

# THE Hindu Organ.



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## What Jaffna Thinks of the Recent Crisis

### ATTITUDE OF NORTHERN COUNCILLORS CONDEMNED

#### Communalism in Season and Out of Season

#### "HINDU ORGAN" CONGRATULATED ON ITS CORRECT LEAD

In view of the claim made in the State Council by certain representatives of the North that they were voicing Jaffna's views on the recent constitutional crisis, and of the attempts made and are being made to suppress by questionable methods free expression of public opinion in Jaffna, the "Hindu Organ" has felt called upon to acquaint the public of what the thinking section of the community has to say on the "Ministerial Crisis" and how it views the attitude of its representatives in regard to this question and other relevant matters.

**MR. S. RAJARATNAM,** Advocate, ex-Councillor, and one-time active Member and Secretary of the Jaffna Association, interviewed by our representative, said:—

I must congratulate the "Hindu Organ" on having faithfully reflected the same view of Jaffna. Your paper had no axe to grind and so it was able to be true to the country's interests.

I cannot understand how anyone on earth could comfort himself by saying that he is a mighty State Councillor when even after the unanimous decision of the Council he is unable to get a trumpety criminal case postponed by a few days. Even murder cases are postponed from day to day without the course of justice in any way being interfered with. If the Police wanted to strike terror into the minds of the Indian labourers by getting the accused sent to jail early, was it not open to the Police to have consented to postponements of the cases or the accused being remanded? This would have served to see that the accused did not tamper with the witnesses for the prosecution or that the accused bolted to India.

We knew when the Donoughmore Scheme was discussed in the Legislative Council that it was impossible to work it. A good deal of give and take on the part of all made it possible to work the scheme even during the last nine years.

I am afraid, our representatives from the North were more loyal to the Jaffna Catholic attitude than to anything else. I know these Catholics do not want the Northern representatives to work in collaboration with the Sinhalese. Their motives to see that the Hindus and the Buddhists are at each other's throats. The next General Elections will show how the united and sober Jaffna dislikes opportunists and mischief-makers.

The real salvation of Ceylon lies in united action. No united action is possible until and unless the majority community is in a position to shoulder the responsibilities of the minorities also.

It is sheer madness for a 6000 white men or a 5 lacs of Ceylon Tamils to d dats terms to 85 lacs of Sinhalese. Ceylon must beware of exploiters and opportunists of whatever colour.

I always maintain that committee system is no salvation for the minorities as is now admitted even by our own communalwallas. I maintain that a few ministries to the minorities would never be a safeguard to the minorities. The only safeguard is goodwill and good understanding based on mutual trust. From my association with the Sinhalese I can safely state the Sinhalese would play the game by us.

Our representative then asked Mr. Rajaratnam what his views were

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### THE PROBLEM OF AGRICULTURE

#### How to Raise the Agriculturist's Income

#### INTENSIVE CULTIVATION AND SUBSIDIARY OCCUPATIONS

BY DR. V. K. R. V. RAO

[The author of this article in the "Roy's Weekly" gives a lucid analysis of the Problem of Agriculture in India and suggests remedies to solve the problem. Conditions in Ceylon are almost similar to those in India, and this article therefore will be of great interest to those interested in Agriculture in this Island.]

THE agricultural problem in India is in the last resort mainly a problem of low income. In my study of the national income of India for the quinquennium ending 1929-30, I found that the average value of agricultural production in India amounted to Rs 1,652 crores, and making allowance for deductions on account of seeds, cost of upkeep of cattle, manures, etc., the average income of a person employed in agriculture came only to Rs. 176 per year.

It is needless to add that this figure conceals the much lower average income of the agricultural labourers and the small cultivators. To put the same thing in a different way, agricultural production in India does not, on the average, give to those who follow it anything like a living wage; nevertheless, we find that there is no substantial emigration of workers from this occupation. This is, of course, due to the lack of alternative occupations. Under the circumstances, agriculture in India to-day is, perhaps, the most sweated industry in the world.

#### How to Raise Income

The Indian agricultural problem, therefore, is the problem of how to raise the agriculturist's income. This can really

be described as the national economic problem, as the cultivating classes constitute more than 70 per cent of the total population of the land.

How can this problem be solved? I suggest that there are, in the main, three ways of increasing agricultural income in this country, namely:

(1) By raising the production per acre of land or the production per head of the persons engaged in agriculture.

(2) By raising the cultivator's share in the value of agricultural produce or by raising agricultural prices to a level at which the cultivator will get a living wage, and

(3) By providing subsidiary occupations for both the cultivator and his women-folk.

#### Industrialisation

It will be noticed that I have not mentioned the most time-honoured of all the remedies proposed in this connection, namely, industrialisation by large scale methods. It has been argued that the problem of the Indian cultivator will not be solved unless there is a substantial diminution in the number of persons obtaining their living from the soil and that this would be achieved by industrialisation, which will provide for alterna-

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# What Jaffna Thinks of the Recent Crisis

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on the attitude of the Jaffna Association.

Mr. Rajaratnam said:—

Every political association has its ups and downs. For some time past the Jaffna Association has fallen on evil days. The Jaffna Association which was the pride not only of the Tamils but the rest of Ceylon during the days of Mr. J. M. Hensman, rightly and fearlessly advocated self-government on a purely territorial representation basis. It was my privilege to have been an active member of the Association as a member of the Committee, and as Secretary. Today it represents nobody but a few who unfortunately are unable to withstand the manoeuvres of a State Councillor who could be excelled only by Hitler in the art of false propaganda.

**MR. C. PONNAMBALAM,**  
Advocate, Chairman Urban Council, and ex-Secretary of the Jaffna Association:—

I do not want to express a view on the constitutional crisis as it no longer exists. I only wish to emphasise the fact that whatever line of action we may adopt we should consider what is best in the interests of the Ceylon Tamils. Is it in the best interests of the Tamils to shout from political platforms that the Sinhalese are against the Tamils? Even if it is so it will be detrimental to our interests to proclaim that the Sinhalese are communal. If all questions confronting the people of this island are looked at and decided from the communal point of view, the Sinhalese will stand to gain as they form the majority. We should fight for our rights, but at the same time avoid raising communal passions. In my opinion some of the Sinhalese leaders are anxious to have all political power in their hands and want the Tamils and others to go to them for favours. We should also have a share in the Government of the country and all political power should not be vested in the Sinhalese alone. We should fight to achieve this object without raising communal feelings.

I say that Sinhalese leaders are not communal with regard to expenditure of monies for the improvement of the Tamil districts of the Island. I must frankly say in this connection that our members are lazy, and do not agitate for expenditure of a portion of the revenue on the Tamil districts of the Island and publicly proclaim that the Sinhalese Ministers are communal and do not want to spend any money on the Northern Province. I may mention as an example that Mr. C. T. Coomaraswamy, as chairman of the Pooneryn V. C., wrote to the Minister of Local Administration for a sum of Rs 6,000 as grant to the V. C., for opening a road and obtained the grant.

In this connection the "Hindu Organ" has been rendering great service to the people of Jaffna by condemning Communalism. "Hindu Organ" is a paper with a great tradition behind it and it cannot be denied that it represents the views of a very large and influential section of Jaffna.

It will be in the best in-

terests of the Tamil Community if our representatives do not consider every question that comes for discussion in the State Council from a communal point of view. Perhaps unconsciously our representatives by adopting such policy are doing a great disservice to the Tamil Community. The "Hindu Organ" has been trying to make them change their policy and sincere lovers of the Tamil Community ought to be grateful to it for the policy it had adopted.

There is a tendency in Jaffna today to adopt Nazi methods and suppress free expression of opinion. I think that the "Hindu Organ" has done well in condemning the recent movements in Jaffna to suppress the free expression of public opinion.

**I think that the present policy adopted by our representatives will ultimately prove disastrous to us and I say that in a few years we will know what I have stated is true or not.**

**MR. A. CHELLAPPA, J.P.**

Retired Accountant, Colombo Port Commission, said that he did not at all approve of the conduct of the Northern Councillors in the recent constitutional crisis. They should not have brought into the discussion of this matter, communal considerations which are absolutely irrelevant to the issue. He was glad that the "Hindu Organ" had taken the correct attitude in the matter and saved the fair name of Jaffna.

**MR. T. MUTTUSAMIPILLAI,**

Advocate, member of the Board of Directors of the Jaffna Hindu College, interviewed by our representative said:—

I believe it is unnecessary at this stage for me to express my view on a crisis that no longer exists. Still I feel it incumbent on me to state my views especially with regard to the editorials that appeared in the "Hindu Organ". To my knowledge there are several people in Jaffna who are in perfect concord with the editor's views, though for my part I differ a little. I also feel that co-operation with the Sinhalese is desirable as much as possible.

When the Donoughmore Scheme was accepted by the then Legislative Council, I think that the Sinhalese leaders accepted it as it gave the majority community larger powers. Sir High Clifford's explanation as to the need for the Commission betrays the Imperialist point of view in desiring a scheme which would wrest from the representatives of the people the little powers and privileges they had. The Sinhalese leaders might have been actuated by the simple motive of working the Constitution though I am not personally very inclined to think so. We chose in Jaffna to boycott the State Council elections in 1931 as a protest because the little that we had was taken away from us. I remember Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru telling us in May 1931 that there was no meaning in Jaffna resolving on boycott without the co-operation of the Sinhalese. I myself think that the Pundit was correct.

If the Sinhalese leaders wanted bona fide to give a trial to the new constitution there can't be anything wrong in their decision to non-co-operate as soon as they saw that it was no longer possible to carry on the Government. It would have been better if our representatives had met the Ministers and other members of the Council and evolved out a scheme either to co-operate or to non-co-operate.

*The mistake with our representatives in my eye seems to be that they want to oppose the Sinhalese leaders for opposition sake.*

They are themselves divided and are at each other's throats sometimes for leadership. It is very necessary that our representatives should be united in the first instance amongst themselves. Secondly they ought to co-operate with the majority community in the demand for responsible Government. This does not in any manner mean that the Tamils should play into the hands of the Sinhalese. It is essential that we should preserve for ourselves and our posterity the culture of our forefathers. The preservation of Tamil culture need not necessarily conflict with co-operating with the majority community in our demand for responsible government.

The Sinhalese leaders certainly are not so far-sighted and liberal minded as the Hindu leaders of the Indian National Congress, Mahatma Gandhi and Pundit Nehru and other prominent members of the Congress have always conceded that it was for the minorities to decide what was best for them.

With regard to the recent meeting of the Sama Samajist at the Esplanade I am afraid that the liberty of speech which we are not denied under an alien rule is no longer a reality. This is due to irresponsible persons being at the head of certain bodies which consist chiefly of illiterate people who are blindly led to use violence against others who sincerely differ from them in their views. Difference of opinion cannot be stifled in this manner. The Sama Samajists must be allowed to express their own views and others must be free to discuss, criticise, and if necessary to differ from the Sama Samajists. The writings of H. G. Wells, Bernard Shaw and several others speak of what is good and what is bad in Communism.

Regarding the resolutions passed by the Committee of the Jaffna Association, I may at once state that the resolution with regard to the possibility of an alternative Government is meaningless. In other words the demand of the Association is to substitute a government by the minorities in place of the Government by the British. This is alien to true democracy. It may be ideological but I must state it that democracy means a Government of the people by the people for the people. It cannot be strained to mean a government by a minority of a larger number of people.

It would be very desirable to have leaders who are sober minded in their views. Age and experience go a great length to mitigate the rashness of youth. Jaffna's greatest need today is the need for far-seeing politicians with political wisdom.

**MR. T. N. SUBBIAH,**

Proctor, a member of the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Association and a Vice-President of the Jaffna Indian Association, when interviewed said:—

The attitude of the Northern representatives of the State Council in the recent Ministerial crisis does not seem to be in keeping with the traditions created and set up by the representatives of the North in the legislatures of the past. The present attitude of the Northern members is neither conducive to the best interests of Ceylon in general nor to the well-being of the Tamils in particular. The recent crisis had no communal background whatsoever, and as such to view the crisis from a Communal perspective is detrimental to the best interests of the country and to the special interests of the community. The inconsistencies emitted forth by our representatives in connection with this episode reflects neither credit to them individually nor to the community in general. Our representatives seem to have been actuated by considerations of unmitigated communalism and deant spite which defies consequences during times of controversies. I am extremely sorry that the Tamils, through their representatives, have missed a grand opportunity to demonstrate to the rest of Ceylon that they alone can rise to the highest stature of sacrifice when occasions demand, irrespective of communal considerations in pursuance of the common goal of complete freedom for Mother Lanka. No quarter can conscientiously be granted by honest Tamils to white exploiters and capitalists, whose wishes are embodied in the administrations of Ceylon and India, however reactionary the Tamils may be. This is testified to by the recent elections of all kinds since 1922 in the Madras Presidency.

I am glad that the "Hindu Organ" by its bold and splendid stand has saved the fair name and reputation of Jaffna. The other denominational and sectional journals of Jaffna have been exhibiting only periodical nationalism; but it was the "Hindu Organ" that has stood by reasonable national claims all throughout and has voiced very accurately the feelings of the Jaffna public.

**THE REV. JAMES S. MATHER,** Chairman-elect of the North Ceylon Methodist Mission, Jaffna, seen by a representative of this paper said that he was of the definite opinion that whatever may happen, the different communities in the Island should all firmly stand together and that they should not allow such occurrences as the recent crisis to widen the gulfs that already exist between man and man. He was a firm believer, he said, in co-operation without which the country will lack the dynamic that is essential for solving the many problems we are at present confronted with. Instead of hostility and force, fear and suspi-

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sion, there should be co-operation and goodwill, sympathy and unselfishness, which alone will secure for Ceylon the welfare and prosperity which we all long for.

**MR. C. T. NAVARETNAM**, Proctor, when interviewed said:—

I must candidly say that the policy adopted by the "Hindu Organ" in the recent crisis is the most appropriate thing for the present solution of this great problem.

*I think what the "Hindu Organ" is advocating is the best advice that could have been given to our community at this stage. I feel that it is voicing the true spirit of the majority of our community.*

I feel that the Jaffna Association which was considered to be the important organisation for voicing the sentiments of the Jaffna public is now being misled by some politically-minded young men who assume to be leaders of the Tamils.

I hope that the Jaffna public will not be moved to follow like a flock of sheep the sentiments of one man who is moving heaven and earth to gain his own ends.

Unless one self-sacrifices himself for the good cause of the country we cannot achieve the fruits we may desire. If we the minor communities cannot self-sacrifice ourselves by co-operating with the major community how could we expect to achieve the great goal of freedom. During the last 150 years our leaders have been cautiously moving and guiding us without any dispute among the communities of this island. No political leader of Jaffna can say that the spirit of our revered leaders such as Sir P. Ramanathan, Sir A. Kraugasabai and Mr. Sabapathy is moving and guiding him minds if that leader would not co-operate with the major community.

This country is likened unto a family, the major community as the husband, the Tamils as the wife, and other minorities as children. There cannot be harmony in this family if everyone of the family do not co-operate with each other. There may be domestic troubles between the members of the family which can be settled among themselves. If the husband and wife quarrel among themselves and could not settle their differences between themselves it might end in a divorce. Neither party can get out of the country. All the secret of success is in self sacrifice.

*I hope in spite of the barking in certain quarters, the "Hindu Organ" will follow the great tradition of tolerance and broad-mindedness set by the late Editor, Mr. Sabapathy.*

**MR. W. PONNUDURAI**, Retired Municipal Engineer, F. M. S., and President, Udavil Rural Reconstruction Society said:—

The attitude taken by the "Hindu Organ" in the matter of the recent constitutional crisis is right and proper. The raising of the communal issues in any and every matter is not at all conducive to the general welfare of the country as a whole. There

is no place for communalism in Ceylon where, I feel there are more things that are common to the majority and minority communities than differences that deserve to be exaggerated the economic interests of the people are the same. The political aspirations of the permanent population have been the same all these past years. It would be very useful in this country to know and to follow what Mahatma Gandhi prescribes as the solution of the political problem in India. His view is that in all matters pertaining to the general interests of the country, there should be no difference recognised between communities; it is only where the special interests of minorities such as religious, cultural and linguistic, that special provision might be made for their protection. Here in Ceylon, too, the Minorities, if they want to, can insist on guarantees for the protection of these special interests. In all other matters all communities should work as one man with the sole object of advancing the interests of the country as a whole. Communalism, I repeat, has no place in this country. Anyone who raises the communal cry in this country is an enemy both of his community and of the country.

A sorry feature of our public life is that leaders are too timid to express their honest opinions for fear of losing their influence among the mass. They should not forget that although at the start there might be a set-back in their questionable influence, in course of time they will rise in the estimation of the people for their honesty and truthfulness and will begin to command respect with influence that is genuine and cannot be undermined by any false propaganda. This applies to both the major and minor communities.

**MR. SAM A. SABAPATHY**, Proctor, ex-Chairman Jaffna Urban Council and ex-Secretary, Jaffna Association, when interviewed, said:—

It is needless to express my views on a crisis which no longer exists. I must, however, say that though the attitude adopted by the Tamil members in Council on the recent constitutional issue has been consistent with the position taken by them on all constitutional matters in recent years, it would have been to the greater good of the Tamil community if for once they had looked upon the issue as an all-Island one. This would have been a generous gesture and Sinhalese communalists would have seen that the Tamils even today can look at problems from an all-Island point of view despite their many grievances. Even ardent advocates of balanced representation have always maintained that they stood for self-government for Ceylon but only wanted for the Tamils their due share in self-government. The recent issue arose over the denial of rights already granted to the people of this country. Whatever our quarrels with the Sinhalese, it was not necessary for our Councillors to have refused to join in the common fight. Such a statesman as Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan would have acted differently.

I must congratulate the "Hindu Organ" on taking up a firm stand

on this issue. It has been true to the traditions of liberalism set up by such distinguished predecessors of the present editor as the late Messrs Chellappapillai, Sabapathy, Cathiravelu and Eliatamby who were all stalwarts of the Jaffna Association.

The Jaffna Association was the first political body in the Island to ask for a home Rule in Ceylon. This was, I believe, as far back as 1904. In 1940 balanced representation!

**Mr. J. V. CHELLIAH**, M. A., J. P., President, Jaffna West Mahajana Sabai and Chairman, American Ceylon Mission, interviewed by our representative, said:

I am entirely in accord with the view expressed by the "Hindu Organ" as regards the stand taken by the Ministers in protesting against the Governor's action in supporting the Inspector-General's act of disobedience. It is a pity that in a constitutional matter like this when our Sinhalese brethren have

## "STATESMANLIKE EDITORIAL"

### COLOMBO DOCTOR CONGRATULATES EDITOR

Dr. E. V. Ratnam sent the following message to the Editor, "Hindu Organ" on the 5th instant:—

"My congratulations your statesmanlike editorial on the constitutional crisis dated February 29th. May God give grace to the representatives of Tamil Provinces to act honestly and honourably.

Dr. E. V. Ratnam.

been fighting the battle of all Ceylonese, that there were found short-sighted politicians who took this opportunity to stab them in the back. Our petty differences should not have stood in the way when great matters were at stake. Even if certain members of the Jaffna Association thought sincerely that the Ministers were misguided in their stand, they should not have gone out of their way to denounce them, especially as these were inspired by a patriotic motive."

As to his severing his connection with the Jaffna Association, Mr. Chelliah said:

"I have been a member of the Association from its inception, and was for a time its Secretary, and as such represented the Association on the Committee that organised the National Congress. When for a few years the Association was in a state of suspended animation, I along with one or two others brought it back to life. I say this to show how highly I thought of the Association. However, seeing that the Association is now under the thumb of a few designing individuals, I along with a number of pro-

minent members, notably two Vice-Presidents, and the two Secretaries, severed our connection with the Association. The question whether the Association is now properly constituted seeing that the past Secretaries have not properly handed over the books to their successors (?) may fairly be discussed. We have made no open protest, as it did not seem decent for us to expose our domestic differences to the gaze of outsiders. I still hold that the present Jaffna Association has no right to arrogate to itself the privilege of speaking on behalf of the people of Jaffna. I know that there is an influential section of moderate men who are for co-operating with the Sinhalese leaders. This does not mean that those leaders are always in the right. My point is that we should co-operate with them in all matters affecting the welfare of the whole country. Unless we hang together we will hang separately.

**MR. T. C. RAJARATNAM**, J. P., Proctor, a former vice-President of the Jaffna Association and ex-Chairman of the American Ceylon Mission, when interviewed, said:—

"It was the duty of all right-thinking men to have wholeheartedly supported the Ministers when they resigned as a body protesting against official encroachment on constitutional rights. That was a time when personal prejudices and petty differences ought to have been sunk and a bold declaration made on behalf of our constitutional rights. It was regrettable that the Jaffna Association should have, contrary to its past traditions, descended to a low level of pettiness and passed resolutions merely to spite some of the Sinhalese. It is unthinkable that a body of intelligent men can seriously lend themselves as tools of some State Councillors who have since of late resorted to the dubious methods of parish pump politicians. It is merely a face-saving device to make up for barren careers. At no time in the history of the Tamil race have there been representatives who sowed seeds of discord among the people and sought to widen the cleavage between communities.

*There will come a day when we Tamils will regret the Communal policy of our representatives. But it is refreshing to note that the "Hindu Organ" has consistently fought against this evil tendency and that enlightened public opinion is solidly behind the bold lead given by your paper.*

Asked by our representative why he left the Jaffna Association, Mr. Rajaratnam said:—

*I found rank Communalism swaying the deliberations of the Committee and unconstitutional procedure adopted in passing resolutions at public meetings contrary to decisions arrived at earlier. The senior vice-President who was acting for the President never had the courtesy to consult the other Vice-Presidents or the Secretaries on matters of importance.*

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## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1940.

### THE INDIAN AND THE CEYLON CONGRESS

THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS which is meeting at Ramgarh under the presidency of that great Muslim nationalist leader MAULANA AZAD will go down to history as perhaps the most momentous session that will largely determine the future of India. The election of the Maulana as president of this year's Congress is a clear expression of India's abiding faith in the leadership of MAHATMA GANDHI. Though he is not in it, he is yet of the Congress, holding an undisputed sway over all India leaders and shaping for all practical purposes the policy and programme of the Congress. The Mahatma is still the one unifying force in Indian politics, rallying under the Congress banner all nationalist elements that would strive and suffer for the freedom of the country. The Congress, meeting as it does under unparalleled circumstances and amidst the strain and stress of the war in which Britain is engaged, is likely to focus its attention and discussion on the one resolution that has been placed before it by the Working Committee. The resolution is a clear and emphatic definition of India's right to self-determination. All that India demands is that she should be free to determine her destinies without any interference from an external authority, however well intentioned it may be. It is clear beyond any shadow of doubt that nationalist India is determined to speak with one voice and insist upon her birth-right. In regard to this question there is no difference between the rightist and leftist elements of the Congress, and even the Socialist party have decided to propose no amendment to the main resolution. Britain, we trust, will realize the full significance of the resolution and gracefully concede India's demand for a Constituent Assembly to decide upon her future.

It is a happy augury for the future of this country that, on the invitation of the All-India Congress Committee, delegates of the Ceylon Congress are attending the sessions for the first time in an official capacity. They are reported to have made a statement to the Associated Press that their main object is to study the methods and work of the Indian Congress so as to copy the Indian model as regards the policy and programme of the

Ceylon Congress. It is a notorious fact that the Ceylon Congress, as it has been for the past few years, is anything but national and has more often than not decided upon its policy on the basis of personalities instead of principles. The result has been the Congress has progressively deteriorated into an organisation striving for narrow and sectional ideals instead of broad-based nationalism. Fortunately for this country, signs are not wanting that the present President of the Ceylon Congress and other younger and progressive elements in it, are likely to make a move in the right direction to give a new orientation to its policy and programme with a view to making it a real national Congress that could and would speak and act for the people of this country as a whole. Only then can the Ceylon Congress hope to live up to the ideals of its noble founders and justify the title—the Ceylon National Congress.

### Faculty for Agriculture

#### Minister on Its Establishment

Kaddy, Wednesday.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. C. Arulampalam at the meeting of the Board of Agriculture held at Peradeniya:

"That the Central Board of Agriculture is of opinion that an Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture should be established in Ceylon, to be located at Peradeniya in connexion with the forthcoming University of Ceylon, the College to be partly subsidised by the Imperial Government and partly by the Government and the public of Ceylon. Further, there should also be established in this island, along with the College, an Agricultural Research Institute on the lines of the Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa, India. This Board recommends to the Executive Committee of Agriculture and Lands the early establishment of these two institutes."

Mr. D. S. Senanayake (Minister of Agriculture) said that in view of Ceylon's limited facilities for land development there was no prospect of people from other colonies coming to Ceylon and competing for what little land there was for the people of the country.

At the same time he felt that they should have an agricultural college in Ceylon and they were doing all they possibly could with available resources to improve the agricultural school. At the same time Ceylon had not severed its connection with scientific research in England. They contributed to the Fund by means of which he believed the whole of the research work of the Empire was unified.

It was his hope that when the University was established in Peradeniya it would take over the control of the agricultural school and institute a Faculty for Agriculture in the Ceylon University.

Mr. Arulampalam withdrew his resolution, following the Minister's statement.

## INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS ANNUAL SESSION

### "Uncompromising Stand On India's Right"

#### MAULANA AZAD'S PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Ramgarh, March 19.

AN uncompromising stand on India's right of self-determination with regard to her future; an unequivocal declaration that India must and will go forward on the path of non-co-operation; a frank admission of the existence and importance of the communal problem; and an enquiry addressed to the world whether there is a better solution of the minorities problem than the one proposed by Congress.

These are among the highlights of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's Presidential address at the fifty-third session of the Indian National Congress.

#### Gandhi's Leadership

In his peroration Maulana Azad said:—"Our success depends on three factors, unity, discipline and full confidence in Mahatma Gandhi's leadership. The glorious past record of our movement was due to his great leadership that we can look forward to a future of successful achievement."

Maulana Azad, at the outset, reviewed the Congress demand for a declaration of Britain's war aims vis-a-vis India. The straight and simple question, he said, was India's right whether she was entitled to determine her own fate or not? On the answer to this question depended the answers of all other questions of the day.

#### "What Next?"

Discussing the question "what next?" Maulana Azad urged that they had now to decide whether to march forward or to go backward.

"When once the step is taken, there is no stopping. We refuse to go back. I am sure that the voice of everyone of you joins mine when I proclaim that we must and will go forward."

Referring to the minority problem the President declared that, if unanimity was not achieved then an impartial tribunal would decide.

"We are told to put an end to our communal conflicts but the opportunity to do so is denied to us."

#### United Nation

Proceeding, the President addressed himself to his coreligionists and maintained that Muslims had no need to have the least doubt or fear about their future.

He declared that eleven hundred years of common history had enriched India with Hindu and Muslim achievements. "Whether we like it or not, we now become an Indian nation, united and indivisible. We must accept this logic of fact and history and engage ourselves in fashion-

### UNDER POLICE PROTECTION

PUBLIC MEETING IN JAFFNA

#### THE MUNICIPALITY ISSUE

The "Whip" writes in the "Times of Ceylon" of March 19th:—

For the first time in the history of Jaffna a public meeting, under police protection, was held last week.

There seems to be a growing volume of public opinion now among the masses that a municipality has the power to reduce rates and not an Urban Council. So the masses are increasingly in support of the establishment of a municipality.

"The 'anti-municipal johnnies' (as a doctor writes to me) are busy again! He attributes various reasons for this anti-municipal agitation.

He is a Jaffna man! He ought to know.

The clash anticipated at that meeting clearly shows that there is a strong difference of opinion on many subjects.

"It also shows", writes my friend, "that Jaffna will under no circumstances brook any Hitler."

A friend from Vadamardchi writes to say that 50 per cent of the Jaffna rate-payers are against a municipality.

This cannot be true. Ward No. 1 is strongly in favour of a municipality.

At a meeting held in Ward No. 1, by the anti-municipal group to form a rate-payers' association only about a dozen rate-payers I am told, were present.

In the Chairman's Ward, a vote of confidence has been passed on Mr. C. Ponnambalam. That is more telling than a string of resolutions.

It is freely talked about in Jaffna that the secretaries of the Jaffna Association handed over a confidential document to one of

(Continued on page 5)

ing our future destiny."

#### Opening Session Postponed

Mazharpuri (Ramgarh) Mar, 19. Owing to torrential rain the opening session of the All-India Congress plenary session has been postponed and will not be held today.

This is the first time in the history of the Congress that the opening session has thus been postponed at the last moment.

## WHAT JAFFNA THINKS OF THE RECENT CRISIS

(Continued from page 3)

and allowed things to be carried out according to the sweet will and pleasure of one man who makes periodical visits from Colombo and cleverly manoeuvres to have things done in the name of the Jaffna Association to suit his own purposes. My sense of self-respect and responsibility as a public man will not permit me to be a party to the unconstitutional acts that were carried out in the name of the Jaffna Association.

There is a tendency on the part of some to force their own views down the throats of others.

This can never succeed anywhere, least of all among an intelligent community like ours. Freedom of thought and speech cannot be denied to anyone, so long as they are within the bounds of law. The greatest need of the world today is tolerance.

**Mr. T. S. KANAGARETNAM**, Proctor, Chunnakam, and member of the Jaffna Association, when interviewed by our representative, said:

I am afraid that the constitutional crisis caused by the interpretation placed by the Governor on article 45 (2) of the Order-in-Council of 1931 is a further step to wrest the Police Department from popular control. One is led to the belief that this crisis was forced on the State Council by the authorities, as a direct result of the refusal of the State Council to pass the Internal Security Scheme. There is no doubt that the Minister for Home Affairs had miserably blundered by keeping away from the Council his correspondence with Inspector-General Banks, while he was striving every nerve to carry through the State Council the Internal Security Scheme. One expected better statesmanship from a veteran politician like Sir Baron Jayatileke.

It is an ugly feature in the politics of this country today, that individuals who have constituted themselves leaders engage in a still uglier combat as to who should be at the helm of affairs. In this conflict, views are expressed, more their own than those of the people whom they pretend to represent. One is forced to think that all these bickerings and petty strifes are the creatures of the Doughnour Constitution. One wonders how came a construction to be placed on Article 45(2) at this moment of time whereas for the past nine years it worked smoothly?

Referring to the attitude of Jaffna to the crisis, Mr. Kanagaretnam said:—

I am happy to state that the "Hindu Organ" has been consistent in its attitude towards public questions and wherever criticism was necessary it never hesitated to do its bit. The "Hindu Organ" has a tradition behind it from the date it was inaugurated to serve the public. I may confidently say that the view expressed by your paper in regard to the Ministerial Crisis represents a big volume of Tamil opinion.

The dissensions that we see in the ranks of the Tamils are due to

bad leadership and lack of united action. The Tamils are the proud inheritors of very great leaders in the past who have contributed immensely to the progress of Ceylon.

Gone are the days of such leaders as Sir Muctucumarasamy, Sir P. Ramanathan, Sir A. Kanagasabai and Mr. A. Sabapathy! Come are the days of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Mr. S. Natesan and Mr. V. Veerasingam!!

**MR. S. PATANJALI**, Proctor, member, Urban Council, and member, Jaffna Association, when interviewed said:

Now that what was known as the constitutional crisis has blown over no practical purpose will be served by one expressing one's opinion or views on it. Personally I think that no benefit will accrue to the Tamils as a community or to Ceylon as a whole by communal agitation. The much-cherished objective of self-Government can only be gained by the close and friendly co-operation between all communities, major and minor. One views with dismay the growing communal discord and one cannot help feeling that some at least of the Sinhalese leaders themselves cannot relieve themselves of the responsibility for the present state of affairs.

Though I do not agree with the comment made in the "Hindu Organ" regarding the Jaffna Association, I share the views expressed therein on the need for co-operation between the various communities and the eradication of communalism from Ceylon politics to ensure the future progress and well-being of our motherland.

**MR. L. S. KULATHUNGAM**, B. A., who has been for many years connected with the "Morning Star" when interviewed said:—

I entirely endorse the editorial remarks of the "Hindu Organ" made in connection with the recent constitutional crisis. Recently an attempt was made to belittle the efforts of the "Hindu Organ" by dismissing its views with the words "ipse dixit." It is well to remember that long before the quoter of the words entered the political arena your paper had already a long enviable record of service to the Tamil Community and the country in general. Perhaps yours has been the one consistent and persistent voice raised during the past few years calling the leaders of all sections to usher in a united Ceylon.

I am surprised that the Jaffna Association as it is constituted today should have dared to speak on behalf of Jaffna. There was nothing else that a self-respecting group of Ministers could have done under these circumstances but resign their offices, and it was incumbent on the people of the country to support them.

**MR. S. KANAGASABAPATHY**, Proctor, Chunnakam and Hon. Auditor, Jaffna Association, when interviewed said:—

I feel the Ministers have bungled, but however this not an, oc-

casional for a section of the Jaffna public to exploit the situation for their own selfish political purposes. Nowadays in Jaffna tolerance of other's views however honestly one might hold is sadly lacking among the so called leaders of Jaffna. In these days of intolerance one feels happy that at least there is the "Hindu Organ" which uses above party feelings and ventilates public opinion without fear or favour in the interests of the Tamils.

**MR. R. R. NALLIAH J. P.**, Crown Proctor, and ex-Member, Jaffna Association, when interviewed, said:—

The Minister have precipitated this crisis. They need not have resigned their seats at this juncture when the Empire is engaged in a life and death struggle. The Ministers themselves had by their subsequent conduct admitted tacitly that their action was hasty and ill-considered. Now the matters have been satisfactorily settled the crisis is now one of academic interest. The crisis emphasises one fact that the present constitution requires revision acceptable to all communities. To gain such a constitution all the communities must pull together instead of attacking each other. All the communities should come into closer co-operation. The responsibility of the Sinhalese community is greater than that of the other communities as they are in the majority. They can well afford to be generous. If the Sinhalese community will only follow the lead of the Indian National Congress, I am sure, we will have a united Ceylon very soon.

## Under Police Protection

(Continued from page 4)

the Tamil members of the State Council a few days ago.

This is believed to be a request not to oppose the establishment of a municipality,

Only one elected member and one nominated member of the Urban Council were present at the public meeting.

It is now said that even Messrs. Jacob and Thuraiappah are in favour of a municipality.

At a function last Tuesday an official of the Ratepayers' Association let the cat out of the bag. He said: "We know that a municipality will be established in 1942. We are agitating in order to send in the correct type of men."

That is the real object. Why not say so?

In Jaffna today the constitutional crisis has receded to second place.

## Education Office, Jaffna

The Education Office, Jaffna, will be shifted from today to Main Street, Jaffna close to the junction with Station Road.

## New G. A. Assumes Duties

Mr. M. Prasad, the new Government Agent, Northern Province, arrived in Jaffna on Sunday and assumed duties on Monday.

Mr. R. B. Naish left Jaffna on Tuesday on furlough.

## THE MATRICULATION CORRESPONDENT

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

## AN APPEAL TO THE YOUTH CONGRESS

Sir,—At a meeting held recently in Ratnapura, the member for Ratnapura, as reported in the "Ceylon Observer" of the 12th inst., stated that the Sinhalese could not have confidence in the representatives of the minority communities in times of crisis. Such a statement was no doubt due to the attitude taken by the members of the North in the recent constitutional crisis. Instead of joining hands with their brethren, they, to their eternal shame and to the dishonour of the Tamils, chose to support the Governor and to forsake the cause of their motherland at a time when she was very much in need of the help of all her sons and daughters. I am confident that all right-thinking Tamils wholeheartedly disapprove of this irresponsible action of their representatives. As such, I hope that next time we will be more careful and return members who truly represent the Tamils.

In preparation, therefore, for the next elections, I wish to appeal to the Youth Congress to start work from right now and give the Tamils a true picture of the great harm the present members of the North are doing to the Tamils. We have had enough of that intolerable communal fire-brand, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, and I am afraid that if this "Second Jinnah" were allowed to go on with his programme of splitting the Tamils and the Sinhalese unchecked, it will spell disaster not only to the Tamils but to all Ceylon. Today we see before our eyes the sad spectacle of the Indian National Congress, the most selfless political body, may I say, in the world, being obstructed and checked by a small communal band under the leadership of Mr. Jinnah. Let that be a lesson to every patriotic citizen of Ceylon. Let every true Ceylonese no matter what community he comes from, make genuine efforts to bring together the different communities of Ceylon and thus enable Ceylon to escape the bitter experience Bharatha Matha is undergoing now.

In Jaffna, the Youth Congress is, I believe, the body that can by its perseverance bring about untold benefits to the Tamils and hence to Ceylon, since its members are young men and keen students of world affairs, whose mental outlook is incapable of being narrowed. Therefore let its President take the lead in giving the Tamil community a sound political education so that the Tamils can fully realise the dangerous and suicidal (to Ceylon) activities of the communalists. The Youth Congress owes a very great duty to Ceylon, the duty of preventing her from suffering for the sins of a few reactionaries and let its President and members light the torch that will lead to unity.

Kopay, Yours etc.,  
12-3-40. Non-Entity.

## Notice to Correspondent

R. Sivagurunather, President,  
The Jaffna Urban Ratepayers'  
Central Association:—

If the letter had confined itself to the subject at issue without importing into it irrelevant matters born of prejudices and predilections, we would have gladly published it, justifying at the same time the action of the "Hindu Organ" in regard to it.

—Ed. H. O.

## A SHORT STORY

THE  
LOST  
HORIZON

( BY EPICUS )

IT was Saturday morning when Murti came to me with the announcement, "Well, it's your turn to-day."

"What's the show?" I asked him.

"The Lost Horizon," he replied, "at the Roxy. Remember that we are six, myself, Subri, Pappu,....."

"You're the chap," I told him, "born with a gift for organising. Go, fix up things, inform the persons concerned, and see to the reservation of seats."

"No fears," he cut in. "You, being the host of the evening, must undertake all the duties and responsibilities attaching to the office. You know for last week's 'Piccadilly Jim' Pappu, being the host, arranged everything."

"If that be the contract," I assured Murti, "I'll not fail in my duty. Now, so far as you're concerned, don't fail to turn up at 5-30 this evening at the Roxy."

With Murti off my hands, I started to acquit myself of the responsibility attaching to me as the host. I sent out promptly a note to each of my friends, "I've the honour to present you this evening at the Roxy with 'The Lost Horizon'."

The next thing to fix up was the reservation of seats. To this end, I took up the receiver and dialled the Roxy.

"Roxy speaking," answered a voice.

"Government of India speaking," I announced, not to be outdone in importance.

"Yes, Sir?"

"Look here," I began in a pompous tone, "I want six seats reserved for 'The Lost Horizon' this evening."

"Sorry, Sir."

"What?" I burst out.

"No reservation for this evening's show. We expect a big rush and do not propose to reserve seats. If you want seats for the night show."

"No," I replied, "we're six and are bent on seeing the evening show. We must have six seats in a row, the best row. Divided we may come, but united we must sit."

"Then, the best way of ensuring the seats," Roxy counselled, "is for one of you to come early and occupy the seats."

Accordingly, I made up my mind to encamp at the Roxy an hour before the show was due to start. At half-past-four, I duly left my house with five tokens of reservation, namely, an overcoat, a walking stick, an umbrella, a hat and a book.

Everything worked out well. The tickets were bought, the

best row was available, and five seats were booked by my five tokens of reservation. On the sixth seat I installed myself. I felt pleased with my success, though the long period of waiting was a trifle boring. But, as time passed on, things got interesting. I watched the seething mass of late-arriving humanity scramble for a good seat and cast an envious eye on me and my tokens. Not even their personal appeals to the manager could invalidate my tokens.

It was half-past-five and nearly all the seats were full when my friends filled in. I found, however, that they were detained at the gate for the presentation of tickets. I went out to bring them in. I gave them a good chiding for their lateness and marched them in. I showed them the seats and removed the tokens. They were immensely pleased at my ingenuity and settled down comfortably. The lights went off and the Universal Talking News Reporter began his comments. I moved on to resume my seat, but was surprised to find that it was occupied.

"Excuse me," I addressed the occupant, "this is my seat."

"Is it?" he asked amusedly. "There was nothing on it to show that it was yours."

Further argument was useless. I had no claim to an unreserved seat. At any rate, he had as much claim to it as I had counted without the host!

I put on as smiling a countenance as possible and sought my place elsewhere. I was glad that my friends, at least, were well-provided for.

The show began and with it all my troubles. I found that my seat was the worst possible in the house. It was not only nearer the screen, but provoked me to see the fate that made me five two. I was facing a human wall before me, three hefty fellows in front of me. An outsize thirty degrees to the left of me, an outsize in front of me and another outsize to the right of me. The "Lost Horizon" was showing beyond them. With all my efforts craning my neck through possible and incidental chinks in the human wall and trying to reach a position midway between standing and sitting—"The Lost Horizon" was beyond my ken.

The show was over and my friends were lost in admiration of it. It was a superb picture, they exclaimed with one voice. For my part, I collected my tokens and repaired home as quickly as possible.

"How was the 'Lost Horizon'?", Padma asked as soon as she saw me.

"I didn't see it."

"Whatever did you see?"

"Three strong silent outsizes."

## RANK OF MEDICAL OFFICER

## Promotion For Dr. C. Subramanyam

Dr. C. Subramanyam, Acting Government Pathologist, Penang has been promoted to the rank of Medical Officer, Malayan Medical Service, the promotion taking effect from September 1, 1939.

After graduating at the Kings Edward VII College of Medicine, Singapore, in 1923 when he won the Gold Medal, Dr. Subramanyam was assistant to the Lecturer in Pathology. After being in Singapore for about four years, he came to Penang in 1927 as Assistant Government Pathologist and after about a year here went to Singapore as Assistant Pathologist. From 1929 to 1930 he was Acting Deputy Government Pathologist. He came to Penang in October 1937. He was president of the College Union for the year, 1922 and 1923. He is an old boy of the Jaffna Hindu College.

## Chief Justice on Holiday Leave

Mr J. C. Howard, the Chief Justice, left the Island, on Sunday, on a short holiday.

Mr. Justice Mosely took his oaths on Monday, before Mr. Justice Soeretsz, as Acting Chief Justice.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF JAFFNA  
Testy No. 850.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Veeravagu Selvadurai of Vannarponnai West Deceased.  
R. Kandiah Subramaniam of Vannarponnai West now of H. M. Customs Kankesanturai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Pushpavathiammah daughter of Subramaniam and
2. Sivapragasam Ponnampalam of Vannarponnai East

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before S. Rodrigo Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 16th day of March 1940 in the presence of Mr. S. Patanjali Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read: It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian ad-litem over the minor the 1st respondent and that the petitioner be declared entitled to have letters of administration to the estate of the said intestate as son-in-law unless the respondents or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on or before the 24th day of April 1940 and state objection or show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

19th March 1940.

S. RODRIGO,  
Ag. District Judge.

(O. 86. 21 & 25-3-40)

An outsize thirty degrees to left of me, an outsize in front of me... I made a clean breast of the whole thing. She rose to the occasion and together we went to the "Lost Horizon." As a result, my friends admitted next morning that my appreciation of the picture was the best and most exhaustive. And, they wondered.

(Roy's Weekly)

**THE LATE MR. V. THURAISWAMY-PILLAI, B. A.**

**An Appreciation**

The name of the late Mr. V. Thuraiswamy Pillai will ever be associated with the galaxy of intellects produced by Vadamarachy. A simple man, he was possessed of great intellectual powers and a never failing fecundity of humour. The affectations of the day were alien to his soul and, at the mere sight of him, one would never have thought that behind the unostentatious mortal coil there was an intellect of no mean capability. He had a young face with a ready smile.

His career was a meteoric flight, ending with the sudden abruptness of a comet. At Royal College, he was a Dapham scholar. Later, he joined the Ceylon University College. He came out with flying colours in the Final, obtaining first class in Classics. Consequent to the award of the Government Scholarship, he proceeded to Oxford, where another first class in Classics awaited him.

He returned to Ceylon with the hope of getting a place at the University College. Fate was not so kind to him. At school, he was so seriously addicted to his studies that he neglected his health completely and the inevitable happened. But was he so seriously ill? He was pronounced by the powers that be to be physically unfit for the post. It was a mortification the young scholar could not stand and the wound was too deep for his tender heart. The retirement of the disappointed scholar to his "native shades" is reminiscent of the simile in Goldsmith where the wounded stag "pants to the place from whence first she flew". St. Patrick's College was more kind to him. She recognised the merits of the distinguished scholar by offering him a place in the staff. He was at Parameshwara College for some time before joining St. Patrick's College.

But, the malady was not of the physique. He pined away and, like a rose, faded in the bloom. Perhaps, he is happier in those Virgilian "Shades", discoursing on Classic Greece and Rome, unassayed by mortal affront.

K. Thangavadivelu.

**Gloucester Fund**

Mr. V. Suppiah of Tondamanar acknowledges the following further contributions received towards his appeal for the Gloucester Fund.

	Rs.
Previously acknowledged	1450
Mr. V. Sivapragasam,	
Araly East	50
Mr. Tamby Pillai, Thunavi	5
Mr. Aramboo, Karaveddi	5
Mr. R. Kathirgamathamby,	
Udupiddy	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1515</b>

**THE PROBLEM OF AGRICULTURE**

(Continued from page 1)

tive occupations and thus relieve pressure on the soil.

Those who argue on these lines also identify the industrialisation they are thinking of with large-scale methods of production and the use of machinery and power. It is, therefore, necessary to discuss in quantitative terms the question how far industrialisation by large scale methods will help to provide for alternative employment.

To-day, the total number of workers employed in large scale industries in our country is in the neighbourhood of only about 17 lakhs, though the value of the output of these large-scale industries is according to my estimate, in the neighbourhood of Rs. 150 crores. Most of the commodities, which are produced by these industries, are consumption commodities in the production of which there is a larger labour ratio than there is in the production of capital goods; whereas the main items of manufactured articles that we are still importing belong to the category of capital goods and do not exceed Rs. 100 crores in value.

In addition to this, we are still importing some quantities of consumption goods. Even assuming that all these manufactured imports are replaced by domestic manufactures, it should now be clear that the number of persons who will obtain employment in consequence will be definitely smaller than the number already employed in our large-scale industries; it may be estimated that the additional number thus obtaining employment will not exceed twelve lakhs. It may be contended, however, that this figure includes only those who will be directly employed as a consequence of further industrialisation and that there will be a larger number who will obtain employment owing to the secondary, tertiary and other consequences of expenditure within the country of the amount represented by the value of the new domestic manufactures.

**The Snag**

Making a generous allowance for the functioning of this "multiplier," the number of employed may increase by another ten lakhs. All told, therefore, the extra industrial employment may be another 22 lakhs; adding to this figure the number of those who are already employed in large-scale industries, the total number employed in large industries may come to about 40 lakh.

As against this, it must be remembered that, even today, out of the 110 lakhs of persons who returned as engaged in industrial occupations, nearly 90 lakhs are employed in cottage industries, and the economic position of many of these cottage workers is such that they will in all probability take to working in large-scale industries the moment an opportunity is found for them there.

In other words, the extra em-

ployment that will result from further industrialisation will at the most help relieve pressure on the whole-time cottage industries, but it will not result in a diminution of the number of workers in agriculture.

But I do not want to be misunderstood. My purpose is not to suggest that we should not proceed with industrialisation. On the contrary, industrialisation is absolutely essential if the country's national income is to be increased and it must be proceeded with; but the point I want to make is that industrialisation is not the sovereign remedy as far as solving the problem of the Indian cultivator's poverty is concerned. It is, therefore, that I do not include industrialisation by large scale methods in my list of the methods by which it will be possible to increase the cultivator's income.

Agricultural production per acre in India is certainly low compared with that of other agricultural countries. There are, as is well-known, various reasons for this fact. To enumerate only the most important of these, one must mention the small size of the usual unit of our agricultural production, and the allied problem of the still smaller parts into which this small unit is split up, the very small quantity of capital employed per acre of land, including in this context the low quantity of fixed capital, the absence of measures, the poor quality of the seed, the poor quality of the implements, the lack of working capital with which to finance the running of the farm, etc., and the psychological disinclination of our cultivator towards bettering his standard of life.

Attempts are being made by the Government of India to raise the quantity of agricultural output by undertaking research work for the improvement of seed and by providing facilities for the supply of improved seed to the cultivators. The other problems, particularly that of the size of the holding, are not so easy to tackle and their solution will probably involve social and political changes of a kind that are not easy to undertake.

**Doubtful Questions**

There is no doubt, of course, that even under our present circumstances, something can be done for increasing India's agricultural production. But whether this increase can be brought about quickly and, also, whether this increase could be substantial in quantity are both more doubtful questions.

Moreover, even if we assume that agricultural production could be substantially increased, the question still remains whether the benefit of this increase in terms of a share in the real national dividend will accrue to the cultivators or it will be dissipated in the form of lower prices; the advantages of which will accrue mainly to the urban classes.

I do not suggest that increase in agricultural production will give the cultivator a lower monetary income than he used to obtain before, but I do suggest that the increase in his monetary income will be substantially less than the increase in his output. Moreover, in case of the non-consumption agricultural goods, like

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cotton, special and complicated problems of disposal arise in case of increase in output. Under the circumstances, an increase in agricultural production, while it will give the cultivator an abundance of agricultural goods, will not, to the same extent, enable him to satisfy his demand for non-agricultural commodities and services. Methods, additional to merely increasing the cultivator's output, are, therefore, necessary for solving the problem of his poverty.

**The Remedy**

This remedy takes two forms. With agricultural prices as they are, we can try to eliminate, or at least minimise, the middleman's share in the same, and enable the cultivator to obtain a large proportion of the gross value of his products by means of improvements in the cultivator's marketing organisation. This question has already been taken up by the Government of India. Marketing officers have been appointed and attempts are being made to organise the marketing of agricultural products in such a manner as to increase the cultivator's income. At the same time, it will be admitted that this remedy is slow and further that, from a quantitative point of view, it will not have that positive effect on the cultivator's income which is necessary if his standard of life is to be substantially raised.

The other remedy is artificially to raise agricultural prices to levels which will enable the cultivator to obtain what may be termed as a living wage. Artificial raising of agricultural prices, however, is not such an easy thing to undertake. The repercussions of such actions are manifold and, unless one contemplates a very much larger extension of State initiative and interference in economic life, one cannot even think of undertaking such a project. And even if it is undertaken, the chances of its succeeding are not very considerable. In particular, the experience of the United States in this direction is certainly not encouraging. For the time being, at any rate, therefore, one will have to set aside from the field of practical politics the expedient of artificially raising agricultural prices as a means of increasing the agriculturist's income.

(To be Continued)

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T'gram: Tiruchelvam

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

(T)

**All Ceylon Industrial Exhibition  
and Carnival**

At Jaffna in May 1940

GLORIOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR EXHIBITING

Goods of Every Description and for Providing Popular  
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FOR PLAN OF EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL GROUNDS

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APPLY EARLY TO:

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

**Volley-Ball Tournament  
in the North**

Point Pedro, Tuesday.

Four matches were played in the Volleyball Tournament arranged by the Point Pedro Athletic Sports Club. Keen Competition was maintained and each match drew a fairly good number of spectators. The various referees had kept the game quite under control.

Messrs A. Nadarasasundram, P. V. Senathirajah, P. Nadason, N. Sivagnanasu dram and S. A. Rasaratnam did their best to secure the smooth working of these matches.

The following were the results:-  
The Golden Star Club beat the Alway Volleyball Club by 3 games to nil. Mr. A. Rajagopal refereed.

The Diamond Club beat the Point Pedro Volleyball Club by 2 games to one. Mr. K. Suntharamoorthy refereed.

The Valvettithurai Recreation Club beat the Maha Jana Sabha Volleyball team by 3 games to nil. Mr. V. Maniccam refereed.

The Maha Jana Sabha Volleyball Team beat the Mathanai Volleyball Club by 3 games to one. Mr. K. Suntharamoorthy refereed.

(Cor.)