

# THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:  
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NO. 4.

## TRIBUTES TO DR. LADY RAMANATHAN

Portrait Unveiled by  
Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara

"I am what I am to-day due to my long association with the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan" said Sir Waitilingam Duraiswamy, Speaker of the State Council, while presiding at the unveiling of the portrait of Dr. Lady Ramanathan at the Ramanathan College, Chunnakam, on Wednesday the 5th inst. by Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara, Minister of Education and Pro-Chancellor of the University of Ceylon, who, in the course of his speech, asked "What would have been the position of higher education in Ceylon to-day had Sir Ponnambalam not lived? What would have been national education in this country if he did not give a start to it thirty years ago among your girls?"

In inviting Dr. Kannangara to unveil the portrait of Dr. Lady Ramanathan, President of the Ramanathan College, presented by the staff and students of the College, Sir Waitilingam said that his association with Sir Ponnambalam and Lady Ramanathan was a long one and he had spent a most pleasant time with them participating in a small measure in the labours they were engaged in. Sir Ponnambalam was a great teacher in every aspect of his life from the highest to the lowest problems of life. He was full of his regard, respect and admiration to Lady Ramanathan who was bearing a heavy burden of the work started by Sir Ponnambalam and was carrying on that stupendous work with joy, courage, pleasure and devotion. Sir Ponnambalam, the speaker continued, came to know Dr. Kannangara in 1923 when the latter entered the Legislative Council and one day told him (the speaker) "Here is a promising young man. His speech is ringing with sincerity". The speaker had keenly watched the Doctor's work as Minister of Education who had admirers as well as opponents and whenever he raised violent criticism he easily overcame them. The speaker had great pleasure in inviting the Minister of Education and Pro-Chancellor of the University of Ceylon to unveil the portrait of a great personage.

### Dr. Kannangara's Address

I regard this pleasant duty to lay as one of the greatest I have performed in my life. I accepted the invitation with some hesitation as it struck me that some pronouncement would be expected of me on educational matters on an occasion like this and it would be subjected to much criticism. However, I must say something about the baby which is supposed to be of my creation and which has surprised the world. I know that that report of the Special Committee on Education, although it has raised a lot of interest and opposition, is bound to be accepted. You know the story of the five blind beggars who touched and felt an elephant and described it in different ways without getting a proper conception

of what it was because they were all blind. Let the critics' blindness be cured and they will see what the Report really stands for.

While doing the pleasant duty I am entrusted with I must say why I stand here to-day. It was in 1911 I came to know Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan first. I had heard and read of him before but it was when he came forward as a candidate for the Educated Ceylonese seat I came to know him more closely and formed the opinion that he was the most educated man in the Island. Again after entering the Legislative Council day by day my admiration grew for that great Ceylonese. As an orator he was not to be touched by any man in the Island. Even in the future he cannot be easily touched. As a philosopher, lawyer and statesman he was in the first rank. In the educational world he occupied a unique position not to be reached by anybody. Just imagine what would have happened to higher education in this country had Sir Ponnambalam not lived. What would have been national education in this country if he did not give a start to it 30 years ago among your girls?

When Sir Ponnambalam asked the Government for a building grant for his two colleges it was a new request. Why did he do it? It was to create a precedent for other schools as well. Besides the Government grant he obtained not a cent of anybody else's money went towards the buildings. All his wealth was devoted to the two colleges. I understand that he originally wanted to build two Hindu Colleges in Colombo and that it was Lady Ramanathan who by peaceful persuasion made him alter his plans and build in Jaffna. What has she done now? After the demise of her husband she bore the burden herself and has gone through all trials and tribulations. She has really gone through hell to come to this heaven. The girls' college today has over 350 pupils and requires extensions. The boys' college also is growing steadily. At national institutions where children are brought up in their own national traditions this is wonderful achievement. It is fortunate that Lady Ramanathan is ably assisted in her work by her daughter and son-in-law. It is time we stopped aping the Westerners. We have aped them too much.

Lady Ramanathan did not come to this country to destroy. She came to build. Generations will bless her. An eternal glory and credit to her educational, social, cultural and religious contribution to this country! What is the meaning of hanging one's portrait on the wall? According to a Sinhalese poet of 1400 A. D. the figure in the portrait always tells you "In prosperity and adversity, in pain and comfort, I am always with you". That figure never turns its back on you. When you look at this port-

## SOUTH-EAST ASIA COMMAND

### Headquarters Moved To Ceylon

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander in South East Asia, has transferred his headquarters from New Delhi to Ceylon.

For five months the South-East Asia Command has worked in New Delhi in close co-operation with India Command. Admiral Mountbatten and his Anglo-American staff have been in daily contact with General Sir Claude Auchinleck, C-in-C. India, and his staff, and together they have prepared and planned for the future. Now the South-East Asia Command has moved from its training and supply base—India—to its operational headquarters—Ceylon.

Unlike India, Ceylon comes within the South East Asia Command, so that the Supreme Allied Commander may be said to have moved into his own territory. The South East Asia front extends for many hundreds of miles from the northern point of Burma to the South, and Ceylon is the nearest point to the South East Asia front as a whole.

Admiral Mountbatten's frequent visits to the Burma front will only take him a couple of hours longer by air from Ceylon than they do from Delhi, which will ensure his retaining his previous close contact with this section of the front.

It must be pointed out, too, that Ceylon contains the main naval bases in South East Asia so that this move will bring the Supreme Allied Commander into close touch with the Commander-in-Chief Eastern Fleet. It is clear, that the sea bases of Ceylon must play an important part in the reconquest of Japanese occupied territory in the South East Asia Theatre.

The move of the headquarters was made by rail and air. The majority of Lord Louis' staff travelled by special train down the whole length of India and then over the Adam's Bridge ferry to Ceylon. While this move was in progress, key personnel continued to work in Delhi, and it was not until the main party was established in Ceylon that the command changed. The Delhi party then rejoined the main headquarters by air.

Lady Ramanathan's eternal smile will cheer you and comfort you. Those who carry on her work after her will not miss even a hundredth part of her enthusiasm, interest and devotion. Jaffna in particular and the whole Island in general owes her a deep debt of gratitude. May all those who come to this Island professing to do good follow in the footsteps of this noble lady. May her eternal and loving smile always greet everybody who steps into this great institution!

Mr. V. K. Nathan, Divisional Inspector of Schools, Miss. R. Chelliah, Inspector of schools and former Vice-Principal of Ramanathan College, Mr. V. Veerasingham, Principal, Manipay Hindu College, and Mrs. C. N. Deva Rajan, an O. D. Girl of the College, also paid their tributes.

Mrs. N. P. Pillai, Vice-Principal, proposed a vote of thanks.

## Future of Jaffna's "Depressed" Class

### Demand for Educational Facilities

The inaugural celebrations of the Chiviattheru Samuga Seva Sauram took place at the Nandanar Vidyalalai, Chiviattheru. Mr. C. Ponnambalam presided and said he was informed that a certain section of the Jaffna Minorities League wanted to ally themselves with the Sinhalese with a hope that they would get fair and just treatment and their grievances would be redressed. The Sinhalese leaders would be anxious to denude the Tamils so that they might, with the help of the depressed classes, get all political power into their hands. They would like to follow the policy of denude and rule. He assured the audience that the Sinhalese leaders had no love or affection for them but wanted to make use of them for their own selfish ends.

He was also informed that a certain section of the Jaffna Minorities League were of opinion that the depressed classes should become Christians as there was no caste distinction among Christians and they would get more educational facilities if they became Christians. There were caste distinctions among Christians as well but undoubtedly in order to make conversions educational facilities were being provided in Christian schools. He was sorry that the Hindu leaders of Jaffna did not realise the gravity of the situation and that there were no depressed class boys in Jaffna Hindu College or in other leading Hindu colleges, whereas depressed class boys were studying and eating together with high caste children in the Christian colleges in Jaffna.

Mr. Ponnambalam declared that the depressed classes of Jaffna were being misled and made use of by certain public men to achieve their personal political ambition. They were not sincere friends.

Mr. R. Sinnadurai, Proctor, said that there were only two castes—the educated and uneducated. If the depressed classes became educated they would be considered high caste. In ancient India Brahmins were considered high caste because they were educated but in modern times the Brahmins were not treated with respect and regard as non-Brahmins had become educated. He appealed to the depressed classes in Jaffna to educate their children.

## JAFFNA SAIVA PARI-ALANA SABAH

Under the auspices of the above Sabah, preaching and feeding of Hindu prisoners at the Jaffna jail took place on the Hindu New Year day. Yesterday the Gurupoojah of St. Tirunavukarasu Niyamar was performed at the Sabah's premises in Vantarpennai.





## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1944

### INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME

AS OUR READERS MUST KNOW by now, the provisions of the internal purchase scheme have undergone drastic variation at the hands of the State Council and the Ministers.

The flat rate of two bushels per acre, imposed as a first charge on every paddy land sown, will cause grave hardship in the case of owners of lands with poor yields. Unfortunately, however, the yield from most lands in the island is poor. There is a further and more serious objection to the imposition of a flat rate as a "first charge". Some of the Ministers doubtless know what a "first charge" means in law. It is the right which a mortgagee claims over property bound to him as security for the payment of a debt. Under no circumstances is the State entitled to create a first charge like this. All that the State is entitled to is the surplus produce from our paddy fields. Once the surplus is assessed, the Government ought not to find it difficult to requisition it. What is now proposed is a dangerous short cut.

Besides, the new rules fix the maximum quantity which any producer may retain for himself and his family at fifty bushels for a season. We wonder whether the Executive Committee which sanctioned this rule has taken into consideration the requirements of those parts of the island where paddy is cultivated for one season only. One season is the rule in non-irrigable areas in the Northern Province and elsewhere. North of Elephant Pass the entire district is non-irrigable. It seems to us that this rule has been enacted in a moment of panic and ignorance. The Executive Committee would be guilty of discrimination of the worst type if it persisted in applying this rule to one-season areas.

And yet while the State Council has sanctioned these rules, the price of paddy remains at Rs. 6 a bushel. Labour has not as yet been brought under control. There is no disposition on the part of the Ministers to obtain labourers from India. Mr. D. S. Senanayake invites the people to die rather than allow Indians to enter Ceylon and help to produce more paddy. We are afraid that nothing less than the dissolution of the Council will help to undo the harm that is being done to the people. What is needed now is a government free from political bias.

## Notes and Comments

### Pulses and Grains From India

Some excitement seems to have been roused by a piece of news gathered by the political correspondent of the *Times of Ceylon* from important Indian circles in New Delhi that prominent Indians in Ceylon had represented to the Raj that no grains and pulses should be sent to Ceylon until the question of political rights for Indians in Ceylon had been satisfactorily settled. This news appears to have been confirmed by Mr. Senanayake who added that, if the Indians were going to be so unreasonable as that, it would be better for half the present generation of Ceylonese to be starved to death if only in order to make Ceylon safe for future Ceylonese generations. Protesting against the above statement, Mr. H. M. Desai, Vice-President of the Indian Mercantile Chamber, has said, at the Chamber's annual general meeting held in Colombo last Friday, "The report of the Managing Committee for 1943 was the answer to the charge. The Committee had adopted the following resolution and communicated to the Raj in September, 1943: that while appreciating the extreme shortage of rice in India and the consequent hardships, the people in India have to undergo, views with great concern and anxiety the decision of the Government of India to prohibit all exports of rice till February, 1944. This Committee earnestly urges the Government of India..... not to put a total embargo on exports of rice to Ceylon, and that special effort should be made to provide Ceylon with supplies"..... Mr. Desai added that the Indian merchants were making positive efforts to help Ceylon and in no way putting obstructions. He was surprised that such a statement should have been made and it should not go unchallenged.

### Story of Mr Senanayake's Death-bed-fight

With regard to a statement attributed to Mr. Senanayake that he would even on his death bed fight the Indians, he explains that at a recent interview the Secretaries of the Ceylon Indian Congress had with him they raised the question of the status of Indians in any future Ceylon constitution and that he said that the Ministers had not dealt with it in their memorandum to the Secretary of State; they had not even submitted any proposals regarding Indian franchise; and that they would do so later.

The Congress Secretaries, according to Mr. Senanayake, thereupon referred to an agreement, with the Indians, and Mr. Senanayake pointed out to them that the agreed conclusions reached between the Ceylon delegates and the Bajpai Commission had been repudiated by the Indian Government and that the only agreement he was aware of was an older one between the two governments, a quotation from which had already been published by His Excellency the Governor some time ago.

By that agreement if an Indian chose to return to India within the first year of his arrival in the Island, or, if later he was found infirm, old or destitute, he would be repatriated without cost to him. But, Mr. Senanayake added, there was no agreement by which any Indian could be made a Ceylonese. Mr. Senanayake also pointed out that it was strange that while In-

dians in India wished the Englishmen, who had contributed to the material welfare of India, to quit India, Indians did not see reason in the Ceylonese claim for self-preservation, even though their claim did not go half as far as the Indian demand about Englishmen. What difference would there be if ultimately Ceylon changed over from a British colony to an Indian colony? "Our position has always been", Mr. Senanayake asserted "that Indians with requisite qualifications can become Ceylonese by choice but we cannot agree to any person claiming a dual citizenship". There upon the Congress Secretaries are reported to have remarked that in that case it would have to be a bitter fight between the two peoples. And it was then, Mr. Senanayake says, he retorted that if that was so he would take up the fight even on his death-bed.

We wonder what the people as a whole have to say to this death-bed point of view which has become a mental obsession with more than one Minister.

### Bombay Tragedy

It is indeed a pity that India is overtaken by misfortunes in battalions at a time when the country is passing through a severe stress and trial. Following in the wake of Bengal's famine and the unprecedented floods in Madras of last year Bombay has now experienced a catastrophe the like of which never occurred before. An accident fire broke out in a ship in the Bombay docks on the 14th inst., spread to some ammunition, caused two violent explosions and spread to adjacent godowns, in spite of the concentration of a large part of the city's fire brigade. Thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, police and A. R. P. personnel relentlessly fought the fire and brought it under control within 12 hours although it took 48 hours to extinguish it.

The fire spread to a congested part of the city and burnt out several houses rendering thousands of people homeless. The glass panes of several big buildings and show cases in firms were smashed to pieces. The injured totalled over 1000 and up to Monday civilian deaths numbered 284. Thousands of people immediately evacuated from the affected areas, carrying with them whatever valuables they could, and encamped themselves in open maidan. The blast of the explosions caused some of the members of the fire brigade disappear with their equipment and there is no trace of fire experienced officers who were directing the operations.

The situation is now under control. All the city hospitals, St. John's Ambulance Brigade, and nurses worked day and night to attend to the injured and dying. The Government and Municipal authorities together with 50 voluntary organisations are doing all they can to give relief to the injured and the homeless. Demolition and salvage works were immediately started, stranded people fed, refugees repatriated and food and grains were promptly rushed from other provinces. All the Municipal schools now closed for the vacation were made available to the homeless and 2000 temporary rooms erected to house them. Many stories of gallantry and devotion to duty in the face of danger by service personnel and others are now emerging. An appeal for 500 blood donors every month has been made and within two days 200 responded. The Maharajah of Parbondar has already donated Rs. 15,000 for the relief of distress.

## Letter to the Editor

### Short Measure at the Co-operative Stores

Sir,—There have been various complaints against co-operative Stores but a particular Stores run by the *elite* of Jaffna have the singular distinction of having sold rice with a measure short by 1/32 for the last ten months or so. (On a rough estimate it can be safely assumed that about 400 measures would have accrued as excess and it will be interesting to find out the person or persons who have consumed this excess.)

The Inspector of Weights and Measures raided the Stores on or about the 14th of March, and submitted his report to the Chairman U. C. Jaffna. No case appears to have been filed by the Chairman hitherto. When the Chairman was written to about the matter the writer seems to have received a reply stating, "Action is being taken and I cannot let you know the nature of action taken."

One fails to understand what confessional secret could there be regarding the punishment of an offence so publicly perpetrated on the public for a period of over ten months. If a private dealer had committed a similar offence and even undue publicity would have been given by his being hauled up by the police, bailed out in Court, and a heavy fine or imprisonment or both meted out to him after a fair trial. Why should a veil of secrecy be cast over this particular offence? Perhaps it is one of the several special prerogatives of the Co-operative concerns.

I hope the C. D. C. and F. C., the R. C. S., and the A. R. C. S. N. D. and G. A. (Emergency) N. P. will note this and take the necessary action. Nor is it outside the purview of the ever vigilant Police. Why mete out one measure to the Co-operative Stores and another to the private dealer?

Play Fair.

### Director Denies Charge

#### "Policemen and Teachers"

At a public meeting held in Welimada Mr. H. S. Perera (Director of Education) emphatically denied that he had ever made a comparison between the teachers and policemen during a speech at a public meeting at the Town Hall, Badulla.

"If any such comparison was ever made, it was not by me, but by a member of that audience," he declared. He further stressed that the proposed scale of salaries for teachers would be definitely better as a whole than the existing one.

### PEDAL CYCLE TYRES

According to the Gazette extraordinary published on Tuesday the maximum prices of cycle tyres 28x1½, have been fixed as follows:—

	Rs.	Cts.
India Super	6	15
India Signal	4	75
India Sterling	4	00

Purchasers are asked to get receipts from the retailers.



**News in Brief**

**Gandhiji's Health**

The Government of Bombay issued a communique on the 16th inst. that Mahatma Gandhi had been suffering for three days from malaria and that he was feeling weak but his general condition was as satisfactory as could be expected.

**Agricultural Labour Corps**

It is proposed to organise an agricultural labour corps of 15,000 men for food production in Ceylon. If this attempt fails to enlist the required number of men to produce the food necessary for the country, conscription will probably be introduced.

When Mr. Weerasinghe the Ag-Auditor-General assumes command of the new corps as Deputy Civil Defence Commissioner, Mr. K. Kanageratnam, Deputy Auditor-General, now Director of Subsidiary Foodstuffs, will take charge of the Audit Department.

**VILLAGE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

The Executive Committee of Local Administration has decided that the Village Committee triennial elections which were postponed last year as well as those which have fallen due to be held this year between January and June should be proceeded with.

In the case of three districts, namely Jaffna, Kurnegala and Anuradhapura, however, the Executive Committee has agreed to the postponement of some of these elections as the Kachcheries are at present said to be overburdened with food emergency work.

Altogether elections to about 140 Village Committees will be held within the next couple of months. This involves elections to fill over a thousand seats in Village Committees.

In the Jaffna District, the elections will be held this year only to Village Committees, numbering about 17, whose biennial elections are overdue from 1943. The triennial elections to a similar number of Village Committees which have normally fallen due to be held this year will be postponed.

Similarly, in the case of the Kurunegala and Anuradhapura Districts only the elections which stand postponed from last year will be held.

A six months' extension of time will be allowed to these Village Committees which have to be reconstituted at the beginning of 1945 when the Sanitary Boards cease to function.

**SCHOOL ON FIRE**

A fire of some importance took place during the early hours of Tuesday the 12th inst. at Colombogam. The large mixed Hindu School owned by Mr. R. Somasunderam was seriously damaged. The alarm, sent by telephone by the local A. R. P. warden, was received at 2.25 a. m. at the Fire Station. Within a few minutes two tenders and pumps were on the spot under the command of S. F. O. Santsipillai. Though there are no static tanks in the vicinity the firemen were able to find and use two fairly deep wells and after half an hour of hard fighting the flames were completely subdued. The damage is estimated at Rs. 3000.

**HINDU NEW YEAR DAY**

The Vivekananda Society, celebrated Hindu New Year Day on Thursday the 13th instant at 6 p. m. both at the Society premises at Hill Street and at Wellawatte at the Saiva Mangaiyar Kalagam Hall. Pujas were performed and devotional songs sung at both places. Addresses on the significance of the day were delivered and musical items rendered.

At the Society premises Mr. K. P. Haran, Editor, Virakesari, presided, Mr. Haran and Mr. S. N. Somaskandapillai, the Honorary Treasurer of the Society, spoke on the significance of the day. At Wellawatte, Srimat Swami Siddhatmanandaji, Head of the Ramakrishna Mission in Ceylon, presided and spoke. The other speakers were Miss N. Kasipillai, Dr. T. Nallanathan, Mr. A. P. Kanlasamy and Mr. M. Vyravipillai. Master S. Sethukulasingham gave musical items at the Society premises. The musical items at Wellawatte were rendered by Srimathi Janaki Ramasamy Reddiar and the Misses Dhana-lakshmi and Pathmasany Muru-pillai.

**OBITUARY**

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. K. S. Rajaratnam, of the tutorial staff of the Jaffna Hindu College, which occurred yesterday morning at his residence in Vannarpannai East. He leaves behind two sons and three daughters. The funeral takes place today.

**AUCTION SALE**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA No. 3564

Subramaniam Saravanamuthu S. K. Swaminathan of Manipay Vs. Plaintiff. Thillaisampalam Namasiveyam and others of Annaicoddai Respondents.

Under and by virtue of the Commission issued to me in this case I shall sell by public auction the under-mentioned mortgaged property on Saturday the 13th of May 1944 at 4 p. m. at the spot.

Property referred to An undivided 2/3 share with its appurtenances including the absolute right of the 1st and 2nd defendants to the whole of the stone built house out of all that piece of land situated at Annaicoddai called Arankesan-thoddai in extent 9 1/2 Lvs. V. C. with stone built house and well and plantations and bounded on the East by the property of Sivakami-pillai widow of Aiyathurai, North by Road, West by lane and on the South by the property of Mageswary wife of Navaratnam.

V. A. Durayappah Jaffna 4-4-44 Commissioner. Mis. 10. 20)

**NOTICE.**

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements have been made to distribute the currants/olives mentioned below at the rates specified against each commodity (1) each consumer not attached to a co-operative retail store from Monday, the 17th to 23rd instant (both days inclusive). (1) Coriander 1 oz per head (2) Tamarind 1 oz per head (3) Mysore Dhall 1/2 oz per head (4) Cummin Seed 1/2 oz per head 2. Consumers are advised to draw their ration of the above articles along with their ration of other commodities.

Sgd. E. B. Tisseverasinghe, for Govt. Agent N. P. [G. 6 20-4-44]

**WANTED**

Immediately a cashier manager (must be prepared to furnish cash security) and a salesman for the Textile Branch of the Jaffna Town Co-operative Stores Ltd. Main Street. Apply to the Secretary. (Mis 9, 20)

**ORDER NISI**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 159 In the matter of the estate of the late Sinnathamby Sadasivam of Nuna-vil west. Deceased.

1. Velauthar Sinnatamby Kandiah and wife
  2. Achchippillai both of do
- Vs. Petitioners.
1. Mootatamby Sanmugam
  2. Pandaram Chelliah and wife
  3. Thangammah all of do

Respondents. This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that he be granted letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that letters be issued to him accordingly, coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambiyah Esq, District Judge, Jaffna on the 25th day of August 1943 in the presence of Mr. C. P. Tambiah Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioner abovenamed be and he is hereby granted letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and letters issued to him accordingly unless the respondents abovenamed or any others shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on or before the 22 day of October 1943 at 10 a.m.

This 31st day of August 1943. Sgd. G. C. Thambiyah, District Judge.

Extended to 24-4-44 Intld. J. J. D. J. (O. 3, 20 & 24)

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Government Agent, Northern Province, Jaffna, will receive tenders up to 12 noon on 11th May, 1944 for the purchase of C grade empty gunny bags at the Supply Stations in Jaffna District.

Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application to the Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

R. M. DAVIES, Government Agent, N. P. Kachechi, Jaffna 14th April, 1944. (G 9. 20)

**WANTED**

Manager for the Van-Centre Co-op. Stores Ltd.

Applications are invited for the above post. Applicants must possess some experience a good knowledge in English and a knowledge of accountancy and must furnish cash security of Rs. 500/-

Salary Rs. 50/- per mensem. Applications close on or before 30th April 1944. Apply to Mr. V. Sivasubramaniam, The Hony. Secy. V. C. S. Ltd. Navalur Road, Vannarponnai. (Mis. 11. 20)

**STAFF OFFICER, INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME**

JAFFNA KACHCHERI Applications are invited from retired Government Servants of staff rank, or others of equivalent status, for the above post.

2 For further particulars, see the Gazette of the 21st instant in which a detailed advertisement will appear. R. M. Davies Govt. Agent, N. P. 15th April 1944 [G 5. 20]

**INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME**

To All Producers of Paddy in the Jaffna District.

The recent changes in the Internal Purchase Scheme, with the reasons therefor have been widely published, and for convenience the main points are recapitulated here

- (a) The Scheme applies to the current Kalapokan retrospectively
- (b) A flat rate of 2 bushels per acre of paddy land sown is the first charge on the produce of any field
- (c) Seed, customary services and wages allowances remain the same as before
- (d) Consumption allowances are calculated at the rate of 6 measures for cultivators (and all usual dependants) and 4 measures for non-cultivators (and their dependants) per week, subject to a maximum of 50 bushels for each producer from any season. Anything over and above these allowances is regarded as surplus to be purchased by Government.

2 Any further information necessary can be obtained by reference to me or any of my officers or through publicity organisations.

3 Producers are earnestly requested to cooperate by surrendering their surpluses, calculated on the above basis, to the headmen of their village and obtaining a receipt therefor. Payment will be made as expeditiously as possible on presentation of the receipts to the Chief Headman. Kachechi, Sgd. R. M. DAVIES Jaffna 12th Government Agent N.P. April, 1944 (G. 8. 20)

**CONTROL OF PAPER**

Users of Newsprint for letter duplicates and similar purposes are notified that, until further notice, no newsprint can be issued for these purposes. Supplies of manila paper or tissue will be made available to meet essential requirements and applications for same should be addressed direct to this Department.

A. C. RICHARDS Controller of Paper Office of the Controller of Paper, 47, Ward Place, Colombo, 12th April, 1944 (G. 10. 20)

**AUCTION SALE**

**DRIED FISH**

A small quantity of dried fish will be sold by public auction at the Subsidiary Foodstuffs Store, 1st Cross Street, Jaffna, on Tuesday the 25th instant commencing at 10 a. m. subject to the usual conditions governing such sales. The lots must be paid for and taken delivery forthwith, failing which demurrage charges might be due. No person will be allowed to bid who has not made a deposit of Rs. 25/- at the Kachechi to secure the due fulfilment of his offer.

2 Particulars of the dried fish available are given below. The fish will be on view and be available for inspection on any week day between ordinary office hours up to the day of the sale.

Variety	Quantity.
Anguluwa	7-1-23
Balaya	53-2-21
Thora	4-1-09
Kumbala	40-2-23
Koduwa	4-3-24
Katta	2-2-15
Mcra	246-0-07

G. 7. 20)

**TEACHERS WANTED**

Wanted for the Manipay Hindu College two teachers qualified to teach Botany and Thami and Sanskrit in the Collegiate Department. Please apply to the Manager before the 25th inst. (Mis. 6. 20)



# PENICILLIN

"CAPABLE OF CURING SERIOUS DISEASES"

By Professor H. W. Florey, F. R. S.

Pasteur discovered more than sixty years ago that certain micro-organisms such as bacteria can, under suitable conditions, produce something that will stop the growth of other germs, but in the time at my disposal it is not possible to consider all the unsuccessful efforts to use this fact in medicine.

In 1929 Professor Alexander Fleming of St. Mary's Hospital, London, made the important observation that a mould which had accidentally contaminated one of his bacterial cultures was causing the disappearance of the germs growing in its neighbourhood. Instead of throwing the contaminated culture away as most bacteriologists would have done he took some of the mould and grew it in various kinds of broth. Fleming found that the mould produced something which passed into the broth and which had the power to stop the growth of a number of the germs which cause many serious illnesses in man. This substance he called penicillin. It was just as well that Fleming preserved his mould for until quite recently all the penicillin in the world was produced from its descendants. The mould, which is called *Penicillium Notatum*, is not a particularly common one, and the idea that the moulds which occasionally grow on your boots or bread produce penicillin is quite wrong. Though of the same type, these moulds do not produce penicillin.

Among the germs that were affected were the staphylococci which cause many serious diseases as well as such common maladies as boils, and streptococci which are serious producers of pus and the cause of many deaths. Many other germs causing rarer diseases were also affected. At the same time certain bacteria were almost or quite unaffected—among them the germs causing dysentery.

Fleming suggested that this substance which he had discovered might be a good antiseptic dressing for infected wounds and used his broth containing penicillin on a few patients with results which he says certainly appeared to be superior to those obtained with dressings containing potent chemicals.

The active material was however not extracted from the broth, though an attempt was made to do this by some chemists. They formed the opinion that penicillin was a substance the activity of which was easily destroyed and they did not continue their researches. This work was done in 1932. After that time all interest in the possible use of penicillin as an antiseptic ceased.

During the 1930's another discovery of Fleming's—lysozyme—aroused my interest. Lysozyme is an antibacterial substance present in eggs and many parts of the animal body and even in plants. It is only active against germs which do not cause disease. This work was pursued with a number of collaborators and during the latter part of it Dr. Chain, a biochemist, and I decided in 1938 to make a systematic study of the many antibacterial substances produced by micro-organisms, as at that time little seemed to be known of their chemical

structure or of their biological properties.

One of the first substances chosen in this survey was penicillin in spite of the fact that it was said to be very unstable and difficult to deal with. There was one reason which made us doubt whether it was so unstable that it could not be extracted and that was the fact that the broth containing penicillin sometimes retained its activity for some weeks.

The work on which we now started needed the collaboration of a number of people and we were most fortunate in our colleagues. I should like you to realise that it was due to the concerted efforts of Dr. Chain, Dr. Heatley, Dr. Sanders, Professor Gardner, Dr. Jennings and Dr. Abraham in the laboratory and Dr. Fletcher and my wife in the clinic where many surgeons and physicians collaborated. All this work was done in Oxford.

The mould was grown firstly for our purpose on a synthetic broth, or, as bacteriologists call it, a "medium" invented by Clutterbuck, Lovell and Raistrick. On this medium in a few days the surface of the liquid is covered by a white felt of mould which later turns green as it produces spores, while at the same time yellow droplets appear and when fully grown a dish of the mould is quite a beautiful sight. After a few days the broth begins to contain penicillin. It was established that penicillin is an acid, the activity of which is very rapidly lost, but if the acid is combined with an alkali to produce what is called a salt the product is stable. Now acid penicillin is freely soluble in such things as ether, chloroform and amyl acetate, while salts of penicillin are not, though they are soluble in water. It is thus possible to transfer penicillin from water to amyl acetate and back again. By so doing it is possible to purify and concentrate it. If too much alkali is added the penicillin is destroyed. You will appreciate that the extraction of penicillin is a fairly delicate operation, for both acid and alkali destroy it if very special precautions are not taken.

It was possible to dry the watery extract without loss of activity. The brown powder so produced was stable and its production opened the way to the study of the behaviour of penicillin in the animal body. This extracted penicillin was extremely active in stopping the growth of susceptible bacteria. In addition to those originally examined by Fleming it was found that the bacteria causing gas gangrene—a serious infection met with particularly in war wounds—were also sensitive. Unfortunately the germ causing tuberculosis was completely insensitive.

Though penicillin is a substance acting very strongly against bacteria, that fact by itself would not make it useful in medicine. What is so extremely fortunate is that it is almost completely non-poisonous to animals. This was shown by injecting solutions of the dry extract into the tail veins of mice. Quite large amounts relative to the size of the mouse could be given.

(To be Continued)

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 223

In the matter of the Intestate estate of Elayathamby Solamon Seevanayakam of Urumpiray in Jaffna. Deceased.

1. Sether Robert Guanaratnam and wife  
2. Chellammah both of Urumpiray in Jaffna

Vs. Petitioner.  
1. Seevanayakam Thambirajah  
2. Seevanayakam Anandarajah  
3. Seevanayakam Jayarajah and  
4. Archobly daughter of Seevanayakam all of Urumpiray presently of Siam

Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on the 23rd day of February 1944 and 27th day of March 1944 in the presence of Mr. A. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioners and the affidavit and petition of the Petitioners dated the 21st day of February 1944 having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioners be declared entitled to the Letters of Administration of the deceased and an officer of this court named Mr. P. Cathiravelupillai interpreter or Mudaliyar be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors 3rd and 4th respondents unless the respondents or any person or persons interested in the estate shall on or before the 21st day of April 1944 show sufficient cause to the contrary.

This 27th day of March 1944

(Sgd.) L. W. De Silva  
District Judge

3-4-44

O. 2. 10 &

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 238

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Sivakamasunday wife of Chellappah Ratnasabpathy of Anna-cottai, Jaffna Deceased. Chellappah Ratnasabpathy of Anna-cottai but presently of Colombo

Vs. Petitioner.  
1. Ratnasabpathy Sivaganesan  
2. Ratnasabpathy Sivasanmugam  
3. Sinniah Rasanayagam all of Anna-cottai.

Respondents.  
This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph, District Judge, Jaffna on the 27th day of March 1944 in the presence of Mr. Nagendra Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit the petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed third respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st and 2nd respondents and that the Petitioner be declared entitled to letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that the same be issued to him accordingly unless the abovenamed respondents or any other person shall on or before the 5th day of May 1944 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 21st day of March 1944.

(Sgd.) James Joseph,  
District Judge.

(O. 1. 10 & 4-44)

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Mis. 7. 20, 24, 27.)

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CHIEF RECRUITING OFFICER, CEYLON

(Mis. 92, 29-7-43—)