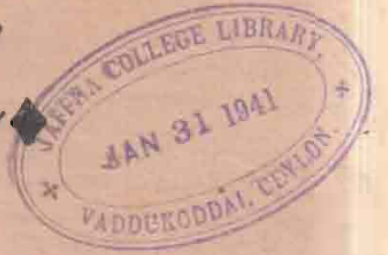


THE Hindu Organ.

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TOO MANY TEXT BOOKS USED IN SCHOOLS

MINISTER ASKED TO TAKE ACTION

BRIBE-TAKING ALLEGED AGAINST DEPARTMENT'S OFFICERS

Colombo, Monday.

AN allegation that there were many persons in the Education Department who accepted bribes to prescribe books for use in schools was made by a speaker at yesterday's sessions of the Sinhala Maha Sabha.

He was Mr. Ananda Rajakaruna who stated that he was the author of 36 Sinhalese text-books for schools.

The Minister of Education, Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara, was himself present at the sessions.

The discussion at the Sinhala Maha Sabha arose out of a motion moved by Mr. Dharmasena Alagiawanne requesting the Minister of Education to take all necessary action to reduce the number of books used in schools as the purchase of such books caused a heavy burden on the parents.

Mr. Alagiawanne said that the distress caused among the parents of the rural areas who had to purchase an enormous amount of school books for their children was hardly known in the towns. There were village parents who had to beg from their more well-to-do neighbours for contributions to purchase books for their children. There were many children who did not attend school because their parents were not able to provide them with books.

He urged that it was time that the State intervened in the matter.

Minister Explains

Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara said that those difficulties were well-known to him. For years he had been instructing the Department of Education that the pupils in the lower forms should not be asked to use more than two exercise books at a time. Whenever he visited a school he impressed

on the teachers the need for the pupils in the lower forms to use a slate. In every Government school a certain sum had been set apart for the purpose of supplying free school books for poor and deserving children. No exercise book was used by the children attending the Government schools till they reached the third standard. He could control the books prescribed for the Government schools but his difficulty was with regard to the Assisted schools.

Whenever he took up a matter which affected them he had to realise that there were six members of his Committee who were Managers of Schools and also that of the Board of Ministers except, he thought, himself, the others were Managers of Schools. He did not mean anything against their President, who always supported him. That accounted for the strong opposition that he had always to contend against whenever he initiated a new measure.

Regulations had already been passed by him asking schools not to change the school books except once in three years. The matter was under further consideration and he proposed to bring up certain regulations before his Executive Committee. He hoped they would be passed but if they were thrown out he would ask them not to blame him.

Text-book Author's Allegation

Mr. Ananda Rajakaruna said that he was the author of thirty-six books which were being used in schools. Their copy-right was, however, not with him but with the publishers. There was so much of competition with regard to the production of school books that there were people in the Education Department who

PHILOSOPHY IN MODERN INDIA

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WESTERN AND INDIAN CONCEPTIONS

(BY KUMAR PAL, M. A.)

MODERNISM is one of the plentiful fads which provide fit food for a large number of human beings engaged in various pursuits. Modern age is said to have its beginnings in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, which were characterized by a re-awakening technically known as the Renaissance. This was a momentous landmark in the history of humanity and had repercussions all the world over in all fields of life.

This revival of learning delivered Europe from the shackles of medieval scholasticism. The most outstanding and fundamental features of the modern era was a new faith in man. Human genius and potentialities were set at liberty. Curiosity coupled with courage and hope led to marvellous achievements. But if we observe closely we can find that this onward urge has resulted in different discordant developments.

On the one hand it has brought us to the panorama of modern sciences. Two new worlds were discovered and the map of the whole globe has been changed. Industrialism revolutionized the structure of society. The standards of living arose to an enormous height. Comforts and luxuries increased. The duration of

prescribed such books for schools for a consideration. He was not afraid to make that statement in front of the Minister of Education. There were many in that Department who took bribes and were rich men today. Books were being prescribed as the agents of book-sellers wanted. If the Department did not prescribe so many books so much money would not be spent on school books. How could the starving parents in the villages purchase so many books for their children?

The motion was not pressed as the Minister of Education had stated that he was already taking action in the matter.

average life is prolonged. Numerous heretofore unknown and untrodden aspects of life have been laid bare. Science is thus trying to usher in 'the kingdom of heaven upon the earth.'

But on the other hand this very faith in man strengthened by the control over nature secured by science, supported by the increased amount of intelligence and knowledge and equipped with the incalculable products of its application has brought mankind on the verge of destruction. It is intensifying that hatred and discord in family, farm, factory, school, college, court, office, transport, all professions whatsoever and international relations which necessarily explode from time to time in vast wars. 'It has brought about the prostitution of science to the service of the sword and the purse.'

Unfortunately, however, for India the modern era meant quite a different thing, although it faithfully reproduced the tragic part of the play. Discord is abroad to-day. Conflicts are raising their heads all around. The political atmosphere is surcharged with suspicion and all sorts of controversial wranglings. Even in the sphere of thought one school is set tumbling against another. In this bewildering chaos even the part is opposed to the whole. Each person is mad after 'liberty of opinion and originality of thinking.' The new generation takes delight in flouting the dictates of authority.

Yet, on the other hand, Indians formed no party to the adventurous voyages on the wide ocean to the new worlds or to the poles. As for scientists India has hardly few to its credit. Inventions there have been none. Instead of conquests India fell an easy prey to utter subjection; instead of enterprising journeys India witnessed penitence and excommunication for the sins of crossing the sea and for

(Continued on Page 4.)

FAREWELL FUNCTION

Mr. S. Murugesu Mudaliar of Kanchipuram, South India, will be entertained at a Farewell Function by the Hindus of Jaffna on Saturday, the 1st February, 1941, at 4 p. m. at the Jaffna Hindu College Tamil School. Mr. R. Sivagurunather, Chairman, Urban Council, Jaffna has kindly consented to preside.

All are cordially invited.

PROGRAMME:

4 —4-30 p. m. Music:

4-30 —5-30 p. m. Speeches:

- (1) V. Visvalingam, Esq.,
C. C. S.
- (2) V. Nagalingam, Esq.,
Proctor.
- (3) Pandit V. T. Samban-
dhan.

S. PASUPATHY CHETTIAR,
Secretary,
Reception Committee.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1941.

SOME GRIEVANCES OF PARENTS

TWO PROBLEMS CONCERNING education are now in the forefront. One is the unconscionably large number of text books and other requisites a school-going child is forced to provide itself with. The other is the time of commencing schools which has now been fixed at 8.30 a.m. by the divisional educational authorities in Jaffna. The former is an island-wide problem which is being discussed in all seriousness both in the press and the platform. The latter is a thing which affects the schools in the Northern Division only and seems to have already created much dissatisfaction in the country.

On the question of text-books the daily press teems these days with the views of parents condemning the multiplicity of books which even a child reading in the lower classes is forced to buy. It is no uncommon sight these days to find tiny tots going to school like Chinese pedlars with a bundle of books. The question is asked whether a child in the third or fourth standard cannot be taught its prescribed subjects without the aid of so many books. This is answered convincingly by a first class Trained Teacher who has had sixteen years' experience in teaching. He says in a contribution to the daily press:—

"Three years ago I was in charge of Standard V of a Junior Secondary School in Colombo. At the beginning of the year the Headmaster (who is still in the profession) supplied me with a large list of the books the boys were expected to buy—text-books on History, Nature Talks, Geography, Speed Tests, etc. The majority of the boys were too poor to afford all these, and using my discretion as form teacher I asked them that they should buy only their two reading books. We car-

ried on like that the whole year, the other subjects being taught by means of excursions, discussions, etc., while the boys kept notes. At the Government inspection, there was a question as to why the boys had used no text-books, but eventually the work of the class in all subjects was reported to be very satisfactory.

"Who was responsible for prescribing the superfluous text-books? I found that some of them, not all, had been recommended by the Inspectors in previous years. The rest of the text-books had been used or prescribed by former teachers. What had actually happened—and I assure you, it is happening in many schools today—was that the teachers had converted every lesson into a reading lesson."

From the point of view of the parents, the demand made on their purse in buying books for their children is proving too heavy. It is the duty of educationists and the Department of Education to study this problem in all seriousness and devise ways and means for lightening the burden on the parent, by reducing to a minimum the number of text books and other requisites of a pupil. Another great evil is the frequent change of text-books by school authorities which entails great hardships on parents. Some attention has been given to this question by the Department. But still there are schools which make it a point to change text-books annually.

On the question of the commencement of schools at 8.30 a.m. much can be said against it. The inconvenience may not be felt so much in the urban areas as in the rural. In the villages, children's sole task is not learning. They are a great help to their parents in the latter's occupations, chief of which is cultivation. The father, mother and their children can be seen in their gardens very early in the morning each doing a particular work according to capacity. If according to the new order, the child is wanted at school at 8.30 a.m. parents will be put to great hardship. In the absence of their children's assistance they will have to employ additional hired labour which they can hardly afford because of the very low returns given by their farms. Besides, by so doing the child loses a very valuable opportunity to learn the occupation of his father. This is eating at the root of village life. The new rule enforcing early commencement of schoolwork is thus unfair to the generality of school-going children in the villages. Village parents generally have no sense of time and because of their farm engagements will find it very difficult to prepare the meals in time so that the children may be at school punctually at 8.30. Already in many schools where the early time has been in force one finds a large amount of late attendance both among teachers and pupils. We trust the authorities will appreciate the reasons urged against the new rule and remove it.

NEW PAPER FROM USED NEWSPRINT

Prospects for a Good Cottage Industry

A simple and economical process of making paper from used newsprint has, it is reported, been perfected by the Department of Commerce and Industries.

The Department is using this new type of paper for all letters written by them. The paper is being manufactured on a small scale at the Department's laboratory in Maradana.

The process adopted is to wash out all print from the used paper and then make it into pulp after which it is converted into good new paper.

It is hoped that paper-making on these lines will become a popular and profitable cottage industry.

BRITISH OPERATIONS IN AFRICA

Progress on all Fronts

Cairo, Tuesday.

British operations on all four fronts in Africa are making satisfactory progress.

In Libya, the concentration of our forces in the Derna area is continuing.

In Eritrea, while operations in the Agordat-Barentu area are progressing satisfactorily, our mobile troops continue to press the Italian forces retreating from Umm-Hagar. A further 100 prisoners have been captured, making a total of over 1,200 up to date.

In Abyssinia, the Italians are quitting very strong positions and are being pursued.

In Italian Somaliland, our patrols have again been active.

REDUCED CHARGE FOR T'GRAMS

Treasury Proposal

It is understood that the Government Treasury has made a proposal that the unit charge of 50 cents now being levied on telegrams of 12 words should be reduced to 30 cents.

It is anticipated that such a reduction in the unit charge will help to popularise the telegraph service without additional expenditure to the Administration.

The existing telegraph equipment is capable of carrying at least 50 per cent more traffic than is actually handled today.

English Woman Offers Satyagraha

Lahore, Jan. 28.

Mrs. Fred Bedi, who has been permitted by Mr. Gandhi to offer satyagraha, is the first English woman to offer satyagraha in India.

In a statement to the Press Mrs. Freda Bedi says that her nationality is English and not Irish as reported.

"All-Out" Invasion Effort in Spring

Nazis Will be Beaten

Washington, Tuesday.

Britain could defeat Germany with the aid which the United States would give her under the Lease-and-Lend Bill, General George Marshall, Army Chief of Staff, told a Press conference today. He added that all the indications pointed to Hitler making an all-out attempt at invasion in the Spring.

In the considered opinion of some of the best-informed Americans in Washington, Germany will attempt to invade Britain in April or May, but Britain will beat off the attack with American help and go on to win the war.

This opinion is apparently based on the least authoritative reports from Europe. It is believed that Hitler will use an air force of 85,000 planes, including new types not yet in use, and that he will largely depend on torpedo-carrying aircraft against British naval units.

TWO LOAN VOTES PASSED

Steel Rolling Factory and Reclamation Scheme

Colombo, Wednesday.

Two big loan votes were passed by the State Council yesterday when the House met after its Christmas vacation. One was a vote of Rs. 270,000 for the installation of a Steel Rolling Factory and the other for Rs. 470,000 for the second stage of the Colombo South Drainage and Reclamation Scheme. The first of the two votes met with some criticism before it was approved.

Another Supplementary Vote for the temporary appointment as a Prison officer of a retired Superintendent of Prisons was referred back for further consideration by the Home Committee. Objection was taken to the principle of giving public service jobs to persons who had retired under the compensation privileges of the Donoughmore Constitution.

BOARD OF MINISTERS CONDEMNED

For Neglecting Unemployment Scheme

Colombo, Wednesday.

When the State Council re-assembled at 2.30 yesterday afternoon, after the long Christmas vacation Mr. Upali Batuwantudave, Member for Kalutara, was assigned to the Executive Committee of Local Administration.

Mr. George E. de Silva gave notice of two motions condemning the Board of Ministers.

(1) for not formulating a satisfactory unemployment scheme;

(2) for not formulating legislation with regard to immigration.

He mentioned that he would move the suspension of the Standing Orders.

Our Indian Letter.

**MISS CEYLON
KICKING ABOUT**

**ROTARIAN
ASSURANCES**

(By Lanka)

Madras,
25th January 1941.

THE perfect chaos that rules Indo-Ceylon relations was evidenced in a recent Rotarian banquet at Bangalore at which Mr. Abraham Gardiner, a Rotary Governor and resident of Ceylon, was the guest of honour. After referring in his speech to the little anxiety caused to Mother India by Daughter Ceylon having started "kicking a little," he said that he was quite confident that the ties of friendship between the two would always be quite strong and that the present differences would soon be bridged over. Your *enfant terrible*, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, who was also present at the function referring to the differences between India and Ceylon, observed that they were due to political reasons and no amount of unctuous platitudes would settle the differences. Unless those in authority in Ceylon were endowed with a wider vision of the realities of the political situation, he was afraid the differences would never be bridged.

Where are the bridge-builders? Mr. Gardiner who has been lately airing his views that the differences were transient, assured the Bangalore audience that they were more economical than political. Mr. Ponnambalam said they were the other way round.

The Road Problem

APROPOS the recent editorial in this paper about the Jaffna roads you will, perhaps, be interested to know what they in India think of roads and road-making. In the Road Congress in New Delhi this week Sir Andrew Clow, Communications Member of the Government of India, alluded to the problem. Some years since motorists have been trying to shove the bullock cart off the roads as the agent of destruction of roads. Sir Andrew said that "the loud voice of the motor owner tends to make the public think that the problem is one of preventing the bullock cart from spoiling the motorists' road: you, Gentlemen, know that it is more a problem of giving an adequate road to the bullock-cart itself. Here, there should be an immense future for the pneumatic-tired cart,"

and later put forward a suggestion that takes one back to the days of the poll tax in Ceylon. Read what he says:

"About seventy years ago, Ruskin, who was then Professor of Art at Oxford, took his students out to build roads in the surrounding country. England scoffed at the absurdity of the idea; for in this, as in other ideas, he was trying to teach lessons that we have not yet absorbed fully to-day—the dignity of labour, the value of using one's hands, the importance of social service and the need of common effort by all classes for all classes of men."

Discussing compulsory labour

**NO PERMANENT
SALARY CUT**

**Governor on Levy on
Govt Servants' Salaries**

A statement by the Governor relative to certain confidential correspondence exchanged with the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the question of salaries of public servants appointed before April 24th, 1933, and the cognate question of the imposition of a levy on the salaries of public servants was tabled in the State Council on Tuesday.

After explaining the history of the question the Governor states:

Summarised, the Secretary of State's conclusion was that the permanent reduction of current salaries could not be considered. If, therefore, the financial position should demand a reduction in the cost of personnel, such a reduction could only be achieved by the retrenchment of personnel or by a strictly temporary levy on the service generally with or without a reduction of salaries on promotion.

"Investigation by a commission would therefore serve no useful purpose. As regards the imposition of a temporary levy, such a proposal could only be considered as part of a comprehensive scheme of public economy and taxation. Even if it were agreed that a temporary levy on all official salaries was desirable on financial grounds—and the Secretary of State recognized that there might arise circumstances in which such a levy might deserve consideration as part of a scheme of sacrifice to be demanded from the people of Ceylon—it would still be necessary to approach the matter from the point of view of policy."

"In this connection he observed that a measure which might be calculated to dishearten the Public Service at a time when their best work is needed to cope with the problems which war has superimposed on those of peace, should not be lightly undertaken."

**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)

for road-making he wondered "Would there always be the same objection to a free people resolving that all, rich and poor alike, shall give some days of their year to causes of common benefit? Imagination glows at the thought of the bureaucrat released for a few days from his files for the open road, the business-man losing a few superfluous pounds in healthy exertion, the doctor getting an unusual tonic, the journalist writing his sermons in stones, and the schoolmaster learning in a new school."

Some of your readers can also recall the incident of the Koreans in Chilaw cheerfully doing a day's work on the roads in preference to paying their poll tax.

**OPPOSITION
TO AMALGAMATION
OF V. C's**

**Navatkuli Association's
Opinion**

A special meeting of the Committee of the above Association was held at its office on Friday the 24th; January 1941 to consider the desirability or otherwise of a proposal to amalgamate the Navatkuli Village Committee with that of the Chavakachcheri Village Committee, when it transpired that in December last the Navatkuli V. C. unanimously voted against affiliation but at a subsequent meeting on the 19th; of January 1941, when in the absence of a full house revised its original decision by a majority of one vote, without the least intimation to the electorate.

The subject provoked much criticism of the invidious manner in which it was handled, and the meeting unanimously resolved:

"That this Committee is of opinion that the proposal to amalgamate the Navatkuli Village Committee with the Chavakachcheri Village Committee is derogatory and not in the interests of the villages concerned and requests that the Government do take necessary steps to obtain its existence undisturbed as a separate unit as hitherto."

and to forward same to the Government Agent, Jaffna, for necessary action. (Cor.)

**THE LATE MRS.
NAYSUM
SARAVANAMUTTU**

**Vote of Condolence by
State Council**

Colombo, Tuesday.

When the State Council met this afternoon, after the Christmas vacation, Mr. Upali Batuwantudawe (who was returned by the Kalutara Constituency to succeed his late father) took his oath.

He was appointed to serve on the executive Committee of Local Administration.

In the absence of Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Leader of the House, owing to illness, Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, moved a vote of condolence on the death of Mrs. Naysum Saravanamuttu, (Colombo North).

He said that Mrs. Saravanamuttu was a lady of wide sympathy who took a keen interest in the welfare of the poor. Her work within the Council and outside had been recognised by the public. She was a person with very strong convictions and never hesitated to express her views. By nature she was a gentle person. In times of turmoil and trouble, her presence brought peace and goodwill.

Mr. Geo. Wille (Nominated) seconded the vote of condolence which was passed unanimously.

Board of Education

Mr. S. Ambalavanar, B.Sc., Principal of Sriyananda Vidyalaya, Batticaloa, has been appointed a member of the Board of Education to fill the vacancy caused by the departure of the Rev. R. W. Stopford, Principal of Trinity College, Kandy.

BAD IN LANGUAGES

**J. S. C. EXAMINERS'
REPORTS**

**EFFECTIVE TEACHING
OF TAMIL URGED**

THAT there should be more systematic and effective teaching of Tamil, was the suggestion made in his report by the Examiner in Tamil at the Junior School Certificate examination held in June last year.

The reports of the various examiners have just been issued for the information of schools. Comments of the examiners in English, Sinhalese are very discouraging.

Of 554 candidates who took the English only 79 were able to obtain 50 per cent, or over of the marks in English Language and only 80 succeeded in securing similar marks in English Literature.

"There was much weakness in idiom," states the examiner, "and generally the standard of English was not as good as it should have been."

Pointed reference is made to ignorance on the part of "a large number of candidates" of the meanings of words such as 'dis-sent,' 'descent,' 'advise,' 'advice,' 'disease,' 'decease,' 'corpse' and 'corps.'

Unsatisfactory Grammar

The Sinhalese examiner points out that "Grammar was very unsatisfactory. Only very few answered correctly the questions on Grammar." The candidates' work is said to have abounded with mistakes due to carelessness.

Only 37 candidates obtained 50 marks or over of the 265 candidates who offered Sinhalese.

The report of the examiner in Tamil states that "the candidates showed only a superficial knowledge of the texts prescribed. The majority of them were innocent of even the elements of Tamil Grammar. There was a common tendency to be careless and slipshod in writing."

The examiner suggests that there should be more systematic and effective teaching of the language.

Of 159 candidates who took Tamil only 31 succeeded in securing 50 per cent, or over of the marks.

**THREE MORE
TRAINING SCHOOLS**

**Two Tamil and One
Sinhalese**

Three training schools for teachers will be established in Alutgama, Batticaloa and Kandy.

The schools in Alutgama and Batticaloa are for Tamil teachers, the former more specially for Muslims and the one at Kandy will be for Sinhalese teachers.

They will be run on the same lines as the Kopy Training School in Jaffna, a three-year course leading to a trained certificate.

**Anuradhapura U. C.
Chairman**

Mr. S. Nataraja was unanimously elected Chairman of the Anuradhapura Urban Council at a meeting of the Council held on Monday last.

Letters to the Editor

Early Commencement of Schools

Sir,—It is a matter of common knowledge that Managers of Assisted schools have, in recent years, been deprived of many of the powers they had for several years in the matter of conducting their schools. Some of their vital powers in regard to the appointment and dismissal of teachers have also been taken away from them to a large extent. Almost all the schools have now become State Schools all but in name. The managers have already begun to experience great difficulty in running their schools in a satisfactory manner. Many Vernacular schools with ten classes are obliged to have only four or five teachers with the result that during most of the periods a teacher is obliged to teach two subjects to two different classes. One can easily imagine what the nature of the work is likely to be under such circumstances.

One of the latest innovations introduced in Vernacular schools is that they should also have long periods of terminal holidays like English schools. The attendance in English schools has always been satisfactory, and this is due to the fact that parents who pay tuition fees for their children are not inclined to detain their children at home at the slightest provocation. But in Vernacular schools, the attendance is so very bad that most of the children attend school only for about a hundred days out of about two hundred school days during the year. For such children long periods of holidays are absolutely unnecessary and it is a pity that Inspectors of Schools who want all kinds of schools to have a uniform period of holidays have not been able to realise to what an extent such a system will be detrimental to the interests of Vernacular schools.

Of all the innovations that have been recently suggested for introduction by the Inspectors, what the Divisional Inspector of the Northern Division has asked the school authorities to do with regard to the time of commencing schools has put a number of teachers, parents and their children to great hardship and inconvenience. The school authorities are not even allowed the option of commencing school at a time suitable for the local conditions, as they have been doing for many years in the past. Each school is expected to be in session for a minimum number of hours, and the Department can certainly insist on this rule being observed by all the schools. The Divisional Inspector is reported to have held a conference of Managers last month and suggested to the handful of Managers who happened to be present at the conference the desirability of commencing schools at 8 or 8.30 A. M. Some of the Managers who were present pointed out a number of practical difficulties and told the Divisional Inspector that such an important matter should not be decided on that day, as a considerable number of Managers were not present thereto give their views on the matter. So the Divisional Inspector told them that another meeting of the Managers would be held in the early part of January to decide the matter, but that meeting was not held. To the great surprise of the Managers who had not received any previous information on the subject either through Circulars or in any other way, the time tables sent by them to the Inspectors for their approval were returned to them un-

signed with the order that the time of commencing schools should be put down at 8.30 A. M. the latest. Many of the Managers who had no other alternative got the time tables recast by their Head Masters and had them approved by the Inspectors. One of the reasons urged by the Inspectors for early commencement of schools is that the schools in some other Divisions in the Island commence at 8 or 8.30 A. M. But they have not taken into account the peculiar local conditions of the Northern Division. Chiefly in village schools in Jaffna, it is very difficult to make the children attend school so early as 8.30 a.m., and this is not due to confirmed habit, as the Divisional Inspector and his colleagues seem to think. In the case of schools which hold two sessions the first session has to be closed at about 12 noon, and the second session will have to commence before 1.30 p.m. Those who are familiar with the local conditions know only too well that noon meals will not be ready in most of the village homes before 1.30 p.m. A good number of parents used to get some help from their children in their farms in the mornings, and if the schools are to commence at 8-30 a.m. they will naturally be deprived of this privilege. There are some English schools to which children have to walk distances of three or four miles and these children have to take their morning meals before 7-30 a.m. if they are to reach the school in time. The advantages of commencing schools earlier than in the previous years are nothing when compared with the hardship and inconvenience to which the teachers, parents and their children will have to be subjected. The Head Masters of schools who have now held their schools for about two weeks after the last holidays will be able to give the Divisional Inspector the benefit of their experience during the few days as the result of the early commencement of their schools. The Divisional Inspector will be doing a great service to the people of Jaffna, if he will kindly call another meeting of the Managers and Head Masters of schools and reconsider the matter in the light of the experience which they have already had. May we hope that the Divisional Inspector will do so at his earliest convenience and thereby gain the good will and gratitude of the school authorities.

Tellippalai, Yours etc.,
25-3-41. SPECTATOR.

Karachchi Scheme and Sirupokam

Sir,—It was reported in your papers that the Land Commissioner presided over a meeting of the land-owners under the Karachchi Scheme and they agreed on the following:—

1. That they must restrict cattle breeding.
2. That Sirupokam cultivation be stopped.
3. That more lands should be made available for the people in addition to the 9000 acres which is now under cultivation.

It is very unfortunate that all the land owners who are directly affected by these decisions have not been invited. As was reported in the papers, a few including Messrs. A. V. Kalasingam, V. Maththukumar, P. Mortimer and N. Visuvalingam were present.

People despite malaria and the great expense they incurred in the

Karachchi venture stuck to it because of the Sirupokam.

Cultivation at Karachchi is not profitable. The Sirupokam cultivation is the only sure crop from which a few rupees can be saved. The Kalapokam crop is very uncertain due to the floods, pests and other effects due to the rainy season.

I quite agree with the suggestion a few land-owners made that water may be stopped entirely for the Kalapokam and water given to cultivate all the available land for Sirupokam since during Kalapokam it may be possible to cultivate a few acres at least depending on rain as we do in Jaffna. During the present Kalapokam cultivation the water in the irrigation channels were merely wasted. The rain was so regular that the cultivation during this Kalapokam entirely depended on the rain. If Sirupokam cultivation is to be stopped it will be nothing short of a calamity for the land-owners who have not decided to abandon Karachchi and to the people of Jaffna. By expanding the Scheme and by nullifying the advantages of the Scheme the Land Commissioner, I suppose, want to put an end to the scheme.

The decision for the restriction of cattle was disastrous, lacks imagination and calculated to upset the important factor for the cultivation of lands. When daily the slogan of Ceylon should be more milk, better milk, more cows and better cows, I am at a loss to understand this decision.

As regards the giving of more lands to the people under the Karachchi Scheme, by all means give them lands but do not upset the existing advantages. If additional lands are necessary let them be given for Kalapokam cultivation without a guarantee for water supply.

I feel that the decisions were inspired by the Jaffna Association in order to put through a scheme for the extension of the Karachchi Scheme which they had formulated. I suppose they have not spared pains to get their scheme through even when they themselves know that the whole scheme will be a failure.

I hope that Government will not take these decisions of that meeting seriously until they get a decision from a properly constituted meeting of the land owners.

Yours Sincerely,
Nallur, V. V. KARUNANITHY.
22-1-1941.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7632

In the matter of the estate of the late Kayikayar Velupillai of Chulipuram

Deceased.
Paththupillai widow of Kayikayar Velupillai of Chulipuram

Original Petitioner.
E. N. Calandavelu, Secretary, District Court, Jaffna

Vs. Official Petitioner.

1. Sinnathangam daughter of Velupillai

2. Ledebumy daughter of Velupillai both of Chulipuram

3. Annawattu alias Annapooraniam daughter of Velupillai

4. Arunugam Velupillai, and wife

5. Theivanai all of Chulipuram presently of E. M. S.

6. Velupillai Kandiah of Chulipuram presently of E. M. S.

The abovenamed 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Respondents are minors appearing by their Guardian ad Litem the 4th Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed Official-petitioner com-

Philosophy in Modern India

(Continued from page 1)

touching an outsider. Instead of industrial progress we Indians revolted against the introduction of 'the huge black giants,' i.e., mills and engines. Instead of heralding the dawn of real critical philosophy, a spirit of independent inquiry and liberation from the authoritarian Revelationism of the medieval schoolmen, the modern period brought the history of real Indian philosophy to an abrupt close with Madhusudan in the sixteenth century. Political philosophy is conspicuous by its very absence. We merely import principles from abroad. Instead of being delivered from the servile acquiescence in the past commentaries India was plunged all the more in the mire of slavery. Even the now renowned contemporary philosophers of India are mere fervent admirers, or interpreters, or comparers of the ancient philosophy of India or are the re-echoes of the great Western philosophers.

As a matter of fact, being one of the oldest cradles of civilization India's genius had reached its climax in the hoary past. But after the zenith came the decline which too began to show its symptoms in the remote antiquity and is now definitely coming to an end. New India is now only passing through the agonies of birth. For the last several millenniums Indians have been very submissive and devoid of all self-reliance. Even the greatest of our post-Buddhistic philosophers, while expounding their broad novel doctrines sought support in the old scriptures. For them it was a matter of great ingenuity and enjoyment if they found in the Vedas or Upanishads a verse here and another there in support of their own principles. Their successors proved loyal and obedient pupils to the preceptors. If Shankara in his short life could write Bhashyas on the ten Upanishads

(Continued on page 6)

A Comet

Mr. P. F. Tralewell, of Galle, writes to say that he observed a comet in the early morning sky, low in the south-south east yesterday. It had "a steady brilliance resembling a poor car light appearing round a corner".

ing on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 4th day of March 1938, in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the affidavit and Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner.

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner in his capacity as Secretary, District Court, Jaffna, unless the abovenamed Respondents appear before this court on the 30th day of March 1938 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 8th March 1938

Sgt. C. Coomaraswamy

District Judge.

Order Nisi extended for 19-2-41.

Intd. C. Coomaraswamy,

District Judge.

(O. 81, 30-1-41 & 1-2-41.)

Finding Work for Unemployed

Five Million Asked for Relief

The Executive Committee of Labour Industry and Commerce at a recent meeting considered the request by the Minister for a vote of Rs. 5,000,000 for unemployment relief measures.

The Committee approved the following proposals, which have been placed before the Treasury and the Board of Ministers:

(1) The establishment of State Farms for which large areas will be opened up by unemployed rural workers on a wage system.

(2) The inauguration of a scheme for the purchase of coir yarn, fibre and coconut oil in order to keep the mills working in the coconut districts, to give employment to people who have been thrown out of work as a result of the closing of mills and the failure to secure shipping for coir yarn.

(3) The purchase of planted land for the settlement of unemployed people.

Reclamation Land

(4) Reclamation of land in Colombo by filling up the larger swamps.

(5) Starting of useful relief works in the rural areas where unemployment exists.

(6) Small scale factories in rural areas, the starting of paper making as a cottage industry and the large scale extension of the handloom industry in the villages.

OBITUARY

MR. R. DAMODARAMPILLAI

The death occurred on Sunday last after a brief illness at his residence in Uduppiddy of Mr. R. Damodarampillai J. P. U. P. M., Proctor and Notary Public. He was Chairman of the local Village Committee and Manager of several Hindu Schools.

In the year 1902, following a successful academical career in India, Mr. Damodarampillai passed in Ceylon as one of the oldest Proctors in Jaffna and after more than a decade of lucrative practice at the Point Pedro Bar, settled down to social service. He has distinguished himself right through his life as an ardent social worker in the province and has thereby endeared himself to the people of the district.

The remains were cremated on Monday at the Elankulam cremation grounds. The ceremonies were performed according to Hindu rites both at the residence and the cremation grounds. S. Visuvanathakurukkal officiated assisted by S. Kaiyayakurukkal, S. Vaithiyathakurukkal and a number of other priests.

The family mourners are the widow, Mr. T. Ramalingam, advocate and Mrs. Ramalingam, Mr. and Mrs. D. Sivagurunathan (sons and daughters-in-law) Messrs. Subramaniam, Senathirajah, Mylvakanam (sons) three daughters, Mr. Kandiah, advocate and Mrs. R. Kandiah, Mr. and Mrs. R. Kathirgamathamby, Mr. and Mrs. R. Chellappah (brothers and sisters in law) Mrs. K. Ponnampalam (sister) Mr. and Mrs. T. Vellupillai, Mr. S. Coomarasooriar, Proctor and Mrs. S. Coomarasoorier (brothers-in-law and sisters).

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 925.

In the matter of the estate of the late Valliammai wife of Kanther Thambiah of Karaitivu

Deceased.

Kanther Thambiah of Karaitivu

Petitioner.

1. Thambiah Kumarasamy of do
2. Arumugam Chelliah of Grand Bazaar, Jaffna

Respondents

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the abovenamed 1st respondent and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 10th day of September 1940 in the presence of Mr. C. C. Somasegaram Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the abovenamed 1st respondent and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner as the lawful husband of the deceased, unless the respondents abovenamed appear before this court on the 30th day of October 1940 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 25th day of September 1940

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy

District Judge.

Order Nisi extended for 26th February 1941

Intd. C. Coomaraswamy

District Judge.

(O 79. 30-1-41 & 3-2-41)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 605

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Kanapathy Kanthar of Jaffna Town

Deceased.

Elaiyavan Arumugam of Karaiyoor

Petitioner.

1. Chinnan widow of Murugan of Ch nkanai
2. Nanniar Sinnavan of do
3. Nanniar Vyravan of Chandilippay
4. Velan Marimuthan of do.
5. Velan Vythian of do
6. Murugar Ponnar and
7. wife, Ledchumy of Chankalai
8. Pathan Kanapathy and wife
9. Ponny of Sandilippay
10. Visuvan Kathiravelan and
11. Thangamuthy of Sandilippay
12. Poo har Vairavi and
13. wife Muthi of Koddadi
14. Marucelin Anthonnippillai of Kay's
15. Sinnakkuddy Thambiah alias Saverimuttu of Jaffna town

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner coming on for disposal before Simon Rodrigo Esquire, Additional District Judge, Jaffna on the 20th day of January 1941 in the presence of Mr. C. C. Somasegaram, proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner dated the 28th day of July 1938.

It is ordered of consent of all the respondents abovenamed that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner as an heir of the deceased, unless any others having any interest appear before this court on the 21st day of February 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 20th day of January 1941

Sd. C. Coomaraswamy

District Judge.

(O. 78. 30.1-41 & 3-2-41)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 815

In the matter of the estate of the late Muttammah alias Muttupillai wife of Elaiyathamby Velupillai of Kopay South

Deceased.

Elaiyathamby Velupillai by his attorney Mana Mudaliyar Vaitilingam Chelliah of Sandilippay

Petitioner.

1. Velupillai Neelakander,
2. Velupillai Ramanathan both of Kopay South,
3. Velupillai Vyravanathan of Teluk Anson, Perak,
4. Annapooranammah daughter of Velubillai,
5. Velupillai Muttukumaraswamy,
6. Saraswathy daughter of Velupillai all of Teluk Anson, Perak, F.M.S.,

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the abovenamed 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd to 6th minor Respondents as their brother, and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner, coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 18th day of December 1939 in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioner:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 1st Respondent be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd to the 6th minor Respondents in this case, as their brother for the purpose of representing them and acting on their behalf in this action and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be and is hereby granted to the Petitioner, unless the abovenamed Respondents appear before this court on the 22nd day of May 1940 and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 7th day of May 1940

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy

District Judge.

Extended and Reissued for

19-2-41

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy

D. J.

(O 83. 30-1-41 & 3-2-41)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 974.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sinnappoo Kanagarajah of Chulipuram

Deceased.

Sittampalam Sinnappoo of Chulipuram

Petitioner.

Thangam wife of Sittampalam Sinnappoo of Chulipuram

Respondent.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased the said Sinnappoo Kanagarajah coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge, on the 8th day of January 1941 in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 13th day of December 1940 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the father 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 19th day of February 1941 show

London Matriculation Examination

The London Matriculation examination commenced at ten centres on Tuesday. Nearly 2,500 candidates, of whom 150 are girls are sitting for the examination.

The examination is being held at the following centres; Colombo, Galle, Illavai, Jaffna, Kandy, Manipay, Moratuwa, Mount Lavinia, Point Pedro and Vaddukoddai.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 677

In the matter of the estate of the late Rasammah widow of T. Mahadevan of Vannarponnai late of Colombo

Deceased.

Selvadurai Subaratnam of Jaffna presently of 3 Bawa Place, Colombo

Petitioner.

1. Thangam widow of Kandiah of Rangoon,
2. Spencer Chelliah of Colombo,
3. Spencer Rajaratnam of Kurunegala,
4. Sinnammah daughter of Selvadurai,
5. Selvadurai Sabanayagam
6. Selvadurai Sabalingam,
7. Saraswathy daughter of Selvadurai
8. Thaiyalnayagy daughter of Selvadurai all of Nallur,
9. Annappillai widow of Spencer Selvadurai of Nallur,
10. Ponniah Selvaratnam,
11. Selvanayagy wife of Kanagasooriyam,
12. M. Subramaniam Kanagasooriyam,
13. Ponniah Selvarajah of F.M.S.
14. Rasiyah Balasingham.
15. Rasiyah Rasasingham,
16. Ratnam wife of Sinnadurai
17. W. E. Sinnadurai,
18. Annapooranam daughter of Rasiyah of Vaddukoddai presently of Colombo,
19. B. Krishnapillai, and
20. Maheswary of do,
- Minor 21. Meeneswary daughter of Kandiah of Jaffna,
22. K. Kandiah of do,

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge Jaffna on the 2nd day of September 1940, in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner the petition of 30.8.40 and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 21st day of August 1938 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 15th day of January 1941 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 18th day of December 1940.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,

District Judge.

Extended and Reissued for 19-2-41.

Intd. C. C.

D. J.

Drawn by C. Subramaniam, Proctor. (O. 82. 30-1-41 & 3-1-41.)

sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 18th day of January 1941.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge.

(O. 80. 30-1-41 & 3-2-41)

PHILOSOPHY IN MODERN INDIA

(Continued from page 4)

nishads, the Gita and the Brahma Sutras, his disciples merely added annotations (Vritti) to his commentaries but did not take up, save in a few cases, other Upanishads or Shastras for even independent commentation. In turn, their disciples too, faithfully carried on the tradition and heaped explanations (Tika) and then notes (Tippani) upon the already voluminous and elaborate writings of their Gurus. The later Indian philosophers subordinated their own reason to the dictates of established authority. This was nothing short of intellectual bankruptcy.

And this tendency still persists in our leaders of philosophy. Many of them are mad after the search for some new, hitherto hidden and unknown obscure philosophical literature which may supply them the data for some thesis and thus bring them to the light of publicity. If they succeed to find out some new doctrine they go about lecturing their originality without being even fit and deserving students of the same. Others are a bit sober and reflective. They think over and over again and form certain notions. But they do not dare declare them unless they can get hold of some passages in the scriptures, and commentaries to vindicate their truth, or if not, some such verses which may easily or in some far-fetched way, lend themselves to the straining of meaning in order to be cited in their support.

Still others, obsessed by some inferiority complex, as it were, have lost faith not only in themselves, but also in their great ancestors. They believe, as some Eur-Americans do, that philosophy in the true sense had its origin and growth only on the European soil. But being nationalists in pursuance of the fashion of the day these philosophers like to prove that our ancient philosophers also corroborate the principles enunciated by the great Western thinkers. They measure the truth of validity of our seers by showing that they say nothing different from what Kant, Hegel, Bradley or Bergson say.

On the other hand, the laymen have followed suit in their line. They expected a sound guidance from the learned Pandits. But their hopes were shattered. The Pandits remained mere custodians of the ancient lore. Yet the ordinary Indian was firm in his fidelity until only a few decades ago. Without himself being able to cope with the involved, obsolete, obscure Sanskrit literature he accepted what the Pandits declared as enjoined by the sacred books. Even the most harmful social measures were sponsored by such texts. Later on quotations and references were given up. Mere citation of some Sanskrit verse sufficed to carry conviction. For a long time Indian scholarship continued to tread upon the path of reaction under these purblind leaders of the blind.

Then a flood of new light came from the West. It was met with vehement opposition in its initial stages. Gradually and imperceptibly it began to undermine the dam. The ranks of dogmatic orthodoxy gave way. The loyalty to the outworn scripturology was divided. Though a considerable

number still adheres to the time-worn tradition, yet there has been a positive swing of the pendulum to the other side. A big section of the Indian populace has transferred its faith. Yet loyal they remain even to-day. Formerly they were swayed by the authority of the old, now they are slaves of the new. Any spontaneous and senseless statement which an ordinary man in the street of London or Oxford may have blustered forth without giving any forethought to it is accepted as an infallible decree of God and is regarded by leading Indians as worthy of citing on the platforms and in the press. The time-tested truths revealed by our ancient seers are considered fiction, myth, fable, allegory or exaggeration.

Even the concept of Indian philosophy has suffered distortion in this swing to the other extreme. Philosophy in the West is regarded as quite impractical, bereft of all touch with our day-to-day life, and having nothing to do with the grave empirical problems which stare us in the face. It is taken as a play of imagination. Its sole purpose is to satisfy our intellectual curiosity and remove the doubts we entertain concerning the practical nonentities of Being or non-Being. Prominent Indian philosophy-mongers are now vying with one another in proving that we too have a philosophy of the Western type. They are sparing no pains to establish that Indian philosophy is divested of all practical bearing and mystical touch. For this purpose they have artificially segregated the six Hindu Darshanas along with the Buddhistic and Jain systems and are endeavouring to show that they constitute the whole of Indian philosophy.

This view is entirely misleading. Some of our philosophy professors are beginning to realize this mistake. Indian philosophy is not mere theory or intellectual verbosity. 'It is eminently intellectual, emotional and devotional and actively humanitarian.' (Dr. Bhagavan Das; *Science of the Self* p. 23). 'To the Indian mind philosophy is essentially practical' (Radhakrishnan: *Contemporary Indian Philosophy* p. 257).

What is at present considered to be the whole is really a little more than one-third of Indian philosophy. The above-mentioned systems undertake to study only the intellectual (cognitive) aspect of man. In a complete survey of Indian philosophy we cannot leave out of our purview the equally important Dharma-Sutras and the Bhakti-Sutras besides a host of literature dealing with the actional and emotional sides of man respectively. Even in the six Darshanas we come across the emotional and practical disciplines prescribed by Patanjali and numerous injunctions of the Purva-Mimamsa which seek to direct and regulate human life. The Upanishads also contain passages about Upasanas and moral restraints.

In fact in India we have nothing like 'philosophy' (love of wisdom) pure and simple. Therefore we must bear in mind that in talking of 'Indian philosophy,' by which is generally meant ancient Indian philosophy, we should never confine our attention to the six or odd systems alone.

(Prabuddha Bharata)

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Y. 65. 1-4-39—31-3-40. (T)

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