

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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JAFFNA, MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1944.

NO. 5.

Farmers' Threat To Abandon Fields

More than a thousand paddy producers of Sammanthurai and Karavagupattu in Batticaloa met under the auspices of the Sammanthurai Muslim Sabha (Mr. A. W. Mohamed Ali presiding) and decided to state that unless Government changed its internal purchase scheme policy, it would be preferable for farmers to abandon cultivation altogether and seek other pursuits, which were readily available. Mr. Mohamed Ali said that while the farmers were prepared to co-operate with the Government and make sacrifices, the drastic reduction in their consumption allowance, the totally unacceptable levy of two bushels per acre, the inadequate price paid for paddy by Government and the failure to give subsidy for the industry, made paddy cultivation a futile pursuit. Although paddy cultivation was most vital at present, the farmers could not even obtain advance payment to meet the cost of reaping their crops.

WAR MAY LAST LONG

"This war is not over yet, and it may be a long time before we can win that complete victory which we must have," observed H. E. the C-in-C., General Claude Auchinleck, presiding over the services day at the Lahore War Services Exhibition on the 12th inst.

While opening the Exhibition His Excellency the Governor of the Punjab said: "In spite of the undoubted fact that victory was now by God's blessing in sight, we had recently received some sharp reminders that we could not afford, to relax any of our war efforts. Here in India our first concern was with the war against the Japanese. All that had been learned about the Japanese showed that their resistance would not end until we attacked and defeated them in Japan—their own homeland."

POSTAL CENSORSHIP

The Government of India have introduced censorship in respect of non-official internal postal and telegraphic correspondence. A warning has been issued that anyone found guilty of a serious breach of security in the course of correspondence will be seriously dealt with.

Attention is drawn to some of the more important matters which must not be conveyed in private postal and telegraphic correspondence, e.g.:

(I) location, numbers or movements past, present or future of convoys, or any naval, military or air force units, detachments or ships, and the arrival of reinforcements; (II) armaments or equipment of any kind; (III) distinguishing signs for the identification of formations, units and their transport; (IV) communications, such as the construction, use, condition or probable extension of ports, roads, aerodromes, railways or other transportation facilities and (V) details of damage or casualties caused by enemy action in military installations and major public utility concerns.

TWO BUSHEL PER ACRE

Is It Copy of Russian Decree?

By "SENTINEL"

"Democracy", said Aristotle, "is the severest form of despotism". The recent announcement made by the Civil Defence Commissioner of the decision of the Ministry of Agriculture that a levy of two bushels of paddy is to be imposed on all fields in the Island for the main cultivation season and one bushel for the small season, as a first charge on the crop, irrespective of the climatic, soil, weather, irrigation and labour conditions in different areas, not to speak of the destruction caused by wild animals and thieves, sets us thinking whether Aristotle's dictum is not proving true before our very eyes owing to our State Council having outlived its legitimate life. The following is the substance of a lecture delivered by Sir John Russell in London last August, on Land Systems in Russia, and will interest not only those who are interested in post-war reconstruction but also those who want to know where our dictators get their inspiration from.

Prior to the Revolution three systems of farming were practised in the U. S. S. R.: (1) large estates, (2) small peasant farms, (3) peasant land farmed by the peasants under the *Mir*, the village council or commune of very ancient origin. All three systems were disliked by the Bolsheviks, the first two because they involved private ownership of land, and the third because of its grave inefficiency and the utter impossibility of introducing modern improvements.

A completely different type of farm was set up, on the basis of the old *Mir*. The first were communes in which the whole body of workers was responsible for the full maintenance of each individual family; but this did not answer. The *artel* organisation was therefore adopted: another old Russian method which has no English equivalent. In this the workers feed and house themselves but the produce belongs to them, and after all outgoings have been met the balance is distributed according to the work done. The workers are paid in actual produce: mostly grain, potatoes and vegetables, these being the main constituents of the peasants' dietary; usually also there is hay for the workers' animals, and a small amount of cash. This method after suitable modification proved much more acceptable, and by 1939 a very large part of the cultivated land of the U. S. S. R. was farmed in this way.

The farms were called "Collectives". All the cultivated land in the village, whatever its previous ownership, was thrown into one big farm; it might be 1,000-4,000 acres or more, but was not usually unmanageable in size. All the peasants of the village could come into the group, but preference was given to the so-called "poor peasants". The plan of production was until just before the War sent from headquarters; it had been discussed during its development, but once settled, it could not be further discussed. The workers elected a committee to carry it out and to allocate the tasks to the different people; the chairman, however, was not freely elected as he had to be accepted by the party and the Government; he often came from outside and did not usually stay long. The Party always insisted on keeping its hold on the farms, and it had its representative,

who was quite independent of the committee.

Payment was always by the piece; a certain job of work was called a "labour day", and when a man had done this he was credited with one day's work. Not infrequently about two hundred would be done during the year, but specially good workers would put in many more. The worker could eat his share of the produce or sell it to the farm, the Co-operative or in the peasant market.

The workers share of the produce varied with the yields and the outgoings. The Government's share has varied. For some time prior to 1939 it was a fixed amount per acre of winter grain sown, and of spring grain ordered to be sown, also a fixed quantity of milk and meat per animal kept. A small price was paid, much below the market price. In 1939 more latitude in planning was allowed so long as the stipulated Government share was duly delivered. As this was fixed while yields were variable it is impossible to state any definite percentage, but an average of a number would lie between 15 to 20 per cent. Then the machine tractor station, the Government organisation that hired out the tractors, combines and other big tackle supplied to the drivers had to be paid; this might take another 15 per cent. Seed for next season and fodder for winter had to be set aside; this also might amount to about 15 per cent. Insurance, administration, sick and needy people, maintenance, capital developments and other farm overheads had also to be provided for. One way and another, more than half the produce would go, and the workers' share might be 40 per cent or less.

A great change in the system, and in the peasants' attitude to it, came when the Constitution of 1936 gave the collective farms the use of their land for ever, and also gave each member the use of his cottage and its garden and a holding varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ acre to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres on which he could keep such animals as he and his family could look after. So popular were these holdings that by 1939 much of the peasants' time was spent on them and a large proportion of the livestock of the U. S. S. R. was their private property. So decrees went forth that they must put in a minimum of a hundred days per annum on the farm,

Evils Of Bureaucracy

Speaking on "Some Post-war Problems" a fortnight ago, at the Lakshmiapuram Young Men's Association, Madras, Mr. Justice Bell said that in discussing such problems, one should not lose sight of the immediate and paramount objective of winning the war and the certainty that it would take some years before the world recovered sufficiently to admit of the successful functioning of such plans.

It was well to say, the speaker continued, that this war was being fought to make democracy a certainty all the world over; but one should know clearly what sort of democracy was meant, bearing in mind that between 1919 and 1939, the system of democracy as it was known in Britain, France, Belgium and elsewhere failed woefully and could not prevent the growth of a system in Germany most repugnant to that ideal. Nor was it going to be an easy job to educate the German and the Jap, talk as glibly as one might of it. The functioning of democratic constitutions in different countries was not going to be smooth unless people learnt to think and act in terms of the common good, and not to indulge in factious quarrels and mutual differences. On the legal side also, the citizen would have to be educated in his rights and duties under the law. The judiciary was the barrier protecting the people from tyrannical government and it was therefore very important that judges as well as the lawyers from whom they are chosen should be men of principles reputation and high attainments. It was necessary that the bureaucracy should be made to function within its limits, for "true democracy and rampant bureaucracy" were contradictions in terms.

APPEAL FOR MILK CENTRE

At a public meeting of the residents of Manipay held on Thursday 20.4.44 with Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Chairman, V. C. in the chair, it was unanimously resolved to appeal to the Civil Defence Commissioner to provide a free Milk Centre at Manipay.

Dr. S. C. Thuraiarajah, M. O. H. Jaffna, explained in detail the scheme. 24 ladies volunteered their services to help in the distribution of milk at the Centre, in addition to several members of the Manipay-Parish Social Service League and the A. R. P. organisation of the Parish.

tical difficulties have been brushed aside in the U. S. S. R. for a realistic solution that we may expect this also will disappear and the system will become wholly acceptable.

There is little doubt that when peace returns his modified system will be able to provide the U. S. S. R. with the food needed for a rising standard of life. The theoretical objection still remains: the peasants are not employees and do not come under the labour code; they have for example, no trade union and are ineligible for old-age pensions. 'Peasant-mindedness' still continues and they are not one class with the factory workers. But so many theoretic

WANTED

Applications are invited for the post of Manager, Co-op. Central Sales Room of the Jaffna Co-op. Textile Societies Union Ltd. to reach the Secretary, 228, Hospital Rd., Jaffna on or before 31st May 1944. Security Rs. 500 in cash. Monthly salary Rs. 40 or more according to capacity and qualifications. Trade experience preferred. (MIs 15, 24 & 31)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1944

MORE FOOD?

THERE IS ONE ASPECT OF THE new rules with regard to the internal purchase scheme that deserves immediate attention. We refer to the probable effect of these new rules on food production as a whole. We take it that the object of the Ministers and the State Council is not only to produce more food but also to see that the present level of food production is not reduced. This level is not high enough, as it is, to meet the demand. It would be a grave error to reduce this level, and we feel that the Ministers themselves would protest if they were told that their one aim appeared to be to scare the farmer away from his lands.

And yet, the result, if not the object, of the drastic rules that have now been enacted with retrospective effect would be to reduce the amount of food produced. We have pointed out more than once in these columns that it would be impossible for the farmer to continue to cultivate his lands if the State proceeded to deplete the reserves of grain legitimately needed for purposes of cultivation. The announcement that the farmer is still entitled to his seed paddy and the usual allowances for labourers does not help the farmer at all. It goes without saying that, without seed paddy, even Mr. D. S. Senanayake would find it impossible to produce anything, fortified as he is with liberal grants from the revenue and a Legislature ready to vote at his bidding. With regard to the question of allowances, the rules on this point are being applied arbitrarily and harshly.

We would remind the State Council that the resolutions passed at a recent meeting of farmers in the Eastern Province are not mere bluff. The Minister of Lands and Agriculture, aided and abetted by his colleagues, has done his best to do what we, in these columns, with the best of intentions, repeatedly warned him against doing. The measures that have been enacted at his instigation and with his support are the last straw on the farmer's back, and we shall not be surprised if the net

result of his activities is to reduce the area under cultivation. We shall, of course, be told that the State will take over the uncultivated lands and sow them. But this is easier said than done. The Government will never be able to do the farmer's work, and the sooner this is realized the better it will be for the island as a whole.

We have always, in these columns, given our support to the Internal Purchase scheme, but the new rules are so arbitrary and foolish that they cannot be supported on any ground.

Notes and Comments

Indo-Ceylon Relations

At an entertainment given to Dr. N. B. Khare, member in charge of the Commonwealth Relations Department, Viceroy's Council, by the local Indian Chamber of Commerce at Coimbatore, S. India, on the 15th inst., an address was presented to him representing the grievances of Indians overseas. Replying to the address, Dr. Khare said that he might tell them frankly that Indians suffered very grievously in many matters not only outside India but in India itself, and that their grievances could never be completely eradicated until and unless India got into her own and attained full nationhood.

After referring to South Africa and Burma he is reported to have said that as far as Ceylon was concerned, it was practically part of India, and that they must have an opportunity of commenting upon the constitution proposed by the Board of Ministers, and also upon the status of Indians. Mr. M. S. Aney, Government of India's representative in Ceylon, who is now in India on holiday and who intends to meet Dr. Khare there, said only a week ago that the future of Ceylon depended on the friendliness of the two countries—India and Ceylon—and he was of opinion that they days of differences between the two countries were numbered. Such is the attitude of Indians in responsible positions. It was Mr. Aney who, when he was member of the Viceroy's Council in charge of Indians overseas, regarded Ceylon as a part of India, in one economic unit, and allowed large exports of rice from Bengal and other places to Ceylon two years ago. But what is the attitude of our Leader of the State Council? He is ready to fight the Indian citizenship question even from his death-bed; he is prepared to allow half the present generation of Ceylonese to starve and die if only in order to save the future generations of Ceylonese; and his latest is: "We shall not sell our country for 2000 tons of paruppu." Tax-payers are entitled to ask how many tons of "paruppu" has our Leader been able to produce in Ceylon for over a hundred million rupees he was able to get freely from the State Council ever since he became Minister of Agriculture and a virtual dictator thirteen years ago?

Department of Commonwealth Affairs

By the way, we do not quite see what significance is attached to the recent change in the name of the 'Department of Indians overseas', in the Viceroy's Council, into the 'Department of Commonwealth Relations'. According to the Cripps

scheme and other schemes of constitutional reform for India, it is India which has to decide whether it will remain within the British Commonwealth. This decision, we believe, will depend much on the attitude of the Dominions and of the British Government towards India at the post-war settlement. It, therefore, appears that the present change in the name is untimely and prejudicial to a free decision at the proper time.

Give Over To Government

At a public meeting held at Welitara, Ambalangoda, last week Mr. P. de S. Kularatne, M. S. C., is reported to have said that if estate owners could not find labourers to work on the estates, those estates should be given over to Government. Where will the Government find labourers, we ask? Has the Government any machines which will do the work of labourers on estates? Or, will it resort to conscription? Even then has not Mr. Kularatne seen what happened when the Government undertook the purchase of rice in Bombay recently and when it attempted trading in rice during the rice crisis of 1920? Again, what was the result of rice milling done by Government at Anuradhapura?

Do Away With Servants

Of course, we know what solution Mr. Kularatne has in his mind. Some time ago he advised the boys and girls of a school, at a prize giving, that they should all learn to wash their own plates and scrub the floor, since, after the war, the standard of living would have improved generally in the country and no servants would be available. Thus far it was a wholesome advice. Now he goes further and says, "Let us work on estates. Let our children be taught to work on roads and estates. There will be a time when laws will be enacted to reduce the number of servants, or even entirely to do away with servants. We must be prepared to manage, everything our selves". Yes, let our children be come hewers of wood and drawers of water. And why? Just to keep out Indian labourers and servants whose standard of living also will rise if the seek employment in Ceylon!

VICTORIA COLLEGE

An Appeal to Make It Public Property

Mr. Thambaiya, Manager, Victoria College, Chulipuram, writes:

It has been felt desirable that the Victoria College, Chulipuram and its premises should be declared a public property and be managed by a Board of Directors. A sum of Rupees fifty thousand is necessary for liquidating the liabilities of the college and for the acquisition of lands, for improvements to the buildings and for equipment. It is proposed to raise this amount by enrolling at least 50 life members who shall pay a subscription of Rs. 1000.

An account under the head of Victoria College Board Fund has been opened in the Jaffna Branch of the Mercantile Bank and a sum of Rs. 6100 has already been deposited in the Bank on this account.

An earnest appeal is made to all friends and well-wishers to send in their subscriptions direct to the bank or through the undersigned, the Managing Proprietor who, when the fund has reached the 30,000 rupee mark, will transfer the proprietorship and the management of the College to the Board.

A draft constitution of the Board will be circulated to intending subscribers at an early date.

Letters to the Editor

SAIVA SIDDHANTA CONFERENCE

Sir,—I understand that the annual All-Ceylon Saiva Siddhanta Conference is to meet shortly in April. It is no doubt very useful and conducive to the understanding of our Saiva philosophy.

Let me suggest a few things to the organisers of this Conference on public interest. If the Conference has as its objective, the teaching or spreading of Hindu philosophy, the teaching or the lectures must not be dogmatic. Philosophy is always speculative. They must welcome questions from those desirous of learning or benefiting by hearing those lectures. Pious listening and accepting any views, without a critical study and discussion is against Sravana-mana-na-student-ship, in all our systems of Indian philosophy. In a platform of any philosophical teaching, the carvaka or the jaina, or any other school, has a very respectable place of equality and consideration; for without them, the exposition of our philosophy cannot have reached this stage of near perfection. Still, it cannot be called perfection, since many points disputably exist and many continue to exist.

I shall be very glad if the Secretary arranges for questions to be permitted at the end of each lecture. In all philosophical and religious conferences, held in the different parts of the world, this custom is allowed. The questions should not be personal or offensive. Freedom of opinion on all philosophic doctrines, must be tolerantly and pleasantly allowed. Let ideas clash with ideas, and result in the issue of compromised thought, but let no argumentum ad hominem be allowed, under any circumstances.

The guardians and promoters of Saiva Siddhanta, may temporarily be confounded by the difficult questions of a Sanyasadi, or Sanyasi. It is such questions, that will bring to the fore all fresh knowledge. No knowledge becomes exact, interesting, and clear, without its having a necessity to define, elaborate, retrace and systematise, because of the countless propositions contradictory and contrary, advanced by the adversaries of that school of thought. It is a pleasure to be an adversary of thought, and they are never enemies in our sense. They can be the best of friends, members of a family, who can even be a father and son. Indian philosophy has very many instances to prove this fact.

Yours truly,
S. SETUKAVALAR,
(Research Scholar, University of Madras)

7-4-44.

GANDHIJI'S PROGRESS SATISFACTORY

Mr. Gandhi's temperature has been normal for the last 48 hours and his progress is satisfactory, says a press note issued by the Director of Information on the 18th April.

FOR SALE

"200 Lachams P. O. Paddy field at Kudakhanai.

For particulars, apply to

K. MUTTUKUMARU IYER,
Auctioneer Pt. Pedro,
Mis. 7, 20, 24, 27.)

EIGHT "LUCKY" MILLIONAIRES

At a meeting of residents of Katukurunda and Kalamulla (held in Katukurunda, Mr. Francis de Silva presiding), it was unanimously decided to request Government to establish a co-operative arrack distillery at Katukurunda in Kalutara town.

Mr. D. Peter Silva said that in a democratic country it was paradoxical to allow eight persons to run arrack distilleries with the assistance of the Government. Those eight lucky men had become millionaires at the expense of toddy contractors, tappers and owners of coconut trees.

He suggested that Government should buy up all the existing distilleries and run them on co-operative lines. Even the arrack taverns should be run on co-operative lines.

The present black market in arrack, he alleged, was due to certain arrack renters, who were the real black marketeers. When a stock of arrack came to a tavern the renter kept back half the stock for sale in the black market at double the authorised prices.

Jaffna Seizure of Cummin Seed

Startling disclosures are expected as the result of the seizure by Mr. E. B. Tisseverasinghe, Assistant Government Agent (Emergency), and Mr. P. R. de S. Seneviratne, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Jaffna, of twelve bags of cummin seed in the Grand Bazaar.

There had been persistent complaints to the authorities by members of the public that several co-operative stores in Jaffna were the centres of black-market activities. Messrs Tisseverasinghe and Seneviratne raided "Lucky Stores" in Grand Bazaar and are stated to have seized four bags of cummin seed as they were unloaded from a cart in the back verandah of the stores. The remaining eight bags of cummin seed in the cart were also seized. It is alleged that these twelve bags had been smuggled out of the Jaffna wholesale co-operative stores to feed the black-market.

The Police investigations disclosed, it is learned, the sale of twenty cases of tinned milk in three days by one private dealer in Grand Bazaar.

All-Ceylon Saiva Conference

Under the auspices of the All-Ceylon Central Young Men's Hindu Association, the above annual conference will be held at the Jaffna Hindu College Tamil school premises, Vannarponnai, from the 28th to 30th inst. daily commencing at 10 a.m. under the chairmanship of Mr. S. V. Jambulingam Pillai of Madras.

The following will be the principal speakers: Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Pandit Mrs. Pathmasini Rajendra, Pandit M. V. Tirugunasambanthar, Mr. V. T. S. Sivagurunathan, Mrs. Arunthavarayaki Kanagasamy, Mr. I. Ponriah, Mr. V. Veerasingham, Mr. S. Jeyareersingham, Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Pandit K. K. Natarajan, Mr. S. Murugesu, Mr. S. V. Subramaniam and Pandit Mrs. Balambikai Thambalasingam.

Bribery Charge:

The Police have entered a charge in the Kays, Magistrate Court against Mr. V. Anthonypillai, Price Control Inspector, alleging that he obtained an illegal gratification of Rs. 400/- from one Arumugam Thambu of Kays promising not to prosecute him for being in possession of four bags of imported rice.

Agricultural Producers' Union

At the annual general meeting of The Northern Division Agricultural Producers' Union, Ltd., held on the 15th inst. Muhandram M. Krishner was elected President, Mr. T. N. Appadurai, I. S. M., Vice-President, and Mr. V. R. Murugesu, Secretary for the current year. The following are passages from the report for 1943:

"Much as we fought against the abolition and for the re-introduction of the Quota Ordinance, yet, at a later stage, we ourselves had to move for the abolition of this Ordinance when we found that it was not in the best interests of the cultivator. This has resulted in our severing connections, at least temporarily, with the Commissioner for the development of Agricultural Marketing. The chief reason for taking this step was due to the fact that the price of onions was fluctuating owing to war conditions and that he could not give any definite undertaking to the farmer as to the price at which his goods would be bought. We represented matters to the Civil Defence Commissioner, who has been kind enough to authorize us to pay to the farmer Rs. 12-32 per cwt. of onions and Rs. 50/- per cwt. of dried chillies and agreed to take over from us the entire crop of this area at Rs. 15/- per cwt. of onions and Rs. 56/- per cwt. of dried chillies. The Civil Defence Commissioner was also very sympathetic towards our undertaking and has had a Defence Regulation proclaimed making us the Sole Agents to buy and despatch the entire crop of the country grown onions and chillies in the Jaffna Peninsula. This has placed us in a very enviable position and it is no wonder that our activities are at times adversely criticised by those who have been very badly defeated in their attempts to thrive in the Black Market."

"Our assistance to the Credit Societies by helping them to recover their loans from the value of the produce handed over to our Societies was appreciable. Only in one instance which ended in a lawsuit resulting in a greater loss to the defaulter enhancing the reputation of the A. P. C. Sales Societies was there a failure. Our attempt to sell our goods from the producer direct to the consumer through co-operative channels has been successful to a large extent but it is expected that our service to the producer and consumer during the course of 1944 will be still greater as we have been able to note our defects during the past year and provide for adequate remedy."

Rice In Hand

"TILL MAY"

At the annual conference of the Uva Village Committee (held at Badulla, Mr. V. C. Jayasuriya, Deputy Commissioner of Local Government, presiding), Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, the Government Agent, Uva, stressed the importance of growing food intensively and extensively.

The newspapers, he added, had already published what the Civil Defence Commissioner had stated in regard to the rice situation. The supply in hand would not last beyond May. The proposed levy of two bushels per cultivated acre had been decided upon by Go-

ORDER ABSOLUTE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 235

In the matter of the last will and Testament of Ponnammah wife of Visuwanathar Kumarasamy of Changanai West Deceased

And In the matter of the Civil Procedure Code Chapter xxxviii. Visuwanathar Kumarasamy of Changanai West, Petitioner

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on the 23rd day of March 1944 in the presence of Mr. M. K. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner above-named and the affidavit of (i) the petitioner dated the 8th day of March 1944 and (ii) of the attesting Notary Public and the Witnesses dated 28th day of February 1944 having been read.

It is ordered that the Joint and Mutual will and Testament of the said Ponnammah wife of Visuwanathar Kumarasamy bearing No. 16316 dated 21st January 1943 and attested by S. Arumugam Notary Public the original of which has been produced and is now deposited in this Court be and the same is hereby declared proved; And it is further declared that the said Visuwanathar Kumarasamy the survivor of the executants to the said last will, is the sole executor named in the said will and that he is entitled to have Probate thereof issued to him accordingly.

This 29th day of March 1944.
Sgd. L. W. de Silva,
District Judge.
(O. 4, 24 & 27)

NOTICE

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs

It is hereby notified that when subsidiary foodstuffs are issued to the public through private traders, all persons whether they hold ration books or ration books coupons or token cards are entitled to draw supplies and not only those who purchase rice or flour.

E. B. Tisseverasinghe,
for Govt. Agent, N.P.
Kachcheri (E),
Jaffna, 18-4-44.
(G. 12, 21)

NOTICE

Government College of Indigenous Medicine Cotta Road Colombo

The College year commences on 17th May, 1944. Students desiring admission to the classes (Ayurveda-Siddha-Unani Sections) should send in their applications to reach me on or before 10th May 1944.

For forms and particulars apply to the undersigned.

A. N. N. PANIKKER,
Principal,
G. C. I. M.
Cotta Road,
Colombo,
17-4-44.
(G. 13, 24)

NOTICE

DUNLOP AND GOOD YEAR RUBBER SOLUTION

available at controlled price of 30/- per tube at

Messrs T. N. Lingam & Son
Motor Dealers
Jaffna.
(Mis. 16, 24 & 27-4-44)

vernment after great consideration, and with reluctance. He appealed to the chairmen and members of village committees to urge the people to give cheerfully whatever surplus paddy and rice was available. Every effort should be made to increase the yield,

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

held at Point Pedro.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 238 P.T.

In the matter of the Intestate estate of the late Alvappillai Sittampalam of Valvettiturai Deceased.

Alagamma widow of Alvappillai Sittampalam of Valvettiturai Vs. Petitioner,

1. Sittampalam Ratnasamy,
2. Sittampalam Kanagasabai,
3. Sittampalam Anandamail,
4. Sittampalam Vairamuttu,
5. Thurasamy Paramakurusamy,
6. and wife Theakuncharam,
7. Sittampalam Durairajah,
8. Sittampalam Sivasambu,
9. Sittampalam Thillaiyampalam,
10. Ma'buraimessa/Chimma daughter of Sittampalam,
11. Scthimuttammah daughter of Sittampalam all of Valvettiturai

The 7th to 11th Respondents are minors by their Guardian-ad-litem the 2nd Respondent Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva Esquire, Additional District Judge Jaffna on the 19th day of February 1944, in the presence of Mr. M. Esurapadham Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that the Petitioner above-named as widow of the deceased Alvappillai Sittampalam be and is hereby declared entitled to take out Letters of administration to the Estate of the said deceased and that Letters of administration be accordingly be issued to the Petitioner unless the Respondents appear before this Court on or before the 17th day of March 1944 and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court.

This 19th day of February 1944.
Sgd. L. W. de Silva,
Addl. District Judge.
Order Nisi extended for 27-4-44.
Intd. L. W. de S.
A. D. J.
(O. 6, 24 & 27)

NOTICE

The public are hereby informed that I withdraw the notice published by me on 11-5-43 in this paper in respect of the paddy lands which are situated at Murasamoddi and known as Lanka Company land in extent 89 Acres. 3 Roads and 2 Patches accessible by Rodrigo Road and declare the Mr. S. Ambalavanar, Asst. Supdt. of Surveys, Kurunegala, is the absolute owner and proprietor of the said lands and that he has every right to deal with the said lands in any manner he likes.

V. S. Kandiyapillai
Mis. 12, 24 27)

Seventy Acres of the above paddy field are for immediate sale either in one block or in smaller extents. Apply to me or to V. Somasunderam, Esquire, Proctor, Nallur.

S. AMBALAVANAR
Asst. Supdt. of Surveys.
Mis. 13 24 27)

NOTICE.

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements have been made to distribute the currysuffs mentioned below at the rates specified against each commodity to each consumer not attached to a co-operative retail store from Monday, the 24th to 30th instant (both days inclusive).

(1) Coriander 1 oz per head
(2) Tamarind 1 oz per head
(3) Mysore Dhall or Peas 1 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. 11 24-4-44)

PENICILLIN

By

Prof. H. W. Florey, F. R. S.

(Continued from Last Issue)

In addition it was found that the white cells of the blood were able to withstand a solution some hundreds of times stronger than that necessary to stop the growth of bacteria. At first this might not appear to matter much but the situation becomes clear at once when it is realised that these white cells normally play a great part in the protection of the body by taking hold of harmful bacteria and destroying them. Sometimes the bacteria make so much poison that these white cells are unable to deal with them, and then the disease spreads. If, however, the white cells overcome the bacteria then healing occurs.

Now all antiseptics with which you are familiar not only kill bacteria but they also kill the white cells and the tissues of the man or animal in which the bacteria are multiplying, so that they are not much help in curing diseases. Penicillin does not kill bacteria outright but only stops their growth while the body cells are not harmed at all. So we must consider that penicillin acts in the body by stopping the growth of bacteria and while they are in this state of suspended animation the white blood cells come along and eat them.

Besides not harming white blood cells it was noted that the constituents of tissues—which are called cells—when grown artificially in glass vessels were also not affected by quite strong concentrations. This meant that it was quite unlike that penicillin would interfere in any way with healing.

To get penicillin into the body it had to be injected directly either into the blood stream or into the muscles or beneath the skin as, if it were swallowed, the acid in the stomach would destroy it. After injection it is rapidly excreted by the kidneys and this explains why it is necessary to give large, repeated doses, for otherwise very little is left in the body after a short time.

If you have followed me so far you will see that at this stage of the investigation we knew that penicillin was a substance very active in stopping the growth of some of the bacteria which are man's worst enemies, and that it was almost non-poisonous to animals and to the little cells which make up their tissues.

Before anyone can be justified in trying a new drug on disease in man it is absolutely necessary to see how animals infected with the same sort of diseases behave when treated. To do this white mice were infected with germs which would certainly kill them unless they could be successfully treated. A number of mice so infected with different germs were treated with penicillin and it was found that when the dose of penicillin was adequate nearly all the mice lived for an indefinite period of time and scarcely even showed any signs of illness.

There have, of course, been moments of considerable excitement during the course of this work but I do not suppose any of us will forget the morning of the day following the first such successful experiment. The treated mice were all alive while those which had had no penicillin treatment were very ill or dead.

From that time it was clear that penicillin might be of considerable importance in treating human

disease, so it was necessary to make enough material to try out this point. You may probably know that penicillin is still rare and wonder why this is so. First of all, the mould does not produce much so that very large volumes of culture medium have to be made and processed. This, of itself, would not prevent penicillin being made in quantity, for I need hardly tell you that such things as beer can be brewed on an enormous scale. But everywhere in the air around us there are bacteria floating about. These are harmless to man but if they happen to drop into cultures of *Penicillium Notatum* they will destroy the penicillin as fast as it is produced. One of the main difficulties in large-scale manufacture therefore is to keep out the air bacteria, and as they are everywhere in millions you will appreciate that that is no easy matter.

For us in the laboratory it was a very large jump from mice to man for an average-sized man weighs some 3,000 times more than a mouse. To prepare enough material in the laboratory needed months of labour by Dr. Heatley and his assistants, but eventually enough was made to try a small injection. This first dose, much to our consternation, produced a rise of temperature and made the patient uncomfortable. However, it was found possible to remove the substance causing the fever without affecting the penicillin. For the first two patients with serious illnesses we unfortunately did not prepare enough stuff and had the regrettable experience of seeing them get partly well and then relapse because we had no more penicillin. Thereafter, the scale of penicillin production was raised in the laboratory at Oxford and with supplies received from Imperial Chemical Industries it was made clear on fifteen patients that penicillin in effective doses caused no poisonous reactions and was capable of curing serious diseases hitherto unresponsive to any form of treatment.

These results have now been amply confirmed in this country and in America.

Patients are treated with relatively crude penicillin preparations containing not more than ten or twenty per cent of the pure substance. Pure penicillin is an extraordinarily powerful antibacterial substance, preventing the growth of bacteria in the astonishing dilution of one in fifty million. Pure penicillin is not more, but considerably less, toxic than the cruder preparations and, in the combination of great antibacterial power and very low toxicity it is at present unique.

In England, notwithstanding difficult war conditions, research and production on a large scale are now going on to improve penicillin supplies. At present nearly all of it is going to the armed forces which is very right and proper for there are good reasons for supposing that it will be of great use in treating the wounded.

All the penicillin at present in use is produced from the mould. We know that it is a chemical substance and have learnt a great deal about its composition. It is our hope that one day abundant supplies may be manufactured by chemists in the laboratory, instead of depending on the mould to make it for us. Until this happy day I am afraid that supplies will fall short of requirements, but rest assured that no effort is being spared to make it available to all who need it in the shortest possible time.—BBC Press Service.

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. Achchipillai 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. Thambiah Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 25th day of August 1943 in the presence of Mr. C. R. 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.

Sgt. G. C. Thambiah,
District Judge.

Extended to 24-4-44

Intld. J. J.

D. J.

(O. 3, 20 & 24)

ORDER ABSOLUTE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 185
In the matter of the last will and testament of Kathirgammam Ponnampalam of Vaddukoddai East, And.

In the matter of the Civil Procedure Code Chapter xxxviii.

Vythilingam Kardasamy of Vaddukoddai East Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on the 27th day of March 1944 in the presence of Mr. M. K. Subrameniam Proctor, on the part of the petitioner abovenamed and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 19th day of October 1943, (ii) of the attesting Notary and witnesses dated 8th day of November 1943 and 20th day of October 1943 and 18th day of November having been read;

It is ordered that the said last will and testament of the said Kathirgammam Ponnampalam deceased bearing No. 29 dated 1st December 1942 and attested by S. V. Somasudaram Notary Public the original of which has been produced and is now deposited in this Court, be and the same is hereby declared proved; And it is further declared that the said Vythilingam Kardasamy is the sole executor named in the said will and that he is entitled to have probate thereof issued to him accordingly.

Sgt. L. W. de Silva
District Judge

This 29th day of March 1944
O. 5, 24, 27)

H. S. C. CLASS

An H. S. C. class has been started at Victoria College, Chulipuram. The subjects taught are English, Latin, Tamil, Ceylon History, European History, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry. Principal
Mis. 14, 24, 27)

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S. KANAGASABAI,

(Y. 164. A. 21-11-41—20-11-44.) (T's) Shroff.