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NO. 17.

ASSESSMENTS TO BE REVISED

U. C. CHAIRMAN'S INTENTION

RATEPAYERS' INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER

"I intend revising all assessments I consider inequitable regardless of the fact that objections were sent in time or not *ex mero motu*" said Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Chairman, Urban Council, Jaffna, in an interview with a representative of the "Hindu Organ", regarding the new assessments of properties in the Jaffna Town.

Explaining the circumstances under which the new assessment came into operation, Mr. Ponnambalam said:

"On the suggestion of the President, Local Government Board, the Jaffna Urban Council decided unanimously to get the annual value of the properties assessed by the Local Govt. Valuer. The Local Govt. Valuer was requested to commence work in 1939 so that notices of assessments for 1940 could be issued in time. But the notices of assessment for 1940 for only wards Nos. 1 and 5 were ready in 1939 and were issued in 1939 before I assumed office. After I assumed office I continued to issue notices of assessments to the other wards and all assessment notices have been duly served and collections for the first quarter for 1940 have begun."

At this stage questioned by our representative regarding the report in the papers about the interview of the deputation of the Central Ratepayers Association with the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration, Mr. Ponnambalam stated that he had received a letter from the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration dated 1st of June 1940 to the effect that by issuing notices of assessment the Council had adopted the valuation for 1940, and the legal method of revising the valuations was to inquire into the objections sent by the ratepayers within one month of the service of the notice of assessment. It was clearly stated in the letter that in the case of those who had not sent objections within one month the valuation was final for the year. The Minister further stated in his letter that he could not accede to the request and introduce special legislation as he considered such a step as against public policy.

"In spite of the view expressed by the Minister", said Mr. Ponnambalam, "I intend revising all assessments I consider inequitable regardless of the fact that objections were sent in time or not *ex mero*

Maternity Home At Pallai

Very High Infant Mortality Rate

Mrs. M. Prasad, wife of the Government Agent, Northern Province, speaking on the occasion of the opening of a maternity home at Pallai recalled the fact that Pallai was the first place in the Island where coconut planting was started on a commercial basis.

Dr. S. C. Thurairajah, Medical Officer of Health, Jaffna, addressing the gathering, recalled that Pallai was once a flourishing place, but had deteriorated considerably within the last twenty five years, and the vital statistics showed very high infant mortality rates. The opening of that home, he hoped, would bring about a radical improvement in the health of the people.

Mr. Prasad said that Pallai had become very important in the last few years, but the opening of that home would, he was sure, bring about a considerable change in the history of that small town.

On being invited by Dr. N. Kelaart, Medical Officer of Health, Anuradhapura, Mrs. Prasad declared the home open.

Dr. S. Sabaratnam proposed a vote of thanks.

Deputy Chief Secretary

The Governor has, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, approved the appointment of Mr. C. H. Collins to be Deputy Chief Secretary in succession to Mr. G. S. Wodeman.

motu.

In a very large number of cases, assessments have been reduced and it will be unjust to those who will have to pay less under the new assessment if the 1939 assessment was adopted although we have no power to do so now. I consider that on the whole the assessment is equitable but in many instances mistakes have been made by giving annual value to huts and dilapidated mud houses. I intend revising the assessment so that no annual value would be given to huts, old mud houses etc. My object shall be to see that as little hardship as possible is caused to the comparatively poor ratepayers. I am acting in the best interests of the ratepayers and our budget for 1940 has been framed on the basis that there would be increased revenue from assessments. I do not want the financial position of the Council to be in any way affected and the fair name of Jaffna tarnished.

Court of Criminal Appeal

First Sitting

Mr. S. Rajaratnam First to Propose

THE newly established Court of Criminal Appeal had its first sitting on Monday. The Chief Justice, Mr. J. C. Howard, with Mr. Justice Keuneman and Mr. Justice Nihill mounted the Bench at 11 a.m.

Before the work for the day began the Chief Justice, addressing the Attorney-General, said:—

"I do not consider the occasion of the first sitting of the Court of Criminal Appeal in Ceylon should be allowed to pass without a few words from me with regard to its establishment. The realisation of the necessity for such a Court is not a matter of recent growth. For some time past the Judiciary, the Law Officers of the Crown, the Bar and those elements of political life who understand the real meaning of Justice have appreciated the fact that without such a Court a link was missing in our code of judicial procedure. The matter has year in and year out been the subject of consideration by the Government but in spite of its urgency it had always been shelved on account of financial stringency."

Continuing, the Chief Justice said that it remained for all those concerned in the administration of Justice by their actions to ensure that the establishment of this Court was a real measure of reform and not merely an avenue whereby the guilty could escape from punishment duly merited by their crimes.

Attorney-General's Reply

Mr. J. W. R. Ilangakoon, K. C., Attorney-General in his reply after commenting on the procedure which had existed hitherto of leaving it to the presiding Judge at an Assize Court trial or the Attorney-General to reserve a question of law arising at the trial for the consideration of a fuller Bench of the Supreme Court continued:—

"The establishment of this Court, My Lord, will not only be a welcome relief to those prisoners who have the misfortune to be convicted at a Supreme Court trial but also remove a great weight off the mind of the Presiding Judge and the Attorney-General. Your Lordship has made a brief reference to the history attaching to the establishment of this Court. We are aware of the difficulties that had to be surmounted since the first proposal to establish the Court of Criminal Appeal in this country

DEMAND FOR CEYLON RICE

ANURADHAPURA MILL RUNNING AT A LOSS

MARKETING COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

THE outbreak of War on September 1 had a considerable effect upon the work of the Agricultural Marketing Department, as it resulted in the beginning of the Food Drive, the produce of which will come to the Department for disposal, says the Marketing Commissioner Mr. R. H. Bassett, in his Administration Report for 1939.

The Report deals mainly with Ceylon rice and the working of the Anuradhapura Rice Mill.

The policy of the Anuradhapura Rice Mill, says Mr. Bassett, has remained the same, i. e., (a) To increase the demand for Ceylon rice, (b) To increase the supply to meet this demand by paying a price for paddy that makes it worth while to grow, regardless of the effect of this price upon the profit and loss account of the Mill.

The average price paid through the year has been Rs. 1.55 per bushel of paddy, at which rate the mill bought 60,754 bushels of paddy, or 27,413 bushels more than last year, paying to the paddy industry Rs. 95,325. Of these 60,754 bushels of paddy 51,400 bushels were converted into 23,904 bushels of rice. It can thus be seen that approximately 2 1/4 bushels of paddy are required to produce one bushel of rice; of this about 1/4 bushel of paddy consists of dead grain and dirt.

Satisfactory

The amount of paddy bought and the price paid can be regarded as satisfactory, while the demand for Ceylon rice has been increased by quite 100 per cent during the year. The public have eaten 23,904 bushels of Government Mill rice and at least as much again and more of other Ceylon rice has been sold at the Old Town Hall Market.

The Anuradhapura mill is thus doing the service required of it at a loss, this year, of Rs. 27,246.12.

If we take the average market price of paddy at Anuradhapura

(Continued on Page 3.)

was made in 1925 in the Legislative Council by the Hon. Mr. S. Rajaratnam.

Continuing the Attorney-General said that it was gratifying to them that the Chief Justice, who as Legal Secretary, was principally responsible for the creation of this Court, should be its first President.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1940.

PROTEST AGAINST NEW RATES

THE NEW ASSESSMENT RATES for town properties, fixed on the basis of the recent valuation by the Local Government Valuer, have caused some discontent among the rate-payers. The scientific assessment, as it is called, has, we fear, lost sight of one consideration that ought to have weighed in the valuation of properties in Jaffna, that is, the difference in value of the properties, according to their situation. No doubt in many instances in which a reduction in value has been given this consideration seemed to have influenced the Valuer. But in a good number of cases where substantial increases have been effected, the rental values of properties seem to have been over-assessed, irrespective of their situation and capacity to earn the assessed rental. This seems to us to be the general complaint against the new assessment rates.

The new rates have come into effect and their collection for the first quarter of 1940 has already begun. Even those who have filed objections are now expected to pay the new rates. There are several who have failed to lodge their objections within the prescribed time and are thus legally bound to pay the new rates. We are happy to find that the Chairman of the Urban Council has found a workable solution to this problem by extending the date for objections till the 18th instant. He has issued to that effect a notice which also lays down that all new rates for the first quarter should be paid before the end of this month and that after revision if any property is found to have paid more than the revised rate, the excess would be deducted from the collection for the second quarter. We feel this concession to the rate-payers' demands is reasonable and should be acceptable to them.

In the proposed revision of rates, care should be taken to see that hardly any room is left for complaint. An arbitrary fixing of values based only on the size of a property should be avoided. Due consideration should be given to the economic advantages a particular property enjoys, in assessing its value. We hope the Urban Council will be able to solve this problem to the satisfaction of the rate-payers.

NEWS AND VIEWS

By 'Wayfarer.'

Teachers and Politics

In Jaffna public life no handle is too bad to strike your adversary with. There is no room for honest differences of opinion and the moment you happen to take a view different from that of those self-constituted leaders of public opinion, you are summarily branded a traitor to the country. This explains the deliberate and insidious attempts that are being made to gag the members of the teaching profession and to shut them out from public life altogether. The great influence that teachers, with their education, culture and idealism, wield in the country is a red rag in their eyes and they are moving heaven and earth, as is evidenced by the correspondence in a certain section of the press, to hound the teachers out of public life, so that they may have an open and free field for their own exploits.

The Real Issue

Setting aside the political views of individual teachers we should consider whether it is fair to impose a general ban on the whole body of teachers. The contribution that teachers can and should make to the advancement of the country has been well pointed out by the Editor of the "Hindu Organ" in his leader on Teachers and politics. But there is another important consideration. We know that many persons with high academic qualifications, resisting the lure of government service joined the teaching profession because, by so doing, they thought they could share in the political life of the country. A Government Servant with a good salary scheme, rent allowance, travelling facilities, security of tenure, widows' and orphans' fund, and the so-called hidden emoluments of the public service, is certainly much better placed than a teacher of corresponding or better qualifications. Why then envy the teacher whose only consolation for the lack of the above facilities is that he can take part in politics? Is it not a breach of contract to prevent a teacher, who joined the teaching profession on the definite understanding that he need not by so doing surrender any of his right of citizenship, from exercising those rights. If politics is a dirty game, is there not, therefore, a greater need for members of the noblest of professions, to cleanse our public life?

Intense Politics

But a line has to be drawn somewhere. We grant that teachers should have the right of expressing in public their views on current political questions and of influencing public opinion. But we do not think that it would be in the best interests of a school, if the Principal or a teacher of that school should make use of his position in school to further his own political ends. It is not playing fair by that school if he does anything to embarrass the position of the other teachers and students. Rival camps will spring up in schools, and if it is the Principal who is engaged in the political strife, his rapacious assistants there will be who will not hesitate to exploit the position for their own advancement or to cover up their own deficiencies. Such schools are bound to suffer. We see that the really first grade schools in Jaffna are those, whose Principals have no political ambitions.

The Carnival

If one judged only from the correspondence in the "Times", the Carnival was bound to be a dismal failure. Had not the Jaffna Hindu College Old Boys Association in Colombo passed a resolution non-co-operating. An old boy signing himself "Jaffna Hindu" had felt re-

SWAMI MADHAYANANDAJI IN JAFFNA

PUBLIC RECEPTION AT
VIDYALAYA

WORSHIP OF GOD IN
MAN

SRIMATH Swami Madhavanandaji General Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission and Math, was accorded a public reception on Monday at the Vaideshwara Vidyalaya.

The Swami arrived on Monday in the company of Swami Asangananda and was received at the Jaffna railway station by Dr. S. Subramaniam, Chairman of the Reception Committee, Mudaliyar C. Canapathipillai and S. Ambikaipakan, joint secretaries, and other members of the Reception Committee. The Swami was the guest of Dr. Subramaniam. At 5 p. m. on Monday, the Swami was taken in procession to the Vidyalaya, where a public reception was accorded to him. Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge, presided and there was a large gathering present.

Mr. Coomaraswamy, extending a hearty welcome to the Swami referred to his deep scholarship and the noble work the Mission was carrying on both in the West and in the East. He referred particularly to the activities of the Mission in the Eastern Province which had earned the admiration of everyone who visited the centre. What the world needed most at this time when the nations were at war with one another, were the teachings of Sri Ramakrishna whose message of love and service to humanity the Mission was so effectively carrying to all parts of the world.

An address of welcome was then read by Mudaliyar Canapathipillai, one of the joint Secretaries of the Reception Committee, and presented to the Swami.

The address was an illuminated one and artistically executed. "I

believed that H. E. the Governor was not going to Jaffna. In the imagination of some people, stones were pelted on the pandals almost daily. What grotesque lie these prophets of evil were perpetrating, the 1½ lakhs of people who visited the carnival can testify. It was a great delight to see the whole of Jaffna rally round its national institution, while the enthusiasm the celebrations generated among the old boys was indeed tremendous. Those of us who feel that we are ageing became really rejuvenated when we saw some of our old masters as active as the youngest student of the College, and entering into the fun and frolic of the Carnival with all the zest and bonhomie of a young man in his teens. Mr. N. Sangarapillai grave and staid by nature, waxing eloquent over the charms of the photograph he art to an unwilling visitor and wangling a ten cent coin out of him, Mr. C. M. Culasingham assiduously explaining to batches after batches of not only attentive school girls but also of impatient boys, the intricacies of modern sea warfare, Mr. V. Nagalingam that friend, philosopher and guide of many generations of students, striding round the Exhibition grounds as if the whole place belonged to him, meeting and renewing acquaintance with old boys and advertising in his own inimitable way the merits of each stall—these were sights which made the old Jaffna Hindu heart jump with joy.

is our hope' the address stated "that your visit to this Island will inaugurate a new era of work and activities for the Mission in Ceylon in the direction of Sevashrams, Students' Homes and Hospitals".

The Swami replying expressed his deep thankfulness for the cordial reception accorded to him. He referred to the hope expressed in the address as regards the inauguration of fresh activities by the Mission in Ceylon and said that shortage of hands put a curb on expanding their activities. There were only about 500 of them and the demands on them were so great that it would not be possible to launch on fresh activities. The work they had already taken in hand demanded more men and money, and if these were forthcoming there would be no difficulty in acceding to their request. The Ramakrishna Mission, the Swami continued, believed that all religions were paths to the same Godhead and as such had gained the admiration of all sects. In the Christian countries in the west, Christianity was not interpreted correctly and the monks of the Ramakrishna Mission undertook the task of interpreting Christ and his teachings as an Indian understood them. This was greatly appreciated by the westerners. There was thus a great demand for more preachers of the Mission in the West which they were unable to meet.

The Swami explained the various forms in which they worshipped God. They believed in worshipping the God in man, by serving him in all possible ways, by means of Schools, Hospitals, relief works in times of visitations like famine, earthquake, floods and so on. This was done as a form of worship and not out of any feeling of pity or superiority.

In conclusion the Swami appealed to those present, as inheritors of the great Hindu culture, not to lose sight of their spiritual ideals but to strive in every activity of theirs to keep them in the forefront and to have a broad outlook on life and its problems.

Mr. T. Muttusamy, Advocate, proposed a vote of thanks to the Swami and the chair, and the function concluded with the singing of Thevaram.

On Tuesday, Swami visited the Jaffna Hindu College and addressed the students of the higher forms.

At 5 p.m. he delivered a public lecture at the Vaideshwara Vidyalaya on "Sri Ramakrishna and World Peace." Mr. M. Prasad, G. A. N. P., presided.

Mr. A. Comaraswamy, Principal, Jaffna Hindu College, proposed a vote of thanks to the Swami and the President.

The Swami left for India by the night mail on Tuesday.

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

Intermediate in Arts and Science Classes will commence on June 17th. Students whose work is found unsatisfactory and who fail to reach the standard by the end of the first term will be asked to leave.

A. CUMARASWAMY,
Principal.
(Mis. 53. 6 to 13 6-40.)

DENTAL NOTICE

S. Imai, (Japanese Dentist)
Colombo,
will be at Jaffna at Tiruchelvanam Buildings, Main Street, Jaffna, from 7th to 16th June, 1940.
(Mis. 48. 6-6-40.)

Demand for Ceylon Rice

(Continued from page 1)

throughout the year at Re. 1 per bushel, a figure which is usually about correct, it will be seen that the extra price of 55 cents per bushel paid by the mill to the paddy industry covers the loss on the profit and loss account, and turns it into a subsidy to the industry.

The average cost of milling a bushel of paddy is about 49 cents, so the cost of producing one bushel of rice is approximately Rs. 4.50. It now has to be remembered that Ceylon paddy is very prone to breakage, and about 40 per cent. of the rice sold is broken rice which fetches a low price. The best price at which it has been possible to sell the best Government Mill rice, in competition with Indian rice, is Rs. 4.20 per bushel in Colombo, above which the demand immediately falls.

Subsidy

The average selling price per bushel of rice of a 1 grades throughout the year was Rs. 3.28, so it will be seen that the loss on each bushel of rice milled and sold *ex mill* is about Rs. 1.22, a sum which it can definitely be said constitutes the subsidy which is necessary to make paddy growing worthwhile.

If one substitutes a price of Re. 1 per bushel for paddy, which is about the average price paid by a commercial hulling concern, the loss would be eliminated. I have taken considerable care to investigate whether it would be possible to reduce the overhead cost, and so, by reducing the cost of milling, pay part of the subsidy accruing from the price paid for paddy.

There is no indication of any leakage, since neither the Departmental Staff Officers, nor the Audit Department, were able to find any trace of this.

If the Anuradhapura mill is run strictly for its own production purposes there is room for reduction of staff, but we have had during the year to train mechanics, foremen, and other ranks to take their places at the Ambalantota and Batticaloa mills. When the salaries of these Officers are removed from the mill profit and loss account there is a saving of about Rs. 2,000 a year.

Breakage

The high percentage of breakage of Ceylon paddy is another point where a saving could be made, if we knew how to prevent it; but if there is any way of preventing this it is at present outside our knowledge, in spite of every sort of experiment during the last 4 years. Dead grain and dirt in the paddy is a further point where a saving will be made in the new mills, by means of a paddy cleaner. We have not got one at Anuradhapura and as it is a very expensive machine I have not yet decided that it will be worth while to make this investment on a small mill. It is possible to clean the paddy by hand, as it is bought, but the cost of doing so would be infinitely greater than any saving that would be effected.

Representatives of Messrs. Steel Brothers have inspected our mill and, exclusive of the extra staff being trained, they have pronounced it very economically run.

The mill machinery has worked through the year, 24 hours in every

day since October 9, without a single breakdown, and the engine has only had to be stopped for repairs for 3 days, although the necessary repair was rather serious.

Malaria has been bad throughout the year, in spite of all efforts to prevent it, and there is little doubt that in a healthier climate the mill staff, especially the labourers, would gain increased efficiency, although I would like to record my appreciation of the excellent way in which the whole staff has worked.

Compared with the personnel of a rice mill in Burma we are amateur millers, relying upon one month's training given us by Mr. Grant, the maker of the mill, and our own subsequent unguided experience. It is said to take 12 years to train a man fully to manage a big rice mill, and I think it probable that such a trained man would institute improvements in organization and technical execution of which we are totally unaware, thereby reducing the costs and probably improving the product.

The erection of the Ambalantota rice mill began in September and is now well advanced. The contract for the erection of the Batticaloa mill was signed late in the year.

Paddy

There have been complaints that the mill is too small to take a sufficient proportion of the crop of the Anuradhapura District, when therefore, the Government Agent of Batticaloa and the Assistant Government Agent, Puttalam, advertised for seed paddy the Marketing Department tendered through the Mill Manager and secured the contracts. In October and November, Rs. 57,000 worth of N. C. P., paddy was bought and sold for seed to these two customers. Through this transaction the paddy industry got the very fair price of Re. 1.50 per bushel, the Government Agents got good seed at a cheaper rate than before, and the Marketing Department made a net profit of Rs. 3,000.

Now that the Anuradhapura mill is working 24 hours in the day it has brought to light the fact that it is quite impracticable to buy the whole of the large quantity of paddy it requires direct from cultivators. The mill purchases from any cultivator who brings paddy, though it is obvious that the time and expenditure necessary to buy 55,000 bushels in lots of from 10 to 20 or 30 bushels would be totally uneconomical, both from the point of view of the cultivator, who has to wait his turn, and the mill, who will have to engage extra staff to deal with the situation. The solution of this problem is the formation of active co-operative societies, whose members pool their crops and bring them in bulk to the mill, thus saving transport charges, their own time, and the middleman's profit.

Satisfactory progress has continued in respect of the other numerous minor commodities with which the Marketing Department is connected which include milk, cocoa, eggs, canning, fruit juice, turtle oil, ghee and kurrakkan, vegetables and fruit, mee seed, gingelly seed, betel, jaggery preserves and jams and grape fruit.

The Stockists' system the Old Town Hall Market, Colpetty Depot and 'Ceylon Products' have continued to render valuable service to the public.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The Rebate on Jaffna Tobacco

Sir,—With reference to the statement appearing in your issue of the 27th ultimo that as a result of persistent representations of the Ceylon Government, the Travancore Government has given a rebate of Rs. 65 per candy on Jaffna tobacco, I am in a position to state from inquiries made in the proper quarters that no request was made by the Ceylon Government to the Travancore Government for this concession. It will be recalled that the increase of duty on Jaffna tobacco by the Travancore Government synchronised with the repatriation of Indian daily paid labourers under the Ceylon Government and that at that time I moved in the State Council that in view of the threatened ruin of the tobacco trade of Jaffna consequent upon the imposition of this increased duty, the Ceylon Government should suspend the repatriation of the Travancorean labourers with a view to starting immediate negotiations with the Travancore Government. This motion was not even allowed to be discussed in the State Council. The Board of Ministers, rejecting the course of action suggested in my motion, sought to meet the situation by providing a subsidy to the Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Society. In these circumstances, no representations were made by the Ceylon Government to the Travancore Government with regard to the enhanced duty on Jaffna tobacco and it is not correct to say that the Ceylon Government had anything to do with the rebate allowed by the Travancore Government.

There is another statement in your paper of the 27th ultimo which is likely to create a misconception. Reference is made in a vague manner to an interview which a deputation consisting of the Acting Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the President of the Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sales Society had with the authorities in Travancore. I understand that the last mentioned gentleman went to Quilon in connection with the business of the Co-operative Society with which he is associated. It was only the Acting Registrar of Co-operative Societies who had an opportunity of meeting the Dewan while sojourning in Travancore during the period of his study leave in India. But I am sure that the Acting Registrar of Co-operative Societies, knowing as he does his limited scope of authority, will not claim to have initiated and completed negotiations with the Dewan about the duty on Jaffna tobacco, while the Ceylon Government itself had for important reasons of policy deliberately refrained from that course of action. The Acting Registrar would have realised from his talk with the Dewan how much the Travancore Government resents the general attitude of the Ceylon Government towards Travancore and particularly the tariff policy of Ceylon in respect of imports from Travancore.

In fairness to the Acting Registrar, I must say that he has not claimed that the recent concession given by the Travancore Government was due to his efforts. On the contrary, I have the authority of the Minister of Agriculture to say that the Acting Registrar in his official report on his tour in Travancore referred to my mission in April last to the Dewan of Travancore in connexion with the question of duty on Jaffna tobacco. The Minister of Agriculture was good enough to thank me for my services to this public cause.

In this connection I might mention that ever since the Travancore

St. John's College, Jaffna

Post Matriculation Classes will begin on Wednesday the 12th of June. For admission students must have passed the London Matriculation Examination or its equivalent.

Inter Arts and Inter-Science Classes will begin on Monday the 17th of June. Admission Examination for these classes will be held from Monday to Thursday, 10 to 13th June. The following subjects may be taken:—English, History, Logic, Latin, Tamil, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology. A scholarship consisting of free tuition for the course will be awarded to the student who qualifies in all his subjects and obtains the highest aggregate of marks in the examination. Applications for admission should be sent on or before Saturday the 8th of June.

Pre-Medical Class. Arrangements are being made to start a Pre-Medical class from the 1st of July.

For further particulars apply to the Principal, St. John's College, Jaffna.

29th May 1940.

(Mis. 52. 6 & 10 6 40.)

MARRIAGE

MUTTUNAYAGAM—

TIRUCHELVAM

The marriage of Mr. Arthur Brito Muttunayagam, son of Mr. A. Muttunayagam, Retired Puisne Justice, Travancore, to Miss Beatrice James Tiruchelvam, daughter of Mr. James Tiruchelvam of Jaffna, presently of Teluk Anson, Malaya, will take place at Batu Gajah, Malaya, in the Church of St. Joseph, on Thursday, June 13, 1940.

(Mis. 50. 6-6-40)

Government raised the duty on Jaffna Tobacco I have been in correspondence with the Dewan who is a personal friend of mine. I acquainted him with a request made to me at a big public meeting held in my constituency on 16th July 1939 that I should lead a deputation to him on behalf of the tobacco cultivators and traders of Jaffna. He wrote to me that he could not promise any immediate relief, but he would be glad to consult me in the matter at a later date. He was good enough to communicate his readiness to receive me about the middle of April last. My visit to Travancore was reported in the Madras "Hindu" of April 26th. In the course of the talks I had with the Dewan on the 21st and 22nd of April, I explained to him how the Jaffna people who had had commercial relations with Travancore for a long period and who were no parties to any action taken in the State Council which has affected the Travancore State, were hit hard by the enhanced duty on tobacco. He very kindly expressed his willingness to grant some immediate relief in respect of the enhanced duty. I must however mention in this connection that the Dewan, while expressing his concern about the plight of the Jaffna people, made it clear to me that the feelings of the people of Travancore towards the Ceylon Government were bitter on account of the tariff policy of the Ceylon Government which has resulted in the loss of about 8 lakhs of rupees annually to the Travancore State for the last six years or so.

I must add that it was not possible for me to give immediate publicity to the exact tenor of the interviews I had with the Dewan in view of the secrecy which should be attached to any measure contemplated by the Government of a country with regard to its revenue.

Yours etc.,

S. NATESAN, M.S.C.

Ramanathan College, Chunnakam, 4th June 1940.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 807

In the matter of the intestate estate and effects of the late Vaitilingam alias Vallipuram Nalathambay of Urumpirai

- Deceased.
Vallipuram Kandiah of Urumpirai.
Vs. Petitioner.
1. Vallipuram Kailayapillai of Urumpirai
 2. Vallipuram Kumarasingham of Kondavil
 3. Sinnathamby Sivaguru and wife
 4. Meenadhipillai both of Urumpirai
 5. Kasipillai Tharmalingam of do
 6. Maheswari daughter of Veerasingham
 7. Veerasingham Sathianandhan
 8. Veerasingham Paramanandhan
 9. Palanesari daughter of Veerasingham
 10. Yokesari daughter of Veerasingham
 11. Veerasingham Siyanandhan
 12. Rasammah widow of Veerasingham all of Chundiculy in Jaffna Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 4th day of December 1939 in the presence of Messrs Aiyadurai and Thambirajah Proctors, on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the 12th respondent abovenamed as mother of the 6th to 11th respondents be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over them to represent them in the testamentary proceedings, that the petitioner as brother of the deceased and as an heir be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 31st day of January 1940 appear and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna the 4th day of December 1939
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

March 15, 1940

Time to shew cause extended till
May 1, 1940.

Intld. S. R.

May 1, 1940

Time to shew cause is extended till
12-6-1940

Intld. C. C.

D. J.

(O. 9. 3 & 6-6-40)

**MARUTHANAMADAM
HALTING STATION****Public Meeting at
Urumparai**

A Mass meeting was held at the Katpagapillayar Temple, Urumparai, at 5 p.m. on Wednesday the 29th May by the inhabitants of Urumparai and Kopay. Mr. V. Nalliah, the Chairman of Urumparai and Neerveli Village Committee, presided. Many of the residents including Mudaliar V. Ponnambalam, Mr. A. Sitaraman, Principal, Hindu English School, Urumpirai, Mr. A. Thambu, F. M. S. Pensioner, Urumparai, and Mr. M. Vythilingam, Headmaster, Saravanapavananda Vidyasalai, Kopay, took part in the discussion. Mr. V. Sithambarappillai of Kopay moved and Mr. U. Sinnathamby of Urumparai seconded the following resolution:—

"As the Rai'way Halting Station at Maruthanamadam which is situated on the public road from Manipay to Kaithady is indispensable to the public both on account of its central position in relation to Inuvil, Uduvil, Urumparai, Kopay and the adjoining villages and its close proximity to Inuvil Hospital, Ramanathan College, Uduvil Girls' College, William Mather's Orphanage this Mahasabai emphatically protests against the decision of the Government to abandon the programme of erecting a siding at this station (not to speak of its intention to close down even the present halting facilities it affords) and requests the Government to take early steps to see that it is made a station with at least the minimum requirements of a platform, a waiting room and a ticket agent so that the travelling public may make the full use of it."

No 403

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Y. 19. 2-5-40 to 1-5-41.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No 836

In the matter of the intestate estate and effects of the late Nagammah daughter of C. Nagamuttu Eliathamby of Kanderodai, Jaffna.

Deceased.

C. Nagamuttu Eliathamby of Kander-

odai, Jaffna.

Vs.

Petitioner.

1. Eliathamby Murukiah and
2. Suppiramaniam Seenivasagam both of Kanderodai.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 7th day of February 1940 in the presence of Messrs Aiyadurai and Thambirajah Proctors on the part of the petitioners and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the 2nd respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor the abovenamed 1st respondent to represent him in these testamentary proceedings, that the petitioner as father of the deceased be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly, unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 20th day of March 1940 appear and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna the 7th day of February 1940

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

March 20, 1940.

Time to shew cause is extended
till May 1, 1940.

Intld. S. R.

D. J.

May 1, 1940

Time to shew cause is extended till
12-6-1940.

Intld. C. C.

D. J.

(O. 9. 6 & 10-6-40.)

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