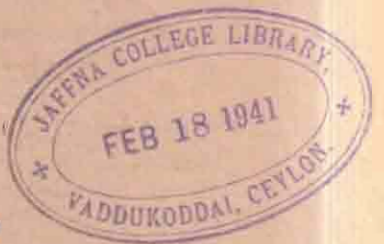


# THE Hindu Organ.



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## PALMYRA PALM FOR THE DRY ZONE OF THE ISLAND

### MEMORANDUM URGES PLANTING IN WASTE LANDS

#### THE WISH-YIELDING TREE USEFUL IN 801 FORMS

"THE uses of the palmyra are many and varied. Its importance both from an economic and a nutritional point of view, is undoubted, and as the palm needs little or no cultivation and flourishes on waste lands unsuited for any other vegetation of utility its cultivation is eminently suited for the Dry Zone"

THUS observes Mr. C. Arulambalam, Advocate, in a memorandum in support of his motion *re* the planting of waste lands in the Dry Zone of the Island with the palmyra palm. The memorandum was adopted by the Central Board of Agriculture at its meeting of the 10th instant.

The following is the text of Mr. Arulambalam's memorandum.

The palmyra, the Botanical name of which is *Borassus Flabelliformis*, belongs to the Linnæan Class Dioecia and the Order Hex andria. These terms mean that the male and female flowers of the palm are distinct and are on separate trees and that the male flowers have six stamens. Every male palmyra tree is said to contain, on an average, from 630,000 to 650,000 complete flowers.

The palmyra is distributed widely and is to be found from Arabia in the West of Asia to as far as the Island of New Guinea, off the northern coast of Australia, on the east, a distance of over 5,000 geographical miles. From North to South it is found from the 25th degree North Latitude to the 10th degree South Latitude.

To the inhabitants of South India and North Ceylon the palmyra has been called the 'Katpaka Virudcha' (wish-yielding tree) in Tamil. Mr. William Ferguson, in his work on "The Palmyrah Palm", refers to the tradition that the palmyra and its products can be applied to 801 different uses.

#### "Bread-tree of the People"

Rev M. Winslow, an American Missionary, (quoted by Mr Ferguson) in writing on the "Palmyra Tree" thus refers to the wide uses of the palm.—

"A native, therefore, if he will content himself with rather ordinary food and the common mud-wall, may build an entire house—wanting no nails or iron-work—

with posts, plates, roof and covering, of the palmyra tree. From this same tree he may store his grain, make his bed, furnish his provisions, kindle his fire, draw or bring his water, and (by the help of only an earthen pot set on three stones) cook his food, sweeten it if he chooses, and live day after day dependent only on this tree. Indeed multitudes do live much in this way and it may fairly be stated that the palmyra furnishes scarcely less than a quarter of the whole means of subsistence. At the same time, as there is little expense in the cultivation and it affords much aliment, the effects of it upon the Tamil people are something like those of the potato upon the Irish, and may be called the bread-tree of the people in the area in which it grows."

The palmyra palm flourishes with little care in its cultivation and in independence of irrigation, in tracts having a dry climate with little and undistributed rainfall and on barren and purely sandy soils.

#### It Grows Where Nothing Else Grows

Mrs. S. Tucker in 'South Indian Sketches' (quoted by Mr W. Ferguson) says:—

"I must now transport you across the country and place you among the palmyra trees in the South-Eastern Districts. The face of the country is here completely changed; tamacinds and other spreading trees have disappeared and the almost level plain of arid sand, extending for miles along the coast, and stretching far inland, seems to baffle the industry of man and scarcely yields a shrub or vegetable to repay his incessant toil. But the Providence of God has not forgotten him and here, where nothing else will grow, the palmyra is provided without human care or aid; the sandy plains are covered with it,

(Continued on Page 5.)

## WHY THE INDO-CEYLON TALKS FAILED

### REPORT OF THE CEYLON DELEGATION

#### NO AGREEMENT ON STATUS OF INDIANS

THE Report of the Ceylon delegation and other papers relating to the Indo-Ceylon Relations Exploratory Conference which was held in November last year and ended in failure were tabled in the State Council last week.

The Ceylon delegation consisted of Messrs. D. S. Senanayake, H. J. Huxham, S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike and G. C. S. Corea.

The following is the Report of the Ceylon Delegation:—

"At the outset of the conversations Sir G. S. Bajpai stated that for them the most important question of all was the status of Indians at present in Ceylon, and the principles by which their economic and their political rights were to be regulated. He suggested that if an agreement was reached on certain principles regarding this question, other subjects such as Indian franchise, immigration, labour, etc., could be easily adjusted in the light of the agreed principles.

"In this the Ceylon delegation acquiesced, making it clear, however, that in the discussion of those principles the particular conditions existing in Ceylon must receive full consideration. The Indian delegation agreed.

"The Ceylon delegation explained at some length the economic conditions prevailing in their country, e. g., the increasing population, the rapidly growing unemployment, the falling standard of living, the extremely limited opportunities for further employment, the difficulty already experienced by the Ceylon Government in providing unemployment relief works and in alleviating distress caused by the growing poverty of the people due primarily to unemployment as well as under-employment.

"In spite of these difficulties the delegation was prepared to recognize the claims to full rights and privileges of citizenship of those Indians, who have no connection with India

and have a genuine and abiding interest in Ceylon.

#### Proposals Made by Ceylon

"In view of the foregoing considerations, the following proposals for determining the status of resident Indians were submitted by the Ceylon delegation:—

"(i) Persons of Indian descent who possess a Ceylon domicile of origin, i. e. those born in Ceylon, if legitimate, of a father having a Ceylon domicile of origin or of choice, and, if illegitimate, of a mother having a Ceylon domicile of origin or of choice. These will be considered Ceylonese and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of Ceylonese.

"(ii) Other persons of Indian descent now resident in Ceylon. These will be entitled to the rights and privileges normally accorded to British subjects and those within this class who possess a Ceylon domicile of choice (which must include 5 years' residence) will, as now be entitled to the State Council franchise, but they will not possess privileges reserved to Ceylonese under certain enactments and regulations such as—

(a) grant of Crown land under the Land Development Ordinance, (b) rights under the Fisheries' ordinance, (c) right to apply for posts under the Ceylon Government.

"They will be entitled on application, to certificates of residence. Such a certificate will entitle the holder to reside and earn his living in Ceylon, subject to such conditions as may be set out in the certificate.

"The proposals in brief are, the grant of full citizenship to Indians possessing a Ceylon domicile of origin while other Indians are given the rights and privileges normally accorded to all British subjects, with additional rights and privileges in the case of those possessing a domicile of choice.

#### Discrimination in India

"It was pointed out by the Ceylon delegation that other countries, including India herself, have had to adopt, under pressure of circumstances prevailing in those countries measures which amount to the denial of citizenship rights to immigrants. The following in-

(Continued on page 5)



## Araly Saraswathi Mahasabai

Under the auspices of the Araly Saraswathi Mahasabai a lecture in Tamil was delivered on (7-2-1941) on "சிவதீபம்" (Siva Teedhai), by Siva Siri I. Muthuswami Kurukal of Uduvil, at Mutthumari Ampal Temple, Araly East, and another lecture in Tamil was delivered on (10-2-1941) on "கடவுட்பக்தி" (Kadavul Bhakthi) by Mr. K. K. Nadarajan, Sub-Editor, "Inthusathanam" at Karaipiddy Pillaiyar Temple, Araly South.

T. NAGALINGAM,

Hony. Secretary.

Araly Saraswathi Mahasabai.

Araly South,  
12-2-1941.

(Mis. 195. 17-2-41.)



## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1941.

### HITLER PLANS

WINTER CONDITIONS CANNOT entirely account for the present lull in the LUFTWAFFE over Britain. Aspell of intense and elaborate planning and preparation is an essential preliminary before the German war machine can be switched on to a new offensive. That has been the usual practice after the collapse of Poland and of France. HITLER is just busy over such a preparation so that he may assume a general offensive in spring against Britain and her Empire wherever feasible, through land, sea and air. Diplomatic activities in Tokyo, Berlin and Rome are perhaps aimed at a general lining up of as many States as possible on the side of the Axis, so that a simultaneous thrust may be made against Britain, Greece and Singapore by the beginning of spring. Diplomatic circles believe that the subject of talk between HITLER and the Jugo-slav Minister must have been the concession of a passage to Salonika for the German forces. The massing of troops on the Jugo-slav-Rumanian border lends colour to this belief. What the outcome of the Franco-Mussolini talks was has not been made public. But we may safely assume that the sad predicament to which the Duce's shortsighted move in June has reduced him should make Franco think twice before being deflected from his cautious policy of non-belligerency. While Bulgaria professes neutrality, she also speaks of a peaceful adjustment or recovery of territorial claims on Greece and has allowed German occupation of her aerodromes. It is possible that Bulgaria may formally make some territorial claims on Greece so as to pave the way for a German invasion. A general flare-up in the Balkans

in spring is a certainty as things are at present. The moment German forces enter Bulgaria and attack Greece, Britain and Turkey will go to the assistance of Greece. The issue cannot be foreseen as the combined forces of Turkey and Britain should prove formidable to Germany.

The attack on Britain may probably take the form of an intensified aerial and submarine campaign, though military circles do not rule out the possibility of an invasion, when HITLER is assured of a sufficiently long spell of fair weather. So long as the British Navy maintains its supremacy on the sea, invasion is not likely to succeed, and HITLER is not the man to venture on anything which does not promise a large measure of success. It is always possible that some forces may evade the Navy and land in some spot. But the difficulty lies in the transport of tanks and heavy guns, and the maintaining of the line of communications. Before the Navy and the R. A. F. are put out of action these two things cannot be achieved. Thus the idea of invasion will soon recede into the limbo of forgotten things.

For some time the centre of interest has shifted to the Far East, where Japan is making preparations for a drive towards the south. The advice from the Foreign Office of the U. S. A. for the evacuation of Japan by American citizens should not be taken as given in view of any possible immediate development in the Far East. Japan is, conscious of her own weakness. Her commitments in China and the paucity of her material resources should make her pause before allowing herself to be made a cat's paw of by Germany and pitting herself against the two greatest naval powers in the world. Hitler will leave no stone unturned to bring Japan into the theatre so that the resources of Britain and the U. S. A. may be dissipated in an Eastern warfare instead of being concentrated against Germany. Though the military junta which now seems to be in control of Japanese foreign policy is capable of such a venture, yet we believe that the Japanese will yet preserve the sanity and prudence which have consistently marked their foreign policy.

### Boxing Demonstration In Aid of War Fund

At the Northern Division Schools Meet for teachers and pupils on Saturday, the 22nd instant, at the St. Patrick's (Seminary) grounds, Mr. Danton G. Obeyesekere, M. A. (Cantab), Boxing Blue, Captain Cambridge University Boxing Club, 1929, will give an explanatory demonstration of Boxing, under the patronage of Mr. L. Mc D. Robison, Director of Education. The entire collection will be given to the Jaffna War Plane Fund.

## The Impending Crisis

BY POLITICUS

A FIRST class political crisis is expected early next month as a result of the message of the Governor to the State Council. The crisis may result in the resignation of the Board of Ministers and the dissolution of the State Council. As promised, the Ministers are busy drafting an Ordinance to restrict immigration of Indians into Ceylon. This will be presented to the House on the 4th of March. The Ministers expect to go through all the stage of the Bill in a few days' time. Then it will go to the Governor for his assent. But in terms of his message, His Excellency will not give his assent to this Bill as the Board of Ministers do not propose to consult the Government of India on this question. The Ministers say that if this happens they have no other alternative but to resign and appeal to the country. The question is whether the authorities are prepared to have a General Election at these unsettled times. Then the question arises whether the Governor would follow the example of some of the Indian Provinces and carry on the Government with the help of official advisers. Anyway something sensational is in store for the country. Knowing as we do our Ministers and Councillors it is best to wait and see.

### U. C. Meeting

At the last meeting of the Urban Council, two important questions were discussed. Both these questions were initiated by the two nominated members. Mr. Pathirana's motion asking the Minister for Labour to take steps to enforce the Shops Act in Jaffna is timely. By his motion he has earned the gratitude of the hundreds of shop employees. At a time when after working for almost 15 hours a day without a break, if some of the shop assistants are forced to sleep at the verandha of the shop premises it is but the proper State intervened. As a characteristic of that body, the Ratepayers' Association oppose the introduction of the act into Jaffna and I hear instructed the Council members returned on their ticket to oppose the motion of Mr. Pathirana. But after hearing some homilies from Mr. Pathirana, these Ratepayers' members dared not oppose the motion of the nominated member. It will interest readers to know that shop assistants of Jaffna had appealed to the authorities as early as 1939 to enforce the Shops Act in Jaffna.

### Reduction of Rates

Again on the question of the reduction of rates, the mover Mr. V. Suppiab and the seconder Mr. C. Ponnambalam proved convincingly that without impairing efficiency of administration the rates could be reduced to 8%. Here again the Ratepayers' Association members, I am told, were instructed by their "party whip" to oppose the motion. But they dare not oppose lest the masses on whose behalf they pretend to work pounce upon them. I also understand that there was a night pilgrimage by two councillors of this party to the mover of this motion and asked him not to move this resolu-

## Sri Ganesha Literary Association

### 7th Annual General Meeting

The Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Sri Ganesha Literary Association, Nallur, was held on Wednesday the 12th instant at 7 p. m. in the Association Hall. Mr. V. Visnulingam, C. C. S., presided. After the reception address and the Secretary's report, the President addressed the meeting. He was followed by Messrs. K. K. Nadarajan, Asst. Editor, "Inthusathanam" and P. Krishnapillai, of the Kopay Practising School. Remarks were offered by Mr. V. Krishnar, and with the chairman's concluding address, the proceedings terminated at 11 p. m.

### WANTED

A teacher who has passed the Intermediate - in - Arts (London) Examination and qualified to teach English and Tamil for S. S. C. Forms at the Chavakachcheri Hindu English School. Preference will be given to applicants qualified to teach Physiology and Hygiene. Applications close on February 25th, 1941. Apply:-- Manager, Jaffna Hindu College and Branch Schools.

Immediately a part-time teacher for the Karainagar Hindu College: a London B. A. qualified to teach English, Latin and Tamil to the London Matriculation classes.

Also a part-time teacher, a London B. Sc. qualified to teach Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics to the same classes.

Salary according to scale "B". Apply: Manager, Jaffna Hindu College and Branch Schools.

(Mis. 194. 13, 17 & 20-2-41)

### Obituary

#### PANDIT V. MAHALINGASIVAM

We regret to have to record the untimely death of Pandit V. Mahalinga Sivam, of the Copay Training College, this morning at his residence at Maviddapuram. He was a Tamil scholar of repute and hailed from a family well known for its Tamil learning. He was a son of the late Mr. K. Vetpillai, Principal of the Chidambaram Navalar Vidyalalai, and brother of Pandit V. T. Sambandhan, Editor, Inthusathanam, Messrs. Manickavachakar, Proctor, Kandaswamy, Teacher and Nadarajah B. Sc. of St. Henry's College, Ilavallai.

tion just now. Any way, without rejecting the motion, they have succumbed by mere weight of numbers to postpone the matter till June.

### The U. C. Gallery

The gallery of our Urban Council chamber seems to attract quite a good crowd these days. But the seating accommodation available is only for a few. While appreciating the interest shown by the public in the proceedings of the Council, I am forced to draw the attention of the Chairman to the noise and disturbance created from the gallery during the proceedings. The gallery of the chamber is fast degenerating into that of a theatre gallery. The Chairman should give orders not to admit anyone after the seats in the gallery are occupied. I even noticed people engaging in loud conversation while the business of the house is going on. Even the public attempt to clap hands. These things should not be allowed to happen. Will the Chairman at least maintain order in the gallery?



## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE PRAISED BY NEW DELHI

SUPPORT FOR RAJ'S ATTITUDE

DEBATE IN INDIAN ASSEMBLY

New Delhi, Friday.

THE Indian Central Assembly today passed without a division Sir Syed Raza Ali's amendment supporting the Government of India's attitude in the Ceylon negotiations and appreciating the Ceylon Governor's message to the State Council.

The Education Secretary briefly referred to the papers laid on February 11th before the Assembly and the Ceylon Council. He said that subsequent to that the Governor of Ceylon had sent a message to the Ceylon State Council reminding that house of the existence of certain undertakings given by Ceylon to India. He regretted that the Government had not yet received from Ceylon the exact text of His Excellency's message.

From Press messages, he said, it appeared that His Excellency considered that the Government of Ceylon was bound by its undertakings and added that he held that as Governor he was required to withhold ratification or consent in respect of any measures, to which the Government of India did not agree, depriving Indians of their right.

The Secretary trusted the Governor's reminder would be regarded as timely and reassuring by Indians in Ceylon and elsewhere, and as a sequel better counsels would prevail.

Sir Syed Raza Ali, formerly Raj Agent General in South Africa, moving an amendment, regretted that there had been consistent attempts on the part of the Government of Ceylon to impose disabilities on Indian residents there. The Village Communities Ordinance and the Fisheries Ordinance were designed to achieve their political and economic strangulation and there was now a proposal to deprive Indians of the monopoly in the rice trade on the pretext of controlling food in war time.

### Other Attempts

Various other attempts were being made, he said, and while he appreciated the attitude of the Government of India and the manner in which it stood up for the rights of the people, he hoped the Government realised it should not relax its effort to keep a careful watch over all that was happening in Ceylon.

"I can say we should not do anything really to disturb the harmonious relations between any two countries of the British Commonwealth, but we must also realise that it is not only our duty to continue them; it is equally the duty of the Government of Ceylon not to do anything to disturb these harmonious relations."

"Writings that have appeared in the Ceylon press and speeches made by the Ministers leave no doubt that whereas there is very little anti-Indian feelings in Ceylon interested persons want to take advantage of the present position by enacting anti-Indian legislation both in the political and economic fields."

He hoped that the discussion would remind the people of Ceylon

## Uplift of Pt. Pedro Fishermen

Net-Weaving Class to Be Opened

Point Pedro, Thursday.

Mr. M. Savirimuthu, Vice President of the Point Pedro Maha Jana Sabha, presided on Wednesday the 12th inst. at 6 p. m. over the net-weaving demonstration given by Mr. Sam. T. Solomons, President of the Sabha, who had just returned from a tour in South India, where he was specially sent by the Sabha to study Net-weaving and allied Cottage Industries.

In the course of his address Mr. Solomons said that the Fishermen formed an important minority who deserved every encouragement from Government and State Councilors. He suggested that an Officer, to be called the Director of Fishery Industry, must be under the supervision of the Minister of Agriculture.

While advocating net weaving Mr. Solomons said that his stay at Devipattanam, Quilon, Trivandrum, Nagarkovil, Cape Comorin made him very interested in the latest method of Net weaving, which he demonstrated.

### Backwardness of Rural Development

Continuing, the speaker said that Ceylon was much behind other countries in the matter of Rural Development. As a first step towards progress in this direction, he would suggest to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, a comprehensive statistical survey of the Island, village by village, with reference to the economic and industrial condition of each village so that it would be possible to give the right amount of help wherever necessary.

The function was held in the Sabha's Hall. After the welcome speech by Mr. Savirimuthu, Mr. S. Mardampillai proposed that a Net Weaving Class be opened at Point Pedro, under the auspices of the Point Pedro Maha Jana Sabha, and that Mr. C. Ranganathan, Asst. Registrar of Co-operative Societies Jaffna, be invited to open the Class. Mr. Solomons welcomed the motion and said that conditions were ideal here for the development of net-making.

Resolutions were passed expressing Loyalty to The Throne and also congratulating Lt. Col. C. P. Jayawardana on the title of M.B.E. recently conferred on him. Other resolutions were passed regarding the several needs of the fishermen. A vote of Rs. 100 was passed for the repairing and broadening of the Beach, and a Sub-committee including Messrs. N. Velupillai, was elected to look after the work.

The meeting came to a close with a vote of thanks to the lecturer and to the Chair by Mr. K. Sureshalingam.

that not only did the Government of India very rightly stand up for the rights of the people of this country, but the Assembly, which was representative of the country, was able to give its unqualified support to the action of the Government of India.

He added that the House also re-minuted the Government of India not

(Continued on page 4)

## All India Hindu Mission

First Conference In April

The First All India Hindu Mission Conference will be held at Calcutta during the second week of April, 1941. A strong Reception Committee with the leading Hindus of Bengal as its members, has been formed to arrange the session in a befitting manner. The following names have been proposed by different branches of the Mission for the Presidentship of this unique Conference.

(1) Seth Jugalki-hore Birla (2) Rajah Sahab of Ramgarh, Bihar, (3) Dr. Shyamaprasad Mookherjee, Working President of the A. I. Hindu Mahasabha, (4) Sir Sarbapalli Radhakrishnan, Banaras Hindu University, (5) Dr. D. R. Bhanfarkar, (6) Dr. Sir Gokulchand N rang, (7) Dr. B. S. Moonje, (8) Swami Satyanandaji, President Hindu Mission.

There are at present one hundred and fifty well-established affiliated branches of the Hindu Mission in India, besides a large number of working centres now waiting for affiliation. The Conference is also open to Hindu Sabhas, Arya Samajists, Brahma Samajists, Buddhists, Sikhs, Vaisnavas and members of all associations subscribing or supporting expansion of Hindism through Suddhi, i. e. conversion of non-Hindus to Hindism, assimilation or absorption of tribals and aboriginals into the great Hindu society, spread of our ancient religion and culture in countries beyond the seas, and reviving this great culture in the East Indies, Indochina, Egypt, Greece, Persia, Central Asia and the Philippines. In short, the Reception Committee extends its invitation to the innumerable progressive Hindu organisations scattered all over this country so that they may meet on a common platform, combine and consolidate their isolated efforts after due deliberation, and devise effective means to achieve this great object for which this country has been preparing for centuries.

Considering the present condition of our society, deplorable as it is, and the ever growing menace of Moslem propaganda for a Pakistan, we can reasonably expect a ready response from every quarter of this wide sub-continent of India. The Reception Committee shall be glad to welcome delegates from all the proselytising Hindu organisations.

The social and economic problems of the Hindus, so far as it affects the strength and solidarity of the followers of Hinduism, shall not escape serious consideration of the delegates. The conference shall further be required to lay down the fundamental principles of Hinduism and definite views on the burning problems concerning reconstruction of our society on the solid basis of self-respect, self assertion and justice.

All of those among the three hundred millions of Hindus in India, who feel interested in this Conference, are requested by the Reception Committee to communicate to the Secretary at 32B, Harish Chatterjee Street, Kalighat, Calcutta.

## Ceylon Students' Association, Madras

Inaugural Function

"Better Understanding Between Indians and Ceylonese Stressed"

"WHAT we aim at through the medium of this association is to bring better understanding between Indians and Ceylonese." Thus observed Pandit K. P. Ratnam, the President of the Association, in his prefatory remarks, on the occasion of the inaugural function of the Ceylon Students' Association, Madras. He further added that the importance of an Association can hardly be overestimated—be it in the social field or in the political field, or in any other field. "Let me assure you that this association of ours has no intention to meddle with politics. Far from getting entangled in the web of political struggles, we have set our minds on achieving the noble goal of making Indians and Ceylonese view one another as brothers."

"For this, the strengthening of the cultural and social relations will be enough. From time immemorial, India and Ceylon have been having the relationship of mother and daughter. We should never forget that our ancestors were Indians, and the Indians should likewise realise that they and we have both descended from the same stock. Rupture is impossible, in the face of this realisation. Hence it is one of the tasks, perhaps the main task, the Association sets before us."

Diwan Bahadur Masihamoni Pillai, Retired Judge, High Court, Madras, delivered the inaugural address. The speaker said, in the course of his address, that the Association has fulfilled a long felt need—the promotion of the welfare of the Ceylon students in Madras. He exhorted the students to imbibe the quintessence of Indian culture, and concluded his speech, wishing the Association every success.

Messrs S. V. Lingam, S. Ponniah, S. Marudan K. Rajasekhara, K. Ponnadurai, Dr. Sundararaj, Captain Thambiah and Miss India Hensman were the other speakers. Then the Secretary Mr. A. Thyagaraja while proposing the vote of thanks, observed that the beautiful island of the Indian ocean, is like a pendant hanging on the golden chain of India, but that the one without the other would lose their beauty.

The inaugural function took place on the 7th instant at the Mathur Chetty Elementary School, Purasawalkam. There was a group photo and social. Over 60 Ceylon students and residents attended the function.

### Parents' Day at Jaffna College

Parents' Day celebrations of Jaffna College will take place on Thursday, the 20th instant. Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge, will speak at the public meeting at 5.45 p. m.

### Fusion of Delft With Islands

The Executive Committee of Home Affairs has agreed to amalgamate the Chief Headmen's division of Delft with the Islands.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Sir,—The two letters which appeared in the January 23rd and February 6th issues of your paper are a warning worthy of note and careful consideration by all interested in the development and progress of religious thought in this country. It has become, of late, the fashion among some of our religious enthusiasts and propagandists to run down everything modern. It is good, no doubt, to feel proud of one's own ancestors and their achievements, but it is a sign of decay and death not to move forward assimilating things which are vital for the growth of right knowledge and understanding.

The lecturer referred to in the letter by 'Progressive' is perhaps one of those good old souls who require a gentle reminder about the wise saying 'When ignorance is bliss it is folly to be wise.' Enthusiasm and love for one's own religion need not be nurtured on the soil of hatred for progressive thinking and scientific advancement. The mental calibre of the lecturer reminds us of the attitude and culture of the 19th century Christian Missionaries who saw in Hinduism nothing but Devil Worship, hysterical yelling and hideous practices. His idea of science is, perhaps, limited to the knowledge he has gathered about the destructive weapons of the German armies and those of the Allies. Poisonous Gases, Magnetic Mines, Destructive Bombs and Machine Guns are not the only achievements of Modern Science. They are but the valleys in the Great Himalaya of Knowledge which Science has placed before Humanity. It would be better for the lecturer and men of his ways of thinking, if they happen to possess a knowledge of the English Language, to read the works of Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir James Jeans, Professor Eddington, C. E. M. Joad, Bertrand Russell, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, C. Jung and Havelock Ellis before they venture to express opinions on the discoveries of Modern Science. A careful and comparative study of modern Scientific thought will go a great way in helping a student of Saivism to understand the intricate problems of Saiva Philosophy.

"A marked change has characterized the attitude of Modern Scientists and today science is no longer inclined to dismiss the deliverances of the moral and religious consciousness as necessarily illusory" writes C. E. M. Joad. The same writer in another place quotes the following interview Mr. Sullivan had with Professor Max Planck, the Great German Scientist, the originator of Quantum Theory and a Nobel Prize winner in Physics:—

"Do you think that consciousness can be explained in terms of matter and its laws? He is reported to have answered that he did not. "Consciousness" he continued, "I regard as fundamental. I regard matter as derivative from consciousness. We cannot get behind consciousness. Everything that we regard as existing postulates consciousness."

and comments on it "Statements of this kind suggest if they do not presuppose an idealist view of the Universe, which is further regarded as having important religious implications."

Mr. Bertrand Russell, in his book 'The Analysis of Mind' writes:

"The stuff of which the world of our experience is composed is, in my belief neither mind nor matter, but something more primitive than either. Both mind and matter seem to be composite, and the stuff of which they are compounded lies in the sense between the two, in a sense above them both, like a common ancestor." May I respectfully point out to the learned lecturer of the 'Guru Puja' that this stuff of which Mr Russell speaks about may be taken to be identical with the Prakriti of Sankhya Philosophy. It is not my purpose to burden this letter with quotations from the writings of the Great Scientists of the West. The two opinions I have quoted are sufficient to illumine the minds of any intelligent person as to the direction in which Modern Science is advancing.

The need of today is not propagandists who will defend our outworn customs, superstitions belief and crude dogmas but enlightened thinkers who could interpret the Sublime Truths of our religion in terms of the great discoveries of the master minds of the West. An enlightened and scientific interpretation of Saiva Siddhanta based on correct historical foundations is the need of the hour. Sarcasms and insinuations on historical research and scientific thinking will not help us to progress in the right direction. It is the duty of responsible and enlightened religious leaders to direct the religious activity of the country in the line of Modern Progressive Thinking. To many the word 'progress' is like a red rag to a bull because they identify it with something revolutionary or something opposed to that of the past.

Progress does not mean the abandoning of the past. On the sure foundations of the Past let us build the Grand Edifice of the future, after a simulating all that is good and noble in the various cultures of the age in which we are living.

Let us not make the "Progressive" feel that his letters are a cry in the wilderness. May I also appeal through your valuable Journal to the All Ceylon Saiva Youths Association Committee to give their careful thought and attention to this aspect of our present situation.

Thanking you for the space,  
Jaffna, Yours truly,  
14th February SATYAKAMA,  
1941.

### Economy—The Fundamental Basis Of Life

Sir,—The science of economy is the fundamental basis of life. The people of Ceylon do lead very luxurious life without understanding the limit of their wealth, without having proper accounts of their income, their expenditure and their savings. If economy is not observed by an individual or by the people of a country the system of such a life will certainly lead to bankruptcy. So is the present condition of Ceylon. Ceylon is on the verge of bankruptcy. The Ministers of the various departments of the Government without considering the future financial position of the country do vote millions of rupees and

spend on items that do not bear good fruits. It is no joke to run a Government. The machinery of the Government should be in the hands of experts. As it is said by an American Professor, "It is only a frugal man that will spend." So frugality starts from a person who understands well of his personal wants and limits. The Ministers are trying to do things that appear to be greatly needed. It is better for them to follow the example set by the Congress Ministers of the Government of India. Indian Ministers are past masters of the art. An ordinary Indian is an accountant. Whereas an ordinary Ceylonese is not an accountant but an extravagant spendthrift. The educated Indians know where to spend and where to save. The Ministers of the Ceylon Government do cry that the Indians exploit the wealth of the country, without understanding their position. It may be true to some extent—but they must also understand what made the Indians and other foreigners to exploit the wealth of the country. The Ceylon Ministers should go to India frequently and see the constructive work done by the Indian Ministers and Indian people. Then only they will understand the real value of work and the real value of economy. If a country's wealth is misused and if the country were to run into enormous debts, where is the salvation for the people of such a country? The economic salvation is very vital and more important than political salvation. The political salvation of the country will naturally appear on the scene without much difficulties if the economic salvation is got. The people of Ceylon are not having any one of these. Therefore, Sir, it is very necessary to preach the science of economy in villages of Ceylon so that the people may understand what they should earn, what they should spend and what they should save. Much should be done in villages and through villages. The science of economy is the fundamental basis of life.

Yours etc.,  
Chalipuram, THESA OOLIAN,  
18th Feb 1941.

### Order Nisi

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 945  
In the matter of the estate of the late Sandrasegaram Kanapathipillai Subramaniam of Vathiry

Deceased.  
Luziye Annamuttu widow of S. K. Subramaniam of Uduvil

Vs. Petitioner.  
1. Eliatamby Pararajasegaram Buell and wife  
2. Puvanespary of Uduvil

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 A. C. Somaraswamy Esquire District Judge on the 15th day of November 1940 in the presence of Mr. S. V. Chinniah proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 22nd day of October 1940 having been read it is declared that the petitioner is the widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 27th day of November 1940 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

Signed this 19th day of November 1940

Returnable date is extended to 21-11-41

D. J. (O. 39, 13 & 17-2-41)

## Governor's Message Praised by New Delhi

(Continued from page 3)

to relax its efforts and not to be a party to any concession whatsoever, which was sure to be demanded by the Government of Ceylon in future to the detriment of Indians.

Sir Syed Razi Ali's amendment stated: 'This Assembly regrets the failure of the Indo-Ceylon conversations as revealed in the verbatim report, and supports the attitude adopted by the representatives of the Government of India, which faithfully represents the point of view of Indian public opinion; and while recognising the desire of the Ceylon State Council to maintain its independence of action, appreciates the message sent by the Governor of Ceylon to that body with respect to the undertakings given by His Majesty's Government and the Government of Ceylon to the Government of India, and expresses the hope that it will strive to emphasise the importance particularly in the present circumstances, of nothing being done by the Government and people of Ceylon which will endanger the good relations which should exist between two countries whose interests are so intimately bound together.'

### The Debate

Dr. Bannerjee hoped that the Raj would continue its firm attitude to Ceylon in the negotiations.

Mr. F. E. James regretted that the Ceylon Ministers should have visited India in no better frame of mind. It was clear that unless there was a radical alteration of the attitude of the Ministers in Ceylon on the question of an important minority in that Island there was no chance of any agreement being reached.

Mr. Govind Deshmukh congratulated the Ceylon Governor on the bold stand he had taken and warned the Ceylon Ministers against creating a crisis. The Governor would have the support of the Raj and the whole of India.

Mr. Azhar Ali urged the Raj to take strong retaliatory measures if the Ceylon Government did not deal with the question in a spirit of friendship.

Mr. S. M. Aney said that the Governor's message betokened a great degree of friendship and deserved India's congratulations on a courageous stand. He hoped that nothing would happen to impair the good relations between the two countries.

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai said he was gratified that the debate had provided an opportunity for the Indian Legislature to give a verdict on the stand taken by the Raj representatives in their talks with the Ceylon delegates. He added: "If there is to be a settlement it must not only be on the basis of justice and equity to the Ceylonese but also of justice and fairplay to the Indians in Ceylon."

He assured the House that the Raj would continue its vigilance and see that legitimate Indian interests were safeguarded. He praised the action of the Governor in fulfilling his responsibility towards the Indian minority in their legitimate rights and aspirations. He concluded: "Our fight in Ceylon is for both political and economic equality."



## Why the Indo-Ceylon Talks Failed

(Continued from page 1)

tances were quoted:

(a) "The agreement reached between South Africa and India, to the following effect:—

"South Africa and India have concluded an agreement of a special character; its purpose is to facilitate the repatriation, not only of Indian immigrants who have settled in the Union for considerable periods, but also the emigration of persons of Indian origin in the Union. This agreement was concluded as a result of the Conference held in 1926-27 by delegates from the two countries, in order to arrive at a solution of the difficulties created by the presence in South Africa of a large number of Indians who have not easily adapted themselves to the European civilisation that is developing in that country and who are constantly regarded by the South African authorities as an element making for economic instability. It was agreed that South Africa would organize a scheme of assisted emigration for such Indians to other countries where Western standards of living were not required and particularly to India."

(b) "The definition of 'foreigner' in the Foreigners Act of 1939 of India which runs as follows:—

"Foreigner includes every person other than—

(1) a British subject domiciled in the United Kingdom;

(2) a British Indian subject;

(3) a ruler or a subject of an Indian State; and

(4) a Consul General, Vice-Consul or a person appointed by a foreign Government to exercise diplomatic functions."

"By this measure, all non-Indians including British subjects domiciled in various parts of the British Empire (with the sole exception of those domiciled in the United Kingdom) are treated as foreigners."

"Whatever the circumstances may be which led to the above quoted instances, the former shows that India has acquiesced in an arrangement which in effect amounts to discrimination against Indians, and the latter proves that India herself is prepared to discriminate as between British subjects including Ceylonese."

"It was also mentioned that even within India pressure of circumstances had necessitated the taking of discriminatory measures, and one of the proposals put forward to meet the difficulties created by the influx into Bihar of Indians from the adjoining province of Bengal was to the following effect:—

"No person should be regarded as domiciled in the Province unless he can produce a certificate to that effect from the District Officer of the District in which he claims to be a resident. Before granting a certificate of domicile to any person, the District Officer should satisfy himself that his family is permanently settled in the Province and that he has adopted Bihar as his home and has no intention of returning to his country of origin."

"The Ceylon delegation further pointed out that in actual practice a large number of Indians including many of those born in Ceylon keep their families in India, visit that country frequent-

ly and, in other ways, maintain close contact with it.

"Ceylon has already reached the point, it was observed, where she cannot support a reasonable standard of living for her people; her population is rapidly increasing with all the attendant economic problems and difficulties. Placed in these circumstances Ceylon has no alternative but to restrict the number of non-Ceylonese to whom full rights of citizenship can be extended."

"The position in which Ceylon finds herself now was envisaged sometime ago by the League of Nations, which recommended that, in circumstances similar to those of Ceylon, all labourers from other countries should be recruited on definite agreements providing for repatriation in later years."

### Counter-Proposals

"The counter-proposals made by the Indian representatives were as follows:—

"We suggest an expansion of your (that is, the Ceylon delegation's) second category on the following basis, namely, that full citizenship should be conferred on all Indians who can furnish proof (a) of five years' residence in Ceylon, and (b) of a permanent interest in the Island, both tests to be satisfied by some set of easily ascertainable facts. For example, as regards (b) the fact that a married person lives in Ceylon with his wife and children, if any, should suffice to raise the presumption of permanent interest. This proposal will not cover the case of those Indians who are not married. The test to be applied to them as also any other factual test that you may wish to suggest can be the subject of discussion at our later formal conference. What we are anxious to ensure is that such tests should be specifically set out and not left to the judgment of individual officers, which is the case at present."

We should, however, be prepared to agree that Indians falling in this class may not claim (1) the right to appointment in the Ceylon Government Service or under quasi-Government bodies provided, however, (a) that Indians now serving under Government or quasi-Government shall be entitled to continue in such service without discrimination and (b) that the descendants including adults, of Indians who are either now resident in Ceylon or at the time of death were so resident and who themselves normally reside in Ceylon, should be eligible for such appointments without discrimination."

(2) With regard to the grant of Crown land under the Land Development Ordinance, we would not claim that the policy of the Ceylon Government in regard to lands already declared to be reserved for Ceylonese should be disturbed but we would urge that the equality of rights claimed by us for this category of Indians should include all other Crown land."

(3) Finally, as regards Indians now resident in Ceylon who do not qualify for citizenship as defined above, we suggest that they should be entitled to engage in any lawful vocation or calling which they now exercise or may

(Continued on page 6)

## Palmyra Palm for the Dry Zone of the Island

(Continued from page 1)

and though it can boast of no beauty in its outward form, it affords him a supply of almost all he wants."

The palmyra grows to a height varying from 30 to 60 feet and almost perpendicularly and lives for a very long period counted by decades and decades.

### Uses of its Products

Among the uses to which the products of the palmyra may be put may be mentioned the following.

#### THE ROOTS

From the roots which are really the stems of the newly sprouted plants, is prepared flour. This is prepared by drying the roots and pounding them. Mr. J. W. Bennett in 'Ceylon and its Capabilities' (quoted by Mr. Ferguson) says of the flour:—"The Dutch formerly considered palmyra flour so very valuable as a convalescent diet, as well as presents to their friends, that they often exported it to the Cape of Good Hope and Holland. In both places it was much esteemed and used for thickening and imparting its peculiar flavour to soups and made-dishes." The roots are also eaten fresh-boiled or roasted. The boiled roots when dry are also kept for long periods and eaten. The flour from the fresh dried root when mixed with water and boiled, with condiments to flavour it, is used as porridge. The flour is also used to make cakes with vegetables added.

#### THE LEAVES

The fresh green leaves are used for feeding cattle. When dried they are used for roofing houses. The dried leaves and leaf-stalks are used for fencing. Winnows, fans, baskets, bags and so on are made of the leaves. Prepared leaves are used to write on with a stylus. It may be mentioned that there are valuable palmyra leaf manuscripts extant, of great age and antiquity. The leaves are also used for manuring paddy lands, in particular.

#### THE FRUIT

The fruits which generally ripen in August or September contain a yellowish pulp which, when pressed from the fruit and dried in slabs, is used as an article of food, nutritious and satisfying.

#### THE SEEDS

The dry seed covers of the palmyra, called "unai" in Tamil, after the plants to which they are attached had sprouted, are used as firewood much valued by blacksmiths.

#### THE SAP

The sap drawn from the crown of the palmyra, both male and female, when fermented, becomes toddy. When fermentation is arrested by the application of lime to the interior of the pots in which the sap is accumulated it is called sweet toddy, from which jaggery is prepared by boiling.

#### THE STEM

From the matured stem of the palmyra is obtained timber which is used as rafters and reapers for roofing houses. The stems are

## Matrimonial

NAMASIVAYAM CHETTIAR—  
MUTHIAH CHETTIAR

"Inthirai Vasa," Grandbazaar, was the scene of a grand function on the 7th instant and the following four days, the occasion being the marriage of Mr. C. S. A. Namasivayam Chettiar, son of the late Mr. C. S. Arumugam Chettiar, and nephew of Mr. C. S. Nadarajah Chettiar and the late Muhandiram C. S. Kandiah Chettiar, with Miss. Nagarathna Ammal, daughter of Mr. K. Muthiah Chettiar of Colombo.

There was a large attendance at the ceremonies and later at the reception on the following days. The well-known musicians, Thiruveezhimizhalai Brothers of South India, enlivened the function with delightful music. The reception pandal was a magnificent one of exquisite workmanship, and the illuminations were excellent. The new couple were the recipients of many presents and addresses.

also used for such purposes as well-sweeps, and the seasoned wood is also utilised in cabinet work and for making other household furniture of a high polish, the wood being striated and of a dark colour.

The uses of the palmyra are many and varied. Its importance both from an economic and a nutritional point of view, is undoubted, and as the palm needs little or no cultivation and flourishes on waste lands unsuited for any other vegetation of utility its cultivation is eminently suited for the Dry Zone.

### Method of Planting

The seeds may be planted in September or October, about 300 to an acre, and the plants will sprout in six months' time, and then grow up to maturity without any appreciable expenditure of money or labour. In carrying on the systematic planting of waste land with the palm over a period of years, the cost of labour involved will be almost negligible when compared with the immense benefit to be derived from the palm.

### Food Value of its Products

The Agricultural Chemist has made investigations about different products of the palmyrah palm. The following are his conclusions (1) The palmyrah root is entirely a carbohydrate food with low protein and fat contents. It has a fair supply of phosphorus but is deficient in calcium (2) Palmyrah jaggery, like all types of jaggery, contains about 80 p.c. of sucrose and reducing sugars like fruit sugar (3) Dried palmyrah fruit (pinaddu) contains, on the average, about 17.5 p.c. of water and 70 p.c. carbohydrates. Of the latter, sugar averages over 50 p.c. Easily digestible sugars are in excess of cane sugar. Considering that this product contains over half its weight of sugars, about two-thirds of which are easily assimilable sugars, it is surprising that greater use is not made of it as a food (4) Palmyrah leaves, widely used in Jaffna for feeding cattle, contain 12 p.c. protein, 4 p.c. fat, 33 p.c. carbohydrates and 7 p.c. ash. Its fibre content is, however, 35 p.c. But for this disadvantage, the material would be a useful feeding stuff.



## Why the Indo-Ceylon Talks Failed

(Continued from page 5)

hereafter exercise, without discrimination?

### Different Principle

"The first point to be noted regarding these proposals is that, although they purported to be a modification of those made by the Ceylon delegation, they are in fact based on an entirely different principle was explained by the Indian delegation as follows:—

"The problem of the status of Indians facing us is not peculiar to Ceylon. This problem exists wherever Indians are resident in all parts of the world. Once we concede any qualification in the matter of citizenship, we open the door to similar claims all over the British Commonwealth of Nations. Even the different States of India would have different classes of citizens measured in terms of political and economic rights. It is not very easy for us therefore to envisage a definition which would really meet the different circumstances that you have just now stated—circumstances which have to be taken into consideration. But broadly stated our position is this: That Indians who have been resident for an agreed period of years in a particular territory under the British Government acquire equality with the indigenous inhabitants of the territory—acquire equality of rights over the whole field of rights. That is the principle we have all along continued to insist upon."

"This means that the Indian delegation after considering the special circumstances of Ceylon as explained by the Ceylon delegation, were not prepared to agree, in the light of these special circumstances, to any modification of the claims made by India on behalf of Indian nationals in other countries. Their attitude was further clarified by a statement at a later stage to the effect that every Indian now in Ceylon must be allowed to settle in Ceylon permanently if he so wishes."

"The next matter calling for attention is the inadequacy of the tests contemplated for ascertaining whether or not there exists in the case of any particular Indian a "permanent interest" in the Island. This can only be ascertained by questioning each individual carefully and considering the special circumstances of his case. The Indian proposals, apparently in the interests of simplicity, attempt to replace this procedure by an artificial rule which might have little relation to actual facts. The presumption suggested for married persons shows the unreality of the proposal. While it would not be unfair to presume that a person who leaves his family in India means to return to India, it would seem illogical to say that because an Indian lives in Ceylon with his wife and children it is not his intention to go back to India. In fact, the pith of Ceylon's contention, based on actual experience of Indian labour, is that in the great majority of instances the contrary is the case. In this question of permanent interest, simplification can be achieved only at the expense of accuracy."

### Transfer of Citizenship

"It should also be observed in passing that the Indian proposals involve (a) the amendment of such Ordinances as the Land De-

velopment Ordinance, the Village Communities Ordinance and the Fisheries Ordinance and (b) a reversal of the policy hitherto adopted by Government in attempting to secure greater employment for Ceylonese in occupations previously almost wholly monopolized by non-Ceylonese."

"The Ceylon delegation urged that the transfer of citizenship from one unit of the Empire to another should approximate, as closely as possible, to the conditions for naturalization between two political independent countries—a position impliedly adopted by India herself in passing the Foreigners Act referred to earlier. Now, naturalization requires stricter conditions than are necessary for domicile. And yet the Indian delegation in their proposals contemplated domicile (less strictly defined than domicile in its full legal sense) as sufficient for the acquisition of full rights of Ceylonese citizenship."

"The Indian proposals not only widen the category of those who are entitled to full citizenship, but also grant the opportunity to acquire a domicile of choice to Indians now resident in Ceylon who have not completed five years residence. In effect, therefore, Ceylon is to resign herself to the absorption of about million Indians. With their descendants of course that number will be greatly increased in the future."

"The fourth day's sitting was taken up principally in examining the implications of the two sets of proposals. It became clear that the grant of full rights to Indians possessing merely domicile of choice, which was demanded by the Indian delegation, could not be accepted by the Ceylon delegation. Resident Indians falling within this category could, it was pointed out, obtain the franchise, and if they could by their own endeavours, establish themselves in the country, their children born in Ceylon would automatically enjoy full rights of citizenship. The concession, therefore, of full citizenship of Indians possessing a domicile of choice, was a substantial one."

"It was urged that Ceylon must be free to take such steps as are necessary, even to the disadvantage of resident Indians to create wider opportunities for Ceylonese. For this purpose, the Ceylon Government would be prepared to negotiate with India regarding a repatriation scheme whereby Indians might voluntarily return to India with a suitable monetary grant."

"Ceylon, finally would not be prepared to extend the franchise to those resident Indians who did not exercise their right of choice of Ceylon domicile by a fixed date."

"The Indian delegation was earnestly requested to suggest a solution acceptable to them and at the same time calculated to meet the difficulties pointed out by the Ceylon delegation."

"To this, the reply was given at the final sitting that the Indian delegation found it impossible to suggest any method of achieving the purposes which the Ceylon delegation had in view which did not involve either discrimination against, or pressure on those Indians who could legitimately claim full equality of citizenship."

"As no agreement could be reached on the question of the status of Indian immigrants in Ceylon, the Indian delegation was unwilling to proceed to the consideration of the other questions noted for discussion. The talks thus came to an end."

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