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RATIONAL SCALE OF SALARIES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

Retrenchment Commission's Recommendations

PUBLIC SERVANT A MAJOR ECONOMIC FACTOR

THAT the Government should take a lead in fixing a rational salary rather than fellow outside employers, is the suggestion of the Retrenchment Commission in their Second Report issued last Tuesday.

"A 'Ceylon standard' of salary scales on the basis, as stated by the Pereira Commission, of 'the minima for which vacancies in the service can be filled from the open market' would be an impossible one. We should not be understood to hold a brief for the payment of old entrant sterling salaries to Ceylonese officers on which some of them are able to maintain an extravagant mode of living—in many cases augmented by private income—which can hardly be called a 'standard' at all and which is the cause of the general impression of the high standard of living of all Government servants.

"We do, however, believe in a rational standard of living for Government servants as for any one else. As a matter of fact, the scales of salaries we propose for new entrants, ent through nearly all the embellishments of the Select Committee scales and are, as will be seen later, in many respects even more disadvantageous to the Government servants than the Pereira scales which were characterized as featuring drastic reductions at the time.

"Yet it behoves us to take notice of the view held by a certain section of the public that public servants should live unnoticed outside their official circles on an extremely simple and frugal standard.

"To them our reply is that we appreciate the fact that our scales, particularly of the civil list class, are capable of further reduction on an absolute 'Ceylon standard' of remuneration

judged by the rates of remuneration and conditions of employment available outside the Government Service and that we are not unmindful of the unostentatious standard of living of the high permanent officials of Whitehall.

Pereira Seeds

But the structure of society and recognized social values in London are different from those in Ceylon. However much we might wish to emulate the former, we must allow time for the growth and development of those conditions on Ceylon soil.

"We are dealing with an established order of things and not an entirely new set of circumstances which can be met by an ideal scheme framed in accordance with strict economic principles.

"It is the fact that in Ceylon a Government servant has often to keep an 'official' and not a 'personal' standard of living. But it must be noted that within the last few years public servants have begun to acquiesce in the popular suggestion that they should not attach undue importance to any idea of their status and adopt a less expensive standard of living.

"The Pereira Commission and the Select Committee of the State Council have already sown the seed of reduction in public expenditure by a lower range of salaries. Our special duty is to nurse the seedling, make it grow and see that it bears fruit.

Not so Easy

"The public servants as a class constitute, through no

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GANDHIJI INTERVIEWS VICEROY

Wardha Statement Examined In Detail

Simla, Sep. 27.

GANDHIJI had an interview with the Viceroy lasting about three and a half hours yesterday afternoon; and immediately thereafter he motored down to Kalka en route to Wardha. Special police arrangements had been made to enable Gandhiji's car to use the Simla-Kalka Road after the scheduled hour, a brilliant moon fortunately lighting the way.

No statement has been made on either side after the interview, which is probably the longest Lord Linlithgow has ever granted.

Gandhiji was obviously tired, though he wore his usual smile, as he hurried down to the car which took him to Kalka.

It was hoped at one time that Mr. Jinnah's presence here might be utilised to remove one obstacle in the way of the introduction of far-reaching changes in the Centre, but the invitation apparently reached Delhi shortly after Mr. Jinnah had left for Bombay and presumably has not yet reached him. Mr. Jinnah, who has been somewhat uneasy about the contemplated introduction of joint electorates in Hyderabad, is now on a visit to the State. Any suggestion to the effect that he deliberately avoided coming to Simla at the same time as Gandhiji must be regarded as baseless and unjust. The Viceroy's departure for Delhi on Sunday will enable Mr. Jinnah to come to Delhi early next week.

Any scheme for provisional changes in the Centre would have a far better chance of success, if it carried with it the assent of both the Congress and the Muslim League. So far as the states are concerned, indications are not lacking that

they would not be excluded from the Centre if changes are regarded as desirable. The Viceroy has not abandoned the hope of bringing about Federation, and Gandhiji in his recent article in the *Harjan* had only desired the withdrawal of the Federation outlined in the Government of India Act and not of Federation as such. There is full realisation of the dangers of a policy of drift at the Centre during the period of the war, but a solution of the problem would be enormously facilitated by the recent controversies between the Congress and the League and the Congress and the States being laid at rest.

Viceroy Leaving for Delhi on Sunday

With the Viceroy's departure for Delhi on Sunday the centre of political interest shifts to that place. Most of the members of the Executive Council have planned to move down almost about the same time; and owing to the importance as well as the frequency of meetings of the Executive Council, all but the most essential tours are being abandoned.

Lord Zetland's statement in the Lords yesterday, fore-shadows, it is believed in certain quarters, other interviews. Mr. Nehru, as the author of the War Resolution and as Chairman of the War Sub-Committee of the Congress, will, it is reported, be invited, as also Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the Congress President. It is felt that if there be any foundation for these reports, such contacts would bear fuller fruit before the meetings of the Working Committee and the A. I. C. C. rather than later. Whether the Viceroy will make a public statement or content himself with giving such private assurances as His Majesty's Government may authorise him to give, is a question to which no authoritative answer is available.

NOTICE

The Power of Attorney given to Mr. Velappan Viswalingam of Point Pedro by the undersigned is hereby cancelled.

M. KANAPATHIPILLAI.

27-9-39.

(Mis. 157. 2 & 5-10-39.)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1939.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN PACT

THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED from Moscow on Friday after the Ribbentrop-Molotov talks is a strange declaration to the effect that the Soviet and Germany would direct common efforts to end the war as early as possible. The joint statement concludes as follows: "Both Governments will direct common efforts if necessary in accord with other friendly Powers to attain this aim as early as possible. If, however, the efforts of both Governments remain futile, it will be established thereby that Britain and France will bear the responsibility for the continuation of the war, and in the event of its continuation the Governments of Germany and the U.S.S.R. will consult each other on necessary measures." The present move on the part of Germany and the Soviet is an ingenious device ostensibly directed towards peace but really calculated to divide between them the spoils of the War without incurring the losses and miseries involved in it. The fact is well known that the Nazi's brutal attack on Poland was precipitated by the Russo-German Pact which helped to isolate Poland from her friends and leave her in the hands of her enemies. Germany knew well enough that the Democracies, in spite of their grim resolve, would be powerless to help her in time of need. Now that they have succeeded in defeating Poland and partitioning her in spite of her epic resistance, the invaders are unabashedly out to secure the peace of Europe!

It is an irony of Fate that the U. S. S. R. and Germany who were as poles asunder in their ideologies and interests should have come to terms, actuated by considerations of self-interest and expediency. Close students of current history can discern for themselves that the Russo-German Agreement is a patched-up affair that can never stand the strain of their time-old jealousies and conflicting ambitions. The simple fact is that the Fuehrer is a victim of his own ambi-

tions and machinations and is therefore desperately anxious to buy Russian neutrality or connivance at any price. There can be no doubt whatever that their latest move in this respect will make no impression on the Allies who are determined to rid Europe of Hitlerism and what it stands for. Britain and France will not sheathe their swords until they have fulfilled their pledge to the heroic victim of the Nazi-Soviet aggression. "To redeem Europe from the perpetual and recurring fear of German aggression and to enable the peoples of Europe to preserve their liberties" is, in the words of MR. CHAMBERLAIN, the aim of the Allies in this War.

Rice "Short Measure"

Food Controller's Explanation

DRYAGE and not sharp practice is blamed by the Food Control Department, for short measure and weights in bags of rice, purchased by the public from the importers.

In a *communiqué* issued on Saturday the Department stated that the rice imported into Ceylon falls into two categories—boiled rice, and raw rice. In the first group there are included the Samba grades, the Milhard grades and Kora rice. In the second group there is just one type, broken raw rice.

"Boiled rice is subject to extensive dryage. It is estimated that the dryage is as much as three to four measures for a bag during a six weeks' voyage from Burma.

"When importers indent for their boiled rice they follow the trade practice of indenting for 159 pounds net weight. This net weight is guaranteed at the port of shipment. On arrival, the consignment loses appreciably. Raw rice, however, is not subject to any dryage.

"The Department is faced with two alternatives. One alternative is to legislate in its price control orders for a standard bag of 80 net measures equivalent to 2½ bushels, dry measure. If this was in force every importer would be faced with the alternative of re-bagging his rice which would increase the cost of rice to the consumer by approximately 16 cents per bag. Re-bagging would only encourage adulteration of stock.

Consumer's Guarantee

"Retailers who buy their rice direct from wholesale merchants are not willing to buy rice in any form of packing other than that in which the rice was imported, for fear that the rice would be tampered with.

"It is to guarantee to the consumer the quality of the product he purchases that the first alternative of enforcing an 80 measure bag which would involve re-bagging was not adopted.

"The other alternative was to give recognition to the trade practice of importing bags of 159 lbs. net weight, less the amount due to dryage. The new price order requires every bag of rice to contain not less than 78 measures and not less than 158 pounds.

"It is considered that these are the average contents of a bag of rice on arrival in Ceylon.

"By giving recognition to imported rice in these dimensions the wholesaler has no excuse for interfering

FIFTY GERMAN VILLAGES TAKEN BY FRANCE

Slow and Methodical French Operations

WORLD OPINION ON RUSSO-GERMAN AGREEMENT

London, Saturday.

THE French have now taken fifty German villages, four of which have populations of over 6,000. The total French losses since the beginning of the war are less than those of one local operation of the kind typical during the last war.

Aircraft reconnaissances indicate the continual massing of the enemy at Kehl, opposite Strasbourg, and in the triangle of Freiburg-Constance-Basel, where there appears to be greater activity than at the northern end of the line.

If the Germans are planning a flank attack it is a military axiom it will come from apparently the weaker direction, hence it is conjectured that the main German offensive may possibly be via Belgium and Holland.

Saarbruecken is reported to be surrounded on three sides. "It will fall like a ripe fruit which the tree cannot hold", says one French military commentator.

Slowly and methodically, despite all German attempts to create a diversion, French troops are continuing their general operation, the aim of which is to invest the central salient of the Siegfried Line, which lies at Saarbruecken. French pressure is being exercised in the form of a pincer movement against the central fortification of the twin.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN AGREEMENT

Is it a Military Alliance?

London, Saturday.

World opinion discounts the likelihood of Stalin entering the war on the side of Germany. In Paris it is noted that, though the Russo-German agreement may contain secret military clauses, the published text makes no reference to a military alliance. Here are some pointed comments

with the packing of the rice in which it was imported."

Retail and Wholesale

"Doubts have also been raised as to what constitutes a retail transaction and what constitutes a wholesale transaction. These two terms have been defined for the purpose of the price order to be in the case of a wholesale transaction, 'any sale of any quantity for the purpose of resale shall be deemed to be a sale by "wholesale"; in the case of a retail transaction, 'any sale of any quantity for the purpose of consumption or use shall be deemed to be a sale by retail.' There is no reference to quantity in these definitions.

"Thus, if a middleman purchases even one measure of rice from a wholesale dealer for the purpose of resale to the public he is entitled to the benefits of the lower price fixed for wholesale transactions,

from world centres:

Washington doubts whether the Soviet has committed itself to more than polite exchanges if the Allies decline to stop the war. It is regarded here as unlikely that Stalin would enter on Germany's side after having gained so much by staying neutral. The consensus of opinion is that the Allies will not rise to Hitler's bait.

The "Japan Times" of Tokyo, which often reflects the opinion of the Japanese Foreign Office, declares that, although the leaders of Soviet Russia and Germany have shaken hands for the time being, these two diametrically-opposed ideologists will come to a clash sooner or later.

The Moscow correspondent of the Copenhagen "Politiken" comments: "Hitler will have to keep granting the Soviet concessions if he wants her co-operation."

Toronto (Canada) comments: "Hitler and Stalin cannot expect sympathy in Canada. The war must be pressed forward till Hitlerism is destroyed."

The Amsterdam "Telegraaf" declares: "In continuing the war, Germany relies on Stalin's word and what is the value of that?"

Notwithstanding the veiled threat in the Russo-German agreement to "consult on necessary measures" if Britain and France do not end the war, most observers in Moscow are of the opinion that there will be no military alliance between Russia and Germany, and believe that, if this forecast true, von Ribbentrop's mission has been a failure because, in the event of a firm Anglo-French refusal to consider a Hitler-Stalin peace offer, Germany would be left almost completely isolated.

Most competent observers are convinced that the Soviet-Estonian pact is aimed at a possible future German attack rather than at the complete domination of Estonia. The Presidium of the Soviet has ratified the Soviet-Estonian pact of mutual assistance.

Hindu Board Of Education

Mr S Adchalingam has been appointed General Manager of the schools mentioned below in place of Mr A. Chellappa.

Schools referred to: All Hindu Board of Education Schools except G/Nawalapitiya Kathiresan English School.

Criminal Court of Appeal

The inauguration of the Court of Criminal Appeal which was to have functioned from 30th ultimo has been postponed until January 20th.

THE MUNICIPALITY QUESTION

MINISTER & COMMITTEE TO VISIT JAFFNA

RATE-PAYERS PROTEST AGAINST PROFITEERING

THE Minister for Local Administration and his Committee will arrive in Jaffna on the 21st instant to know at firsthand the views of the town residents on the question of Municipality. A reception committee for this purpose was appointed at a meeting of the Jaffna Urban Ratepayers Central Association held last week.

Mr. M. Sinnadurai, brought to the notice of the meeting that the dealers in rice and paddy taking advantage of the prices fixed by the Government, based on the Colombo prices, were selling their stocks at a great margin of profit thereby victimising the consumers.

He was advised to bring up the matter at the meeting to be summoned today at the Kacheheri, by the Government Agent, N. P. The G. A. wishes to form Collaboration Committees.

A resolution regarding insanitary conditions in Ward No. 3 was passed. Correspondence between this Association and the Minister of Local Administration regarding the visit of the committee to see local conditions before deciding on the Municipal question was read.

A Reception Committee was appointed to meet the Minister and Committee at the Railway Station on their arrival on Saturday October 21st. It was decided also to take them round each Ward and to show them the existing conditions.

A general assembly of rate payers led by a select representative body will meet the Minister and the Committee either at the Esplanade or the Town Hall according to weather conditions.

Powers of J.P.U.M.

A draft bill amending the Courts ordinance to give unofficial magistrates the same administrative powers for dispersing unlawful assemblies as is now enjoyed by a Magistrate by virtue of Chapter 8 of the Code, is published in Friday's Government Gazette.

Ambulance Classes

Those who wish to learn First Aid will be glad to hear that a Series of Lectures in First Aid to qualify for the St. John Ambulance Association First Aid Certificate will be held on Fridays at 6-30 p.m. at St. Patrick's College. Dr. C. Sivasinghamparam will be the lecturer. Application for enrolment should be sent to Mr. Cosmas W. D. Alwines, David Road, Jaffna. A limited number of places are available.

The Indian Soldier Praised

A Message to Indian Troops

WRITING from Deal Castle, Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood, a former Commander-in-Chief in India, in a message to Indian troops declares:

"Innumerable messages of loyalty and many promises of moral and material support, which have been pouring in from the Princes and the peoples of India in the present emergency must necessarily be a source of pleasure and gratification—though not of surprise—to one, whose intimate personal association with India and the Indian Army began well over half a century ago.

"It was in 1885 that I followed my father and my father's father to the Indian Service, and my experiences in the ensuing period of some 54 years enable me to speak as I do with all sincerity and admiration of the wonderful qualities of the Indian soldier, of every class and creed, both in peace and war.

"His fine traditions, his discipline and efficiency, his exemplary bravery in action are known throughout the world, which has not forgotten and will never forget the magnificent gallantry and fortitude displayed by Indian troops in a hundred fierce engagements from the major battles of the Great War to such far off and yet imperishably memorable incidents as the defence of Saraghari or the withdrawal from Maizar in 1897.

"I have always been profoundly proud and happy to command such splendid troops and it gives me the greatest satisfaction to know that now, as ever, faithful to their salt the soldiers of India once again are prepared to fight shoulder to shoulder with us in the cause of justice and security.

King's Admiration

"There is another matter of which I can speak with first-hand knowledge, namely, the very real interest and admiration evinced by His Majesty the King-Emperor with regard to his Indian Army. As Goldstich-in-Waiting it is my high privilege to be a member of His Majesty's household and to be in attendance on him from time to time, and I will never cease to be impressed by the way His Majesty, following closely in the footsteps of his illustrious father, gives constant proof of his knowledge, sympathy and grasp of detail in matters relating to the Indian soldier.

"The King-Emperor shows remarkable familiarity with the records and achievements of his Indian regiments and corps, and His Majesty has often expressed to me something of the pride and affection in which he holds the brave and loyal men who serve in them.

To my many lifelong friends among the officers and men of the Indian Army, I send my warmest greeting and heart-felt good wishes, while to their sons and successors now serving in the ranks of those units which I have known so well, I would add the simple exhortation that they should ever strive to safeguard and preserve intact the great legacy of untarnished honour that has been handed down to them."

BUREAU OF INFORMATION

BIG BROTHER OF TOURIST BUREAU

TO DEAL WITH THE EMERGENCY SITUATION

Colombo, Saturday, 30.

From today the Tourist Bureau becomes the Bureau of Information presided over by Mr. K. Vaithianathan, the Civil Servant, who was appointed by the Governor recently to co-ordinate the Government's publicity activities with the Press.

"The Times of Ceylon" understands that the Bureau of Information is to be the big brother of the Tourist Bureau, which will be working in the same office, with apparently only one desk!

Mr. Vaithianathan has not been provided with a Deputy, and it is unlikely that such an officer will be appointed unless the work of his department expands.

"At the moment my Department is connected with the emergency situation caused by the War," said Mr. Vaithianathan to a "Times of Ceylon" reporter today.

"However, any local problems that are likely to lead to misunderstanding, such as regulations relating to the control of food-stuffs and the like will be explained by me. I shall be only too glad to assist the Press and I rely on its co-operation and goodwill.

"I have already been provided with a staff of clerks and translators who are all Government servants. They have all been selected for their knowledge of the vernaculars. I am also assisted by a few voluntary workers. I consult them whenever I need their advice.

"My chief duty will be to maintain the co-operation of the Press and the Government.

Not Censorship

"The establishment of my department will in no way prevent the Press from publishing their own exclusive stories and I will be ready to assist them with whatever advice I can give.

"There is no real censorship of news as such now and my department may be described as an agency whose task will be to co-ordinate the publicity activities of Government with the Press.

"The work of the Tourist Bureau," Mr. Vaithianathan added, "will be carried on a moderate scale and its activities will be restricted. The clerks will be absorbed into my department but they will continue to reply to tourist queries."

Personal

Mr. M. Rajendra has been appointed to be Additional Assistant at Matara to the Government Agent, Southern Province; Additional Magistrate for the judicial division of Matara; and Additional Assistant at Hambantota to the Government Agent, Southern Province, from September 21, 1939.

Mr. V. Viswalingam has been appointed to be, while holding the office of Acting Office Assistant to the Government Agent, Northern Province, a Justice of the Peace for the judicial district of Jaffna, with effect from September 22, 1939.

College of Indigenous Medicine

Its Management and Administration

Colombo, Saturday 30.

A draft bill to provide for the administration and management of the College of Indigenous Medicine and the Hospital of Indigenous Medicine with the pharmacy, herbarium and dispensary attached, to it, is published in the Government Gazette of Friday.

The College, Hospital and connected institutions are to be maintained and administered by an incorporated Board of Indigenous Medicine. Steps are also to be taken to establish other similar institutions in other parts of Ceylon if the need arises.

The duty of maintaining a register of the practitioners of indigenous medicine in Ceylon is also to be assigned to the Board.

INTER-COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL

The Inter-Collegiate Football Season opened last week-end in brilliant sunshine. The Jaffna Schools Sports Association Grounds had benefitted by the recent showers and the provision of a separate entrance for school children was an appreciable feature.

Decisive results were obtained in all three matches. On Friday St. John's College beat St. Henry's College, three, love. All the scoring was done in the first half. The game in the second half was none too impressive.

The teams: St. John's: Nadarajah, Karunakaram, Kanagasabai, Scott, Scott (Capt.), Hoover, Thangaratnam, Alphonsus, Sigmaringam, Rajakone, and Subramaniam.

St. Henry's: Fernando, Mylvaganam, Rajaratnam, Balasingam, Ananda Nadarajah (Capt.) Selvadurai, Rajanayagam, Sabaratnam, Jayasingam, Swaminathan and Arulappu.

Mr. G. S. Mack refereed and Messrs. N. Kandiah and M. Sinnathamby helped him as linesmen.

The first match on Saturday between St. Patrick's College and SkandaVarodaya resulted in an easy win for St. Patrick's (four love). The tally might have been much greater if not for the heroic keeping of the SkandaVarodaya goalie and the fondness that the St. Patrick's captain showed for the ball, who by keeping it to himself too long, threw out of gear, his speedy forward line.

The teams: St. Patrick's: Nadesan, Ganathan, Eliatamby, De Lima, Selvadurai, Ponnurajah, Benjamin, Rajanayagam, Thirunavukarasu (Capt.) and Rajendra.

SkandaVarodaya: Subramaniam, Sivagnanam (Capt.), Thuraisingam, Thuraiarajah, Sivapragasam, Vaithilingam, Rajaratnam, Nadarajah, Sivantham, Sivapragasam, Anandasundaram and Selvadurai.

Mr. R. Rajaratnam refereed and Messrs. Thuraiarajah and Arasaratnam helped him as linesmen.

The second match on Saturday was between Victoria College and Manipay Hindu College. Victoria won by the odd goal in three. There was little to choose between the sides but it is an encouraging start for Victoria who have come into the competition this year after a few years rest.

The Teams: Victoria: Thevarajah, Sabanathan, Appahpillai, Anbalavanar, Govindar, Ramanathan, Vettivelu (Capt.), Rajaratnam, Balasingam, Nadarajah and Ambalavanar.

Manipay Hindu: Thirunavukarasu, Murogesu, Rajagulasekaram, Jayaratnam, Somasundaram, Kanagasam, Somasundaram, Subramaniam (Capt.), Muttucumaraswamy, Ratnasingham and Thambirajah.

Mr. W. G. Spencer refereed, Messrs. Thamotheeram and Selvadurai were linesmen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MR. RAJARATNAM'S LETTER

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to a letter addressed by Mr. S. Rajaratnam to Dr. Subramaniam regarding me, which was published in your issue of August 28th. The allegations made against me by Mr. Rajaratnam in that letter with reference to the registration of two Hindu Board Schools—one at Tumpalai and the other at Thayiddy—are a gross misrepresentation of facts.

Tumpalai Hindu Board School. I am forwarding herewith, for favour of publication in the columns of your paper, a letter from Mr. Thikkam Chelliah Pillai who first interested me in this school. His letter which sets out the main facts relating to this school and refutes Mr. Rajaratnam's allegations against me will show that it was owing to my intervention that the school was registered. Soon after Dr. Subramaniam became the General Manager of the Hindu Board Schools he spoke to me about this school and another school started by the Hindu Board in Delft and sought my help with regard to their registration. On February 24th, 1938, he forwarded "for my information and necessary action" copies of two letters addressed by him to the Director of Education about these schools. I reproduce below my reply to Dr. Subramaniam's letters, from which your readers will see how readily I responded to the request made to me with regard to these schools of the Hindu Board.

"Ramnathan College,
Chunnakam,
26th February, 1938.

Dr. S. Subramaniam, J. P.,
Beach Road,
Jaffna.

"Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the copies of the letters addressed by you to the Director of Education regarding Tumpalai Saivaprakasa Vidyasalai and Maheswari Vidyasalai at Delft. I shall see the Director of Education on the 28th inst and urge on him the claims of these schools for registration.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Sgd) S. Natesan."

I interviewed the Director of Education on February 28th, 1938. He agreed to register the school in Delft, but he could not immediately register the school at Tumpalai, as it had been included in the list of unnecessary schools submitted by him to the Minister of Education. So I had to bring up this matter before the Executive Committee of Education, which gave permission to the Director of Education to remove this school from the list of unnecessary schools. Subsequently this school was registered.

Dr. Subramaniam knows well that it was owing to my intervention that this school and Maheswari Vidasalai of Delft were registered.

Dr. Subramaniam is also aware that the Bilingual schools of the Hindu Board which were about to be closed owing to some irregularities pointed out by the Director of Education, were allowed to be continued under some conditions, as a result of my intervention.

It was on account of these con-

siderations that he wrote to me the following letter, repudiating the charge made against me by Mr. Rajaratnam that I delayed the registration of some schools of the Hindu Board.

"Octagon,
Jaffna,
10.5.39.

"Dear Mr. Natesan,

I read the statements you referred to, and I must say I have no reason to believe that you manoeuvred in the Committee of Education to delay the registration of the Hindu Schools but I have reasons to believe the opposite.

You never appealed to me to rule the motion out of order at the Hindu Board meeting, but it was on my initiative that I did it.

Yours sincerely,
(Sgd) S. Subramaniam."

The following extract from Dr. Subramaniam's letter to the Director of Education dated February 24th, 1938 will show to what circumstances the delay in the registration of the Hindu Board School at Tumpalai was actually due.

"The Christian authorities of the neighbouring schools protested and as a result, you declared this school as unnecessary, as there was another Hindu School in Point Pedro."

This statement of Dr. Subramaniam is sufficient to disprove Mr. Rajaratnam's allegation that I delayed the registration of this school.

Thayiddy Hindu Board School: This school was started in close proximity to another Hindu School, which had been in existence for about forty years and served the needs of the Hindu children in the small village of Thayiddy. When the Hindu Board proposed to start a school in this locality, the Education Department informed the Board that the school would be considered unnecessary both on educational and religious grounds. Notwithstanding this communication from the Department, Mr. Rajaratnam built this school. The Manager of the older Hindu school protested against the registration of this new school and made representations to the Executive Committee of Education. He saw me and the other members of the Executive Committee of Education, some of whom had already brought to the notice of the Executive Committee of Education a similar problem in the South,—the starting of new Buddhist schools in close proximity to Buddhist Schools which were already in existence. The Executive Committee of Education considered that the encouragement of such rival schools was undesirable and a waste of public funds. This policy of the Committee was embodied in the following amendment of the code for Vernacular Assisted Schools.

"Clause 11. When a school is considered unnecessary no application for inspection for registration will be entertained until the school has been maintained for at least five years as a school certified by the Director of Education as providing adequate and suitable instruction."

When Mr. Rajaratnam spoke to

me about the Hindu Board School at Thayiddy, I told him that I could not approve of his policy of utilising the Hindu Board funds for starting schools in small villages where other Hindu schools which were in existence would be adversely affected.

Mr. Rajaratnam says that in a conversation he had with me regarding the school at Thayiddy I attempted to strike a political "bargain" with him and asked him to support me in the State Council election. This I totally and emphatically deny. This statement of Mr. Rajaratnam springs entirely from his imagination.

With regard to the endorsement "correct" over the signature of Dr. Subramaniam which is appended to Mr. Rajaratnam's letter, I interviewed Dr. Subramaniam lately. He stated that the word "correct" referred only to the fact that Mr. Rajaratnam had some conversations with him regarding the Hindu Board schools mentioned in his letter and that it did not certify the correctness of the allegations made in the letter against me. He was good enough to authorise me to make this known to your readers.

Yours etc.,
S. Natesan.

Thumpalai School

Sir,—As I have a personal knowledge of the main facts relating to Thumpalai Hindu Board school, I am making the following statement to show that Mr. S. Rajaratnam's letter to Dr. Subramaniam published in your paper of August 28 is a serious distortion of facts.

1. The proprietor of Thumpalai school, when the School building was half finished, came to me and requested me to speak to Mr. S. Natesan and get his consent to place the school under the management of the Parameshvara College Board of Directors. Accordingly we went to Mr. Natesan with our request, but he was at first reluctant to take up the responsibility, as at that time the Parameshvara College Board was not a recognised body for conducting Tamil schools. He suggested that the school might be placed under the Hindu Board but the proprietor said that he was unwilling to hand over the school to the Hindu Board. Mr. Natesan then undertook to get Parameshvara College Board recognised by the Executive Committee of Education with a view to taking over the school.

2. On hearing of this, Mr. Rajaratnam visited the proprietor and succeeded in persuading him to execute a deed in favour of the Hindu Board. There was opposition now from the Manager of the neighbouring mission schools who protested against the registration of the new school, and it was therefore classified as an 'un-necessary school'. The proprietor and myself along with Mr. M. Swaminathan of Kopay approached Mr. Natesan and sought his help to overcome the difficulty caused by the Manager of neighbouring schools. Although it was more difficult to get registration now, he undertook to do what he could to secure registration. He got this done for us and when I met Dr. Subramaniam at the office of Mr. Rajaratnam, the Doctor told me that Mr. Natesan had informed him that the Thumpalai school in

which I was interested would be registered for grant.

Yours etc.,
Thickam C. Chelliah Pillai.
Polikandy, Valvettiturai
26.9.39.

Hindu Board Of Education

Sir,

Mr. Canapathippillai of Thayiddy in a leaflet unnecessarily attacks Mr. S. Rajaratnam, and he wants Mr. Rajaratnam to allow others to step into the Hindu Board and reform the Management of the Board's schools. Does not Mr. Canapathippillai know that every Saivait who pays ten rupees a year can take his share in the Management of the Hindu Board's schools? Has he ever paid a cent to the Hindu Board funds? Why should not he and his colleagues join the Hindu Board in such large numbers and put in their directors and fill up the different offices of the Hindu Board? Though Mr. Canapathippillai says in his leaflet that

Mr. Rajaratnam's "strenuous efforts to increase the usefulness of the Board were widely appreciated"

yet he wants Mr. Rajaratnam to be out of the Board so that his school may be the only school at Thayiddy.

I feel Mr. Rajaratnam has partly made the Hindus of Ceylon to realise the dream of Sri Sri Arumugavalar of educating Hindu children in Hindu schools. I admired Mr. Rajaratnam when I was a school boy as a stonewaller going in first to bat and coming out not out. This habit of stonewalling at cricket he has taken into the Hindu Board.

May he live long to free us Hindus from the clutches of the Christian organisations! Workers, selfless workers, have paid greater penalty than being the victims of interested and irresponsible pamphleteers.

Truth will triumph in the end.

Jaffna,
1-10-39.

I am, Sir,
VERITAS.

Obituary

MR. PAUL CHELLAPPAH

The Death of Mr. Paul Chellappah, of Jaffna Town, took place at the residence of his son Dr. S. C. Thuraiajah M. O. H. Horana in the 24th instant at 2-30 a.m. The deceased was 74 years of age when he died. The funeral took place on the same evening. Rev. N. K. Nalliah conducted the service at the residence and at the grave side.

The following acted as pall bearers:—Mr. G. Crossette Thambyah District Judge Colombo, Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya, M. S. C., Dr. A. N. Coomaraswamy, Dr. K. Kathiravelu, Mr. S. P. Amarasingham and Mr. V. S. Ratnam.

The following were the chief mourners:—Dr. & Mrs. S. C. Thuraiajah, son and daughter-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Ponnudurai, son and daughter-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Maurice, son-in-law and daughter; Mrs. S. R. Thamotheram, sister.

The funeral was largely attended,
(Cor.)

RATIONAL SCALE OF SALARIES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES

(Continued from page 1)

fault of their own, a major economic factor in the country. Their remuneration filters through several strata of dependants accustomed some to a similar high standard perhaps, but bringing to others the bare necessities of life.

"A sudden drastic lowering of the standard of public servants' salaries is, therefore, bound to affect adversely a much larger community of dependants as well as even the domestic servants and traders. This may not result in complete disturbance of the economic conditions of society but every little ripple helps to swell the crest of the wave and the aggregate effect of a drastic reduction in the salaries of Government servants might well leave serious repercussions in its train.

"It is not an easy matter for a whole community to alter drastically all at once the standard of comfort it is used to and it would be unwise to enforce such a measure unless some serious emergency clearly demanded sacrifice of the interests of a large section of the people.

Government Opportunity

"Moreover, any further lowering of salary standards than we are suggesting is likely in the long run, we venture to think, to affect the social and economic conditions of the country adversely. As we stated in paragraph 24 of Part I. of our report, a reduction in the salary standard of public servants is desirable to make the Public Service a little less attractive than it is today and to drive a bigger number of the youth of the country to seek careers in commerce and industry and the diversion of brains to creative independent pursuits.

"Finally, very little need be said to explain the statement that the public service should be not merely competent but healthy. Notwithstanding the alarming statements made in public about corruption it will be admitted by all parties that comparatively speaking, the public service in general, particularly the higher services, have a fine tradition of integrity besides competency. A few rupees more in salary cannot no doubt make an honest man of a rogue, but a general undue lowering of salary standards may have far-reaching results and some very undesirable ones at that. Integrity of a whole service is a precious treasure, and too much caution cannot be exercised in preserving it, provided that the cost is not excessive.

"Let it not be said by future statesmen that their predecessors of this year, encouraged by us, opened the door to the deterioration of the morale of the service. For this reason, too, we are averse to recommending a more drastic reduction in salary standard consonant with the rapid Ceylonization of the higher services. The cost of erring on the side of

caution and of failing to make the further reduction as regards the higher services which would otherwise have been possible is, in our opinion, not excessive.

Popular Fallacy

"We may take this opportunity of dispelling the popular fallacy that it is the higher services, with their excessive salary standards, which consume the major portion of the vote for Personal Emoluments.

"The total vote for salaries in the 1938-39 estimates (including the Railway and Electrical Departments) is Rs. 51,243,000. This consists of provision for—Civil List Officers—Rs. 11,602,000; 23 per cent. of the total.

Clerical and other subordinate service—Rs. 30,442,000; 59 per cent. of the total.

Minor employees—Rs. 9,199,000, 18 per cent. of the total.

"With the increase in the number of new entrants under the Select Committee's and our proposals, the proportionate cost of Civil List Officers will fall still lower as the percentage reduction of salary scales is much greater in their case than in that of the lower grades. Any drastic reduction, therefore, of the salary scales of Civil List Officers is not likely to result in financial benefit commensurate with the probable injury to the efficiency and contentment of the service itself.

Ceylon Standard Chimerical

"To sum up, a 'Ceylon standard' of salary scales in the broad sense and by world standards is chimerical; it can only be real in a narrow sense conditioned by the rates of remuneration and other conditions of service normally available outside the public service. Since opportunity for outside employment is hampered, cramped and very limited, a 'Ceylon standard' in the narrow sense is impossible of adoption by Government.

"Employment by Government on the minima of scales on which suitable candidates would be willing to take up Government jobs is exploitation and unworthy of a model employer, which should be the role of any Government; such a policy might have disastrous consequences on the morale of the service.

"In the present stage of development of the Island, politically, socially, and economically, the framing of a new set of salary scales is a matter for common sense, guided by certain general principles, care being taken to steer clear of the rock of generosity on the one side and the rock of absolute logic on the other.

"Accordingly, the salary scales proposed by us—below which we feel it is impracticable to go at the present time—remove most of the Select Committee's embellishments on the Perenna Commission's scales and, in many respects, set up a standard lower even than the latter's; they have several attractive features from both the employer's and employee's points of view which are described fully in the following section.

Automatic Increments

"Government Servants have be-

come so accustomed to receiving automatic increments on a time scale within a class or grade, that when it came to the question of promotion from class to class or grade to grade, the authorities responsible for such promotion have not been able to resist the claims of mere seniority tempered by absence of demerit regardless of positive merit and suitability for higher appointments.

"Furthermore we have reason to think that the administration does not generally attach sufficient importance even to efficiency bars. The existing system has thus been reduced, in practice, to a continuous time scale promotion throughout an officer's entire career for fear of holding him back at any particular point, except where specific disqualification can be proved against him.

"In other words, seniority could be made to hold sway by an officer managing to do the minimum possible to keep out of trouble.

"To remedy this, and to effect economy, it was suggested to us by many responsible persons that the existing time scale should be replaced by a graded service of posts on non-incremental salaries with promotion by vacancy on merit and suitability. In such a system it might be necessary to assign to some of the posts now on the minima of time scale, salaries considerably in excess of such minima and this would not in all cases be less expensive on the whole than the time scale system nor lead to greater contentment in the service.

"It is an advantage that, in the early stages of a junior officer's career when personal responsibilities are gradually increasing, a time scale system should exist to impart to the officer a greater sense of security and to enable him to calculate his probable income within a measurable distance of time. It would at the same time be an encouragement to the more energetic and competent young officers to know that, while average efficiency can only bring slow and steady rise, a display of aptitude for the discharge of higher duties together with merit, diligence and good conduct could lead to quicker rise to greater heights.

"Efficiency and economy can both be achieved in a service by a system of time scale with as many divisions into grades as practicable.

Salary Reductions

"Questions of grading and organisation of a service are intimately connected with matters of promotion.

"Besides introducing grading and efficiency bars where necessary, economy has been effected by lengthening out the time scales in such a manner as to provide increments throughout the whole period of an officer's service, except in the case of special appointments at the top of the service.

"In addition, fairly high percentages of reductions have also been made in salaries.

"Class II, of the Civil Service which under the 1922 Scheme started on a salary of £500 (Rs. 7,500), and rose to £1,300 (Rs. 19,500), and for which the 1934 scale was Rs. 5,400—15,000

has been assigned by us a scale of Rs. 4,800—13,800. Increments of Rs. 600 have been brought down to Rs. 360, the period of service lengthened from 21 years to 28 years and the class divided into two grades.

"Similarly, Class I, of the Civil Service which started on £1,400 (Rs. 21,000) and ended on £1,750 (Rs. 26,250), and which was assigned the scale Rs. 16,200—19,800 (divided into two grades) by the 1934 Select Committee has been assigned fixed salaries in two grades of Rs. 15,000 and 18,000. Under our scheme the earliest an officer can reach Class I, Grade II, would be in the 25th year of his service and Grade I in the 30th year.

"Proportionate reductions have been effected in the case of the technical services too.

"A District Engineer of the Public Works Department whose pre 1934 and 1935 scales of salary were £500 (Rs. 7,500)—£960 (Rs. 14,400) and Rs. 6,840—11,520 respectively has been assigned by us a salary scale of Rs. 6,240—9,600, increments which were Rs. 450 and Rs. 600 and later Rs. 384 and Rs. 420 have been reduced to Rs. 240.

"Assistant Superintendents and Superintendents of Surveys, whose salary scale rose from £450 (Rs. 6,750) to £1,040 (Rs. 15,600) under the pre-1934 scheme and from Rs. 3960 to Rs. 12,480, under the 1934 scheme have been assigned by us Rs. 3,120 to Rs. 10,200.

"The increments which ranged from Rs. 375 to Rs. 600, under the pre-1934 scheme and Rs. 300 to Rs. 480, under the 1934 scheme have been reduced to a range of Rs. 180 to Rs. 360. The service period of an Assistant Superintendent, which was 13 years and later 18 years, has been lengthened by us to 26 years.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 772. In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Cumaravelu Candiah of Vaddukoddai East, Jaffna.

Deceased, Nagammah widow of Cumaravelu Candiah of Vaddukoddai East, Jaffna. Petitioner.

Vs. Minors, 1. Candiah Visuralingam
2. Candiah Sellammah
3. Candiah Balasubramaniam
4. Candiah Kandasamy
5. Sabapathippillai Sinnathamby all of Vaddukoddai East, Jaffna. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 28th day of August, 1939 in the presence of Mr. M. Kathiravelu, Proctor on the part of Petitioner and the Petitioner and Affidavit of the Petitioner having been read;

It is ordered that the 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents to represent them in the Testamentary Proceedings, that the Petitioner be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased as the lawful widow of the deceased and that Letters of Administration be issued to her accordingly unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 4th day of October, 1939, appear and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge.

13th September, 1939.
(O. 47. 28-9 & 2-10-39.)

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Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7375.

In the matter of the Estate of the late
Gowriammah widow of Nadarajah
of Vannarponnai West Jaffna

Deceased.

Nadarajah Navaratnam of Tellippalai
East

and Petitioner.

1. Nadarajah Kandaswamy
2. Thayalnayagi daughter of Nadarajah

3. Vizaladchy widow of Ponniah of Tellippalai East

The 1st and 2nd are minors appearing by their guardian-ad-litem the 3rd Respondent

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 29th day of May 1939, in the presence of Mr. P. Nagalingam, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read: It is

ordered that the Petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased as an heir unless the Respondents or any other person or persons shall appear shall appear before this Court on the 15th day of September 1939 and state objection or show cause to the contrary.

This 25th day of August 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy.

District Judge.

Drawn by

Sgd. P. Nagalingam,

Proctor for Petitioner.

Extended to 13th October 1939.

(Inld.) C. C.

D. J. Jaffna.

(O. 46. 28-9 & 2-10-39.)

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R. M. WEST,

Manager for Ceylon

Y. 134. 1-4-39 to 30-9-39 (M)

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