

THE Hindu Organ.



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. LVI.

'Phone 56.

JAFFNA. MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1944.

NO. 17.

THE following is the text of the presidential address delivered by Mr. K. Nesiiah M. A., the retiring President of the Northern Province Teachers' Association, on May, 27 at the annual general meeting.

The year reviewed in the Report has seen important events in the field of education in more than one country. The publication of the Report of the Special Committee on Education—the most comprehensive survey yet made in Ceylon; the programme of post-war education for India prepared by Mr. Sargent, Educational Adviser to the Govt. of India; the Norwood Report on Curriculum and Examination; the White Paper on Educational Reconstruction and the Education Bill presented to Parliament by Mr. Butler—these are great landmarks.

Before I discuss with you some of the matters arising out of these documents I wish to point to some of the gloomy patches on our own educational horizon in Ceylon because I see that we are often unable to do even right things on account of the wrong way we set about doing them. I feel so unhappy about these things that I think I must publicly call attention to them.

Take, first of all, the way we investigated our educational system. In 1936 our Association passed a resolution requesting a Commission and subsequently the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers backed this request with a deputation to the Minister. I happened to serve on this deputation and I remember telling the Minister that the findings of an independent commission would carry weight while any report by his committee would lead to bitter controversy.

The Executive Committee resolved, however, to form a Special Committee consisting of all its members and of certain other persons. The Special Committee, thus largely self-appointed, consisted of politicians, headmasters (who in Ceylon are virtual managers), denominational leaders and public servants. The public servants occupy an unenviable position in Ceylon because, contrary to the healthy British tradition, they are not only invited to take public part in making recommendations on issues of high policy but are permitted to go up and down the country securing support for particular policies. Meetings in favour of one course or other are being organised by the signatories to the Report in various parts of the country. And no occasion is too irrelevant to discuss the findings of the Special Committee. School speech-days seem to be regarded as specially appropriate occasions to canvass the support of boys and girls and may be, their parents.

Examinations

Meanwhile, action is being taken by the Department which may have the effect of implementing or, in some cases, jeopardising some of the recommendations. For example, school examinations. The old practice was to consult various bodies, especially the Board of Education, before making changes in examination regulations. In recent months, however, a host of new regulations have been introduced

and a totally new examination, the Advanced School Certificate. None of the bodies referred to appear to have been consulted. The Board of Education, a body on which there are people representing the university, the headmasters, the headmistresses and the teachers, adopted a resolution by a unanimous vote requesting the Department to refer to the Board all proposed changes in the regulations for school examinations before they are finally adopted. Now we learn that the Executive Committee has set up an Examination Board consisting of some of its own members and a few others apparently representing various denominations. Neither the University nor teachers know anything about this Board. This is all the more inexplicable since the Special Committee solemnly laid down that their Central Examination Board should consist of one representative of the University, at least one of the training colleges, and many representatives of the teaching profession besides Departmental personnel. Members of the Executive Committee have not only gate-crashed into the Examination Board but their interest in education extend even to valuing examination scripts.

Types of Schools

The so-called Central Schools (new type), which prepare for the S. S. O., are very much like the present English Secondary Schools, except that they offer free tuitions and free board, and do not exactly look like anything described by the Special Committee. Though they wanted to restrict Senior and Secondary Schools to a maximum of some sixty in the whole Country, we do not mind a free English state Secondary School adorning every constituency provided the policy has been deliberately adopted by the State. I can point to still another matter where neither present law nor proposed reforms are respected. The Assisted English Schools are entitled to be on Scales A, B or C according as they satisfy certain code requirements. All Government English Schools except Royal, are on Scale C. When some of the former which satisfied the requirements for Scale A or B proposed to move into the appropriate scale, the Director ignored the Code and quoted the opinion of the Executive Committee to turn down the applications. On the other hand, the Department has, in violation of the regulations and of the principle suggested by Executive Committee for Assisted Schools, created a number of B Scale posts in Government Schools. The Special Committee's Report not withstanding, we welcome

the efforts of Government to better the lot of their teachers, but what is done should be done in the correct way, and what is done for Government schools should be done for Assisted Schools as well.

Unhealthy Development

The weakest point in the Donoughmore constitution is probably the system of Executive Committees and in no department is the system more liable to unhealthy development as in education; the presence of school managers in the Committee on Education makes the abuse still more likely. Let no one misunderstand our position. We hold no brief for those vested interests which would oppose every reform and perpetuate the existing scheme of things. We owe no loyalty to any group but the next generation of our country. We feel the urgency of reform. We stand for radical reform. We agree that the task of formulating policy is the province of the politician. All that we ask is that there shall be healthy conventions by which teachers are consulted where they should be and education experts where they should be, and neither those who legislate nor those who administer are members of those bodies which are expected to give independent advice.

System in England

No healthier precedents can be followed than those of the system in England. The very first section of the Butler Bill, which provides for a minister in charge of education, provides for a Central Advisory Council to advise the Minister. The Council is to consist of persons who have had experience of various types of education. It is to have its own Chairman also appointed by the Minister with an officer of the department as secretary. This Council is apparently meant to replace the present Consultative Committee—the standing commission which has issued so many famous reports on various aspects of English education. Again, the British Government has conceded the principle that the salaries of teachers and the question of scale of any particular school should be mutually agreed upon between managers and teachers and this self-respecting convention is safeguarded by a specific provision in the new bill which lays down that in approving any scale of salaries the minister shall have regard to any recommendations made by any body of persons constituted by the minister which is representative of local education authorities and of teachers. With regard to the school Certificate examinations, they are now conducted by eight University Examining Bodies, on which tea-

chers are represented, with the Secondary School Examinations Council on which also teachers are represented, acting as a coordinating body. Since the tendency is to make education child-centred the ideal is to do away altogether with external examinations. As a transitional measure the Norwood Committee has proposed a new form of certificate, falling into two parts, one part being the school record and the other part the pupils' achievement in the examinations should be conducted for the University Examining Bodies in each case by a Standing Committee consisting of eight teachers, four members of Local Education Authorities, four University members, and four of H. M. Inspectors acting as assessors. The resolutions on the agenda today relating to the Board of Education, the joint-committee and the Examinations Council seek to incorporate some of these features in the administrative arrangements for Ceylon. I trust they will receive your careful consideration.

The Common School Idea

I would commend to you "the Common School with a common education" as a grand idea—the Ecole Unique of French educators. I hope no exceptions would be allowed (except for purposes of educational experiment) and that there would be only one single type of free primary school using the medium of the mother tongue. Normally it should be a State school. When all the children of a locality, whether they be children of civil servants or of scavengers, are brought together in a common school they will get a feeling of unity. It is also such a school which will ensure equality of opportunity to every boy and girl. Not only they have identical education, but equal chances of selection for the appropriate type of post-primary education. If English is dropped out of the primary school, for educational reasons as also for the sake of making equality real at the selection tests, the equivalent of one year will be saved in the length of school life and the 'clean break' can come at 10 plus, as in some of the continental countries. I do not think we can successfully differentiate at such an early stage between 'senior' and 'secondary' pupils. Even the distinction between 'practical' and 'secondary' must be tentative in some cases. The Fifth standard test must not become a cast-iron machine. I would rather lay great emphasis on the first two years of post-primary education as a period of prognostication and experimentation during which a qualified teacher should follow the progress of each individual pupil with a view to effecting transfers from one type of school to the other.

Free Education

We welcome the principle of free education, but we welcome it as means to an end. What we are after is real equality of opportunity. If free education means only free tuition it will be a costly but barren formula. We therefore ask for a fully worked out plan which will secure educational facilities to 100% pupils of school-age, with an adequate standard of building, equipment and

(Continued on page 4)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 1944

SIR BARON
JAYATILAKA

THE DEATH OF SIR BARON Jayatilaka removes a landmark in the history of Ceylon. To few is given the privilege of working for the political emancipation of their country and living to enjoy the fruits of that work. Sir Baron has had this privilege, and death must have found him happy at the thought that he, more than any other living Ceylonese, had helped his people on the way to self-government.

Sir Baron was not only a politician but also a scholar. His devotion to the cause of Ceylonese nationalism was not a political subterfuge. He belonged to a type that is becoming rare in this island. Living in the culture of his own people, he stood for all that was best in the civilisation of his own country. Because of his faith in his culture, he believed also in education of the right type for his people. His contribution to the cause of Buddhist education gives the true measure of his understanding of the real problems confronting any attempt at nation-building. In this respect his grasp of these problems was the same as that of the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan who saw that, for the Tamils, Hindu education was a vital need and who devoted his great financial and intellectual resources towards meeting it.

As a politician, pure and simple, Sir Baron was not perhaps as successful as he might have been. It is too early to assess the quality of his work, but one feels that he had his greatest opportunity for achieving national unity when the Tamils fiercely opposed the Donoughmore Constitution. The experience gained during the last decade has more than justified the Tamil point of view, but Sir Baron failed to seize the opportunity and put it to its proper use. The Donoughmore Constitution was accepted by a majority under Sir Baron's leadership.

Differ as we must from Sir Baron's view of this matter, we feel that he wielded a restraining influence on his people. That influence was not the influence of the political boss and the plutocrat. It was an influence that resulted from his high character and the inspiring example of a simple and cultured life. Few of his colleagues share with him the quality of his leadership, and we feel that, for this reason if not for any other, Ceylon is the poorer by the death of Sir Baron Jayatilaka.

THE SAMA SAMAJISTS

It was the French philosopher Voltain who instilled into the minds of his countrymen who were being oppressed by an unkind king and iniquitous aristocracy, ideas of liberty, Equality and Fraternity. In the latter part of the 18th century the French Revolution occurred and from then onwards in several countries kingdoms have been replaced by republics. Even at the beginning of the 20th century, Russia was a backward country. During the last world war Germany made the mistake of sending Lenin (who was then an exile) to Russia soon after the Russian military reverses for the purpose of bringing about peace the terms of which were highly advantageous to Germany. Lenin no doubt concluded peace with Germany as the latter dictated, but in Russia itself he was responsible for far reaching changes. Czarism was abolished and communism established.

In Ceylon, Sir Baron Jayatilaka had no sympathy with the Sama Samajists. He mercilessly attacked them in and out of Council. He openly said that they were in league with Moscow and they were rounded up during the time he was Home Minister. Now let us examine what is wrong with the Sama Samajists. They have certain good ideals. They stand for equal opportunities for all people without reference to class, colour or creed, but what is objectionable in them is that they believe that the only way of bringing about reforms is by a general revolution. They do not believe in pacific methods. The methods adopted by them in other countries are frightful. They care not for the middle classes. They are concerned only with the poorer classes and they spread their tentacles into all kinds of organisations where ostensibly harmless questions are discussed about terms of wages, hours of work etc between employer and employee. Cigar rollers, omnibus drivers and conductors, compositors in the printing press Urban Council employees and others formed Trade Unions, severally for the purpose of safeguarding their respective interests. Some of these Trade Unions have done good work. It is easy to mislead the members of these unions. The public must take care that these poor workmen are not misled into adopting the methods of the Sama Samajists. They (the workmen in the different unions) should be told or taught that they should not believe in revolutions for bettering their conditions. In fact it will be a most dangerous and costly experiment.

Official Language For Ceylon

Paractice In Switzerland

The following is the speech delivered by Mr. J. Tyagaraja, member for Mannar-Mullaitivu in the State Council on May 24, in the course of the debate on on the question of a National Language for Ceylon.

"I did not intend to speak on this motion. But after listening to the remarks made by the Hon. member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare), who unfortunately is not in his seat at the moment I desire to make a few observations.

The Hon Member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare) said that national unity and cohesion can be produced if Sinhalese is the official language in this country. The Hon member even went to the extent of stating that really Tamils in the North had Sinhalese blood and the Sinhalese in the South had Tamil blood.

I was very much astonished to listen to the theories he propounded and the sentiments he expressed. I fail to see how national unity or national cohesion can be brought about by suppressing one of the languages spoken by, at least 2,000,000 people in this country.

The mover of this motion also stated that on second thoughts he desired to amend his motion by including Tamil as official language in this country. But he expressed certain misgivings even in regard to his second thoughts. He said that he feared that if Tamil is made an official language in this country it might occupy a place of predominance, a higher state than Sinhalese, as Tamil is spoken by 40,000,000 people across the seas in South India.

I would like, in passing, to point out that in a country like Switzerland—in certain cantons there are 2 official languages spoken—French and German in some cantons; Italian and German in some cantons, and French and Italian in others; so that a bilingual system is in fact in a country like Switzerland where two distinct communities live together peacefully and harmoniously, speaking two different languages.

The mover of this motion is prepared to concede that we might have Tamil as an official language. But other Members, particularly the Hon. Member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare), are not prepared to concede that much. In view of that I am sorry that I cannot support the motion before this House. It is an unreasonable motion; it seeks the suppression of a language spoken by 2 million people.

The mover himself suggested an amendment to his motion which I find the majority of the House was not prepared to accept. So that the motion as it stands seeks to the suppression of a language spoken by a very large section of the people of this Island and, on the other hand, if it is given effect to it would result in making a language spoken by only one section of the people the official language of this country. I am afraid that I cannot subscribe to the principle underlying the motion and I propose to vote against this motion.

Mahatma Gandhi

Stay In Juhu Extended

Silence To Be Observed 20 Hours A Day

Mahatma Gandhi will stay in Juhu for another fortnight. He will observe silence for 20 hours a day and will speak only between 4 p. m. and 8 p. m.

The following bulletin on his health has been issued by Doctors M. D. D. Gilder and Sushila Nayyar:—

"Mahatmaji broke his silence at 3 p.m. last Monday. He is cheerful though still weak, and the anaemia has not improved satisfactorily. His blood pressure has been erratic, with wide oscillations. In view of the slow improvement, it has been decided that he should observe silence for the greater part of the day for some time to come. The restrictions on visits, etc., still continue."

A large number of relatives and Abrahmites turned up at Gandhigram to speak to Gandhiji after the breaking of his fortnight's silence. Gandhiji spoke to some of them, but his voice was very low, hardly audible except to those sitting very near his bed. His first sentence was: "Give me my mud-pack", which he applied to the stomach.

Till his doctors arrived this afternoon, Gandhiji was planning to leave for Poona on the 1st June for a fortnight's stay, but the doctors, after finding the anaemic condition persisting, suggested that he should continue to stay in Juhu for a fortnight more. Gandhiji cheerfully accepted the doctor's advice, and agreed to stay till June 11.

As his progress is very slow, doctors suggested to him that he should not exert himself very much. Therefore as an experimental measure, he has agreed to observe silence for 20 hours a day.

Admission of visitors will be strictly regulated, and Mrs. Sarojini Naidu trusts that the public will help Gandhiji to attain speedy recovery by keeping away from him for some days. It is feared that even relatives and Abrahmites would be permitted to see him only twice a week outside prayer hours.

MINORITIES AND REFORMS

It is understood that the members of the State Council representing minority interests have decided to appeal to the Secretary of State for the appointment of a Royal Commission to report on the Constitutional Reform so that the minorities will be in a position to lay their point of view before the Commission.

The decision to send a cablegram to the Secretary of State making this request was it is learned, reached at a conference of the members concerned on Tuesday evening.

The conference also decided, it is learned, to make representations to the Secretary of State to the effect that it would be inadvisable to dissolve the present State Council and hold a general election at the present juncture, one of the objections to such a course being that it was likely to interfere with the war effort.

Letters to the Editor

STATE COUNCILLORS' DUTIES

Sir,—On the application of the Hon. The Chief Secretary, the State Council approved 50 additional appointments in class I of the General Clerical Service to enable officers stagnating on the top of Class II for 4 years or more to get into Class I. Accordingly the Chief Secretary has promoted 50 officers who stagnated for varying periods of 4 years up to 11 years to Class I from the same date and on the same salary as the State Council did not give a clear mandate to the Chief Secretary as to how these officers are to be transferred to Class I and on what salary of the Salary Scale in Class I each officer is to be placed based on the stagnations. This has resulted in great injustice to those who stagnated for 7 or 8 years or more. If the Chief Secretary had taken interest four or five years earlier as he did now and moved for the same action, all officers who stagnated for 7 or 8 years would now draw 4 or 5 increments more than what they would under the present arrangement. There is no reason why an officer who stagnated for 10 years and an officer who stagnated for 4 years should be placed on the same salary when both are considered fit for promotion to Class I but for the absence of enough posts in Class I. The State Council, since it is not the function of Public Services Commission, should have periodically reviewed the prospects of the services.

It is therefore reasonable that the Chief Secretary should transfer these officers to Class I and place them on a different salary in Class I based on the length of stagnation but their seniority is placed down below those who received promotion to Class I earlier than these 50 officers. Otherwise great injustice would result and such glaring injustice and illogical treatment should be avoided in the treatment of public officers.

The Chief Secretary should take the matter to the Council for necessary direction or some State Councilor should take up this matter at once. It is strange that the Hon. the Financial Secretary could not rectify the injustice by suitable adjustment.

Yours etc.,
"JUSTICE".

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

Sir,—The basis of your contention that Hindu Children whether in Hindu Schools and Colleges or otherwise ought to be carefully trained in their own religious faith and practices is a very vital basis. Outside the faith and practices there is no moksha, or salvation. How then can a Hindu dare expose his boy or girl and that an immature boy or girl to the danger of not instructing him or her in their religion? Worse still of being poisoned and perverted by alien and, shall I say, antagonistic institutions whose express object is the propagation of their alien religion, in doing which the young boy or girl has his or her faith and practice destroyed, which teaches the way of salvation in a very definite, clear, unadulterated unequivocal manner, that I know, the parents and the community that do not stake all to prevent such

Last Respects To The Leader

Body Lay In State

Sir Baron Jayatilaka's body was laid-in-state in the Main Reception Hall of the State Council where it was brought on Saturday morning from his residence, Citralata, Nikape, Dehiwela, along a route decorated with white flags and tender coconut leaves and lined by crowd's.

By command of His Excellency the Governor flags were flown at half mast from all Government buildings in the island.

The motor hearse reached the Galle Face entrance of the State Council shortly after 9 a.m. and the coffin was carried to the hall by the relatives up the flight of steps, which were covered with white cloth. Buddhist monks lined either side. Ministers, the Civil Defence Commissioner and members of the State Council met the body.

From 10 a.m. tens of thousands of mourners filed past the coffin in which Sir Baron lay clad in the simple white garb of an "upasaka" Sinhalese standards and a wealth of flowers bordered the area round the coffin.

Volunteers of the Ceylon National Congress guarded over the body.

Funeral Procedure

The funeral procession started 3 p.m. along the Galle Face Centre Road, Galle, Road, Turret Road, Ward Place and Kanatte Road, reached the lych gate of the general cemetery at 5 p.m. The entire route was strewn white sand and the major portion of it was decorated. At the funeral, H.E. the Commander-in-chief, was represented by his Chief of Staff.

The Supreme Allied Command, South-east Asia, was represented, his representative being a senior Air Force officer.

The Ministers carried the coffin from the State Council to the hearse which was drawn all the way to the cemetery by members of the Colombo Y.M.B.A., the Manaboshi Society, the Buddhist Theosophical Society, the Fort Puspadana Society and other Buddhist associations with which Sir Baron was associated. The route was lined by school children.

School children also headed the procession, followed by members of different societies. Immediately behind the hearse were mourners who walked all the distance, followed by those in cars.

a catastrophe are worse than criminals.

Without waiting for the long time that must intervene before the Hindus will have their own schools and Colleges the public ought to demand that Christian Schools make adequate provision for the faithful teaching of the faith and practise of the Hindu Children in those schools. Else by the time the Hindu gets his school, thousands would have gone out, ignorant of their faith to swell the already large number (90 per cent will not be an underestimate) of religiously ill equipped men and women. Let your work be more militant and aggressive as well as propagandistic.

J. T. HENSMAN
76 College St, Kotahena,
29-5-44

SEVEN-YEAR BAR TO CRIMINALS

Entry Into Urban Councils

PROPOSED CHANGE IN URBAN COUNCIL LAW

A person convicted of a crime within the meaning of the Prevention of Crimes Ordinance will be disqualified from becoming a member of an urban council for a period of seven years. This disqualification at present only applies to village committees.

A bill to amend the Urban Councils Ordinance, gazetted last Friday, has this change as one of its objects.

At present, according to the ordinance two lists have to be prepared for each electoral division, one containing the names of the voters and the other the names of persons qualified for election as members. Time and labour is to be saved by preparing one list containing the names of the voters and to mark in that list with a distinguishing mark the names of the persons who are qualified to be members. This particular amendment will not come into effect until January 1, 1945. The existing lists will continue to be valid until new lists, in accordance with the amended law, are prepared and certified.

The ordinance at present requires a council in fixing the licence duty to be paid in respect of a private market to take into consideration the profits of that market during the preceding three years. This has been found to be defective in that it does not apply to the case of a new market. This defect is to be remedied by an amendment.

The bill will also make it clear that an urban council has the power to impose a licence duty in respect of hairdressing saloons and barbers' shops.

END OF BRITISH SUPREMACY

BERTRAND RUSSELL ON ANGLO-U.S. RELATIONS

New York, May 29
Bertrand Russell English philosopher and writer, now resident in the United States in an article in the *Saturday Evening Post*, entitled "Can Americans and Britons be friends?" asserted today that "As long as Britannia ruled the waves, the English were inclined to despise other nations and were not always careful to hide their contempt. But now that the American navy is larger than the British, Washington is the governmental centre of the world and New York the financial centre. The English, after being dominant for 200 years, have got to learn to take the second place and do it as gracefully as possible. The arrogance which formerly was theirs is now rapidly crossing the Atlantic along with seapower.

He concluded: "There is at the moment great friendliness in England towards America and it is important both to our own nations and to mankind as a whole that this friendliness should be reciprocated. United we have a rare opportunity to move the world in the direction of our common ideals but if we are kept apart by mutual suspicion, the enemies of our hopes will triumph."

LOCOMOTIVES TO BE MADE IN INDIA

It is understood that locomotives are to be manufactured at Kanohara-para Railway workshops, and boilers at Singhbun workshops in India as soon as the plant and machinery needed arrive from overseas. The secretary of State for India has agreed to include these orders in the priority list. It is expected to take over the manufacture of boilers. It is feared that vested interests may put obstacles in the way and torpedo the scheme.

Volley Ball Competition

It has been decided by the Jaffna Sports Association to organise and run an all Jaffna Volley Ball Competition. Club and schools intending to participate may send their entries to the Acting Secretary, J. S. A., Ma'ajana, Tellipalai, before the 10th of June.

MATRIMONIAL

RATNAM—CUMARASWAMY
The marriage of Dr. Kumaran Retnam son of Dr. E. V. Retnam, of Colombo with Meenambigai eldest daughter of Mr. A. Cumaraswamy, Principal Jaffna Hindu College, took place on Saturday 3rd June at "Thyriasthan" Nallur, Jaffna.

FOR SALE

(1) One building block, 10 lachams in extent, off the Jaffna Railway Station Road and within a few yards of the station.

(2) Thirteen acres paddy land in Kilinochi, situated within a mile of the railway station.

For further particulars please apply to V. N. Bartlett, off Martyn's Road, Jaffna.
Mis. 47, 5 & 8)

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 126
In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Appah Sannagampillai of Vaddukoddai West Deceased
Kandiah Kumaraswamy of Vaddukoddai West Petitioner

Vs.
1. Appah Kandiah, 2. Kandiah Veerapathirar, 3. Ratnam wife of Kandiah Kumaraswamy, 4. Maruthappu Rajah, 5. Maruthappu Veerasamy, 6. Maruthappu Velambam, 7. Maruthappu Nadchathiram, 8. Maruthappu Satsury, 9. Nagamuttu Veluppillai and wife, 10. Ratnam, 11. Vaitilingam Ma'alangam and wife, 12. Puvanasundari all of Vaddukoddai West Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the above-named petitioner praying that the Last Will and Testament dated the 30th September 1943 be proved and that he may be declared executor of the said last will and Testament and that probate thereof be issued to him coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 10th day of November 1943 in the presence of Mr. P. Canathypillai Proctor on the part of the petitioner, and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 10th day of November 1943 and that of the attesting notary and witnesses having been read.

It is declared that the said Last Will dated the 30th September 1943 be proved and that the petitioner is the executor of the said Last Will and that probate thereof may be issued to him unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 3rd day of December 1943 shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 10th day of November 1943.
Sgd. James Joseph,
District Judge.
Time extended for 7th June 1944,
Sgd. J. J.
District Judge.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

(By Newsmonger)

That where more than fifty people are present one cannot hereafter eat food consisting of rice, beef, veal, mutton, lamb, fish, chicken or milk.

That pork can, therefore, be eaten in any quantity and there is going to be brisk pig rearing in the country very soon.

That the people's food at weddings hereafter is going to consist of pork, eggs, prawns and crabs with grains other than rice.

That there are those who will all the same provide rice and know how to escape from the clutches of the law.

That they will say that every man and woman who attended a dinner brought a quarter measure of rice, out of the dole of half measure per week, and threw it into the common cauldron.

That they will also ask how it was possible to give free rice meals tea, and betel and nut to 5000 pilgrims at Kurunega's on Wesak day, with all the Control and Ration regulations in force.

That the above news was found in the newspapers and the information is that a similar number was fed free at Matale also.

That whether the Government authorities cared to find out how and from where so much rice was available.

That whether any ruse was adopted to obtain the required rice and whether the skins of those who smuggled such large quantities of rice were "scratched" to see if there was any Valvettiturai blood running in their veins.

That the Government could have requisitioned the aid of Mr. Aluware, the Matale member in Council, to do the operation.

That it would be worth while asking Lt. Col. Kotalawala how much rice is given free to the members of the Railway and Postal Military Corps every month.

That the lucky members of that Corps get 13 measures of rice and other provisions for each free of cost every month, in addition to uniforms and extra allowance in cash.

That they do their normal work in their offices and draw their appropriate salaries with war allowances, and the free rice, provisions, uniforms and cash allowances compensate on'y for the drills they attend once or twice a week.

That, if similar corps were formed all over the country, hundreds and thousands would gladly enlist irrespective of age, or sex even if asked to pay for the rice supplied (13 measures each per month)

That people are going to envy the new Agricultural Corps.

That the members of that Corps are going to live in comfortable dwellings for which millions of bricks are being requisitioned,

That thousands of mosquito nets have been ordered, that uniforms,

hats and shoes also perhaps, free food, medical attendance and other amenities are going to be lavishly given to the Corps.

That it would be interesting to ask the Minister of Agriculture what his estimate of the cost of production is per bushel of paddy.

That whether it will be under Rs 6-00 per bushel and at what price he will supply the paddy produced by the corps, to the country.

That Mr. A. Ratnayaka, Member for Dumbara in Council, wants all the Law Courts in the Island to be abolished.

That what a millennium it would be to the people if independence could be given to Ceylon and Mr. Ratnayaka would carry a motion to that effect in the Ceylon Parliament.

That now Mr. Ratnayaka has made his position in the Council safe for life.

That with the universal franchise enjoyed in the country, the table will elect Mr. Ratnayaka in any constituency in the Island.

That of course, all the lawyers in the country will then be up in arms as Mr. Ratnayaka would have hit them badly in their stomachs.

That Mr. Ratnayaka will then propose that, under an independent Ceylon, there should be nine Legislative Councils in all the provinces with an average of about 500 members in each, each member drawing a salary of, say, Rs 500.00

That such a scheme will stifle opposition from the lawyers and Ceylon will have its halcyon days, with one race, one language, one religion, no courts, no prisons and with the editing of the Sinhalese Dictionary going on for ever.

That some traders are praying that the war should continue for at least another ten years.

That then only black market will flourish and they can enrich themselves further.

That there are other traders who wish the war to end to-morrow.

That they wish so because the Minister of Agriculture says that immediately the war is over the hot-house culture given to the Co-operative Stores now by the Government will cease and they will be left to their own fate afterwards.

That the private traders will then wreak their vengeance and compete with the Co-operatives in such a manner that the latter will be killed.

That the spoon-fed co-operative weaklings of the present day will have to learn to stand on their own legs, in the meantime if they are to survive after the war.

WANTED

Wanted a Qualified Dispenser. Good handwriting preferable. Apply personally with testimonials to Dr K. Kanagasabapathy before 15th June, Anaipanthi Jaffna, 81-544

GLOOMY PATCHES IN EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1.)

staffing, a system of maintenance allowances and the various free services which are implied in civilised education. We cannot countenance any proposal to grant exemption at 12 to any pupil; on the other hand we look forward to the adoption of some scheme of compulsory "further" education for those who leave school before the age of 16. If, however, such a comprehensive plan is beyond our present resources, the alternative to choose is not free tuition for those who can afford to come to school, but free primary education (in the full sense) with a system of special place scholarships in the post-primary stage. A long term programme should be drawn up by which universal free education is achieved by stages.

The U. S. S. B. followed I would indeed have preferred the Minister introducing a definite Education Bill to this series of Resolutions embodying general principles. I think, however, that theoretical disputations appeal to our Eastern minds than practical ways of doing things.

Teacher's Salaries

But neither resolutions nor bill will ensure to the next generation the sort of education we desire unless the teaching profession can attract gifted young men and women. The salary proposals of the Special Committee are not going to attract such any more than the present scales are going to retain our best teacher. It is not only salaries and pensions but opportunities of promotion which act as an incentive to effort. The bottle-necks of denominational schools deny such chances to each brand of teachers. Perhaps a larger number of State secondary schools will bring such opportunities I do not mean that there should be no denominational secondary schools. The best of them must continue though I am hoping they would be less exclusive in their policies and, perhaps, less priestly.

Medium of Instruction

To me the most disappointing part of the Special Committee's Report is the part relating to medium of instruction. The committee starts with the ideal of the mother tongue medium at all stages and ends with the proposal of universal English. And, whatever be their alternatives on paper, the effect will be to convert all post-primary education into English education. Their reason is even more ridiculous than the proposal itself. They think that English will become a common second language in Ceylon and thus become a means of common understanding. Is the proposal practicable? Is the proposal likely to achieve its purpose? Is it a desirable objective? When we have hardly reached a respectable percentage in effective Sinhalese and Tamil literacy, it is a far cry to think of achieving 100% English literacy? Even assuming this done will there not be the class distinction between the stop-soiled English of the Practical Schools and the better English of the Secondary Schools? It is a superficial observation to think of English as having unified the country. It has been a great unmixer, fixing a gulf between

the educated class and the rest. What will unify the people of Ceylon is not English, but knowledge of Sinhalese and Tamil from one end of the country to the other, from one end of the social ladder to the other. About the futility of cultivating a language which belongs neither to our past nor to our future this is not the place for me to speak. It is alright for Mr. Winston Churchill to tell an American audience.

Common Language

"This gift of a common tongue is a priceless inheritance, and it may some day become the foundation of a common citizenship. I like to think of the British and Americans moving about freely over each other's wide estates with hardly a sense of being foreigners to one another."

"I do not see why we should not try to spread our common language even more widely throughout the globe, and without seeking a selfish advantage over any, possess ourselves of this invaluable birthright." I trust there will be no true Ceylonese who will advocate for Ceylon any but those two tongues that have accompanied our people in their eventful sojourn in this dear land.

What post-war Ceylon will be like I do not know. What resources, material and spiritual, we will bring to bear on its problems I do not know. But I do know that the present crises which has challenged other peoples and called out their best has found us wanting. We have now more money, but less character. It is a call to us teachers. It is for us to stimulate the forces of patriotism and religion which will exalt the character and conduct of the young generation and enable them to rise above themselves and their country. My faith in the future of my country is bound up with my faith in education and in my fellow teachers.

AUCTION SALE

D. C. J. 15667

Plaintiff: Anthonipillai Bastiampillai of Karaiyoor, Jaffna
Defendant: Murugesar, Sutharampillai of Chundickuli, Jaffna

Property Referred

Land situated at Chivitharu called "Sudalai addiyitpulam" and other parcels and "Sudalaiadyvalavu" and "Sudalaiadyitpulam" in extent 48 Lms. V. C. and 6 kls of this excluding the extent of 8 Lms. V. C. on the North western side, the remainder in extent 40 Lms. V. C. and 6 kls together and palmrubs cultivated and spontaneous plantations, houses, well and the portion of the well on the Western boundary and bounded on the east by the property of the heirs of Sinnathamby Somasundaram, north by the property of Fredrick Ponniah, Maraku Thambyrajah, Antonipillai Johnpillai, and shareholders and others, west by the property of Vairavy Sinnappu and south by lane and the properties of Pallaiyinar Kandiah, Velupillai Sinnabamby, Michael Soosapillai and others.

In terms of the conditions issued to me by the District Court, Jaffna in Case No. 15667 I shall sell the above property by public auction on Wednesday 28th June 1944 at about 4 p.m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,
Commissioner.

Mis 45, 5)

ZENITH OPTICAL CO.,

11 MAIN STREET, JAFFNA
FOR EVERYTHING

OPTICAL

Mis. 199,