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SETHU AND LANKA OF THE RAMAYANA

Popular Belief About Rameswaram And Ceylon Disputed

AN ARGUMENT ABOUT THEIR POSITION

BY SARAM RANGACHARIAR,
Retired Teacher, Tanjore.

IN connectinn with the exact position of "Lanka" of Ramayana fame, a few facts gleaned from the Adikavyam—Ramayana of Sage Valmiki—are worthy of interest, and need investigation by modern scholars.

The 'Vindya Mountain forms the dividing line of the North and South India, with the Himalayas and Cape Comorin, as the northern and southern limits. [Bodhayana Suthram:—Dakshinena Himavantham: uththarena Vindyam. Dakshinena Narnadani, uththarena Kanya theertham.]

[Slokas 8-25, Sarga 41, Kishkinda Kanda.] Sugriva, here directs the Southern command under Hanuman's lead, to search for Sita from Vindya mountains towards South, up to Cape Comorin and onwards. (In slokas 15-24). The position of Mahendra hills (wherefrom Hanuman, at a later stage, started to cross the ocean) is described thus:—"Behold Sage Agastya seated on the Malaya Mountain Get his blessings. Cross the River Thambraparni and look to Mahendra Parvatham protruding into the ocean. Yonder, lies an island at 10 yojanas and it is there you will have to carefully search for Sita."

It is evident from this, that the Mahendra Mountain, referred to, is no other than a continuation of the Western Ghats, lying between the Indian Ocean and the River Thambraparni, the Malaya Mountain, of course, lying to the north of Thambraparni, thus forming the eastern boundary of Malayalam and Travancore.

Hanuman and his retinue began the search and, in their journey through forest and mountainous area, accidentally got entrapped in a cave and were roaming about, without knowing a way out. Fortunately for the party, tapasi Swayamprabha appeared before them and after coming to know of their mission, rescued them from the cave and brought them to the top of the mountain by her yogic power and pointed out to them—"Behold Vindya hill, Prasravana hill and the Sea" and disappeared [Slokas—31, 32—Sarga 52—Kishkinda Kanda.]

Prasravana is the hill where Sri Rama and Lakshmana spent their winter days and this hill is evidently nearer, towards west, to Kishkinda, the capital of Sugriva—the ruins being noticeable even now, at about 8 miles off Hospet at 15 degrees North Latitude. Also the sea mentioned by Swayamprabha must be the present Arabian Sea, lying on the west. The Vindya mountain referred to (near Prasravana and Sea) must have been that portion of Western Ghats, running from west tail-end of central Vindya Range, up to Prasravana hill at 15 degrees North Latitude. Incidentally, it may be noted that the Western Ghats Range must have comprised of four divisions, the first-known as "Vindya Parvatha" up to 15 degrees, the second, from 15 degrees up to Palghat Gap, known as "Sahya Parvatha," the third, from Palghat Gap to the Thambiaparni River Source, known as "Malaya Parvatha" and fourth, from Thambiaparni Source to the Ocean, known as "Mahendra Parvatha."

The Eagle King, Sampathi

[Slokas 15-32, Sarga 58, Kishkinda Kanda]

The search party, having exceeded their time-limit, by now, resolved to put an end to their lives for fear of capital punishment, at the hands of Sugriva. Here Sampathi, the eagle king, who overheard from their conversation the death of his brother Jatayu, at the hands of Ravana, gave out, what he saw—"I saw the demon", he said, "Ravana carrying Sita. She was then removing her jewels off her body. He lives in Lanka, an island exactly at 100 yojanas towards the south. I, being of the eagle race, fix this distance accurately. I now see from this place Ravana and Sita in Lanka and you can find her there."

[Sloka 20—Itho dweepa samu. drasya sampoorne catha yojane. thasmin lankapuree ramaya nirmitha visva Karmana.]

[Slokas 12-13 Sarga 59—Kishkinda Kanda]—"My son Suparsva also told me that, while he was blockading the gate of Mahendra hill, whither he had gone for fishing in the ocean, he saw Ravana carry-

(Continued on Page 6)

PADDY CULTIVATION IN CEYLON

SOME DEFECTS

ROTATION OF CROPS INCREASES YIELD

IN those countries in which large yields of grain are recorded, paddy hardly ever follows paddy on the same land, even when it is cropped only once a year: the soil would not be able to bear the exhaustion produced by such a practice, while the insect pests and weeds which are peculiar to paddy would have the most favourable conditions of survival. In the Milanese region of Italy, for example, paddy finds a place only three times in an eight-year rotation while in countries like Java in which, with an adequate water supply, land can be under crops all the year round one or two secondary crops are raised between the annual paddy seasons. In Ceylon with the exception of comparatively small areas in which the local conditions are favourable to a seasonal rotation paddy follows paddy even when the land is cropped twice in the year. This practice probably contributes not a little to the reputed low yields of our fields, and the reasons for the failure of the Ceylonese to adopt an agricultural method which is recognised to be sound throughout the world merit examination.

A combination of certain physical and economic factors determines the extent to which secondary crops are raised in rotation with paddy. Heavy, impermeable soils are unsuitable for secondary crops because, with their quick transition from sticky mud to concrete-hard dry clay, it is impossible to produce by tillage that soil structure which is essential to these crops. The weather plays a very important part in the problem. Most secondary crops do not tolerate water-logged conditions, and in most paddy lands an appreciable volume of rainfall creates these conditions. Economically, opportunities for marketing produce with special reference to price and transport facilities are essential. All these factors, except perhaps the condition of transport, are most unfavourable in the wet zone of Ceylon, while in the dry zone inadequate water in the dry season and bad drainage in the wet season make secondary crops impracticable, and low prices discourage enterprise even when in an exceptional case physical factors are satisfactory.

The conditions in the wet zone cannot be controlled by man on any substantial scale and, in the main, paddy must continue to remain the

"BEHAVE LIKE GENTLEMEN"

SIR BARON'S WARNING TO U. C. CANDIDATES

"VOTE FOR THE UPRIGHT MEN"

"Behave like gentlemen" was the warning given by Sir Baron Jayatilake to those contesting the forthcoming Urban Council elections, when he declared open the model tenements built by the Dehiwala Mount Lavinia U. C.

Sir Baron further requested the candidates not to seek election unless they were prepared to make some sacrifice and work honestly and honourably for the town. He appealed to the voters not to be led away by petty prejudices, but to cast their votes for men who were upright and who worked disinterestedly for the town.

sole crop in lands which have sufficient water for that plant. On the other hand the conditions in the dry zone are changing rapidly: facilities for assured irrigation in two seasons are being extended; concentration of population under these irrigation works is taking place; transport facilities are improving daily; subsistence farming which made the raising of grain for food the first consideration is gradually giving place to a money economy; and the Agricultural Products (Regulation) Ordinance has assured to the farmer a remunerative price for a number of subsidiary crops. In these circumstances there is no reason why there should not be a rapid expansion of rotational cultivation on paddy lands in the dry zone.

It is the duty of the Department of Agriculture not only to stimulate the interest of farmers in this agricultural practice, but also to give them authoritative advice with regard to suitable rotations. Unfortunately the Department itself has no knowledge or experience of the subject which cannot be governed by universally applicable rules, but must be treated with special reference to local conditions. The Department realized its own weakness sometime ago, and, after a few un-co-ordinated trials which were interesting but did not yield very useful results, a departmental Committee was set up to investigate the whole problem. The Committee has planned a comprehensive scheme of trials throughout the country to be carried out during the next North-East season, and it expects to be in a position to give at least provisional advice in a year's time.

(The Tropical Agriculturist.)

THE TRAVANCORE NATIONAL AND QUILON BANK LTD.

(JAFFNA BRANCH)

In the District Court of Jaffna

Case No. L / 2

In the matter of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank Ltd., Jaffna Branch (In Liquidation)

Notice to Creditors

Creditors are hereby notified that the second dividend of 30 % of their claims will be paid to them, commencing from the 9th December, 1940, on their application to the District Court of Jaffna.

Application should be made in the prescribed form, which can be obtained from the undersigned.

By Order of Court,
J. Subramaniam Lewis,

Liquidator.

(Mis. 149, 18 & 21-11-40.)



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1940

FAILURE OF INDO-CEYLON TALKS

WE HOPED THAT THE Goodwill Mission to India from Ceylon would contribute substantially to the restoration of better relationship between the two countries. But we are disappointed at the outcome of the talks at Delhi between our Ministers and the Raj representatives. These delegates were unable to find a basis for agreement on the question of the status of Indians in Ceylon—a question which, from the point of view of Indians, is an all-important one on which hinge all the other problems affecting Indo-Ceylon relations. This is also one of the major problems that has perturbed our politicians and an exparte solution of which has recently caused the strained feelings between India and Ceylon. It was on this rock that the Indo-Ceylon talks foundered.

As we are not in possession of the details of the discussions at the Delhi Conference, we shall not be justified in apportioning blame for the failure of the talks on any one party. But the position seems to be that either party entered into conference with strong convictions and decisions of its own and was not prepared to alter them. This intransigence on the part of the delegates, we presume, led to the failure of the talks. We know that our

Ministers have very definite and strong views on the question of the rights and status of Indians in Ceylon. They will not for all the world tolerate the Indians here to swell the list of voters and thus gain an influential voice in the government of the country, not to speak of ousting local labour and thus creating a serious unemployment problem. Indians who have settled here present no difficulty and their demand for recognition of citizenship cannot on any reasonable grounds be refused. But the difficulty is with those Indians who come here and after a few years' stay return to their home country. The granting of franchise to these Indians has been the bone of contention between politicians among Ceylon Indians on the one side and the Ceylonese politicians on the other. The enfranchising of a large number of Indians of this class is feared by politicians here as giving an accession of strength to foreign vested interests. It is this fear of Indian domination on the part of a majority of Ceylonese politicians and the desire to increase their strength on the part of Ceylon Indian leaders that have stood in the way of a solution of the Indo-Ceylon problems. The Ceylonese delegation and the Ceylon Indian delegation which proceeded to India on the goodwill mission have, we fear, worked at cross purposes. And this contributed not a little towards the failure of the talks. The spirit of give-and-take seems to have been woefully lacking in the negotiations.

We nevertheless share with Mr. S. Satyamurti the view that "India and Ceylon are too near geographically, economically, and culturally for them to give up a point like this without hope of a settlement. The two countries cannot afford to quarrel and a solution must be found." It is more in the interests of Ceylon to solve it as early as possible than of India which can afford to mark time as long as it wants. In the meantime, as Mr. Satyamurti pleads, let not the leaders of Indians in Ceylon and the leaders on behalf of the Ceylon Government and the people say any word or do anything which may make things more difficult than they are.

London Matriculation Examination

The next London Matriculation Examination which is due to be held in the middle of January, it is stated, is likely to be delayed. The Education Department has been informed that the papers for this examination have just been despatched from London. It is, however, thought probable that they would not be received here in time to hold the Examination at the due time.

SEQUEL TO HINDU BOARD CONTROVERSY

Mr. Rajaratnam's Action for Damages

Mr. S. Rajaratnam, Advocate, Jaffna, has through his Proctor filed a plaint in the District Court, Jaffna, suing Mr. C. K. Swaminathan, of Nallur, for damages in Rs. 5000.

The plaintiff alleges that Mr. C.K. Swaminathan "falsely, maliciously and without any reasonable or probable cause wrote and caused to be printed and published", in the Newspapers, "The Ramanathan" and "The Times of Ceylon" an article, on the subject of contributions from teachers, representing, among others, that the "plaintiff is guilty of levying forced contributions from teachers that he wrongfully and unreasonably dismissed one Sinna thamby from the post of Headmaster, Anunkai Hindu Board School, for non-payment of contributions; and that the plaintiff had rendered himself unfit to hold any public office such as the Manager of Schools or Director of the Hindu Board."

The plaintiff avers that the statements contained in the said article are false and malicious and that they have been written and caused to be printed and published by the defendant knowingly and wilfully with a view to defame him.

LESS RICE IMPORTED

Increase in Local Production

An appreciable reduction in the importation of rice is revealed by the import figures for rice for the period January 1 to November 4 this year, as compared with the figures for the same period last year.

This is attributed to the increased local production of rice, which has been gradually taking place through the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Marketing Department.

During the period January 1 to November 4 this year this country imported 6,151,287 bags of rice as compared with 6,795,481 bags in the corresponding period of last year.

Another interesting fact disclosed in the import figures relates to manures. More manure has been imported into the Island this year than has been annually imported during the last three years.

During the period January 1 to November 4 this year, 1,945,703 cwts of manure have been imported into Ceylon as compared with 1,602,518 cwts. in the same period of last year and 1,441,742 cwts. in the corresponding period of 1938.

"CULTURE CENTRE" FOR CEYLON

Uday Shankar's Plans

Colombo, Tuesday.

Uday Shankar, the world-famous Indian dancer, will establish a "Culture Centre" in Ceylon, in the near future, according to Mr. Chandra Wijesekera, a

SARDAR PATEL ARRESTED

Under Defence of India Act

Ahmedabad, Nov. 17.

Sardar Vallabhai Patel was arrested tonight under Section 129 of the Defence of India Act, empowering the Provincial Governments to detain persons acting or about to act in a prejudicial manner towards the successful prosecution of the war.

At 9.45 p.m. an Inspector of the local police arrived at the residence of Mr. Patel with a warrant from the District Magistrate for the arrest. Mr. Mahadev Desai (Mahatma Gandhi's Secretary), who arrived at Ahmedabad this evening, was with Mr. Patel at the time. The Police Inspector gave Mr. Patel time to prepare. At 10.45 p.m. Mr. Patel was taken in a car to Sabarmati Central Jail.

Mr. Patel yesterday gave notice to the District Magistrate of his intention to offer Satyagraha on Monday by delivering a public speech in the compound of the District Local Board.

TOUR FOR REVENUE OFFICERS

Training Course in Agriculture

A tour of the Jaffna Peninsula and the Dry Zone, including the Minneriya Colonisation Scheme, will conclude the course of training in agriculture at the Experiment Station, Peradeniya, given to the second batch of 22 probationary Divisional Revenue Officers.

The object of the course, which lasts about six weeks, is to instruct the officers in methods for the better organisation and development of village agriculture.

Subjects of instruction include the proper management of the soil and maintenance of fertility, soil conservation, crops and their culture, paddy cultivation, horticulture, animal husbandry, bee-keeping, pests and diseases of plants and their control, village development, co-operation, agricultural propaganda and agricultural marketing.

Ceylonese student who has won a scholarship at Shankar's Culture Centre at Almora, India.

Mr. Wijesekera who has returned to the Island on vacation, in an interview with a "Daily News" representative yesterday said that the Mahavajah of Baroda had made a donation of Rs. 15,000 to the Culture Centre in India. The Governor of the United Provinces, also had sent a gift of Rs. 5,000 last month.

A novel part of the training in dancing at the Centre was that it included the study of music, acting, and some knowledge of the graphic arts, mythology, the history of art, and the rich heritage of India's spiritual teachings.

Uday Shankar did not train dancers to imitate him, but encouraged originality in interpreting the various dances.

Atomic Research in India

Cyclotron for Calcutta University

Calcutta, Nov. 14.

The trustees of the Sir Dorabjee Tata Charities have, it is understood, offered a sum of Rs. 60,000 to the Calcutta University towards the construction and maintenance of a cyclotron in proper condition for carrying on research work. The offer has been made on the condition that the University finds an equal amount of money, as the apparatus costs about Rs. 120,000.

The cyclotron is the most powerful nucleus smasher. It produces very high energy particles, the energy ranging from about one million to 30 million volts. When these high energy particles bombard the atom, the atom is completely changed. In this way the old philosophers' dream of converting base metals to gold has been practically achieved. But the present use of the cyclotron is for manufacturing new types of atoms which are not found in nature.

The cyclotron was invented by Prof. Lawrence of the University of California and the first apparatus was a baby one weighing only one ton. The latest apparatus of Prof. Lawrence will weigh about 5,000 tons and the Rockefeller Foundation has given a grant of Rs. 45 lakhs for its construction.

The apparatus in the University College of Science, Calcutta, will weigh cost Rs. 120,000. It is understood that the University will engage the services of an Indian scholar who has been receiving training under Prof. Lawrence for the last three years and is expected to return to India shortly. With this apparatus researches will be carried on not only in the structure of the atom but also in biology. In collaboration with the centres of medical research in India. There are at present 30 cyclotrons in America, 4 in England and 1 in Japan. The present one will be the first of its kind in India. The University has undertaken to construct a special building for it.

It is learnt that these researches will be carried on under the direction of the present Palit Professor of Physics, Dr. M. N. Saha.

INDO-CEYLON FEDERATION

Ministers Welcome Idea

Benares, Saturday.

The opinion that the people of Ceylon would welcome the suggestion to come into the federation of India when the Indians achieved freedom, was expressed by Mr. D. S. Senanayake and Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, the Ceylonese Ministers, in the course of talks on political problems at a tea party at Benares yesterday evening. Both Ministers are on a visit to Benares to attend the ninth anniversary celebrations of the Mulagandhakuti Vibhava at Saranath.

SULTAN OF JOHORE MARRIES

A Rumanian Girl He Met During Air Raid

London, Nov. 6th.

His Highness the Sultan of Johore married at 11 a.m. at the Caxton Hall register office today Miss Marcella Mendl, a 25-year-old Rumanian girl.

The Sultan met Miss Mendl a fortnight ago at Grosvenor House, when the girl and her mother took shelter there during a raid.

The Sultan, interviewed before his wedding, said: "I prefer to forget the past. It is for the future that I want to live. Let us not refer to anything else."

Introducing Miss Mendl, he added: "We really wanted to keep our wedding a secret until after it had taken place."

"I fell in love directly I met Miss Mendl. We are going to be very happy."

Miss Mendl explained that she met the Sultan of Johore when he bought a flag from her on Red Cross Day, October 28th.

"We chatted and had coffee together," she continued. "Next day the Sultan met mother, and we have all dined together ever since."

Speaks Five Languages

"After our marriage we are going to Johore. After a few months my mother will join us there."

"We wanted to keep the wedding quiet because the Sultan had an upsetting time lately. I am going to do all I can to make him happy now."

Until recently Miss Mendl, who is highly educated and speaks five languages, has been an ambulance driver, driving during raids on London.

The wedding ceremony lasted only a few minutes. The bride's mother, Mrs. Mendl, and the Sultan's equerry, Captain Abdulrah, acted as witnesses.

Placed on the bride's coat was a striking decoration—the Sultan's crown and monogram composed of two tiger claws mounted on silver and studded with diamonds—the bridegroom's gift. She also wore a spray of orchids.

After the ceremony the pair posed for a photograph. There was no formal reception afterwards, only a small luncheon party.

Miss Lydia Hill was killed by a bomb while shopping in Canterbury on October 11th.

Railway Appointment

Mr. V. Sathasivam, Assistant Divisional Transportation Superintendent of the Railway, has been confirmed in his appointment as Divisional Transportation Superintendent by the Secretary of State.

Mr. Sathasivam has been acting Divisional Transportation Superintendent at Auradhapura.

Rotary Club for Jaffna

Jaffna, Tuesday.

At a conference of a number of leading citizens of Jaffna held at the Residency, Old Park, under Chairmanship of Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, it was decid-

Atlantic Bases to be Leased to U.S.

Understanding Reached Between Britain & U.S.

Washington, Tuesday.

"All the British authorities concerned" had agreed on the sites of the Atlantic bases to be leased to the United States, announced the Navy Department today. Joint use of both British and American facilities is provided in some instances by the agreement. For Bermuda, the United States Government plans to include bases for land and sea planes and barracks, store houses and improved harbour facilities for the navy. A seaplane base will be installed in British Guiana and the facilities in Newfoundland will include an air and naval base and a site for an army defensive force.

Administration and jurisdiction problems will be settled at a conference which the British Government proposes shall take place in London.

The preliminary work on most of the bases, except Trinidad, will be started in the near future. Rapid progress has been made possible by the visit to each colony of the United States Board of Inspection. The Board has had discussions with the Governors of the various colonies who, throughout the proceedings, have had the advice of the Commander of the Americas and the West Indies Station or the members of his staff.

The Sites

The Board has also visited Trinidad where the position is still under examination. The sites agreed upon are as follows:

Bermuda: Sites at the east of the colony.

The Bahamas: A site on the outlying island of Mayaguana.

Jamaica: Sites on Portland bight on the south coast of the island about 25 miles west of Kingston.

Antigua: Sites near Carham harbour on the north coast of the island.

St. Lucia: A site at Gros Isle Bay at the north-eastern end of the island. (The question of further facilities in St. Lucia is still under consideration).

British Guiana: Sites on the bank of the Demarara river about 25 miles from the sea and at the north of Essequibo.

The statement adds that the fact that questions of administration and jurisdiction will be considered later by British and American experts does not mean that work on the agreed sites will be held up pending the outcome of the discussions.

ed to organise a Rotary Club in Jaffna.

This decision was arrived at after an address by Mr. A. Gardiner, Rotarian Governor of the 89th District, on the advantages of forming a branch in Jaffna. Mr. Prasad was elected President, and the other office-bearers are as follows:—

Vice-President, Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, Secretary, Mr. R. G. Leembruggen, Assistant Secretary, Mr. P. R. Thambiah, Treasurer, Mr. D. Saverimuttu.

It was decided to hold fortnightly meetings for the present and about thirty are expected to apply for charter membership.

Vadamaradchy Teachers' Association

Annual General Meeting

Point Pedro, Wednesday.

The Annual General Meeting of the Vadamaradchy Teachers' Association was held yesterday at Hartley College, Point Pedro, beginning at 10 a.m. Proceedings began with a lecture, under the auspices of the Study Circle, on "Training the adolescent" by Fr. P. Jivaretnam, O.M.I., Principal, St. Henry's College, Ilavalai. An interesting and lively discussion followed, in which Mr. K. C. Padmanabapillai took part.

The business meeting was held next, and the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

President: Mr. C. P. Thamo-

theram (re-elected)

Vice President: Mr. K. J. John-

(re-elected)

Hony. Secretary: Mr. S.

Veerasingam.

Hony. Treasurer: Mr. M. A.

Thangarasa.

Committee members:

Miss. K. Chinnathambay. Miss.

A. Ramalingam. Messrs. K.

Poornampillai, C. Subramaniam,

J. Edward, M. Somasundram, K. R.

Subramaniam, K. Arumugam, S.

Arumugam, and N. Saravanan-

muthu.

Representatives to the N.

P. T. A. Executive: The Vice

President, The Hony. Secretary,

The Hony. Treasurer, and Mr.

K. Poornampillai. The members

of the Association were entertained

to lunch by the staff of Hartley

College.

In the afternoon, the Declama-

tion contest was held, at which

the Judges were Mr. A. J. R.

Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector

of Schools, Mr. W. R. D. de Silva,

Magistrate, Point Pedro, and Dr.

G. T. Chelliah.

The results are as follows:—

Seniors: First. S. Kulasingam

Spalding, Hartley College. Second

Miss. Parimalam Muthukumar,

G. B. S. Point Pedro.

Intermediates: First. Miss.

Rajeswari Nagalingam, Vignesh-

wara College. Second. M. A. C.

A. Azeese, Hartley College.

Juniors: First. S. Mahesen,

Hartley College. Second. C. S.

Paramanathan, Vigneshwara Col-

lege.

Mrs. A. J. R. Vethavanam gave

away the prize-books to the win-

ners, and also the following

challenge cups awarded by Mr.

G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C. to

the winners in the Volley ball

tournament.

Senior Champions: Hartley

College.

Junior Champions: Chidambara

Vidyalayam.

Junior Runners up: Puloly

Boys English School.

Mr. K. Poornampillai, the re-

tiring secretary, thanked Mrs.

Vethavanam and the Judges.

Tea followed at the G. B. S.

Point Pedro. After Tea Mr.

Vethavanam addressed the mem-

bers of the association on "the

Function of the Teacher" Mr. K.

T. John, the Vice-President, then

proposed a vote of thanks to the

lecturer of the evening, to the

retiring office-bearers and to the

G. B. S., Point Pedro, for the

entertainment. (Cor.)

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THE LATE DR. A. N. COOMARASWAMY

A Tribute

(Contributed)

The tragic suddenness of the death of Dr. A. N. Coomaraswamy, the D.M. O. of Panadura, removes from our midst an outstanding personality. Dr. Coomaraswamy's career both as a doctor and as a citizen was something unique. Gifted with talents that would have won him a reputation in any walk of life, he was a real ornament to the Medical profession. He embodied some of the finest traits one would like to see in a doctor. Taking a degree in Arts at the University of Madras and winning the University Prize in Zoology, he entered the Madras Medical College and qualified as an M. B. B. S. He later went to England where he got his L. R. C. P. and S. and the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. For some time he was a Demonstrator in Zoology at the Medical College. He was appointed School Medical Officer of the Northern Division in 1926. The area under him at that time included the Northern, North Western and the Eastern Provinces. As a pioneer in the School Medical work he was an outstanding success. His affable nature, his ready wit, his tact and patience soon won him great popularity. He sponsored every activity that had for its aim the betterment of the people. The Jaffna Women's Health League, the Jaffna Health Association, the Jaffna Atheneum were founded by him. He was rightly called the Father of the Health Week movement in Ceylon. His was the first Health Week organised in Jaffna in 1929. Kalutara paid him the compliment by following suit in a month or two.

As lecturer on Public Health topics, and especially in Tamil, Dr. Coomaraswamy had no equal. An audience, whether they were of school children or adults, literally hung on his words. Punctuated with spicy humour, rich in anecdotes, chaste diction and withal sound Hygiene, his lectures were masterpieces. To interpret a Medical lecture in Tamil, Dr. Coomaraswamy was hard to beat. He had a knack of choosing the most appropriate equivalent with an alliterative ring in it, and that on the spur of the moment, that really made it classical.

He focused attention on the Karayur Slums when he presented Lady Bourdillon when she visited Jaffna in the company of Sir Bernard Bourdillon, acting Governor in 1931, the vital statistics of the slums and aptly called it the Black Book of Karayur. The appalling infantile mortality of the slums was really the highest in the Empire.

Through the Health Association, he brought to the notice of Government the necessity of a Malaria Survey of the most malarial region in the peninsula, Tenmarachchi. Preliminary investigations were carried out and the scheme shelved, to be taken up several years afterwards.

When he left Jaffna on transfer in 1933, the Farewell Function given by the public was one of the best Jaffna had seen for a long time, and certainly the best a Medical Officer received. To organise that Farewell function, the Committee Members of eight different organisations of which

Order Nisi
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 936.
In the matter of the estate of the late Pakkiam wife of Sinnathamby Asaipillai of Vannarponnai West, Jaffna, who died at the Civil Hospital, Jaffna. Deceased.
Vellapillai Thambimuttu of Vannarponnai West, Jaffna. Petitioner.

Vs.
1. Sinnathamby Asaipillai of Hospital Bungalow, Jaffna.
2. Ponnammah wife of Velupillai Thambimuttu of Vannarponnai West, Jaffna. Respondents.
This matter of the petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for grant of letters of administration unto him in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on the 19th day of November 1940 in the presence of Mr. K. Nadarajah, Proctor for the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that letters of administration be granted to the petitioner in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased unless the Respondents or any other persons interested in the said estate show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary, on or before the 29th day of November 1940.

This 19th day of November 1940.
(Sgd.) C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.
(O. 67. 21 & 25-11-40)

the doctor was either a member or an office-bearer met at the Jaffna Central College. Though away from Jaffna since 1933 Dr. Coomaraswamy did not forget the interests of Jaffna and in 1935 and 1937 he came at his own expense to participate in two Health Weeks organised by the Jaffna Health Association. His last visit to Jaffna early in August this year was to participate in the celebrations of Old Boys' Day at his old College, St. John's, Jaffna. He was for several years a Secretary of the Old Boys' Association.

He was a very loyal churchman and two years ago he was elected Chairman of the National Missionary Society. The Y. M. C. A. always found in him an ardent supporter.

From Jaffna Dr. Coomaraswamy went as Medical Officer to Bangalore. He did valuable work during the Malaria Epidemic and Sir Rupert Briercliffe appointed him as Director of the Anchylostomiasis Campaign. As Medical Officer, Panadura, he was a very popular figure.

In 1937 Dr. Coomaraswamy went to England and stayed there for some time doing special work in Venereal Diseases. He stayed at Gower Street with several Ceylon students. At first the students were quite reserved with the doctor, and treated him with the respect due to his grey hairs (he was prematurely gray), but Dr. Coomaraswamy vibrant with the spirit of youth, joined so heartily in the doings of the students, that one of them told the writer that they felt they were no match for him in repartee or in fun.

He radiated cheerfulness wherever he went. His bedside manner seemed to act like magic with a patient. To help a friend he would not stint himself of anything. Loyalty was the keynote of his life.

To his sorrowing daughter and two sons, much sympathy will be felt because they have lost both their parents with tragic suddenness. Mrs. Coomaraswamy passed away suddenly in 1935.

NOTICE

Sealed tenders will be received by the Chairman, Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, up to 12 noon on Tuesday 3 December 1940, for the supply of undermentioned personnel and animals for the removal of rubbish and sweepings within the Sanitary Board towns of Point Pedro and Valvettiturai for the period of two years from 1 January 1941 to 31 December 1942:—

For Point Pedro

- 2 adult carters
- 2 good bulls capable of drawing one rubber-tyred double bullock scavenging cart.
- 1 good bull capable of drawing one rubber-tyred single bullock scavenging cart.

For Valvettiturai

- 2 Adult carters
- 2 good bulls capable of drawing one rubber-tyred double bullock scavenging cart.
- 1 good bull capable of drawing one rubber-tyred single bullock scavenging cart.

Tenders must be made on the basis that the contractor will not be permitted to appropriate the rubbish and sweepings but each tenderer may make an alternative tender on the basis that he will be permitted to appropriate the rubbish and sweepings.

2. The contractor will be required to supply one bull and one driver for each town on Sundays.

3. Tenders must be made on forms supplied by the Office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna, on a deposit of Rs. 10/- for each form.

4. The successful tenderer must deposit one tenth of the tendered amount as security, within 7 days of the acceptance of his tender and thereafter enter into a contract with the Chairman.

5. For further particulars apply to the Sanitary Board Office, Jaffna.

Sgd. M. PONNAMBALAM,
for Chairman, Sanitary Board
Jaffna.

Sanitary Board Office,
Jaffna, 18 November 1940
(G. 35. 21-11-40)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 939.
In the matter of the estate of the late Ponnusamy Thiagarajah of Vaddukkodai East. Deceased.
Ponnusamy Canapathipillai of Vaddukkodai East. Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Marimuttu widow of M. Ponnusamy of do
 2. Ponnusamy Kannappu of do
 3. Sangiliyar widow of S. Ambalavanar of do
 4. Meenadhipillai widow of P. Thiagarajah of Tholpuram Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the es-

SALE OF MARKET RENTS, 1941.

Notice is hereby given that sealed tenders will be received by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, at the Jaffna Kachcheri up to 12 noon on Wednesday 4th December 1940, for the purchase of the exclusive right to levy rents and fees in respect of the following markets for the period 1 January 1941 to 31 December 1941—both days inclusive.

Point Pedro. (a) Vegetable market (excluding the 13 permanent stalls).

(b) Fish market.

(c) Omnibus stand and gala.

Valvettiturai (a) Vegetable market

(b) Fish market.

(c) Gala or Cart stand.

Kayts (a) Vegetable and Fish market (excluding the 3 shop rooms).

2. Every tender must be made on the prescribed form a copy of which will be supplied by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, on a deposit of Rs. 10 for each form, to be made at the office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna.

3. Tenders may be sent by post or be deposited in the tender box provided for this purpose at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

4. The person making the highest bid or tender in respect of any market shall be declared to be the lessee of the said market. Such person shall immediately on his being declared to be the lessee deposit 1/10th of the amount of his tender or bid, in cash as security and shall enter into a bond in the form and on the conditions specified for this purpose by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna, District, within one week of his being declared to be the lessee.

5. Further particulars may be obtained at the office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna.

V. VISWALINGAM,
for Chairman, S. B., Jaffna.

Sanitary Board Office,
Jaffna, 20th November 1940.
(G. 36. 21-11-40.)

tate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge on the 18th October 1940 in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 18th October 1940 having been read, it is declared that the petitioner is one of the heirs of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 27th November 1940 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 19th November 1940.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.
(O. 68- 21 & 25-11-40)

NOTICE

TO PERSONS WITH RELATIONS IN THE MALAY STATES

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Sethu and Lanka of The Ramayana

(Continued from page 1)

ing Sita—void of jewels—and allowed him to pass, on his entreaties."

It is evident from the version of Sampathi, that the plausible position of Lanka is at 100 yojanas from 15 degrees N. Latitude, yojana being 10 miles, calculated at this, the distance works out to 1,000 miles. And calculated at 69 miles per degree, the distance of 15 degrees cover a length of 1,035 miles (15 x 69 = 1,035 or 1,000 miles). Therefore, Lanka ought to be on the Equator. The present Ceylon, lying between 7 and 9 is not the Lanka of Ramayana fame.

[Slokas 2-4 Sarga 64 K. K.] Hanuman and party, having come to know the place where Sita was kept in concealment, resumed their march towards South and halted on the Northern shore of the Southern Ocean. [Sarga 1—Sundara Kanda] It is from the Mahendra hill at this spot that Hanuman started for Lanka.

[Slokas 23-103, Sarga 4—Yuddha Kanda] Sri Rama (on return of Hanuman from Lanka) with Sugriva and his army started from Kishkinda and passed through 'Sahya,' 'Malaya' and 'Mahendra' mountains and sat in council on the sea-shore to see, how best the ocean could be crossed to reach Lanka.

Slokas 1-17 Sarga 17—Yuddha Kanda—It is here that Vibishna, who flew from Lanka, surrendered at the feet of Sri Rama.

[Slokas 17-72, Sarga 22, Y. K.] It is from this place that Nala, at the instance of Sri Rama and the Ocean-King, started constructing the Dam (Sethu) to Lanka for transporting the army.

The above facts go to establish, beyond a shadow of doubt, that the present Cape Comorin in the point where Mahendra hill meets the Ocean (at 8 degrees North Latitude) and from where only Sri Rama built Sethu across the ocean to Lanka.

Topographical and Astronomical Evidences

There is no evidence to show that either Hanuman or Rama's party ever travelled through the plains lying to the east of the Western Ghats. The present Rameswaram, where there are no hills in the vicinity by name Mahendra Giri, the place itself, lying at the eastern terminal point of the east plain, could not have been the spot where the Sethu was built. The length of the dam being 100 yojanas, the island of Ceylon, lying at a place less than 100 miles to the east of the mainland, could not have been the Lanka of Ravana. But it is no other than Sinhala Dwipa, inhabited by Sinhalese people speaking Sinhala Language. Rameswaram must have gained its prominence from Sthala Parana, like many other places.

Cape Comorin or Kanya Kumari being real Sethu,—for reasons explained above—it does not appear, as to how the spot came to lose its sacredness, in spite of the authority of Ramayana. There are other corroborative evidences in favour of Kanya Kumari, Balarama and Pulashtya having resorted to this place to wash off their sins during their Theerthayathras. [79 Chapter

PROBLEM OF INDEBTEDNESS

Legal Secretary's Views

Proposals for the provision of credit and for the removal of legal handicaps on credit should proceed "pari passu" with the relief of debtors.

This, it is learned, is the opinion expressed by the Legal Secretary, Mr. R. H. Drayton, in the course of a memorandum to the Board of Ministers on certain problems raised by pending and proposed legislation relating to the relief of debtors and the provision of credit facilities.

The Legal Secretary draws the attention of the Ministers to the fact that the absence of a comprehensive policy regarding such legislation is likely to exaggerate the evil which the Ministers desire to remove. It is also pointed out that the proposed legislation overlaps with subjects assigned to various Ministers and with the subject of administration of justice for which he is responsible.

er, 10" Skandha Baghavatham and Vanaparva—Mahabharatha]

Further, the position of Lanka of Ramayana fame is still strengthened by the dogmatic statement referred to in Nilakanta's commentary on Chapter six of Bishma parva of Mahabharatha which runs as follows:—"Bhumadyaneka or Central meridian runs through Lanka Cape Comorin, Ujjain, Kurukshetra (Delhi) etc."

Also Sri Ramasubba Sastri of Thiruvizalur has unearthed, and published in his book 'Sethu—nirayam', fixing the Sethu proper at Kanya Kumari.

A further proof from the astronomical side will not be out of place here. Just after the yuga pralaya, all the 7 planets begin their rotatory motion round the sun, from the initial point in the Zodiacal sign of Aries (Masha Rasi) at different velocities. The L. C. M. of the number of days taken for the rotation of each planet comes to 432 crores of years, which is a Kalpa or the day time of a single day for Brahma, the creator. At the end of this Kalpa period, the planets return to their original position in the same sign of Aries; which is at the Horizon of Lanka on the Equator, i.e. at 77 degrees Latitude, east of Greenwich. From the map of India, we also see that on the 77 degrees East Longitude, lie the places Camerin, Ujjain, Delhi. This meridian 77 degrees is better styled there as Lanka meridian. On this basis the Kings of Lunar and Vikramaditya dynasties have had their capitals and observatories at Delhi and Ujjain respectively.

It can now be claimed that Lanka of Ramayana fame is on the Equator and on the Meridian just in line with Comorin, Kishkinda, Ujjain and Delhi. It is, therefore, improbable that the present Rameswaram or Sethu and Ceylon could have been the original places. But the real Sethu should have been at Cape Comorin or Kanya-Kumari and Lanka of Ramayana at Equator. (Hindu)

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