

# THE Hindu Organ.

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## IDEALISM Vs EXPEDIENCY

### What is Wrong with Politics in Jaffna?

#### TOO MANY PRACTICAL MEN AND TOO FEW IDEALISTS

BY M. BALASUNDRAM, B. A. (Cantab), B. Sc. (Lond.)

THAT they are practical is the proud boast of our communalists in Jaffna. They roll on their tongues the words 'we are practical' as if those words formed the most felicitous expression they could utter. They suggest that they have no use for ideals in politics. One finds it difficult to understand this fierce pride in poverty of ideals. There may be some excuse for pride in a man who has an ideal even when he has rarely attempted to realize it, but there is no excuse whatsoever for pride in a man who says that he has no ideals. For example, a man may say that to be truthful on all occasions is his ideal but that whenever he comes to offer an explanation to his wife for returning home late at night he often falls far short of his ideal. The man in this instance would boast not of the occasions when he was untruthful but rather of those few occasions when he told the truth and recked not the consequence. A man may say that he has an ardent desire to be a teetotaller but that he has to drink occasionally because his doctors have said that the palmyrah toddy is good for his health. One can understand and sympathize with him; one can even share his pride whenever he has been successful in ignoring considerations of health for his principle. But one cannot understand a man who is untruthful on principle or drinks on principle.

The difference between the idealist and the practical man is this: while the idealist, however imperfect he may be, has an exalted aim or object which determines his actions, the practical man does only what suits him best for the time being. That is to say, the practical man is moved only by considerations of ex-

pediency. And expediency is not always a wise guide. A brick-layer is a practical man whose business is the eminently practical one of laying one brick as securely as possible on another, whereas an architect is an idealist who strives to realize his ideal of beauty in the building he has planned. A building constructed by a mere brick-layer might be either a monstrosity or an unstable one because he is incapable of taking a general or comprehensive view of the building. Practical men, like the brick-layer, suffer from this kind of intellectual short sight. They cannot see much beyond their noses, and very often they see nothing but their fat paunches.

What is wrong with politics in Jaffna is that there are too many practical men and too few idealists. This accounts for the narrow and short-sighted policy of communalism. It cannot be said that the fifty-fifty or balanced representation is an ideal, for the test of an ideal is that it is capable of being applied to all persons and for all time. If honesty is an ideal, it cannot be said that some only should be honest and the rest should not; if truth is an ideal, one cannot say that a few only need be truthful and the rest need not. If the alleged principle of non-domination by the majority is an ideal, then this ideal should be capable of being applied locally. For example, since the Muslims, the Christians and the so-called depressed classes have not much chance of being elected to the Urban District Council in Jaffna, it should be maintained that some sort of constitutional device should be resorted to in order that the Hindu or the upper class majority is at no time able to out-vote the Muslims, the Christi-

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## THE RUSSIAN BOGEY

### Talk of Invasion of India is Nonsense

By John Coatman,

(Former Official of the Government of India)

AT intervals, the German Wireless and Press threaten us with a Russian invasion of India. The Russian threat to India is an old bogey and has been constantly raised in one quarter or another ever since the end of the 18th century, and there have been occasions when we have regarded it as sufficiently serious to undertake definite protective counter-measures in the military or diplomatic spheres. But there are good reasons now why we should not take the present Nazi threat too seriously.

A glance at any big map of the Near and Middle East will show the formidable natural difficulties which would face a Russian attack on India. Such an attack would presumably be the work of the Russian Middle Asia Army Head-quarters based on Tashkent and the Red Flag Army in Caucasus based on Tiflis. The latter, by the way, is separated from India by the whole of Iran and by the mountainous and very grim countries of either Afghanistan or Baluchistan. Moreover an army operating from the Caucasus would have Turkey, Syria, Palestine and Iraq on its flank.

#### Mountain Barrage

Let us consider for a moment the Middle Asia Army in Tashkent, in Russian Turkistan away to the north of Afghanistan. Between this army and India lie the terrifying Pamir and Hindukush mountain systems, which are absolutely impassable to any large army burdened with all the necessary mechanical and other equipment of a modern force. Even in the absence of any opposition, a large modern army could no more cross this country than it could effect a landing on the moon. Any effort, therefore, by the Russian Middle Asia Army must also be made by way of Persia.

We know that the Russians have been for some time past improving their communications, particularly railway communications, along the North Persian Frontier, but even so,

these are not in any fit state for the passage and maintenance of large armies which would themselves have to transport every scrap of food, oil and other material which they needed. They certainly could not live off the country through which their march took them. However that may be, the only possible line of approach to India, even from Central Asia, is through Persia and Southern Afghanistan to Quetta. The moment the Russian forces invaded Persian and Afghanistan territory, they would be met by the fighting strength of those countries, which, to say the very least, would impair their strength and morale before they met the powerfully well equipped and strongly positioned Indian Army.

So, whichever way we look at it, no attack on India is possible without violating the neutrality of the two Mohamedan countries, Persia and Afghanistan. But Turkey is very interested, indeed, in the fate of these two countries and also of Iraq, Persia's neighbour to the West, and it is well known that she has not been idle in the face of possible Russian aggression in these quarters.

Another glance at the map will show how exceedingly well placed Turkey is to safeguard any interests she may have in the integrity of Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. It would be sheer lunacy for any Russian Government to undertake any operations of war of the first magnitude which would inevitably involve Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq, first without making quite sure that Turkey had been rendered impotent. But Turkey is a very powerful country, and, in Great Britain and France, she has very powerful friends who are in a position to ensure that any counter strokes to Russia's aggression in the Middle East would be by sea, land, and air, and on such a scale and with such vigour that the aggressor would suffer one

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### Change of Name

I Ukku Banda of Kandagola presently of Sandilipay do hereby inform the Government and the General Public that I shall henceforth use and sign my name as Rajapaksa Mudiyansele Dharmahasa.

R. M. DHARMADHASA.

Sandilipay,  
Manipay.  
(Mis. 305.8 & 11-4-40)

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 752  
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Thangammah wife of Sinnathamby Suppiah of Thirunelvely Jaffna Deceased.  
Sinnathamby Suppiah of Thirunelvely Jaffna

And Petitioner.

1. Appacuddy Pennusamy  
2. and wife Achipillai of Thirunelvely Jaffna

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Thangammah wife of Sinnathamby Suppiah coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge on the 21st day of June 1939 in the presence of Mr. S. Cumarasuriya Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 16th day of June 1939 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before the 23rd day of August 1939 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 6th day of July 1939.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

Order Nisi extended for  
24.4.40.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

(O. 89. 8 & 11-4-40)



## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1940.

### A GREAT SERVANT OF INDIA

BY THE DEATH OF REV. C. F. ANDREWS India has lost a true servant of God and of humanity whose spirit of service transcended the barriers of race, religion and geographical area. His was a life dedicated to the service of the dumb millions of India. Though an Englishman by birth and culture, he made India his home and completely identified himself with her welfare and destiny. Wherever he found Indians suffering injustice, misery or inhumanity, whether in far away South Africa or in Fiji or at home, his heart went forth to them without stint, and without condescension or patronage. From the day he set foot on the Indian shores he made it his one aim in life to serve those down-trodden, those

that were sick and heavily-laden. Coming to India as a missionary to win souls for Christ, he soon found the atmosphere of institutional Christianity too stuffy for his sensitive soul and found his true vocation not in making converts but in bringing a healing influence to those that were spiritually or physically sick, in extending the bounds of charity and humanity. He had the wisdom and the humility to appreciate truth, goodness and beauty of soul wherever and in whatever form these were found, and never barricaded his soul behind any creed or dogma. Hence it is that his soul found a genial haven at Santiniketan, derived sustenance from the Upanishads and the Gita as well as from the Bible, and, though a devoted servant of Christ to the end of his life, never thought of converting others to his religion. He was able to shed any taint of imperialism, policy, racial aloofness, sectarian bias, which too often mars the service of the generality of missionaries, sometimes of even the best-intentioned of them, and interposes a barrier between them and the Indian people. It is this complete freedom from sectarian bias and from even unconscious air of superiority that gives a unique quality to his life and work and a niche in the hearts of the Indian masses. So it was given to him to attain a measure of success that has been denied to many of the best-intentioned Westerners. His spirit is akin to the spirit of the East, to that of Mahatma Gandhi and of Tagore, with both of whom he was a faithful collaborator in their noble work. To this day missionaries cannot understand the spirit of Mahatma when he depreciates proselytisation and advocates social service instead. Rather they find him a stumbling block to their work of adding numbers to the Church.

MR. ANDREWS did not live the life of a recluse in some Elysian haven, devoting himself to study and contemplation, but had taken upon himself the task of helping the poor of India out of their ignorance, misery and injustice. Through his numerous books and speeches he has served to interpret to the West India's struggle for independence and the true inwardness of the national movement. But more than this he has laboured very hard to secure justice for the oppressed Indians in South Africa and the Fiji Islands. As Tagore's right hand man he has done splendid social and educational work at Santiniketan. Mahatma Gandhi's verdict on his life sums up his worth: "I have not seen a better Christian and a better man." Though he is no more, his spirit lives and will continue to live and work in the hearts of thousands who have come into contact with him and his books.

## EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT SINHALESE-TAMIL UNITY

### Conference of Progressive Tamil Leaders

#### PLENIPOTENTIARIES APPOINTED

#### "Hindu Organ" Praised for Its Bold and Correct Lead

A Committee of nine Tamil leaders with full powers to negotiate and arrive at a settlement of the political issues with the Majority Community, was appointed by a Conference of leaders, from various parts of the Peninsula, convened by the Editor of the "Hindu Organ."

The conference was restricted to only those who were invited and was held on Saturday at 3.30 p.m. in the Committee Room of the Urban Council.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah, J. P., M. B. E., was voted to the chair and Mr. Sam. A. Sabapathy, Proctor, was elected Secretary.

Among the others present were:— Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Chairman, Urban Council, Jaffna, Rev. James S. Mather, Chairman-elect, North Ceylon Methodist Mission, Mr. J. V. Chelliah, M. A., J. P., Chairman, American Ceylon Mission and President Jaffna West Mahajana Sabha, Mudaliyar V. Ponnambalam, Messrs T. C. Rajaratnam, Proctor, T. N. Subbiah, Proctor, C. Arulambalam, Advocate, C. T. Navaratnam, Proctor, T. S. Kanagaratnam, Proctor, S. Patanjali, Proctor, L. S. Kulatungam, B. A., S. Kanagasabapathy, Proctor, C. Vanniasingam, Advocate, Tellippalai, K. A. Selliah, Vice-Principal, Jaffna College; K. V. Sinnadurai, Proctor, M. Vaitilingam, Proctor, V. C. Kathiravelu, Chairman, Village Committee, Vaddukoddai, C. Tharunakulasingham, Proctor, Point Pedro, S. Ambikapakan, B. A., Headmaster, Vaideshwara Vidyalaya, K. Nesiab, M. A., St. John's College, K. Kasi pillai, Proctor, Chavakachcheri, K. Sivaprakasam, retired O. A., Galle Kachcheri, V. Somasundram, Proctor, A. E. Tamber, B. Sc., K. V. Rasiyah, Proctor, A. Sambandhan, Advocate, N. Ponniah, Editor "Eelakesari", V. Sivasubramaniam, Advocate, S. H. Perinbamayagam, B. A., President, Youth Congress, V. Thamocharampillai, Manager of Schools, Chavakachcheri, V. Kanagasabai, Proctor, Chavakachcheri, A. Coomaraswamy, Principal, Jaffna Hindu College; V. M. Anipillai, Vice-Principal, Jaffna Hindu College, P. G. Thambiappah, Principal Victoria College, N. Sangarapillai, B. A., Tellippalai, K. Navaratnam, teacher, S. Adchalingam, Manager, Hindu Board of Education and "Hindu Organ", K. S. Subramaniam, Teacher, Tirunelvely, V. V. Karunanithi, Chairman Village Committee, Tirunelvely, R. Subramaniam, Proctor, and Mr. V. Nagalingam, B. A., Editor "Hindu Organ."

#### Messages

Mr. K. Muttukumaru, Proctor Pt. Pedro, sent the following telegram:—Wish conference all success, Congratulate you correct lead taken. Unable attend Had fever 24 days!

Mr. C. Muttavelu J. P., Kokuvi, regretting his inability to attend the Conference writes, "I have been always entertaining a strong desire

that the Sinhalese and Tamil Communities must be truly united. I wish the Conference will be successful in finding a ready means for the same."

Mr. V. Suppiah, of Tondavanar, regretting this inability to be present owing to the illness of his child, writes:

"Thanks for the kind invitation. I have always desired harmony and unity between the Tamils and the Sinhalese. I have urged many Tamil leaders to bring about the necessary co operation. I am therefore very happy to associate myself in the efforts you are taking to bring about a rapprochement between the two Communities...I wish the conference all success".

Dr. E. V. Ratnam, wires:—Regret absence unavoidable wish your selfless attempt all success.

#### "Fifty-Fifty" Absurd and Dangerous

Mr. C. Thanabalasingham, Proctor, Pt. Pedro, regretting his inability to be present owing to a professional engagement, writes:—

"I am for co operation with the other communities, particularly the Sinhalese. I however feel that some safeguards are necessary, both to allay the fears of the minority communities as well as to guarantee to us a certain amount of voice in the government of the country. But I must emphasise that I would rather have no safeguards at all, than alienate the feelings of the Sinhalese community.

"I wish the Conference all success, and hope that you will take early steps to convince our people that the Fifty Fifty demand is absurd and dangerous, and that the cry is only the swan song of self-seeking politicians who have no real interest in our community.

"Also I hope that steps would be taken to convince the Sinhalese community that they ought to revise their attitude towards the minority communities. I shall do all I can to co-operate with you in your endeavours."

Mr. M. Sabaratnasinghe, B. A., Headmaster, Hindu English School, Vaddukoddai, writes:—Unexpectedly prevented attending conference. Wish all success your patriotic move.

#### Close up Ranks

Mr. Nalliah, on taking the chair, thanked the members for having elected him unanimously as President. He also thanked particularly the Editor of the "Hindu Organ" for the attitude he had taken and the lead he had given by convening that conference so that they might arrive at a settlement of their differences with the major community The Tamils and the Sinhalese, he said, had been living together for centuries in Ceylon and their differences were only political, economically and socially there were no differences whatever. The Tamils, in a sense,

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# WEEK BY WEEK

BY MAN ABOUT TOWN

THE work of years of the great Tamil and Sinhalese leaders seems to go waste, the labours of the late Sir P. Arunachalam, and the late Mr. F. R. Senanayake seem to have been in vain. For if Ceylon is not to be a united country, if it is to quarrel over domestic trifles, the dream of a free Ceylon will come to a finish.

## Silver Lining in the Cloud

But happily it is but a passing phase. And already, slowly but steadily, the saner and patriotic elements in every community are waking up and rallying round! From South Ceylon and Jaffna have arisen voices of protest and very soon the communalists among the Sinhalese and the Tamils will realise the futility of their wild game. And all through the hectic days of embitterment, some persons have gone on quietly ahead with their task of rapprochement. While others talked division and uttered threats, the ideal of national unity is being worked out. Responsible Sinhalese leaders have intimated their desire for an equitable and permanent settlement of the question of Sinhalese-Tamil relations. This genuine desire found an echo last Saturday at the Town Hall. A conference of all sections of progressive Jaffna was held and an agreed reasonable demand was made to be placed before the Sinhalese. In this connection I anticipate a further conference very soon of Tamil leaders and Sinhalese leaders. It is sincerely hoped that this will end once and for all this question at issue between the two communities.

## A Dream

I had a dream last night. I could vividly recollect the incidents. The place was Ponklar Horton Place. There were Sir P. Arunachalam, Sir P. Ramaswami, Mr. A. Sabapathy, Mr. F. R. Senanayake, Sir W. Duraiswamy, Mr. D. S. Senanayake and Mr. Mahadeva. They were all discussing the sorry state of disunity in the country. Sir Arunachalam was very sorry that a few seats more or less for the minorities should divide the country and make it forget the larger interests of the Island. While discussing these, there stepped in Mr. Abdul Rahiman and Mr. Kanagaratnam. All joined in the discussions and decided to settle this question of political representation of minorities and decided on 7 or 8 more seats for the Tamils, 4 or 5 seats for Muslims and 2 or 3 additional seats for the Indians. Three of them were entrusted with the task of implementing this decision and seeing that in future no differences occurred. By now I woke up and how I sincerely wish that this was true.

## Mr. C. F. Andrews

By the death of Mr. C. F. Andrews, "humanity has lost a true son and servant." The great friend of India, he was perhaps the one link between England and Nationalist India. Though an Englishman, he was more of India embodying her ideas and ideals, her philosophy

and politics and was a true interpreter to the world at large of the aims and ideals of the new India. We in Ceylon remember him well. He paid two visits to this country, once as private Secretary to Poet Tagore and later while on a world tour. In his book "the Inner Life", Andrews refers to his visit to Ceylon:—"When I went on from Perth and Fremantle in Western Australia direct to Ceylon", he writes, "I had come back to the East once more. It had been my full intention to go round to the colleges in Ceylon and afterwards in India giving the same message concerning the presence of Christ in the daily life, which I had already delivered in New Zealand, Australia and Fiji. But my health, which had been precarious all through the tour, would not allow me to do so, and instead of this I was able to remain for several weeks at Trinity College, Kandy, writing my book on 'Christ and Prayer', which contained many of the thoughts that I had intended to explain in person."

Readers of the "Hindu Organ" will still remember the message he sent wishing the paper success on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

## Indian Visitor to Jaffna

Information has been received by the President of the Youth Congress from the Editor "Ananda Vikatan" that Mr. Rajagopalachariar, the Indian leader, will not be able to attend the sessions of the Youth Congress this month, but has deputed his colleague Mr. Ramanathan, Minister for Propaganda in the Madras Congress cabinet to attend the sessions. Mr. Ramanathan will deliver the message of goodwill of nationalist India. I hope our leaders will take a lesson from this message. I hear also that Chinnakam during the sessions would attract some distinguished leaders from South Ceylon. Among those expected are Messrs Senanayake, Corea, Gonesinghe, Jayawardene and Dudley Senanayake. These leaders will offer the hand of friendship and co-operation of the Sinhalese. Let us take this opportunity to reciprocate this offer of goodwill. Jaffna, I dare say, will rise to the occasion.

## Summer School of Music

I can now definitely say that all attempts to hold the Summer School of Music this month have failed, due largely to the party feelings in the committee in charge of the arrangements. The management, I believe, is in the hands of an unofficial committee. Now it is high time the Education Department thought it fit to take up the control of music education into its hands instead of allowing the poor students suffer owing to the vagaries of a few individuals.

## 1940 C. C. S. Examination

According to a Press Communique issued on Friday, arrangements are in contemplation for the holding of an open competitive examination for cadetships in the Ceylon Civil Service in 1940.

## MURMURING

By R. A. N.  
(Penang Road, Singapore)

Most of our countrymen, a majority of whom are Government Servants, go to their mother country to spend their precious holiday which they get once in six or seven years. When they return we hear them complain about the monopolization of the Jaffna trade by the foreigners. They say that the Grand Bazaar is monopolized by the North Indian traders and the South Indian Muslims and as a consequence of which thousands of rupees are going out of the country daily.

I know the Jaffna Trading Company and the Jaffna Commercial Corporation. They were started by some of our honest and enterprising men. The Jaffna Trading Company was started by the Rev. T. P. Hunt who took an earnest interest till his death to bring the company to a success. On the other hand the success of the Commercial Corporation under the late Mr. William Mather as Managing Director was evidenced by the good dividends the shareholders of that Corporation had until his death. We are also aware of the many similar trading and agricultural companies which our industrious men started and of their fateful results.

The late Mr. A. Sabapathy, Editor of the "Hindu Organ" and a Member of the then existing Legislative Council, was one of the Directors of the Commercial Corporation. Once he went to the office of the Corporation on a surprise audit. He asked the Cashier for the account book and for the balance of cash in hand. The Cashier placed bundles of notes, each containing rupees one thousand before him. When the Cashier was asked to untie the bundles which he never expected, his trick was discovered, for in them were enclosed small notes. At once the Cashier was dismissed from office. Mr. William Mather made good the shortage from the security given by the Cashier.

One of the subsequent editors of the "Hindu Organ" once published in that paper an article condemning Mr. Edward Mather's act as Manager of the Corporation. His arguments against Mr. Edward Mather were that Mr. Mather was making use of the Office of the Corporation for prayer meetings, Christian propaganda and other private work not at all connected with the business of the Corporation.

Mr. Edward Mather brought a defamation case against the Editor. What did our public spirited leaders in Jaffna do in the matter?

What is it that we have heard or read in papers some two or three years back... Certain leaders of the community made scandalising statements in the press and as well as from platforms against the Manager of the Hindu Board of Education. Neither a defamation case was taken by the Manager, nor the Board and an apology demanded from the so-called scandalisers nor did he admit the charges publicly. Where are our Hindu leaders? Of course they

## MR C. F. ANDREWS PASSES AWAY

"Not Known a Better Man," Says Gandhiji

Calcutta, April 5.

Mr. C. F. Andrews died this morning at Dr. Riordan's nursing home, where he was operated on for a second time on March 31.

His end was peaceful.

"In the death of Mr. Andrews not only India but humanity has lost a true son and servant and yet his death is a deliverance from pain and the fulfilment of his mission on this mission on this earth" says Mr. Gandhiji.

Mr. Gandhiji adds: "He will live through those thousands who enriched themselves by personal contact or contact with his writings.

"In my opinion Charlie Andrews was one of the greatest and best Englishmen, and because he was a good son of England, he became also a son of India and he did it all for the sake of humanity and for his Lord and Master Jesus Christ. I have not known a better man or a better Christian than Mr. Andrews. "India bestowed on him the title of Dinabandhu. He deserved it because he was a true friend of the poor and down-trodden of all climes."

know which side of the bread is buttered.

We want independent, public spirited, honest, active, patriotic businessmen all over the thirty two parishes of the Jaffna peninsula and the adjoining Islands. Now we cannot find a gentleman with the characteristics of the late Mr. Sabapathy or the type of the late Mr. William Mather any where in Jaffna.

There is no use of murmuring from a place a thousand five hundred miles away. We are such stuff as dreams are made of and our lives are surrounded with a sleep.

Many of us must go to Jaffna and settle there to set an example to our countrymen who never saw a mountain higher than our 'Keerimalai' or a river deeper than our 'Valukkai-aru'.

The present manager of the 'Hindu Organ' is a gentleman from Malaya and we see many of our Malayan pensioners in the Village Committees doing useful work and who take a leading part in various public activities. We must go back to teach the illiterate masses in their daily work and on their self respect. Idleness consumes men more than rust does iron. A man of indefatigable industry could never be idle.

Had Mr. Balasingam been sent to the State Council to represent the Tamils he would have been appointed as one of the Ministers and many of the needs of Jaffna would have been rectified by this time and he would be sure to lead the other Ministers in the hours of error.

Unless we purify the palmyra fruit and the Jaffna man of their hereditary bitterness poverty will encircle Jaffna,

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

## Railway Improvement and Reduction in Expenditure

Sir,—There are at present three divisions in the Ceylon Railways, each under a Divisional Superintendent and their headquarters are Colombo, Nawalapitya and Anuradhapura. These officers are responsible for the care, maintenance and distribution of engines, obtain passenger and goods traffic, look after its receipt and delivery, arrange time-tables, distribute rolling stock etc., etc.

The station officials are primarily charged with the duties mentioned above. These three divisional officers receive information and reports from the Station Masters in the respective areas and collate same and pass to the General Manager for orders or in other words, they are no better than forwarding agents. Without loss of efficiency and with a good deal of economy, these officers can still do their work having Colombo as their headquarters. I would therefore suggest that the three Divisional Officers be merged with the General Manager's office. The amalgamation would result in considerable savings and as the duties of the three Divisional officers and their assistants are supervisory in nature, it makes no difference so far as efficiency is concerned whether the supervision is made from a distance of 100 miles or 200 miles. In India and other places there are divisions extending over 700 or even 1000 miles. Almost all the important traffic centres are connected with the Train Control telephones and with other means of modern communication available in the country. I repeat that not an iota of efficiency will be lost. The amalgamation would also result in the elimination of clerical and statistical work, the cost of which is pretty heavy. Besides there will be co-ordination which will result in speedy decisions and actions.

In place of the three Divisional Superintendents and several assistants, there should be a traffic and loco Inspector's combined office with one or two clerks at most. The duties of these officers will be to arrange relief for staff going on sick, short leave and make investigations about train delays, delay to goods in transit, pilferages and other disciplinary matters. They should have very little writing work to

## LOCAL EDUCATION COMMISSION

### Committee's Decision

Colombo, Friday.

It is understood that the Executive Committee of Education decided at a meeting yesterday to recommend the appointment of a local Commission to investigate and report on the Island's educational problems.

#### Proposed Constitution

The Executive Committee is of opinion that the Commission should consist of its Chairman (the Minister of Education) and the other members of the Executive Committee, together with ten other persons interested in the work of education, including some of the Principals of the secondary schools.

The question came up for discussion yesterday on the motion on the subject moved by Mr. E. A. Nugawela, the member for Galagedera.

The Executive Committee decided to report to the State Council against the motion, which asks for the appointment of a Commission from abroad.

An amendment to the effect that a local Commission should be appointed was adopted by the State Council.

do and spend their time travelling frequently on line.

The Hammond Commission commented that "The Railway has taken practically no step to 'sell its wares' either by constant study of its clients' needs or by publicity while its rivals have been active in both fields". There is commendable activity on these lines just now and my personal opinion is that, if the railway employees take efficient steps in their own sphere of activity to safeguard the legitimate revenue of the railway and feel that their prospects depend on the fortunes of the railway, the deficit would soon be a thing of the past. Recently the railway has gone in for costly schemes such as the diesel electric, improvements of third class coaches etc. but when the legitimate revenue is defrauded with or without the collusion of railway members, no progressive policy will save the Railway.

In the interest of the taxpayers, I earnestly hope the Hon'ble the Ministers would now forget Bracegirdle and Govindan and set themselves to put right one of the outstanding problems of the country today.

Yours etc.,  
S. VYDIALINGAM.

## The Russian Bogey

(Continued from page 1)

of the greatest military debacles of all history.

### Military Supplies

So much for the general military and strategical considerations. What of the other elements in this problem? Take the question of military supplies. Where are the Russians to get the colossal amounts of ammunition, oil and petrol, transport and equipment of all kinds which would be necessary for war on the scale and over the distances involved in an attack on India? They have not got them. They could not get them, and even if they could, they could not transport them.

Then there is the human side to consider. The two countries which would be invaded, namely, Afghanistan and Iran, would certainly fight, while India would be united by the Russian threat as never before. A united India would oppose the Russian attack if, indeed, it ever got as far as the Gates of India, which is very unlikely.

Can the same be said of Russia? The answer is very definitely in the negative. Apart from the present purges and intrigues and dissensions which tear the Soviet Union, the first defeat of the Russians in an attempted attack on India would lead to immediate and widespread revolts of the Muhammadan peoples of Russian Turkistan and possibly further afield to the Chinese border. This is a consideration which will make even the Comrades in Moscow walk warily.

But, perhaps, most decisive of all is the corruption and inefficiency of the Communist regime which has been exposed to the eyes of all the world by the campaign in Finland. The first real test has shown up the much vaunted Communist regime for what it is—a rotten and decadent version of the old Tsar's Russia. This is not a regime to undertake a task which was ludicrously beyond the powers of even Napoleon and his incomparable army in their prime

## Idealism Vs Expediency

(Continued from page 1)

ans, and the rest. The same thing should be done in the Village Committees. This is the last thing our communalists would desire or recommend. Hence their fifty-fifty representation cannot be called an ideal.

The milder sort of communalists take a different view of the fifty-fifty demand. They say that, like Chinese pedlers, they are only exaggerating their claims. When the China-man mentions as the price of an article a figure four times its reasonable price, he hopes against hope that he might be able to strike an unconscionable bargain in his favour; but very often he gets an offer which is a quarter of the true value of the article. Even as a means of striking an unconscionable bargain against the majority community the fifty-fifty demand is not of any use because very few would fail to see its patent absurdity. That a motley crowd of sectional, communal or vested interests should override the wishes of the majority of the people of any country is not Democracy but the negation of it. The Indian communalists led by Mr. Jinnah are more logical when they ask for a separate state for the Muslims, where they would be in a majority. But the Jaffna communalists cannot be so logical because they know what the consequence will be if the Northern Province is cut off from the rest of the Island. This is an end which the worst of them would not desire to see. The real difficulty with our communalists is their inability to see much beyond their noses. There are times when one is tempted even to say like the wise dog Quoodle in Chesterton's poem: "They haven't got no noses, the fallen sons of Eve".

Set against that the modernised, mechanised, highly trained and equipped Indian Army with all its supplies and reinforcements close at hand and the limitless resources of the Empire to draw upon. The talk of a Russian invasion of India is nonsense.

(The "Yorkshire Post")

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(M)

## Efforts to Bring about Sinhalese-Tamil Unity

(Continued from page 2)

were not a minority community, but a major community. If the two major communities could come together there would be a united Ceylon and difficulties in the way of attaining self-government would be removed. He also emphasised that they should not do anything that could be misconstrued as obstructing self government or would besmirch the fair name of the Tamil community. It was desirable that they should close up their ranks with their Sinhalese brethren and make a united march towards self-government. He thanked the Conference again and appealed to them to be business like and patriotic.

### Why He Convened the Conference

Mr. V. Nagalingam, Editor "Hindu Organ" then addressing the Conference said:—

Let me at the outset thank you from the bottom of my heart for having responded to my invitation to this conference. You may wonder why I, as editor of the "Hindu Organ" have taken upon myself the task of convening this conference to discuss a matter of vital importance to our community as well as to our country. I can assure you I have done this bit of service not in a spirit of vanity but in a spirit of humility, actuated by no other consideration than the well-being of our people. You may know that the "Hindu Organ" has all along striven to the best of its abilities to secure Sinhalese-Tamil unity as a necessary condition of the economic prosperity of our community as well as of the political advance of our country. It is in fulfilment of that policy of the paper that I have undertaken this task. Apart from this fact, some responsible Sinhalese leaders as well as several Tamil gentlemen of light and leading, most of whom I am glad to find here, today, asked me if the "Hindu Organ" could bring together men of progressive views so as to make them put their heads together and discuss the points at issue between the two major communities. This conference is my answer to that request. This is the explanation that I give you.

Without taking much of your time, I shall just touch upon the salient points in regard to the question of constitutional reforms which

deserve your attention and on which you should come to such definite decisions as would help to resolve our political differences and re-establish real and lasting understanding between the Sinhalese and the Tamils. The representation of the Northern and the Eastern Provinces in the Legislature, the Public Services Commission, the Cabinet system of Government and the Reserve Powers of the Governor are admittedly the most important points that merit your earnest and statesmanlike consideration. I would only appeal to you to conduct the deliberations of this conference in a businesslike manner and in a spirit of give and take, so that our sincere efforts in the matter of Sinhalese Tamil unity may be crowned with success. I would deem this task—though unenviable—amply rewarded if the conference could come to an agreement on all outstanding points."

### Committee to Negotiate

The Conference then considered the outstanding questions like representation for the Northern and Eastern Provinces, Cabinet System, Public Services Commission and Governor's powers and reached unanimous decisions on them.

The following committee with full powers were appointed to implement the decisions of the conference and arrive at a settlement of the questions at issue in regard to the reform of the Constitution in a spirit of mutual adjustment:—

Mr. R. R. Nalliah, Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Mr. Sam Sabapathy (Secretary) Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam, Mr. J. V. Chelliah, Madaliyar V. Ponnambalam, Mr. K. Muttukumar, Mr. V. Sivasubramanian and Rev. James S. Mather.

The President in his concluding remarks thanked the members and particularly the Editor of the "Hindu Organ" who had brought about that important Conference.

Mr. Sam Sabapathy then proposed a vote of thanks to the chair Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam seconded.

Mr. S. H. Perinpanayagam proposed a vote of thanks to the Editor of the "Hindu Organ" for the bold and correct lead he had given and added that all praise was due to that paper for the great service it had done for the community and the country. This was carried with loud and prolonged applause.

## EMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

### Further Action by Indian Govt

New Delhi, April 5.

A number of questions on Indians in Ceylon and Malaya were asked by Pandit Hridaynath Kunzru in the Council of State.

Mr. J. D. Tyson, Education Secretary in reply, said that representations had been received for relaxing the restrictions on the emigration of labour to Ceylon to enable the labourers detained in India on account of the restrictions, to rejoin their families, which were in Ceylon.

No general relaxation in favour of such labourers was contemplated but the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, had discretion to grant exemption in hard cases, and he had exercised this discretion in 189 cases from August 1, 1939, to February 10, 1940. The number of applications for exemptions, however was 4,166.

### Agreement not Reached

The Education Secretary denied that the Government of India had reached an agreement with the Ceylon Government on this subject.

Mr. Tyson said that the Ceylon Government had not yet repatriated Indian workers with less than five years' service. The voluntary repatriation scheme affecting those with more than five years' and less than ten years' service had been brought into effect, as a result of which 170 Indians had returned to India.

The question of further action against the Ceylon Government was engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Mr. Tyson added that the possibility of provision of increased wages by additions based upon the increased cost of living, due to war conditions, was now engaging the attention of the authorities in Ceylon.

## Obituary

### MR. S. ARUMUGAM

The death occurred on Friday at his residence at Udavil of Mr. Saravanamuttu Arumugam, I. S. M., retired Hospital Assistant, F. M. S., and brother of Mr. S. Sabapathipillai, Notary Public. The funeral took place the next day and was largely attended.

The deceased had served in the Pabang War. He leaves behind three sons—Messrs Doraiswamy, Kumaraswamy and Arumugasamy—and two daughters and his sons-in-law, Mr. Vaitilingam, planter and Mr. E. Chinniah, Accountant-General's Office, Burma, and a host of relatives and friends with whom much sympathy will be felt.

### C. F. Andrews Memorial Meeting

Under the auspices of the Jaffna Y. M. C. A., a public meeting will be held in the Y. M. C. A. Hall in Main Street on Thursday, April 11, at 6.30 p. m. to pay homage to the memory of this great servant of India and humanity.

Several Christian and Hindu leaders are expected to take part.

## All Asia Peace Conference

Calcutta, Saturday.

The second All-Asia Conference for World Peace and International Fellowship and the Fifth International Convention of World Fellowship of faiths will be held at Anuradhapura, Ceylon, on May 17th, 18th and 19th according to information received here.

The names of the Maharaja of Pithapuram (President of the Fourth Convention of the World Fellowship of Faiths held at Madras), the Maharajah of Baroda and Jai Prithvi Raj, Bahadur of Bangalore, have been suggested for the Presidentship of the conference and convention.

It is learnt that Mahatma Gandhi has promised to send a message. A large number of delegates from different parts of Asia are expected to attend the sessions.

## A New Proctor

Mr. A. Arulambalam, Proctor S. C., has returned to Jaffna after taking his oath in Colombo. He will practise in Jaffna.

Mr. Arulambalam is the eldest son of Mr. A. Ambalawane, Proctor, Neeraviady, Vannarponne.

## Auction Sale

D. C. J. 14579

Ramalingam Adigar Rajagopal of Vannarponna West

Vs.  
1. Murgesan Selvanayagam and wife  
2. Ponnammah of Nallur presently of Kuala Lumpur F. M. S.

### PROPERTIES

1. A piece of land called, Ampodiveli and other parcels in extent 4 Lms. V. C. with palmyrahs and cultivated and spontaneous plantations and share of well standing on the Northern land with the right of way and watercourse situated at Nallur in the parish of Nallur and bounded on the East and South by the property of Annammah widow of Thambiah, North by the property of Thangam wife of Chinniah and shareholders and that of the 2nd defendant and West by pond.

2. An undivided half share of a piece of land called Ampodiveli in extent 5½ Lms. V. C. with cultivated and spontaneous plantations with share of well in the Eastern land and the right of way and watercourse situated at Nallur and bounded on the East by the road, North by Thangammah wife of Kanapathipillai, West by lane and South by channel.

3. A piece of land called Ampodiveli and other parcels in extent 3 Lms. V. C. with sheds, plantations and share of well in the Eastern land and the right of way and watercourse situated at Nallur and bounded on the East by the property of Saravanamuttu Nagalingam and shareholders and the frontage of a path, North by the property of Sabapathy Chellappah, West by pond and South by the property of the 2nd defendant with the right of using the path along the North of the Eastern land.

In terms of the commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in Case No. 14579 D. C. J. I shall sell the above properties by public auction on Saturday the 4th May 1940 at about 4 p. m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,  
Commissioner,

(Mis. 6. S+4-10.)

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### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFFNA

(held at Pt. Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction  
No. 118 P. T.

In the matter of the intestate estate  
of Sivapakiam wife of Rasiah  
of Karaveddi North. Deceased.  
Sithamparapillai Rasiah of Kara-  
veddi North presently of Dehiwala

Vs. Petitioner.

Minor. 1. Thavamani daughter of  
Rasiah of Karaveddy  
North

2. Kathirasipillai widow  
of Kandiah of do  
Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal  
before E. V. R. Samarawickrema  
Esquire, Additional District Judge, of  
Jaffna, on the 14th day of March  
1940 in the presence of Mr. T. Bala-  
krishnan, Proctor on the part of the  
petitioner abovenamed and the affida-  
vit of the said petitioner dated 12th  
March 1940 having been read:

It is ordered that the petitioner  
abovenamed be and he is hereby de-  
clared entitled, as the husband of the  
deceased abovenamed, to have Let-  
ters of Administration to her estate  
issued to him, unless the respondents  
or any other person or persons, inter-  
ested shall, on or before the 11th  
day of April 1940 show sufficient  
cause to the satisfaction of this Court  
to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the above-  
named 2nd respondent be and she  
is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-  
litem over the minor the 1st res-  
pondent abovenamed for all the pur-  
poses of this action unless the res-  
pondents shall on or before the 11th  
day of April 1940 show sufficient  
cause to the satisfaction of this Court  
to the contrary.

The 14th day of March 1940.

Sgd. E. V. R. Samarawickrema,  
Additional District Judge.

(O. 88. 4 & 8-4-40.)

No 500

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 821  
In the matter of the intestate estate  
of the late Arulambalam Yokes-  
waram of Vannarponnai in Jaffna  
Deceased.

Arulambalam Somasanta of Vannar-  
ponnai West Jaffna

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Yogammah widow of Arulamba-  
lam of Vannarponnai West  
2. Sivamany widow of Yokeswaram  
of Sivalingapuliyady Oddu-  
madam Jaffna. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal  
before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire,  
District Judge, Jaffna, on the 11th  
day of January 1940 in the presence  
of Mr. V. Navaratna Rajah, Proctor,  
for the petitioner and an affidavit of  
the petitioner dated the 17th day of  
November 1939 having been read;

It is ordered that Letters of Ad-  
ministration to the Estate of the  
abovenamed deceased be issued to  
the petitioner accordingly as he is a  
brother of the deceased unless the  
Respondents or any other person or  
persons interested shall appear be-  
fore this Court on or before the 8th  
day of April 1940 and show sufficient  
cause if any to the satisfaction of the  
Court to the contrary.

This 11th day of January 1940.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge.

(O. 87. 4 & 8-3-40)

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[Mis. 242. 4-1-40 to 31-5-40]

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