

THE HINDU ORGAN.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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WHY HINDU CHILDREN HAVE TO ATTEND CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS.

The Special Committee's Reasons For Compromise Recommendation.

"Apart from the impossibility of reversing the existing state of affairs in which children belonging to majority denominations have to attend schools under the control of minority denominations we do not think it fair by the promoters of the existing established denominational schools to do anything that will have the effect of crippling such schools" rite the Special Committee on Education justifying their recommendation.

The Committee write:—

"The main argument for the denominational system has been that education must be imparted against the background of religion. The world is as much in need of religion today as ever before. We are in the midst of a cataclysm that has engulfed the whole world. We see the extent to which power and greed dominate the world and knowledge and science are being prostituted to bring about the destruction and devastation that is now going on all around us. Some people are asking—'have the youth of today who are fighting each other in all parts of the globe been brought up on a wrong sense of values?' The answer is that social, political and educational aims have been deficient. Accordingly in any new educational system we should attach greater importance to moral than to mere intellectual development. It is no less the duty of the State than that of the parent to ensure that the child receives as far as is practicable a 'complete' education and we are of opinion that a religious background is indispensable to a 'complete' education. It is the purpose of denominational control to ensure that this religious background or atmosphere is always present and character-training is given as much emphasis as the training of the mind. Accordingly our next recommendation on the question of denominational control is that whenever any section of the community desires the education of their children conducted under the supervision of the denomination to which the children belong, the State shall grant the necessary facilities. If on the other hand there is no school in a locality or if the majority of the parents of that locality ask for a State school it is the duty of the State to establish such a school. The conditions under which new denominational schools may be established and aided by the State will be dealt with later.

Religious Background

"We noticed in the course of the evidence that there is a misapprehension as to the significance of the term 'religious background'. We should have thought it obvious that religious background or religious atmosphere can refer only to the religion of the child whose education is under discussion—or rather the religion into which the child is born i. e. the religion of the parents at the time of his or her birth (providing that no conversion from the religion at birth to another has taken place). So that, to a child born of Christian parents only a school conducted by a Christian denominational body will furnish a

proper religious background, to a Buddhist child a Buddhist school, and so on. But some witnesses appeared to think that the kind of religion did not matter whereas others thought some religious atmosphere was better than none. In our opinion the denominational ideal should be to ensure that the education of a child is controlled and supervised by the denomination to which the parent of the child belongs. We realize however that this not practicable in the present conditions where minority denominations are in control of the majority of schools. It was pressed upon us that the State should bring about a reversal of this state of affairs by discouraging children from attending a school of an 'unlike' denomination. As far as the existing denominational schools are concerned we think that such a reform should be achieved without resort to any action by the State. The objection to a child attending a school of an 'unlike' denomination is nevertheless sound. Present day denominationalists have time and again publicly stated that they do not now proselytize (what ever might have happened in the past) through the medium of schools. We welcome this changed attitude. We are also aware that the recent tightening-up of the conscience clause has had some good effect.

The Raison d'etre

"But all the same it is incompatible with the denominational thesis that children should attend schools of an 'unlike' denomination. When during the period of the first School Commission Catholic children were obliged to attend the more efficient Protestant schools one of the Catholic leaders wrote that 'for a bit of bread they were tempted in those very schools to renounce their faith and become Protestants before they could well understand what religion was'. This argument gives in a nutshell the *raison d'etre* of denominational control of education. What is strongly objected to by some parents is that children in their impressionable years should be weaned away from the faith of their fathers. We must, however, mention that conversion through the medium of schools has not been considerable in recent years. But a final settlement of this question can be achieved only when the denominational system reaches its ideal state. Of course it will then have achieved one undesirable result, i. e., the segregation of the youth of the Island into religious groups without opportunities for mixing with and understanding each other. But we consider that the advantages of an

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Free Education Scheme.

Both Necessary and Feasible.

Director's Emphatic View.

"A tremendous difference in education will take place if free education is given as recommended by the Special Committee", said Mr. H. S. Perera, the Director of Education, speaking at the prize-giving at St. Thomas' College, Colombo.

The Director estimated that only 4 millions more than the present expenditure would be necessary to implement the scheme.

Barriers

Mr. Perera addressing the gathering said that if he was asked to describe in one word the aims of the Special Committee on Education, he would say—"Removal of Barriers"—and the Special Committee had tried to remove those barriers and to help in the establishment of a democratic state of society in this country. He meant by democracy, a system of society in which everyone got a chance to grow up to fullness of stature, and where everyone would get equal opportunities.

Four Defects

There were barriers in education, continued Mr. Perera, and those were the defects of our educational system. Those defects were, firstly, the creation and continuation of a privileged class. Today there were two classes—the English educated and the vernacular educated, with the result that 10 or 11 per cent. held the best jobs, and controlled everything in the country because of their English education, and the other 90 per cent. were not available for the service of the State owing to the lack of an English education.

The second defect, Mr. Perera said was the absence of equal opportunity. Ninety per cent of the school children did not get the opportunity of a first-class education.

Thirdly, a large number of children went to no school at all and in Colombo alone there were at least 20,000 such children.

The fourth defect was the excessive uniformity of the present system of education.

To remedy the first defect, the Special Committee proposed to give every child an education in English as well and not to limit it to only 10 per cent of children, so that the mere possession of a knowledge of English would not be an exclusive privilege.

Regarding the second defect, Mr. Perera argued that if everyone was to get a fair chance they must have free education. By free education they were not asking for anything novel because 90 per cent. of the children got free education in the vernacular schools. They were asking for only 4 millions more than what was now spent. A tremendous difference in education would take place if free education was given.

RAMANATHAN DAY.

Guru Puja at Girls' College.

MEMORY OF A GREAT LIFE NOBLY LIVED.

The Guru Puja of the late Sir P. Ramanathan was celebrated this morning, amidst scenes of devotion, at Ramanathan College, Chunnakam, by the Saiva Mangayar Sabai.

The celebration commenced with an *abishekam* and *puja* at the Samadhi temple at the college. This was followed by Maheswara puja and feeding the poor.

The ceremony was largely attended.

His Work

(From a Correspondent.)

Sir P. Ramanathan first sat in the Legislative Council on August 27, 1879 and continued to sit as representative of the Tamil community until 1892 when he was appointed Solicitor General. He held this office for 14 years and discharged his duties with unusual ability and distinction and retired from the Public Service in 1906.

Representative of Educated Ceylonese

From 1911 to 1922 he sat in the Legislative Council as elected member for the Educated Ceylonese.

The election campaign for this seat will remain for all time as a treasurable memory. Leaders of the Sinhalese community under the guidance of the late Hector Jayawardene toured the island championing the candidature of Mr. P. Ramanathan (as he then was) against that of a distinguished member of their own community the late Sir H. M. Fernando.

From 1922-23 he was a nominated unofficial member and finally from 1924 onwards sat as an elected member representing Vaigamam North, the constituency which, his son-in-law, Mr. S. Natesan represents with such acceptance and distinction.

Unique Career

Sir P. Ramanathan's career in the public life of Ceylon was unique in every respect. The place he occupied in public esteem for over half-a-century it would be difficult for another to achieve. Wherever he went he was honoured and treated with the highest esteem. He raised the standard of public life. He made those in authority respect the rights of the people. He was fearless champion of the downtrodden. His matchless leadership during the Military rule of 1915 is unforgettable. He was a leader the like of whom Ceylon has not had before, nor is likely to produce in the near future.

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Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1943.

THE PADDY ADVISORY BOARD

THE creation of the Paddy Advisory Board and the appointment of a Paddy Officer are evidence of the increasing importance that is being attached to the production of paddy. There is no doubt that there is a good deal of apprehension in the public mind as to what is being done to increase the island's output of rice. We are inclined to attribute this new interest in a much neglected industry to the fact that, with all her agricultural resources, Ceylon's rice ration per week is only half a measure. We are equally convinced that, the moment the war is over and paddy is imported at a low price, the public and that section of the State Council which has grown almost hysterical over the question of food production, would not mind leaving the cultivator to the tender mercies of free trade. The time has surely arrived for everybody to realise that an industry, the chief object of which is to produce the staple food of the people, should not rely for its survival and its future prosperity on the abnormal conditions brought about by the war. The State should, instead, pursue a policy framed for the protection of the farmer in times of peace as well as war.

We, therefore, welcome the inaugural meeting of the Paddy Advisory Board which is to be held tomorrow at Peradeniya as an earnest of the new policy of understanding and sympathy which aims at making the farmer in Ceylon one of the pillars of the State. The ideal is as yet distant but is one that can be realised. What is needed is that the Government should hold steadfast to the new policy. We do not want a sudden outburst of enthusiasm followed by inactivity and bungling. The farmer cannot live by the standards of those whose chief interest in life seems to be to get rich as quickly as possible. A career on the land precludes such delightful short-cuts. This should be borne in mind by those members of the State Council who feel that the Department of Agriculture has not done its best in the matter of food production and who are inclined, in our opinion most unjustly, to blame the Director of Agriculture for the present

situation. We have no hesitation in saying that if the public were as enthusiastic about food production as Mr. Rodrigo there would be no room for complaint about the food supply. The truth is that all along the farmer was neglected, while rubber, tea and other economic products were the favourites. The energies of the Department of Agriculture were devoted more towards the development of economic products than towards the development and improvement of farming. This vicious tradition has been inherited by the Department of Agriculture from the days when tea and rubber laid down the law for everybody. We trust that the creation of the Paddy Advisory Board marks a departure from this tradition. We do not mean that economic products should be neglected, but we do contend that the farmer must receive his share of the benefits that must necessarily flow from the knowledge and training available to the department. So far the farmer has not had this share.

The first duty of the Advisory Board, apart from paying the necessary attention to the pressing problem of food production, should be to see that the fruits of expert knowledge in the field of agricultural chemistry and engineering are made available to the farmer in every possible way. This is a very big problem by itself and unless it is solved the farmer must continue to depend on the empiricism which is the bane of farming in Ceylon. He must plod on with his century-old implements which the rest of the world had left behind long, long ago. This must be avoided if agriculture is to expand. And the agriculture of this island, particularly in the direction of farming, must expand if the people of this island are to feed themselves. There is no other way. No amount of narrow, parochial patriotism should be allowed to stand in the way of this expansion.

In the agenda for tomorrow's meeting of the Board the question of increasing the production of food receives, naturally enough, a good deal of prominence. There are about 850,000 acres of paddy land in the island, of which about 588,000 acres are irrigated by tanks and the remainder depend on rain. The present yield is said to be from 8 to 15 bushels. It need hardly be said that there is much room for improvement in this respect. We trust that the Paddy Advisory Board will be able to assist the Department of Agriculture effectively in increasing this yield. There is no doubt that the yield can be increased appreciably. What the authorities want is better organisation and direction.

Slum Clearance In Jaffna.

RS. 20,000 GRANT BY CENTRAL GOVT.

The Central Government has agreed to grant Rs. 20,000 to the Jaffna Urban Council towards the Slum Clearance and Re-housing Scheme.

The Commissioner of Local Government has written to the Council agreeing to grant the above sum under certain conditions and the Council, at its last meeting, decided to accept the grant on the said conditions.

Resolve to Taboo Cliques.

Speeches at Reception to New U. C. Member.

A public reception was accorded by the voters of the Muslim ward to the newly elected member Mr. S. M. Abdul Cader.

Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Chairman, Jaffna Urban Council presided. There was a very large gathering including Muslim ladies. The new member was profusely garlanded.

Mr. Aiyadurai wished the new member success.

Mr. S. Habib Mohamadu speaking next said that the newly elected member would devote his full time to promoting the welfare of the ward and the town.

Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy said that each member had the welfare of the town as his guiding principle in the discharge of his duties as member there would be no parties or cliques and the Council would function smoothly.

Lesson of the Defeat

Among the other speakers was Mr. C. Ponnambalam who said that the Jaffna Council had become notorious during the last three years for walk-outs, meetings being abandoned for want of quorum, ugly scenes at meetings etc. He blamed the Rate Payers' Association for much of the ills. He was very glad that 9 independent members had been returned. The defeat of the Rate Payers Association candidates clearly showed that the voters had realised that the trouble in the Council was due to the Rate Payers Association and that they had been misled by the Association at the last election by false propaganda. He hoped that there would be no parties or cliques in the new council and that the three members returned on the Ratepayers Association ticket would cooperate with the other members and restore the prestige of the Council.

Mr. S. M. Abdul Cader thanked the electorate for returning him and said that he would devote his full time to promoting the welfare of his ward and the town.

The new member was then taken in procession to his residence.

NEW ARRACK TARIFF

Rs. 10 Rs. 9 and Rs. 8 From Wednesday

The following new prices of arrack came into effect from yesterday December 1, according to a Gazette notification.

Ordinary Rs. 8 per bottle, Special Rs. 9 and Extra Special Rs. 10.

Cultivator's Share Of His Own Crop.

New Rates of Allowance Under Consideration.

Set the problem of solving the possibility of further food shortage arising from the shrinkage of imports of rice the Government is considering the question of cutting down the present quantities allowed to cultivators, in order to increase the total yield from the internal purchase scheme.

The Land Commissioner has, it is understood, recommended that one rate of allowance be fixed for the cultivator and his dependents and another for the absentee land owner.

New Rates

His recommendation is that the non-cultivating owner and his dependents be given four cut measures of paddy per head per week in all districts in the island.

The rate for a cultivator and his dependents is to be eight cut measures per head per week in the districts of Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, Mannar, Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Hambantota (excluding West Giruwa Pattu) Nalanda, Wariapola, Biotenne, Buttala, Wellassa, Wellawaya, Punakari—Tuukai and Karachi in Jaffna.

The special treatment of the above areas is said to be in consideration of the fact that they are intensely malarial and that the cultivation of subsidiary food-stuffs is difficult.

In all other areas the allowance will be six cut measures per head per week for a cultivator and his dependents.

NAVALAR GURU PUJA

Sri-la-Sri Arumuga Navalar's Guru puja was celebrated at the Vivekananda Society, Colombo, on Saturday the 20th November last. Sri-math Swami Vipulananda presided. After puja at the Society shrine room the chairman delivered an address on the life of the Navalar and the work done by him for the cause of Hinduism and Tamil in Ceylon. He emphasized the necessity for a work dealing with the life of the Navalar on proper lines. Pandithai (Mrs.) Padmasani Ammal Raviendra who spoke next referred to Navalar as a great reformer and scholar who brought about great changes by his untiring efforts. Mrs. Sivappakkiam Sivapragasam sang some devotional songs.

THE GOVERNMENT MINERALOGIST.

Mr. D. N. Wadia To Stay One More Year.

The Executive Committee of Local Administration has decided to extend the period of service of Mr. D. N. Wadia, the Government Mineralogist for another year. Mr. Wadia is the General President of the Indian Science Congress, and was awarded the Lyell Medal by the Geological Society of London, this year in recognition of his distinguished contributions to Geology.

Criminal Charge Against U. C. Chairman.

Breach of Trust Alleged.

MR. AIYADURAI'S COURT STATEMENT.

Further hearing was continued today before Mr. V. Manikavasagar, the Jaffna Magistrate in the case in which sub-Inspector A. D. Rodrigo has charged Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Chairman of the Jaffna Urban Council, with criminal breach of trust of Rs. 1000/- alleged to have been paid to him by Dr. S. Subramaniam, retired Provincial Surgeon, towards the establishment of a park by the Council on the Jaffna esplanade.

Kangany S. Thambu gave evidence and Mr. S. Balasubramaniam, Secretary, Jaffna Urban Council, produced a document.

The case for the prosecution was then closed.

The Magistrate then read out the charge to the defendant who pleaded "not guilty" and made the following statement:—

Defendant's Statement

"I am not guilty. I have known Dr. Subramaniam for about 15 years. I have had financial dealings with him in the past. He has also employed me in my professional capacity as a Notary and paid my fees.

"In November 1942 I personally arranged with the Doctor to have a Park constructed on the esplanade to which he agreed and called for an estimate and promised to pay Rs. 2500 for that purpose. In December 1942 the Doctor gave a cheque for Rs. 1000 drawn in favour of the "Chairman, Urban Council" at my request.

In Sole Charge

"The Park work was in my sole charge and the mode of expenditure was in my discretion. I left the execution of the Park work in charge of Mr. W. F. Ratnagopal, the then Superintendent of Works, Urban Council. After Mr. Ratnagopal left the service of the Council Mr. Sinnathamby the Inspector of Works was doing the work.

"I thought it advisable and the Secretary of the Urban Council Mr. S. Balasubramaniam also brought it to my notice that the whole account of the expenditure of the first instalment of Rs. 1000 should be gone into carefully before any further sum was expended on the Park. I conveyed this idea to the Doctor.

Story of the Cheque

"On the 3rd July 1943 I asked the Doctor to advance to me a sum of Rs. 1000 personally as I wanted the same then. I told the Doctor that I would utilise this amount for park work later after I had examined the accounts. The Doctor agreed to this and issued a cheque in my name. The cheque was drawn in the name of "K. Aiyadurai or order." When the cheque was drawn in my name I never told the Doctor that it would be easier to cash if it was drawn in my name.

"At the end of July construction work on the Park was stopped for sometime pending the scrutiny of the accounts while the maintenance work was going on. The Park work was not stopped for lack of funds; nor did I tell

anybody that the work had to be stopped for want of funds.

"After the accounts were looked into this amount was made available for the Park work and the Construction work was resumed about the middle of September.

Second Meeting

"After the 3rd July 1943 the next occasion on which I met the Doctor was on the night of the 14th August 1943 that is the day after the Council meeting which took place on the 13th August. I was surprised at certain questions raised and notice of motion given concerning this transaction at the meeting. I expressed my surprise to the Doctor that such questions should have been asked when the cheque was given on my personal account. I asked the Doctor to give a letter to me stating how the cheque was given to me personally. He agreed to give such a writing that very night, but stated that as his writing materials were not available then and as his Dispenser was away, he could not therefore give such a letter then, but asked me to send a draft in the morning which he said he would sign and return to me. I accordingly sent the draft the next day which the Doctor returned without signing.

"This case against me is the result of the malicious—machinations of my political enemies both in and outside Council."

Mr. M. Balasundram counsel for the defendant, then addressed the court.

MEMBER'S EVIDENCE Story Of Stoppage Of Park Work

When hearing was continued on the 26th of November last at the Jaffna Magistrate's Court Mr. C. Ponnambalam, advocate and member of the Urban Council, giving evidence said that early in August this year Kangany Thambu who was in charge of the work at the Park told him that the Chairman had told him that work at the park had been stopped for want of funds. Witness told Mr. W. Muttucumaraswamy, Proctor what Thambu told him. Thambu also complained that his wages had not been paid.

On the 13th of August last there was a meeting of the Urban Council. After the meeting the witness went to see a friend Mr. A. E. Tamber. When witness was at Mr. Tamber's Mr. M. M. Vararajasingham, and Mr. K. Subramaniam came. They inquired as to what had happened at the meeting and Mr. Vararajasingham wanted to send a report to the press about the Park affair. At the meeting there was some discussion about the stoppage of work at the park. A petition was presented by Mr. Ariya Patirana.

To Ask The Doctor

Witness went to Dr. Subramaniam's bungalow that night. Dr. Subramaniam told him that Mr. Aiyadurai came to see him and got a cheque for Rs. 1000 on the park account. Witness asked the Doctor why he gave the cheque in Mr. Aiyadurai's name. The Doctor said he did so because of pressure by Mr. Aiyadurai.

Mr. A. S. Inayatullah, Chief Clerk, Jaffna Urban Council, next produced the deposit ledger of the Council.

Mr. K. Sebastian, Clerk, Land Registry, produced a duplicate of deed No. 5779 dated 8-7-43 attested by Mr. Aiyadurai. Witness

Ramanathan Day

(Continued from page 1.)

The Tamils have cause to be proud of him. He served them during 50 years of unremitting toil and when he died left all that he had to the two great schools he founded in Jaffna, the Ramanathan College and the Parameshwara College. We have short memories. We began with a fire, soon after his death, proposing to erect a statue in Jaffna and raised a few subscriptions, and have ended in smoke. There is no statue; and the little money collected from the public is incubating somewhere. What a commentary on the present generation!

VIVEKANANDA SOCIETY, COLOMBO

Srimath Swami Chidbhavananda Head of the Ramakrishna Tapovanam, Thirupalathurai, Trichinopoly and Srimath Swami Kailashananda, Head of the Ramakrishna Mission, New Delhi, who were on a visit to Ceylon, delivered lectures in Tamil and English on 'The Message of Swami Vivekananda' at the Society Hall Hill Street on Wednesday the 24th November last. Mr. N. Nadarajah, K. C., one of the Vice-presidents of the Society presided.

WEDDING.

Vamadeva—Mangayarkarasy.

The marriage of Mangayarkarasy, younger daughter of Mr. V. S. Kathiravetpillai, Govt. Contractor, Trincomalee, and Mrs. Kathiravetpillai, of Ponnalai, Vaddukoddai, with Mr. K. Vamadeva, of the Civil Defence Department, was solemnized on Monday last at the bride's residence at about 12 p. m.

The ceremony was largely attended.

PERSONAL

Mr. K. Kularatnam, Visiting Lecturer in Geography, University of Ceylon has been promoted to the grade of senior Assistant Geologist in the Department of Mineralogy, Colombo. He is an old boy of Manipay Hindu College.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, S. P. Sinnanna Chettyar alias Chelliah Chettyar, do hereby notify all concerned that I have changed my name and henceforward shall be known as S. P. Selliah and that I shall sign all documents by the changed name.

Jaffna S. P. SELLIAH,
2nd Dec. 1943. Perumalkovilady.
(Mis. 177. 2 & 6)

stated the consideration was Rs. 1500/-.

Mr. T. Sivapiragasam next giving evidence said that he knew the defendant who, had attested some deeds for him. The deed produced in Court was attested by the defendant. The deed was in favour of witness' daughter. He paid to the defendant two sums of Rs. 1000 and Rs. 200 before the deed was executed. Mr. S. Sinnathamby, the Inspector of Works of the Urban Council also gave evidence.

Mr. M. Balasundram with Messrs. S. Thambidurai, V. Sittampalam, and S. Sabapathipillai, instructed by Mr. C. D. Singaratnam appeared for the defence.

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ideal denominational system outweigh its defects. Until this ideal is reached a large number of children will have no alternative but to attend schools of an "unlike" denomination. Their education cannot of course be said to be complete.

Existing Denominational Schools

"The foundations of moral and religious development must, however, be laid in the home. If parents or guardians and the various religious organizations will assume greater responsibility for the moral upbringing of children the disadvantages of an education in a denominational school to children of an "unlike" denomination will be offset to a great extent. We would also suggest for the consideration of denominational authorities that provision be made for the instruction of these children in their own religion. Such provision would of course involve what used to be known as the right of entry, to which objection had been taken in the past. We do not think that, in these enlightened days, when people all the world over are becoming more tolerant, any such objection will be taken. Apart from the impossibility of reversing the existing state of affairs in which children belonging to majority denominations have to attend schools under the control of minority denominations we do not think it fair by the promoters of the existing established denominational schools to do anything that will have the effect of crippling such schools. They have done and are doing a great service to the country and should be allowed to continue without being subjected to any disabilities.

The Future

"For the future, however, we suggest certain remedial measures. We have taken into consideration the unhealthy rivalry and competition which in recent times have been observed in the development of the denominational system. The present day denominations would appear to be content to limit their activities to providing education for their own children. They are as anxious as the Government is to avoid duplication of schools and wastage of public money. We therefore recommend that the following conditions should be laid down in regard to the recognition of a denominational school established after the date of these reforms and in regard to assisting such a school from public funds:—

(a) to be recognized it shall have at least 30 pupils of school-going age of the same denomination as the controlling body who reside with their parents within a radius from the school of two miles for boys and one mile for girls and children under 8 years of age:—

(b) having been recognized and registered for grant such a school shall have at least 30 pupils of school-going age of the same denomination as the controlling body if it is to continue to receive assistance from public funds;

(c) if it is within 2 miles of an already existing State school, children of an "unlike" denomination shall not be taken into account for assessing grant;

(d) if it is within 2 miles of a State school established later, children of an "unlike" denomination shall continue to be reckoned in the assessment of grant.

"The above conditions shall apply to the primary and the three types of post-primary schools. In the next chapter we recommend that practical schools should be conducted as central schools. As we want to avoid a multiplicity of such schools we recommend that practical central schools must be State-managed except where

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there are over a 100 post-primary children belonging to one denomination when a separate practical school under the control of the denomination may be permitted.

Religion in State Schools

"We now come to the question of religion in State Schools. There was a certain section of opinion that was entirely opposed to any religious instruction being given in State schools. State neutrality in matters pertaining to religion was pleaded in support of the objection. To our mind State neutrality, which we certainly uphold, means that the State shall not do anything that will have the effect of helping any particular denomination alone to further its objects; that the State should hold the scales evenly as between different denominations. We do not agree that religious instruction in Government schools is inconsistent with State neutrality in the matter of religion so long as the State makes similar and equal provision for all communities. In fact, we go further and assert that it is the duty of the State to provide in its schools for the religious instruction of the pupils. We do not even see anything wrong in the State subsidizing the teaching of religion in schools provided all denominations are equally treated in the matter of such subsidy. By religious instruction is of course meant instruction in the religion of the parent of the child given by a teacher belonging to the same religion. We already have provision in the Education Ordinance, 1939, for the giving of religious instruction in Government schools. It is provided that such religious instruction should be given out of school hours and by persons authorised by the Director of Education and with the consent of the parents. There is nothing novel about this provision. We understand that in countries like the U.S.A. where a State system prevails, there is a strong agitation for the introduction of religious instruction in State schools.

No Difficulty

"Our present attitude, which may appear to some as revolutionary, is based on the thesis we have propounded earlier, that a religious background is indispensable to a complete education. To be logical, we cannot in the same breath decry religion in State schools. Anyone who does so will be accused of merely trying to bolster up a case for the denominational schools. Our view is therefore the logical conclusion of the denominational thesis itself. We are not aware of any administrative difficulties in the way of arranging for religious instruction in State schools. We therefore recommend that religious instruction shall be provided in all State schools subject to the condition that any parent may withdraw his child from such instruction by request addressed to the head teacher. We realize that different arrangements have to be made for children of different religions. The responsibility for making the arrangements should be cast on the head teacher and other competent teachers who should be instructed to consult the denominational authority concerned in regard to the teachers who will be in charge of the arrangements. The actual teaching may be entrusted to competent teachers on the staff or to teachers from outside if no suitable person on the staff is available. Outside teachers must of course be approved by the Director. We also recommend that religious instruction be made part of the curriculum. Teachers on the staff will not be paid for his work, but if visiting teachers have to be appointed, we recommend that a small allowance be paid to them".

SALE OF MARKET RENTS 1944.

Notice is hereby given that sealed tenders will be received by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, at the Jaffna Kacheheri up to 12 noon on Friday 10 December, 1943, for the purchase of the exclusive right to levy rents and fees in respect of the following markets for the period 1 January, 1944, to 31 December, 1944—both days inclusive.

Point Pedro

- (a) Vegetable market (excluding the 13 permanent stalls)
- (b) Fish market
- (c) Gala or cart stand

Valvettiturai

- (a) Vegetable market
- (b) Fish market
- (c) Gala or cart stand

Kayts

- (a) Vegetable and Fish market (excluding the 3 shop rooms)

2. Every tender must be made on the prescribed form a copy of which will be supplied by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, on a deposit of Rs. 10/- for each form, to be made at the office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna.

3. Tenders may be sent by post or be deposited in the tender box provided for this purpose at the Jaffna Kacheheri.

4. The person making the highest bid or tender in respect of any market shall be declared to be the lessee of the said market. Such person shall immediately on his being declared to be the lessee deposit $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the amount of his tender or bid, in cash as security and shall enter into a bond in the form and on the condition specified for this purpose by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, within one week of his being declared to be the lessee.

5. Further particulars may be obtained at the office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna.

C. Canapathipillai,

For Chairman, S. B., Jaffna.

Sanitary Board Office,

Jaffna, 27 November, 1943.

(Mis. 174. 2.)

DENTAL SURGERY, JAFFNA

Mr. S. Chas. Pathirana, Licensed Dentist and Optician will be at the Dental Surgery, 43, Main Street, Jaffna, from the 3rd to the 15th of every month.

KURUNEGALA BRANCH

From the 20th to the 30th he will be at his branch Dental Surgery, opposite Courts, Kurunegala.

His Jaffna Patients are advised to make prior appointments, if possible, by writing to his Kurunegala address.

(Mis. 98. 5-8—31-12-43.)

FOR SALE

Garden land 14 lachams Maruthanadam. Apply

Dr. C. Sivasithamparam,
Martyn Road, Jaffna.

(Mis. 167. 29 & 2)

NOTICE.

A Special Training College Examination on the 23rd December 1943 has been arranged by the Director of Education. An interview will take place on the 11th December at 9 a.m. for the candidates seeking admission into Ramanathan Training College. They should be over eighteen years of age in January 1944. Candidates should bring their S. S. C. and birth certificates for the interview.

(Mrs.) A. MYLVAGANAM,
Principal,

Kamanathan Training College,
Chunnakam, 30-11-43.

Mis. 175.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

(Held at Ft. Pedro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 218/P. T.

In the matter of the intestate Estate of the late Kandiah Chinnathamby alias Thambipillai of Karaveddy North. Deceased Wallipillai widow of Chinnathamby of Alway South. Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Pooranambal daughter of Chinnathamby of do.
2. Chinnathamby Ganesarajah of do.
3. Walliammai widow of Kandiah of Karaveddy North.

The 1st and 2nd respondents are minors appearing by their guardian-ad-litem the 3rd respondent. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva Esquire, Additional District Judge, Jaffna, on the 11th day of November 1943 in the presence of Mr. T. Balakrishnan, Proctor, on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 4th day of November 1943 having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioner abovenamed be and she is hereby declared entitled as the widow of the deceased abovenamed to have Letters of Administration to the above estate issued to her accordingly unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 5th day of December 1943 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. L. W. de Silva,
Addl. District Judge.

The 11th day November, 1943.
O. 61.

ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS

WANTED men for training as CLERKS, STORE-KEEPERS and DRIVERS in the R. A. S. C. Good pay and prospects and OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR PROMOTION TO COMMISSIONED RANK IN THE R. A. S. C. Candidates should be between 19 and 40 years of age, physically fit and willing to serve overseas. Those to be trained as Clerks and Storekeepers should be educated up to the 6th Standard in English while those wishing to become Drivers are only required to speak, read and write English.

Proof of age may be required by the Recruiting Officer. Family allowances will be issued only after marriage and birth certificates of children are produced.

RATES OF PAY AND ALLOWANCES

Daily rate of pay on enlistment is Rs. 2.00 per day.

Accommodation, food and uniform will be provided and in addition the following allowances will be paid.

	Rs.	cts.
Wife only	36.90	per month of 31 days
Wife & 1 child	50.89	
Wife & 2 children	63.45	
Wife & 3 children	74.56	
Wife & 4 children	85.56	

Maternity Benefit will be paid in all cases of the birth of children to the wives of R. A. S. C. personnel who are enlisted for General Service.

Applicants should apply personally at the Central Recruiting Office, 399, Galle Road, Colpetty, between 8.30 and 10.30 a. m. prepared for immediate enlistment on any week day.

CHIEF RECRUITING OFFICER, CEYLON

(Mis. 92, 29-7-43—)

THE JAFFNA MUTUAL BENEFIT FUND LTD.

(Established 1918)

BANKERS.

Authorised Capital Rs. 800,000.00
Amount of Calls made Rs. 134,367.00

SHARES: 8000 shares of Rs. 100/- each. 75 monthly instalments of Re. 1/- per share will earn Rs. 100/- for each at the end of the period. Shares issued all times.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 500/-.

FIXED DEPOSITS received for periods of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months and interest allowed at 1, 2, 4 and 6% respectively.

DRAFTS issued on the National and Imperial Banks to Colombo and the Principal cities of India. Remittances to and from F. M. S. by special arrangements.

INDIAN MONEY bought and sold

LOANS on the security of Jewels a speciality. Interest charged at 9% per annum (Part payments accepted.)

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

S. KANAGASABAI,
(Y. 164. A. 21-11-41—20-11-43.) (T's) Shroff.