

# THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus  
PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. LI.

Phone 56,

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1939.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 64.

## INDO-CEYLON TRADE DIFFICULTIES

### Tariff Valuations and High Freight Rates

#### TRADE COMMISSIONER'S EFFORTS TO POPULARISE CEYLON AND CEYLON GOODS

**T**ARIFF valuations being the principal determinant of the rate of *ad valorem* duty tend considerably to impede exports especially when prices are falling. This fact has been borne in mind and the Director-General was approached in June with a recommendation that he should be pleased to make an intermediate revision of the valuations of coconut products whose market prices were then far disproportionate to their valuations. I have already alluded to this step before says Mr. M. H. Kantawala, the Ceylon Trade Commissioner for India in his Report for 1938. He further adds:—

Another item to which the Director-General was specifically addressed was the tariff valuation of our arecanuts which, owing to the incubus of heavy duty, do not fare well in the Indian markets. The Director-General promised consideration during the annual revision of tariff values. When this Officer came to Bombay on this mission, I spent considerable time with him pressing for substantial relief. It is not considered necessary to reproduce all the arguments that were put forward by me. Suffice it to say that my representations were not made in vain. To quote two instances, although the weighted average for copra for all Ports appeared to be Rs. 8/5/8, the tariff valuation for copra has now been fixed at a lower figure than this weighted average, viz., at Rs. 8/4/0. For coconut oil, there had been a demand from the Indian Chambers that a ratio of 150:100 should be maintained and that if copra was fixed at Rs. 8/4/0, coconut oil should be Rs. 12/6/0. I pleaded that this ratio was arbitrary, that

the price of Ceylon coconut oil was determined not by the price of vegetable oils in India but of competing oils and oil bearing seeds in Europe and in the whole world, that Ceylon did not refine coconut oil and that the refining of imported or locally manufactured coconut oil was entirely an Indian industry which would be adversely affected if an arbitrary valuation was fixed for imported oil, that this ratio did not take into account the price of poonac which was mainly a Ceylon price, and lastly the price of both vegetable and animal ghee in India plus the quantity of soaps locally manufactured would be the main deciding factors for the importation of coconut oil by India rather than its relative value to copra. The result is now known: the valuation of coconut oil has been fixed at Rs. 11/8/0. Many arguments were used in pleading for a reduction of arecanut values but not with much success. The rise of mature splits imported from Straits to Rs. 10 from Rs. 9/8/0 gives us however an advantage of Re. 1 per cwt. Further consideration has been promised next year and the question will be taken up in good time again. This is necessary as I find the phrase "Sliced all sorts" is not quite appropriate for certain kinds which are being imported into India. I am glad to record that the result achieved is satisfactory.

A request was received from a South Indian manufacturer to intercede on his behalf and to obtain for him a refund of duty on coir yarn imported from Ceylon and re-exported after treatment. After considerable correspondence the Government of India was pre-

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## MILITARY ADMINISTRATION IN ANCIENT INDIA

### Weapons of War (Contd.)

By S. R. Muttukumar

(Continued from our issue of 23-11-39)

#### CHAPTER IV.

**T**HE equipment of the army in ancient India was effective and adequate. Accoutrements were found by the War Office, which had a special contract with the Armourers' Guild. This guild was employed solely by the Raja and worked for no one else. It had a monopoly in its own branch, receiving wages and rations in payment. Sometimes it received land and other privileges in return for services rendered, and taxes were wholly or partly remitted to these State employees. The arms thus manufactured were kept in the arsenals under the supervision of the Ordnance Department, and were supplied to the soldiers by the Commander-in-Chief as occasion required. They were returned to the magazines when the expedition was over.

Kantiliya tells us that "inside the forts special canals were constructed to hold weapons, such as collected stones, spades, axes, varieties of staffs, cudgels, hammers, clubs, discs, machines, and such weapons as can destroy a hundred persons at once, together with spears, tridents, bamboo-sticks with pointed edges made of iron, camel-necks, and whatever else can be devised and formed from available materials" (1)

#### Accoutrements of Soldiers

Arrian gives an account of the mode in which the Hindus equipped themselves for war: "The foot soldiers carry a bow made of equal length with the man who bears it. This they rest upon the ground, and pressing against it with their left foot, thus discharge the arrow, having drawn the string far backwards; for the shaft they use is a little short of being three yards long, and there is nothing which can resist an Indian archer's shot neither shield nor breastplate"

(1) *Arthashastra*, Bk. II, chap. iii pp. 59-60.

nor any stronger defence, if such there be. In their left hand they carry buckles made of undressed ox-hide, which are not so broad as those who carry them, but are about as long. Some are equipped with javelins instead of bows, but wear a sword, which is broad in the blade, but not longer than three cubits; and this, when they engage in close fight (which they do with reluctance) they wield with both hands to fetch down a lustier blow" (2)

It is interesting to note here that it was the custom among ancient Indian warriors of note to mark their arrows with their names, so as to give the enemy the satisfaction of knowing who had shot at him. The *Ramayana* says:

"Then shall his furious shafts be sped,  
Each like a snake with fiery head  
And in their flight shall hiss and flame,  
Marked with the mighty archer's name"

It may also be stated that at the battle of the Hydaspes with Alexander the Great, Porus was defeated chiefly because the Indian archers were rendered ineffective by the greasy condition of the ground, which prevented the soldier from securing a firm rest for the end of his bow. (3) It is difficult to conjecture what the history of India would be, if not for this unforeseen mishap.

#### Antiquity of Weapons of War

Some of the weapons mentioned above were in use as early as the Vedic times. We are told of armours used in war in Rig I. 140.10, in II. 39.4, in III. 53.2, and in various other places. In II. 34.3, we have reference to golden helmets, and in IV 34.9, there is mention of armour for the shoulders, probably a shield. In V 57.2, mention is made of

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(2) *India*, chap. xvi, Mc Crindle's trans. pp. 225-6

(3) *Smith's Early History of India*, p. 84.



**VACANCY**

The post of a Lady Assistant with Vernacular Teachers' Certificate qualification is vacant at the Jaffna Hindu College Preparatory Tamil Mixed School. Applications for filling the same will be received until the 10th of December 1939 by the Manager, J. H. C. (Mis. 198. 27-11—7-12-39)

**Hindu Organ.**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1939.

**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR JAFFNA MANGOES**

MR. M. H. KANTAWALA, Ceylon Trade Commissioner for India, in his report for the year 1938, deplors that his demand for Ceylon Mangoes has not met with success, and says that he still hopes some enterprising exporter will supply him with a few hundred fruits in winter when there are no mangoes in Bombay. If there is any variety of this fruit in Ceylon that is fit for export trade it can only be found in Jaffna which can boast of the best fruits in the Island. The recent Mango Show in Jaffna has proved beyond doubt that there is a source of wealth in the Mango for the Jaffna man who still needs to be convinced of this fact. There are varieties in Jaffna which can very well be exported though not to distant markets like London, but to several towns in India where one can be certain of their finding a good market. But the question is who will have the foresight to venture on a new business like this and give the lead for others to follow. It will not be so easy for any individual to do it. The Jaffna District Mango Growers' Association should, besides encouraging the planting of mango plants, interest itself also in marketing the fruits to centres within the island and outside and thus demonstrate to the people the great possibilities of the mango as a money crop. Mangoes can be had even now for export trade but the difficulty of grading and packing them for outside markets is a problem that needs to be solved. It is here the Mango Growers' Association can be of help to this trade, if it can avail itself of the advice of experts in this line to help in these matters. We may also suggest to the Association the advantage of forming a Co-operative Society, under the auspices of the Association, to carry on the trade, like the one functioning so efficiently for Malayalam Tobacco. We have a very enthusiastic Trade Commissioner in India in MR. KANTAWALA who can be depended upon to

do everything possible to popularise the Jaffna Mango in India. Locally agencies might be appointed to supply the needs of the various markets in the Island. There is need for Jaffna to strike out new lines of business for making money, now that prospects for her chief money crop—tobacco—are not so hopeful as in the past. The Mango Growers' Association would do well to pay earnest attention to this question and help make the Jaffna Mango a source of wealth for the Jaffna man.

**A Police Station for Anaicottai**

Anaicottai which has recently become notorious for rowdyism and serious crime, will, it is learned, have a police station to check the growth of lawlessness that threatens to be a menace not only to the particular village but to the adjoining villages of Manipay and Sutbumalai. It is but proper that the authorities should have decided on this step. A police station at Chankalai and the proposed one at Anaicottai should certainly act as a check on the activities of rowdy and burglar gangs who have done no little mischief in these villages for some years. We welcome the proposal and hope that no controversy over the question of site—for which Jaffna is becoming widely notorious—will be raised.

**THE JAFFNA HINDU GIRLS' ASHRAM****A Long-felt Want Supplied**

A Hindu Girls' Ashram was opened by the Hindu Board of Education on 22nd November 1939 at Tirunelvely. It has already admitted 25 orphan girls.

This Ashram is now housed in a spacious building at Tirunelvely and will be shifted to a permanent building which has to be put up on the site donated by Mrs. R. Sivagurunather.

The Jaffna Hindu Boys' Ashram under the Hindu Board now has 60 orphans.

The Hindu Board has thus supplied a long-felt want of the community and is in need of help from every charitably inclined Hindu to run these Ashrams.

**170 HEADMEN TO BE DISCONTINUED****Committee's Decision**

Colombo, Tuesday.

The Executive Committee of Home Affairs considered at a meeting held yesterday the recommendations of the Government Agents regarding the discontinuance of Headmen from office.

It is understood that the Committee agreed to the discontinuance of about 170 minor headmen.

Recommendations regarding the retirements of a number of chief headmen will be considered later.

**Duty on Toddy****Increased Rates for Jaffna**

Colombo, Wednesday.

In the State Council yesterday, Sir Baron Jayatilaka (Minister of Home Affairs) moved that the duty payable on each unit of toddy manufactured from palmyrah and coconut trees in the Jaffna district be increased as follows:—

Islands of Deltit and Eluvaitivu from 50 cents for a male Palmyrah to Re. 1 for a female Palmyrah and a coconut tree the existing rate of Rs. 1.50.

Islands of Nainativu and local area of Pooneryn from Rs. 1.50 for a male Palmyrah to Rs. 2.50; for a female Palmyrah and coconut tree the existing rate of Rs. 5.

In every other local area from Rs. 2.50 for a male Palmyrah to Re. 4.50 and the existing rate of Rs. 10 for a female Palmyrah and coconut tree.

Mr. S. Natesan (Kankasanturai) in opposing the motion said that the officers of the Excise department had misled the Minister for Home Affairs in arriving at the present figures.

He moved as an amendment that for every other local area of the district the rate should be Rs. 2.50 instead of Rs. 4.50.

The amendment to reduce the rate per unit of toddy drawn from a male Palmyrah tree in local areas other than Deltit, Eluvaitivu, Nainativu and Pooneryn from Rs. 4.50 to Rs. 2.50 was carried by 17 votes to 11.

The amended motion was carried.

(Continued.)

the war and this discloses an epic tale of heroism and of the maintenance of the high traditions of the Royal Navy.

The Rawalpindi went to her ocean grave while engaged in convoy work in the North Atlantic somewhere southeast of Iceland. She was completely out-gunned and out-distanced, but replied to the enemy's 11 inch guns with her six inch guns, maintaining the unequal combat for between 30 to 40 minutes until every one of her guns was put out of action and the whole ship was a blazing inferno with the exception of the poop and the fore-castle.

A British cruiser appeared later on the scene and the enemy vessels escaped in heavy rain and under cover of the darkness. The search for the two enemy warships is continuing in spite of the tempestuous weather.

**Magnetic-Mine Menace Will Soon End**

London, Monday.

The Ministry of Information announces that measures to combat the German magnetic mine campaign are well in hand. An appeal for volunteers—2,000 men to 200 drifters and trawlers for mine-sweeping—has evoked a greater number than required. These ships will become naval vessels and will be classed the Trawler Reserve. It is recalled that towards the end of the last war, the American barrage of magnetic-mines extended over a great area.

**GERMANS USE SMOKE - SCREEN****FRENCH AND GERMANS FIGHT IN THE DARK**

Paris, Tuesday.

**ANOTHER BRITISH STEAMER SUNK**

MILITARY circles are studying with interest the new smoke-screen which was adopted by the Germans for the first time in a raid on the Western Front at mid-day yesterday, ten miles east of the Moselle. The French and the Germans used sub-machine-guns and fought in the dark haze of the smoke.

A small French post was singled out for the attack which began with heavy artillery fire lasting for an hour. After that, 200 Germans left their advance posts for the attack and the German gunners put down a barrage intended to prevent French reinforcements from coming to the rescue of the small French post.

At the same time, other German guns fired a barrage of smoke-shells to cover the post and its approach with smoke. The French repulsed the Germans after a lively fight.

**Germany Claims Cruiser Sunk**

London, Tuesday.

The official German broadcast has announced that a British heavy cruiser of the London class has been torpedoed and destroyed east of the Shetlands.

It says that the cruiser was torpedoed by Lieut-Commander Prien, who claimed to have sunk the Royal Oak at Scapa Flow.

There is no confirmation of this claim in official circles in London.

The Ministry of Information states that nothing whatever is known in London about the German story of the alleged sinking of a British cruiser.

The Admiralty states that the claim of German wireless is devoid of the truth.

**Another Boat Sunk**

London, Tuesday.

The British steamer Uskmouth (2,483 tons) has been sunk. Three of the crew of 25 are missing.

**Eleven British Ships Sunk Last Week**

London, Monday.

During last week, 11 British ships, with a tonnage of 25,787, have been sunk, four neutral vessels representing 28,949 tons, and two French ships, totalling over 3,000 tons.

After a most gallant fight against overwhelming odds with two German warships, one of these the pocket-battleship, Deutschland, the Rawalpindi, a former P. & O. mail-steamer, which was converted into an armed cruiser at the beginning of the war, went down a burning shambles, but with her colours flying.

The Admiralty has just released details of the first big sea battle of

(Continued on previous Col.)



## A NEW SEDITION BILL

### DEFINITION OF SEDITION

### PENALTIES FOR INTENTION TO EXCITE HOSTILITY

A NEW Seditious Bill is now before the Executive Committee of Home Affairs. Under the provisions of this Bill, the penalty proposed for the offence of sedition is imprisonment of either description for a period of two years or a fine not exceeding Rs. 1,000 or both fine and imprisonment.

The new definition of "seditious intention" also sets out the circumstances in which an act, speech or publication is not seditious.

#### Seditious Literature

Under the provisions of the new Bill any person who commits any of the following acts shall be deemed to be guilty of the crime of sedition:—

- (1) Does or attempts to do, or makes any preparation to do or conspires with any person to do any act with a seditious intention; or,
- (2) Utters any seditious words or
- (3) prints, publishes, sells, offers for sale, distributes or reproduces any seditious publication; or
- (4) imports any seditious publication, unless he has no reason to believe that it is seditious.

#### Arrests and Searches

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Criminal Procedure Code, a police officer, not below the rank of a sub-inspector, may arrest a person who commits the offence or aids and abets its commission.

The possession of seditious literature is an offence and is punishable in the same manner as sedition.

A Magistrate may issue search warrants for the searching of premises for seditious literature.

#### Intention

"Seditious intention", under the Bill, means an intention

- (1) to bring into hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection against the person of His Majesty or the Government of Ceylon as established by law; or
- (2) to excite His Majesty's subjects or inhabitants of Ceylon to attempt to procure the alteration, otherwise than by lawful means, of any matter in Ceylon as by law established; or
- (3) to bring into hatred or contempt or to excite disaffection against the administration of justice in Ceylon; or
- (4) to raise discontent or disaffection against His Majesty's subjects or the inhabitants of Ceylon; or
- (5) to promote feelings of ill-will or hostility between different races or classes of the population of Ceylon.

#### What is not Seditious

It is also laid down that an act, speech or publication is not seditious by reason only that it intends

- (1) to show that His Majesty has been misled or mistaken in any of his measures, or
- (2) to point out errors or defects in the Government or Constitution of Ceylon as by law established or in legislation or in the administration of justice with a view to the remedying of such errors or defects.
- (3) to induce His Majesty's subjects or inhabitants of Ceylon to

## Jaffna Town Teachers' Association

### Address on Vocational Education

An ordinary meeting of the above association was held on Monday the 27th of November at about 4.45 p. m. at St. Patrick's College with Mr. J. C. Charles, the President, in the chair. The members were first entertained to Tea by the Teachers of St. Patrick's College. The Programme for the afternoon was a lecture on 'Vocational Education & Guidance' by Mr. S. Wright M. A., B.Ph., of Jaffna College. The lecturer began by outlining the existing system of affairs in America paying special attention to this 'mechanised world'. He deplored the fact that most of us have become too dependent on machines.

Then he proceeded to explain how the force of democracy works in America. He explained how in America a man's worth is not assessed by the job he holds but by his intrinsic worth. 'A man should' said Mr. Wright, "choose an occupation which will give him the highest amount of joy and not one which may sound quite 'respectable'." He pointed out the false sense of 'dignity' that prevents some of us taking to business. He then referred to the useful work done by Sociologists in America. Lastly he touched upon how to find out for what kind of work a boy is suited to. He quoted examples of 'instruments' used in America like the 'General Achievement Tests', Freshmen Interview Blank and Personality Inventories". In the discussion that followed the lecture Messrs D. Saverimuttu and A. E. Thamber took part. Then the chairman made a few observations and urged upon all teachers to demand a commission to examine the state of education in our country. Finally the Secretary, Mr. S. Jeyaveasingham, proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer of the evening and for their hospitality to the members of the St. Patrick's Teachers' Guild. The meeting came to a close at about 6 p. m.

procure by lawful means the alteration of any matter as by law established, or

(4) to point out, with a view to their removal, any matters which are producing or have a tendency to produce feelings of ill will and enmity between different races or classes of the population of Ceylon.

#### Natural Consequence

In determining whether words or publications are seditious or not, the proposed ordinance lays down that every person would be deemed to intend the consequences which would naturally follow from his conduct at the time and in the circumstances in which he conducted himself.

It is provided that in trials under this Ordinance, no conviction shall be entered on the uncorroborated testimony of one witness.

No prosecution shall be entered except within six months of the date on which the offence is alleged to be committed and except with the sanction of the Attorney-General.

## TEXT BOOKS FROM ENGLAND

### Prices to be Increased

Colombo, Monday.

At a meeting of the Educational Suppliers' Association of Ceylon under the chairmanship of Mr. Ben S. Hamer, it was agreed that the Association would recognise as legitimate school suppliers only members of the Association, and that trade discount would be allowed only to its members. The Association has now twenty-five members in Colombo and the outstations.

In view of increased freight rates and insurance and the reduction of discounts by the publishers, it was decided to raise the rate per shilling on English educational publications from 75 cents to 80 cents.

It was also agreed to apply to the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce for permission to remain open longer hours during the months of January and February to cope with the extra business occasioned by the January promotions.

(Continued.)

way by the Red Cross organisation.

Let us all support the Red Cross Flag Day on Monday 4th December.

(Sgd.) J. A. Guyomar, O.M.I.  
Bishop of Jaffna.

**THE HEAD OF THE NORTH CEYLON METHODIST MISSION:**—The Red Cross stands for help and healing. Until recent days, when all humanitarian considerations seem to be disregarded in certain quarters, it has always been a sacred emblem and has secured immunity from attack. In spite, however, of the increased dangers of this service today, men and women still give themselves to it with selfless devotion, risking death that they may seek and save. All wounded and dying victims of war whether friend or foe, are equally the objects of their care. The Fund which sustains this philanthropic service should appeal strongly for generous support to all benevolent people who are moved by the spirit of pity and love.

(Sgd.) E. Middleton Weaver.

**C. COOMARASWAMY, ESQ., C. C. S. DISTRICT JUDGE, JAFFNA:**—No words are necessary to commend this deserving cause to the public. We have only to remember that they risked their lives not for their own sake, but for the sake of others. If they have escaped the supreme sacrifice how can we stand by and look on without contributing our mite to relieve their suffering?

(Sgd.) C. Coomaswamy.

**THE PRESIDENT, JAFFNA ASSOCIATION:**—The collection on Red Cross Flag Day is made for a noble cause; to help the wounded and the suffering in the war. The brave soldiers and others engaged in the war are fighting for our safety. The fund will even in a small way help the wounded in the war.

This is help that could be rendered by the rich and the poor. No amount is too large nor too small for this deserving cause.

It is hoped that there would be ready and generous response to this appeal on 4th December 1939.

(Sgd.) S. Kanagasabai.

## RED CROSS FLAG DAY

Monday 4th  
December 1939

Rev. James S. Mather, Organising Secretary, Red Cross Flag Day, Jaffna, writes:—

On behalf of the organising Committee, I earnestly appeal to all your readers to give their whole-hearted support to the Red Cross Flag Day fixed for Monday next.

All are asked to give liberally and if possible a day's salary or earning in aid of this fund to help the wounded in the war, and to enable us to send a good sum as Jaffna's contribution.

Flag-sellers will carry with them both a tillbox and a subscription list. Those who give more than Rupee 1/- are asked to give their names and amounts in the list so that their names may be included among the contributors to Red Cross Fund.

Arrangements are made to visit every house, and the poorest among us are asked to give even a five-cent piece. But we expect that others will give much more and generously. If through unavoidable circumstances, any school or house was not visited on 4th December—they are kindly requested to send their contribution the next day to Mr. R. R. Nalliah, J. P., M. B. E., Jaffna, the Treasurer of the Fund.

*In the past, Jaffna has never failed to give its whole-hearted support to any deserving cause, and it is expected that again this time it will do the same.*

## MESSAGES FROM PROMINENT RESIDENTS

**LADY RAMANATHAN:**—A Red Cross Flag Day has been organised in Jaffna to take place on the 4th December when a collection will be made by the sale of flags. I feel that all will give liberally to this fund. When we remember that, except for the brave men who have gone to the Front to guard the land, sea and sky, day and night, exposed to dangers, cold and storm, none of us would be safe; when we remember that, but for them we should be living in constant terror and dread of air raids and attacks from the sea; when we remember that we owe our lives and all we have to those who are holding up the raiders and preventing them from destroying our homes, desecrating our places of worship, brutally killing our people on any pretext, we feel that we owe them our eternal gratitude and are ready to help in every way we can.

(Sgd.) R. L. Ramanathan.

**HIS LORDSHIP, THE BISHOP OF JAFFNA:**—Disabled humanity has a claim on our sympathy anywhere but there are times when such a claim is especially urgent, that is, when wounded soldiers lie on the battle-field waiting for first-aid, and for friendly hands to carry them on to the Red Cross ambulance and to the Red Cross hospital. How many lives are saved in this

(Continued on previous Col.)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

## Flood Relief in the North

Sir.—The procedure adopted to afford relief to those in distress as a result of the recent floods, leaves much to be desired. The people are not aware of the exact nature of the orders from the Central Government. I have reliable information to the effect that in certain parts of Jaffna in the U. D. C. area, the measure of relief offered was as follows. Half a measure of rice, brinjil and a handful of dhall to one family irrespective of the number. There may be 10 to 1 in the family irrespective of same. I should hesitate to say whether this offer was made under the auspices of the U. D. C. or the Government. About 200 families in the area called Arasaveli rejected the offer with the contempt it deserves. Will the Government please cause a detailed publication of the relief activities, so that the public may be in a position to know and make complaints to the proper quarters. These temporary relief measures are an ill-wind that blows nobody any good. What is really wanted is that the Government should take early steps to have an exhaustive contour survey of the peninsula and have a proper drainage system so that the flood water may speedily find its way to the sea without damaging the crops and rendering people homeless.

Yours etc,  
S. Vydialingam.

Tholpuram,  
22 Nov. 1939.

## Comrades of the Great War (Ceylon) Association 1939

Executive Engineer's Bangalow,  
Jaffna, 25 Nov. 1938

## War Charities Appeal

Dear Sir,—

Will you very kindly publish the enclosed accounts for the Poppy Day Collection in Jaffna Town.

I should like to express my very grateful thanks to those who helped so willingly and to the Public for their generous response.

Yours faithfully,  
May Box

## List

	Rs.	Cts.
From Schools	74	70
„ Street selling	61	30
„ Hospitals	56	43
„ Subscription Lists	220	84

Total Rs. 413 27

## Notice to Correspondent

MR. C. N. DEVARAYAN: No useful purpose will be served by reviving the controversy.

## RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE

## Terms of Reference Inadequate

Colombo, Tuesday.

The Select Committee appointed by the State Council to consider the Retrenchment Commission Report held its first meeting in the State Council today.

The Committee, whose Chairman is Mr. B. H. Aluwihare, it is understood, were of opinion that their terms of reference was not adequate and that the scope of their inquiry should be enlarged. A resolution to this effect will be moved in the State Council.

## Vivekananda Society, Anuradhapura

At the Annual General Meeting of the Anuradhapura Vivekananda Society held at the Vivekananda Society Hall under the Presidency of Mr. V. Ramaswamy the following officer-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Patron: Mr. S. N. S. Stampalim  
President: Mr. V. Ramaswamy, Proctor

Vice Presidents: Messrs. S. Naty-  
raja, Proctor, Sathasivam, D. T. S., C. G. R., M. Manickavasagar, Clerk, Kachcheri. Dr. S. Chelliah, Secretary: Mr. A. Sivacolundu, Proctor

Asst. Secretary: Mr. T. Navaratnam, Clerk, Kachcheri

Treasurer: S. Nagalingam, U. D. C. Inspector

Asst. Treasurer: P. Samynathan.

After the election the Chairman spoke on "The Tamils and Saiva Sithantham". Light Refreshments were served. (con.)

## Auction Sale

D. C. J. 12962

Meerancandu Mohammed Lebbe of Vannarponnai West

Vs. Plaintiff.

1. Sultan Abdulcader Sultan Mohideen and wife
2. Seynambu Nachchia
3. Ummissalmah widow of Cader Mohideen of do.

## PROPERTY

1. All that piece of land called Rasalkulamkarai situated at Vannarponnai West containing in extent 23 Lms. P. C. and one kuly as per plan No. 176/24 dated 7th September 1924 and bounded on the East by the property of Krishnapillai Kathiresapillai, North by Road, West by Tank and the property of Suppiah and on the South by the property of Kridnapillai Kathiresapillai.

2. A piece of land in extent two and one sixteenth (2 1/16) Lachchams V. C. being the Northern portion of an allotment of land called Iththiady in extent four and one eighth (4 1/8) lachchams V. C. with two rooms on the northern side and a kitchen verandah (chaar) and half of the boundary wall on the South of the said rooms and the kitchen verandah and well situated at Vannarponnai West and the said extent of 2 1/16 Lms. V. C. is bounded on the East by sand Road, North by the property of Asena Marikar Mohamed Meera Sahib and shareholders, West by lane and the property of Aysha Ummah wife of Sultan Abdulcader and on the South by the property of Aysha Ummah wife of Sultan Abdulcader.

In terms of the commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in Case No. 12952, I shall sell the above properties by public auction on Thursday the 21st December 1939 at about 4 p.m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,  
Commissioner.

(Mis. 200 30-11-39)

## INDO-CEYLON TRADE DIFFICULTIES

(Continued from page 1)

pared to consider this if the manufacturer was willing to permit adequate supervision for properly identifying the yarns. For this the manufacturer was not prepared to spend and the matter was dropped.

It was ascertained that though under the Customs raw rubber was duty free our latex was being charged duty. As the patented Revertex was given special exemption, a strong case was made out and the Government of India was eventually pleased to pass orders that our concentrated latex should be similarly exempt from duty. A further appeal has since been addressed praying for exemption for all forms of our latex whether concentrated or not.

I should like to stress upon the Ceylon exporters the necessity of forwarding proper documents along with their consignments either to the Ceylon House or to Indian importers. I have had instances where for want of proper Preference Certificates duty at a higher rate has been charged by the Indian Customs. Even the want of a witness' signature to the signature on the certificates has been held to be defective. Although in such cases a refund might be later admissible, I might quote our experience where the Bombay Port Trust turned down our application for a refund of demurrage charges on account of a consignment of desiccated coconut for which documents were not received in time on the ground that "official delays are not accepted as a good and sufficient reason for remitting extra fees."

The prevailing high freight rates between India and Ceylon were found to be an obstacle in the way of an easy exchange of goods. The Conference lines operating in these waters had increased freights in July, 1937, in some instances by 33 per cent, and as the prices of Ceylon products, continued to remain low, strong appeals were addressed to the steamship Companies pressing for substantial reductions. These appeals fell on deaf ears and a final request to adjust the increase equitably for copra and coconut oil shipped to Bombay and Karachi was also turned down. Possibilities were explored and are still under consideration as to the feasibility of engaging chartered steamers or schooners for bringing Ceylon produce to known parts at cheaper rates.

The question of through traffic by railway between stations on the Ceylon Government Railway and Indian stations also engaged my attention. The Chief Commercial Superintendent of the South Indian Railway with which through traffic is already in force gives his views thus: "It is likely that with the extension of through booking facilities to other stations in India, the traffic interchanged at present may increase. The rates chargeable over the Ceylon Government Railway are however exorbitant and should be reduced if increased traffic is to be interchanged between India and

Ceylon. The Ceylon Government Railway are not at present members of the Indian Railway Conference Association, otherwise through booking with Indian Railways could be enforced with advantage". This question as well as the question of reduction of railway freights for coconuts are still under discussion.

Our efforts in promoting tourist traffic were so successful that during the Christmas Holidays the Hotels in Colombo reported that they were full up and no more accommodation could be found. Certain tourists who had booked their passages were assured that they could proceed to Kandy immediately on landing and availed themselves of this alternative. This exodus I believe traceable directly to our propaganda. A col ur slide in one of the major cinemas of Bombay eulogising the beauties of Ceylon for a short holiday evoked many inquiries. Apart from this holiday crowd, a number of visitors proceeded to Ceylon both by railway and by steamer during the year. To these full information was supplied. Itineraries were worked out for them and were much appreciated. Letters of introduction to the Superintendent, Mandapam Camp, were issued after due inquiries to passengers proceeding by the rail route as the strict quarantine regulations appear to be a deterrent to many. Arrangements were made with Motor Car suppliers in Ceylon and the concession rates offered by them were very welcome. As the absence of proper facilities in Ceylon for vegetarian and orthodox tourists continues to prove a stumbling block, bungalows in Newara Eliya were hired on account of two millionaire families who showed a desire to spend some time at the hill station. In short the Ceylon House in Bombay has been and continues to be very helpful to Indian visitors to Ceylon; if vegetarian facilities can be provided, the stream of traffic is bound to be continuous.

## Auction Sale

D. C. J. 12953

1. Meerancandu Mohamed Lebbe of Vannarponnai West

Plaintiff.

1. Sultan Abdulcader Sultan Mohideen
2. Asia Ummah widow of M. Sultan Abdulcader of do

Defendants.

## PROPERTY

All those parcels of land situated at Vannarponnai West called Iththiady in extent two and one upon sixteen lachchams V. C. and Iththiady in extent 3 lachchams V. C. Both aggregating to 5 1/16 Lms. V. C. with the buildings well cultivated plants and all other appurtenances belonging thereto and bounded on the East by sand road, North by the property of Seynambu Nachchia wife of Sultan Mohideen and by bye lane, West by the property of Mohamed Usanthamby Sultan Abdulcader and shareholders and on the South by the property of Sultan Mohideen Nachchia wife of Vorasi Mohamed Mohamed Maydeen and shareholders and of Mohamed Meera Nachchia wife of Habeeb Mohamed Lebbe.

In terms of the commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in case No. 12953 D. C. J. I shall sell the above property by public auction on Thursday the 21st Dec. 1939 at about 10 a. m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,  
Commissioner.

(Mis. 201. 30-11-39)



**CEYLON CONGRESS PRESIDENT**

**Mr. G. C. S. Corea Elected**

Colombo, Tuesday.

Mr. G. C. S. Corea, the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, was elected President of the Ceylon National Congress for next year, at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Congress yesterday.

The Executive Committee, which met at the residence of Sir Baron Jayatilaka at Union Place, also elected the office-bearers of the Congress for next year.

It was also decided to hold the next session of the Congress at Kandy on December 27.

**HINDU STUDENTS' CONFERENCE**

The Central Y. M. H. A. (Jaffna Hindu College and the Branch Schools) proposes to organise a Hindu Students' Conference on the 4th, 5th and 6th of January, 1940. Mr. C. K. Subramaniya Mudaliyar and Rao Bahadur Sri C. M. Ramachandra Chettiar of Coimbatore are invited to speak at the conference. Learned men from Ceylon also will speak at the conference. All Hindus are kindly requested to contribute whatever amount they can towards the expenses of the above conference. Remittances can be made to the Treasurer, Central Y. M. H. A., Hindu College, Vannarponnai.

**Jaffna Hindu College Y. M. H. A.**

The annual celebrations of the Jaffna Hindu College Y. M. H. A. will come off on Sunday, the 3rd December 1939, the Gurupooja Day of Sri la Sri Arumuga Navalar, at 4 p.m. at the College.

The following will speak at the function: Mr. A. R. ShanmugaRatnam, Supdt. Copay Training College, Srinat Sivapragasa Yogeewarar and Vyakarna Mahopadyaya V. Ramaswamy Sarma.

**The Jaffna Football Association**

A long felt want in Jaffna has now been supplied by the formation of the Jaffna Football Association which aims at promoting and controlling amateur Association Football in Jaffna, dealing repressively with any abuses thereof and organising and running competitions.

At a meeting attended by representatives of over fifteen Clubs the following Office-bearers were elected:—

- President:—Mr. W. G. Spencer
- Deputy President:—Mr. A. C. Fernando
- Hony. Secretary—Mr. R. E. Rajanayagam
- Hony. Treasurer—Mr. D. C. Arulanandam

Council members:—Messrs. J. S. Selvaratnam, D. J. N. Selvadurai, S. Sivagnanasunderam, A. J. Casipillai and J. W. Thyriar.

About sixteen Clubs are expected to take part in the League competition which is due to commence about the third week in December.

(Cor.)

**Military Administration in Ancient India**

(Continued from page 1)

swords and battle-axes, as well as the bows and arrows and quivers. Feathered, sharp-pointed, and shining shafts are described in VI. 46.11, and sharp-edged swords are spoken of in VI. 47.10.

The Rig Veda also tells us that the string of the bow when pulled approached the ear of the archer, and that it whispered words of consolation to him.<sup>(4)</sup> The arrow was feathered, and had deer horn as its teeth. It had also a face of iron and sometimes poisoned. Its stem was of Parjaniya, probably stems of reeds growing in the rains. Parjaniya was the god of rain.<sup>(5)</sup> A leather guard protected the arm from the abrasion of the bow-string and other evils like a snake in its convolutions; it also protected the warrior in every way.<sup>(6)</sup>

Kautiliya also informs us that in his time bows were made of tala palmyrah, of chapa (a kind of bamboo), of daru (a kind of wood known as dhyanana). Bow-strings were made of murva, arka, sana (hemp), gavedu, venu (bamboo bark), and snayu (sinews).<sup>(7)</sup> The Agni Purana says that "a bow of the first class measures four cubits in length, one of the middling sort measures three cubits and a half, while a third class bow usually used by an infantry soldier measures three cubits in length. A bow may be used either by a cavalry or an elephant-soldier and by a car warrior as well."<sup>(8)</sup>

The arrows, which were of different kinds, had edges made of iron, bone or wood, as to cut, rend or pierce. Nistrunsa (a sword of crooked handle), mandalagra (this was erect and provided with a disc), and asiyausti (this was very sharp and long), were also in use. Their handles were made of the horn of rhinoceros and buffaloes, of the tusk of elephants, of wood or of the root of bamboos.<sup>(9)</sup>

The Agni Purana adds that "the shaft of an arrow of the first class should measure twelve Mushtis, while those of the second and the third classes should measure eleven and ten Mushti respectively."<sup>(10)</sup>

The most notable of the weapons of the ancient Hindus were their sabres. They had been famous even at the time of Ctesias, the author of Indika. Ctesias mentions two wonderful swords which he had from the King of Persia.<sup>(11)</sup>

Edirisi, the Arab traveller, says: "The Hindus excel in the manufacture of iron. They have also workshops wherein are forged the most famous sabres in the world. It is impossible to find anything

- (4) Op. cit. VI. 75.3.
- (5) Op. cit. VI. 75. 15.
- (6) Op. cit. VI. 75. 14.
- (7) Arthashastra, Bk II. chap. 18
- (8) Op. cit. cexlix. 37
- (9) Arthashastra, Bk II. chap. xviii. pp. 124-6
- (10) Op. cit. cexlix. 30-7.
- (11) Schoff's Peripuls, p. 70.

**Food Control Vote Reduced**

**Customs Duties Issue Postponed**

Colombo, Wednesday.

In the State Council yesterday a large vote asked for the Food Controller's Department led to charges of "extravagance" being made one critic claiming that five Civil Servants were employed in this temporary department, another pointing out that it was proposed to spend far too much on furniture and office equipment. In the end the vote was reduced by Rs. 2,000.

With regard to the Million-Rupee Food "Drive," the Council was informed that the Officer in charge of this scheme was collecting data and would soon be placing proposals before the Minister of Agriculture. Another matter discussed yesterday was an alleged swindle regarding coal in the Railway Department. The Minister of Communications promised to table all papers relating to that incident.

The debate on the increased Customs duties on liquor, coffee, petrol, and tobacco was postponed till the House debated the amended Budget for the next year.

to surpass the edge that you get from Indian steel"<sup>(12)</sup>

Royle in his Arts and Manufactures of India says that the secret of manufacturing the so-called Damascus swords was learned by the Saracens from the Persians who had mastered it from the Hindus. In Persia, the Indian sword was proverbially the best sword, and the phrase *jawabee hind* ("Indian answer") meant "a cut with the sword made of Indian steel"<sup>(13)</sup>

**Military Engines**

The Hindu Monarchs of old had battering rams to destroy the walls of forts, as well as numerous engines of defence in front of their fort-gates. The Silappadikaram and other Thamiz Sangam works give a list of such engines. They were "Mechanical bows which shot arrows, engines like the black and monkeys for biting toes, mechanical slings which vomitted stones, engines that scattered boiling oil, pots with boiling copper, fires boiling steel and throwing them in all directions, baskets which discharged stones, mechanical angling-rods, chains, mechanical fowls for pecking at the brains of assailants, iron forks, stakes, bundles of arrows, machines for shooting small arrows, pig-machines, bamboo-machines, beams so arranged as to fall on those who forced open the gates, strong beams, missiles, spears, etc."<sup>(14)</sup>

It appears that, in the manufacture of these engines of war, the Hindus were helped by the Romans.

(To be Continued.)

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- (12) Ibid, p. 71
- (13) Quoted in Sarkar's Hindu Achievements in Exact Science p. 45.
- 14) a. Silappadikaram, XV, 207-218. b. Purananuru, 105. c. Manimekalai, XXVIII, 23-4. d. Jivaka Chintamani, 101-4. e. Mudurakanchi, 29. f. Perumkathai, I, 43: 163-4.

**PROVISIONAL SALARY SCALE**

**For Sinhalese and Tamil Teachers**

It is learned that the Director of Education will hold a conference on Saturday morning to discuss a proposed scheme for the grading of teachers in Sinhalese and Tamil schools.

A provisional salary scale for teachers receiving first appointments in Sinhalese and Tamil schools and to the staffs of bilingual schools to be applied until Government had approved a permanent scheme, will also be placed before the conference.

The provisional scale is as follows:—

Class I (1st Class Trained with 15 years' service): Rs. 924—1260/7 of 48.

Class II. (1st Class Trained with 9 years' service or 2nd Class Trained with 18 years' service): Rs. 692—944/7 of 36.

Class III. (Trained teachers or Certificated teachers with 9 years' service): Rs. 492—684/8 of 24.

Class IV. (3rd Class Certificated or 2nd Class Provisionally Trained): Rs. 360—456/3 of 12.

Class V (Certificated Teachers) Rs. 330. (Senior School Certificate or equivalent qualification): Rs. 240.

The unit of average attendance which will apply to each Class respectively will be; 55, 44, 33, 22 and 16½.

**STANDARD TEST FOR SCHOOLS**

**All-Island Exam to be Held Tomorrow**

A new Government examination for all Ceylon schools is to be held on Friday.

This is an examination for Standard V of English, Sinhalese Bilingual and Tamil schools in the Island.

Tests are to be held simultaneously in all schools by the Education Department.

Only those students who satisfy the Department at this examination are to be promoted at the end of the year.

According to the system which existed before, each school promoted students from primary to secondary classes on the results of individual tests.

The Government aims at standardising the examination.

**Matrimonial**

SINNATHAMBY—NALLIAH

The marriage of Leolavathy, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Nalliah, with Dr. Sinnathamby, D. M. O., Mullaitivu, will be solemnized according to Hindu rites at "Sornagiri", the residence of the late Adigar M. S. Ramalingam, on Wednesday, the 6th December at 10 a.m.

**Red Cross Flag Day**

THROUGHOUT JAFFNA

Monday 4th December 1939

HELP THE WOUNDED IN THE WAR (Mis. 187 6—30-11-39).



## BRITAIN READY TO EARLY END OF WAR COUNTER ENEMY MINES

### Protest Against British Retaliatory Measures

Paris Saturday.

"Without betraying secrets," says Charles Morice in "Petit Parisien," "it is possible to state that the British Admiralty has taken steps which will soon be effective to check the German mines war.

"Mines, magnetic or otherwise, will be located, brought to the surface and destroyed."

### No Delay in Britain

London, Saturday.

Reuter understands that an Order-in-Council permitting the seizure of German exports is likely to be issued on Tuesday and will not be delayed on account of the representations of certain neutral states, although the order will be applied in such a way as to take these representations into consideration.

These representations are receiving the most careful consideration of the Government, who are doing their utmost to lighten hardships and inconveniences which may be suffered by neutrals.

### "Tokyo Cannot Acquiesce"

London, Saturday.

The Japanese Ambassador in London has been instructed to lodge a vigorous protest regarding British measures of retaliation against Germany.

In Tokyo, it is reported a Foreign Office spokesman said that Japan could not acquiesce in the proposition to prevent exports from Germany to Japan, and added that Japan would be compelled to take appropriate counter measures if Japan's important interests were injured by Britain's action.

### President Roosevelt's Hint

Washington, Friday.

In the course of a Press conference, when discussing national expenditure, Mr. Roosevelt today said that he had hopes that the war would end by the Spring, but gave no indication that he believed his hopes would be fulfilled.

The President revealed that the budget would not be balanced next year, even apart from defence outlays, but that there should be a very substantial decrease in the deficit.

### New Board of Education

It is understood that the following, whose names were submitted by the Executive Committee of the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers, in reply to a request made by the Minister of Education, will be nominated to the new Board of Education:—

Messrs. G. D. A. Abayaratne, E. R. de Silva, R. H. Philips and A. Cumaraswamy.

### Blackout in Trincomalee

Orders have been issued by the Assistant Government Agent Trincomalee, to the effect that all motor vehicles which enter the prohibited area in the Trincomalee District must have headlamps either painted dark or covered with dark blue cloth.

It is an offence to drive a motor car in the Trincomalee area when the headlamps have not been darkened even though the lamps may not actually be used.

No 473

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Printed and published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Vannarpoumai East, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannarpoumai Jaffna, on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30 1939.