

THE Hindu Organ.

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham

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NO. 7.

INDEPENDENCE FOR CEYLON

I

By S. SIVASUBRAMANIAM

The political and international state of affairs have been and are undergoing great and far reaching changes. Whatever mental reservations world politicians might have, homage is now being paid to the Ideal of Independence and National Sovereignty for all states, big and small. *Mankind appears to be on the eve of one of its forward movements.* Mother India, the intellectual and spiritual leader of the world, is on the threshold of Freedom from External authority. *The time is opportune for Ceylon to shake off its lethargy and rise to its full stature by claiming and achieving Independence—Complete Independence, here and now.*

Revolutionary concepts of thought and political action have been propounded since the Declaration of the British Government of 26th May 1943 which reserved to itself the substance of power including control of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Shipping Rights, Currency, while promising the grant to Ceylon of full responsible Government under the Crown in all matters of internal civil administration. The Soulbury Commissioners, appointed by the British Government inter alia to implement the declaration, have recommended a Constitution highly unfair no doubt to the just demands of the Tamils and unsatisfactory from the point of view of Ceylon's Independence, but have nevertheless to some extent happily gone beyond the strict terms of the pronouncement of 1943. The British Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, in one of his speeches about the time of the issue of the White Paper made the observation that Britain is faithfully carrying out the British political aims and is giving Ceylon a considerable measure of self-Government.

Mr Bevin, the Foreign Minister has gone a step further and underlined Mr. Attlee's speech, when he said in one of his recent pronouncements that *Britain would not stand in the way of India, Ceylon, Indonesia and other countries achieving Independence.* The scope of the term "Independence" has been explained and laid down by Mr Attlee, Lord Pethwick Lawrence and other British politicians in an authoritative manner both in and out of Parliament as complete Freedom from British authority and the right to secede from the British Commonwealth.

Mr Bevin's speech and the statement of the new Policy towards India and Ceylon as that of Independence were made subsequent to

the issue of the Report of the Soulbury Commissioners and the White Paper of the British Government on the future constitution for Ceylon. Virtually, the idea of truncated responsible government which was the *raison d'être* of the Soulbury Commission's recommendations and the White Paper have been superseded by the spirit behind these declarations of Mr Bevin and other British politicians. *It is unfortunate that the people of Ceylon have not taken advantage of the great and revolutionary change, at least ostensible change of ideology in British political thought.*

The time has come for the people of Ceylon to unite and ask for Independence and discard the recommendations of the Soulbury Commissioners. Independence should be based on a Constitution suitable for Ceylon founded on the principle of sectional non-dominion and securing for the Tamils their rightful place in the scheme of things. The Committee of the All Ceylon Tamil Congress has done well in reiterating the demand for Swaraj and claiming Independence in the only official statement issued by it, subsequent to the White Paper. The relevant sentence runs as follows:—

"The Tamils, who have been the pioneers in the field of political advancement and who have been in the vanguard of the struggle for freedom of this country, must make it one of their immediate political aims to work with greater unity and determination for the attainment of Swarajyam (Independence) for Ceylon, when there shall be no domination of any section of the people whether from without or within."

In subsequent communications, I will endeavour to refer to a few salient points relating to this important subject.

Free Compulsory Elementary Education

The North Arcot District Board India, at its meeting held on 22nd instant, with Mr. B. Bhaktavatsalu Naidu, in the chair, decided to introduce free compulsory elementary education in 27 centres in the next academical year.

According to the provincial budget this district should provide for 12,100 pupils of school-going age next year, and the cost of the same would be met from the provincial allotment of 22 lakhs.—F.O.C.

Letters To The Editor

MALAYAN REPATRIATES

Sir,—Going round the *Arundel Castle*, the liner that brought the Malayan Repatriates, on Monday evening about 8 p.m. to find out if everyone of those, who were on board that night, had had his or her dinner one was accosted with remarks by several of the passengers more or less in the following words: "You have more than made up for what the Ceylon Government Representatives did or failed to do us in Malaya." Talking with passengers before and after that, on board the ship and ashore it was revealed that there was great dissatisfaction among them with regard to the action of those Officers. They seemed to be particularly hard on the officer, who is still there. *Even in respect of the booking of passages on this ship they complained of discrimination and of officers withholding accurate information about berths available &c.* It is neither fair nor proper to mention here certain details that were given, but it appears to be a matter that must be inquired into. There does not seem to be any justification for maintaining there an officer at high cost, with whom the people do not appear to be satisfied.

There is another point of dissatisfaction to which reference was made. It appears that information was given that the Ceylon University would be making certain concessions to students from Malaya wanting to enter the University here. The people there have the impression that (1) the test for Entrance will not be held strictly according to regulations with regard to the selection of subjects, (2) the examination itself will not be of the usual standard and (3) that students, who had reached a reasonable standard, will be selected not so much on their academic attainment (as on their general ability, scholastic aptitude and capacity to profit by University education. This was expected as the students had not had any schooling for the last four years! But now they learn to their surprise and disappointment that the University Entrance if held, will be strictly according to Regulations. Where then, they ask, is the concession!

Probably, this semi-Government Institution is trying to maintain the Government tradition of red-tape and the desire to establish authority and uphold prestige at the expense of real service to people for whose benefit they were instituted.

It must be mentioned, however, that the Government Departments concerned in the particular business of receiving the repatriates that came by the *Arundel Castle* actually ignored all red-tape, authority and prestige to co-operate with and help the All Ceylon Malayan Relief Committee in its very diffi-

cult work of making all the arrangements for the reception, entertainment, accommodation and travelling of the passengers. The work done by the volunteers, both men and women, and the Active Members of the Committee, was beyond praise.

Yours etc.
A. J. R. Vethavanam.

Jurisdiction and Powers of Village Tribunals

Sir.—Although the constitution of the Village Tribunals was amended and passed by the State Council and assented to by His Majesty the King in June 1945, it has not been given effect to up to date. Will you or any of your readers enlighten me as to the insurmountable difficulty that has caused such long delay to put by such an important matter indefinitely? It is nearly one year and the public who are inconvenienced have a right to know what it is? Will you, Mr. Editor, convince the authorities that it is time some relief is afforded to the public?

Yours etc.,
A. T. Moorthy.

Objects Of Tamil Representation

Sir—It is not good enough that the Tamils should seek the votes of the Tamil electorates on the ground that they are members of the Tamil Congress or Tamil National Assembly or Communists or Ceylon National Congress etc. We are under internal self Government. All the communities want independence and Tamils without exception want it. The only grounds on which Tamils should seek the votes of the electorates should be based on economic, linguistic and other considerations that may arise from time to time. The immediate issues before the country are:—

- (1) The recognition of Tamil language as a co-state language with Singalese in every form.
- (2) The establishment of a University in Jaffna especially catering to the needs of the Tamils and people situated in the Northern half of the Island.
- (3) The abolition of the study of "English" from the 3rd Standard and introducing compulsory study of Tamil for Singalese and Singalese for the Tamils in Ceylon.
- (4) The reopening of the ports of Kankasanturai, Kayts, Vavettiturai and Pt Pedro for direct communication with Indian Ports.
- (5) The establishment of steamboat service between Kankasanturai and India.
- (6) The restoration of tanks in the Northern and Eastern Provinces opening large areas for cultivation.
- (7) Settling colonists from the Jaffna Peninsula on the Main-

(Continued on page 3)

The Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd. (in liquidation)

The meeting of creditors fixed for Thursday May 2, has been postponed for Thursday, May 30, at 4.30 p. m. at Kilner Institute, Oddumadam, Vannarpannai.

Jaffna, JOINT LIQUIDATORS.
29-4-46.
(Mis. 28, 30)



Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1946.

THE NEW PARTY

ACCORDING TO A COLOMBO contemporary, Mr D. S. Senanayake's new party will be called the United National Party. It is expected that the formation of the new party will probably be the subject of a public announcement simultaneously with the promulgation of the new Order-in-Council. The party will run its own candidates at the next general election, the final decision in regard to the nomination of such candidates being left in the hands of a Central Nomination Board which will consist of Messrs. D. S. Senanayake, S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, A. Mahadeva, George E. de Silva, H. W. Amarasingura, A. F. Molamure and T. B. Jayah. Nothing else is known of the programme of the new party, but we take it that it has been formed with the object of supporting Mr. D. S. Senanayake in whatever he has done in the past as well as in whatever he proposes to do hereafter. It is difficult to see how this new party differs from the cliques which now hold sway in the State Council. The idea of a party pledged to the support of a particular political leader is perhaps possible only in a country like Ceylon. It is, however, time that the public of this Island realised the utter worthlessness of a party system which is built up, not on healthy differences of opinion on questions of policy, but on what is regarded as personal loyalty to a particular leader. It is hardly necessary for us to point out that Mr. D. S. Senanayake does not certainly represent the last word in Ceylon's political wisdom. We have in these columns from time to time drawn the attention of our readers to those salient features of his policy which are, in our opinion, harmful to the interests of the people.

We are surprised that Mr. A. Mahadeva should have allied himself to this new party. Neither the Tamil Minister's constituency nor any other constituency in the Northern Province is disposed to acquiesce in an alignment of this sort. It is not that these con-

stituencies are either against Mr. Senanayake or for him. Nor, for that matter, are they disposed to support or to oppose any particular leader in the South. The electors in the Northern Province have a greater duty to perform, and that is to ensure that their representatives shall ally themselves, not with this person or that, but with programmes and policies which will benefit the people as a whole. The new party is obviously pledged to the support of a particular leader regardless of the question as to whether that leader has done well by the people of his country. On this ground alone, if not any other, the new party is not likely to secure much support in the North. As for Mr. Mahadeva, he has only widened the gulf between himself and his constituency by joining the new party. The almost indecent hurry which marks his latest move is bound to make people still more suspicious of the motives for many things done by Mr. Mahadeva in the past. The visit of Messrs. Molamure and Jayah during this week-end to Jaffna is no doubt intended to prepare the ground for the new party. The visitors will find their mission an exceedingly unpopular one so far as Jaffna is concerned.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH OUR SCHOOLS?

We have drawn the attention of school authorities and parents in Jaffna on two previous occasions (July 17, 1944, and June 4, 1945) to the deplorable results obtained by our secondary schools at the H. S. C. and the University Entrance examinations successively, and to the regrettable fact that every year all the colleges in Jaffna put together have not been able to secure as many passes as either the Ananda College or the Pembroke Academy of Colombo has been able to secure. The same history has been repeated this year too, with the Royal, St. Joseph's Alexandra, and the Holy Family Convent of Colombo and the Trinity College of Kandy stealing a march over Jaffna Colleges at the H. S. C. examination of 1945.

Out of the 346 students who passed the University Entrance examination of last December (Arts: 197, Science: 77, Medical: 72) only 93 are Tamils (Arts: 34, Science: 33, and Medical: 26). Out of the 113 students who passed the H. S. C. examination of 1945 only 33 are Tamils. At this examination Colombo secured 89 passes (Pembroke 26, Ananda 20, Royal 11, Alexandra 4, Holy Family Convent 4, St. Thomas' 3, Women's College 3, and other colleges the rest) whereas the whole of Jaffna secured only 9 passes (St. John's 3, Central 2, Jaffna Hindu 2, Jaffna College 1, and Hartley 1) and the Trinity

College of Kandy secured 5 passes.

The timely warning given by Dr. Ivor Jennings, the Vice-Chancellor of our University when he addressed the Headmasters' Conference in Jaffna, in July 1944, to the effect that a large number of students from Jaffna, more than two-thirds, who sought admission to the University were of a poor standard, that they did not seem to have done sufficient reading outside their text books and that their general knowledge and acquaintance with literature were very poor, does not seem to have had any effect, whether on the students or on teachers or parents in Jaffna, since the performance of our Tamil students at public examinations seems to be growing poorer and poorer year after year. For a good number of years the number of Tamil students who entered the University from the time of its inception as University College was nearly half of the total. Since then until last year it declined to one-third and it has now dwindled to about one-fourth. It is high time that our school authorities, parents and educationists investigated this gradual decadence of the Tamil students and brought about radical reforms where necessary.

The problem of the future of Jaffna is really great. With the introduction of free education our secondary schools have begun to overflow, some of the best teachers on their staffs have been lured by the Government Central Schools and sufficient grants will not be forthcoming for the maintenance of extra teachers, good libraries and laboratories. Will our schools further deteriorate or make an effort to hold their own against any well-equipped and well-staffed schools in the Island? This is a question which should call for the immediate attention of not only our school authorities and parents but of all public men interested in the welfare of our race.

The Jaffna Hindu Maha Sabhai

The second annual celebrations of the Jaffna Hindu Maha Sabhai will be held on Wednesday, the 1st of May 1946 at 6 p. m. at the Sammarka Bothana Bilingual School, Perumalkovilady, Jaffna. The following are among those who will speak on that occasion:—

Messrs C. Ponnambalam, Advocate, Chairman, Urban Council, Jaffna; A. V. Kulasingam, J. P., Advocate; M. Balasundaram, B. A., B. Sc., Advocate; and Pandit K. K. Nadarajah.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Under the auspices of the Nationalist Tamils' Association, Messrs A. F. Molamure, M. S. C. and T. B. Jayah, M. S. C., are expected to address public meetings on Saturday May 4, at 4 p. m. at the Jaffna Town Hall; on Sunday May 5, at 5 p. m. at the Chunnakam Market Square; and on Monday May 6, at 5 p. m. at 'Otley' Hall, Jaffna College, Vaddukottai.

Ceylon's New Constitution

Perpetuation Of Imperialism

The following editorial note appears in "Inside the Empire" for January 1946:—

The new constitution which the Soulbury Commission recommended for Ceylon, and which the Government has accepted in principle, has been received with protests and dismay by progressive opinion in Ceylon. It is felt that the recommendations fall fully into line with traditional British policy of seeking to win over local reactionaries to support the imperialist claim for political and military bases against the rising popular movement in South East Asia. Defence and External Affairs are, therefore, to be excluded from popular control. "We cannot agree", says the Report, "that the Governor General's powers... in a Defence matter of importance should be circumscribed by the necessity to obtain the concurrence of Ministers."

In recommending the creation of a Senate, the Commission quite blatantly exposes the reactionary premises from which it argues,....not only to fill the gap created by the diminution of the powers of the Governor, but as a means of averting or minimising any conflict that might arise between the Governor-General and the Lower House in respect of those powers still left to him. In other words the increased powers which are being given with one hand to the elected Ministers are to be taken away with the other by the creation of a constitutional oligarchy whose function is to act as a buffer between the Governor and his Ministers.

The third main criticism made concerns Finance. Bills relating to currency matters are reserved for the Governor General who, in the last resort, is to continue to hold the purse strings. The Governor thus has the power, if he wishes, virtually to wipe off debts owed to Ceylon as a result of her contribution to the war effort. Foreign companies and vested interests, whose operations in fact predominate in Ceylon's economic life, are put under the protective wing of the Governor whose reserve powers extend to all Bills which affect "the rights and property of His Majesty's subjects not residing in the island."

In short, this much advertised measure of constitutional reform which is said to be another typical milestone in the progress of a British colony to independent status, still leaves Ceylon politically and economically bound by an imperialist relationship which her people unanimously condemn.

Basic Price For Burma Rice

To enable Burma to regain her position as chief exporter of rice in a food short world the Burma Government has decided to issue agricultural loans to the extent of Rs. 3 crores or £24 million during the next five months.

The loans are additional to the Government subsidy for the extension of rice cultivation announced recently.

Government is endeavouring to improve transport facilities and increase the supplies of consumer goods in the rural areas.

After ascertaining the cost of cultivation of the coming crop and considering the world prices, the Government in due course is to determine the basic price for rice which will provide a fair return to the cultivator and at the same time ensure the disposal of the crop in the world market. Government is to buy all the rice offered at the local prices determined by the consideration of the basic price.—A. F. J.

Vernacular Teachers' Grievances

Salary Scales Anomaly

"The salary provided for the Vernacular teachers is not in keeping with the position they hold in public and thereby would impair the very foundation of the education of the Island," states the memorandum submitted by the All-Ceylon Union of Tamil Teachers.

"A glance at the recommendation made by the Salaries Revision Committee would show the utter disregard and gross indifference shown to the Vernacular teachers by them. Magnanimity was shown in fixing up the salaries for the Government Apothecaries and Sanitary Assistants but it is strange to understand that this poor scale of salaries was recommended to that class who form the bottom rock of all civilised activities", concludes the memorandum.

Out of Work

The Valigamam West and Islands' Tamil Teachers' Association in a memorandum submitted to the Minister of Education and his Executive Committee states as follows:—

"The situation has been made unbearable by your allowing English schools to continue the fourth standard and the fifth standard for an indefinitely long time. The consequence is that Vernacular schools can have no classes above the third and teachers who have been teaching classes above the third would remain unemployed.

"Nearly 10,000 teachers would then be driven out of work. If the recent circular No. C 2 of 25-2-46 which allows English schools to have the fourth and the fifth standards is cancelled it will be a great relief to us. We therefore request as a first step towards relief that you make all English schools Post Primary and all Vernacular Schools Primary. But in view of the 8th recommendation of the Committee accepted by the State Council and the proposal of the State Council to make Sinhalese and Tamil as the official languages of the country we have a right to conduct Post Primary Schools on a footing of equality with those that are English schools at present.

A Gross Injustice

The English qualified Vernacular Trained Teachers' Association, condemning the proposed division of Trained Teachers into Junior and Senior Trained Teachers states as follows:—

"In the press report of the proposed amendments to the Scales of Teachers' Salaries we find a division of Trained Teachers into Junior and Senior Trained Teachers. What the basis of the division was in the minds of the promoters of the amended scales is not clear. Some responsible persons interpret these terms as follows:—that Senior Trained Teachers are those who underwent a course of training in The Government Training College, for English Teachers, and that Junior Trained Teachers are those who underwent a course of training in other Training Schools irrespective of the basic academic qualifications. Should this interpretation be correct, we submit most emphatically that the promoters of the scheme have been guilty of an act of gross injustice."

"Make yourself more serviceable, nay, almost indispensable and you will be paid less", seems to be the motto of the promoters of this scheme."

Continuing the memorandum states:—

"The scheme and curriculum for

INDIAN DELEGATE WARNS CEYLON

"Take Far-Sighted View Or Reap Consequences"

An appeal to the Government of Ceylon to take a far-sighted and statesman-like view regarding the political rights of Indians in Ceylon and if they failed to take due note of the resentment of the Indians they would have to reap the consequences was made by Mr. N. Halasyam former Congress M. L. A., Madras, at last Saturday's session of the Ceylon-Indian Congress at Nuwara Eliya.

Mr. Halasyam said: "The Bajpai-Senanayake agreement is not worth the paper it was written on. It is out of date, lacked authority, and is not binding on the Indians in Ceylon. It is unjust; it is opposed to all canons of constitution-making.

"No civilised government can deprive a large portion of its inhabitants its elementary rights.

"World forces are developing towards a favourable atmosphere for the attainment of complete independence not only for India but also for all other subject nations. Indians in Ceylon must stand together and must not dissipate their strength by attempting to start rival organisations and fomenting division from interested motives.

"They must resist the imposition of any constitution which did not confer the rights of full citizenship on every Indian in Ceylon."

On Thursday Mrs. Ammur Swaminathan in the course of a message to the Indians in Ceylon said:—

"Indians who have been living in this country for several decades and who have settled down here naturally need civic as well as political rights. It is to be expected that they should fight for those rights, but at the same time I feel that to secure those rights they must be prepared to identify themselves with the place they mean to live in.

"It is not easy to have things both ways. Without giving up their inherent culture as Indians they must make up their minds to be Ceylonese and to have the same interests in the development of this country as those who have always belonged to Ceylon.

"As for Indian workers who have been imported from India, I feel they are not getting a fair deal. Even though they may be going back to their mother country some time it is only right that as long as they are here to develop this Island, they should be given certain civic rights that are enjoyed by any labourer in any country."

all training schools, whether it be the Government Training College for English Teachers or any other Training College are the same. To say, that the product of a Training College where the teacher-pupils were trained with the mother tongue, as the medium, is inferior to those trained with English, as the medium would be an unwarranted condemnation of the proposed reform of making the mother tongue as the medium of instruction in all schools. Nothing can be more illogical and unjust than to say that the Tamil or Sinhalese Trained Teacher with Cambridge Senior or London Matriculation, the basic qualification necessary for entrance to the English Training College, is less fitted for the teaching profession than the English Trained Teacher, by parallel courses of Training, with Sinhalese or Tamil as the medium in one case and with English in the other. We earnestly hope, that no discrimination be shown, in respect of salary for persons who possess the same academic qualification in whatever position or sphere they are attached to."

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 1)

land of the Northern Province outside the Peninsula and the Islands providing suitable houses, free grants of lands, schools and medical facilities and easing the congestion in the Peninsula and the Islands. (8) Converting the Lagoon into a fresh water lake. (9) Reclaiming lands for cultivation in the Jaffna Peninsula. (10) Starting Cement Glass and other suitable industries in the Jaffna Peninsula. (11) Communal harmony with the Singalese and all other Communities in the Island.

It is for these objects that we intend to send persons into the Parliament. It does not matter what particular group or party among the majority community our members join if they can gain these objectives. Any person who proclaims and supports these demands provided he has the necessary ability and character should be supported by the people regardless of the complexion of a particular label of a particular party or group.

Yours etc.,

Kegalle. M. S. Arumiyar.
24-46.

Overseas Ceylonese Association of Malaya

Sir,—I have this day despatched under separate cover a copy of the Malaya Tribune dated 23rd, February 1946. An editorial note is published on page 3 of the paper regarding Mr. A. Mahalingam, Financial Assistant, Financial Secretary's Office, who was detained as a collaborator on false and malicious reports made against him by his enemies pseudonymously and anonymously. His health is shattered as a result of incarceration not to speak of the mental torture and inconveniences underwent by him.

Mr. Mahalingam was instrumental in saving not less than 4 lives of Chinese who were connected with anti-Jap activities and saved properties worth millions of dollars from being robbed by the brutal Jap soldiers. He saved the womenfolk in the locality from being molested and raped through the help of Japanese maid-servant. Finally it was he who saved the Ceylonese community whose internment was imminent as they were considered pro-British.

It will be seen from the report how shabbily and unfairly he was treated by those concerned. He was never interrogated since the date of his detention. Mr. V. Coomarasamy the representative who visited Malaya must be aware of all the facts.

In the interest of the Ceylonese community who have been pro-British throughout I am directed to appeal to you to deal with this matter editorially and draw the attention of the Ceylon Government, so that it may represent matters to the Malayan Government. I am to suggest that this matter be brought to the notice of the State Council.

Neither the complainants have been prosecuted by the Government for making malicious charge against him nor any compensation granted to him for his sufferings.

Thanking you.

Yours etc.,

S. Shanmugam
Kuala Lumpur Hon. Secretary

Editorial Note Referred to:

AFTER FORTY YEARS OF LOYAL SERVICE—

Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 22.
—After serving Government for over forty years Mr. A. Mahalingam,

WEDDING

SRIKANTHAN—

KAMALESWARY

The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place on the 11th May 1946 at 1 a.m. of Mr. K. Srikanthan (of General Hospital Colombo) eldest son of late Mr. R. Kandiah and of Mrs. Kandiah of Urampiray North, with Miss. Kamaleswary, eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. M. Ayaduray of Urampiray. Friends and relations are cordially invited. No individual invitation.

Letchumy Vasa,
Urampiray North,
3-5-1946.

(Mis. 30.)

OBITUARY

We regret to record the death of Miss. Leela Devi Chelliah, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. R. T. Chelliah, which took place at Vembadi Road, Jaffna, on the 22nd inst. The funeral next day was largely attended.

wellknown resident here, is shortly retiring.

Joining the General Clerical Service of the F. M. S. Government in 1906, he served as Chief Clerk in the Customs at Seremban, to the Commissioner of Trade and Customs, F.M.S., and in the Chief Health Office, F.M.S. Promoted in 1931 to the Superscale grade, he served as Office Assistant in the British Resident's Office, Pahang, Financial Assistant P. W. D., Pahang, Financial Assistant Drainage and Irrigation Department Malay States, and later in the Financial Secretary's Office, F.M.S.

When the war broke out with Germany Mr. Mahalingam took active part in organising war funds, etc., and was Joint Secretary of the All-Malayan Ceylonese Patriotic Fund and committee member of the All-Ceylonese Fighter Fund.

Pious, charitable, and public-spirited by nature Mr. Mahalingam is a founder member of various public bodies in Negri Sembilan, Pahang, and Selangor: e. g. the Seremban Family Benefit Society and the Jaffnese Co-operative Society, Selangor. He is also President of the Mutual Provident Association of Malaya and the Malayan Alaveddi Union.

During the Japanese occupation Mr. Mahalingam, who did not accept any appointment under the Japs, was very helpful to many people in getting them out of the clutches of the Japanese army—saving them from robbery and, in the case of women, molestation. In this he had the help of a 80-year-old Jap-maid servant who had served him for over twenty years now. Notable is his help in making Mr. Loh Chee Hean (miner and planter and President of the Kuala Kubu Bharu Chinese School), who was being tortured by the local garrison for his anti-Japanese activities and was about to be beheaded. He helped prevent the internment of many Ceylonese here by the Japanese for being pro-British.

It may be recalled that Mr. Mahalingam was arrested on false complaints of collaboration by the British Security in September last and was suffering all hardships of jail life for over two months. He was recently brought before the Special Magistrate who found him guiltless and said in his judgement: "I have investigated this case and find there is no evidence to justify the charge being laid against you."

WEDDING

Mahendrarajah—Jayarane

The marriage of Mr. A. Mahendrarajah son of Mr. K. S. Arulnandhy, Principal, Government Training College, and Mrs. Arulnandhy, with Miss Jayarane Ambalavanar, daughter of Mr. S. Ambalavanar, Assistant Superintendent of Surveys, and Mrs. Ambalavanar was solemnised according to Hindu rites at the bride's residence at Chetty Street, Nallur on Monday the 22nd instant.

The reception held at the bridegroom's residence at Point Pedro was largely attended.

ISLANDS ELECTORATE

I have decided to seek election to the above electorate as its representative in the Legislature under the New Constitution.

My policy will be the same as that advocated by me as Editor of The "Hindu Organ"

A. V. Kulasingham.

(Mis. 11, 9 to 30-4-46.)

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[Mis. 248, 15-3-46 to 14-3-47.]

VALI-WEST ELECTORATE

I, hereby announce my decision to contest the above seat.

My policy would be to support the national "Anti-Senanayake Party" and to co-operate with Britain to strengthen the U.N.O.

An election manifesto would be issued in due course.

I request my friends to do the needful.

My professional address is:—

Teacher, Sandilipay Hindu English School, Manipay.

The term carries no personal disrespect

V. SANMUGANATHAN, B. A.

(Lond.)

Moonamalai,

Manipay,

2-4-46.

(Mis. 260, 2-4 to 7-5-46)

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(Misc. 196, 7/1-7/7/46.) M

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[Misc. 243 B, 12-3-46 to 12-9-46 T.]

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Mis. 11, 9-4 to 30-4-46.

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(Mis. 15, 12-4 to 11-10-46.)

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