress, Jaffna, was held on Saturday, 24th instant at 5 p.m. at the Kalanilayam Hall with Mr. S. H. Perinpanayagan, the President, in the chair.

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

1. In as much as no relief has hitherto been given to the Jaffna cultivators affected by the recent floods and since the delay has led to severe hardships, the Executive Committee of the Youth Congress, Jaffna, begs to press on the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce the urgency of the matter and requests that immediate steps be taken to give relief to the cultivators.

2. This Committee is of opinion that in the interest of Ceylon future immigration of Indians should be restricted; but the Committee strongly condemns the policy of repatriation pursued by the Government of Ceylon, since such action is unfair in as much as they have been led to expect permanent employment in Ceylon.

3. This Committee welcomes the appointment of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to inquire into the problem of Indians in Ceylon.

4. This Committee deplors the irresponsible utterance made by Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam against the Sinhalese race at the Nawal piti-a public meeting. It also expresses its disappointment at the reactions engendered among the Sinhalese masses by certain Sinhalese gentlemen from whom the country has a right to expect a saner leadership.

Messrs S. Mahadevan, V. Sachithanandam and V. V. Karunanithy were elected a Sub-Committee to inquire and report on the grievances of the Cigar Workers.

### Namagal Reading Room

Under the auspices of the Kokuvil Young Men's Hindu Association, the Namagal Reading Room was opened by Mr. C. T. Lorange B. A., B. ED., Divisional Inspector of Schools, N. D., on Friday the 23rd inst., at about 5-55 p.m.

The meeting was well attended.

### Obituary

#### DR. K. CHITTAMPALAM

We regret to record the death of Dr. K. Chittampalam, retired Medical Officer, which occurred yesterday at his residence at Koddady, Vannarponne West. The funeral was largely attended and the remains were cremated at the Villoondi Crematorium at 4 p. m. yesterday in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering. Our condolences to the bereaved family.

### Assurance to Indians in Ceylon

#### Congress Not Idle

Bombay, Saturday.

At today's session of the All-India Congress Committee Babu Rajendra Prasad, the Congress President, said: "Apart from international happenings the national problems that we have to face are of the gravest import, and the position of our countrymen overseas is becoming intolerable. Already they have suffered greatly in Ceylon."

Dr. Pattabhi Satharamayya moved with reference to the measures proposed by the Ceylon Government that Pandit Nehru be sent to Ceylon to try to adjust the situation. He said that there was hardly any differences between Ceylonese and Indians, in fact one third of Ceylon's population, the north of the Island, was Tamilian. As a matter of fact Ceylon should be part and parcel of Hindusthan culturally.

Unfortunately, of late queer steps had been taken in the dismissing of six thousand Indians who were in the employ of the Government. Other steps now being taken would throw 20,000 Indians out of employment.

These people were invited long ago to Ceylon in order to help to develop that country.

In the present circumstances two courses were open, one to take retaliatory hostile measures and the other to explore all avenues of friendly negotiations.

It was expected that Pandit Nehru would be able to negotiate with the authorities in Ceylon for a satisfactory settlement of the issue.

The resolution was seconded by Pandit Balakrishna Sharma and carried unanimously.

Babu Rajendra Prasad referred to the number of reports being received every day from Indians in Ceylon about their plight and he assured them that Congress was not remaining idle, but was doing everything it could do in the matter.

Boycott of Ceylon copra and coconuts was advocated by some, but before resorting to that extreme retaliatory measure they should explore all other ways, hence the Congress Working Committee had decided to send Pandit Nehru to Ceylon to try to bring about a settlement. He appealed to Indians in Ceylon to have full faith in Congress.

(Continued)

fuge with her family and refused to return; or it may be a refusal to move to another village; or food may not have been satisfactorily cooked; or it may be morbid jealousy, often without foundation, or suspicion of irregular intimacy on her part. These and such other trivial causes lead to murder, most often of the mistress but sometimes of some member of her family who attempts to interfere.

The next type most frequently met with are murders arising out of land disputes, particularly regarding land held in common by several co-owners. The possession of land in infinitesimal shares encourages litigation and gives rise to constant quarrels which unfortunately often end fatally.

### DROP IN HOMICIDE CASES

#### MURDERS COMMON IN VILLAGES

#### CAUSES OF CRIME IN CEYLON

ALTHOUGH there has been a drop in the number of homicide cases with a consequent drop in the number of death sentences and executions there has been no appreciable decrease in convictions for serious violence, which remained at 1,037 as against 1,028 the previous year. Convictions for grievous hurt and hurt with dangerous weapons increased by 38 and 101 respectively, says Mr. C. C. Schokman, the Inspector General of Prisons, in his Administration Report for 1938.

Cases of knifing, he adds, form a feature of local life. It is asserted that in relation to population the proportion of murders is high when compared with certain other countries but the factors that contribute to homicide vary and certain features peculiar to this country must be taken into account in considering this type of crime in Ceylon.

The hired assassin is practically unknown and there are no criminal gangs that prey upon the community with an utter disregard for human life such as exist in large metropolitan cities elsewhere.

The offender who commits murder here does not as a rule belong to the criminal class. Many are persons who up to the time of the crime have led comparatively blameless lives.

The offences are committed not with the cool deliberation of the hardened criminal but in the fury-heat of passion or perhaps on some occasions under the influence of liquor. The problem appears to be one of village life. Murders are committed not so much in the towns as in the villages among the illiterate and the uneducated. More often than not it is the tiller of the soil and not his fellow townsman who stands in the dock on trial for his life.

#### Cause Of Crime

Among the causes are (a) the absence of anything like a strong public opinion or social aversion against the use of the knife as a weapon of offence (b) the habit of carrying a knife in the villager's daily pursuits, and (c) an inferior moral code among the rural population leading to loose morals, little or no home ties or parental influence and no stability or permanence of home life. This is an important factor when one considers that the type of murder most frequently to be found in Ceylon is what may be described as 'domestic murder.'

These murders arise out of the relationship of husband and wife or more frequently of couples united in less regular relationships. The woman owing to estrangement may have taken re-

(Continued on Previous Column)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

## Municipality for Jaffna

Sir,—The creation of a municipality involves the appointment of paid officers such as Municipal Commissioner, Assessor, Municipal Magistrate, Health Officer, Drainage Engineer, Accountant, Secretary and other sub-ordinate staff which must be more than the present staff. This must therefore increase the cost of establishment charges which must in turn cost more in taxes or reduce available revenue for expenditure on essential public services. This then is the reason that prompts those who oppose the establishment of a Municipality. The election expenses will also add to these expenses. The objection to the establishment of a municipality should not therefore be lightly dismissed unless we are in a position to find an alternative which will prevent these additional burdens while the rate-payers are unable to meet anything more than what they pay now which is the maximum that could be paid by them. If the municipal provisions will permit the engagement of honorary officers as Municipal Commissioner, Magistrate and other officers, there should be no objection. In Jaffna, we have any amount of experienced and retired officers from whom we could fill these appointments with slight all wances. Such an arrangement is not opposed to the municipal provision provided we are able to find honorary men. Those who oppose the establishment of a municipality do so because the U. D. C. does not cost much.

When compared with the Kandy and Galle Municipalities, Jaffna is more in revenue, area and population, and therefore Jaffna should be a municipality. Colombo alone is fit in Ceylon to possess a municipality because owing to the trade centre, concentration of business houses, industry and the concentration of Government Departments, port etc. Galle, Kandy and Jaffna cannot boast any of these advantages. They are essentially residential areas without much sources of revenue. It is a case of competing with the prominent provincial town of Colombo. I do not find that the Municipality of Galle or Kandy any better than the U. D. C. Jaffna, Panadura or Dhiwella.

Some of the Urban District Councils have however developed and require the services of full time workers to carry on their burden and also to carry on without hindrance or direction of the Local Government Board which is intended to direct minor Local Bodies. If therefore we can find honorary workers or workers on lesser and moderate salary, we should have no objection to the establishment of a Municipality in Jaffna. Such a step is desirable for the further improvement of the town and the creation of new industries and essential services such as drainage, water supply etc. and also to take away from the central Government the civic affairs of the town fully investing the powers with the ratepayers of the town. In view of the false fixation made by Kandy and Galle, Jaffna cannot long stand out but come out to maintain its

## KING AND QUEEN RETURN

## Uproarious Welcome at Home

London, Thursday.

The King and Queen set foot again on English soil at Southampton.

After the Empress of Britain docked, a hush fell on the eager thousands while they waited for that great moment. Then, as the King and Queen landed, an amazing uproar of welcome broke out.

The King, wearing the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet, and the Queen, in a dress of powder-blue, looked extremely well and showed little trace of the fatigue which the Royal tour entailed, though they were both obviously a little thinner.

Their Majesties were followed down the gangway by the young Princesses, Queen Mary and other members of the Royal Family.

Cheering, the like of which Southampton had never heard before, shrieks from engine whistles on the dockside railways, the booming of ships' sirens and the screeching of tugs and hooters greeted Their Majesties on their arrival and the cheering broke out afresh again and again. Their Majesties were visibly touched by the overwhelming warmth of their welcome which continued with unabated enthusiasm when Their Majesties drove to the Civic Centre for a formal welcome by the Mayor and Mayoress of Southampton and other civic dignitaries.

importance. All what is required is that the Urban Council authorities should find out from the authorities concerned whether there is objection to the appointment of honorary workers on small allowances or officers on moderate scales of pay and let the opponents be informed of this enquiry when all should be able to support the proposal.

Yours truly,  
"C".26, Kaluwella,  
Galle, 20-6-39.

## எலியிர்ப்போர்கை

Sir,—With reference to the second letter of "Artquarian Student" that appeared in your issue of June 12, 1939, I wish to inform him that there were three Oavvais, one the contemporary of Thiruvalluvar in the first century B. C. and her poems are in Pura Nannu; the second was at the time of Saint Sunderamcorthi in the ninth century A. D. and is said to have gone to Kailasam with him; and the third was in the time of Kambar in the twelfth century A. D. and her poems alone have the invocation to Pillaiyar.

Yours etc.  
"Murugar Amlan"Colombo,  
June 15, 1939.

No 321

## Money to Remain with Govt

## Tamil Man's Claim Disallowed

Colombo, Saturday.

An order to the effect that a sum of Rs. 1,409 found in a tin suitcase carried by a Tamil man named Vaithilingam who was arrested on suspicion by Sergeant Angamann, of the Crime Police, in Price Park on September 1, be placed at the disposal of Government, was made by Mr. Mervyn Joseph, the Colombo Magistrate, yesterday.

Inspector C. A. W. Edwards, of the C. I. D., had made an application on November 2 to the Magistrate of Colombo for an order with regard to the disposal of the money as it was suspected that the money was the proceeds of an offence.

The Magistrate ordered that a notification be made in the Government Gazette requiring any person, who had a claim to the Money to come before that Court and establish his claim.

L. Ramasathan Sionadarai, of Thunradai, Point Pedro, a brother of Vaithilingam, who was one of the three respondents to this application, appealed to the Supreme Court from the Magistrate's order and claimed the money.

Mr. Justice Scortsz, before whom the matter came up, refused the application.

The matter then came up before Mr. Mervyn Joseph, Magistrate, Colombo, for inquiry with regard to the disposal of the money.

In the course of his order the Magistrate stated that if he accepted the evidence of P. C. Angamann, who originally found the money and he saw no reason why he should not do so, the person in whose possession it was found would not be the present respondent, but his companion and step brother Vythilingam, for he believed, that it was Vythilingam, who originally claimed the money as his.

He held in effect that the respondent now before the Court and who claimed this money had not satisfied him that he came by the money legally, and he disallowed his claim to it.

He made an order that the money be at the disposal of the Government.

## DISCHARGE OF NON-CEYLONESE EMPLOYEES

## Question in House of Commons

London, June 21

In the House of Commons today, replying to Sir Nairne Sandeman (Con.), Sir Thomas Inskip, Secretary of State for the Dominions, gave details regarding the discharge of Governmental Non-Ceylonese employees.

Sir Nairne Sandeman: Was not there an understanding when the Constitution was given to Ceylon that all minorities would be treated alike and treated fairly?

Sir Thomas Inskip: I see no reason to think that the persons to whom Sir Nairne Sandeman refers to have not been treated with perfect fairness. (Cries of 'Oh').

## No Non-Ceylonese Teachers in Future

## Mr. Jayah on Salaries Scheme

Colombo, Saturday.

For all practical purposes, a scheme of grading and a quota had been accepted as well as a tentative salaries scheme for Teachers, said Mr. T. B. Jayah, President of the Colombo Teachers' Association presiding at the annual general meeting of the Association, held at the Zahira College yesterday.

Mr. Jayah also mentioned that the third reading of the Education Bill would probably be taken up in the State Council next week.

In reply to a question regarding the employment of non-Ceylonese teachers, Mr. Jayah said that so far no steps had been taken for the discontinuance of non-Ceylonese teachers, but one step he knew was that in future no non-Ceylonese shall be employed save in very special cases.

"You will know more about it say within about a month," said Mr. Jayah in reply to a volley of questions from different members of the audience.

## REDUCTION OF FREIGHTS BETWEEN INDIA AND CEYLON

## Mr C. H. Z Fernando in Bombay

Bombay, June 22.

Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, Chairman of the Ceylon Coconut Board, arrived here this morning by the s.s. Conte Verde.

Together with Mr. M. H. Kantawala, Ceylon Trade Commissioner, he will discuss with interested parties in Bombay the question of the reduction of shipping freights between India and Ceylon.

Mr. Kantawala is arranging a conference of oil millers to discuss with Mr. Fernando the question of the improvement of the Ceylon desiccated copra and oil trade with India.

## SERIAL LETTERS FOR MOTOR CARS

## Innovation in Number Plates

There are over 30,000 motor vehicles on the Ceylon roads, and their ever-increasing numbers have necessitated the introduction in the near future, of a new serial letter for number plates.

The Registrar of Motor Cars has devised a method by which the new serial letters will consist of combinations from the word "Ceylon."

It has been suggested that the serial letter "Z" should be followed by the serial letters "C. E."

Although the combination "C. L." cannot be used as it signifies the international licence, the Registrar has proposed successive combinations of "C. Y," "C. O" and "C. N."

## Applied Sciences In Ancient India

(Continued from page 1)

tion of dyes and cosmetics.

Tavernier, who visited India on six different occasions, the first of which was about 1636 A.D. says that cotton cloths to be dyed were taken uncoloured to Agra and Ahmadabad, because these two towns were near the place where the indigo used in dyeing was made.<sup>(2)</sup>

### Calico-printing

This was one of the departments of Textile Industry in which the ancient Hindus were paramount. Their painted chintzes called *calmendar*, that is to say made with a brush, were famous throughout the whole civilized world of their times. Masalia, the Maisola of Ptolemy, and according to Mc Crindle the Sanscrit Mausala which survives in Machchalipatana, the modern Musalipatam was specially noted for these chintzes<sup>(3)</sup> Pliny gives an account of this art as far as it was known in ancient times. It is precisely the same as that now practised in calico-printing<sup>(4)</sup>

It may be stated here that the colours manufactured by the ancient Hindus with their combinations, when treated with their mordants, were beautiful and fast, and the varieties of pattern and the number of colours which the ancient Hindus knew how to mix on different parts of the cloth, gave to their painted and printed calicos a beauty and a value of no ordinary kind.<sup>(5)</sup>

### Tanning

The people of the time of Rig Veda knew the use of leather. *Charman* as hide or skin is referred to in various places. Hide was used in the instrument to press the soma juice.<sup>(6)</sup>

The bow-string (*godha*) of the ancient Hindus was made of straps of leather. In colour it was twany<sup>(7)</sup> It was more properly called *jya*<sup>(8)</sup> The *jya* is said to be a strip of cowhide.<sup>(9)</sup> A leather guard protected the arm of the soldier from the abrasion of the bow-string and other evils like a snake in its convolutions; it also protected the warrior in every way. This leather guard was known as *hastaghna*, literally meaning, "the protector of the hand."<sup>(10)</sup>

The Rig Veda also tells us that all those around the son of Chedi wore cuirasses of leather.<sup>(11)</sup>

Basu in his *Indo-Aryan Polity* states that "leather bags were prepared out of hides. The grog shop had leather bottles,<sup>(12)</sup> as perhaps these were the only effective means to keep the wine in good condition. Leather bags were used for keeping curd, and as such they

are said to be unbroken and without a defect<sup>(13)</sup> Soma juice was also sometimes kept in a leather bag, and the Aswins were invited to drink some juice out of it."<sup>(14)</sup>

The use of hide could have been possible only with the knowledge of the art of Tanning. Tanning of hides, *mia*, is mentioned in the Rig Veda<sup>(15)</sup> as also the tanner or *charamna*.<sup>(16)</sup> Basu in his *Indo-Aryan Polity* says further that "the exact process of tanning cannot be gathered from the Rig Veda. In one passage it is mentioned that hide was moistened by water<sup>(17)</sup>; this was of course as a preliminary to tanning, but no thing else is said anywhere else". This is no wonder; the Rig Veda is not a text book on Tanning.

However, Professor Rys Davids writing in his *Buddhist India* about trade-guilds at the time of Buddha says that "there is mention in other documents of the same age, of guilds of work-people, and that the number of these is often given afterwards as eighteen. Four of these are mentioned by name, but a list of the whole eighteen has unfortunately not yet been found. It would probably have included the following." Here the Professor mentions the names of the eighteen guilds. The fifth in the list is "leather-workers, who made the numerous sorts of foot-wearing and sandals worn by the people mostly in cold weather, and also the embroidered and costly articles of the same kind mentioned in the books." This shows that the art of tanning in India was in full swing during the time of Buddha.

Sukra also classifies Tanning as one of the sixty-four *Kalas* (arts) known to the ancient

(Continued on Page 8)

- (13) Ibid. vi. 48.18.
- (14) Ibid. viii. 5.19.
- (15) Ibid. viii. 55. 3.
- (16) Ibid. viii. 5.38.
- (17) Ibid. i. 85.5.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 742.

In the matter of the estate of the late Sivagamipillai widow of Murugesar Vyttilingam of Navaly Deceased.

Vyttilingam Mailvaganam of Navaly Vs. Petitioner. Theivanaipillai widow of M. Ramalingam of do Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge on 22nd May 1939 in the presence of Mr. E. Murugesampillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and his affidavit having been read: It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased be issued to the Petitioner as her sole heir unless the Respondent shall appear before the Court on the 28th June 1939 and state objection to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge. 29-5-39.

(O 30, 22 & 26-6-39)

## Development of Agricultural Marketing

(Continued from page 2)

jams, &c. The most outstanding example of the department's services can be gauged by comparing the active interest shown now in making, using, and eating Ceylon products, compared with the apathy displayed in these subjects three years ago, before the Marketing Department began its "Buy Ceylon" campaign, supported by a continuously developing supply. The progress has been orderly, without disorderly fluctuation, and has thus become a permanent feature of Ceylon life, without the fuss that often poses for progress.

### Prices

The effect of the Marketing Department's work on the price of Ceylon produce to the consumer has been, so far as it is possible to ascertain, negligible, with a tendency, if anything to reduction. The Turret road depot has however, established a fair standard price for high quality fruit and vegetables which did not exist before. The effect of the Marketing Department's activities has been to increase the price obtained by producers of every commodity which the department has taken up. These commodities are dealt with in detail in later paragraphs, but outstanding examples are:—cardamoms, paddy, rice seed, gingelly seed, Monragala citrus, and village cacao. In some areas it is now only necessary for the Marketing Officer to appear and make a few inquiries for the dealers at once to raise their price to a reasonable level.

An erroneous idea exists among a class of producers that the Marketing Department should be able to obtain for them a higher price than can be got elsewhere for a poor quality article. Allied to this theory is the assumption that the Marketing Department is a dump where bad stuff can be sent for sale after all other places have been tried, and that unless a high price is obtained, it is legitimate to blame the department and not their own bad production. It should be clearly understood that it is the job of the department to obtain a fair price for good produce, and that it makes no endeavour to beguile customers into paying high prices for bad produce.

### Broadcasting

AKASH-VANI, MYSORE

### This Week's Programme

Wavelength: 70.2 Meters Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

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

#### Monday, the 26th June, 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Light Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
7 p.m. Co Op Education Propaganda: "The Ryot & Co-Operation" by N. Kasturi, Esq., M. A., B. L.

## Proposed Grading Of Teachers

### Protest By A. C. U. T. Committee

Colombo, Friday.

Resolutions objecting to the proposed grading of teachers, the decreased managers' contribution in the new scales of salary for future entrants and the increase of quota, were passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers, held at Zahira College, with Mr E. A. Wijeysooriya, the President, in the chair.

The circular from the Department of Education proposing to terminate the practice of paying salaries on excess of the approved scales was also considered.

It was agreed that this would accentuate the insecurity of the position of teachers and compel managers to violate agreements entered with teachers, causing them immediate pecuniary loss and hardship. A resolution to this effect was framed, to be sent to the Department.

In case the proposed retrenchment measures accepted by the Board of Education are not satisfactory a sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. G. D. Abayaratna, T. Candasamy and R. Philips with power to add to the number was appointed to examine the defects of the scheme and to formulate one which would be acceptable to the teachers.

In the absence of the President, Mr. E. A. Wijeysooriya, who is leaving for Europe on study leave, Mr. A. Kandaiya, the President of the Kandy Teachers' Association, was elected as the acting President.

7-20 to 8:35 p.m. Instrumental Music

#### Tuesday, the 27th June 1939

PRATHAMA EKADASI  
6 p.m. Bhajana  
6.15 p.m. News and Announcements.  
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Harikatha; "Bhaktba Chandra Hasa" by Brahmastri Gamaki Ramakrishna Sastry

#### Wednesday, the 28th June 1939

6 p.m. Theatrical Tunes  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
6-30 to 8-15 p.m. Gottuvadyam Recital by Vidwan V. Srinivasa Iyengar, accompanied by Vidwan Ramiah, (Mridangam.)

#### Thursday, the 29th June 1939

6 p.m. Orchestral Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
7 to 7-30 p.m. Childrens Half Hour  
7-45 p.m. Kannada Drama: "Rukmangada"

#### Friday, the 30th June 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music  
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements  
7 p.m. Hindusthani Music  
7-30 p.m. "Quirat"

#### Saturday, the 1st July 1939

6 p.m. Veena  
6.15 p.m. News and Announcements  
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Vidwan T. Pa manathan, accompanied by Vidwan Subramanyam, (Violin) and Vidwan Ramiab, (Mridangam)

#### Sunday, the 2nd July 1939

No Broadcast

- (2) *Travels in India*, ii. 5. Brooke's ed.
- (3) Schoffs' *Periplus*, p. 253.
- (4) *Natural History*, xxxv. 11. 42.
- (5) *Ency Britt*: Art. Calico
- (6) *Rig Veda*, x. 94.9 and 116.4
- (7) *Ibid.*, viii 69.9
- (8) *Ibid.*, iv. 27.3
- (9) *Ibid.*, vi. 75.3
- (10) *Ibid.*, vi. 75.14
- (11) *Ibid.*, viii. 5.38
- (12) *Ibid.*, i. 191.10.

## APPLIED SCIENCES IN ANCIENT INDIA

(Continued from page 7)

Hindus. Leather industry is mentioned by him in its two processes: (1) the flaying of the skin, and (2) the softening of the hide (tanning) (18)

### Glass-making

The origin of the glass industry in India is uncertain. According to Mitra, it was made in Ceylon in the 3rd century B. C. (19) Pliny refers to the glass of India as superior to all others, because it was made of pounded crystal. (20) The glasses of the ancient Hindus, especially the coloured ones, were in great demand among all nations. A Chinese Emperor, who was shown some samples by a Chinese pilgrim, was so enamoured of them, that he sent a special envoy with costly presents to the Pandyan King, soliciting him to send a ship-load of coloured glasses for use in his palace (21)

It is interesting to note here

- (18) *Sukraniti*, iv. iii. 180-1  
 (19) *Antiquities of Orissa*, i. 101 quoted in Schoff's *Periplus*, p. 220.  
 (20) *Natural History*, xxxvi. 66.  
 (21) Fa Hian's *Fo Kwo-Ki*, Professor Legge's trans., p. 116.

that Pliny also indicates that "the people of India, by colouring crystal, have found a method of imitating various precious stones, beryls in particular." (22) The Hindu play, *Mrichchakatika* or *Little Clay Cart* gives a scene in a court of justice to the following effect "It is true, provost, examine them; they may be different, though like; the dexterity of the artist is no doubt very great, and they readily fabricate imitations of ornaments they have once seen, in such a manner that the difference shall scarcely be discernible." (23)

It may be noted here that pearls were also artificially manufactured by Ceylonese craftsmen in ancient times (24)

- (22) *Natural History*, xxxvii. 20.  
 (23) Quoted in Schoff's *Periplus*, p. 221  
 (24) Meokerji's *Indian Shipping* p. 63.

No 343

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