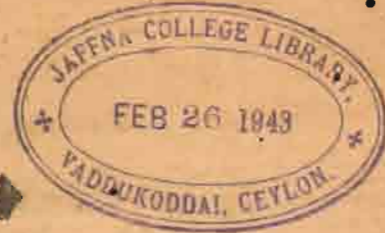


THE Hindu Organ.



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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NO. 85.

NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Prisoners of Malayan Volunteer Force

A list of names of the Malayan Volunteer Force personnel and civilians so far officially reported prisoner by the Japanese Government through the International Red Cross Committee has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The list is available for inspection at the Information Office.

Gandhiji's Condition "Very Grave"

The Government of Bombay issued the following communique about Gandhiji's condition up to the afternoon of Feb. 20 "Mr. Gandhi's condition has changed considerably for the worse. His condition is very grave."

London Resolution For Negotiations

A resolution passed by the National Committee of the Commonwealth on Sunday last states: "Mr. Gandhi must be released and the negotiations for which he asks must take place. We must declare our resolute determination to give India complete national independence in 1943."

A Second Front Demanded

At a packed Liverpool meeting Feb. 21, celebrating the Red Army anniversary a message was read from the Soviet Ambassador, M. Maisky, saying that Russia expected the decisions of the Casablanca Conference to be quickly realised with the Anglo-American forces smashing at Germany from the west. The meeting demanded the immediate opening of a second front.

Maha Harvest Prospects

The delayed rains in December 1942 have somewhat compensated for the earlier drought and any improvement in the prospects for the forthcoming Maha harvest is already indicated. This is indicated in the latest Progress Note on the food production campaign issued on Sunday. A turn for the better is reported from the following provinces: North Central Province, Central Province, Uva Province and North-Western Province, and from the following A. G. A. Emergency areas: - Chilaw, Gampola, Akuressa, Matugana, Horana, Pelmadulla, Jaffna, Nalanda (Matale), Narammala and Siyana Korle East and West (Gampaha)

FAILURE OF INDO-CEYLON NEGOTIATIONS

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS

ALL correspondence between the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon, relating to (1) the suspension, for the duration of the war, of negotiations on the subject of Indo-Ceylon relations after the Joint Report (i. e. the "agreed conclusions") of September 21, 1941, and (2) the more recent negotiations for the special recruitment of Indian labour to meet the present war emergency in Ceylon, were published in a Sessional Paper issued on Friday.

Part I of the Sessional Paper consists of ten documents, and Part II of nine documents.

The following is the text of Document No. 1, a telegram marked "immediate" dated February 26, 1942 from the Secretary of the Government of India, External Affairs Department, to the Government of Ceylon:—

"Government of India have given most careful consideration to proposals contained in Joint Report of Indian and Ceylonese delegations regarding restrictions upon Indian immigration into Ceylon. They have consulted Indian legislature and ascertained reactions of Indian public opinion in general. As a result it was their intention to suggest certain modifications in the draft agreement contained in Joint Report.

"Great change in course of war has however supervened which in the opinion of Government of India renders further examination of this problem undesirable and inconsistent with the requirements of the war situation.

"They therefore suggest that further consideration of proposals should be suspended and problem re-examined in the light of post-war conditions.

Maintenance of Status Quo

"This involves maintenance for period of the war status quo as before introduction of the Immigration Ordinance in Ceylon and Government of India earnestly trust that Ceylon Government will agree that this is the proper course in best interests of successful prosecution of the war.

"Government of India are anxious that the two Governments should achieve fullest possible measure of co-operation in common object of ensuring early victory. They appreciate that existence of artificial barriers between the two countries may prove obstructive to such co-operation.

"Should Ceylon Government find that for war purposes it may be necessary to seek labour from India, Government of India are willing to consider relaxation or removal of existing ban on emigration of unskilled labour provided Ceylon Government agree to proposals set out in the preceding paragraph."

In a telegram dated March 18, 1942, (Document No. 2), the Governor of Ceylon sent the following reply:—

"Your telegram 26th February, Ceylon Government agrees that present circumstances demand that further consideration of Joint Report should be suspended until conditions favourable to its resumption recur. Government also agrees to continuation of status quo on understanding that status quo includes maintenance of your ban on emigration of unskilled labour.

"Should circumstances arise in which Ceylon Government might find it necessary and possible to recruit labour for duration of war for war purposes this Government would ask for relaxation of ban for that purpose."

Lifting of Ban Proposed

Document No. 3 gives the text of the next telegram from the Government of India to the Governor of Ceylon, dated March 29, 1942. It is as follows:—

"Government of India wish to invite the attention of the Government of Ceylon to certain considerations relating to the ban now imposed in India on the emigration of unskilled labour. They have no desire to stimulate emigration of persons whom Ceylon does not require or cannot absorb. In war conditions such emigration becomes highly improbable. The position rather is that the ban is to some extent operat-

ing to prevent the return from Ceylon to India of some whom Ceylon does not now need to keep and may have difficulty in feeding.

"If ban on their subsequent return to Ceylon were removed there is reason to believe that not a few would take the present opportunity of coming to India and would thus relieve Ceylon of some portion of the problems arising from the difficulty of adjusting war time economy to total population. In addition as indicated in your telegram Ceylon Government themselves may feel the need of labour from India for essential war purposes. Government of India therefore feel that they must receive the right to lift the ban as circumstances require and propose now to make it inapplicable to all Indians at present in Ceylon.

"They firmly believe that this will result in immediate temporary reduction in the population of Ceylon and will themselves take administrative action in India to provide all those now coming away with a certificate of date of arrival in India. Unless Ceylon Government makes application no unskilled labourers not in possession of such certificates will be permitted to proceed to Ceylon.

"Government of India earnestly trust that the measure proposed will commend itself to Government of Ceylon as calculated to relieve some existing difficulties and designed to prevent any new influx and will on this basis confirm the agreement in other respects as set out in their telegram under reply."

"Board Cannot Agree"

Document No. 4 is a telegram from the Governor of Ceylon, dated April 13, 1942, which states as follows:—

"Your telegram dated 29th March. Board of Ministers point out that the existence of the ban constitutes part of the status quo and maintenance contributed largely to the Board refraining from taking any of the measures which formed the subject of the recent negotiations and to their suspending action on Bills which have already been introduced into the State Council.

"Furthermore the acceptance by the Board of the proposal of the Government of India, to allow the recent negotiations

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Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1943.

TAMIL AT THE UNIVERSITY

WE CONCLUDE TODAY THE publication of the last instalment of a thoughtful contribution on "The Tamil Language and Its future" by Dr. K. Kanapathippillai, Lecturer in Tamil at the University of Ceylon. It would be superfluous to say that, in any scheme of education in Ceylon, the Tamil language and literature are destined to play, to put it at the lowest, as great a part as the language and literature of any other race. Tamil is one of the oldest languages of the world that have survived the changes of time, and poets have paid their tribute in words of supreme beauty, to its eternal youth. We agree with Dr. Kanapathippillai that the culture of a Tamil man or woman would never be complete without a knowledge of Tamil literature.

When the University was established, the Tamils fully expected that their language and literature would receive adequate attention at the hands of the new University. All that was done was to appoint a Lecturer and Assistant Lecturer in Tamil. We are not surprised at the dissatisfaction felt in Tamil circles at the niggardly treatment meted out to a language which, in the interests of the common culture of the Ceylonese, should have been treated with greater consideration and generosity. There is no reason why the University should not appoint a Professor of Tamil with the requisite qualifications who would be able to give the necessary impetus to the study of Tamil in Ceylon. The University authorities will not find it difficult to secure the services of a suitable scholar of eminence with an Indian reputation. We, have in our midst a Tamil scholar and thinker of great repute in the person of Swami Vipulananda of the Ramakrishna Mission, who had done excellent work in the teaching of Tamil at the Annamalai University. If, however, the Ramakrishna Mission cannot be persuaded to lend the services of Swami Vipulananda, there is a wide field of choice in South India, itself. There are many Indian scholars who would be an ornament to any University, and we trust that the spirit of parochial patriotism, which is doing much to retard the development of Ceylon's agriculture, will not assert itself to prevent the selection of an Indian

professor, if this is found necessary.

It is our earnest hope that the University authorities will not ignore the representations that are being made on the subject by institutions like the Vivekananda Society and the Jaffna Association. One of the founders of the University was himself an eminent Tamil who loved his own language and literature as much as he loved the cause of political freedom for the Ceylonese. The University owes a great debt to him and to those who worked with him, and it cannot acknowledge this debt in a more fitting manner than by founding a Chair for the study of Tamil and by extending to this important branch of learning its sympathy and assistance.

MISCHIEVOUS HISTORY

In the course of its remarks on the "ban" upon the use of Dennis Clark's "Golden Island", the "Ceylon Daily News" makes a most mischievous attempt to convince its readers that the action taken against the book was not justified. It will be remembered that the book was ordered to be withdrawn from schools and examinations as it contained some foul misrepresentations as to the character of the Tamils. Other communities may not worry themselves over a book like this, but Tamil boys and teachers cannot be expected, without serious loss of self-respect, to have anything to do with this book at all. The "Daily News", however, tries to justify some of the most objectionable passages of the book by saying that, at the time of the Tamil invasion, which is the period dealt with by the book, the Singhalese disliked the Tamils, and that the author cannot naturally overlook this fact. "If children are to be taught the history of their own country at all", says the paper, "there is no excuse for keeping them in ignorance of obvious facts which they would infer for themselves even if they were not explicitly stated in the history books and the literature dealing with historical themes". One of these obvious facts about the Tamils is stated by the author at page 41 of the book: "Supposing this king sacrificed boys, like the *Damils*". There are many such passages throughout the book. Take the following gem: "Do you know what they (the Tamils) would do to you if you went with them? They would give you to Skanda's priests, and the priests would cut off your head in front of the god, catching your blood in a bowl." It is quite obvious that the present staff of the "Daily News" has gone back on the tradition founded by its successive Tamil Editors, and that today the paper's one object is to give the Tamils as many pinpricks as possible.

THE TAMIL LANGUAGE IN CEYLON AND ITS FUTURE

BY DR. K. KANAPATHIPPILLAI,
(Lecturer in Tamil, University of Ceylon)
[Based on the address delivered at the Poets' and Writer's Corner, Ceylon National Congress, December 1942.]

III

But luckily the wind blew in another direction. The country soon became alive to this danger. Thanks to the foresight of our leaders through incessant agitation for reform in education and the ready co-operation of the Government in this direction, the mother tongue of the child has become more or less compulsory in the present educational system of the country. In these circumstances what is the position of the children of these parents? Study of Tamil for them is a Herculean effort. Even though after great effort they pick up the elements of the language, to understand and appreciate its literature is a difficult task for them. This is because they sadly lack the traditional and cultural background. They know more of the Goths and Angles than of their own ancestors. Very often one can observe that they can hardly speak Tamil. When by dint of great effort they learn to speak it, they speak it like the foreigner. It is found that the best way of teaching Tamil to this class of students is to teach it through English. On closer examination we can see that these types of students are neither deep in the English culture nor proficient in their own. No wonder they are incapable of producing any creative work.

A Mistake

It is a great mistake to send a child first to the English school. In the good old days children were sent to the Tamil school and studied there till their 11th or 12th year. It is only after that they began their English and studied it through their Tamil. In the end they proved to be great scholars not only in Tamil but in English. Look at those giants of learning like Rao Bahadur Thamoatham Pillai, Carol Visvanatha Pillai, Nevins Sithamparapillai and others. They studied in English and assimilated in Tamil. If this process had continued, the present unsatisfactory situation in our educational system would not have arisen. We are now paying dearly for advocating in the past more English and better English. Whatever English we may try to study, it will ultimately turn out to be only Ceylon English.

The Solution

We have so far discussed the two schools of Tamil study which are prevailing in the country now. These two schools should be brought together. They should no more be allowed to drift along in different directions. The only way of bringing these two extremes is to make the language more vigorous and living. It must be made to permeate the life of the people once again in all its aspects. A Tamil man may study English or any other language to enrich his culture; but he must be taught to remain a Tamil in all his walks of life. English comes only to remedy the defects of the Tamil culture and not to subjugate it.

It must, however, be admitted that the Tamil language has not quite kept pace with the advance in modern thought. As a matter of fact all of us speaking the Indian languages have been sleeping long over this question. Our languages are several years behind time. In the West new thoughts and sciences have developed. What has been done to our languages in this direc-

tion? Science, Politics, Economics, Engineering, Medicine and various other subjects—can they be expressed in 'our language'? Are there books written on these subjects? No. It is now time that these defects are rectified. Otherwise our languages also may become dead languages. This being so, it is the duty of the Tamils to make their language living and vigorous by translating and writing books on these modern subjects. Unluckily the beginning in this direction made in the Seminary of Vaddukkodai, as mentioned earlier, has stopped after a time. There is some work being done at present in India by a group of scholars under the guidance of one of the distinguished Tamil citizens of Ceylon, Srimath Swami Vipulananda. Because a little work is being done in India, it is not for the Ceylon Tamil to be complacent about this. He also should take his share in enriching the language to suit modern conditions. In this matter let us see what other countries similarly placed have done. Look at Japan. A country which was mainly agricultural and backward in the 19th century has now come forward as an equal with any of the Western Powers not only politically but also intellectually. It is in possession of all the Treasures of Western knowledge. The common man in Japan is able to study and understand them because they are written in the Japanese language. We may also mention the case of the Universities of Cairo and Osmania which are progressing fast in this direction. Let us imitate them and enrich our language.

Education in Tamil

Another step in this direction is to impart part of the education in Tamil. English can be reserved for higher education. Some of the Universities in India allow candidates to answer their examination papers in their own language until the Matriculation or Intermediate. Osmania University conducts all its instruction in Urdu. Would it be derogatory on our part to follow them?

Much discussion has been going on lately in the State Council about the introduction of the vernacular languages in the Law Courts and Local Bodies. We need not stress the importance of this move. One thing is certain. A step in this direction will be of immense advantage to the common man. It will enable him to transact business in these bodies without the medium of an interpreter. He will thus save time and money. This purpose will be served if both Sinhalese and Tamil are introduced into Ceylon schools. Every Sinhalese child should be made to study Tamil and every Tamil child Sinhalese. The study of three languages, Sinhalese, Tamil and English, is not too much for a child. In countries like Denmark, Holland and Switzerland every person is taught not less than three or four languages in the schools. Some of the schools in Jaffna are already teaching Sinhalese and it is hoped that very soon Sinhalese schools throughout the Island will take to the teaching of Tamil. This will greatly solve all the bickerings about the language problem.

Now that Ceylon has got a University of its own, the living languages of the country will have ample opportunities of progressing in the right direction. There are a large number of things that a University can do. The most important task of the University of Ceylon is the promotion of the development of Sinha-

Continued on page 3

Letters to the Editor

TEMPLES IN JAFFNA

Sir,—For a basis of discussion on the proposed reform of brahmin priesthood, I wish to put forward a few propositions

(1) One of the பஞ்சமயத்தாள் five great sins is குருச்சீலம், contemptuous treatment of one's priest. Unfortunately the editorial referred to by Mr. Navaretnam has omitted to mention it. I go without saying therefore that the subject of reform of brahmin priesthood must be approached with reverence and I may add in spirit of contrition and remorse.

(2) With our hands on our breasts, I ask ourselves: who is responsible for the fallen state of the brahmin priesthood? Has the brahmin priest ever swerved from the standard, fixed of yore of humility, meekness, aeticism and service.

(3) What has the Hindu laity in Jaffna done to afford their priests a reasonable living in the service consonant with modern conditions of life and improved social status of worshippers at *Koyils*?

(4) The brahmins were ever ready to adjust their economic wants and creature comforts to the giving capacity of the laity. If they are poor today and unable to afford decent education to their children, are they not to be sympathised with and afforded relief so that they may lift themselves up. Have we the sanction of religion to enslave them?

(5) There were times when they fought in our armies, served as Ambassadors to save our country from ruin, sacrificed themselves to save the reputation and honour of families whom they served as *prohitas*.

(6) Consider how the Christians honour and support their priests, pastors and bishops.

(7) The brahmin priests have acquired a personality and character through age-long practice of self-denial and attachment to sacerdotal duties. Would it improve religion if this class of people be rejected by *pandaris* or some extemporised medium of worship?

(8) In South India the people who call themselves *adi dravidas* have nursed enmity against the brahmins from ancient times. In recent years there has been a recrudescence. The cause of enmity of the present day is that the brahmin, when competing with other classes for places in the public service, wins. The analogy of South India does not apply here.

(9) Many storms have passed over the heads of the brahmin community. Since the times of Buddha it has survived all attempts at suppression.

Let us all endeavour to save the brahmin community in Jaffna.

Yours etc,
WIE MIE NAI ME

ALLOWANCES TO THE CULTIVATOR

Sir—Since the beginning of the war, there had been several Defence Regulations promulgated by the various Departments of the Government of Ceylon. Rice Rationing Scheme had been of immense help to the poor people of Jaffna. The hand to mouth labourer had been greatly benefitted by this Scheme. He was able to buy some articles of food after the day's toil for himself and his dependents.

Then came the Control of Prices of various articles which are necessities of life such as petrol, oils,

textiles and other sundries. On the other hand, these Regulations controlled matters openly, but the man in the "Black Market" is making huge profits. In the case of rice, the controlled price is about 30 cents a cut measure, whereas in the Black Market, a measure costs about Rs. 1.25 cts. It is very difficult to detect and to have the man in the Black Market properly dealt with according to these Rules and Regulations. Even if the profiteer is caught, the Price Control Inspectors are unable to prove these offences on account of the proper and due and prompt publication of these Regulations by the authorities concerned.

Now there are various Rules alleged to have been passed and attempted to be published in the villages of Vadamaratchi about the purchase and control of paddy grown locally. The harvesting operations are going on now. It is rumoured that the farmer is expected to make certain declarations and to sell to Government the excess paddy. Now the whole matter depends on the allowances which are to be made to the farmer.

There are customs peculiar to each village in point of the wages paid to the labourer for the work done by such labourer in the course of the ploughing and manuring and preparing the soil, and in sowing, weeding, transplanting, reaping and thrashing the paddy. Further it is usual to feed these coolies who attend to such works. The farmers find it hard to procure rice and chillies to prepare meals for their labourers this year. The labourers had been paid their wages in paddy all these past years. It is impossible to make them accept cash under any circumstances.

Further we find that the officers such as the Assistant Government Agent (Emergency) and the Divisional Revenue Officers of the Divisions in Jaffna are not quite familiar with the local customs and conditions of Jaffna and that the publications, if any, are quite insufficient in the villages and that prompt replies are not given by these Officers or headmen to the cultivators. In the other provinces, there are publications made in the "Daily News". So far no such publications seem to have been published in the local Papers.

Thus it has become necessary for you, Editor, to wield your pen and to expose all these defects and to see that reasonable allowances are given to the cultivator, so that he may continue in the cultivation of paddy crops as it had been found that almost all paddy growers had been raising their crops at a heavy loss during the past years.

Yours etc,
R. D. SIVAGURUNATHAR,
Karanavai,
22nd Feb 1943.

WANTED

A certificate lady teacher for the Alaveddy Mixed English School. The applicant should have been on the eligible staff of a school on 1-3-42. Free quarters will be provided at the discretion of the manager if a suitable teacher is found.

Apply before 10th March, 1943, to the Manager,
20-2-43. (Mis 203, 22 & 25-2-43.)

THE TAMIL LANGUAGE IN CEYLON AND ITS FUTURE

Continued from page 2

lese and Tamil. Only then will it be possible to produce creative work. The success of a University is measured by the number of creative and original works it has been able to foster.

FAILURE OF IND-CEYLON NEGOTIATIONS

Continued from page 1

to remain in abeyance was based on the assumption that the ban would be continued. The Board therefore cannot agree to the ban being lifted and request that the decision to raise it should not be implemented."

In Document No. 5, dated April 15, 1942, the Government of India explains that "the proposal is to maintain ban for all unskilled labour which has not previously been in Ceylon, but relax it in case of labour now in Ceylon."

In Document No. 6, dated April 22, 1942, the Governor of Ceylon replies that "Ministers, who have fully understood proposal of Government of India, represent that effect of raising ban so far as unskilled labour now in Ceylon is concerned might well be to cause efflux of labour employed in tea and rubber industries."

"Unilateral Action"

In Document No. 7, dated May 7, 1942, the Government of India reiterates its position and states that "Ministers will appreciate that prohibition was imposed on India in August, 1932, for the purpose of preventing new labour going was not intended to prevent Indian labour leaving Ceylon, and Government of India do not feel that it is appropriate to ask them to maintain their prohibition for that purpose."

To this, the Governor of Ceylon replied in Document No. 8, dated June 3, 1942, that "the Board desires to point out that in the negotiations last September it was made clear that ban would remain until political and economic position of Indians in Ceylon had been settled."

Document No. 9, dated August 29, 1942, is the Government of India's ratification that it had decided "to relax the ban so as to permit the return to Ceylon of Indian labourers now in Ceylon who may come to India on and after September 1, 1942."

Document No. 10, dated September 4, 1942, is a letter to the Government of India, signed by Mr. R. H. Drayton, Chief Secretary of Ceylon, in which he states that the Board of Ministers regret that the Government of India has "taken unilateral action" and that "the Board may therefore be compelled to take action which will change the status quo."

Sir Baron's Letters

Part II of the Sessional Paper, dealing with the correspondence in regard to additional labour for increased rubber production in Ceylon, begins with the telegram dated December 8, 1942, (Document No. 11), sent by the Governor of Ceylon to the Viceroy of India. This is the same as was tabled in the State Council on February 9, 1943, and published in the "Daily News" on the next day. To this, the Government of India replied by telegram dated December 10, 1942, (Document No. 12) as follows:—

"Your most immediate telegram dated December 8th. Grateful if you would let me know present basic quota for Ceylon acreage under rubber, number of labourers Indians and others employed, and estimate of additional numbers required with basis of calculation. Also extra

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1076
In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Parupathippillai wife of Velauther Arunasalam of Sandampokkaddy. Deceased.

Velauther Arunasalam of Sandampokkaddy Petitioner.
Madana Mudaliar Kanapathippillai Sisbampampillai of Kodgamum Vs. Substituted Petitioner.

1. Murugesu Kandiah and wife
2. Meenadhippillai both of Kovilvayal
3. Ampalava ar Manikkar of do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambiah Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 30th November 1942 in the presence of Mr. V.S. Karthigesu pro or on the part of the substituted petitioner and the affidavit of the substituted petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that Letters of Administration together with a copy of will annexed be issued to the substituted petitioner as the Executor of the Last Will and Testament of the abovenamed petitioner who is the sole legatee under the will filed in this case, unless the respondents appear before this court on the 29th January 1943 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary. This 20th November 1942

Sgd. G. C. Thambiah,
29-1-43 District Judge.
Order Nisi Entered for 3-3-43
Ltd. G. C. Thambiah
District Judge
O. Sg. 20-2- & 1-3-43.

numbers you consider needed for food production on estates".

To this, the Governor of Ceylon replied by telegram dated December 16, 1942, (Document No. 13) as follows:—

"Your telegram, Present basic quota 110,000 tons. Acreage under rubber (excluding new plantings) 604,000 acres of which small holdings, i.e., properties under ten acres account for 132,000 acres small estates, i.e., properties between ten and one hundred acres account for 123,000 acres and large estates, i.e., properties over one hundred acres account for 349,000 acres. The acreage required by law to be cultivated with food crops by rubber proprietors is approximately 36,000 acres but little of this acreage is found within the boundaries of rubber estates. Consequently bulk of persons employed on food production is non-resident and non-Indian labour.

The number employed may vary from a few thousand at one time of the year to as many as fifty thousand at another.

Returns not Complete

"Request for increased Indian labour so far as rubber production is concerned therefore relates to an increase of tappers on the large estates on which 80,000 tappers are employed. Suggested methods of intensive tapping will increase the number of tappers required by 15-20 per cent. There must also be taken into account additional tappers required for slaughter tapping and an allowance must be made for wastage and absence on holiday.

"Returns of labour employed, output and other statistics are being obtained from each estate for the purpose of securing maximum production but these returns are not yet complete. Estimate of additional number of tappers must therefore be provisional at present. The figure given by the Planters Associations is 20,000. I will telegraph later details of position in regard to labour on tea estates."

Document No. 14 is another telegram by the Governor of Ceylon.

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FAILURE OF INDO-CEYLON NEGOTIATIONS

Continued from page 3

lon, dated January 1, 1943, in which he states that "the estimate of the Planters' Association is that approximately 30,000 adult labourers may be required for tea-estates but actual figures must depend on extent to which manuring program has to be restricted and to which present labourers would take holidays in India. No estate would of course be permitted to indent for additional labour without providing case for it."

Discussions with Sir Baron

Document No. 15, is a letter, dated January 18, 1943, from Mr. G. S. Bozman, Secretary of the Government of India, to Sir Baron Jayatilaka, and is as follows:—

"Dear Sir Baron—You will remember that at the discussion which took place in Mr. Aney's house on 16-1-43, Mr. Aney suggested that before reaching a decision on the supply of additional labour now required by Ceylon for rubber estates we should attempt to determine the main principles in accordance with which a settlement of immigration and status problems should be negotiated. You said that if we would put concrete proposals before you, you would give them your closest consideration.

"I enclose a statement which will I hope explain the lines upon which our minds are working. It has been drafted in the form in which an agreed statement might be issued by both Governments, should an agreement in fact be reached. Mr. Aney would be glad to discuss with you any points you may wish to raise if you will be so good as to propose a convenient time."

The enclosure to Document No. 15 gives the "draft statement" mentioned in Mr. Bozman's letter. It is as follows:—

"Owing to Japan's entry into the war the Government of India informed the Ceylon Government that in their opinion the proposal contained in the Indo-Ceylon Joint Report, presented in September, 1941 should not be further considered during the war and that the problems of immigration into Ceylon from India and of the status of Indians in Ceylon should be re-examined in the light of post-war conditions.

"Subsequent developments have made it clear that Ceylon cannot herself provide sufficient labour for the maximum utilisation of her natural resources and for her fullest contribution to the united war effort. She has therefore asked India to permit the emigration of additional unskilled labour.

"In these altered circumstances the Government of India have proposed and the Ceylon Government have agreed that the broad principles which will govern a detailed settlement should now be determined.

"These principles are as follows:—

"(i) It is agreed that Ceylon has the right to determine the future composition of her population by the imposition of her population by the imposition of such restrictions as she may deem necessary upon the entry of newcomers;

"(ii) It is agreed that all Indians who have entered or may enter Ceylon without infringing any existing statute, before a future post-war date to be prescribed will be eligible to qualify for all the rights of citizenship now accruing to

persons possessing a Ceylon domicile of origin.

"(iii) It is agreed that the qualification for such citizenship shall be such as can be determined by simple administrative process without recourse except for the the legalisation of documents or by way of appeal, to a court of law;

"(iv) It is agreed that, except for unskilled labour, Indians admitted to such citizenship shall have no right to any special protection by the Government of India;

"(v) It is agreed that the existing agreements between the two Governments regarding unskilled labour shall be maintained, subject only to such modifications as may become necessary by reason of restrictions being placed upon the entry of newcomers;

"(vi) It is agreed that any restrictions that may be placed upon the entry of newcomers shall not be such as—

"(a) to prevent Indians already in Ceylon introducing upon equal terms wives, children and recognised dependants;

"(b) to interfere with normal commercial practice between the two countries or to prevent the continuation of Indian business already legitimately established in Ceylon; or

"(c) to impose upon newcomers of Indian nationality any greater restrictions than may be imposed upon newcomers of other nationalities."

Documents No. 16 and No. 17 are letters from Mr. Bozman to Sir Baron and from Sir Baron to Mr. Bozman, respectively. Mr. Bozman's letter, dated January 20, 1943, states that he has consulted Mr. Aney and the latter sees the force of Sir Baron's comments regarding clause (iv) of the "draft statement" and suggests that clauses (iv) and (v) be re-written as follows:—

"(iv) It is agreed that Indians admitted to such citizenship shall have no right to any special protection by the Government of India but that, in the case of unskilled labour, there shall be no detracting from the conditions of work wages, medical attention and housing already agreed between the two Governments."

"(v) It is agreed that the existing arrangements between the two Governments regarding conditions of work, wages, medical attention and housing for unskilled labour shall be maintained in respect of any immigrant labour, subject only to such modifications as may become necessary by reason of restrictions being placed upon the entry of newcomers."

Ministers Ask For More Information

Sir Baron, in his reply to Mr. Bozman, dated February 3, 1943 (Document No. 17), states that he had sent the amended "draft statement" to the Governor of Ceylon, and the Board of Ministers had written to say that it was necessary to have "further information" with regard to the proposals.

The "further information" asked for is specified, and takes the form of an enquiry whether the proposed statement would or would not involve rejection or modification of certain sections (six in all) of the Joint Report of the two delegations of India and Ceylon, dated September 21, 1941.

Document No. 18, dated February 8, 1943, is from Mr. Bozman to Sir Baron in which he accepts that the "draft statement" modifies and rejects the specified sections of the Joint Report.

Mr. Bozman, continuing, states:—

"I trust that His Excellency is not under any misapprehension as to the object with which we put these proposals forward. As you will remember the Honourable Mr. Aney informed you specifically that we could not accept the original suggestion from Ceylon that labour should be recruited subject to compulsory repatriation.

"That being so, he suggested that it might expedite consideration of Ceylon's request for labour if we could first agree upon a main principle which should govern subsequent detailed negotiations regarding the immigration and status of Indians in Ceylon.

"It was not our intention that the details of such negotiations should be considered now, nor did we envisage the Joint Report of 1941 being the basis of such negotiations. Should it be possible to reach an agreement upon these principles now, the detailed settlement would be a fresh settlement arising, if necessary, only such portions of the Draft Reports as either part to the

agreement might find us useful in accordance with the agreed principle."

Document No. 19 is from Sir Baron to Mr. Bozman and dated February 12, 1943. It states as follows:—

"I am to state that the Board of Ministers regret that the Government of India have found themselves unable to consider the proposals contained in the Governor's telegram of 8th December, 1942, addressed to His Excellency the Governor-General of India and that the Board of Ministers themselves are quite unable to consider any counter proposals on the basis of the draft statement referred to above.

"I am also to add that the Board of Ministers note with surprise that the Joint Report of 1941 is no longer envisaged by the Government of India as the basis for any future negotiations regarding immigration and status of Indians in Ceylon, in spite of the fact that (a) the Government of India by telegram of February 12, 1942, suggested postponement of the consideration of the proposals in that Report until after the war, and (b) the Government of Ceylon by telegram dated March 13, 1942, agreed to the maintenance of the status quo on that understanding."

This concludes the correspondence in the Seasonal Paper.

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