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The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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MANNAR-MULLAITIVU ELECTION

Candidate's Policy Should Decide Issue

By "Sentinel"

Perhaps the first elections fought in Ceylon on clear-cut political issues were those of 1934 in the Jaffna District between Boycotters and Non-boycotters. There was no room then for questions of caste or creed to arise in any of the Jaffna constituencies, and the results showed a complete victory to the non-boycotters in all the four constituencies. The contest between the late Mr. Jos. I. Gnanamuttu and Mr. C. Suntharalingam, for the Mannar-Mullaitivu seat in 1943, was also one on political issues but unfortunately it could also be alleged that the question of religion played a part in it inasmuch as it happened that the winning candidate was a Roman Catholic and the losing candidate a Hindu, and that the majority of the voters were Roman Catholics. But no such allegation can be brought in connection with the present election which comes off next Saturday. Both candidates are Hindus by religion and are of the same caste and status. Mr. C. Suntharalingam is an M. A. of Oxford, a B. Sc. of London and a Barrister-at-Law. Mr. J. Tyagaraja also is an M. A. of Cambridge and a B. Sc. of London and a Barrister-at-Law. Both have held high appointments and acquitted themselves creditably. The former has distinguished himself in the field of Mathematics (though to the detriment of the minorities in the Executive Committees and in the Board of Ministers) and shown signs of great patriotism and readiness to serve his country by offering himself twice for election to the State Council. The latter too has shown his readiness to serve the Council by coming forward twice and given evidence of his mastery of Economics, Politics and Finance as Manager of the State Mortgage Bank, Chairman of the Coconut Board and Chairman of the Low Country Products' Association. Both are of about the same age, possess health, vigour and experience although one may be said to be more dynamic and aggressive and the other cool, calm, thoughtful and responsive. Hence a choice on personal merits becomes difficult and unnecessary.

The only consideration, therefore, which will have to weigh with intelligent voters now is the political views and programmes of the two candidates to see whether they are in conformity with the interests of the people who inhabit the constituency and of the Tamils in general.

Mr. Tyagaraja, as soon as he announced his candidature, declared that he stands for (1) The early amendment of the constitution directed towards self-government and embodying Balanced Representation, (2) equality of status for Indians resident in Ceylon, (3) a minimum of three seats for the Mannar-Mullaitivu constituency, one being reserved for Muslims, (4) uplift of the farming and fishing industries and (5) the continued maintenance of the present system of denominational schools. These are great questions that agitate the public mind to-day and the voters will be glad to see that they are well-conceived. Readers of the "Hindu Organ" will remember the interview, given by him and published in the paper on March, 6, 1944, which clarified the definite position he has taken. He is a gentleman

of the first rank and we know that he will stand by his word.

It is strange, however, that Mr. Suntharalingam has not thought it necessary to declare his policy once more to his voters and the public at large. He is mysteriously silent this time. So, to know where he stands, we have to examine the manifesto he issued in July, 1943, when he contested the late Mr. Gnanamuttu. In it he stated that the most important questions that required immediate attention were (1) Reform of the Constitution, (2) Food and clothing policy, (3) Educational reforms including University education and location of University, (4) Unemployment after the War, and (5) Planned development of Ceylon's resources.

On account of the scarcity of paper he has not expatiated on the last three questions. Educational reform is the burning topic of the day and, although Mr. Suntharalingam wanted to become the Principal of the University College and later Vice-Chancellor of the Ceylon University, he has so far not divulged his views on the Report of the Special Committee on Education which proposes fundamental changes. The position of denominational schools in the new scheme, a subject of much discussion in the country. Mr. Tyagaraja has expressed his views definitely about it, but Mr. Suntharalingam is discreetly silent and has not committed himself on the question. His silence leads to suspicion whether he is of late cultivating the cult of the jumping cat on account of the election.

On the question of Constitutional Reform he says in his manifesto of 1943. "I believe that a constitutional scheme, if it is to allay present fears and win the confidence, unity and amity of all sections of Ceylon, must provide for (a) security of fundamental rights, e.g. Religious freedom and impartiality in Education, Recruitment and Administration of public services outside political control; Right to preserve one's language and culture, and (b) safeguards for minorities. Well, Mr. Suntharalingam should know that no one is worried about the fundamental rights he speaks of. Religious freedom and protection of language and culture will be the characteristics of any constitution given to us by the British, and Mr. Suntharalingam need not fight for them. In view of the present and past attitude of the majority community, the minority communities are only concerned with safeguards so that they may not be submerged and that they may also look at the sun. What is Mr. Suntharalingam's solution? He suggests twelve reserved seats in a Council of sixty for Muslims, Ceylon Tamils, Burghers and Kandyan Sinhalese. He has no concern for the Indians. He advocates nominated seats for all non-Ceylonese interests, thereby bringing the Indians and the Euro-

peans under the category of non-Ceylonese. He says vaguely that "until the voters are able to exercise their votes irrespective of considerations of race or religion, the return of adequate members of minority communities might be secured by effective provisions. One such provision is the joint (two-member) electorates with reserved seats." Does Mr. Suntharalingam know that such joint-electorates were created in India by the Minto-Morley Reforms, tried for ten years, and were discarded as a failure? Has he not observed that Mrs. Naysam Saravanamuttu was elected by a constituency with a majority of Sinhalese voters in it, and she was unable to speak a single word on behalf of her own community? Again does he know that the Ceylon National Congress has always fought against reservation of seats and it was the reserved seat for the Western Province Tamils that caused so much rupture between the Sinhalese and Tamils, so much so that even the first and last member who represented that seat could not defend it and hold it?

On the whole, on this vital question, Mr. Suntharalingam seems to be confused. He is not clear about it himself. He seems to have devised a scheme, just to satisfy or mystify his voters, against his own convictions. He says that the scheme is only a tentative one drawn after consultation with many friends including those of other communities. Evidently he has been running to his friends to help him extricate himself from the hole he has put his leg into. Let us go a little earlier to understand him more fully. He said in his Presidential address to the Youth Congress of Jaffna in 1941:

"Is it ethically right for a minority section of a subject people which is unable to come to an understanding with the major section to stand in the way of winning their freedom? At worst the former will only be changing their masters. Speaking for myself and knowing the capacity and methods of Sinhalese Rule, I will have no hesitation in preferring the latter."

Well, that is Mr. Suntharalingam's mentality. There he is. He will have proposals for safeguards, and that in a clumsy fashion, only as an expedient at election time. But, Mr. Tyagarajah has boldly and unequivocally declared himself in favour of Balanced Representation. Who is the safer of the two?

With regard to the question of immigration and status of Indians Mr. Suntharalingam in his Presidential address to the Youth Congress in 1941 definitely stood against further immigration. He said there were only two parties in Ceylon, the exploiters and the exploited—the non-Ceylonese and the Ceylonese. He was magisterial enough to ask his followers to treat the Indians in Ceylon kindly, not to wound their

self-respect, to give citizenship to those Indians who had settled in the Island permanently, but said he: "Don't allow them to exploit you." தாயும் பிள்ளையும் சென்றதும் வாயும் வயிறும் வேறு." To the Youth Congress he gave a Five-Point Policy for its guidance thus: (1) Ceylon for the Ceylonese, (2) Equalities for all Ceylonese, (3) Impartial Recognition of merit, (4) Unity and Amity of Ceylonese Peoples and (5) Self-Determination for Ceylon.

In this connection it is well to remember the appeal made by seven minority members of the State Council to the Mannar-Mullaitivu electorate on the eve of Mr. Gnanamuttu's election last year. Messrs. T. B. Jayah, S. Dharmaratnam, S. P. Vythilingam, I. X. Pereira, S. Natesan, G. G. Ponnambalam, and Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel said:

"The fate of the minority communities in this country depends upon their representatives in the State Council being able to present a united front so as to ensure that the constitution formulated by the Board of Ministers and adopted by three-fourths of the members of the State Council is acceptable to the minority communities. It is not improbable that the ultimate issue may depend upon a single vote, possibly the vote of the member whom you are now called upon to elect."

Further is an appeal to the electors of the constituency the late Mr. M. T. Akbar, K. C., Retired Puisne Justice, commended the selection of Mr. Gnanamuttu last year and said:

"We are on the verge of great changes in Ceylon—in common with the rest of the world—politically, socially and economically. At this juncture when a new constitution is about to be framed, it is very necessary to have a man like Mr. Gnanamuttu with his wide experience and well-known political views to ensure that the rights—especially the religious rights—of every minority community are carefully safeguarded. Co-operation among the representatives of the minority communities, a ways important, has become vitally indispensable in the immediate future by reason of the recent declaration of the Imperial Government on the future constitution of the country."

Principles Over Personalities

One cannot also easily forget Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam's peroration on the day Mr. Gnanamuttu's victory, by a majority of nearly 3000 votes, was announced. Mr. Ponnambalam said: "Before God and before you I stand in all humility and hail you as victors. This is not a triumph for Mr. Gnanamuttu or me or anyone else. It is a victory for the people gained by the people. It is the triumph of commonsense. Principles have triumphed over personalities and leaders of the masses have stood shoulder to shoulder in support of our political demands and our claim for balanced representation. The election has been fought on party lines on our side and for the affirmation of our demand for balanced representation. The electorate has given a clear mandate for balanced representation, equal treatment of Indians resident in Ceylon and for a minimum of three seats, including

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, MAY 8, 1944

RELEASE OF MAHATMA GANDHI

HIS EXCELLENCY THE Viceroy has ordered the release of Mahatma Gandhi. The release is unconditional, but seems to have been decided upon on medical grounds. It would appear that His Excellency has acted on his own responsibility. Mr. Gandhi has not been in the best of health for some time. His condition is not serious, but at his age an attack of malaria, accompanied by weakness, may lead to serious consequences. With the enemy fighting for the mastery of India on Indian soil, it would have been a pitiful tragedy if the greatest Indian of modern times had ended his days in confinement. Lord Wavell deserves to be congratulated on acting so promptly and wisely as he has done. He has shown imagination and an amount of willingness to face facts, which may well be the precursor of a better understanding between Britain and India.

It is, of course, difficult to say what part Mr. Gandhi's illness has actually played in bringing about his release, but no statesman in the position of Lord Wavell could have failed to realise that the release of Mahatma Gandhi at the present moment is an immense political asset to any Government. One need not be surprised if this aspect of the matter had as much influence with the Indian Government as the prisoner's state of health.

If there is one man who can rally India to the British cause, that man is Mahatma Gandhi. The libel perpetrated on his character and motives by British official propaganda was an unpardonable blunder. The Prime Minister and Mr. Amery have done their best to estrange India. Let us hope that the release of Mahatma Gandhi reflects also a change of attitude on the part of these two towards the aspirations of the Indian people.

But, Mr. Gandhi, by himself, can do little. He is only the leader of an organisation. The Indian National Congress has been outlawed by the fiat of Lord Wavell's predecessor. Its workers and sympathisers are languishing in jail. Mr. Gandhi's able lieutenant, Pandit Nehru, is still in confinement. If the British Government sincerely desires the co-operation of Indian leaders at the present juncture, it must put itself right with the Congress first by releasing those whom it has imprisoned.

THE INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME

We publish elsewhere a notification by the Government Agent of the Northern Province with regard to the new rules governing the internal purchase scheme. We are glad to note that it has now been decided that "the levy of two bushels per acre should begin to operate only after allowance has been made for seed paddy (i.e. two bushels per acre), and customary services (one bushel per acre)". When, however, "fields have been extensively destroyed and the damage is clearly ascertainable and is of appreciable effect, the levy will not be recovered in respect of those fields, i.e., the levy will in such cases operate only over the area actually reaped, whereas the allowances will apply to the area sown." We suppose one must be thankful for even small mercies, but does the Civil Defence Commissioner think that this is going to improve matters? The allowance of seed paddy is fixed at two bushels per acre. The Commissioner does not perhaps know that, at least, in the Northern Province the rate of seed paddy for the Kalapokam crop is certainly two bushels per acre, but for the Sirupokam the rate is at least two bushels and a half per acre. Then, again, there is the question of damage to seed and the need for re-sowing damaged fields. To cover this an extra allowance of about half a bushel per acre is imperative. Is knowledge of paddy cultivation so scarce that the Civil Defence Commissioner must needs make and unmake rules in this fashion? As regards the allowance for customary services, the rate of one bushel per acre is grossly inadequate. All that we can say is that rules like these will only reduce the surplus that will be available for purchase by the Government. There can be no excuse what ever for the ignorance of the essential requirements of cultivation displayed in the rules framed by the Civil Defence Commissioner, and it is the duty of the State Council which is ultimately responsible for the well-being of the people of this island to scrutinise these rules. We ask, again, on what ground of principle or expediency does the levy of two bushels per acre become a first charge on the fields even if the cultivator has no paddy for his own consumption?

As for the alleged threat at a meeting of the Jaffna Food Producers Association to give up paddy cultivation, we do not think it is the business of the Association or of anybody else to add to the difficulties of the moment by indulging in such threats. In fact, no such threats are necessary. What is going to happen is that, unless the State Council intervenes, production of paddy is going to diminish. We agree with the

"Times of Ceylon" that "in a country faced with a shortage of food anything that tends to lower food production borders on treason", but the real traitors are not those who utter threats in the heat of the moment but the persons in authority who do not seem to understand even the elementary requirements of a cultivator in the matter of seed paddy, and papers like the "Times" whose one object is to keep the price of paddy down for the benefit of estate labourers. If the "Times" is unable to understand the merits of the demand for more money for paddy and bigger allowances for the producer, its duty is to acquire a little more knowledge on the subject, instead of screaming violently about treason and treachery. We should like to know from this somewhat excited exponent of the law of treason how many consecutive minutes it had devoted in the past to the question of paddy cultivation and whether, on strictly patriotic grounds, it would support an appreciable reduction in the handsome profits earned by rubber and tea at a moment of national emergency? There is no occasion for the objurgations of the "Times" or the threats said to have been uttered by someone at the meeting of the Food Producers' Association. If the price of Rs. 6 per bushel is not adequate, what will happen will be a curtailment of the surplus paddy available for sale. It is the duty of every patriotic person, including the Editor of the "Times", to find out whether this is a reasonable price. In our view the price is too low under present conditions, and it must be remembered that we supported this price when it was fixed by Mr. Senanayake.

Notes and Comments

Manufacture of Fertilizers

To meet Ceylon's immediate needs in the matter of rice production even half-way we think the Ministry of Agriculture should leave no stone unturned to encourage intensive cultivation in all possible ways. In view of the shortage and dearth of labour the possibility of making the island self-sufficient in the near future will only be a dream unless every acre under cultivation now can be made to produce three or four-fold. Why should not the Government of Ceylon take a leaf from the Indian Government and adopt at least a fourth of its methods? Should we wait to avert famine, starvation, disease and death in this country until Burma is recaptured or India is able to produce sufficient rice for her own people and "a little more than a little" to throw into Sir Baron Jayatilaka's begging bowl?

What India is attempting, to do proves the superior wisdom of her statesmen. Only ten days ago representatives from the six major provinces of India met the Supply member, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar, and the officers of the various

departments of the Government of India, at New Delhi, to discuss the action necessary to implement the aims of producing in India 350,000 tons of artificial fertilisers as a short term measure to increase food production. Government-controlled units are to be established for the production of fertilizers on a non-profit basis. Orders of assistance have been received from the United Kingdom and America and the manufacture of such parts of the plants as can at present be undertaken overseas will at once be ordered out after inquiry as to costs. The Secretary of State has offered to send a team of experts acquainted with the erection and working of complex fertilizer-manufacturing plants. The experts will also train men in India to operate and manage the plants, and give instruction on their design and operation, the requirements of power and materials and on examining which form of fertilizer will suit particular areas for economic production.

We have already pointed out in these columns the vigorous steps taken by the Government of India to make compost out of night soil in large quantities and supply it to the cultivators immediately before the next season. Why should not the Ceylon Government copy the Indian Government in these matters or at least ask the Indian Government to allow that team of experts to visit Ceylon also and help in the erection of a plant here? What is Sir Baron doing in India? Can he not watch what is done in India and instead of begging for "a little more than a little rice" ask the Indian Government to treat Ceylon also as a unit of India in the matter of the production of chemical fertilizers on the understanding that the necessary capital would be provided by the Ceylon Government?

THE INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME

The following notice has been issued to the paddy producers by the Government Agent, N. P., under date 3rd May, 1944:

Further to my notice of 6th April last, I have since received instructions to the effect that the levy of two bushels per acre should begin to operate only after the allowance has been made for seed paddy (i.e. two bushels per acre) and customary services (one bushel per acre).

2. It has further been decided that when fields have been extensively destroyed and the damage is clearly ascertainable and is of appreciable effect, the levy will not be recovered in respect of those fields, i.e. the levy will in such cases operate only over the area actually reaped, whereas the allowances will apply to the area sown.

3. Producers who are entitled to exercise the privileges mentioned in the preceding paragraphs are kindly requested to bear in mind the absolute urgency of procuring sufficient paddy under the internal Purchase Scheme if the 5 million odd non-producers of paddy in Ceylon are to continue to receive even a modicum of rice for their consumption, and are exhorted to make whatever sacrifices they can reasonably bear for the benefit of the entire community.



RELEASED

For some time now, a large number of meetings have been held all over India by various parties, associations and conferences and appeals made to the Viceroy, the Secretary of State for India and the Premier for the immediate release of Gandhiji. Even the four Prime Ministers of the Self-governing Dominions now in London were asked to intervene. In England the Labour Party, through its manifold ramifications, carried on a consistent agitation and went to the length of asking Mr. Amery to quit the India Office if he would not release Gandhiji and solve the Indian deadlock. In America too the agitation was gathering strength day by day and the Communist party in India was becoming very vehement in its demand. In the meantime, Gandhiji's health also began to fail, and the nation-wide agitation began to gather momentum. People were not satisfied with the Government communiques based on the examinations made by Major-General Candy. They clamoured for examination by blood pressure experts who had treated Gandhiji previously. Accordingly D. R. O. Roy, and Dr. K. T. Kajar, famous Pathologists, were allowed to fly to Poona and make their reports. On receipt of their reports Lord Wavell, on his own responsibility released Mahatmaji unconditionally on Saturday morning, at 8 a. m. after, of course, informing his chiefs.

The Mahatma has been under confinement for twenty-one months since August, 9, 1942. During this period he has fasted for three weeks, lost his beloved friend Mahdeva Desai and his dearest partner in life—both in the jail. These calamities would not have affected him much since his whole aim in life is to secure freedom for India.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Last Friday's Gazette gives a list of sixty members of the Board. Those who represent the Jaffna, Mannar, Vavuniya and Batticaloa District Agriculture Committee on the Board are Mudaliyar Chinnatambay, Mudaliyar S. Mutatambay, Mr. T. M. Sabaratnam and Mr. M. S. Kariapper respectively. Among the fifteen nominated members are three Tamils viz. Mr. Marcus S. Rockwood, Mr. K. Kanagasabai and Mr. E. T. Chelambai. The Trincomalee committee seat is vacant.

Letters to the Editor

MOTHER TONGUE OF CEYLON MOORS

Sir,—What Mr A. L. M. Hashim says on the above question is not only true and up to the mark, but is also based on historic facts. If those who hold divergent views knew how and why Arabic Tamil originated much of their time and labour would have been saved.

When Islam made its way into South India, where the entire population were Tamils, the bearers of the New Faith found their work handicapped by want of Islamic literatures in the language of the peoples of the place. Accordingly some thoughtful persons, probably Ulama, among them so devised the Arabic characters as to assume the sound of Tamil alphabets, simply by adding some points and bits to the former. With the help of the scripts thus coined, books containing Islamic teachings were written and broadcast. In their renderings certain Arabic words or expressions were allowed to get in to overcome difficulties as they occurred. This plan worked wonders. It was appreciated not only by the new converts but also by others seeking to know all about Islam. Hence it was correctly called Arabic-Tamil. It is not a distinct language spoken by an equally distinct class of Muslims or Moors anywhere.

There is yet another point worthy of note in this connection.

It cannot be maintained by any stretch of argument that the entire Moorish population of Ceylon came from Arabia. With the exception of an infinitesimal number, all of them came from India and a greater number from South India. Those who landed in Northern ports came in contact with Tamils and had no language problem to surmount as both were talking a common language. This enabled them to talk Tamil in its correct and pure form though the Moors failed to make a greater headway towards Tamil literature. Those who arrived at the Southern and its adjoining coasts found themselves among a different class of people the Singha'ese, whose language was foreign to them. In trying to learn colloquial Singha'ese they were obliged to use here and there Singha'ese words and expressions to make themselves better understood by their new associates. This repeated day and night constituted a hybrid language which contained 50 per cent Tamil 45 per cent Singha'ese, 3 per cent Arabic and subsequently 2 per cent English words and which a few erroneously call Arabic-Tamil. The correct name for this Tamil is Singha'ese Tamil. People of northern parts of the Island, be in Tamils or Moors, usually find it hard to understand this Tamil spoken by the Muslims of the South or South-Western parts.

All that the Moors of Ceylon require now is to improve their Tamil by studying more and better Tamil, which is indisputably their mother tongue. Greater facilities for this do now exist.

Yours etc,
M. M. SULTAN

Lodge Sultanias,
Moore Street, Jaffna.

Free Education Compromise

Attempt To Meet The Critics Half-Way

A compromise on the principle of free education is being sought in view of the strong opposition to the proposal as propounded by a majority of the Special Committee on Education and in view of the fact that most of the critics of the Committee's scheme are not opposed to free education as such.

It is learned that in pursuance of his task of drawing up a scheme of "free education" which might be acceptable to all and which will in no way detract from the efficiency of the big secondary schools in the island, the Director of Education will consult prominent critics of the Special Committee's scheme and take their arguments into consideration.

Ground of opposition

In this connection a conference is expected to be held between the Director of Education, the Revd. R. S. de Saram, Warden of St. Thomas' College, the Revd. Fr. Peter Pillai, O. M. I., Rector of St. Joseph's College, and Mr. C. L. Wickremesinghe, retired Land Commissioner, who has been closely identified with the administration of the Church of Ceylon Schools.

The main objection to the proposed scheme has been that the country might be committed to universal free education and then find itself unable to meet the expenditure involved and still maintain a good standard of education and an adequate salary scale.

A scheme embodying the ideals of all interested in education, it is felt, will be more capable of successful execution than one which launched free education without careful regard of the financial implications.

University Entrance Examination

Six hundred and twenty candidates of whom 50 are girls sat for the Entrance Examination to the Ceylon University and for the Higher School Certificate Examination, which began last week at King George's Hall and will continue till May 19.

Most of the candidates are sitting for both the Entrance and the Higher School Certificate examinations but about 300 of them are only taking up the latter examination. The same examination papers are being set for both batches but the correction will be made on a different basis. One is purely an entrance examination while the latter is a qualifying one.

Admission is not restricted to any particular number of candidates. On the Arts side, which is fairly elastic, all candidates who reach a certain set standard in all four subjects will be taken. But where Science is concerned the limited accommodation will permit only a certain number to be admitted.

One hundred and twenty-seven sat for the Pre-medical examination, which started on May 1. The final examinations of both Arts and Science begin on May 15.

THE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

Suresh Vaidya, the Indian journalist, who was sentenced to 98 days' detention by the Canterbury Court Martial on March 8 for refusing to put on uniform and go on parade, is to appear before the Conscientious Objectors' Appellate Tribunal in London next week.

Vaidya, who is 33 years, appeared at the West London Police Court in January and was ordered to be detained for military escort on a charge of being an absentee. He then told the Magistrate that he returned the enlistment notice because he was a national of India and not a British subject by choice. Therefore he did not feel it was his duty to be conscripted in a war effort by the British Government. At the Court Martial, Mr. Stephen Murray, defending, asked that Vaidya should be treated as a conscientious objector and given a sentence which would enable him to appeal to the appellate tribunal. When his appeal is heard, Mr. Fenner Brockway, the Rev. Reginald Storensen, M. P., and Prof. Gangulee are expected to speak on his behalf.

VILLAGE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Elections to the following Village Committees due before 30th June, 1944, have been postponed to take place before 30th June, 1945:

Delft, Nainativu, Pungudutivu, Analaitivu, Karaitivu, Allappiddi, Manipay, Vaddukoddai, Chankannai, Pandaterruppu, Uduvil, Mallakam, Mayiliddi, Panakari, Pallayarayanakaddu, Tunukkai, Nallur and Kokuvil.

GANDHI STATUE

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association is shortly to install a full-size statue of Mahatma Gandhi in a prominent place in Karachi.

It is stated that the installation of this statue is likely to be postponed till a full size statue of Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi is also prepared, so that both the statues may be placed together at the same time in some prominent place in the city.

Both the statues are expected to cost Rs. 50,000.

NOTICE

THE JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL

Applications from Registered midwives for the post of Mid-wife, Jaffna Urban Council will be received at this office till the 20th May 1944.

Two recent testimonials should accompany the application.

The applicant should have a fair knowledge of either English or Tamil.

Salary attached to the post is Rs. 480/- and a rent allowance of Rs. 60 per annum plus war allowance.

Sgd. C. Ponnambalam
Chairman U. C. Jaffna
Office of the Urban Council,
Jaffna 5-5 44.
(Mis. 25.)

WANTED

Qualified Pharmacist or Approved Dispenser. Applicants to call in person with testimonials on week days.

THE JAFFNA APOTHECARIES Co.
Main Street,
Jaffna, 4-5.44.
(Mis. 24, 8.)

EFFECT OF TEXTILE CONTROL IN INDIA

It is estimated that during the last twelve months, the Indian consumers of cloth have paid Rs 140 crores less than they did during the previous year. A further reduction in prices for cloth produced during the next quarter ending May will increase the savings of the consumer further. The progressive reduction in the prices of cloth which undoubtedly helped millions of poor consumers in the country, it is pointed out bears testimony to the effective measures taken under the cloth and yarn control order.

It is emphasised that the latest amendment to the Cloth Control Order designed to prevent evasions of the order fixing the ceiling prices and restricting those who carry on business as declarers only to those who were in the trade during 1940 and the subsequent two years is a further measure taken to ensure that the available cloth reaches the consumers in an equitable manner.

LECTURES BY MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari delivered a lecture on 'Indian Culture' on Thursday the 4th May, 1944 at 6.15 p. m. at the Saiva Mangaiyar Kalagam Hall, Wellawatte under the auspices of the Ramakrishna Mission and another on the same day at 7.15 p. m. on the "Message of Baghavad Gita" at the Vivekanda Society Hall, Colombo under the auspices of the Society. Mr. N. Nadarajah K. O. the Vice-President of the Society, presided and the occasion was availed of to make a presentation of Rs 660. to Mr. Rajagopalachari towards the 'Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Fund.'

TAKE MEAT THRICE A WEEK ONLY

The Civil Defence and Food Commissioner has ordered that from last Monday ro beef or mutton should be sold in any part of the Island except on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. The rest of the week will be meatless.

This order does not apply to any frozen or preserved meat.

He has also prohibited the slaughter of cattle, buffaloes, goats or sheep on any day of the week except on those three days.

This step has been taken by the Civil Defence Commissioner, acting under powers extended to him by orders issued by the Governor which were published in a Gazette Extraordinary last week.

Along with the rule of four meatless days he has also introduced a price alteration.

"In view of the acute shortage of supplies it is no longer possible to allow a small section of the community to buy beef or mutton without bones," said Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Civil Defence Commissioner, in the course of a Press interview.

In future there would only be, he said, one price for meat which must be sold with not more than 25 per cent. bones. In Colombo and the suburbs, in all other Municipal Council areas, and in most of the Urban Council areas, the price for beef with not more than 25 per cent. bones would be cents 15 per lb. and for mutton with not more than 25 per cent. bones cents 75 per lb. In the rest of the Island, the prices would generally be five cents lower.

He had arranged to concentrate a force of 100 Price Control Inspectors on a continuous supervision of the sale of meat in markets during the week.

Three To Contest N'Elia Seat

Nominations were received by the A. G. A. Nuwara Eliya on Wednesday for the Nuwara Eliya by-election, which has resolved itself into a three-cornered, contest between Mr. W. A. B. Soysa, the Mayor of Kandy; Mr. M. Subbiah, former Deputy Mayor of Colombo, and Mr. A. Suppiah of Kandy.

Among several last-minute withdrawals was Mr. J. T. Ratnam, an unsuccessful contestant on three previous occasions for the Nuwara Eliya seat. This caused some surprise.

Mr. A. Suppiah was proposed by Mr. K. J. Koelmeyer and seconded by Mr. R. M. Koelmeyer. Mr. Soysa was proposed by Mr. T. P. Ratnayake and seconded by Mr. H. L. D. Appuhamy. Mr. Subbiah was proposed by Mr. R. Sivagnanam and seconded by Mr. Eric Taylor.

The by-election has been necessitated by the unseating of Mr. M. D. Banda following the order of an Election Court.

The following colours were allotted: Mr. Soysa, Green; Mr. Subbiah, Yellow; Mr. Suppiah, White.

Mannar-Mullaitivu Election

(Continued from Page 1)

one reserved Muslim seat, in this area. I hope to God that the strength gained by us will be used to promote good-will and amity among all people and for the conversion of this sadly neglected area to its pristine position of the granary of the east."

It will now be clear that we do not want in the State Council, at this juncture a bull in a china shop, but a man with definite views and convictions, a man who will be responsive and responsible to his constituents and countrymen and one who will deliver the goods. The choice is not difficult. It is also the duty of every Tamil in the Island to take an active interest in the forthcoming election and see that the proper person is returned. It is not a parochial affair concerning Mannar and Mullaitivu districts alone. The composition of the minority bloc in the State Council just now is a matter of life and death to the Tamils. Mr. Tyagarajah must be the proper choice by every patriotic resident of the Mannar-Mullaitivu Electorate.

FRUIT CULTIVATION DRIVE

Under the auspices of the Suthumalai Welfare League, a largely attended public meeting was held on Saturday the 29th ultimo at the Central Vernacular School, under chairmanship of Sir. W. Duraiswamy the patron of the League.

Promptly the meeting began with a welcome address by Mr. A. Chelliah, the President of the League. The speakers were Messrs. C. Thiagarajah, Chairman V. C. Manipay, S. C. Gunaratnam, Asst. Divisional Agricultural Officer, S. Thamoatham Manager of the Farm, M. Perampalam and P. Ramanathan of the Mercantile Bank, Jaffna. All dealt on the necessity of food drive and the valuable services rendered by the League. The success is due to the great untiring efforts of Mr. Chelliah, President, who had endeavoured his best to bring this meeting to such great result. He should be thanked. At the conclusion of the meeting Sir W. Duraiswamy was called upon to distribute the grafted mango plants that were given free to the League by the Agricultural Department.

Later the patron and other distinguished visitors were entertained by the League President to tea at the Office of the League. Mr. A. Chelliah the President of the League, said that the success of the League was due to the financial help given by Dr. V. Ratnam F. R. C. S. and Mr. A. Sellamuttu, Broker, Colombo Cor.

Tender-Salt Department

Tenders are invited for collecting, stacking and covering Brine Tank salt at Elephant Pass Saltern. Closing date 16th May, 1944. For particulars apply to the Superintendent, Govt. Saltern, Elephant Pass, or the Salt Commissioner, Colombo.

E. W. KANNANGARA,
Actg. Salt Commissioner.
Office of the Salt Commissioner,
Colombo, 1st May, 1944.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 240

In the matter of the estate of the late Arumuzam Subramaniam of Punnalaikkadduvan Deceased. Arumuzam Sangarappillai of Punnalaikkadduvan Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Gnanampikai daughter of Subramaniam
2. Pathnavathy daughter of Subramaniam
3. Parameswari daughter of Subramaniam
4. Raja'achumy daughter of Subramaniam
5. Subramaniam Nagandram and
6. Chellarnab Muttumataswamy all of Punnalaikkadduvan

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva Esquire, Addl. District Judge Jaffna on the 4th day of April 1944 in the presence of Mr. S. Kanagasabarathy Proctor for Petitioner and the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 6th Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minors 1 to 5 Respondents for the purpose of watching their interest in this Administration proceedings and that Letters of Administration in respect of the estate of the said deceased be issued to the Petitioner as next of kin unless the said Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 12th day of May 1944 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the said 6th Respondent do produce the minors of the age of 12 and over in person in the said date.

Sgd. James Joseph,
District Judge.
This 26th day of April 1944.
(O. 12, 8 & 12)

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CENSORSHIP—CEYLON.

In the interests of security, the public are urged when writing letters to refrain from mentioning the following subjects even if they believe the information is generally known:—

SEA.

Names or description of ships (Naval, Military or Commercial) which are now or have been in.
Dates of arrival.
Dates of sailing.
Routing.
Ports of Call.
Destination.
Nature of Armament.
Sinking.
Loss of Life.
Numbers of Survivors.
Dockyard Repairs.
Salvage Facilities.
Description of Exercises or Training.

LAND.

Names or description of Military Units and Installations.
Nature of Armament.
Defence Works.
Operations of Troops.
Dates of arrival of Troops.
Dates of departure of Troops.
Military Transport facilities.
Railways and Bridges.
Searchlights.
Description of Exercises or Training.
Damage resulting from enemy operations.

AIR.

Names or description of aircraft.
Numbers.
Times of Flight.
Nature of Armament.
Estimated time of arrival.
Supposed point of arrival.
Numbers of Air Force personnel.
Aerodrome sites and air installations.
Air Activity.
Description of exercises or training.

AND

NAMES OF NAVAL, ARMY OR AIR FORCE OFFICERS PASSING THROUGH CEYLON.

When so much is at stake, be on the safe side.

April 17, 1944.

Issued by the Chief Censor, Ceylon Government.
(G. 15, 27 4 & 11)