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CONGRESS TAKES FIRST BIG STEP OF NON-CO-OPERATION

Madras Ministry Resigns

CONGRESS & BRITISH GOVT ON TRIAL, SAYS GANDHIJI

New Delhi, Friday.

With the close of the House of Commons debate on India, the centre of interest in constitutional problems arising out of the Viceroy's statement has again returned to New Delhi and Sir Samuel Hoare's statement that His Excellency proposes, without delay, to send invitations to political leaders to discuss the position further has led to the assumption that the next step will be taken here.

Meanwhile, it is pointed out, that, in accordance with the normal constitutional procedure, the resignations of the Congress Ministries will not be accepted by the Provincial Governors until some alternative means has been found to carry on the Government and, accordingly, there is little possibility of the resignations being accepted immediately. There is thus a period of time in which further consultations can take place here without any final step having been taken meantime in the Provinces.

The Madras Ministry has tendered its resignation.

Communique

The following Communique has been issued by the Secretary to the Governor:

"The Governor this afternoon received Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar who tendered the resignation of himself and his colleagues in the Council of Ministers. His Excellency intimated to the Premier that he could not finally accept the resignation of the Ministry until he has had time to make other arrangements for carrying on the Government of the Presidency."

The Governor received this evening Kumararaja M. A. Mathiah Chettiar, the Chettinad leader of the Opposition in the Madras Legislative Assembly, and invited his assistance in forming a Council of Ministers. Kumararaja asked for

time to consider the matter.

Bombay's Plans

The Bombay Legislative Assembly carried the Premier's resolution on the war as amended by 92 votes to 56.

The Ministry, it is learnt, has decided to resign on the last day of this month supplementary demands and also see the Agricultural Debtors Relief Bill through in the Legislative Council.

The Premier's resolution on the war situation was passed by the Assembly which regretted that the British Government made India a participant in the war without consent of the Indian people and declared that it was essential, in order to secure the co-operation of the Indian people, that the principles of democracy should be applied to India as an independent nation entitled to frame its own constitution. It also regretted that the situation in India had not been rightly understood by His Majesty's Government when authorising the statement regarding India, made on its behalf by the Viceroy.

Gandhiji's Reply to Sir Samuel

Wardha, Friday.

"I have read Sir Samuel Hoare's speech with the attention it deserves. I appreciate the conciliatory tone behind it. It makes it, therefore, embarrassing for me to produce a jarring note but, even as he speaks from a sense of duty, I hope I shall receive the same credit," says Mr. Gandhi, in a statement on Sir Samuel's speech.

Mr. Gandhi asks: "Has Dominion Status for India any meaning unless it is synonymous with independence? Has the India of Sir Samuel's imagination the right to secede from the Government? I like the declaration that the British

(Continued on Page 4)

Making Ceylon Self-Supporting in Forest Produce

Forest Policy of Government

Difficulties of Reafforestation in the Island

"ONE of the declared objects of the Forest Policy of Government is to make the Island self-supporting in timber and forest produce. Unless and until our forests are in a position to supply in commercial quantities timber at competitive prices which will prove equally suitable for every purpose for which the imported timber is popular, we shall continue to import large quantities of timber annually" observes Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, Conservator of Forests, in his Administration Report for 1938. He further observes:—

Although the area of forest or waste land more or less covered with trees is immense, the depredations of the chena cultivators have reduced many of them to inferior quality while the forests best situated have been alienated in the past. Those left are, therefore, for the most part not only of inferior quality but inaccessible and remote from the rivers and roads. No less than about 70 per cent. of the total area of Ceylon is forest land but the Forest Department is in charge of only 3,483,622 acres out of a total forest clad area of something over 11,000,000 acres. Of the 3,483,622 acres which constitute the reserves and proposed reserves, 979,762 acres come under the category of "protection" reserves, while the balance 2,503,860 acres form the "production" reserves. The entire area coming under the category of production reserves cannot, however, be regarded as "merchantable" state forests, namely, state forests in which timber is worth exploiting. The chief problem in the management of these forests of different types with varying local conditions is the extremely varied nature of the composition of the forests. Had the Ceylon forests consisted of concentrated blocks of homogeneous species, their preservation and improvement would

not have presented insuperable difficulties to the department. The introduction and elaboration of efficient systems of management under circumstances such as these have necessarily been a very slow process. The forest officer has to look many decades ahead and has to embark on long term trials and experiments before evolving a satisfactory silvicultural system of treatment suited to the local conditions. The departmental organisation was, accordingly, concentrated in the preparation and completion of appropriate working plans commenced in the preceding years for the proper exploitation and management of the forests and in research work directed towards attempts at regenerating such of the areas as are capable of being improved or reafforested economically. The work of actual exploitation to earn revenue was confined mainly to such of the "Other Crown Forests" in charge of Revenue Officers which had any appreciable timber contents or to such of those lands as are taken up for alienation for purposes of peasant settlement and colonization. A certain section of the dry zone forests in charge of the department which are covered by a paper working plan for the Northern Province was also exploited similarly according to the plan for meeting the "sleeper" supplies to the Ceylon Government Railway as well as to meet the timber requirements of the inhabitants of the Jaffna Peninsula where there is always a large demand for the hardwood dry zone timber for building and other constructional purposes. Although these dry zone forests are popularly believed to be rich in timbers of great value, the actual yield has been found to be very low indeed, as not more than an average of one sound tree per two to three

(Continued on Page 4.)

Wanted

Agents throughout Ceylon to canvass orders for Silk and Cotton Carpets and Hand Bags on decent commission.

Apply:

K. SHIVAKUMAR,
9, Dam Street,
Colombo.

(Mis. 182. 30-10-39)

Re-sale of Toddy Tavern for non-Payment of Instalments

Notice is hereby given that the Assistant Government Agent, Mullaitivu, will receive sealed tenders for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling fermented toddy in the undermentioned tavern for the period 10th November, 1939 to 30th June 1940 on Tuesday, November 7, 1939 at the Residency Mullaitivu.

2. Particulars as to the conditions can be obtained on application at the Vavuniya Kachcheri.

S. S. Navaratnam
Assistant Government Agent.

The Kachcheri,
Vavuniya 21st October, 1939
TAVERN REFERRED TO:—
No. Local area. Division Closing time
for tenders
5 Vattapalai Maritime Pattus 10.30 a.m.
[G. 28. 30-10-39]

Tenders for the Purchase of Firewood from Kokaavil Other Crown Forests

Tenders will be received up to mid-day on Tuesday, November 28th 1939, by the Chairman, Tender Board, General Treasury, P. O. Box 500, Colombo, for the purchase of firewood in a coupe approximately 154 acres in extent in other Crown Forests at Kokaavil. Distance of transport to the Kokaavil Railway Siding is about a mile.

Further particulars regarding the area of exploitation and conditions of sale may be had on application to the Divisional Forest Officer, Dry Zone Division, Jaffna.

V. Coomaraswamy
Conservator of Forests

Office of the Conservator of Forests,
P. O. Box 500,
Colombo, 24th October, 1939.
[C. 29. 30-10-39]



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1939.

INDIA AND WAR

THE MADRAS MINISTRY HAS resigned in pursuance of the resolution of the Congress Working Committee calling upon the Congress Governments in the provinces to resign as a protest against the Viceroy's statement on India and the War. It is expected the Congress Ministries in other provinces will follow suit with the result that the party which commands the confidence of the Legislature will not be responsible for the Government of the provinces. Hence, Provincial Autonomy under the Government of India Act of 1935 will prove but an empty phrase. There can be no two opinions that the Congress Ministries have given a good account of themselves by their constructive measures calculated to promote the well-being of the masses. Impartial

observers cherished the hope that in a few years the Congress Ministries would substantially improve the economic condition of the teeming millions of India. But the resignation of the Congress Government is bound to give a set-back to all ameliorative activities. This unfortunate situation could well have been avoided if British statesmanship had risen to the occasion. The British Government should have known by now that the one party which could deliver the goods is the Congress. The very fact that it carries on the Government in the majority of provinces is a convincing testimony to its claim to speak for India as a whole. In a continent like India with its diversities and complexities there are bound to be parties and communities who will naturally question the authority of the Congress to speak and act for the whole of India. The British Government, while not ignoring the demands and counter demands of communal leaders and their organisations, should have apprised their true worth and not set their claims against those of the Congress. Ever since the Congress decided in favour of office acceptance, it has been running the Governments in the majority of the provinces in a manner which elicited the admiration of the British Government as well as of their representatives in India. While admitting that there exist in India acute divisions and disunity which preclude the grant of immediate Dominion Status, we are of the opinion that the British Government could well have met the Congress demand by a promise to endorse any agreed constitution presented by India as a whole. Such a statesmanlike declaration, apart from setting the British Government in the right, would have laid the burden on Indians themselves. At this critical time in the history of the Empire when all its resources, moral and material, are needed to fight Hitlerism and what it stands for, the Home Government should have done everything in their power to win the support and co-operation of India. It is hoped that the present Viceroy who has more than once given proof of his statesmanship will find a way out of the impasse which threatens the India of today.

Northern Towns Under V.C. Ordinance

The small towns of Kayts, Valvedditurai and Point Pedro are to be brought within the operation of the Village Communities Ordinance from November.

Point Pedro and Valvedditurai have been under the Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance since 1901 and Kayts since 1911.

NAZIS PLANNING TO INVADE ENGLAND?

Nazi Ingenuity

CONCENTRATIONS IN THE SAAR

London, Saturday.

THE latest product of Nazi ingenuity in keeping the Allies guessing is the report of a coming invasion of England. A double barrier of mines would be laid in the North Sea through which German fleet transports would steam securely, while Storm Troops and engineers dropped on Britain by parachute to destroy bridges, railways, munition works and power stations.

Another story is that Hitler is assembling 3,000 bombers to lay waste.

Eschewing fairy tales, military critics emphasise that advanced air bases are indispensable for successful air raids on Britain, the distance from Germany being too great for fighters, without the protection of which bombers would be practically at the mercy of the defence. Hence the persistent belief that the Germans will invade Holland.

French observers say that the chief weight of German concentration is all on the Saar. At some points the German and French lines are almost touching.

Elsewhere between the Rhine and the Moselle they are as much as two miles apart. Here ceaseless reconnaissances continue. Despite shocking weather French aeroplanes managed one of the most successful fights yesterday, 56 miles deep into the Rhineland.

Travellers from Germany to Switzerland report snow and rain throughout the west and south of Germany. It is the worst autumn for many years. Snow in Switzerland strengthens the defences.

German Claims

A German High Command *communiqué* says that in the west between Moselle and the Palatinate forest there was livelier artillery activity than in the recent few days. A local attack by not very considerable enemy forces in the frontier area west of the Warndt was repulsed.

Economic warfare in the Baltic, the North Sea and the Atlantic continues to be successful, it is claimed. According to reports confirmed by German naval units 22 ships of 109,370 tons gross were sunk from October 18th to 25th.

According to foreign press reports three more ships totalling 12,000 tons were sunk. The total losses since the outbreak of the war are 115 ships of 475,321 tons.

In spite of these successes our own losses are very small," continues the *communiqué*. Hitherto three U-boats are overdue and must be presumed to be lost.

"All Quiet"

Paris, Saturday.

A *Communiqué* states: "It was a quiet night on the entire front."

London, Saturday.

The Air Minister announces that last night R.A.F. aircraft carried out reconnaissances over certain areas in Southern Germany. All returned.

THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE O. B. A.

ANNUAL CELEBRATIONS

ALL-CEYLON INDUSTRIAL RALLY AND CARNIVAL IN MAY 1940.

Presiding at the annual general meeting and the annual Dinner of the Old Boys' Association of the Jaffna Hindu College yesterday, Mr. A. Cumaraswamy, the Principal, said they had decided to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the College in May 1940 and to hold an All-Ceylon Industrial Rally and Carnival in connection with it.

(A full account of the O. B. A. celebrations will appear in our next issue.)

GANDHIJI ON NEED FOR DISCIPLINE

Weakness of Congress

Bombay Saturday.

The refusal of the British Government to fulfil the Congress hope that they would make the expected declaration is solely due to the weakness in the Congress organisation and Congressmen, writes Mr. Gandhi in today's "Harijan," under the caption "Causes."

After analysing the weakness of Congress he appeals to all Congressmen for the strictest adherence to discipline, and adds "There is no possibility of civil resistance on a large scale unless Congressmen show perfect discipline and greater appreciation of non-violence and truth. There need be none unless we are goaded into it by the authorities," he says.

Reiterating the need for non-violence he says that though he might not help the Allies he did not wish disaster for them.

GOVERNOR LEAVES FOR MADRAS

For Deep Ray Therapy Treatment

Colombo, Sunday.

Sir Andrew Caldecott, Governor, left for India by the Thalaimannar train last night and during his holiday in Madras he will be the guest of the Governor of Madras and the Lady Marjorie Erskine.

The object of Sir Andrew's trip is to complete the healing of his throat by an application of deep ray therapy which is not yet available in Ceylon.

Dr. A. M. de Silva, senior surgeon of the Colombo General Hospital, also travelled to India in the same train, and will, it is understood, act as Sir Andrew's medical adviser during his stay in that country.

MINISTERS INSIST ON SALARY CUT

A WAR MEASURE

BUT ALL WORKS TO CONTINUE

IT is understood that the Board of Ministers insists on the enforcement of the temporary reduction of the salaries of the Public Services which it proposed as one of the retrenchment measures necessitated by the situation created by the war.

It is also understood that the Board of Ministers has decided that unless this temporary salary "cut" is effected it will not enforce any retrenchment measures likely to cause unemployment in the country.

Temporary salary "cut," which was considered at the meeting of the Board of Ministers with the Governor on Thursday, is expected to result in a saving of approximately Rs. 2,500,000.

The proposal, it is learned, has been opposed on the ground that the present financial position of the Government does not demand it.

It is learned, however, that the Ministers take a more serious view of the situation and are of opinion that the members of the Public Services should bear a share of the financial difficulties of the country during the critical period resulting from the war.

Rent Allowances

The permanent salary "cut" of the old entrants to the Public Service was proposed by the Board of Ministers before the outbreak of the war.

While it is proposed that the temporary salary "cut" should be applicable to the whole Public Service, it is proposed that the rent allowances of old entrants should be reduced by half.

It is learned that the situation arising from the differences of opinion on the subject was the subject of discussion at a meeting of the Board of Ministers held yesterday.

The proposals for making reductions in the Budget estimates for the present financial year, formulated by a sub-Committee of the Board of Ministers called the finance Committee, would, when carried out, it is calculated, cause a certain amount of unemployment which it was proposed to relieve by providing work under the new Food Production "Drive."

Must Not Create Unemployment

It is learned that the Board of Ministers has decided to suspend the enforcement of all retrenchment measures which would cause unemployment even in the slightest degree.

Special Instructions

It has been decided, it is understood, to issue the following instructions to heads of Departments:—

(a) To proceed with all works, the discontinuance of which would create unemployment;

(b) Not to discontinue any labour from Government employment;

(c) To continue normal maintenance work;

(d) To proceed with continuation works without interruption;

(e) To make preparations for commencing new works already included in the Budget.

In the case of the last category of works, heads of Departments are to be requested not to incur expenditure on a large scale without the permission of the Ministers concerned.

The Jaffna Town Teachers Association

Annual Meeting

The annual general meeting of the J. T. T. A. was held on the 23rd of October at Vembadi Girls' school. The teachers of the Vembadi school were "at home" to the members.

The business meeting followed the social. The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed. Then the Secretary's report was adopted. As the Treasurer was not ready with the Balance sheet, a brief account was read and it was resolved to read the balance-sheet at the next ordinary meeting. Then Mr. J. C. Charles proposed that as recommended in the Committee a sum of Rs. 50/- be voted to the N. P. T. A. funds. This proposal was seconded by Mr. D. C. Arulanandam. The next item was the election of office-bearers. The following were elected office-bearers for the year 1939-1940.

President: Mr. J. C. Charles Central College; Vice president: Dr. E. M. Thilliampalam, Chundiculi Girls' School; Secretary: Mr. S. Jeyaveerasingam, Jaffna Hindu College; Treasurer: Mr. G. S. B. Selvadurai, St. Patrick's College; Librarian: Mr. K. Navaratnam, Central College. Committee:—Mr. M. Karthigesu, Kokuvil Hindu English School; Messrs. M. Mylvaganam, N. Sangarapillai, K. S. Subramaniam, Jaffna Hindu College, Mr. S. Ambikaipakan, Vaideshwara Vidyalaya; Mr. S. T. Samuel, Kilner College; Messrs. A. E. Tamber, L. W. Ponnuthurai, J. S. Selvaratnam, Jaffna Central College; Mr. P. W. Thambirajah, Parameshwara College; Messrs. A. T. Selvadurai, C. W. D. Alwines, Laurence pillai, St. Patrick's College; V. Balasundaram, Hindu English School, Chavakachcheri; Messrs. A. S. Kanagaratnam, K. S. Saravanamuttu, Driberg School, Chavakachcheri; Messrs. K. Nesiiah, V. C. Kanagaratnam, D. C. Arulanandam, St. Johns' College; Miss. D. Kathiravelu, Vembadi Girls' school. Miss. P. Aiyadurai, Chundiculi Girls' College. Mr. M. Jacob Auditor, St. Patrick's College. Delegates to the N. P. T. A. Executive: Messrs. J. T. Arulanandam, K. Nesiiah, A. E. Tamber, S. Ambikaipakan and D. Saverimuttu.

After the business meeting there was a lecture by Mr. K. Nesiiah, M. A., Dip. Ed., on "Some Aspects of Education in Europe." The lecturer outlined the policy and aims of the European Schools. He told of the national outlook of schools in Europe and how they strove to give equality of opportunity to every one. Then he touched on various types of schools the nursery-Infant-secondary-evening and technical schools. Next he outlined the personnel and the nature of work of the Education Administration Board in England.

He concluded his instructive speech by pointing out the remissness of our teachers. As the time was late no lengthy discussion followed. At this stage Mr. S. Jeyaveerasingam proposed votes of thanks to the lecturer, to the teachers of Vembadi Girls' school and to the retiring office-bearers. After a few remarks by the President the meeting terminated.

Jaffna Branch Of Travancore Bank

Appeal Against D. J's Order Dismissed

The appeal of Messrs. J. V. Pirrie and Cyril Gill, official liquidators in Madras, of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank Ltd., against an order of the District Judge of Jaffna in the liquidation proceedings of the Jaffna Branch of the Bank, was dismissed without costs by Mr. Justice Wijeyewardene and Mr. Justice Nihill, on a consent motion filed in Court.

An application by Mr. H. L. Pope of Colombo, official liquidators of the Bank appointed by the District Courts of Colombo, Kandy and Galle, for revision of the same order, was also dismissed without costs on a consent motion.

The order in question was made by the District Judge of Jaffna on December 19th, 1938, on an application by Mr. J. Suppramaniam Lewis of Jaffna, official liquidator of the Bank, appointed by the District Court of Jaffna, after he had collected assets of the Jaffna Branch of the value of approximately Rs. 155,175.81.

The Jaffna Order

It directed that subject to the consideration of preferential claims, 60 per cent of the assets realised in Jaffna should be distributed only among the creditors and depositors of the Jaffna Branch, and that such assets should not be pooled with those of the principal office and branches all over the world for the purpose of distribution "pro rata" among all the creditors of the Bank.

The respondents to the appeal were Mr. J. Suppramaniam Lewis, official liquidator of the Bank, in Jaffna. Messrs. R. F. Wishart and N. Kessava Panickar, official liquidator of the Bank, in Travancore, and Mr. H. L. Pope provisional liquidator of the Bank, in Colombo, Kandy, and Galle.

The respondents to Mr. Pope's application were the official liquidators of the Bank, in Jaffna, Madras, and Travancore.

In the appeal, Mr. N. E. Weerasooriya K. C., with Mr. E. F. N. Gratiaen appeared for Messrs. Pirrie and Gill, Mr. H. V. Perera, K. C., with Mr. N. Nadarajah for Mr. Suppramaniam Lewis and Mr. N. K. Choksy with Mr. F. C. W. Van Geyzel for Messrs. Wishart and Panickar.

In the application for revision, Mr. N. K. Choksy with Mr. F. C. W. Van Geyzel appeared for Mr. Pope, Mr. H. V. Perera K. C., with Mr. N. Nadarajah for Mr. Suppramaniam Lewis, and Mr. N. E. Weerasooriya K. C., with Mr. E. F. N. Gratiaen for the other respondents.

Another Order

Their Lordships also issued an interim order prohibiting the District Judge of Jaffna from proceeding with the liquidation proceedings relating to the Banks (Jaffna Branch), pending the hearing on November 14th of an application for a writ of prohibition on the District Judge from proceeding further in the matter.

Mr. E. B. Wickremaranyake who appeared with Mr. J. T. Perera, in moving for an interim order, said that the District Judge had on De-

CEYLON CONGRESS AND REFORMS

RESOLUTION FOR ANNUAL SESSION

RAISING TARIFF ON FOODSTUFFS

Colombo, Saturday.

The Government proposes to raise the tariff on rice, potatoes and treacle. A letter from the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce to the Ceylon National Congress to this effect was read at the Executive Committee meeting of the Congress held last night at the residence of Sir Baron Jayatilaka, who presided at the meeting.

The Minister's letter stated that the Government was adopting the proposal put forward by the Congress Executive that the tariff on rice, potatoes and treacle should be raised.

The meeting also decided to invite the Ceylon Trade Delegation to India to meet the Executive Committee of the Congress before it leaves for India.

Reform Resolution

Mr. Victor C. Perera proposed a resolution demanding that the question of the reform of the Ceylon Constitution be not deferred owing to the war but that the question be settled before the next State Council elections as originally intended beyond the statutory date; and that this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

After discussion it was decided to place this resolution on the Agenda for the next annual sessions of the Congress at Kandy on December 16.

Mr. P. D. S. Jeyasekera proposed that the Ceylon National Congress should take immediate steps to form a united front with the Indian and Burmese nationalists to secure political freedom.

It was decided to defer this resolution until the Congress policy and program were finally decided on at the forthcoming annual sessions.

December 19th, last year, ordered that 60 per cent of the assets collected be distributed among the creditors. His clients, the petitioners—Messrs. Esmaljee Amijee, of Jaffna, who had obtained a decree for Rs. 8,493.06 against the Bank, stood to lose by that distribution, because it was on a "pro rata" basis. They had filed that application for a writ of prohibition on the ground that the District Judge had acted without jurisdiction. That application had been listed for argument on November 14th. That morning an application by the Colombo Liquidator for revision of the District Judge's order had been dismissed on a consent motion. He therefore asked for an interim order.

Their Lordships directed their order to be communicated by wire to the District Judge of Jaffna.

The respondents to the application for a writ of prohibition are Mr. J. Suppramaniam Lewis, of Jaffna, official liquidator of the Bank, in Jaffna, and the three creditors—Messrs. S. K. Swaminathan, of Manipal, and George S. Mather, of Jaffna, and the Northern Province Teachers' Provident Society, Ltd. on whose application the Judge had ordered the winding up of the Bank.

Making Ceylon Self-Supporting in Forest Produce

(Continued from page 1)

acres containing about 30 cubic feet of utilizable material was obtained under systematic exploitation. This is indeed very low when compared with yields of as much as 10,000 to 15,000 cubic feet per acre of merchantable timber in some of the Eucalyptus forests in Australia. This explains the high cost of extraction of Ceylon timbers and the difficulty of competing with imported timber.

Reselection of forest areas in the Island for administration by the department was completed some years ago, but the legal "mapping out" necessary under the Land Development Ordinance before proclamation and reservation under the Forest Ordinance is lagging far behind and is proceeding far too slowly for the needs of this department. Reservation of forests is often seriously delayed by the fact that one or two villages out of a total of say, about ten are still not mapped out. Then again proposals for the alteration of the status of forest areas already mapped out as Forest Reserves or excisions from them even after going through the formalities of mapping out and reserving them are often made. The slowness of the settlement of Crown lands is another drawback. All these factors retard the preparation of working plans and unsettle them when made after expenditure of considerable time and money in their preparation.

Conference of Staff Officers

In November the first Conference of Staff Officers of the department to discuss and solve pending questions of common interest to the department was held. The Conference was opened by the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and Lands and presided over by the Conservator of Forests. The most important question considered by the Conference was the chena reforestation system of clearfelling, burning, sowing, and planting of light demanding trees in full light followed by underplanting of shade bearing species under artificial shade, the main silvicultural system of regeneration practised by the department for a number of years. Doubts were cast on the efficacy of this system by criticism from inside and outside the department and after a full discussion at the Conference it was agreed that, while there might be something in the objections, the system which had been in vogue for a number of years was in a fair way of producing some fine concentrated stands of timber. It was therefore decided that the present system should be continued uninterrupted paying greater attention than in the past to the selection of species and sites. The necessity for taking adequate precautions against all possible risks of soil-erosion were also specially emphasized. At the same time it was agreed that the Research Branch should conduct a series of experiments with a view to decide whether and what changes are de-

sireable in the present system.

Up Country Forests

During the year the policy of Government with regard to the management of the Up-Country forests was further clarified and the following definite instructions were issued for giving effect to the policy:—

- All forest areas over 5,000 feet in elevation are to be regarded primarily as Climatic and Protective reserves to be maintained as such in the interests of the Island as a whole and not as economic forests to be a possible source of supply of timber on any large scale.
- Felling of indigenous forest in order to reforest the areas with fastgrowing exotic species should be definitely brought to an end within a period of five years.
- The department should embark on a scheme of increased "patana" (Grassland) planting in approved centres.
- While existing plantations may continue to be managed on an economic basis to meet the local timber and firewood demands, they should be managed in such a way as to ensure their return in due course to stands of indigenous species.

The working plan prepared for the Up-Country forests was accordingly amended so as to give effect to these instructions and a revision of the planting mixture adopted for the various centres was made. A programme of "patana" planting the Erabedde area about 500 acres in the vicinity of Welimada in Nuwara Eliya District during 1939 was also decided upon.

The almost total failure of both the south-west and north-east monsoon rains throughout the Island, resulting in serious drought was a serious setback to all re-afforestation and affected the young plantations. The jak (*Artocarpus integrifolia*) plantations, in particular, in the North Western Division suffered the most and new planting was a failure in many centres.

Fall in Forest Revenue

The amount of forest revenue collected during the financial year 1937-38 was Rs. 311,465 86 as against Rs. 452,315 30 during the preceding financial year. The shortfall of Rs. 140,839 44 is a large one and the marked decline was mainly due to the heavy drop in the revenue from sales of Satinwood for export at the Central Timber Depot. There was also a noticeable reduction in the amount of revenue derived from the exploitation of "coupes" for sleeper supply to the Government Railway. The "Other Crown Forests" which have been subjected to a scheme of exploitation since 1933 to meet the sleeper supply are nearly all exhausted and accordingly the extraction has now to be diverted to the Reserves and as the annual cut is limited to felling series prescribed by Working Plans the annual output is likely

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Congress Takes First Big Step of Non-Co-operation

(Continued from page 1)

have shed imperialistic ambitions. Will he allow the people of India to judge for themselves whether, in reality, that ambition has been shed? If it is, a proof should be forthcoming even before India is statutorily declared independent.

"When the protection of minorities is pleaded against the declaration required by the Congress, the great pronouncement made by Sir Samuel sounds unreal. What Congress asked for is not any sounding of Indian opinion, but a declaration of Britain's intentions. I have endeavoured to show that there is no such thing as a real minority in India whose right can be endangered by India becoming independent. With the exception of the depressed classes, there is no minority which is unable to take care of itself.

"A Common Cause"

"I observe that Sir Samuel mentioned Europeans also a minority. The very mention of Europeans, in my opinion, condemns the cry of the protection of the interests of the minorities, whatever they are, is a common cause between the British Government and the Congress.

"I like Sir Samuel's division of India into Congress and Non-Congress India and if Non-Congress India contains not merely the Princes but all those people who may be represented by the Princes of India, all the Muslims and the Hindu Maha Sabha and others who refuse to be classified as part of Congress India; it is Congress India which will be in danger of the Non-Congress majority and the Congress has got to make good its cohesion even though it may represent a minority wholly unarmed, partly by outside force, but largely by its own will. I am glad Sir Samuel declared that the present British policy is to be judged in the moral scales as suggested by me. I venture to suggest that, if Sir Samuel's speech is the last word on behalf of the British Government, British political morality will be found wanting. Sir Samuel has laughed at non-co-operation as a barren doctrine. I am convinced that it is not so barren as he thinks. It has proved its worth in the eyes of millions of Indians and may do so again if Congress remains truly non-violent as I hope it will.

"The Congress decision is an imperative call to duty. It puts Congress and the British Government on their trial. Nothing but good will come out of it if both play the game."

Full Freedom Demanded

Dr Rajendra Prasad, the Congress President, declared that Mr. Gandhiji's statement represented his reaction to Sir Samuel's speech. He added that the pro-

HYDRO ELECTRIC SCHEME

Civil Portion to be Carried Out

Colombo, Saturday.

It is understood that the Board of Ministers, at a meeting held yesterday, decided that the civil engineering portion of the Hydro-Electric Scheme should be carried out as early as possible.

The contract for this part of the work has been given to the Hindustan Construction Co., which is now to be requested to commence operations.

As the completion of this part of the scheme will take several years, it is thought that it is best to put it in hand now and consider the carrying out of the other contracts for the electrical works of the undertaking at a later stage.

It is understood that inquiries made with regard to possible increases in the prices of material required for the civil engineering part of the scheme reveal that the increases, if any, may not be considerable.

blem of the protection of minorities had been brought as a difficulty in the way of India's advance to freedom.

"Let the British Government", he said, "throw on Indians the responsibility for producing an agreed constitution without any interference from outside and promise to give statutory effect to it when they produced what would be a genuine offer. Without that, all talk of protection of minorities looks like an excuse for perpetuating the status quo. Congress insists on a charter of independence to be framed by a Constituent Assembly of representatives selected on universal franchise. Why does Sir Samuel fight shy of mentioning the Statute of Westminster?"

He concluded: "Let the British Government realise that India is not to be satisfied with the promise of a gradual advance by stages. She wants full freedom and the right to frame her own constitution."

"There is nothing in the speech of Sir Samuel which calls for a revision of the Congress attitude," declared Pandit Nehru, addressing a public meeting at Bombay this evening. "So long as the British Government has not shed its imperialism and will not help to build a new order, there is no possibility of co-operation between Congress and the British Government. It is impossible for India to pour out her men and money into a struggle which would not result in her complete emancipation from her shackles."

Referring to Sir Samuel's reference to the possibility of non-co-operation, Pandit Nehru pointed out that the Working Committee had decided to take the big step forward of withdrawing the Congress Ministries which represented the first big act of non-co-operation and they would take other steps after mature consideration.

Minister Feted at Kayts

Water-Supply and Harbour Questions

A spectacular reception was given on Sunday the 22nd instant to the Minister for Local Administration and several members of his committee by the residents of Karainagar and (Leyden) Velanaitivu Islands at Kayts.

The party arrived at 5.30 P.M. and the minister was garlanded by Mr. Kanapathipillai, Chairman of the Karainagar Village Committee. Several headmen of the Island who were present handed 'Chendus' to the other members of the party at the 'Pandal' erected by the merchants and other inhabitants of the Island. The 'busmen' who had to cancel a proposed 'pandal' at Chankanaï owing to the Minister's Change of programme had to be content with the reception at the Karainagar end of Kayts jetty. The party was conducted with oriental music to a gaily decorated motor launch which awaited them at the jetty.

Tea was served in the launch itself and when the cloth was removed proved to be a gorgeous banquet for fifteen. The party viewed the harbour of Kayts and satisfied that it was a natural harbour protected from both monsoons, providing cheap water-traffic to both India and the town of Jaffna and the nearest of the Northern Ports to India and were convinced that it was the most suitable one to be opened for passenger traffic with India at a small cost.

The party was received with Oriental music at the Kayts landing jetty where they were received into a 'Thandikai' palanquin and taken in procession amidst fireworks and crackers to the Police Station grounds which had a tastefully decorated 'pandal' to accommodate them. A huge crowd nearly five thousand in number collected in the green around the pandal. Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam J. P., and Vice President of the Jaffna Association, presided and was garlanded by Mr. N. Chelliah, one of the Joint-Secretaries of the Reception Committee, while Mr. P. Ragupathy, Chairman of the Reception Committee, was garlanded by Mr. A. M. Joseph the other Joint-Secretary. Various prominent citizens among whom were Messrs. S. Santhiapillai, I. Antonipillai, N. Ambalavanar, J. A. Srinupathy, S. Sasai-pillai, Retired Udayar, S. Sundrampillai and S. Kanapathipillai garlanded the members of the party while the Hon. Mr. Bandaranaike himself was well-nigh smothered with garlands amidst applause.

Welcoming the Minister and his Committee members on the occasion of their first visit to that part of the country Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam said that it was a privilege which gave him great pleasure to welcome the Hon. Minister especially as he was one who had served the country with great ability, integrity, talent and self-sacrifice. The port of Kayts was a flourishing town in the days when it was open to passenger and goods traffic with India. Even now the amount of

goods traffic in the port made Kayts a town of no small importance. It was a place which had given the State Council its Speaker. It had also given very talented and eminent men in Ceylon. Its representative in Council having been elected Speaker, the needs of the place should be looked after by all other members in Council. He was sure the Hon. Minister would perform that duty whatever political adventurers might say. The other primary need of the town was water-supply and he was sure it would be provided. Water had at present to be brought from long distances and during the dry season the few wells in the neighbourhood ran dry making the suffering very intense. The people who had gathered that day were fully confident that the Hon. Minister and his Committee would do all in their power to serve this town. For, theirs was an ideal of a United Ceylonese nation where differences of race and community had no place.

Mr. P. Ragupathy then read and presented a tastefully painted address written by hand on Palmyrah Ola and the Hon. Minister was pleased both with its make-up and its contents. In his reply Mr. Bandaranaike said that he had kindness showered upon him by his many friends at Jaffna during his two days stay here. He had had many functions but as was fitting, that, the final function, was the most cordial and the best. He was happy to see the large crowd who had come to welcome him. He congratulated them on their having returned Sir Wytilingam Duraiswamy to Council not only because he was elected Speaker but because he was a gentleman of great integrity talents and service and he was one who was respected and loved by all communities. He was sorry that the time at his disposal was too short to give them a long speech. But he would ask them to take this assurance from him, that he and his committee being satisfied of the suitability of Kayts Harbour would give all the assistance that lay with them to see it opened for both goods and passenger traffic with India. "It shall always be our aim" said Mr. Bandaranaike "to work for that day when your leaders and our leaders shall work hand-in-hand for the good of the country as a whole." He thanked then for the honour done to him and the other members of his party and was impressed by the kindness that was showered upon him there.

Reminded about the question of water-supply, Mr. Bandaranaike again rose to speak and regretted having failed to mention it earlier. It was one of most essential services. It was to a good extent within his special province. He would assure them of his assistance in the matter when it came up before him. So far no plans had been submitted to him. Mr. Bandaranaike's speech was translated into Tamil as he spoke by Mr. P. Ragupathy before the loud-speaker for the benefit of the crowd. The police co-operated heartily in keeping the crowd under control.

The party then left for Jaffna where it entrained for Colombo.

(Cor.)

Nutritive Value of Common Foods

How they are Ignored

"Food production will be a river flowing into a desert if dietary deficiencies are not going to be taken into consideration," said Mr. C. W. D. Alwines, speaking at St. Patrick's College. He added that the Allies were counting on dietary deficiencies to bring about the downfall of Hitlerism.

Rice as a staple article of food was poor in proteins and vitamins.

"It will be very useful and profitable if people are persuaded to use more Kurakkan, Sami, Varagu, Panichami. If a poor neighbour knows that a well-to-do and educated man is using these millets, not because he has diabetes, but because he feels they are of real nutritive value, that example will work wonders. An ounce of example is worth a ton of precept," remarked Mr. Alwines.

"In Ceylon, when we think of green leafy vegetables, we are inclined to think in terms of cabbage and lettuce. These are two expensive vegetables. It is sometimes pathetic to see a poor man giving ten or twelve cents for $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cabbage when two cents or even a cent would have given him that amount of nutrition if invested in local leaves

Better than Lettuce

"The total number of international Vitamin A units that a man has to take for a day is 3,000. Just see how easy it is to get this amount from some of our common leafy vegetables.

"Muruuga leaves 3,500 units per oz
Curry leaves 3,500 units per oz.
Coriander leaves 3,500 units per oz
Amaranth leaves (ara-keera) 2,500 units per oz.

Katurumuruuga or Agathi leaves (tampala) 2,500 units per oz.

Betel leaves 2,000 units per oz
"Lettuce hugs the rear with 500 units per ounce, while cabbage follows close upon its heels with 400 units.

"To show you how certain foods, which we despise as common are used in other countries, let me just mention the case of the groundnut. Every year India exports a large quantity of groundnut cake—groundnuts with a small amount of oil extracted.

"This groundnut cake is converted into flour in America and goes under the name of nutose, protose, nut-metose. I am sure a pound of nutose must be selling in some of your big shops at about a rupee.

"The dhals are rich in protein. One ounce of any of the dhals contains as much proteins as one ounce of meat, nearly twice as much as one ounce of egg, and seven times as one ounce of whole milk".

Virtues of Green Gram

"A common pulse, which has been used largely in former times, but which has fallen into disrepute is green-gram. Green-gram is very rich in mineralsalts, Vitamins B1 and B2. You know the common use of it.

"It is soaked overnight and then boiled and eaten with grated coconut and jaggery. If green-gram is used sprouted it will also contain Vitamin C.

"Black dhal-ulundu is another nutritious pulse. In that respect the use of thosai, vaddai and muruku are much more nutritious

VALVETTITURAI PORT

To be Opened for Goods Traffic

Pt. Pedro, Friday.

It is understood that on representations made by the local residents of Valvettithurai to the Minister of Communications and Works that their Port be opened for goods traffic with India, an intimation was received yesterday from the Financial Secretary that the said port would be opened soon for goods traffic.

This will relieve the congestion experienced in the adjoining ports when large quantities of paddy and rice are imported from India.

ADVOCATE ROBBED

Accused given Cuts

Point Pedro 27.

Sub. Inspector M. M. A. Cader of the Point Pedro Police, charged before Mr. Richard W. R. de Silva, Magistrate, yesterday, one Perumal Ramalingam of Maskalia with having committed theft of cash, cigarette case and wristlet watch worth Rs. 36 the property belonging to Mr. N. Sivagnanasundram, Advocate, Point Pedro. The accused pleaded guilty. The Magistrate ordered six cuts.

(cor.)

Two New Proctors

Messrs. K. Mahalingham and W. Rajasingham were admitted and enrolled as Proctors of the Supreme Court yesterday before Mr. Justice N'hill.

Divisional Revenue Probationers

The conditions governing applications for appointment as Probationers in the scheme of Divisional Revenue Officers are published in last Friday's Gazette.

Personal

Mr. E. de S. Goonewardena, Secretary of District Court, Nuwara Eliya-Hatton, has been transferred to District Court, Anuradhapura, and Mr. P. Subramaniam has been appointed as Secretary, District Court, Nuwara Eliya-Hatton, to be stationed at Hatton, in addition to his duties.

Singapore to Have Conscription

Singapore Friday.

The compulsory registration of all British European males between the ages of 18 and 55, preparatory to the introduction of conscription is announced.

articles of food than pittu or hoppers.

"There is one oil seed, which was used in large quantities thirty or forty years ago and which has been very sadly neglected of late. I refer to gingelly. In older days pounded with jaggery and washed down with a glass of butter-milk, it was considered a food fit for the gods.

Making Ceylon Self-Supporting in Forest Produce

(Continued from page 4)

to remain at a low figure for a number of years.

A detailed account of the activities of the department will be dealt with in the chapters that follow. An attempt has been made to standardize the forms used for presenting statistical data on the lines of the scheme of the Standardization of Statistical Forms for the annual reports of the Colonial Forest Departments as agreed to by the Imperial Forestry Institute. Forms suggested by that Institute which are incapable of local application have however been discarded and others included in this report have been modified to suit local conditions.

Enteric Prophylactic at Point Pedro

Point Pedro Tuesday

Mass inoculation against typhoid is being done by Dr. V. Nadarajah, the Medical Officer of Health, Jaffna, with the assistance of Mr. P. Nadesan, Sanitary Inspector, Point Pedro. The School children of the Thumpalai Methodist Mission School, Girl's Bilingual Boarding School and the Hartely College were inoculated this week. At Thumpalai men and women volunteered to get themselves inoculated. This is

the after effect of the mass Health Education work done in the District. The School Authorities are rendering all help and the response was good. (cor)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 791.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Suppramaniam Nagalingam of Myliddy South.

Deceased.

Kasir Suppramaniam of Varutha laivelan

Petitioner.

Vs.

Ponnu wife of Kasir Suppramaniam of do.

Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 12th day of October 1939 in the presence of Mr. P. Eliathamby, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioner as father of the said deceased is entitled to take out letters of administration to the estate of the said deceased, and that letters of administration to the estate of the said deceased be issued to him unless the Respondent appear before this court on the 22nd day of November 1939 and show cause to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy.

District Judge

This 16th day of October 1939.

(O. 55, 26 & 30-10-39)

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