

THE Hindu Organ



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NO. 51.

EDUCATIONAL AUTONOMY IN CEYLON

Indo-Ceylon Problem and Ministers' Misconception

Speech delivered by Mr. M. S. Aney, the Representative of the Government of India in Ceylon, at the Annual Social by the Acting Principal and Mrs. K. A. Selliah to the Jaffna College Alumni Association (Colombo Branch) on Saturday, September 30, 1944, at the Central Y. M. C. A., Colombo

It gives me great pleasure to be in the midst of the Alumni of Jaffna College and meet so many distinguished citizens of Ceylon who had the benefit of being educated in this institution.

It was indeed very interesting to read your nicely printed and beautifully illustrated Silver Jubilee Souvenir which gives briefly all the information about the history of the institution and of the Principals, Professors and some of its distinguished students also.

Your College although established in 1872 claims to be the linear descendant of the Batticaloa Seminary founded in the year 1823. This was just the time when efforts were being made at least in Bengal to start some schools to impart higher education of Western-type to Indian students.

At page 10 of this interesting book, I find the ideals of this original institution described in the following words:—

"It is undoubtedly true that one of the foremost ideals in the minds of the men who originally started the Seminary was the conversion of their students to the Christian faith, and there was also present in good proportion the desire to raise up a trustworthy group of Christian leaders and Christian ministers."

It is however gratifying to read in the same report the following:—

"But it is equally true that their ideals were by no means bound by the narrow limits thus implied for they were also eager to serve the whole community."

Further on, we have the following interesting and encouraging observation on the ideals of education which influenced the founders of the Batticaloa Seminary:—

"And if one were to state the greatest ideal of them all in thinking of the long succession of Jaffna College leaders, it would be the ideal of independence— independence in thinking and training. Independence of the college from the fetters of the examination system and above all independence from Government control and from the grant system of the Education Department."

"Again, the school was to be a place for the cultivation of 'Tamil Literature' as the first prospectus

of 1823 puts it, but the medium of education was to be English so that the knowledge gained in the foreign language might be transmitted into the mother tongue and a clear lucid Tamil prose be developed. Finally the institution was to be a B. A. college and to be conducted as an all-boarding establishment"

After 32 years of existence the Seminary was closed in 1855. In giving the reasons for the closing of this institution it is frankly admitted that "The Seminary was failing to raise up sacrificial leaders and was failing equally to cultivate Tamil Literature."

Even the spirit of independence had gone by the board, for its sons were controlled by the lure of Government service and any desire for learning for its own sake had disappeared."

The unhappy association of English Education with Government had the same demoralising influence on the ideal and practice of education in Ceylon as it had in India.

There is a lesson which the history of this Seminary has to teach. The question of National education in all its comprehensive aspects can be tackled only by the natural leaders of the people who constitute the nation. Foreign educationists imported into the country as heads of the educational department cannot deal with it. Even the best philanthropist imbued with true missionary zeal for the service of the poor and the ignorant cannot handle it in any real spirit of undenominational nationalism. Both of these agencies may be actuated with the best of motives in taking up and guiding the course of education in any land. But pious wishes and lofty motives cannot remove the difficulties which lie in their way of correctly appreciating the force of the cultural agencies that have been influencing the entire life of the people for centuries together. The problem of using indigenous agencies of the Christians, the Buddhists and the Muslims in the cause of education must be properly solved by those who have the responsibility of shaping

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

FOOD SUPPLY OF NORTHERN PROVINCE

Sir,—The people of the Northern Province and the Tamils should be grateful to you for the publicity given in your Editorial of the 28th September to the alleged proposal of the Government to require the Northern Province to provide its own supply of food. If the information that has reached you is found to be correct, the proposed move is one of the most perverse acts of the Ceylon Government. The public ought to resist this move strenuously and it is trusted that Northern State Councillors will take early action to safeguard our position. It is also hoped that the Member for the North Central Province, Mr. Freeman, who knows the conditions of the North intimately and the two Eastern Province Members, would cooperate with the Northern Members in this matter.

In this connection, it will be interesting to recall the fact that in normal times, a very large portion of the rice produced in the North Central and Eastern Provinces were bought by Jaffna Traders and were sent to Jaffna for consumption. During those days, the people in the South preferred to eat imported Samba rice and did not patronize country-grown rice. The patronage of the Jaffna man was the chief factor that sustained the paddy industry in the North-Central Province. Is the present proposal of the Government a reward for the services of the Jaffna man for what he did in the past?

We would like to know whether the same requirement that is sought to be applied to the Northern Province is to be made applicable to the Western Province or any of the other Provinces. If not, why has the Northern Province been specially selected for this experiment.

It would be useful to know whether the move referred to by you has been initiated by the local officials or by the Central Government. It is very doubtful that the present head of the Northern Province who knows local conditions and who is credited with a sense of fairness, would have moved in the matter without instructions from the Central Government and the Board of Ministers. May we request you to pursue this matter further and prevent a gross injustice be-

ing perpetrated on the people of the North?

Yours truly,
Jaffna Man

Gratitude to Missionaries Why?

Sir.—With reference to the letter of Mr. G. D. Lemphera in the "Times of Ceylon" of 7th inst, I have a few observations to make as a non-Christian. My personal experiences of Mission schools in this country are very painful. It was my lot to have had to attend an American Mission school for vernacular education, some fifty years ago. Non attendance of Church on Sundays was visited with brutal caning on Mondays. The teachings in the Church were anti-national and anti-Hindu. The moral value of the teachings was negative. They had the monopoly of education then. The Missionary gentlemen came to this country not out of philanthropic motives, but to get converts by hook or by crook. The Government of the country had failed in its duty by the innocent little children of the country in not providing an adequate number of schools throughout the land. Instead the Government has aided the Missionaries with grant-in-aid. So it should be the Missionaries who should be grateful to the Government for the help in their proselitisation work among the "Heathens" of this land. Compare this with the policy of Malayan Governments. There the Malay children were provided throughout the country with Malay schools, with English schools and Koran schools, at Government expense. Education of Malay children was free. Missionaries kept clear of Malays because the Malay Rulers would not tolerate any tampering with the Faith of their children. No Malay Christian there please. Here in this land we are asked to be grateful to the Missionaries. What an irony of Fate this? It is adding insult to injury.

In recent times we have heard of Freedoms. It should be the duty of the Government of the country to protect the children from the unwelcome attentions of busy bodies. The morals of the country have grievously suffered as a result of the unsettling effects of Missionary teachings. Why this scramble for converts? Let the Missionaries mind the children of their Faith and leave others alone. The Missionary is not the friend of the Non-Christian in this land of ours.

The Minister of Education understands our problems. Why blame him?

Vaddukodai,
12.9.44.

Yours etc
C. Chelliah,



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1944

CLOTH RACKET

IT IS REPORTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES of the textile trade in Colombo went on a deputation to the Controller of Textiles last week, and informed him that several local merchants had cabled to their agents in India asking them not to export cloth to Ceylon as the local market was congested, and difficulty was being experienced by wholesalers in disposing of their goods to retailers. It appears to be a case of "Water, water, everywhere; but not a drop to drink." The Government is keen on importing all foodstuffs and giving preference to Co-operative Stores for supplying them to the people. If the wholesale merchants are really unable to dispose of their stocks we see no reason why the Government cannot take over their stocks and supply the Co-operative Stores whose thousands of members are ever ready to buy cloth through them. Each Co-operative Store sends a large indent for cloth for its members and everywhere the complaint is made that not even a fraction of its requirements is supplied by the Government, and the Store finds it extremely difficult to distribute the small quantity it receives to all its members. Some Stores sell in order of priority of application, others by turns and yet others by drawing lots. We know of a Store which has to cater for 250 families holding over a thousand coupons, and it received last week, with the Deepavali season ahead, only fifteen sarees, fifteen veshties, four shawls, four towels and forty yards of long cloth. There is such a great demand for cloth in the area that the Store does not know how to satisfy all its members with the meagre supply it has received. Thousands of rupees have been sent to Colombo in advance through the Co-operative Stores Union for cloth, each Store advancing Rs 500-00 and yet not a yard has been supplied on that account by the Colombo Wholesale Establishment.

In the midst of such urgent need for the Deepavali season, the merchants are reported to have said that the market is congested. It is clearly the duty of the Government to take over their stocks at once and distribute them to the Co-operative Stores. The Government has also not yet released the cloth received from America. Why?

It appears to us that it is all a ruse on the part of the

merchants to sell their old stocks at black-market rates on the eve of the coming Deepavali festival, and then get the new stocks which will undoubtedly be cheaper. If imports are stopped now, people will be forced to buy at any price for the Deepavali festival. The Textile Control officers are not at all alert. Ignorant villages are still fleeced at many shops. If the Government is to do its duty by the people now, it must at once cancel the licenses of those merchants who have cabled to their agents in India not to export cloth from there, and send out a large number of officers of the Criminal Investigation Department into the country to watch the cloth shops, without relying solely on the Textile Inspectors. It must also take over the stocks from the wholesale merchants without any delay and supply the Co-operative Stores their requirements. The Deepavali day is falling on next Monday. Will the Government act at once? It is by the measures it adopts at this crisis that the Textile Department's efficiency will be judged and its existence justified.

It goes without saying that if the State takes upon itself the responsibility for the control of textiles, it must also see to it that its control is not nullified by either the tricks of the traders or the dishonesty and incompetence of its own employees. State control has now been introduced into almost every branch of trade, and instances have been brought to our notice of the impossibility of obtaining a permit with a minimum of delay or of receiving courteous treatment from the officers who have to issue these permits. In the case of textiles, the merchants complain of the inconvenience and delay caused to them in the issue of permits. We understand that as a result of this complaint the staff at the office in Pettah, Colombo, has been strengthened. We do not deny that there may be just grounds for this complaint, and it is the duty of the Government to treat applicants for permits with the utmost courtesy and consideration.

We are convinced, however, that the cable to India to which we have referred already, is part of the technique adopted by merchants to make easy money. In normal times little would be said about it, but in these days of scarcity this sort of thing is a crime and those merchants who resort to it should be dealt with rigorously if the consumers are not to suffer at the hands of the Government which insists on control but which is unable to maintain it effectively, and at the hands of the merchants whose chief business seems to be to evade control. We understand

that recently a firm in Jaffna received textiles worth a very large sum. This firm is reported to have sold the entire stock at a profit of nearly one lakh of rupees. It would be interesting to know how these things are done in spite of the watchfulness of the officers of the Textile Department. How has this firm accounted for this transaction in its books? If there were old stocks, have these stocks been verified by reference to the account books and other facts relevant to the matter? If there were no old stocks, and if our information is correct, the inference is obvious that this large stock of cloth has gone to replenish the stocks of the black market in textiles.

If transactions like these are possible the Board of Ministers will find that the measures they have taken for the control of textiles will ensure not to the benefit of the consumer but to the benefit of the traders. And yet, there is barely a week for Deepavali Day, and in the shops in Grand Bazaar, Jaffna, and in the Co-operative Stores, it is impossible to satisfy the legitimate demand of the people for cloth. Congestion of stocks indeed! It is our earnest hope that prompt action will be taken by the authorities to deal with the situation which has become intolerable.

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Batticaloa Branch

The First Annual General Meeting of the above Association was held at the Residency, Batticaloa, with the President V. Coomaraswamy Esq. Govt. Agent E. P. in the chair, on Sunday 1st October, 1944.

The annual report of the Committee and the accounts were adopted. A sum of Rs. 100/- was collected for the Hindu Ladies' College, Jaffna, and forwarded. The president paid a glowing tribute to the Hon. Secretary Mr. A. Saravanamuttu, who was leaving the Association on transfer to Kandy, for the valuable services rendered.

The following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year.

President: V. Coomarasamy Esq.,
Vice-President: Dr. P. Arumainayagam
Hony. Secy. and Treasurer: P. Subramaniam, Esq.,
Hony. Asst. Secretary: K. S. S. Nadarajah Esq.

Members of the Managing Committee: S. U. Somasegaram Esq.,
A. Alagaretnam Esq.,
K. Sivabramaniam Esq.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Arumugam Kanthar of Karavaddi West, Jaffna, presently Teacher K/Rambukpitiya Government School do hereby inform the Government and the general public that I shall hereafter be known as Arumugam Chittampalam and shall sign as—

A. Chittampalam.

(Mis, 134, 9-10-44)

CEYLON FIVE CENTURIES AGO

By M. Ramalingam

General Cheng-ho visited Ceylon in the year 1422. Ma Huan, a Chinese Mussalman attached to his staff as interpreter, has left a record of the visit, in which he gives interesting particulars of the Island and its people. The work bears the title "Ing-iai-chén-lan of Ma Huan." Here are two extracts.

"The Island is large and populous and resembles Java a little. The people have in abundance the necessaries of life. They wear only a piece of green cloth round their loins, fastened with a belt. They shave their bodies clean and only keep the hair on their head round which they roll a white cloth. If they loose their father or mother, they grow their beard as evidence of filial piety. The women twist their hair into a knot at the back of the head, and wear a white cloth round their waist. The heads of new born males are shaved, but not of girls, whose hair is done up into a tuft and allowed to grow until adolescence. They eat no food without butter and milk, and if obliged to eat without, do so in secret or unseen. The betel nut never quits their mouth. They have no wheat, but have rice, sesame, and peas. The coconut, which they have in abundance, furnishes oil, wine, sugar and food. They burn their dead and bury the ashes. When death occurs in a family, the women and neighbours assemble and beat their breasts and utter loud groans and lamentations."

It may be pointed out, the custom of growing beards among the Tamils, as it existed a few years ago, was only during the first conception period of their wives. During this time, husbands will not kill even a snake, venomous though it is. When they lost their father or mother they shaved their heads and beards before performing cremation rites. Ashes of the dead are not buried but thrown into sacred waters.

"The king is of the Soli (Chola) race and believes fervently in the law of Buddha. He treats elephants and kine with veneration. The people of the country are accustomed to take cow dung, burn it to ashes and rub it all over the body. They do not venture to eat beef, they only drink the milk. When a cow dies, it is buried. It is a capital offence to kill a cow secretly, but the penalty may be avoided by giving as a ransom a cow's head made of solid gold. Every morning the people of the royal household, whatever their rank, take cow dung, mix it with water, smear it on the floor, and then prostrate themselves and perform religious rites."

From the practices described above, it is clear that the king and his people had adopted Hindu practices and beliefs and were probably only nominally Buddhists. The above extracts are from the presidential address of Sir Poncambalam Arunachalam to the members of the Royal Asiatic Society in the year 1914.

BIRTH-PLACE OF RAMANA MAHARSHI

Tiruchuli Sri Sundara Mandiram

Birth-places of great Saints are considered sacred throughout the ages. Tiruchuli in the Ramnad District is one such. On September 13 last, Tiruchuli was a scene of great rejoicing in connection with the installation of the portrait of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi in the house of his birth. The celebrations centered round a large house adjoining Sri Bhuminatha's Temple.

Some years ago a prosperous lawyer, by name Sri Sunderam Aiyar was residing and carrying on his profession in that building. His name was known far and near. He was loved by the villagers, rich and poor, officials and non-officials; because he was well-known for his ever-hospitable board and his keen interest in the welfare of the poor. Just a small incident is worthy of mention here. In those days traveling in the interior of the district had to be done by the bullock-cart. Aply assisted by his life-partner, Sri Alagammal Sundaram Aiyar's life was unique.

Large was the earning of Vakil Sundaram Aiyar, and his expenditure—always in good causes—was larger still. When he departed from this life in 1892, his young widow, Alagammal, with her four children found good protection in the homes of Sri Subbar and Sri Nelliappier, the younger brothers of the Vakil. In 1898 owing to financial difficulties in the family the house had to be sold. From that time the house changed many hands, when in 1934 it was purchased by the Nadar community of Tiruchuli as property for a school-trust. It is from those people that in the second week of September 1944 Sri Niranjananda Swamy, the Sarvadikari of Sri Ramanasramam with the generous help and selfless service of several devotees of the Maharshi, purchased the house in the name of Sri Ramanasramam at Tiruvannamalai. This house is now known as Sri Sundara Mandiram.

On Wednesday, September 13, the day appointed for the installation of the portrait of Sri Maharshi, a large contingent of devotees had gathered from distant places, some had come from Bombay; and huge crowds of rural population of the locality which still cherishes the memory of Vakil Sundaram Aiyar, the great Vakil *Ejaman* as they always call him, (*Ejaman* means master.) The residents of Tiruchuli co-operated with great enthusiasm worthy of the occasion.

The day began with worship in Sri Bhuminatha Temple there. In the evening a procession with the portraits of the Maharshi and his honoured parents was taken round the streets adjoining the Temple. By 7-30 p. m. in the midst of great acclamation, the portraits were installed with due ceremony in Sri Sundara Mandiram. All the diverse communities, who had assembled from far and near, participated in the function with the predominant idea of honouring the great sage, Sri Ramana Maharshi. Speeches were made by several devotees regarding the Maharshi

VIVEKANANDA SOCIETY, COLOMBO

Gandhi's Birthday Celebration

The Seventy-fifth Birthday of one of the greatest Hindus of all times, Mahatma Gandhi, was celebrated by the Hindu public of Colombo, under the auspices of the Vivekananda Society and under the chairmanship of Mr. M. S. Aney, Representative of the Government of India in Ceylon.

Proceedings commenced with the singing of Thevaram. Songs in honour of the Mahatma were sung by Mr. A. K. Thambimuthu.

Addresses on the life, mission and work of the Mahatma were delivered by the Chairman, Mr. N. Nadarajah, K. C., and Mr. K. Ramachandra. A sum of Rs. 100/- was collected by the Society on account of Srimathi Kasthuribai Gandhi Memorial Fund and remitted. A message tendering homage to the Mahatma and praying to Ishwara for blessings on him and on his efforts for the welfare of mankind was sent.

WANTED

Wanted Manager with business experience for Vaddukoddai Parish Co-operative Stores Society Ltd. Starting salary Rs. 40/- Cash security Rs. 500/- Apply before 20th October to the Secretary.

Pensioners need not apply.
(Mis 133 9 & 12 10 44)

INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Regulation 37 of the Defence (Miscellaneous) Regulations, the Defence (Purchase of Foodstuffs) Regulations and the Defence (Paddy Cultivation) Regulations (all of which now appear in the Consolidated Reprint of the Defence (Miscellaneous) Regulations and other Regulations of May 1, 1944) I do hereby direct that no cultivator, owner, shareholder or other person having interest in any paddy field situated within the Jaffna District shall remove any paddy from any threshing floor until a record of the paddy gathered has been taken by the Village Headman, or any other person authorised by me in writing.

2. Owners and cultivators are also hereby directed to give three clear days' notice of their intention to harvest any paddy field to the Village Headman or any other person authorised by me.

The Kachcheri. C. Coomaraswamy,
Jaffna. Govt. Agent, N. P.
5th October, 1944. (G. 75. 9-10-44)

and his Message, After Puja, etc. *navediyam* consisting of food and cooked cereals was distributed to one and all, and the function came to a happy close.

Henceforth Sri Sundara Mandiram, the holy birth-place of Sri Maharshi at Tiruchuli will be recognised as a place of pilgrimage for one and all, who visit Sri Ramanasramam at Tiruvannamalai. If Tiruvannamalai is a holy Kashi, Tiruchuli is certainly a holy Rameswar. All possible arrangements are being made for the convenience of devotees visiting Tiruchuli which is accessible by bus either from Madurai or Virudunagar, via Arupukottai. May the Grace of Lord Ramana ever abide with Sri Sundara Mandir.—F.A.C.

Educational Autonomy In Ceylon

(Continued from page 1.)

the educational problems of the Island.

The Report of the Special Committee on Education is a very valuable document and I hope that some of the recommendations therein which are of a far-reaching character will be soon given effect to. Particularly the one relating to the use of vernacular medium for education need not be delayed. The establishment of a University in the island means the establishment of the educational autonomy for the people of Ceylon. Future progress of Ceylon will largely depend on the ideals which the educationists will place before the coming generations of Ceylon and the degree of success they achieve in translating those ideals into effective incentives for action.

Educational activities are a part of the social service understood in its widest sense. It is therefore possible that the educational programmes may also demand emphasis on different aspects in different times to meet the requirements of the society or nation. There are no such things as absolute and eternal curricula or courses which can stand good for all time to come. To make my point clear, I will give a single illustration. Suppose a country finds itself surrounded by neighbours imbued with imperialist ideals, preparing for an invasion of that country, it will be the duty of the politicians of that country to give away pursuits of pacific ideals and bend all their energies to the training of her young generation into a nation of soldiers.

If it finds owing to its limited resources it will not be able to defend her liberty single-handed as we have seen in the present war in the case of many nations, big and small, it will have to carefully consider who should be its best allies and make due provision in the educational course itself for the cultivation of friendly relations with such countries. It has to be planned. The politician and the educationist have therefore to work hand in hand. What type of youths are wanted must be determined by the politicians and how that type can be manufactured must be left to be finished by the educational experts.

Requirements of a country cannot be properly assessed without a fairly correct estimate of the international situation of the present time that is likely to develop in the immediate future.

These are the days of planning, post-war planning, to speak more correctly.

What I have said above about the importance of the study of international situation is not only necessary for the purpose of determining the course of education but in shaping all policies, political, economic and cultural, that are intended to effect the lives of the people in the post-war period.

I shall not attempt any survey in this speech of the world situation. War is coming to an end—sooner or later—with complete access for the allies. At the end of the hostilities, Russia, United States of America and the United Kingdom will be the chief

DEATH OF PROFESSOR BERRIEDALE KEITH

A great authority on Empire Constitutional Problems and the author of a large number of publications on politics, many of a monumental nature, died at Edinburgh, aged 69, on the 6th inst.

He was the authority who said that if Ceylon could work the novel Donoughmore Constitution successfully it would surely be fit for full responsible government.

conquering nations, China may be free from menace of Japanese invasion. But how far it will be possible for her to take an effective lead in the post war reconstruction is a problem. She will have to be satisfied with such position as will be assigned to her by the three great powers. There are parts of the old Chinese empire which have either been in the occupation of Japan or its influence. It will not be an easy problem for China to win them over to her and enlist their co-operation in a common effort for the uplift of the Chinese nation.

Russia will have a dominating voice in the reconstruction of the European States, particularly those on her Western frontiers. U. S. A. will enjoy a similar position in regard to the islands in the Pacific ocean. The Japanese possessions will be divided between her, China and possibly some of the colonies like Australia and New Zealand. Britain's interest is mainly centered in Burma and Malaya and I think that she will get a free hand in dealing with them. India and Ceylon though on the road to self-government are at present under the domination of United Kingdom. Arab nations under the lead of Egypt are trying to combine themselves into an Arabic Federation. Other Islamic nations such as Persia and Afghanistan have not so far shown any indication of their attitude. But the Soviet influences are likely to prove more powerful there. There are already a number of Asiatic Islamic Soviet nations in the U. S. S. R. The countries that lie south of Asia are naturally linked together by common cultural ties and also common share of sufferings and sacrifices which the dependent nations have inevitably to make. India, Ceylon, Burma and Malaya should attempt to form themselves into a group of self-governing nations in the Indian Ocean. All questions should be approached with a view to facilitate the formation of such a group. Leaders of Ceylon and India can meet together, exchange views and work for the establishment of such a federation at the end of the war. Existence of a powerful group like this is necessary to save Asia from being exploited indiscriminately either by Europe or by America. There can be no permanent peace in the world unless there are groups well-balanced working for the common good of humanity and an international body over them all invested with all the plenary powers necessary to prevent the different nations from running to the arbitration of sword for the settlement of their disputes or conflicts.

If this view is acceptable,
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(Continued from page 3)

then all questions affecting the future of Ceylon and India deserve very close and serious consideration. Let us realise that it is necessary that Ceylon and India should go together. And therefore we must make an attempt to keep them together on the friendliest terms.

The Ceylon Ministers and members of the State Council have been of late meeting together to evolve the principles of the future constitutional reforms of Ceylon by common agreement of the various interests in this island. I sincerely wish them success in their great efforts.

Indians in Ceylon

Government and the people of India are naturally watching with utmost interest and attention the various stages through which the discussion of the Reforms Committee is going on. I will not like to say one word to make their task difficult. Indian population in this island forms about 1/6th part of the total population. Even labourers have been brought here with an undertaking of an equality of treatment for them with their brothers—the Ceylonese.

I wish that those who are engaged in the patriotic work of framing a constitution will shake off any petty prejudices they may have, sink all the differences and rise to the occasion. Greatest statesmanship and breadth of vision and a thorough international outlook are needed urgently. There is one point on which I find that the members of the State Council and even some of the Ministers seem to be labouring under some kind of misapprehension. It appears from the remarks alleged to have been made by the Hon'ble Mr. Pandaranaike as the Chairman of the Reforms Committee at its meeting held on last Tuesday, in the newspaper report be right, that he thinks that Government of India does not want the question of the status of the Indian residents in this island to be discussed before the end of the war and therefore he considers it not wise for the Reforms Committee to take it up. The question was therefore not discussed.

I will like to point out in all humility that the view expressed by the Hon'ble Minister is incorrect. In the correspondence which took place between the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon which is published as Sessional Paper No. III of 1943 there are letters addressed by the Government of India to the Representatives of the Ceylon Government in which the Government of India have not only expressed their anxiety to take up the question of the status and rights of the Indian people immediately for coming to a settlement but definitely laid down the lines and the principles along which it wants the two governments to come to an immediate settlement leaving the details to be filled in at the end of the war if necessary.

The Board of Ministers replied that they were unable to consider

any counter proposals based on the draft statement contained in the Government of India's letter.

I am mentioning this fact with a view to remove the misunderstanding which I find somewhat common among the members of the State Council and even the Ministers.

Ladies and Gentlemen, The problem of minorities which you have been tackling now is not peculiar to you. In India we have it in a much acuter and complicated form. Most of you may regret that Gandhi—Jinnah talks have broken down. Let me confess that I am not at all surprised. Agreements and understandings are made with a view to strengthen a nation and not to weaken it. Any compromise between the Congress and the Muslim League on the acceptance of the demand of Pakistan can mean nothing else than the destruction of the Indian nation. No nationalist Indian can consent to or even connive at it.

There are still other ways open for the Hindus and Muslims to come together and work out a common formula. If the politicians championing the cause of the two major organisations will cease to bother for some time to bring about any artificial agreement the natural forces that have bound together these two great communities for several centuries in the past and are keeping them even now in a mood to work harmoniously in their day to day life in thousand and one ways will begin to assert effectively. The forces of fanaticism will be at a discount in course of time. Common sense, justice, fairplay and nationalism will triumph. That is my faith. It will be in India and it will be so in Ceylon also.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 307.
In the matter of the estate of the late Kanapathippillai Somasundaram of of Mesalai South

Deceased
Maisyambay Ratnam Meesalai South Vs. Petitioner
1 Kanapathippillai Ponniah of do
2 Kandiah Subramaniam of do
3 Sinar Kandiah and wife
4 Nagammah of do
5 Kanthar Thambiah and wife
6 Chellachi of do
7 Sinathambay Sangarappillai
8 Wife Ponnammah
9 Kanthar Kumaresu and wife
10 Sathappillai of Chwakaachcheri North
11 Chellammah widow of Murugesu of do
12 Murugesu Kandiah of do

Respondents
This matter coming on for disposal before H. A. de Silva Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 31st day of August 1944 in the presence of Mr. V. S. Karthigesu Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner as cousin and one of the heirs of the abovenamed deceased unless the respondents abovenamed appear before this Court on the 16th day of October 1944 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 3rd day of August 1944

Sgd. H. A. de Silva
District Judge

O 83, 9 & 12

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 314

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Adriampillai Francis Saverimuttu of Old Store Road, Jaffna. Deceased.

Elizabeth Pakkiam widow of Adriampillai Francis Saverimuttu of Old Store Road Jaffna Petitioner

Vs
Minor, 1 Saverimuttu Kanavaravar & 2 Adriampillai Pasiah Bastiampillai both of Old Store Road, Jaffna Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before H. A. de Silva Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 23rd day of September 1944 in the presence of Mr. K. Nadasarajah Proctor for petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st respondent for the purpose of representing him and protecting his interest in this testamentary proceedings and that letters of administration, over the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner unless the respondents shall appear before this court on or before the 3rd day of November 1944 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 23rd day of September 1944

(Sgd.) H. A. de Silva,
District Judge.

(O 81 5 & 9-10-44)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 254

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Arubalavanar Kanapathippillai Chelliah of Pungudutivu East, Jaffna. Deceased.

Nagamamah widow of A. Kanapathippillai Chelliah of Pungudutivu East Petitioner.

Vs
1 Pushpakavalli daughter of Chelliah
2 Selvadurai daughter of Chelliah,
3 Chelliah Ganeshamoorthy, and
4 Sethurajiah widow of Kanapathippillai all of do Respondents

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Respondents, that the Last Will dated 10th August 1943 and filed of record in this case be declared proved and the petitioner be as executrix named therein declare entitled to Letters of Probate coming on for disposal before James Joseph Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 5th day of May 1944 in the presence of Mr. V. K. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner:

It is ordered that the 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Respondents for the purpose of representing them in this case, that the Last Will filed of record be declared proved and that the petitioner be as executrix named therein declared entitled to Letters of Probate, unless the abovenamed Respondents shall show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary on the 12th day of June 1944.

(Signed) James Joseph,
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended to 10-10-1944.

Intld. H. A. de Silva,
District Judge.

O 82 5 & 9-10-44.)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 306

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Kanapathippillai Visuvalingam of Naranthana, Kayts Deceased

Sinnammah widow of Kanapathippillai Visuvalingam of Naranthana, Kayts Petitioner

1 Visuvalingam Namasiyayam of Naranthana, Kayts
2 Visuvalingam Sivagnanasambanter, Bank of Ceylon, Colombo
3 Visuvalingam Navanayagam
4 Visuvalingam S. rojini Devi
5 Visuvalingam Thalaiyasingam
6 Visuvalingam Maheswari all of Naranthana, Kayts
3rd—6th named respondents being minors by their guardian-ad-litem
7 Vettivelu Sunthararajah of Vannarpannai West

Respondents
This matter coming on for disposal before H. A. de Silva Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 28th day of September 1944 in the presence of Mr. S. Canagasabai Proctor on the part of the petitioner abovenamed, and the affidavit of the said petitioner dated 21st day of August 1944 and the affidavit of the Notary and one attesting witness dated 24th day of August 1944, and the affidavit of the other two attesting witnesses dated 25th day of September 1944 having been read

It is ordered that the Last Will of Kanapathippillai Visuvalingam of Naranthana, Kayts the original of which has been produced and is now deposited in this Court, be hereby declared proved and the petitioner abovenamed is the sole heir and executrix named in the said Last Will and she is hereby declared entitled to have probate of the said Last Will issued to her accordingly unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before October 26, 1944 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 7th named respondent be declared appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 3rd—6th named respondents unless the abovenamed respondents or any other person interested shall on or before October 26, 1944 show sufficient cause to the contrary

Sgd. H. A. de Silva,
District Judge.

September 23 1944

(O. 84, 9 & 12)

AUCTION SALE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

No. 17110

Itaiy Thambiah of Koodavil

Plaintiff
Karthigesu Kandiah and others

Under and by virtue of the Commission issued to me in this case I shall sell by public auction the undermentioned property on Saturday the 25th day of November 1944 at 4 p.m. at the court

Properly Referred to:

Land situated at Koodavil called Padiyavalayoo is extent 4 Lms. V O and 13 A. with its appurtenances including well and bounded on the East by lane and channel North by the property of Muthar Veeragathy West by the property of Sinnammahy Seeni and on the South by the property of Valli ilai wife of Sivapuniyan and channel.

V. A. Duraiappah,
Commissioner.

Jaffna,
3-10-44.
(Mts. 132 9-10-44.)