

# THE Hindu Organ.

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## NEW WAY TO FIGHT FAMINE

### Good Crops on Little Rain

#### SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENTS IN INDIA

EXPERIMENTS are now being conducted in India which give ground for the hope that cultivators in areas of so-called precarious rainfall need have no fear of famine, according to the first issue of "Indian Farming", the new monthly magazine of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. These areas are mostly in Central and Southern India where crops are frequently lost by a failure of the monsoon.

In the Punjab and Sind irrigation has converted deserts into smiling fields, but, in the Southern Punjab, Rajputana, Kathiawar and some districts of the Bombay and Madras Presidencies and Hyderabad States no irrigation is possible. The crops, generally jowar bajri, fuf, wheat and gram, are grown over more than 20 million acres, and their failure brings famine to millions of people.

#### Dry Farming

Experiments in dry farming financed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research indicate that, by adjustment of current agricultural practices, the farmers in these areas can grow their crops even when rainfall is below the minimum of 20 inches considered indispensable for cultivation. A practical method has already been adopted in Bombay as the result of studies in the conservation of moisture, improvement of soil conditions and plant growth.

So successful has been the technique that 'jowar' yields at the two experiment stations in Bombay, averaged over five years, have shown a doubling

of the grain yield and a 33 per cent increase in straw as compared with grain and straw obtained in the traditional law.

#### Method of Cultivation

Under the new method, the cultivators of the dry areas plough the land with a turn-wrest plough at least once in three years in medium and deep soils. The land is bunded or terraced and divided into compartments to allow the rain water to move only under controlled conditions. Cattle manure is added at the rate of five cartloads per acre or a green crop of sann (*Crotalaria juncea*) buried every year to reduce the water requirements of the crop.

Repeated harrowings during the monsoon months before sowing help in conserving soil moisture and in destroying weeds. The surface of the soil is stirred frequently with bullock-hoes worked between the rows. Lastly, sowing with a moderate seed rate of four five pounds per acre with a wider drill is being advocated.

None of the suggested measures involves expenditure of money, though they do call for additional labour. But the cultivator has plenty of leisure which he can usefully occupy by working longer and oftener in his fields. Apart from increasing the out-turn of the crops in the dry areas which can be valued at several crores of rupees, dry farming promises to guarantee them against famine, which is a constant menace to man and beast.

Lahore "Daily Herald."

## THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME

### What it will do for the Island

By J. L. Kotelawala,

(Minister of Communication & Works)

IT was as far back as 1927 that, with the cessation of work on the Hydro-Electric Works at Norton Bridge, our hopes faded into the background of our national consciousness; now, after long travail, we see the work recommence with every confidence that they will, within four years of today, reach their completion.

#### Long Delay

We have delayed long enough with this Scheme, over 35 years since it was first mooted, and can afford to delay no longer. So far, what industry we have had in this country has been fed with coal and oil imported from distant countries at considerable expense; it may, however, not be very long before these sources fall altogether as far as we are concerned or offer their supplies to us only at a price which it would not be economical for us to pay.

All the world over the ingenuity of mechanical and electrical engineers has for some time been directed towards the exploitation of those natural forces, water and wind, which are now coming back into their own, as in the distant past when water wheels and air vanes worked the mills and factories of the world. To these inexhaustible sources of power alone the world must, as we can see now, turn again when its coal mines are exhausted, its gas plants cold and empty, and its oil wells dried up for ever. Let us, who even today possess no coal or oil, turn to those sources now.

In regard to water power we are indeed fortunate and to be envied by other countries, like England, which are compelled by a comparative absence of such power to resort to systems of steam plant for the production of electric current. In the Aberdeen and Laxapana valleys, where our Hydro-Electric works are to be situated, is a potential source of a hundred thousand Kilo-

watts of power which should suffice for many generations to come, even though the progress of industrialisation of the country be comparatively rapid after the inception of the Scheme. The initial natural advantages of our scheme are also such that a consideration of its financial aspects discloses the fact that taking all capital charges into account the price of power supplied by the Scheme will be less than the price of power from a fuel-operated station; this is fortunate, as under less favourable conditions, if more extensive works had been required to store the water and bring it to the power house, the overall cost of power might have been largely in excess of the cost of power generated by a steam plant.

#### Travellers' Tales

There are without doubt in Ceylon several latent sources of wealth which have so far been practically untapped and only await an abundant supply of cheap power to yield up their riches. All of us have heard the latest tales (authentic for once) of travellers returning from Mysore, where a supply of Hydro Electric power has transformed a backward state into one most progressive. Without local power of any kind Ceylon would have been badly handicapped as regards the establishment of any industry involving heavy mechanical operations; with cheap Hydro-Electric power at our door the question becomes entirely different. Timber, cloth, and rice mills, ply-wood and cement factories will then no longer need to be run by Government or be subsidized by it, for private enterprise should be able to run them profitably on cheap electric power in competition with the imported products.

#### An Electric Railway?

It is matter for congratulation (Continued on page 4)



**Acknowledgment**

Mr. & Mrs. Markandu Sinna-thamby beg to thank all friends and relations who were present at the Wedding and those who sent congratulatory messages and presents.

Jaffna Hindu College,  
Jaffna.

(Mis. 280. 22-2-40)

**NOTICE****Restriction of Vehicular Traffic during Vannarponnai Sivan Temple Panguni Festivals**

Vehicular traffic will be restricted in certain roads in Jaffna Town on the following dates:—

5th March, 1940 to 26th March, 1940; from 6 a. m. to 3 p. m. and 6 p. m. to 2 a. m.

The roads chiefly concerned are, Kankasanturai road, Manipay road, Sivankovil-Pannai road and the Loop road opposite the Sivan Temple.

P. R. KBISNARATNE,  
Asst. Supdt. of Police, N. P. Police Office,  
Jaffna, 17th February, 1940.

(G. 41. 22-2-40.)

**Hindu Organ.**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1940.

**THE ALTMARK INCIDENT**

THE ALTMARK INCIDENT IS naturally the most-discussed topic in Norway today. She contends that British warships committed a gross violation of her neutrality in rescuing the 300 British seamen who were prisoners on board the Altmarm. Norway seems to persist in her contention, as is evident from the statement made by the Norwegian Foreign Minister, and is likely to appeal to the League of Nations or to any Inter-national Court to justify the position she has taken in regard to this incident. It is reported that Lord HALLIFAX, the British Foreign Minister, has rejected Norway's demand that the Altmarm's prisoners should be returned to her. There can be no doubt that, whatever may be the legal niceties and subtleties relating to this affair, the Navy's action redounds to the credit of the First Lord of the Admiralty, whose courage and resourcefulness are clearly reflected in this heroic action. If there has been any violation of Norway's neutrality it has been at most a technical breach fully justified by the results thereof. The fact must be admitted that in this matter Norway has failed to carry out her obligations as a neutral in regard to Britain. For the Altmarm was twice examined in Norwegian waters without the British prisoners being discovered. It is therefore obvious that the search was perhaps a nominal one in deference to the armed might of Germany and in consonance with the policy of

Scandinavian Powers to avoid trouble with her. The captain of the Cossack unhesitatingly accepted at first the assurance of the Commander of the Norwegian warship that there were no British prisoners on board the Altmarm and left Fjord without interfering with the German ship. This fact alone is sufficient proof of the Navy's intention to respect the neutrality of Norway. The captain of the Cossack was later informed by the admiralty that there were British prisoners on board the Altmarm and ordered to rescue them forthwith. It was after this intelligence that the Cossack deliberately and courageously effected the rescue which has resulted in Norway's indignant protest against the action of the British Navy. Norwegian spokesmen describe this incident as "flagrant violation of territorial waters." The German reaction to it is expressed as follows:—"Unheard of act of violence, an unparalleled act of British piracy, a new and lasting blot on the British Navy, a piece of roguery unworthy of human beings." Impartial world opinion, however, including America, seems to justify the British action on humanitarian grounds. For, if the British seamen had not been so released they would have been doomed to a life of misery and agony until the close of the war. Whatever may be the opinion of legal experts on this incident, one fact stands out in bold relief. It is that the British Navy still retains those traditional virtues which have won for it an imperishable glory.

**SCHOLARSHIP FOR RESEARCH IN TAMIL****Madras University Award to Jaffna Pandit**

Pandit K. P. Ratnam, Headmaster, Moolai Saivapragasa Vithyasalai, has been awarded a Scholarship for research in Tamil by the Madras University.

Pandit Ratnam has been selected out of about 150 candidates. He is a Matriculate of the London University and an examiner and member of the Committee of the Jaffna Oriental Studies Society. He will be leaving for Madras in July when the academic year of the University commences.

**Sinhala Sabha Big Problem**

The "Times of Ceylon" Political Correspondent understands that the Governor has received a dispatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of constitutional reforms. Before framing his final verdict Mr. Malcolm MacDonald has raised certain issues on which he desires to have the Governor's opinion.

So far as he has been able to gather the most controversial of these issues, as was to be expected, relates to the distribution of seats in the new State Council.

**Northern Province Teachers' Provident Society****Sixth Annual General Meeting**

The sixth Annual General Meeting of the Northern Province Teachers' Provident Society was held on the 17th inst. at 10 a.m. at the Jaffna Central College Hall. The President, Mr. A. C. Sundrampillai B. Sc., presided.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, the Secretary's Report for the year ended 31st December, 1939, the Treasurer's statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year 1939 were read and confirmed.

The election of office-bearers for the year 1940 resulted as follows:—

President:—Mr. J. W. Arudpiragasam, B. A.

Vice-President:—Mr. A. C. Sundrampillai, B. Sc.

Secretary:—Mr. S. P. Rasiah

Asst. Secretary:—Pundit, K. Thambapillai

Treasurer:—Mr. P. Thambu

Committee:—Messrs. S. Swaminathan, B. A., A. M. Brodie, S. T. Jeevaratnam, B. Sc., K. A. Chelliah, B. Sc., K. S. Saravanamuttu, V. C. Kanagaratnam, S. Sivapiragasam, B. Sc., S. V. Chellappah, V. Nadarajah, and S. V. Elyatamby.

**Volley Ball Tournament in the North**

Point Pedro, Saturday.

In response to a circular letter sent out by the Executive Committee of the Point Pedro Athletic Sports Club representatives from the various Volleyball Clubs met at Hartley College Hall on Thursday the 15th February, 1940, at 4-30 p.m.

Mr. N. Sivagnanasundram, Advocate, who is the President of the Club, presided and began the proceedings by explaining the purpose of the meeting. Mr. S. A. Rasaratnam, the Organising Secretary of the Club, was elected Secretary of the meeting.

The rules relating to the proposed tournament drawn out by the Executive Committee of the Club were unanimously adopted.

A council consisting of the President, Joint Secretaries, Treasurer of the Club together with the elected representatives, Messrs. Sam. T. Solomons, K. Kathirithamby, S. Pasupathy, C. Balasingam and K. Thampipillai, was asked to carry out the Tournament.

The following Volley Ball Clubs have entered the proposed competition:—(1) The Mathacai Club, (2) The Valvettithurai Club, (3) The Golden Star, (4) The Alway Club, (5) The Point Pedro Maha Jana Sabha Volleyball Club, (6) The Point Pedro Club and (7) The Diamond Club.

The meeting decided to fix the opening match of the Tournament for the 2nd March, 1940, and a list of fixtures was tentatively drawn. The meeting then adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Chair. (Cor.)

**Winners Art Club**

Point Pedro Tuesday.

A meeting of the members of the Winners Art Club, Kopyay will be held at the Government Training School Hall on the 21st inst at 5.30 p. m. to consider Drawing Classes for the S. S. C. students in their respective divisions. Mr. S. R. Kanagasabai, President, Winners Art Club, will preside.

**Instruction and Guidance****The "Qu-I-P" Method**

Point Pedro, Saturday.

A meeting of the Vadamaradchy Teachers' Association was held on Wednesday 14th inst. at the Girls' Bilingual School, Point Pedro, beginning at 5 p.m. After tea provided by the Principal and staff of the Girls' School, Mr. H.S. Perera, M. A., F. C. P., Principal of the Government Training College, delivered a lecture on "Instruction and Guidance." The distinction between Instruction and Guidance, the lecturer said, was as old as Socrates and by using guidance, Socrates had been able to make his servant construct a square on a given straight line, another square on a line twice as long as the given line, find the relation between the two squares thus drawn; and also to construct a third square twice the area of the one drawn first. Many teachers often forgot that their work lay rather in guiding their pupil to knowledge than in mere instructions.

In the course of his lecture Mr. Perera referred to what he called the 'Quip' method, used by a certain class of teachers. 'Quip' in this sense was a word coined by him and had no relation to the word in common use. Qu-I-P stood for question—Imperfect answer—Premature explanation. Some teachers, aware that lecturing was unsound teaching, used to open a fusillade of questions, and before the pupils could either complete answering or even think out answers, give out the answer themselves. This method, the speaker said, was no better than the plain and simple lecture method, for the pupil had no chance to think out his answers.

Another fault common among teachers was to constitute themselves testers. They assigned portions of work to be learnt by the pupil and only questioned the pupils the following day. This method stood condemned as the pupils were not developed enough to assimilate straight from the book. Presentation by the teacher was necessary.

Continuing, the lecturer pointed out how every good teacher would combine in his teaching the essential features of the Montessori, Dalton, Morrison plans.

Mr. B. V. Gunanayagam proposed a vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation.

Later, Mr. Perera was entertained to dinner at the Point Pedro Rest House by the Teachers of Vadamaradchy. Among those who took part were Miss. M. Murgatroyd, Principal, Girls' Bilingual School, Point Pedro, Mr. C. P. Thamootheram, Principal, Hartley College, Point Pedro. (Cor.)

**Mr. R. B. Naish Going on Leave**

The Governor has made the following appointment in the Ceylon Civil Service consequent on the grant of leave out of the Island to Mr. R. B. Naish from about March 1st:—

Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, Eastern Province, to be Government Agent, Northern Province.

Mr. R. Y. Daniel, Assistant Government Agent, Matara, to act as Government Agent, Eastern Province.

Mr. C. F. Ingledow to be Assistant Government Agent, Matara.



## ON THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW ERA

### Ceylon's Hydro-Electric Scheme Started

#### ENGINEERS FORESEE PROSPERITY FOR THE ISLAND

Watawala, Sunday.

**A** CRASHING roar of fragments of rock falling into the river bed marked the inauguration of work on the first stage—the civil engineering construction—of the Aberdeen-Laxapana Hydro-Electric Scheme.

The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. J. L. Kotalawala, Minister for Communications and Works, who threw a switch which dynamited two tons of rock into fragments. The inaugural ceremony took place on the roadside just below Norton Bridge. To reach this spot the spectators had to pass over the Norton Bridge which will later make way for the dam, through a number of welcoming archways, and then past some of the preliminary operations which have already begun and some of those which were earlier abandoned. They finally stood looking down upon the Kehelgamu-Oya.

#### The Ceremony

Mr. Kotalawala, other Ministers and members of the State Council, and a large number of guests representing many branches of public life, came by train from Colombo to Watawala, and finished their long journey by car. After being welcomed by the leading officials of the Hindustan Construction Company, Ltd., the party walked a few yards to where switch was attached to a post on the roadside immediately above the rock to be blasted.

The Minister wasted no words, but saying "I wish the Scheme all success," threw the switch. There was a crashing roar and fragments of rock fell amid a haze of smoke into the river-bed.

The guests then returned to a large shed which had been most prettily decorated and disguised, and there followed a luncheon at which there were nearly 170 guests.

#### Fostering Relations with India

##### MINISTER'S TRIBUTE TO FIRM

In his speech which followed the luncheon Mr. Kotalawala began by saying that it was a privilege and very pleasant duty to thank the Hindustan Construction Co. on behalf of all of them for giving them that opportunity to celebrate what he would call a very auspicious occasion.

It was particularly fortunate that one of the foremost and best-known firms in India should have secured the contract for what was perhaps the most important work of development that had ever been contemplated in this country.

He (Mr. Kotalawala) had no doubt whatsoever that their years of association with the Hindustan Construction Co. would convince

them that the feelings towards India were most cordial, whatever mischief makers might say to the contrary—and he was sure that the Company as a result of their experience among Ceylonese would do much to remove the seeds of distrust which had unfortunately been sown in India.

"On an occasion like this," he said, "one cannot refrain from mentioning the names of Mr. Bernard, Mr. Rylands, Mr. Wimalasurendra, Sir James Pitkeathly and Messrs Preece, Cardew and Ryder, who have been connected with this Scheme which originated as far back as 1905.

"Mr. Bernard was the first to suggest, in 1905, to the Government that a Hydro-Electric Scheme was necessary for the development of this country. Mr. Rylands carried out investigations and reported on its possibilities in 1910

#### Fortunes Made

"In 1920 Mr. Wimalasurendra a son of the soil, drew up a Scheme (on which the present scheme is based) and after examination by our Consulting Engineers, Messrs Preece, Cardew and Ryder, it was accepted by the then Legislative Council. In 1924 work on the Scheme commenced with the Civil Engineering work under the control of the Public Works Department.

"Contractors flocked to the site, roads were built at the cost of a lakh a mile, several fortunes were made, I believe, and in 1927 work was stopped after an expenditure of nearly four million rupees.

"The work stands here today more or less in the same condition as it was left in in 1927.

"It was again revived in 1934 and, with the demise of the Electricity Board in April, 1937, the responsibility of initiating the re-commencement of work fell on the Ministry of Communications and Works."

Mr. Kotalawala stated that it was pointed out that unless the first stage of the Hydro-Electric Scheme was completed before 1944—and that was only possible if it were commenced immediately—considerable additional steam plant would certainly be required by them to meet the increasing demand for current, and if steam plant was installed at considerable expense, then it would not be economical to abandon it till its period of usefulness is over.

"This would have meant that the Hydro-Electric Scheme would not materialise within our lifetime and cheap power for industrial purposes would not become available to this country for 50 years to come."

Continuing, Mr. Kotalawala said that the works in the first part of the Scheme would provide employment for local labour, which the contractors were bound

## THE THREE-FOLD PROBLEM IN JAFFNA

### State Farm Urged as Solution

#### JAFFNA ASSOCIATION DEPUTATION MEETS DIRECTOR

**A**S resolved at the meeting of the Managing Committee of the Association held on 6-2-40, a deputation from the Jaffna Association consisting of the President Mr. S. Kanagasabai, the Joint Secretaries, Messrs. C. Arulambalam and N. Selvadurai, and Mr. V. S. Karthigesu, met the Director of Food Production, Mr. W. E. Hobday, at the Jaffna Kachcheri on the 16th inst at 3-30 p.m. The Kachcheri Mudaliyar, Mudaliyar C. Kanapathupillai, was also present.

The President, who led the deputation, opened the discussion. He emphasised the importance of providing a State Farm under the Kilinochi Scheme to serve a three-fold purpose, namely to give employment, to increase food-production and to be a demonstration centre as regards improved methods of agricultural production. He emphasised that both the educated unemployed and the peasant class should be provided for under the scheme.

For the educated unemployed he suggested allotments of 25 acres each, of which 5 acres should be high land and the balance should be utilised for paddy cultivation. For peasants there should be 15 acre allotments, 5 acres to be high land and the balance should be paddy land.

The State should clear the land, provide habitations and incur all other expenditure for the first year. Medical and sanitary preventive measures should be taken

to employ under the agreement, and thus relieve local unemployment to an appreciable extent. He was happy to state that Mr. Banerji had promised to employ Ceylonese even in skilled labour wherever possible.

#### Booklet Issued

As regards the facts about the Scheme they were recommending that day, he had, said Mr. Kotalawala, issued a little booklet, giving all the details which would also be a souvenir of the occasion.

"And so we stand today, on the threshold of a new era in the development of our country.....

"In this Industrial age we might look forward to a time when every drop of water that falls in Ceylon is made to go through a turbine and generate electrical energy. Water costs nothing unlike other sources of power.

"Our Hydro-Electric Scheme has gone through many ups and downs, and it is a matter for congratulation that we are at last within sight of our objective, and we shall before long have a supply of cheap power, like other countries, for the exploitation of our natural resources.

"With this power the industrial schemes which are now being launched—may I say—by the bushel—by the Minister of Labour, will be able to make head-

(Continued on Page 4.)

to ward off malaria.

In the general discussion which followed, Mr. N. Selvadurai referred to conditions in the Jaffna Peninsula as regards irrigation and urged the necessity to deepen all tanks and ponds in the Peninsula to provide water for irrigation during the dry months of the year.

#### Why it Failed

Mr. V. S. Karthigesu referred to the way in which colonisation was carried out under the Kilinochi Scheme and stated facts which indicated that the colonisation scheme under which families from Jaffna had settled there, had been a failure because of the inadequate facilities given. Mr. Karthigesu said that with a view to interest the educated class in land colonisation a serious endeavour should be made to create an agricultural bias among the school going population. As a step in that direction he made the suggestion that it should be made compulsory for each school in the Island to have at least 5 acres of land suitable for cultivation attached to it, the cultivation of which by the school should be made a condition precedent to the award to it of the usual Educational Grant.

#### Survey of Peninsula Urged

Mr. C. Arulambalam referred to the 10 acre farm scheme which he had formulated for the educated unemployed and also emphasised the importance of a contour survey being carried out at an early date throughout the Jaffna Peninsula for the improvement of both the drainage and irrigation facilities.

The deputation urged the necessity of carrying out a detailed survey in the Jaffna Peninsula with a view to find out the relative extents of cultivable and uncultivable land and the suitability of various types of soil for different agricultural products. The Director said that this was a matter within the scope of the Agricultural Department.

The Director of Food Production expressed himself to be in favour of State Farms to intensify food-production. At the same time he pointed out that as such schemes were costly to execute there should be guarantee that a sufficient number of people would be coming forward to work the Farms. Mr. Arulambalam referred to the system of Collective Farms adopted in Russia and enquired whether the State Farms proposed would be of that type. The Director said that they would be somewhat of that nature as regards State control but they would be conducted on more humanitarian and individualistic lines than in Russia.

The deputation then withdrew after thanking the Director for the patient and sympathetic hearing given.



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

**Police Station for Anaicoddai**

Sir,—You and your readers will no doubt be aware that Government has sanctioned the establishment of a Police Station at Anaicoddai and steps have been taken to select a suitable building for this purpose. Before treasury sanction is accorded to pay the rent for the particular building selected it will I hope be remembered that this Station is to serve the needs of other villages such as Navaly, Manipay, Sangarathai, Suthumalai and Kokkuvil and that the Home Ministry will not ignore this important point involved in this matter. Sir W. Duraiswamy who represents this constituency and who holds a unique position today as Speaker of the State Council will it is hoped intervene in the matter where a great principle is involved. Any attempt on the part of the authorities to have it on an extremity and closer to Jaffna will not only violate the great principle involved but stultify its object. If the work in Jaffna is heavy it can very well allot a certain portion of its area to Anaicoddai Station and not try to have another Station closer to Jaffna especially when this station has to serve other five villages. Under no pretext can they justify its establishment on the 3rd mile which is too close to Jaffna and too far away to other villages which this Station has to serve. This would certainly deny the rights of the people who clamoured for this Station. Anaicoddai proper i. e. Moothanayanarkovilady, will be a good central site for all the villages concerned and there are suitable houses as well. It will be admitted that this is the most criminal area and which requires Police protection the most. Will the members of the Council and the member for Kayts in particular take up this question before it is too late and see that justice is done to the people concerned?

Manipay,  
19-2-40.

Yours etc.,  
RESIDENT.

**THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME**

(Continued from page 1)

tion that supplies of iron ore have also been discovered at this juncture in Ceylon; without cheap power their exploitation may have been uneconomical but with the completion of our Hydro-Electric Scheme it should become a very practicable proposition. Another industrial outlet for our Hydro-Electric power is likely to be in connection with electrochemical processes. The production of a very large number of chemicals used in medicine and in the household has only been rendered commercially possible by these processes and with the chemical wealth of the sea surrounding us on all sides it should not be long now before we cease to look abroad for some of these requirements. In a country which must always remain largely agricultural the production of artificial fertilizers by electrical processes for the fixation of atmospheric nitrogen should also make great demands on our Hydro-Electric power.

We might also look forward to electricity giving us a more economical, efficient and comfortable railway system. Electricity secures a quicker and a more even acceleration than steam and less time is lost in increasing or decreasing speed when leaving or approaching a station. An electric railway has also advantages in long tunnels which are difficult to ventilate and on lines with steep gradients. Above all, with the passing of the steam engine we shall do away for ever with those recurring annual charges on imported fuel which now account for a fair proportion of the loss on our Railway.

Nor must we discount the value of electricity in purely agricultural operations. In Ceylon we use no artificial power now for these purposes; if we did we should certainly be in a better

position to compete with imported agricultural products. Steam and oil power in agricultural machinery are now being supplemented and to some extent displaced by electricity. Electrical ploughs, cultivators and pumps for lifting water are used on the Continent of Europe, in America and other countries under suitable conditions. In the farmhouse and farmyard electricity has come to be of the greatest service. Washing, milking, cooling, churning and sterilizing are all performed very economically by electrical machinery. In the barn electricity is most satisfactory for chopping, cutting, crushing, mixing, husking, cleaning, grading and other operations.

And so we stand today on the threshold of the fulfilment of a Scheme of great promise to our country. In four years from now we confidently hope that we shall begin to reap its benefits with the completion of the First Stage of the Scheme. As the demand for current progressively increases, the remaining three stages of the Scheme will be developed, till we shall have a supply of power sufficient for all our requirements for many years to come. Few of us will live to see that complete realization of our hopes and wishes; so we must leave our Scheme as a legacy to the rising generation to develop further and to use both wisely and well.

(Daily News Hydro-Electric Supplement)

**Change of Name**

I, Vaitilingam Kandiah, of Perumalkovilady, Vannarponnai East, do hereby inform the Government and the General Public that from this day I shall use and sign my name as

**Vaitilingam Sinnadurai.**

Perumalkovilady,  
Vannarponnai East,  
12-2-40.  
(Mis. 272, 15, 19, 22-2-40)

**On the Threshold of a New Era**

(Continued from page 3)

way. Like Mysore, we, too, can look forward to—at a not too distant date—hull our paddy and scrape our coconut with Hydro-Electric power. Perhaps electricity may do what the Minister of Communications and Works has not been able to do, that is to make the Railway pay. (Applause)

"To usher in this golden age we look to the Hindustan Construction Co., to our Resident Engineer, Mr. Dickinson, and to Major Brazel—to hand over to us a Hydro-Electric Scheme in full working order within four years from now.

"I call upon you, gentlemen, to drink the toast of the Civil Engineering work of the Hydro-Electric Scheme, coupling with it the name of Mr. Banerji, the Managing Director of the Hindustan Construction Co."

Mr. S. C. Banerji, Managing Director of the Hindustan Construction Co. Ltd., responding to the toast, thanked Mr. Kotalawala for his most kindly expression of feelings towards the Company and for the appreciation of the works that the firm had done for the scientific development of India.

"I have no doubt in my mind that this Hydro-Electric Scheme marks the beginning of a change, which in course of time will beneficially affect the economic life of the people of Ceylon by ensuring them a fuller and more prosperous life, as helped by it, industry expands and becomes more varied," said Mr. Banerji.

**"Inseparably Knit"**

Mr. Banerji also thanked Mr. Kotalawala for having touched upon a very important point which concerned both Ceylon and India. The Ceylonese and the Indians were not only neighbours but in many vital aspects of their life they were inseparably knit together.

**Age of Interdependence**

"It is a pity that in some quarters both in India and Ceylon a strained feeling is prevailing at present, but I am sure that such feelings cannot last long" said Mr. Banerji.

He concluded: "It is indeed to the advantage of India that Ceylon and the people of her soil must prosper in life. The modern age is an age of interdependence, and India and Ceylon must prosper through each other's help. I can foresee the era of prosperity that this Hydro-Electric Scheme is going to usher into Ceylon.

"The Dam that we are going to build will not only bridge the gap of the mountains, but it will unite India and Ceylon with a firmer band. India will ever remember that she also had a part to play in building up the industrial era in one of her Sister countries." (Applause).

Those present were later entertained to tea by the Company, who also provided a cinema display of other works carried out by them.

**All Ceylon Industrial Exhibition and Carnival**

At Jaffna in May 1940

GLORIOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR EXHIBITING

Goods of Every Description and for Providing Popular Amusements and Entertainments

FOR PLAN OF EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL GROUNDS

AND

For Particulars Regarding Stalls etc.

APPLY EARLY TO:

THE SECRETARIES,

ALL CEYLON INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION  
AND CARNIVAL COMMITTEE,  
HINDU COLLEGE, JAFFNA.



## Education Council Formed at Karainagar

### The Need for Co-operation and Co-ordination

A PUBLIC meeting was held in the Saiva Maha Sabai hall at Karainagar on 11-2-1940. The meeting was convened by 19 gentlemen representing the various parts of the island. Mr. S. Nallathambi was voted to the chair. The Chairman explained briefly the object of the meeting. He said that most of the schools, particularly those managed by individuals, were far from satisfactory and were not beneficial to teachers, pupils or parents, in other words to the community at large. He deprecated the present system of mixed schools as matrimonial rather than educational fields. He further said that teachers in private schools, however long they might have been in the service, were at the mercy of indiscriminate and selfish managers, whereas Government servants with such length of service received a pension or remuneration. If the various schools in the island under individual management were brought under the management of a Council, the teachers could be certain of fair treatment. The Council had in addition the advantage of the counsel of its members, whereas an individual manager, however good he might be, had to depend only on his individual judgment. Mr. V. Veerasingam, B. A. Principal, of the Manipay Hindu College, next addressed the gathering. He spoke of the imperative need of an educational organisation for the island, nay, for every village and the possibilities of improvements in the field of Education. He said that the fashion hitherto had been to change the old to the new and the fashion today was to change the new and imparted order back to the old. He appreciated the Chairman's criticisms in general. He said that the object of education was to progress towards perfection and if that was forgotten the schools failed to justify their existence. The advancement of the community should be the concern of the school authorities. If the various school managers combined themselves in a Council and were bound by their counsel, it was possible to free themselves from being blamed personally by parents and others, and their difficulties and obstacles will be lessened. It was possible that in another 10 years the private schools in Ceylon would be taken over by the Government when there might possibly be no religious studies in schools. If these schools came under a common Council now and without delay the Government would not interfere with them. Then they might be able to run the schools economically by utilising certain apparatus in turn as well as the services of specialists such as a religious teachers, music teachers etc. in rotation by programme, whereas it would be too expensive for each school to engage its own specialists. Schools should not be run for selfish ends. He also touched on the inadvisability of boys and girls above the age of eight learning together. Scientific research condemned it.

Mr. S. Vythilingam spoke next. He narrated in some detail the patriotic feeling with which his coun-

trymen in Malaya formed a Karai Union in the year 1919 with the object of promoting education in the island and donating monthly contributions and donations aggregating to about Rs. 10,000. Of this the Union donated a sum of Rs. 1,200 to the Hindu English School Karainagar, Rs. 1,200 to the Saiva Maha Sabai Karainagar, the latter to promote spinning and weaving, and a scholarship of Rs. 300 for a girl of this village to be trained as a teacher, in Ramanathan College. The Union had appealed to the public-spirited men of this place to form an Education Board to whom they would entrust their funds Board, but these attempts did not fructify then. The Union approached the various Saiva Schools to bring them at least under separate Committees, when they would render financial aid towards improvements. The managers wanted the help but would not create the Committees as requested, hence they failed to receive their financial aid. He pointed out that in the year 1926 three of the Saiva Vernacular Schools requested the Saiva Maha Sabai to manage the schools, but this did not take place although the General meeting approved it. When some of the managers were subsequently approached on the subject some three or four years ago they evaded it, without any apparent reason. He emphasised the economic value of the existence of a Council over these schools, when the status of the community will also be enhanced and a public spirit created. He also emphasised the moral value of the schools if proper accounts are kept and published for the information of the public. Reliable men were not wanting in the Community to do such work. He further said that all the schools in Karainagar were built with public funds perhaps with one exception and certain managers have been too long attached to their schools and have harboured the idea of possessing them. He expressed his gratitude to the various managers for the services they have rendered to the public in the past gratis and appealed to all concerned for their good-will and Co-operation of the teachers, pupils, to make the formation and working of the Council as easy as possible, without which nothing in this world can be achieved. Some managers have already agreed to cooperate. He said that he had heard of persons saying that similar undertakings in the past had failed and he pointed out that that was the very reason that they should make further attempts, for, failures are the pillars of success.

The other speakers were Messrs. S. Supramaniam, S. Muthiah, R. Nagalingam and V. Supramaniam.

#### Resolutions

The following resolutions were passed unanimously.

Mr. S. Ponnampalam proposed and Mr. K. Kanagasabai seconded.

"That this meeting of the public of Karainagar, held on 11-2-40, believes that many educational improvements are to be effected in the educational institutions of this village and requests the managers of the various schools in Karainagar to give their co-operation with a view to co-ordinate the activities of all the schools and thus increase their value to the community."

Mr. R. Nagalingam proposed and Mr. R. Ambalavanar seconded.

"That at this meeting of the public of Karainagar held on 11-2-40 it is resolved to form a village Education Council at Karainagar."

Mr. S. Supramaniam proposed

## Gloom in Point Pedro

Point Pedro, Tuesday

A continuous severe draught has been prevailing for the last two and a half months. A gloom has spread over the district and crops are failing. Days are very hot. Diseases such as Chicken-pox, measles, dysentery etc., are spreading. Medical authorities are giving every attention and active inoculation is carried on.

Fishermen are leaving for Mannar and Mullaitivu as the weather is bad for fishing at Point Pedro. (cor.)

## Personal

Muhandiram V. Nagalingam late of the Excise Department has left for India yesterday by the overland route on pilgrimage.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 750

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sinnappu Thillaiampalam of Vannarponnai

Deceased.

Packiam widow of Sinnappu Thillaiampalam of Vannarponnai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Navamany Thillaiampalam
2. Manonmany Thillaiampalam
3. Puvaneswary Thillaiampalam all of Vannarponnai
4. Veluppilai Veeravagu of Kokuvil Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying that the 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem of the minors 1 to 3 Respondents and that Letters of Administration of the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner coming for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esq. District Judge, in the presence of Mr. V. K. Gnanasundram, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner.

And on reading the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner it is hereby ordered that the 4th Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem of the 1st 2nd and 3rd Respondents and that the Petitioner who is the widow of the deceased be granted Letters of Administration of the Estate of the abovenamed deceased unless the Respondents show sufficient cause to the contrary on or before the 29th day of November 1939.

This 25th day of October 1939

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge

Time to show cause extended for  
28th February 1940

Sgd. C. C.  
D. J.

(O. 79, 22 & 26-2-40)

and Mr. S. A. Vinayagasivampillai seconded:

"That this meeting of the public of Karainagar held on 11-2-40 resolves that a Committee of fifteen gentlemen be appointed to form the Village Education Council at Karainagar and to take all necessary steps to bring the existing Saiva Vernacular Schools in Karainagar under this Council, to frame the necessary rules and to raise funds for the proper management of same, with power to add to their number and for five of them to form a quorum at meetings. One of this number is to act as Chairman, two as Joint Secretaries and one as Hon'y. Treasurer."

Fifteen gentlemen were appointed to the Committee.

The resolutions were then passed. The Chairman appealed to all concerned for co-operation. He thanked the various speakers particularly Mr. V. Veerasingam for the trouble he took to attend and address the meeting.

The meeting ended, with Singing of Dhevaram (Cor.)

## AUCTION SALE

In the District Court of Jaffna No. 14467

Nagammah widow of Sithamparapillai Chellappah of Vaddukodai East. Vs. Plaintiff.

- (dead) 1. Valliammai widow of Kathiravelu Saravanamuttu and  
2. Saravanamuttu Marutbamamuttu of Vaddukodai East, personally and as legal representative over the estate of Valliammai widow of Kathiravelu Saravanamuttu Defendants.

Under and by virtue of commission issued to me in the above case, I shall sell by public auction the undermentioned 1st land and the mortgage bond stated below at the 1st land on Friday the 15th day of March, 1940, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

PROPERTIES REFERRED TO:

1. All that piece of land situated at Vaddukodai East in the parish of Vaddukodai in the division of Valigamam West Jaffna District Northern Province called Iraddiavathai in extent six lachams V. C. and three and a half kules with house, portico, cultivated and spontaneous plantations and palm trees and share of well lying in the western boundary and bounded on the East by bye lane and by the property of the heirs of the late Thangam widow of Vallipuram, North by the properties of Vairavanather Kandasamy and Nagammah wife of Sanmugam, West by the property of Subramaniam Kandiah and on the South by lane.

2. All the right title interest claim and demand whatsoever of the 2nd Defendant in and to the mortgage bond dated the 10th day of April 1932 and attested by P. Ganapathypillai N. P. under No. 2143 and granted by Sinnappu Thillaiampalam and wife Paruppillai for the sum of Rs. 500/- and interest at 9 per cent per annum whereby the following lands have been specially mortgaged and hypothecated.

a. All that piece of land situated at Vaddukodai East aforesaid called Kadduvilanai in extent two lachams V. C. and fifteen and one fourth kules with cultivated and spontaneous plantations and share of well lying in the western boundary land and way and water course and bounded on the East by the properties of Nannipillai widow of Kandappu and Sundram wife of Murugesu, North by the properties of Subramaniam Thilainathar and Nannipillai widow of Kandappu, West by the property of Arunugam Veeravagu and front of path and on the South by the property of Visuvalingam Kularatnam together with the right of using the path leading from this land to the lane on the West.

b. All that undivided one third share with its appurtenances out of all that piece of land situated at Vaddukodai East aforesaid called Iraddiavathai in extent five and one fourth lachams V. C. with house, kitchen koddil, well and cultivated and spontaneous plantations and bounded on the East by the property of Saravanamuttu Thillaiampalam and front of byelane and by the property of Subramaniam Kandiah, West by the property of Perampalam Sivapragasam and shareholders and on the South by the properties of Sinnachy wife of Selliah and Saravanamuttu Thillaiampalam.

17-2-40 V. S. Ambalawarner,  
Vaddukodai. Commissioner.  
(Mis. 278, 20-2-40)



## RESEARCH IN INDIAN DRUGS

### To be Started in Madras

Madras, Feb. 13.

A scheme for research into the indigenous drugs of India with special reference to their toxicology will be started in Madras shortly.

The programme of work provides for a scientific study of indigenous drugs of reputed efficiency and poisonous plants and of those likely to prove of therapeutic use in veterinary practice, assessing their value and standardising the dose for large animals, and the examination of the pharmacopical drugs and their allied species growing in India which are used in veterinary practice, in order to ascertain the possibility of employing them in place of imported drugs.

The scheme has been sanctioned by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research which has allocated for it Rs. 44,000, spread over a period of three years.

Arrangements have also been made, whereby the Director of Veterinary Services, Madras, would investigate plant poisoning, utilising his own staff and the Veterinary Investigation Officer, Madras. In the event of any plants suspected of causing poisoning in animals being detected, he would communicate with Col. Chopra of the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, who is in charge of the Council's scheme for research in the systematic cultivation of medical plants and study of fish poisons, and obtain a report about their identity.

### Wanted

For the Kokuvil Hindu English School, a Graduate qualified to teach English, Mathematics, Science and History for classes up to Matric. Apply with testimonials before 15th March, 1940, to

The Manager,  
Jaffna Hindu College.  
14-2-40.

(Mis. 275, 15-2 to 29-2-40.) (T)

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Y. 55, 1-3-38-31-39. (T)

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 788  
In the matter of the estate of the late Sivanandychetty Kalimuttuchetty of Vannarponnai East

Deceased.

Paramaratnam widow of Sivanandy Chetty Kalimuttu Chetty of Vannarponnai East

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Chellavadivu daughter of Kalimuttu Chetty of Vannarponnai East
2. Vadivambikai daughter of Kalimuttu Chetty of do
3. S. A. Dharmarajah Chetty of do

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the abovenamed 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st and 2nd respondents and that letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 29th day of September 1939 in the presence of Mr. C. C. Somasegaram proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and the petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st and 2nd respondents and that letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner, as the lawful widow of the said deceased, unless the abovenamed respondents appear before this Court on the 15th day of November 1939 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 15th day of October 1939.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

Order Nisi extended for 23-2-40.

Inid. C. C.

D. J.

(O. 78, 19 & 23-2-40.)

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(Mis. 274, 12-2-40 to 12-3-40.)

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H. 88, 13-7-39 to 12-2-40.)

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