

# THE Hindu Organ.

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Editor:  
A. V. Kulasingham

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## R. A. F. DISPLAYS IN FIVE TOWNS

### Savings Week Programme

National Savings Week will be marked by special R. A. F. displays at Co'ombo, Trincomalee, Galle, Ratnapura and Jaffna and at Trincomalee aircraft will drop pamphlets on the town. At Colombo the R. A. F. will also have model aircraft, a rubber dinghy and a flying suit on show at the Galle Face Green display on November 11th.

Other items announced for the display at Colombo are Bren carriers, infantry weapons, mobile workshop and signals equipment and an exhibition of treatment of casualties by an ambulance gun. The Navy will provide shells, mines, torpedoes and possibly an amphibious jeep, and will do arms drill to the music of a Royal Marine Band.

The Flag March through the Pettah will be made by Indian Ceylonese and probably African troops as well as the C. R. N. V. P. Savings certificates and Government Loan stock certificates will be on sale at the Galle Face Green.

At the Trincomalee display--to be held on the maidan, with Ser vice equipment exhibited on the Dutch Bay beach--purchase of Savings or Government Loan certificates will entitle the purchaser to fire an anti-aircraft gun, have a ride in a Bren carrier, or possibly visit a ship in harbour, according to the value of the certificates he buys.

The name and cost of all equipment shown will be prominently displayed in English, Sinhalese and Tamil as a further incentive to the public to invest in savings certificates and top the National Savings Week target of Rs. 25 million.

## RESPONSIBLE GOVT. FOR PHALTAN STATE Gandhiji Congratulates The Ruler

The Raja of Phaltan has introduced full Responsible Government in his State. The Legislative Council of Phaltan under the new constitution held its session recently.

Mahatma Gandhi sent a message congratulating the Raja on the liberal measure of reforms introduced by him. He said "Aundh has no reason to regret the reforms applied there, nor will Phaltan".

Aundh was the first Deccan State to introduce reforms.—A. P. I.

[Major Raja Shrimant Malojirao Madhojirao alias Rasaneb Bhave is the Raja of Phaltan State, which has an area of 397 square miles, the annual revenue being about Rs. 15½ lakhs. The population according to the last census is 71,473.]

It may be of interest to know that even Mysore and Travancore have not yet been given Responsible Government of the type Phaltan has received.

## RESOLVING THE POLITICAL DEADLOCK

### A Pattern Constitution For Ceylon

(By A. THIAGARAJAH, M. A., M. Litt)

#### Explanatory

THE draft scheme of the Board of Ministers visualises proportional representation with weightage in a single chamber, while the minorities claim a balanced representation of fifty-fifty in a single chamber as the only solution for communal suspicion. Both the schemes embody sound principles, but the forms which they take in constitution-making is very unnatural and never known to students of political science. The scheme proposed below fully satisfies the fundamental principles evolved by the two schools of thought in Ceylon, and at the same time takes the pattern of all democratic countries. The Ministers' scheme does not satisfy the minorities while fifty-fifty is another term for a permanent deadlock. We should overcome both obstacles, and the following plan admirably solves the issue and paves the way for progress.

#### The Scheme: A Lower House:

All democratic countries including Russia have their lower house on a population basis. Russia has one representative for every 300,000 people. Ceylon could have one for every 100,000, so that the 6 millions will have 60 members in the lower house. If weightage is accorded and the "60-40" basis is taken, the Sinhalese will have 36 seats and the minorities 24. This is for the lower chamber.

#### An Upper House

This house should be based on a regional basis as in every other democratic country. Ceylon should be divided into areas of more or less equal regional importance viz, 16 divisions or cantons with 2 representatives for each. These 32 with 8 nominated on functional basis will give a strength of 40 for the upper house. The 16 cantons are as follows:—Colombo (Western Province), Ratnapura (Sabaragamuwa), Galle (Galle and Matara districts), Hambantota, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Badulla, Nawara Eliya, Kandy (Kandy and Matalle districts), Kurunegala, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Mannar, Jaffna-Mullaitivu, and Vavuniya. Of these 16 cantons 10 are in the Sinhalese area and 6 in the Tamil area, but wherever there are important minorities like the Muslims and the Indians, one of the two seats should be reserved for them, so that the final outcome would be 15 Sinhalese, 10 Ceylon Tamils, 4 Muslims, and 3 Indians. The 8 nominated would be for the following: Europeans, Burghers, University, Women, Labour, Agriculture, Industry and

#### Commerce, Finance and Banking.

N. B. Portions of the N-C-Province should be ceded to a newly constituted Vavuniya canton and to Trincomalee. Similarly portions of Uva should be ceded to Batticaloa and Hambantota. The result of this measure would be to balance areas of more or less equal regional importance and to give scope for both Sinhalese and Tamils from congested areas to colonize in the dry zone. Thus regionalism is far more important than communalism in a state where economic development will be a greater consideration than others like employment, racial integrity and religious problems.

The two houses will have equal powers and in the case of a deadlock the issue should be settled by a joint sitting of the two chambers. The 60 of the lower and the 40 of upper have been so devised as to give a balance in the event of the joint sitting on crucial questions of policy.

#### The Executive

It shall be a composite cabinet chosen on one of two ways: The leader of the majority party should be compelled by law to include in his cabinet members enjoying the confidence of other minority groups in the Legislature, or a Council of Ministers must be elected by the Legislature as a whole so as to include members of the minority groups, and this Council of Ministers must elect their leader. The cabinet may be required to take 6 Sinhalese and 4 minorities or 7 Sinhalese and 5 minorities. Something intermediate between the cabinet and the committee systems could be achieved if a plural parliamentary executive like Swiss Federal Council is adopted.

#### The Merits of the Scheme

1. It adopts pattern similar to all democratic institutions.
2. It avoids the unnatural devices proposed by the Board of Ministers and the "50-50" protagonists.
3. It supersedes communalism by adopting regionalism which is the crux of the problem.
4. It meets the two political views most satisfactorily.
5. It paves the way for progress without creating permanent deadlocks.
6. It allows the utilisation of the dry zone by all the communities of Ceylon.
7. It creates more regions for financial devolution and better development of regions.
8. The very idea of cantons should stimulate greater democratic spirit.
9. The minorities have more

## DRUG TO INCREASE EYESIGHT

### New German Invention

German scientists have invented a new "cat's eye" drug which trebles the eyesight in darkness, according to a Berlin report in the *Aftenbladet*. The new drug is called "Noctan bee" Injected in the eye it makes the retina perceive ultra-red rays. It enables a night flier to sight an enemy plane in darkness at a distance three times longer than had hitherto been experienced. Mass production of the "cat's eye" drug has begun, the report added. The Germans expect soon to be able to inject all their night fighters before sending them into battle.

## REFORMS FOR KASHMIR

### Popular and Communal Ministers

In furtherance of the policy of associating his subjects with the administration of the State, His Highness the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir, a Hindu state, has decided to appoint two ministers from among the non-official members of the State Assembly (Praja Sabha). This announcement was made in the State Assembly to-day when the President, Rai Bahadur Ganga Nath, read a message from the Maharaja embodying His Highness' decision.

The Assembly has been authorised by the Maharaja to nominate a panel of six (three to be Muslims) of its members out of which His Highness will appoint two as Ministers, one of whom will be a Muslim.

## NATIONAL SAVINGS WEEK

At a largely attended public meeting convened by Mr. N. James, President V. V. C. Sillalai on the 29th October presided over by the Revd. Father Jesland, O. M. I., Mr. C. Thiagarajah, District Organiser, War Publicity and Mr. E. N. Sinniah, Maniagar, appealed to the people to invest monies in Savings Certificates. As a result a committee of helpers was formed to help in the forthcoming National Savings week.

share in the legislative and executive acts of the state.

10. True communal harmony is achieved, and after a transitional stage communalism will disappear.

11. It permits the development of true political parties with definite economic policies.

12. The two chambers together will have 100 representatives a number desired by politicians, while maintaining a responsible and stable executive and giving a balanced representation.



## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1944

### COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION

AT THE RECENT INAUGURAL meeting of the Tamil Congress Mr. K. Balasingham suggested that the fifty-fifty ratio should, if accepted, be implemented by the creation of communal electorates. He said: "There was no alternative but to revert to communal electorates. It was altogether impossible to elect an allotted number of members in any other way for the Europeans, Burghers and Muslims. In the case of the Indians up-country, it would help the Kandyans if up-country Tamils were given separate electorates. There was nothing gained by the low-country Tamils alone sticking to the general electorate." Mr. Balasingham has been always something of a realist in the field of politics, and while we are not prepared to go to the length of saying that communal representation is the only remedy for the present ills of the island, it is necessary to point out that Mr. Balasingham is only repeating what he, Sir Ambalavanar Kanagasabai, and Mr. A. Sabapathy, a distinguished Editor of the "Hindu Organ", used to say in the days when the Ceylon National Congress fought for the acceptance of the principle of territorial representation. This principle has certainly worked well in the type of democracy which has succeeded amongst the Anglo-Saxon communities. It was the considered opinion of the Tamil leaders that this principle would never yield satisfactory results in a country like Ceylon with its various races and communities, and they predicted that, if the principle of territorial representation were accepted, it would but be a form of communal representation with the added advantage of a territorial basis. They declared that the principle of territorial representation would merely enable the majority community to swamp the minorities. The younger section of the Tamils refused to accept this view, and till the National Congress repudiated the pledge given to the Tamils in regard to representation, the liberal elements in the Tamil community continued to participate in the activities of the Congress.

Whatever may be said about the merits or demerits of communal representation, it is quite

evident now that the pessimism of the Tamil leaders in regard to the future was quite justified. Sir Baron Jayatillake accepted the Donoughmore Constitution on the ground that it gave the Singhalese people, for the first time in the course of centuries the opportunity of being masters in their own country. Singhalese Chauvinists have not been slow to improve on this doubtful ideal, with the result that the majority bloc in the State Council has a distinctly racial and communal complexion. The Board of Ministers is only a replica, on a smaller scale, of this majority, and it is impossible to acquit it of the charge of communal bias in the administration of the country. There are two things for which the Singhalese Ministers will have to answer before the Soulbury Commission: their omission to give the Northern Province its rightful share in the industrial development of the country, and the treatment meted out to the farmers in the Jaffna District under the internal purchase scheme. On some pretext or other industries which, according to expert opinion, would thrive well in the North, have been started in the South. With regard to the internal purchase scheme, we have repeatedly urged the Ministers and the Civil Defence Commissioner to alter the rule which enables most parts of Ceylon to obtain a maximum allowance of 100 bushels per annum for each household, while the farmers of the Jaffna District have to be content with fifty. These and the claim of the Singhalese Ministers disclosed in their correspondence with the Secretary of State, that they, and not the British Government, are the final arbiters of the destinies of the minorities in Ceylon, have brought about a radical change in the attitude of those liberal elements amongst the Tamils that formerly supported the Ceylon National Congress. The wide support given to the Tamil Congress, the election of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam as its President, the adherence of leaders like Mr. K. Balasingham to the cause of the Tamil Congress—these are ominous signs the significance of which cannot be ignored. At the inaugural meeting of the Congress one of the speakers who supported the Congress was Mr. J. V. Chelliah, an outstanding figure in the public life of the Tamils and a man who never failed, in his capacity as a publicist and educationist of great distinction, to counsel the Tamils against the temptations of communalism. It is not a light thing that men like him should, at the end of a long and fruitful career, confess their own disillusionment. And who is responsible for all this? The Singhalese leaders and nobody else.

### RICE FROM BURMA

There are still many in our country who hope that, once the war is over, Ceylon will return to normal conditions, that paddy will flow in freely from Burma as before and sell at Rs 3-00 per bushel, and that our food problem will be solved once and for all. They little know that it was Indian labour and Indian Nattukottai Chettie's capital that produced most of the rice in Burma before the war so cheaply. The Burmese are an indolent people who cannot be trusted to grow sufficient rice for themselves and export the surplus to foreign countries. It will also be remembered that the anti-Indian feeling was so high in Burma for a number of years that even the Government of Burma had to be separated from that of India and that Burma had to be put directly under the Secretary of State for administrative purposes only a few years ago, although such an arrangement was to the detriment of Burma.

When Japan invaded Burma, the Burmese were let loose and took the law into their own hands. Every Indian who was seen on the highway was murdered and Indian houses and properties were set fire to and destroyed. Unable to bear the atrocities the Indians began to flee from the country and trudge a distance of three to four hundred miles across rivers and mountains to reach India. They could not remain under the Japanese regime in Burma as safely as Indians and Ceylonese did in Malaya on account of the ferocious anti-Indian feeling there.

Under such conditions it will be too much for us, to expect the Burmese to send us rice after the war. Already we hear that people are starving in that land of plenty and that women are committing suicide for want of clothes to wear. If this report is correct it shows how utterly incompetent the Burmese are to produce their own food even under the puppet independence Japan has given to their country. Our view is supported by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, who delivered a lecture on "Travancore" at Madras a week ago. *The Hindu* reports his speech thus:

"Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar wanted to correct the erroneous impression of many who felt that once Burma was liberated there will be no difficulty in the matter of supplies of foodstuffs. He reminded the audience that paddy in Burma was cultivated not by the Burmese but by Indian labour. Indian labour had been sent out of Burma on account of political and other reasons, but the question will arise whether these Indians would be allowed to go back to an autonomous Dominion like Burma of the future. Moreover, the future Burma as a self-governing country will naturally have more sympathy with China when the distress has been tenfold when compared to India. He thought that Burmese sympathies would be necessarily with the Chinese and surplus rice in a large measure will probably go to China".

## Notes and Comments

### Incentives to buying Savings Certificates

It is reported that at the Trincomalee display on the 11th inst. purchasers of Savings or Government Loan Certificates will be entitled to fire an anti-aircraft gun, have a ride in a Brea carrier, or possibly visit a ship in harbour according to the value of the certificates they buy. This kind of incentive will, we fear, only induce light-minded people to buy the certificates for the fun of the moment and, after enjoying a ride in a brea carrier or visiting a ship in the harbour, surrender them for cash in a few weeks' time. We have already deprecated in these columns the attempts of "Helpers" who ask the people to buy the certificates during the Savings Week and cash them after a short time. The aim of such "helpers" is not to convince the people of the real benefits that would accrue by saving money and investing with the Government, but to show to the authorities that they have done a mighty lot.

We would, therefore, commend to the War Savings Commissioner the Indian method of offering inducement. Although the plan admits of an element of gambling, it does not give any chance for deception, covert or overt. The Government of India offers Prize Bonds, and cash prizes are given on the results of drawings twice a year. For each series of one lakh pieces of Rs 100-00 the first prize is Rs. 10,000; and there are two second prizes of Rs 20,000, each; and two third prizes of Rs Rs 5,000 each. The total prize money amounts to Rs 10,000 for each drawing. Again for Rs 1000 bonds there is a first prize of Rs 2,500; two second prizes of Rs 1,250 each; and five third prizes of Rs 500 each, and ten fourth prizes of Rs 250 each. The total prize money under this category amounts to Rs 10,000 for each drawing for each similar series. Winning bonds are eligible for future prizes and the capital is repayable at par after five years. We hope that the authorities will consider the adoption of similar inducements hereafter in Ceylon as well.

### THE ALL-CEYLON TAMIL CONGRESS

The All-Ceylon Tamil Congress will hold its first plenary sessions at the Town Hall, Colombo, on Monday, 27th November, 1944.

Morning sessions 9-30 A. M.—12 30 A. M.

Presidential Address - Resolutions - Evening Sessions 3 P. M.—5 P. M.

The Congress Working Committee and the Congress Subjects Committee will meet on Sunday, 26th November, afternoon.

Notice of resolutions to be considered by the Subjects Committee should reach the General Secretaries No 156 Halsdorp Street, Colombo, before 18th November.

(Mis 151, 6-11-44)

## PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION VIEWS OF NORTHERN REPRESENTATIVES

The Jaffna Association held its annual general meeting on Saturday the 4th, inst., Mr. A. R. Subramaniam, Retired District Judge and senior Vice-President presided. After the election of the office-bearers Messrs. S. Natesan, J. Tyagaraja, G. G. Ponnambalam and A. Mahadeva addressed the meeting on the present political situation.

Mr. S. Natesan said that it was not expedient on his part to discuss anything in detail at that moment, in view of the fact that the Reforms Committee was then sitting. He was more prepared to listen what others had to say on the momentous questions than say anything much himself. Generally he would say that he was in support of the Committee system of government as a result of his own experience and his opinion was that a Cabinet system of government was not suitable to Ceylon. He was also in favour of a Second Chamber. Further it was not clear to him whether any Constitution framed by the Spulbury Commission would be placed before the State Council for ratification.

Mr. J. Tyagaraja said that although he was invited to address the meeting as member for Mannar he was there to speak to them as a student of politics and as an observer of political events so that he could have a detached and dispassionate view without any considerations of loyalty to any political party. The crux of the political problem in Ceylon to day, as he could see it, was the question of representation in the legislature. In a country like Ceylon the distribution of political power depended on the representation in the legislature and for that reason public attention was concentrated on the question of representation and considerations of a Second Chamber, Cabinet system etc, had been relegated to the background. The question of representation had assumed greater importance on account of the Secretary of State's declaration that complete power was going to be given to the people of the country in matters of internal administration. If with what is called seven-eighths self-government there was so much of complaint of domination by one community over all others, what would be the position of minorities under a ten-eighths self-government?

On the question of representation the Tamils had as far back as 1921 enunciated the principle that no one community should be in a position to dominate the rest of the communities in the Island. Tamil leaders in the past had definitely given that lead in the pre-Donoughmore days. Speaking on different types of constitutions the speaker said that those general considerations should be borne in mind. Political institutions like the Cabinet and the Second Chamber worked successfully in countries where the population was homogeneous. They were the result of

historical processes. The special political conditions in England gave birth to the Cabinet system of government in the 17th century. On account of the fact that a king could not preside over the meetings of the Cabinet owing to his ignorance of English the Prime Minister began to preside and slowly took all the power into his own hands. Again the English were such a peculiar people and had an outlook on life that many questions were capable of settlement by compromise without sacrificing fundamental principles. They were slow-moving and cautious and consequently the Cabinet system was a success there. On the other hand, in France, people were emotional with a logical turn of mind and they pushed questions through to a logical conclusion, with the result that prior to the war the Cabinet used to fall every six months. Political thinkers today were dissatisfied with the manner these political institutions were working. They were trying to modify and re-adjust these institutions to suit modern conditions. Under these conditions transplanting those political institutions to other parts of the world would be in the words of Lord Morley like 'wearing an English fur-coat on the plains of the Punjab.'

In dealing specifically with the Cabinet system there were, the speaker continued, two requisites for its successful working viz: Existence of a vigilant public opinion and the existence of two parties nearly well-balanced against each other and divided on definite political issues. If there were more than two strong parties the system would break down. The greatest danger under the Cabinet system was the tendency to dictatorship where one party had a big majority, where the Premier could simply do what he liked and wield the power of a dictator. That was the case under Palmiston, Dalhousie, Gladstone, Lloyd George, Baldwin and others. So it was unthinkable that such a system should be introduced in Ceylon giving complete powers in the hands of one single community. The alternative should be a modified system as the Cabinet system in the Central Government of Switzerland, where the Cabinet was elected by the entire House on a single non-transferable vote of each member, or the present Committee system of government might be retained storn of its defects. It should have nothing to do with appointments of Government officers and the methods of electing Ministers should be modified.

Dealing with the question of Second chamber Mr. Tyagaraja, continued that he would oppose it on principle. It was only a luxury and the present political opinion was against it. The only three countries where they worked successfully were England, America and Russia. The objections were put in a nutshell by

### Letters to the Editor

The Moolai  
Mootha Vinayagar Kovil  
Maha-Jana Sabai

Sir,—In pursuance of a notice issued by the leading Hindu residents of Moolai, the Hindus of the area met at the court yard of the above temple nearly a month ago in order to form a Maha Jana Sabai for the purpose of managing the above temple and its temporalities. It was decided at the meeting to keep a register of all worshippers of the temple and accordingly a *Temporary Committee* was appointed to take the necessary steps in this connection. It was also decided that a registration fee of one rupee should be charged from the worshippers who would register their names. The meeting was then postponed, *sine die*.

This temple had been serving the spiritual needs of the people of this area from the latter part of the Dutch period and was one of the earliest temples to be founded in the Valigaman West Division during the Dutch period. The management of this temple from its inception had been in the hands of a council of the leading gentlemen of the area. But it is regretted that there is no record in writing available at present, about the useful work done by the council from time to time.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that the above Sabai has decided to keep a register of its members.

It is my earnest request to the founders of the above Sabai to take the necessary steps to make the Sabai legally constituted, and thereafter to apply for a vesting order in its favour under the provisions of the Trust Ordinance.

Yours Truly,  
S. M. Apputhurai,  
Jaffna, 1st November 1944

### NOTICE

The public is hereby informed that I have lost Temporary Receipt Book No. 3168 consisting of receipts Nos 158351 to 158400 and a Helpers Badge No. 3168 issued to me in connection with the forthcoming National Savings Week. A reward of Rs. 10 is offered to the finder.

S. Thillaiampalam,  
Asst. Master,  
Sandilipay Private Hindu Tamil Mixed School, Sandilipay,  
3-11-44)  
(Mis 150, 6)

a French philosopher thus: "If the Second Chamber agrees with the First, it is superfluous. If it disagrees it is mischievous". The speaker warned that the people's attention should not be diverted by too great an insistence on the demand for a Second Chamber because the real seat of power was in the first.

In conclusion the speaker appealed for unity among the Tamils and said that they must soon dispose of these constitutional questions and pay their attention to economic questions which were bound to decide their destiny.

The speeches of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam and Mr. A. Mahadeva will appear in our next issue.

### ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction  
No. 1027.

In the matter of the estate of the late Nallainayagi wife of Kanapathypillai Kailasapillai of Mandaitivu. Deceased.  
Kanapathypillai Kailasapillai of Mandaitivu Petitioner,

Vs.

- 1 Arulambikai daughter of Kailasapillai
- 2 Ponnambalam Thambu both of Brown Road, Vannarpannai

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner abovenamed praying that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent may be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st Respondent and that Letters of Administration be granted to him to the estate of the deceased abovenamed coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge on the 23th day of May 1941 in the presence of Mr. V. K. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 27th day of May 1941 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st Respondent for the purpose of watching his interest in these testamentary proceedings, and Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased abovenamed be granted to the petitioner abovenamed as lawful husband of the deceased unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on 23th day of June 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

28th day of May 1941,  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

10-10-44

Time to show cause extended to 18-11-44

Sgd. H. A. de Silva,  
District Judge,  
(O. 96, 6-11-44 & 9-11-44)

### ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFFNA

Testy No 327

In the matter of the last will and testament of the late Sivakampillai wife of Sittampalam of Vannarpannai West Deceased.  
Karthigesu Sittampalam of Vannarpannai West Petitioner

Vs.

- 1 Ba'ambal, 2 Mahadevan, 3 Sabadevan, 4 Rajah, 5 Vamadevan, 6 Neelambal all children of Sittampalam of do and 7 Sivapakkiam widow of Subramaniam of do, 1st to 6th are minors by their guardian ad litem the 7th respondent

Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before H. A. de Silva Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 16th October 1944 in the presence of Mr. S. Patanjali, Proctor, on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read: It is ordered that the 7th respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minors the 1st to 6th respondents and the petitioner be declared entitled to have probate of the last will and testament of the deceased and that the said will be declared proved unless the respondents shall appear before this court on 23th November 1944 and show cause to the satisfaction of the court to the contrary.

1<sup>st</sup> October 1944,  
Sgd. H. A. de Silva,  
District Judge,  
(O. 95, 2 & 6)

## ALL-CEYLON TAMIL CONGRESS

The following were among the messages received by the Secretaries of the Congress when it was inaugurated in Colombo on October, 27.

The Organising Secretary,  
The All-Ceylon Tamil Congress  
Colombo.

Dear Sirs,

As I told you personally, I am leaving Colombo for Quilon on urgent personal matter which cannot be put off. I am sorry that I am missing the Inaugural Business Meeting of the Congress, whose interests, we have all at heart. It was my desire to participate in the meeting but in view of the unavoidable urgency of some personal matter which requires my presence in South India, I am leaving Colombo today.

I will be obliged if you can kindly convey to the meeting and the members present my best wishes and greetings.

We are living in one of the most important periods of our history and the things that are now taking place will shape the history of Ceylon for many decades.

I trust that all Tamils will join the Congress and make it a powerful body which will protect our interests. At this critical time, Tamils of all classes and sections from all parts of the Island should sink whatever differences they may have and unite to serve the public. Unless we take heed of the ancient adage that united we stand divided we fall, we will be committing a grave blunder. In particular, I appeal to my Indian Tamil friends to work wholeheartedly for the Congress. After all, the Tamil community is indivisible.

With regard to the Constitution and the election of Office-bearers, may I be permitted to make the following observations. I had the advantage of perusing the Draft Constitution and am on the whole satisfied with it. If after working for some time, we find that any amendments are required, we would get the necessary changes thereafter. At this important critical time, we must have at the helm of affairs a person like Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam who has toiled indelibly for the Tamil community irrespective of class or section and with single-minded devotion for the last 15 years. It has been my privilege to work with him and I feel that the burden and responsibility of guiding the Congress should be left in his worthy hands. I trust that the meeting elects Mr. Ponnambalam as the President. In my humble opinion, no better choice could be made. I am confident that the Tamil Congress will be a great instrument for rendering service to Ceylon, whose prosperity and happiness are our concern.

I pray that Providence will grant each one of us the courage and wisdom to rise to the occasion and enable us to discharge our duties to our people.

Yours truly,  
(Sgd) I. X. Pereira.

II

Dear Sirs,—I thank you for your invitation to be present at the Inaugural Business Meeting of the Tamil Congress on Sunday, the 29th instant. As I am

not well enough to travel to Colombo, I am unable to attend the meeting.

I want to convey to the meeting my best wishes for its success. As you are aware, the meeting held at the Town Hall, Jaffna, including representatives from all parts of the Northern Province and from other parts of Ceylon, fully supported the formation of the Congress. The Congress organisation should be set up without further delay.

The people of Jaffna are behind the Congress movement and are prepared to shoulder the great responsibility. I trust that the constitution would be adopted and the Office-bearers and Committees elected in a spirit of unity and goodwill. I would be failing in my duty to the public, if I do not give expression to the general feeling here and my own opinion that at this critical juncture, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam should be elected by us President of the Congress by reason of the unique services he has rendered for over 12 years for the Tamil community and by reason of his earnestness, devotion to public duty and fearlessness. I can hardly think of any other person who can lead us and serve us during the difficult days ahead.

I respectfully commend his name to your meeting. You are, no doubt aware that at the meeting held at Jaffna, his name was proposed by me for the presidency of the Congress and was unanimously accepted by the audience numbering about 3,000 people. I was glad to find that at the meetings held in other places, the choice made by Jaffna or the Congress presidency was approved and Mr. Ponnambalam's name accepted unanimously.

I trust that the Tamils, in their thousands, will join the Congress and make it our national organisation, under whose protection we shall all live in happiness and serve Ceylon.

May God bless the Tamil Congress.

I remain,  
Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd) S. Subramaniam,  
Retired Provincial Surgeon  
Jaffna.

III

Sirs.—I thank you for your invitation to be present at the Business meeting of the Congress and I regret I am unable to attend same owing to a previous engagement at Hatton.

I am very happy that the Tamil Congress is taking a definite shape today with a principle and purpose to stand for and carry out. In a country, where every one realises the existence of a Minority problem it is no crime to start an organisation to protect the interests of the Minorities as such.

There are, in this country, Tamils who have been here for several centuries and those who have been here for several decades. It is the duty of this Congress to take in those of the latter class and make them full-fledged citizens of this country. Therefore, it is the duty of those who claim citizenship rights in this country and those who wish to be Ceylonese to join this Congress.

This Congress need not have any quarrel with any organisation of the Tamils whose stay and interest in this country is of a

## SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE

### Propaganda Through Cinema

Mr. K. S. Hirdekar, Honorary Secretary of the Independent Film Producers Association, Bombay, has sent a cable to the Indian Scientists' Delegation now in London, drawing their attention to the effectiveness of the motion picture in propagating scientific methods of agriculture among Indian land-workers.

The cable says: 'The cabled version of the discussion at the reception given to you in London states that you referred to the difficulty of propagating scientific methods of agriculture among Indian landworkers. You mentioned more demonstration farms and community radios for desired results. We submit you overlooked motion picture. We hardly need tell you that the cinema by its visual appeal is more effective in rousing the imagination of the peasants than either newspapers or radios. Soviet Russia uses the screen on a wide scale, in educating the peasantry. We humbly suggest that you study the part played by films produced by both official and private agencies in England, America and Russia, dealing with agricultural scientific and educational subjects and recommend these methods in India.'

—A. P. I.

temporary character, if they advise their members not to join this organisation.

I hope this organisation, will command the allegiance of all sections of the Tamil people in Ceylon and become a permanent institution in the public life of Ceylon to serve us for all times. Work in connection with Commission on Reforms is not sufficient.

I would finally appeal to the Tamils to present a united front and resist all attempts on the part of interested parties to divide us.

I wish this organisation every success.  
Yours faithfully,  
Sgd. K. Natesa Aiyar.

## Ending Exploitation of Coloured Races

### U. S. Negro Electors' Manifesto

London, Oct. 22.

"We are concerned to see that this war brings to an end Imperialism and colonial exploitation. We believe that political and economic democracy must displace the present system of exploitation in Africa, the West Indies, India and all other colonial areas", says a manifesto issued by prominent Negro Organisations to the Republican and Democratic Conventions.

"We insist", continues the Manifesto, "that all parties and candidates formulate a foreign policy which will recognise China as an equal partner with America, England and Soviet Russia and which will resolutely and unequivocally oppose either perpetuation or extension of exploitations based upon 'white superiority' or economic or political advantage to 'white' nations at the expense of two-thirds of the people of the earth who are brown, yellow, or black of skin. The United States must point the way by including Negroes among its representatives at the peace conference or peace conferences and among its diplomatic, technical and professional experts engaged in international post-war reconstruction."

Continuing the manifesto says: "Political parties and candidates who will seek the votes of Negroes in the November elections must be committed to the wholehearted prosecution of the war for total victory, must agree to the elimination of the Poll Tax by an Act of Congress, the passage of anti-lynching legislation, the unsegregated integration of Negroes into the armed forces, the establishment of a permanent Federal Committee on Fair Employment Practices and a foreign policy of international co-operation that promotes economic and political security for all peoples."  
—United Press of India.

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## BOOKS!!

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