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THE SMALL BUT PROSPEROUS STATE OF TRAVANCORE

LAND OF RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE

A STATE WHICH HAS MANY ATTRACTIONS

BY A. V. MYLVAGANAM, B. A.

ON the southern extremity of the Western Ghats is situated a small free State which has from times immemorial been a self-governing entity. This State is now more extensive than it was once. It now comprises the vast Tamil-speaking province called Nanchil Nadu and the Cape Comorin area which were once the proud possessions of the Pandyan Kings.

The ruler of Travancore, Chittrai Tirunal, claims his descent in the Chera dynasty. The lineage of the ruling house of this State is drawn from Cherarayan Perumal Nayanar, a devotee of Siva and a friend of Sundaramurti Nayanar. This king died in 825 A. D. and the Kollam Era of the Travancorian starts from this year.

The State language Malayalam which is a dialect of Tamil seems to have developed from about the 5th century A. D. or even earlier. Its script resembles the Vattelutta of the ancient Tamil language. Great writers like Eluttachan, Sri-cheri, Ullar Vallatol and others have made valuable contributions to this literature. Of late many novels and translations from Western authors have found their way into the literature. It is still growing.

The history of this country has been up till now misrepresented by various writers and therefore the present Government has entrusted the work of giving a correct interpretation of facts to Mr. T. K. Velupillai of the Manuscripts Department. According to him, Travancore was a land of religious tolerance. It preserves to this day its ancient culture and traditions unperturbed by outside influence. (The Kathakali is an example of this.) The Portuguese records of the 16th century show that the Chola and

Pandya Kingdoms recognised the independence of Travancore, and at one time these countries including Ceylon were paying tribute to the ruling powers of Travancore! He further says that the story, that Achuta Raj of the Vijayanagara dynasty, Tipu Sultan and the Nayaks of Madurai subdued the Chera monarch, are all founded on myths. Whatever the facts may be, this is the belief of every Travancorean at the present day. And therefore we may say that thus arose to the heights of recognition a country knowing neither defeat nor humiliation at any time in the history of its existence!

The natural scenery of Travancore strikes the mind of the visitor at first sight. Bordering on the north, it has the Western Ghats covered with green vegetation. The Periyar flowing midway waters all the paddy fields, plantains, ragi and other crops. The coconut groves in the offing, the blue lakes with pleasure boats plying between shores, the unceasing waves of the Arabian Sea, all these provide a majestic panorama to the human eye. As regards vegetation this country compares well with the suburbs of Kandy which give all the products of the mountainous regions. Jaks, cashew nuts, arecanuts, plantains, coconuts, tapioca and even tobacco are grown here. Rubber plantations may be found on the hills.

The Travancorian dresses sparingly but decently. He has a fascination for white clothes. The Nayar lady is charming in her white sari, white jacket and white towel. In this respect she resembles the upcountry Sinhalese lady

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WORK IN THE CLASS ROOM

HANDICAPS TO TACKLING CLASSROOM PROBLEMS

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

BY S. T. RAMANUJA IYENGAR

A critical study by any decent body of teachers of class room problems is long over due, because of the failure of the education system and the school organism adequately to raise the standards of teaching and learning in the class room or to redirect objectives, modernise the curriculum and re-organise education in harmony with the national recovery programme. The situation of our country and the needs of our people alike point to the urgency of winning Swaraj through effective education of our future citizens. Well may it be said that the question of a free India largely rests upon the success of teaching and learning in our class rooms.

But the handicaps to effective tackling of class room problems are many. The political and communal wrangles, the Anglo-Indian educational system, the objectives of schools, and the lack of a body of teachers with the necessary pre-service or in-service training and the technical ability to study and solve problems of the class room are the major circumstances that retard teaching and learning.

The greatest obstacle to educational progress is the teacher. His academic training has unfitted him for high grade professional work. The teacher is still to realise the importance of good teaching. Teachers are not eager to have new courses in education or practice teaching. For professional self-education or increased academic knowledge, they show little or no interest. The teacher of to-day values his living more than teaching. His avidity for private tuition or extension of teaching work to earn an extra wage over and above what he earns through organized schools and his so-called loyalty to the ideal of examination grinding to the detriment of effective education have left on record a series of

demoralising practices of selling questions, leakage of question papers and improper marking and assessing without any qualms of conscience. He is the greatest obstacle to effective class room work as conceived and executed in free schools of free countries.

The Administrative Set-up

The administrative set-up is another great handicap. The educational machinery exists for the running of the educational machine and only in name for the education of the child or for the provision of a good class of educators. The school system is being based on or modified for administrative convenience. The school houses are ill-adapted for class room purposes and out of tune with the country and the climate and they do not fit in with the surroundings harmoniously. In short, they are apart from the life of the majority of the children. Class rooms, adapted in size, shape and equipment for efficient instruction, good seating, proper lighting and other hygienic requirements of modern and Indian needs are not common. The whole school system suffers under circumstances which necessitate improved instruction with little cost to the State. Schools are pioneering under difficulties, financial, social and political.

Environment of the Child

The home conditions of the child in India are so appalling that not only education does not make headway, but even good school house-keeping does not prevail; fine gardens and grounds, careful upkeep, sanitary toilets, hygienic drinking facilities and similar educational necessities so largely provided for and financed in European Schools in India are altogether denied to Indian children. It is under such handicaps that the normal

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 1941.

TEACHERS AND POLITICS

THE SPEECH DELIVERED THE other day by a school principal urging the Galle District Vernacular Teachers' Association "to be more interested in politics and to interest their pupils also in politics" has been seized by an evening paper as an occasion for preaching a homily on the evils that will result from teachers' taking active part in politics. Provided the politics that is inculcated is of the right type, we do not have any objection even if teachers make their pupils interested in it. Even granting that, as our contemporary seems to make out, teachers' politics in Ceylon is of the inferior type which is too often tainted with communal or some other kind of animus, we fail to see why the teaching profession should, of all walks of life, be singled out for censure. Why should restrictions be sought to be placed on the civic activities of teachers from which men in other walks of life are exempt? We hold that teachers as citizens of Ceylon should enjoy as much freedom as mercantile clerks, lawyers or business men to influence the political life and thought of Ceylon. The muzzling of teachers will not be in the best interests of the political life of Ceylon or even of education.

In times past when the teachers of Ceylon were very ill-paid and too few in number to develop a class consciousness or to exert any influence in politics the question of their participation in politics did not engage anybody's notice. Now that they constitute a fairly well organised

body of intellectual men who are getting a fair competence from their employers, their influence in the elections has grown to be a serious challenge to those classes who in times past enjoyed a monopoly of political power. Those orders who cannot put up with the advent of a new class into the political arena think it advisable to get teachers muzzled through the state machinery. Some time last year the question generated a good deal of heat in Ceylon, but seems to have subsided since then. But now and then faint rumblings of the distant eruption become audible, as in the case of the Negombo election petition.

Broadly speaking there are two lines of approach to this question. Are teachers Government servants who are likely to misuse their official influence to the prejudice of a healthy political life? This question has been finally settled by judicial rulings. Teachers are not Government servants in any sense of the term. Secondly is the efficiency of a teacher's work at school likely to be compromised by his taking active part in politics? We do not see any reason why it should. Where politics becomes a full-time job as in the case of leaders of parties and secretaries of political associations in advanced democracies, it may not be possible for a teacher to do justice to both education and politics. But it must be possible for a teacher to give full attention to his educational work and yet spare some time for political work. Modern views of education do not put a premium on cloistered virtue. The teacher's influence over his pupils will be all the healthier and deeper for his knowledge of men and public affairs. He can be a more complete man if he makes his influence felt on the life outside his class-room. A school must be a power-house from which fresh ideas radiate all over the country. Any attempt to curb the extra school activities of teachers as a class, far from leading to any good, will only result in choking the channels of fresh thought and in driving it back along the arid sands of custom and convention.

Dies While Praying

Mr. S. Iyampilai, Inquirer into sudden deaths, held an inquest on the body of one Christian Alexandra Philips who died suddenly at the Pentecostal Mission house at Chiviyatera, while praying, at 8 p.m. on the 25th instant.

The deceased who was 72 years of age attended the prayers at 6 p.m. He fell down while the prayer was proceeding. Others continued their prayer but finding the man in a state of collapse, rendered him help, but he collapsed.

A verdict of death due to heart failure owing to old age was returned by the inquirer.

500 Converted to Hinduism

Travancore Maha Sabha's Work

Kottayam, Jan. 21.

A meeting of the All-Travancore Hindu Maha Sabha, was held the day before yesterday at Puliur (Changanore) under the chairmanship of Mr. T. P. Velayudan Pillai, M. L. A., when a local branch of the Sabha, was formally inaugurated. A committee was also elected.

Two hundred and thirty-six non-Hindus were converted to Hinduism at the meeting.

Mr. K. Kunju Panickar M. L. A., General Secretary of the Sabha, and Mr. P. I. Deva Das, spoke at meeting.

At Ala, near Changanore, another meeting of the All-Travancore Hindu Maha Sabha, was held on the same day under the presidency of Mr. K. Kunju Panickar, M. L. A. More than a thousand people of the backward classes attended the meetings. A local branch of the Sabha was formally inaugurated and a committee for its management was elected. Three hundred and forty-four non-Hindus were admitted to the Hindu fold at the meeting. The function terminated with the feeding of the poor.

COLLEGE PRINCIPALS BEFORE JAFFNA MAGISTRATE

"Court of Law, not Court of Language"

Three cases are pending before the Magistrate at Jaffna in which Mr. V. Veerasingam Principal Manipay Hindu College and Mr. K. Navaratna Rajah, Principal Sridhartha College, Balapitya, figure as either one of the accused or as witnesses. The charges involved in all the three cases are intimidation and insult. These cases were called on the 23rd instant and Proctor Mr. T. C. Raja Ratnam applied for postponement on behalf of Mr. K. Navaratna Rajah. Proctor Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy opposed the application for postponement on behalf of the other party. After some discussion it was agreed that the cases might be postponed if Mr. Navaratna Rajah paid a sum of Rs. 5 towards the "Send-a-plane" fund. The cases stand postponed to the 28th February 1941.

Magistrate's Remarks

On the previous date evidence was recorded in both the cases. While recording the evidence of Mr. K. Navaratna Rajah the Magistrate remarked as follows:—

It looks as though you allow your feelings to run ahead of you intelligence. Neither exhibition of feelings nor verbosity will receive any consideration so far as I am concerned. This is not a court of language, but this is a court of law. If you consult your lawyers they will tell you that giving free vent to your feelings may recoil on you and bring about unpleasant repercussions. Your allegations against the K. V. are unfounded. He has to record the statements of people against whom he receives complaints.

KARAVEDDY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Silver Jubilee Celebrations

Point Pedro, Friday

"Karaveddy Co-operative Society is celebrating its Silver Jubilee. This may be said to mark the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Co-operative movement in Ceylon", declared Mr. G. de Soyza, Register of Co-operative Societies, in the course of his presidential address at the Karaveddy Co-operative Society Silver Jubilee Celebrations yesterday.

Mr. G. de Soyza was received and garlanded at the entrance to the pandal by the President, Mudaliar, K. Chinnathambi and Messrs. Sam. T. Solomons' President Vadamarachy Co-operative Union and V. Canagasabai, Inspector of Co-operative Societies were introduced to him. He was taken in procession with music to the Vigneshwara College premises which were gaily decorated for the occasion. After the Garden Party a public meeting was held at 5 p.m.

Mr. G. de Soyza presided and others accommodated on the platform were Messrs. C. Bagunathan, Asst. Registrar, V. Veerasingam, C. Arulambalam and Mudaliar K. Chinnathambi and Mr. S. Achuthampillai.

A welcome song specially composed by Mr. M. V. Krishna Alvar for the occasion was sung.

The Report was read by the President Mudli. Chinnathambi Messrs. V. Veerasingam and C. Arulambalam also spoke.

Mr. G. de Soyza, speaking from the chair said that they were assembled to do honour to the oldest Co-operative institution in the North. That day was notable in the annals of Co-operation in Ceylon, as the day on which the first Silver Jubilee of any Co-operative Society in Ceylon was celebrated.

The Karaveddy Society had been going on for twenty-five years. Had it done good? The answer was undoubtedly in the affirmative. There were in all 1700 Co-operative Societies in the Island and the Department was proposing to strike out new lines along which to work.

He was glad to hear from Mr. Bagunathan, the Asst. Registrar, that in Jaffna the Co-operative movement was doing very well; that four lakhs of rupees were lent to the Mahyam Tobacco Trading Society of 1500 members; that there were two steam boats run by another Co-operative Society. The Karaveddy Society's Jubilee report was a fighting report, and the President of the Society, President from its inception was a small Mussolini. But while the Italian Mussolini was failing, the Karaveddy Mussolini was going from strength to strength, and was in addition, President of the Onions Sa'e Society. He wished the Society and its President continued prosperity in the years to come.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. V. Kanapathipillai. (Cor)

PLACING EDUCATED YOUNG MEN ON THE LAND

COMMITTEE FAVOURS STATE ASSISTANCE

SCHEME TO BE WORKED THROUGH SCHOOLS

EVERY year a large number of young men complete their course of studies in secondary schools. Less than 50 per cent. of them pursue higher studies and adopt professional careers or find employment in clerical services. The remainder have no future to look to and have begun to swell the ranks of the unemployed. Ceylon is and will be primarily an agricultural country for many years but the possibility of earning a livelihood from the soil does not appear to have been adequately appreciated by young men of this class. We feel therefore that there is every justification for Government to take an initiative in the matter and to make arrangements for placing them on the land" states the Report of the Committee appointed to draw up a scheme for the settlement of educated young men on the land through the medium of existing Schools.

"In our scheme there is the further reason," adds the Committee, "that there will be an increase in the production of food. We have carefully considered the form assistance by the Government should take. The schools are embarking on a new project which will be of considerable and definite benefit to the State. We have, therefore, so devised our scheme of assistance that a school will not incur a working loss. We propose that in addition to giving the advice of Government technical and other departments, whenever it is asked for by a school, direct help should be given to schools in the shape of loans and grants.

25 Acre Allotment

The Committee favours the scheme envisaged by the Very Revd. Fr. M. J. Le Goc, O. M. I., late Rector of St. Joseph's College, of a settlement (for each school participating) of a minimum extent of 325 acres, providing for a central farm of about twenty-five acres and twelve allotments of the same extent. The purpose of the central farm is to provide instruction to the students.

The Committee, it will be recalled, was appointed in November, 1939, by the Minister of Agriculture and Lands. It consisted of the Land Commissioner (Chairman); the Very Revd. Fr. M. J. Le Goc; the Revd. R. S. de Saram; the Commissioner for the Development of Agricultural Marketing; and Dr. W. R. C. Paul, representing the Department of Agriculture.

Object in View

In the course of its Report, issued as a Sessional Paper, the Committee states—

Father Le Goc envisaged in his scheme a settlement embracing a minimum extent of 325 acres, providing for a central farm of about twenty-five acres and twelve allotments of the same

extent. We are in agreement with this view as it is in accordance with the object we have in view, i. e., to give each colonist an acreage which will enable him to make a net income of about Rs. 100 a month. Twenty five acres will probably be the maximum extent required to produce the sum, but the figure will vary from place to place according to the fertility of the soil and other considerations. The central farm would be on the same model and scale as the colonists' farms with a few additional acres for building class rooms, dormitories, recreation ground, etc. We would also recommend that the extents reserved for the scheme should be as much as is available so that it should be possible to provide land for further batches of students who may be trained in the central farm.

The young men who are selected for the scheme should be from the present or recently passed out students of the school. They should be at least seventeen years of age. As there will be plenty of boys to choose from, we do not think there should be a shortage of good material. We consider that the Principal should have a free hand in the selection but he should expect him in making it to take into consideration such factors as aptitude, perseverance, health, physique and the possession of sufficient means.

Govt Assistance

We recommend that assistance be given for preparing the land for cultivation including fencing at a rate not exceeding Rs. 85 per acre to be fixed by the Revenue Officer. The school should also be granted the concession of converting, free of royalty, any timber found on the central block for use within it. Timber removed from the block should be paid for at the "in situ" value.

We consider that Government assistance should be on the basis that simple semi-permanent buildings will suffice for the school block. We contemplate structures which should have a life of about twenty years, with wattle and daub or similar cheap form of wall, half walls being used wherever possible on the grounds of economy. Floors may be of cement or well-rammed earth as circumstances require. We do not however recommend thatching for the roofs which should be of some more permanent material. The dimensions of the buildings, doors and windows, should conform to the Housing Ordinance and to any requirements of the Medical Department. We have prepared type-plans and estimates for the buildings, we have in mind and our recommendations are based on information derived from them. They will be available for examination by any

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INSUFFICIENT PROVISION IN BUDGET

U. C. APPOINTS COMMITTEE TO REVISE

BREEZE OVER MARKET LEASE

A MILD breeze occurred at the Jaffna Urban Council when a letter from the Commissioner of Local Government re lease of Kaikula Market was considered at a special meeting of the Council on Saturday. Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, the Chairman, presided.

The first item was the confirming of the minutes. Mr. C. Ponnambalam refused to accept the minutes, as the names of Messrs. V. Suppiah and Chas Pathirana were placed at the bottom of the list. The minutes were confirmed.

Budget Revision Urged

The most important motion of the day was moved by the Vice Chairman, Chevalier S. Arulanandam, which was as follows:—

"In view of the fact that the provision made in the budget for 1941 is insufficient for the fair maintenance of the essential services, and as no provision has been made therein for urgently needed improvements, this Council appoints a committee with members of the public co-opted to suggest ways and means to increase the efficiency of work, to cut down expenditure wherever possible and to report to the Council before the 1st of March 1941"

In moving this motion the vice-Chairman said:—

A fortnight's close study of the Budget for the year 1941, as well as the careful reading of some documents that I have come across in the performance of my duties as Vice-Chairman convinces me of one distressing fact that the affairs of this Council are not as they ought to be; that something is wrong with the State of Denmark; and that unless we bestir ourselves to put our house in order, we are as surely heading for ruin and disaster as there is a sun in the sky.

Apologies for Roads

I say that provision made in the Budget for 1941 is insufficient for the fair maintenance of essential services. Allow me to give you a few illustrations: Consider closely the provision made for the maintenance of thoroughfares. It was only the other day, that the Chairman and I went inspecting many of the roads within the U. C. area. I understand that there are 50 miles of road within that area. There is not a single road that can be said to be in good condition. Roads do deteriorate, but here the degree of deterioration has been allowed to continue beyond the limit of safety. Some of the roads are no more roads and are very nearly like muddy jungle tracks. It is a crying shame that while minor towns like Puthalam, Chikaw and Arundhagura have such excellent thoroughfares, Jaffna should have only apologies for what are called roads.

I have noted the following figures from Budget estimates approved by the Council from the year 1934. In round numbers the estimates provided were

1934—	Rs. 30,000
1935—	" 43,000
1936—	" 44,000
1937—	" 30,000

1938—	" 30,000
1939—	" 23,000
1940—	" 27,000
1941—	" only 17,000!

Do you call that a fair provision for the maintenance of that essential service? Unless we can find more money and that speedily for the maintenance of our roads this Council will be committed to an enormous expenditure in the near future.

Electricity Department

To give another illustration. Consider the provision made for the Department of Electricity. I have taken the trouble to read the reports sent in by the Electrical Engineer, Lighting Schemes, beginning with the Report submitted in September 1934. The latest report was in December 1940. There are 8 reports in all. These reports, I understand, cost Rs. 2200/- per year. So within seven years we have been paying Rs. 15,400. And for what? For reports! For reports that have been merely wailings in the wilderness. The purchase of a fuel motor was recommended in September 1934. It was purchased in 1940. As far back as 1934 attention was called to the voltage drop on beach road and other mains. No action has been taken yet! and the provision recommended by the E. S. in the Budget for 1941 has been deleted. I shall have to say more on this when item No. 7 in the agenda comes to be taken up for consideration. Only allow me to add that the general revenue this Council obtained in 1940 from other sources, excepting the Department of electricity in round numbers was 187,400 while the expenditure against that is 236,600; that is the Council had to spend Rs. 49,200 more than its income. But the revenue from electricity in 1940 was in round numbers Rs. 146,100 while the expenditure was Rs. 99,600, so that, it gave the Council a profit of Rs. 46,500. So that it is all merely playing at mockery and sham to appoint an apprentice as street lighting foreman, and come and tell the Council piously and coolly that the appointments had been recommended by the lighting engineer; what he did actually recommend was an experienced Foreman. Linemen with wide experience.

Kathir S. M. Athobucker seconded an Amendment

Mr. V. Suppiah proposed an amendment to the effect that no member from the public should be co-opted.

Messrs. Ponnambalam and Nalliah supported the amendment.

The reasons urged on behalf of the amendment were that the members of the Council were able enough to look after its affairs; that such a course would bring discredit on the Council; that it was not prudent to show its files and documents to outsiders.

The vice Chairman in his reply said that if co-opting members to a Committee was going to bring discredit on the Council, then the

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THE HINDU BOARD OF EDUCATION

Its 100th School Associated with the Name of Navalar

The one hundredth school in full working order has just been added to the list of schools under the management of the Hindu Board of Education.

The Sivapiragasa Vidyasalai of Inuvil, which is also known by the name of Ampikaipagar School, run on a site between the Inuvil Pillayar Temple and the Kandaswamy temple, the foundation stone of which was laid by Sri La Sri Arumuga Navalar in 1864, has been brought under the management of the Hindu Board. It is the one hundredth school in full working gear that the Board controls. It augurs well that the growing strength of the Board in thus entering the three figure size of the number of Schools it has charge of, should have for its initial third figure, the school which is associated with the memory of the great Navalar.

Insufficient Provision In Budget

(Continued from page 3)

farmers of the Ordinance of the Council were fools; that if everything was immaculate about their files and accounts they need not be afraid of members of the public scrutinizing them; that the Council was for the public; that the four walls of the Town Hall did not contain the whole wisdom of Jaffna; why was there such trepidation? Such stout opposition made him suspicious that there was something wrong within the State of Denmark, that there must be a skeleton in the cupboard.

The motion was carried, six voting for and four against. The members of the Committee are: The Chairman, the vice-chairman, Mr. M. Sinnathurai, Mr. S. S. Sabapathy, Mr. E. R. Sankarasagara and Mr. C. Nadarajah.

When Item No. 4 re lease of Kaikula Market was taken up, Mr. C. Ponnambalam stated that before any action was taken by the present Chairman, the speaker, who had passed an order on the subject in question, should have been consulted at least as a matter of courtesy. Mr. Ponnambalam then accused the Chairman using epithets like "Jitter" and "old man in his dotage." The Chairman called him to order several times.

Mr. Pathirane: You the chairmanship resign if you can't control the properly.

This item was deferred for the next meeting.

The Council elected Mr. K. Aiyadurai as its delegate to the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Association of Urban Councils at Batticaloa on the 14th and 15th February.

The Council stands adjourned till Wednesday the 29th instant.

The Small but Prosperous State of Travancore

(Continued from page 1)

who wears the sarong, jacket and towel, but the sarong in the latter case is varicoloured.

Travancore has the youngest University in India. It was started only two years ago. But as regards education it ranks first among all the States in India, nay, the whole of India. A pleasing feature in this country is that the females are more educated than the males. Every other man or woman we come across is literate. They prize learning as an ornament. And yet, the problem of unemployment! It is an everlasting one. But the Travancorian is fully aware of the dignity of labour. He minds not what job he is at, provided that he does it to his satisfaction. It is noteworthy that 90% of the bus conductors and ticket examiners are university degree holders working on a poor pay of 25-40 rupees per mensem. There are graduates in the ranks of the police department too. In this connection I wish to mention a new innovation which the State has introduced for the first time in India. There are women police executing their duties very efficiently. A few ladies hold the magisterial chair too. But these are only experiments.

Travancore has a population of 6 million including the Tamil-speaking districts. The Ilawars, a community among the depressed classes in the State, are now rising to recognition. It should be remembered that the ancestors of these Ilawars went from Ceylon to aid the Chera king in his wars against the Muslims and the Vijayanagara rulers. They are still known by the name of the country from which their ancestors went. These Ilawars are the followers of Narayana Guru. It is during Christmas time that they celebrate the anniversary of the death of their Guru. On these days we can see everyone of the Ilawars dressed in yellow going to the shrine of the Guru to pay him homage.

It was on the Depawali day, 12th November 1936, that the epoch-making day for Travancore dawned. This day saw the Ilawars, the Teyars and other depressed classes worshipping at the altar of the Lord along with the caste Hindus in all the State temples. From this day onwards the temple-entry proclamation of the Maharajah is celebrated every year. There is in Madras a statue of His Highness to perpetuate this memorable event. This act of the ruling prince is an inevitable step in the unification of the various castes and sects of India.

Transport in the State is mainly managed by the Government. The old zigzag roads meandering through hills and dales have now been straightened and metalled. State buses ply along these roads according to scheduled time. Only the train service is managed by the S. I. R. Company. It should be noted here that Travancore is 22½ minutes

behind S. M. T. and anybody who follows the State time is liable to miss his train at Trivandram! There are no rickshaws in the State.

The aquarium which is situated on the shore of the Arabian Sea is supposed to be the best in Asia. It possesses all the recent developments which the aquariums in the west have attained. It is said that all the marine biological researches are to be conducted here.

We then come to the Satram erected in appreciation of the manifold activities of Sir C. P., the present Dewan of the State. It is a spacious building situated opposite the Trivandram Station and affords all conveniences to visitors.

The Guest House which is comparable in many respects to the King's Pavilion in Kandy is also worth seeing. It is provided with pieces of furniture of the very modern type. It is used as the temporary residence of the Viceroy and the Governors during their visit to the State.

The zoo and the museum are worth visiting. They are all up to date. The Padmanaba Swami temple is the biggest temple of the State. The Alwars have immortalised it in their sacred hymns to Sri Narayana. These are a few of the many things that attract a visitor to this State. The country is prosperous!

The living poet of Travancore speaking in praise of this country and its ruler says:—

“புவால் பகல்கொடியும் புச்சிறிப்பால்
கைமயாவும்
காவால் இன்கிளியும் கங்கோதும்—
முவாத
சொன் னன்கதைத் திருமால் அடி
மறவாக்
கோமான் தன்முடிக் குணம்.”

Auction Sale

D. C. J. 13485

1. Sabapathy Kanapathippillai and wife
2. Chellammah of Manippay

Plaintiffs.

1. Sathasivam Velauther and wife
2. Achchimuttu
3. Chellappah Gnanapiragasam and wife
4. Saraswathi all of Sandiruppay.

PROPERTIES

(a) All that piece of land situated at Sandiruppay called Meesai-thodam and Pathiwattai in extent 24½ Lms. P. C. and V. C. and 4½ Kls. together with well and bounded according to deed on the east by the heirs of Arumugam Sathasivam and shareholders and the heirs of Sithamparam widow of Sooriar Naganather and shareholders, Ambalavanar Thiruvengadam and Thangam wife of Ambalavanar and Mylvaganam Sinnathamby, West by the property of Kathirasilpillai wife of Sothinather and Thangammah widow of Amirthalingam and South by the property of Thangammah widow of Amirthalingam, channel, Arumugam Sathasivam and shareholders, Theivampillai wife of Thillaiyampalam and Lachumippillai widow of Vaithilingam, excluding ½ share of the said well the path way four feet in breadth reserved for the purpose of passing to and from the said well to the house on the North and the right of using the ground around the said well to the breadth of 6 feet.

(b) All that piece of land situated at do called Thaluvanthodam in extent 6½ Lms. V. C. with palmyrahs cultivated plantations and bounded on the East by road, North by bye-lane, West by the property of Sittampalam Thambimuttu and South by the property of Swaminathar Arunasalam and shareholders.

(c) All that piece of land situated at do called Thalluvan in extent 4½

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

The Intermediate class in Arts & Science, preparing for the July 1942 Examination has been already formed. Provision is made to teach Botany & Zoology.

(Mis. 182. 23.1.41—30.1.41)

Auction Sale

D. C. J. 14579

Ramalingam Adigar Rajagopal of Vannarponnai West.

Plaintiff

1. Murugesu Selvanayagam and
2. Wife Ponnammah of Nallore

Defendants.

PROPERTIES

1. A piece of land called, Ampodiveli and other parcels in extent 4 lms. V. C. with palmyrahs and cultivated and spontaneous plantations and share of well standing on the northern land with the right of way and water course situated at Nallur in the parish of Nallur and bounded on the East and South by the property of Annammah widow of Thambiah, North by the property of Thangam wife of Chinniah and shareholders and that of the 2nd defendant and West by pond.

2. An undivided half share of a piece of land called Ampodiveli in extent 5½ lms. V. C. with cultivated and spontaneous plantations with share of well in the eastern land and the right of way and water course situated at Nallur and bounded on the East by the road, North by Thanammah wife of Kanapathippillai, West by lane and South by channel.

3. A piece of land called Ampodiveli and other parcels in extent 3 lms. V. C. with sheds, plantations and share of well in the eastern land and the right of way and water course situated at Nallur and bounded on the East by the property of Saravanamuthu Nagalingam and shareholders and the frontage of the path North by the property of Sabapathy Chellappah, West by pond, and South by the 2nd defendant with the right of using the path along the north of the eastern land.

In terms of the commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in Case No. 14579 I shall sell the above properties by public Auction on Monday the 24th January 1941, at about 4 p.m. at the spots.

N. KANDIAH,
Commissioner.

(Mis. 185 27.1.41)

Lms. V. C. with cultivated plantations and well and bounded on the East by lane, and the property of Appukkuddy Vairamuttu and shareholders, North by the property of Chellappah Suppiah, on the West by road and South by lane.

(d) All that piece of land situated at do called Kollankiravu in extent 7½ Lms. V. C. with spontaneous and cultivated plantations and bounded according to deed on the East by the property of Thambiah Sallathurai, and shareholders, North by the property of Sabapathy Velauther, West by the property of Sittampalam Thambirajah and South by lane.

(e) An undivided half share with its appurtenances out of all that piece of land situated at do called Kallikottamvayal in extent 11 Lms. P. C. is bounded on the East by Thangammah wife of Sornavadiyelu, North and West by the property of the 2nd defendant and South by channel.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in Case No. 13485. I shall sell the above properties by public Auction on Saturday the 22nd February 1941, at about 3 p.m.

N. KANDIAH
Commissioner.

(Mis. 184. 27.1.41)

Placing Educated Young Men On The Land

(Continued from page 3)

school which wishes to see them but we do not consider it necessary to publish them.

Roads

We consider that Government should pay reasonable "out-of-pocket" expenses incurred by the school including the cost of necessary culverts, for their construction from the closest public road to the nearest boundary of the central farm. It is impossible to anticipate what this will cost and we suggest that the contribution by Government be limited to Rs. 500. The amount to be paid should be determined by the Revenue Officer.

In many cases we anticipate that the necessary equipment can be made locally from timber found on the central farm or obtained from a Crown forest in close proximity to it. In such cases we suggest that the necessary timber be allowed to be taken free of payment or on free grants. In other cases where suitable timber cannot be so obtained we recommend that a grant not exceeding Rs. 100 be paid for the purchase of necessary timber.

We recommend that half the cost of agricultural implements and tools required by the central farm either in the workshop or in the field should be defrayed by Government. From a list we have prepared we do not think the cost should exceed Rs. 500.

Each school will have to find its own manager but we suggest that grants of Rs. 720 per annum be made for three years towards his salary. He should possess a sound practical and theoretical knowledge of agriculture.

Livestock

The extent of livestock necessary for the central farm will depend on the particular plan of development envisaged and we think the ultimate decision should rest with the Director of Agriculture. He should bear in mind that stock is required not only for the use of the central farm, but for breeding purposes so that it may be a source of supply to the future allottees. We are of opinion that the animals required should be supplied by Government on loan repayable in five years. We make an exception in keeping with the policy now applied to village centres. Animals for stud purposes may be lent free and cockerels granted free by Government.

We consider that, as in the case of peasant settlement, the Agricultural Department should supply all those planting materials free which it can produce on its own nurseries and agricultural stations. Other planting materials should be purchased by the school either from its own funds or (where they exist) from Government votes such as the Food Production vote.

Fertilizers

(1) Lime, a basic fertilizer which is necessary to bring acid soils into a state of reasonable fertility dressings generally being required at intervals of four years.

(2) Special fertilizers, generally required every year, which are necessary for the maintenance of good yields under intensive cultivation.

We recommend that the first issue of each type to the central

farm should be provided free by Government, and that the first issue of lime be provided, when necessary at Government expense to each colonist under the scheme.

We are of opinion that the central farm should receive the same assistance as is now enjoyed by peasant colonists, i. e., a grant for necessary measures actually taken not exceeding Rs. 20 an acre. The amount to be paid should be assessed by the Revenue Officer.

Irrigation and Water Supply

We consider that as a rule each school should make its own arrangements for providing water. We realize that this may not be always feasible and would therefore allow the school to submit its proposal for the scrutiny and advice of the Irrigation Department. We think that in exceptional cases Government should consider constructing the works and levying a rate until the full sum has been paid back.

It has to be remembered that an adequate supply of water for domestic purposes has to be provided before the students go into occupation. It may not therefore always be possible to combine the domestic and irrigation systems. Proposals for a separate water supply should also be forwarded to the Department of Irrigation and if they are found satisfactory, we recommend that Government should bear the full cost not exceeding Rs. 1,000 the work being done by the school. If only an expensive scheme is feasible the question of Government doing the work and recovering the cost by means of a rate may be given consideration.

Cost to Government

The computation given below represents the maximum expenditure which may have to be incurred by Government in the shape of outright grants over the training of twelve students for three years. We have not attempted to estimate the value of services to be rendered by Government Departments as the benefit of most of them, such as anti-malarial measures and irrigation facilities are already enjoyed by members of the public as such. It should also be noted that it may not be necessary to provide for all these items of assistance in every case.

Preparing 25 acres for cultivation, etc.	Rs. 575
Building and timber	5,600
Roads	500
Machinery and tools (half cost)	250
Salary of Manager (three years)	2,160
Planting material (approximately)	50
Fertilizers	1,700
Soil conservation measures for 25 acres	500
Water supply	1,000
	12,935

Assistance to Student-Colonists

As the colonists will derive indirectly the benefits of the assistance given to the school we do not consider that they will need direct help from Government. We recommend, however, some limited form of assistance to develop their holdings be given, partly as an encouragement

and partly to meet expenses that it would not be reasonable to expect them to incur. The assistance we recommend will be given during the stage of development and as the lease with the school will still be operative the school will be theoretical recipient. The help we suggest is:-

(1) that timber be utilized on the colonization area on the same terms as on the central farm;

(2) that expenses in excess of Rs. 15 per acre incurred on necessary soil conservation measures be met from Government funds;

(3) that on the principle that land should be given in tolerably fertile condition, the first issue of basic fertilizers should be made free by Government when necessary. Subsequent issues may be made on loan repayable in four years.

(4) that the first issue of special fertilizers should be on loan repayable in two years.

Nature of Crops

As regards the nature of the plantations, the Committee states:-

We are not so enthusiastic about permanent plantations though we agree that every homestead garden should include an orchard of fruit trees, jik, breadfruit, coconut, etc. The income that may be anticipated per acre is much less than in the case of annual crops. At the same time we feel that, as a rule, an allottee will not be able to cultivate an extent in annual crops, sufficiently large to give him a reasonable income. We therefore agree to permanent plantations being established where necessary. It is essential however, that the allottee should not put all his eggs into one basket. We desire that no more than 2 acres be planted with any single crop. Among the suitable perennial crops are mangoes, coconut, citrus, sapodilla, kapok, cashew; but this list is not exhaustive. We note for instance, that a vast quantity of quinine is imported every year. It would appear that cinchona is unlikely to thrive in the dry zone but we mention this case as illustrating the type of commodity which one should attempt to produce. Under no circumstances should tea or rubber be grown.

As for animal husbandry we do not think there is a good local market for beef. The average Ceylonese who is particular over the quality of beef he eats and can afford to pay for good beef unfortunately too often suffers from the delusion that the best meat must be of the imported cold-storage variety. Better prospects may be expected from rear-poultry, sheep, and goats for slaughter. We do not recommend that expensive livestock be imported for the purpose. The stock should be a kind purchasable cheaply in the Island. We also think that it will be more profitable to sell milk than to convert it into butter. A number of people already send milk to Colombo by rail from up-country stations and compete successfully with local producers. We do not anticipate therefore that the cost of transport will present any difficulty if there is a railroad nearby. One point we would insist on is the growing of fodder grass by the allottees another step towards self-sufficiency. It should be clearly realised that large extents of land will not be granted for grazing.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Karainagar Saiva Maha Sabai Hall

Sir,—You will remember that some two years ago, an agitation for a New Hall for the Saiva Maha Sabai, Karainagar, was set afoot by certain gentlemen of high and leading in the place, and was even voiced through your valuable columns. You will now be gratified to learn that the agitation has borne good fruit, thanks to the generosity and goodness of the public and to the tireless energy and enthusiasm of two individuals, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

The plan of a spacious and up-to-date Hall embodying in the main a hall and six rooms and estimated to cost well over Rs. 5000/ was drawn by an architectural expert and work was commenced in July last. The main building i. e. the hall has now been completed, despite the severe handicaps the Committee had to face at every turn.

The work of building the six rooms now remains and if only a few of our monied gentry, in which Karainagar is reputed to be blessed, would but loosen their purse-strings in much the same measure as the President of the Sabai has done, who has undertaken unsolicited to defray the cost of building one of the rooms, the Hall would soon be fait accompli.

May I avail myself of the opportunity to make an appeal to our brethren in Malaya who in the past have proved to the hilt their liberality and public spirit, to rise to the occasion and help the achievement of this praiseworthy end.

Yours truly,
"PRO BONO PUBLICO."

Karainagar.

KOKUVIL SEVAI SANGAM

16th Annual General Meeting

The 16th Annual General Meeting of the Kokuvil Sevai Sangam was held in the Sangam Hall at K. Kuvil East on Sunday the 29th of December 1940 with Mr. S. Kanapathipillai in the chair.

After the adoption of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on December 1939 and the reading of the Annual Report by the Secretary and the Submission of the Balance-Sheet by the Treasurer the following Committee was elected for the year 1941.

Mr. C. Muttuvelu J. P. (Patron); Mr. V. Chellappah (President) Mr. C. Arulampalam (Vice President); Mr. R. Sivaratnam (Secretary); Mr. A. Sannuganthan (Assistant-Secretary); Mr. S. Alagaratham (Treasurer); Mr. K. Nadarajah (Assistant-Treasurer); Mr. K. Mahesan (Librarian); Mr. V. Guevaratnam (Sports-Secretary); Mr. V. Ramanthan (Literary-Secretary) and Messrs V. Thamo-thirampillai, M. Nadarajah, A. Sinnadurai, S. Nadarajah, M. Mathiaparanam, A. Nagaratham, A. Sinnathamby, S. Appudurai, S. Arumugam, P. M. Rajaratnam, E. S. S. Sinnadurai and M. Arumugam, Committee Members.

Messrs S. Kanapathipillai and N. Thamoithirampillai were elected Auditors.

The meeting came to a close at 4.15 P. M. At 4.30 P. M. a grand tea-party was held at the Sangam premises. (Cor)

Work in the Class Room

(Continued from page 1)

children as well as the defective, backward and problem children of our country have to work and have their so-called education. Teaching has become stoking and learning has become barren. So much so, the time has arrived to make the child in India learn to learn, not merely because of educational trends but because of national poverty and necessity. Due to the economic condition of parents and the uneconomic and ineffective school system, children do not go to school or remain in it and parents lack appreciation of education besides lacking finance for their children's education. Children that come to school are victims of traditional book-learning and peptonised education through our uneducational extra-educational methods of admission, promotion, etc. Children are not grouped according to intelligence; promotion is not based on ability to work in advanced grades but on time spent at school and on the emphasis placed on spoon-feeding, examinations and manufacture of unreliable results and faulty averages. The great problem is how to make schooling relieve economic pressure, and to do this, the foreign government is suggesting restriction of education, while the natural leaders of India want real education with a view to achieving better living and improved economic status. No thought is given to the placement of pupils according to their interest, aptitude or physical condition. Pax Britannica has provided for the average Indian child a system of education which incapacitates him physically, morally and mentally for any constructive, productive work. The class room presents a picture of children suffering from absence of a balanced diet, decent clothing, proper formation and medical attention. Far from schools improving the child's environment, they are adding to the burdens of the child at home. Schools function as a co-operative project for divorcing children from their cultural and ancestral moorings and are by no means centres for community improvement.

Some Problems

An observation of the class room under the present system of education will impress one about the urgent need for tackling the following problems on a nation-wide scale: (a) health of school children, (b) diet, (c) rest and work, (d) undernourished children, (e) sick children, (f) attendance, (g) accommodation, (h) language or expression problem, (i) curriculum load, (j) methods of teaching, (k) fluency in vocabulary, (l) correct pronunciation, (m) directed scientific research, (n) experiments, (o) inadequate achievement in terms of mastering of even book education, (p) retarded progress of school child, (q) crowded and ill-suited school rooms, (r) no ordered class room plans or class to plan of work, (s) teachers' inertia to study, to prepare, to teach, to experiment, (t) no conscious attempt to vitalize the existing curriculum and

make it articulate to national needs (u) teaching problems never recorded or solved educationally by teachers, (v) courtesies of the class room and school, (w) cleanliness of the school room, (x) teaching aids and materials never sought or made with an eye to class room needs or country's needs, (y) bad and faulty and prejudiced testing and examinations, (z) the misfit teacher.

The problems could be multiplied but it will be seen they are restricted to the environment of the class room, to the facilities of the class room, to the conditions of the teacher and the child, to the tools of learning and to the modes of teaching and learning.

Suggestions to Tackle Them

These problems could be tackled only by a reform of the home conditions and school conditions of the child, as the major unit in the educational budget, by making the education of the child a state concern and by a reorientation of the educational system and school organism, by placing them under the control of a Teachers' Council, consisting of a statutorily organised body of effective teachers, with pre-service and frequent in-service training in current educational practice.

In particular, the following measures should be adopted to pave the way for an educational revolution in the class form:

For purposes of instruction, the pupils must be properly admitted and classified on educational grounds, not on other grounds.

The curriculum and methods of work ought to be related to local needs, which must be set forth by the teacher-faculty of the school, alive to the school needs and able to achieve them.

Individual instruction must be attempted in the case of average and more-than-average pupils, while mass instruction has to be done for mediocre pupils.

The retarded child has to be attended to not by private tuition but by extra attention, free of extra cost to the parent.

Capacity and attainment in expression, oral and written, have to be promoted by systematic schemes of work in the class room. The class room work ought to be prepared in advance and followed thoroughly. No teacher should make greater demands on the pupils in terms of house work than the syllabus provides for.

Emphasis on all subjects and all phases of the work by co-ordination of work should be attended to. Schemes of work should provide for proper sequence both with regard to matter and method in the work from class to class. Needless overlapping in subjects should be avoided. Correlation of subject with subject should be arranged in a natural manner.

The general aim and method of work in the class room should be set out and mere tabulations of pages of books and items of instruction and overdoing of maps and charts and written work should not be accepted as schemes of work.

Attention to weaker subjects and weaker boys should be specially provided.

Every teacher should show in writing adequate preparation work from day to day.

The strength or weakness of a class should be assessed. The civic life of

the class room and school should be planned with due regard to ventilation, placing of pupils with respect to light, the size of the desks in each class, sanitary upkeep, supply and care of school and class materials and apparatus. Special attention should be paid to the physical welfare of pupils - especially correct posture in the school room.

Retardation of pupils should be

prevented and an effort should be made to discover the causes of retardation and if it is due to class room teaching or placement or methods, or scheme of work or absence of respect or play, it should be rectified.

By such intensive work by the teachers of a school or of an educational centre, it is possible to create educational Bardo's throughout the country. (Hindu)

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