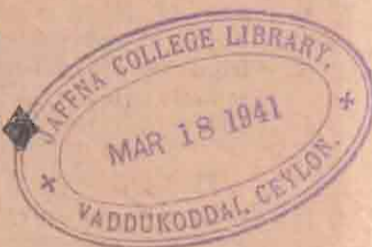


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## MR. CHURCHILL, ENGLAND'S MAN OF DESTINY

### THE SPIRIT AND DESTINY OF BRITAIN

### THE ROLE CHURCHILL PLAYS IN THE PRESENT CRISIS

BY LADY VIOLET BONHAM-CARTER.

A LITTLE over a year ago Mr. Churchill was a voice crying in the wilderness. He had no party following in Parliament, no organised body of support in this country. The mere suggestion that it would be a good thing to include him in the Government was considered unfit for publication by so respectable a newspaper as *The Times*.

The wheel is come full circle. He is to-day the leader of the nation, its voice, its will, its soul. His late opponents survive only under the shadow of his wing.

#### The Greatness of the Hour

There are moments in the life of nations when those who lead them are unmasked by circumstance. Fate ruthlessly confronts men with a task beyond their powers, and those who seemed great in small days, in great days prove infinitely small. Just such a challenge of Fate has at long last enabled Mr. Churchill's fellow countrymen to "see him plain." It is the greatness of the hour which has revealed his own.

One remembers the well-worn clichés so often used about him in the past—"unstable"—"erratic"—"fallible in judgement"—"not a safe man." Not safe enough, perhaps, to fill the armchair of a humdrum office in safe days. But now, with all at stake, the solid earth rocking beneath our feet, our own existence and the fate of civilisation rushing towards the rapids, we see him in the lightning-flash of danger as the one man "strong to save."

#### Originality and Independence

It is interesting to consider why this revelation, so suddenly accomplished, has been so long delayed. Mr. Churchill is now sixty-five. He has been for forty years exposed to

the fierce light of the political arena. How is it that a man who has never been (and is not yet) the leader of any political party in the State should now be acclaimed as the unchallenged leader of the nation?

Mr. Churchill himself gives one answer to this question when he says that "to hold the leadership of a party or a nation with dignity and authority requires that the leader's qualities and message shall meet not only the need but the mood of both." No one could doubt that he fulfils both these conditions to-day. Not only does he meet the nation's need, but he is the inspired expression of its mood, its purpose, and its will.

We must also recognize that he has never been the orthodox expression of the creed or mood of any party. His fearless and intensely individual mind has always eluded all accepted categories and defined classification. He could never manage to squeeze it into the ready-made tenets of any school of thought. They were all misfits.

The Tory Party seemed his natural home. But in spite of his romantic sense of tradition he was impatient of convention. In spite of his historical feeling for the aristocracy he had no illusions about his "class." His mind was far too original, adventurous, and untrammelled to feel at home with the Conservatives. It was always on the move, and its questing, restless brilliance filled them with a deep and unconcealed disquiet.

The Liberals gave him more scope and a better run. But though a democrat to the bone, with a passionate belief in Parliament, he was never quite a Liberal. He is by temperament an intellectual autocrat.

(Continued on page 4)

## DRIED ONIONS

### A NEW INDUSTRY

### DEMAND IN EUROPE AND AMERICA

THE *Bulletin of the Imperial Institute*, London (July-September), announces that there is a growing demand for dried onions in Britain, America and in normal times, on the Continent. Enterprising industrialists will seize the opportunity and start a new industry.

The Institute has received an inquiry from a firm regarding the possibility of obtaining dried onions in the British Empire. Until the commencement of the war the firm obtained its supplies from Southern Europe, but these supplies are now cut off, and it has been suggested that attempts might be made to obtain the product from Empire sources.

This trade developed after the last war, and there is now a big demand on the continent where the material is used for soups, flavouring, etc. Last year this country imported about 400 tons of dried onions, and this demand is expected to increase in the future. It should be mentioned that one ton of the dried material represents about 10 tons of the whole fresh onions.

Dried onions are shipped here in the form of slices, kibbled, or as powder, and are packed in tin-lined cases of 1 cwt. or 2 cwt. each, although other forms of packing might be suitable provided there was no deterioration in quality during shipment. Before the war each cwt. used to cost between 65s and 70s. but is now worth about 150s. a cwt.

Onion should be trimmed and peeled by hand and then cut into very thin pieces, since thick pieces dry very slowly and are apt to darken on drying. Before drying the slices may be immersed in a 5 per cent. salt solution for three to five minutes, and such immersion is stated to reduce the tendency to darken during drying and in storage.

During drying the temperature should not exceed 140° F. since above this temperature the slices tend to darken and lose their flavour. The drying is usually done on trays in tunnel driers although kiln

## SPECIALISED STUDY FOR CEYLONESE

### INDIAN INSTITUTIONS RECOMMENDED

### AIM OF CEYLON STUDENTS IN MADRAS

"THAT the Ceylon Government be urged to send her nationals to India to pursue specialised courses of study in arts and science, to extend the present grant of scholarship, to give grant to institutions in India in order to provide seats for Ceylon students and to absorb them in the service of their country."

This resolution, among others, was passed at a meeting of the Ceylon Students' Association, Madras, held at the residence of Mr. T. K. Rajasekharan, Lecturer in Mathematics, Christian College, and a patron of the Association Pandit K. P. Ratnam presided at the meeting.

A statement of the aims of the Association was read by the Secretary, Mr. A. Thiagarajah, M. A. of the Economics Research Department, Madras University, and was passed by the meeting.

#### Statement of Aims

The following is the text of the statement of aims and the resolutions adopted by the meeting:—

Education is the primary aim of the Association. By the word education is meant the unfolding of the soul and all the inert forces that constantly seek expression in either of the four ways, intuition, intellect, emotion, or action. It is with this spirit, we believe, we have sought to have our educational career here.

The Association, we believe, has a great useful purpose to

(Continued on page 6)

driers such as those used for cocoa might suit the purpose. The time required for drying is between 5 and 10 hours. The finished material should be dry and crisp with a moisture content between 5 and 7 per cent. The slices should be turned at intervals during the drying to hasten the process.

Where it is dried to produce the powder, the slices are ground by hammer mill after drying.

Sun-drying is said to give less satisfactory results than artificial drying.



**WANTED**

Applications are invited for the post of Head teacher, Veyaville Tamil Mixed School, Karainagar, from the Head teachers of small schools before the end of March 1941.

MANAGER.

15-3-41.  
(Mis. 210. 17-3-41.)

**FLAG DAY**

on

**WEDNESDAY THE 19TH  
MARCH**

in aid of the

**JAFFNA FRIEND-IN-NEED  
SOCIETY'S**

**CENTENARY  
CELEBRATIONS.**

(Mis. 208. 13 & 17-3-41.)



**Hindu Organ**

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1941

**THE JAFFNA FRIEND-  
IN-NEED SOCIETY**

THAT THE JAFFNA FRIEND-in-Need Society has completed one hundred years of silent and useful work is at once a proof of the spirit of service that animated its founders and an inspiration to all those whose happiness consists in serving their fellowmen. Founded in March 1841, the Society has continued, in spite of vicissitudes, to carry out the noble objects for which it was brought into existence by a noble band of high-souled men. Even in its initial stages the Society adopted a forward and independent policy without depending for everything on the moral and material support of the Government. The report submitted by the committee at the fourth anniversary of the Society states in clear terms the three methods of relief it should adopt in carrying out its objects. They were: relief of the destitute by monetary payments; the founding of Orphan Asylums and workshops; the establishment of hospitals. The year 1850 saw the fulfilment of the most ambitious object of the Society in the opening of its hospital and dispensary—an achievement which reflects no little credit to the high sense of public duty and earnestness of purpose which marked the activities of its members. Seventeen years later a distinguished visitor, Sir Hercules Robinson, visited this hospital and declared it to be the best in Ceylon. For 57 years the Society conducted this hospital with increasing efficiency and usefulness to the public and handed it over to Government in 1907.

Thereafter the giving of pecuniary relief to the poor has been the Society's chief work.

In common with most human undertakings, the Society has had its ups and downs during the hundred years of its existence. A period of intense activity and solid achievement was followed by one of slack and stagnation to be followed again by another of activity and enthusiasm. The first two decades of this century saw this great institution declining. Its funds began to run down and the irregularity of its meetings rendered fulfilment of its duties impossible. The period 1908—27 was the most critical one in its life: it was one of suspended animation. This was not to continue longer. In 1928 a strong committee of workers with the indefatigable and dynamic Mr. R. R. Nalliah as Secretary put its shoulders to the wheel and after strenuous work helped the Society to find its feet again. A fresh lease of life has thus been given to it. The spirit of service, the infectious enthusiasm and the winning manners of the new Secretary and the encouragement and assistance he has had from his colleagues have proved a source of strength to the Society in pursuing with steadfastness and confidence its mission of service. The Society has found its new Secretary so necessary for its progress and the latter has so identified himself with it that either is unable, even after thirteen long years of close association, to release one's hold on the other. Mr. Nalliah and the succeeding committees that have collaborated with him all these years may well congratulate themselves on their admirable record of service to the Society which has during this period not only given relief to the tune of Rs. 42,943-79 but also replenished its funds and assured itself of a fresh period of steady service to the poor and the destitute.

The proudest day in the life of the Society is at hand. It celebrates its centenary this week. It is an occasion when all Jaffna should show its gratitude to an institution which had given Jaffna for more than fifty years medical relief when it was most needed, and has been giving for the past 100 years pecuniary help to Jaffna's needy and destitute. It is the duty of every lover of social service to contribute his mite to strengthen the finances of the Society so as to help it continue its noble work for many many years to come. A drive will be made during the centenary celebrations for augmenting the funds of the Society by canvassing life members, subscriptions and donations. The response from the public should be a fitting tribute to the work and worth of the Society and to its noble-minded founders.

**Letters to the Editor****THE RAMANATHAN  
STATUE**

Sir,—I understand that those in possession of the Ramanathan Statue have, through their Proctors, been in correspondence with the Secretary of the Ceylon Saiva Paripalana Sabhai on the question of its erection and that the Sabhai is seeking to dispose of the question behind closed doors!

Your readers will probably remember the controversy which took place about ten years ago. I have been shown copies of part of the correspondence, and it is with regret that one has to observe that time does not appear to have mellowed the spirit of vindictiveness then displayed.

I gather that subscription lists are being circulated to collect money and that it is proposed to erect the Statue on terms and conditions which were rejected a decade ago as insulting.

May I humbly request the Members of the Public not to subscribe until they are satisfied that the Statue will be erected on a site and with an inscription which will not be regarded as an insult either to the services or to the memory of the late Sir P. Ramanathan?

It would be better to allow the Statue to remain where it is at present than to have it erected in circumstances which cannot but cause offence to the large majority of subscribers and to the Public with probable unpleasant repercussions.

I would add that the subscribers to the Ramanathan Statue Fund considered and decided at a meeting held on 23rd March, 1931, where the Statue should be erected and what inscription should be placed on the pedestal. Those who wish to see the Statue erected with honour can do no better than give effect to those decisions.

Yours faithfully,  
O. SUNTHERALINGAM.

Bambalapitiya,  
13th March, 1941.

Sir,—A movement has been set on foot, at the instance of the Ceylon Saiva Paripalana Sabhai, Colombo, to have the statue of the late Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan, which is now in Ceylon, erected.

An appeal for funds has been launched in this connection.

I enclose a copy of the same for your information.

The Sabhai has now handed over the matter to a Committee of individuals, independent of the Sabhai and composed of the signatories to the enclosed appeal and certain other gentlemen, with power to co-opt.

As it has been felt that the occasion demands that a fuller committee should be entrusted with the arrangements, such a Committee is in the process of formation.

Your valuable assistance and co-operation in furthering the movement for the erection of the statue will be greatly appreciated.

Yours etc.,  
S. VELUPILLAI,  
Pro Tem Secy.

L. C. P. A. Chamber,  
35, Queen Street,  
Fort,  
14th March, 1941.

**THE PANNAI FERRY**

Sir,—The people of the Islands experience much inconvenience while travelling to and from Jaffna by the Pannai Ferry. The boats are in a very unsatisfactory condition. There is much delay in the plying of the boats. Unfair charges are levied on goods taken by passengers. Manuring substances exempted from toll tax according to Ordinance No. 150 article 13 are also charged. When the toll was rented out to the present renter on 1st October 1940 the people of the Islands felt very glad that the conditions on which the ferry was managed previously would improve considerably with the introduction of a motor boat and an engine driven vehicle boat. In order to help him to bring this improvement the Government has rented out all the toll to him for a long period of five years for a small sum of nearly Rs. 2000. In the past the Government realised about Rs. 6000 annually through rent. The present renter has thus been granted a very liberal concession of Rs. 28,000 for the five years of his lease.

Now one finds that the present renter has not fulfilled the terms on which he rented out the toll, though six months have elapsed. It is therefore very unfair to allow him to continue to be in charge of the ferry. The Government must take steps to rent out the toll to any one who would act according to the conditions of sale.

Yours etc.,  
V. RASIAH,  
Secretary, Velanaitivu Saiva  
Ilagnar Sabai,

Velanai.

**THE RUBIYAT OF OMAR  
KHAYYAM (Fitzgerald)**

TRANSLATION IN TAMIL POETRY

Copy 50 Cts. including Postage

V. R. TambyRajah,  
'Melita', Hospital Road,  
JAFFNA.

(Mis. 209. 17 & 20-3-41.)

**Jaffna College O. B. A.  
Colombo Branch**

The following Office-bearers were elected at the last annual meeting.

President: Rev. Sydney K. Bunker (Ex Officio)

Vice-Presidents: Sir W. Duraiswamy, Mr. K. Balasingam, Dr. E. V. Ratoam, Mr. G. C. Thambiah, Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, Mr. W. H. T. Bartlett, Dr. S. L. Navaratnam and Mr. C. Arumugam.

Hony. Secretary: Mr. M. Ramalingam.

Hony. Treasurer: Mr. P. Jayaratnam.

Hony. Auditors: Mr. K. Nagalingam and Mr. A. Ponniah.

The following members were elected to form the Executive Committee: Dr. S. K. Chinniah, Messrs. P. E. Rajaratnam, R. M. Thevathasan, S. Kulasingam, K. T. Chittampalam, P. Satbasivam, V. K. K. dasamy, V. Sabapathy, A. S. Peracavar and A. Velupillai.



## HUNDRED YEARS OF SOCIAL SERVICE IN JAFFNA

### FRIEND-IN-NEED SOCIETY'S HISTORY

(BY COSMAS W. D. ALWINES)

THE Jaffna man has been well compared to the Palmyra palm. The Palmyra palm is one of the hardiest of Palms. A storm may fell many a coconut tree but the sturdy palmyra weathers the storm with grace and dignity. It may bend, but it never breaks. Once it survives the early stages of growth nothing will kill it. There is hardly a pest known which dares attack it. What is true of the tree is true of the man and what is true of the man is true of institutions run by him.

Show me one Province in the Island which can boast of four big Colleges, 3 for boys and one for girls which have completed their centenaries, three Newspapers which have put in 100, 67 and 52 years respectively. For sustained effort and dogged determination Jaffna can well hold its own with any other part of the Island.

On 9th March 1841 a meeting was held at the Court House to inaugurate a Friend-in-Need Society. Captain G. Cochrane, the Commandant of the Garrison at Jaffna, took the chair. The chief speakers were Rev. P. Percival of the Wesleyan Mission and Mr. F. C. Grenier, the Secretary of the Jaffna District Court. Few among those present would have thought that this Society will survive a century and have a brilliant record of social service to its credit. There are no records of the Office bearers appointed by the first meeting. But there is a record in the columns of the "Morning Star" of the Meeting of the Society held on 20th September 1843 at the Rest House. The President was Major Cochrane, Treasurer E. H. Smedley, Secretary, Rev. P. Percival. The committee consisted of 18 prominent residents. The amount collected for the year ending May 31st was £98-1-9 and the disbursements were £ 80-4-4. The men at the helm of affairs at that time were men of initiative and vision. They were determined to blaze a trail of progress in various directions. They were not obsessed with the bug-bear of stagnation nor were they by any reason anxious, as most movements of today, to be spoon-fed and pampered by Government. It is really heartening to see the sturdy independence and self-reliance of the stalwarts of those times.

#### Methods of Relief

At the fourth anniversary of the Society there is a significant statement of the report. The Committee states that relief should take a three fold form:—

- (a) Relief of the destitute by monetary payments,
- (b) The founding of Orphan Asylums and workshops,
- (c) The establishment of Hospitals.

Today if a Society of 4 years' standing enunciated as its policy the aims mentioned above, people would be inclined to sneer and call the organisers a set of day-dreamers. The annual income of the Society then was only £128 and the expenditure £100. But within 4 years the Society was able to found and carry on for 57 years a big

Hospital. But I must not anticipate.

Mr. P. H. Dyke became the Government Agent and President of the Society in 1847. Under his able administration the Society enters an era of great achievements. Regular and systematic efforts were made towards the establishment of a Hospital and Dispensary. The country was canvassed for support, and support in the form of Donations was speedily forthcoming. A Sub-Committee began to investigate a suitable site. On the 28th July 1848 the President Mr. Dyke applied for a grant from Government. It was pointed out that with the funds of the Society and Donations a sum of £ 800 was available. The Government did not consider the application favourably, owing to the financial stringency at the time. In August 1849 the Government Agent Mr Dyke was informed that he should acquire the necessary lands. A lump grant of £ 400 and an annual Grant of £ 50 were also promised. The land was valued at £ 308.

#### Opening of Hospital

1850 marked the inauguration of one of the most important events in the history of the Society. The Hospital and Dispensary which the Society was so very anxious to start was formally opened to the public in August. Dr. H. L. Cowen, the Staff Surgeon in charge of the troops in Jaffna, agreed to supervise the work of the Hospital. He offered his services free but the committee pressed him to accept Rs. 500 a year as an allowance. Mr. Dyke whose interest in the Hospital was deep and abiding, donated 4 lots of land for extensions in 1853. Two years later he donated another lot. The extent of the 2 lands was 4½ acres and valued at that time Rs. 2327-25.

The Society was not satisfied with merely founding and managing a Hospital. It was anxious to have a trained personnel. There was no Medical College in the Island at that time and Jaffna gave the lead. The Ceylon Medical College was founded in 1879 but the Friend-in-Need Society was 25 years ahead. An advertisement appeared in the "Morning Star" of 15th November calling for applications "from thoroughly educated young men desirous of being admitted into the Dispensary and Hospital for the purpose of studying Medicine and Surgery under the direction of the Superintendent Medical Officer."

It is a pity that more information is not available on this point of the training of Medical students at the Hospital. But the Green Hospital, Manipal, started a Medical School and one of its graduates Dr William Paul was a resident Surgeon of the Society's Hospital from 1872-1900.

#### Public Contributions

The measure of public support for the Hospital is seen in the amount contributed up to the end of 1856 on lands and buildings.

Contributed by the public Rs. 12870-00.

By grant from Government Rs. 12470-00.

The Public of Jaffna of that period seemed to have fully realised what its duties were in the matter of medical relief. The Hospital went on doing useful and meritorious work. In April 1867 Sir Hercules Robinson visited the Hospital and said that the Hospital was the best in Ceylon. Mr. P. H. Dyke died on October 9th 1867 after putting in 20 years of hard, unostentatious and generous work in the cause of the society. His death was very keenly felt. He had been a pillar of strength to the Hospital. At a meeting held on 20th October it was decided to place a marble tablet in the wall of the Committee room. This tablet which was of polished black marble was placed in 1869. It was bought at Madras for Rs 107-50.

So far two committees of the Society carried on the two-fold objects of the Society. "The pecuniary relief Committee" and the "Hospital Committee". After the death of Mr. Dyke, a general committee carried on the affairs of the Society. The report of the period states "Twenty years have now passed since the first steps were taken which have resulted in one of the finest Hospitals, as we believe, that is to be found in Ceylon." That the management of the Hospital was carried on, on sound and systematic lines is seen from the fact, that in addition to the collection of monthly subscriptions to carry on the work of the society and the large sums already spent on acquiring lands and putting up buildings, a sum of £228-11-6 was raised and placed in fixed deposit at the Oriental Bank Corporation as an Endowment Fund.

Mr. H. S. O. Russel who succeeded Mr. Dyke held office for only two years and was succeeded by Mr. W. C. Twynam in 1869. Under his able lead and guidance the society entered another period of sustained and useful work. Disputes arose between Government and the Hospital Committee. In 1875 the P. C. M. O., Dr W. R. Kyusey, attempted to take over the administration of the Hospital. He contended that though the Hospital had served a useful purpose so far, its right to exist as an independent institution had ceased. The Government Agent and the President of the Society objected very strongly to the handing over the Hospital to Government. He maintained that the hospital was carried on "strictly in accordance with the principles and conditions and promises on which it was founded by the late Government Agent Mr. Dyke, and on which the people were invited to subscribe towards its erection and support." "The people of Jaffna came forward at a time when efforts on the part of the people to assist themselves were unknown and with a certain amount of aid, and support from Government, supplied themselves with a Public Hospital, the want of which was much felt at a time when no other such institution existed in the Island or was over thought of." Finding that the Society's Committee had made a strong case for itself, the P. C. M. O. did not pursue the matter further.

At a meeting of the Society held sometime in 1880 the President referred to the finances of the Society. It is most heartening to note that the average monthly expenditure on the hospital was Rs. 1000 and of

(Continued on Page 4)

## Notary Among Accused

### Alleged Cheating and Conspiracy

Warrants against four persons of Nallur, including a Notary Public, were issued by the Jaffna Magistrate Mr. T. Quentin Fernando, in the case in which Sinnachy, widow of Eliathamby, charged S. P. Selladuri, Karthigesu Kandiah, Mr. D. S. Kandiah, Notary Public, and A. Arumugam, all of Nallur, with conspiracy and cheating.

Chinnachy, in giving evidence, stated that she was the owner of an undivided 2½ lachchams at Tinnevely. Her son, Ponnudurai, owned a share of the 2½ lachchams of the land. She and her son mortgaged their share on September 12, 1936, to S. Thuraiappah by a bond attested by Mr. D. S. Kandiah for Rs. 650 with interest at 12 per cent. she had paid Rs. 400 to Thuraiappah.

In October last she wanted a loan of Rs. 250 for wedding expenses of her grand-daughter. The loan was arranged, and she went to the third accused's house where the other accused were also present. Later she and her son were asked to sign three sheets of paper, and her son signed the paper, which had printed letters. The contents of the document were not read to them.

The Notary gave her Rs. 230 less the expenses. She did not see anyone signing as witness. Later she learned that the document signed was a transfer deed and not a mortgage bond.

After the evidence of Ponnudurai warrants were issued.

Later the accused appeared in Court and were allowed bail in Rs. 300 each and further inquiry was postponed till March 26.

## Ceylon Students' Association, Madras

### Farewell to Outgoing Students

The Ceylon Students' Association, Madras, held a meeting on 7th instant in Tambaram at the residence of Mr. T. K. Rajasekharam, Lecturer in Maths, Christian College, and a patron of the Association. Prof. K. P. Ratnam occupied the chair. The Secretary read out the text of a statement of aims of the Association which was duly seconded and passed. As the Secretary, Mr. A. Thiagarajah, was finishing his course, Mr. T. Pathmanathan of the Christian College was duly elected to the office for the year 1941-42. Mrs. Mahendri Hanstman from the same institution was elected vice president.

The Association wished every success in the examination for the final year students who are leaving Madras for good after their examinations in March and April. Messrs. Markandoo and Rajagopalasingham responded on behalf of the outgoing students.

Mr. T. Pathmanathan moved a condolence resolution on the passing away of Mr. N. S. Saravanamuttu and said that she was like a mother for Ceylon and was loved by all sections of the Ceylonese. Silence was observed. The Secretary then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Rajasekharam, the hosts, and the meeting came to a close.

(cont.)



## Mr. Churchill, England's Man of Destiny

(Continued from page 1)

He could never pretend to share the squeamishness which causes Liberals to shrink from invoking force to solve a problem.

### A Roving Commission

Mr. Churchill has rightly called his own life "A Roving Commission." Reading the account he gives of its beginning in that enthralling book, *My Early Years*, and watching the rest take place before my eyes, I have often felt—until this hour in which I write—that he was born out of due season. "After all," he writes, "a man's life must be nailed to a cross either of Thought or Action." But he should rightly have belonged to an age in which Thought and Action were combined, instead of being, as they are in these days, rigidly segregated in watertight compartments and each allotted to specialists in their own sphere.

Where his imagination soars, his body needs must follow it. If his mind is busy with war he must command troops, if he argued with the bricklayers he himself must build a wall, Sidney Street, Antwerp, all the incidents in his career which have been most harshly criticized, have arisen from this imperious need to combine thought and action, this refusal to accept the ruling of the modern world that we must either plan or perform, either conceive or execute, but that the machinery of government is so ordered that it is not permissible for anyone to do both.

In this respect also he has, in this hour, when each decision is fraught with vital action, entered into his heritage.

### Action the Keynote

Action is the keynote, the life-blood of his nature. He has never known a fallow or a sterile moment. In times of political misfortune, when the main current of the stream was dammed, it broke its banks and overflowed tumultuously in new directions. He painted pictures, he constructed waterworks, he built miles of brick wall, he wrote immortal books. "I have noticed in my life," he writes, "deep resemblances between many different things. Writing a book is not unlike building a house or painting a picture. The technique is different, the materials are different, but the principle is the same."

Readers of his books will find in this reflection an explanation, almost a definition, of their quality. In structure they are architectural—"the foundations have to be laid, the data assembled, and the premises must bear the weight of their conclusions"; colour is splashed about their pages with the brush of a master-painter; the writing is in itself a kind of action. Its surge and tide sweeps the reader along like a ship with a following wind in its sails. There is never a lull, never a moment when either we or he himself are becalmed in his theme. As words, thoughts, images pour from his pen we feel behind us the impulse of a torrent whose source is inexhaustible. As I read I think sometimes

of Blake's proverb, "The cistern contains, the fountain overflows," Mr. Churchill is never the cistern—he is always the fountain.

### A Lover of Words

There are moments, it is true, when I feel the ghost of Mr. Lytton Strachey, that master of lean English, peeping disapprovingly over my shoulder at the rolling periods, the extravagant profusion, the reckless spate of language. He shakes his head and mutters; "Economy! Cut—prune—one quarter of those words would do—*meden agan* (nothing too much)." But meanwhile I have turned the page, I am carried away, breathless, on the racing flood. I feel and share the heady joy of the author in his own work. How he *loves* writing!

Since early youth words have been his toys, his tools, his playmates, the beloved children of his mind. He tells us how as a young Hussar of twenty-two at Bangalore he began to feel the urgent need to use them, "I had picked up a wide vocabulary and had a liking for words and for the feel of words fitting and falling into their places like pennies in a slot. I caught myself using a good many words the meaning of which I could not define precisely. I admired these words but was afraid to use them for fear of being absurd...." I am reminded by this passage of my first meeting with him many years afterwards.

I remember it vividly. It was at a dinner-party to which I went as a very young girl. He, with his dramatic South African exploits beyond him and a political career in the making, was already on the high road to fame. His critics in those days would have called it notoriety. For Winston Churchill possessed even in those early days a knack which he has never entirely lost of provoking people, quite unconsciously and quite unwittingly. There has always been something about his unabashed confidence, his unquashable resilience, his push and dash and flair for taking short-cuts through life, that challenges ordinary, conventional, stick-in-the-mud opinion in this country.

### At a Dinner Party

To return to my dinner-party, I found myself sitting next to this young man, who seemed to me, and rightly, quite different from any young man I had ever met before. For a time he remained sunk in abstraction, then he appeared to become suddenly aware of my existence, and asked me abruptly whether I thought that words could have a magic and a music which were independent of their meaning. I said I felt sure of it, and mumbled hurriedly, as a classic if somewhat hackneyed instance, the famous lines,—

*Charm'd magic casements, opening on the foam  
Of perilous seas in faery lands  
forlorn.*

"Say that again! Say that again!" he said. "I have never heard anything more wonderful," I was amazed to find that he had never read, or heard of, Keats's *Ode to a Nightingale*. Next time I met him, however, he had learnt not merely this but all the odes

## Hundred Years of Social Service In Jaffna

(Continued from page 3)

this some only 1/3 was given by Government.

### An Example

The broad lines of the policy followed in the Hospital may well be an example to be followed even today. The Hospital did not seem to be an institution hide-bound with red tape and departmentalism which ordinarily crushes humanitarian motives. The President's observations are as follows:—"So long as a man is really ill and has any prospect of being cured we maintain him; and when he despairs of being cured, ordinarily maintain him as long as he pleases to remain. Many such unfortunates have stayed here for months and have gone away with improved health." Does this not show that the Hospital really existed for the people, and not the people for the Hospital?

### A Governor's Tribute

One feature that runs as a golden thread through the long history of the Society's efforts in Social work is its forward policy—no marking time and banking on the past for inspiration. Its watchword seems to have been "Forward". Finding the Maternal and Infantile mortality fairly high in Jaffna, the Society took another step forward in erecting a Lying-in-Home. The foundation stone was laid on 29th June 1887 in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Efforts were made to collect money for this useful extension. By 31st July 1889 a sum of Rs. 7245 48 was collected and Rs. 5281-05 spent on the building and equipment. The society had its critics who periodically submitted it to a number of pin-pricks even in the Legislative Council when the supply Bill came up for discussion. The then Governor Sir Arthur Havelock must have had this in mind when he visited Jaffna in July, and in reply to the Public Address said; "It is an organisation that is unique of its kind in Ceylon and that it does much in a remarkably suitable manner towards relieving suf-

fering humanity. I would add that I was greatly struck by the large amount of work done in proportion to the money expended".

### Lying-in-Home

In the report of 1892 it is stated that in addition to securing the services of a fully qualified midwife, the society also contemplated the training of midwives to help lying-in-women in distant villages. On the 9th November 1895 lying-in-Home was opened and on that occasion in order to mark the celebrations of the Official Jubilee of its President the Committee presented a purse of Rs. 7000 to be devoted to the completion of the lying-in-home. Including this figure a sum of Rs. 2000 had been spent on this building. To the shame of the Hospital policy of the Government with regard to Jaffna it must be mentioned, a part of the foundations of this lying-in-Home are still unbuilt upon. Jaffna's Premier Hospital has only one paying bed and five non-paying beds in the Lying-in-Home. And still year after year the woeful tale of the high incidence of maternal and infantile deaths in Jaffna is chronicled by the official reports perhaps for the edification of the public.

Sir William Twynham retired from service in January 1896, and was succeeded by Mr. R. W. Ivers. Sir William was President of the Society from 1869 and we have seen the steady progress it had made under his able guidance. So great was his enthusiasm and concern for the Society that he acted as Secretary and Treasurer for a number of years after relinquishing the Office of President.

### Handed over to Government

The period that follows is a transition period in the affairs of the Society. The new President was of the opinion that it was time the Society handed over the Hospital to the Government. It took more than 10 years for this to materialise. Several years went by in discussing the terms under which the Society was to hand over the Hospital. At one stage it was suggested among other conditions that the Rs. 20000 collected by the society for the Lying-in-Home be paid by Government. But in the final stages it was agreed by a deputation which, met the H. E. the Governor at Queen's House on 12th December 1905 that the society would not accept the Rs. 20000 which the Government was prepared to give in view of the help the Government had given for the past 57 years. The deputation expressed the hope that the Government would continue to give an annual grant as was done to the Galle F. I. N. S. In 1906 Mr. A. Cathiravelu became Secretary and continued in that capacity, in spite of ill health till 1907. In May 1907 the Civil Medical Department opened the Government Civil Hospital. The land taken over by the Government was 13 acres, 3 roods and 26 perches in extent. From 1908 to 1927 the society continued its attention to the disbursement of pecuniary relief to the poor. During the period the Society had many ups and downs. Public support dwindled. The fact that the

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued on page 5)



## Resolving Indian Deadlock

### Non-Party Leaders Conference

Bombay, March 14.

THE Non-Party Political Leaders' Conference concluded at 6 p.m. today after unanimously adopting a lengthy resolution moved by Sir N. N. Sircar. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in winding up the proceedings of the Conference said it was absurd for anyone to believe that the fortunes of four hundred million people could be settled by radio broadcasts and statements to the Press.

Sir Tej invited the Secretary of State for India and half a dozen British Members of Parliament to visit India and see things for themselves so that they could come to definite decisions regarding the future of India. The President deeply deplored the 'lack of imagination and big-heartedness on the part of British statesmen in dealing with the complicated problem of India.'

The Conference reassembled this morning at the Princes Room, Taj Mahal Hotel. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru presiding. Sir N. N. Sircar moved the following resolution:

While India should not take advantage of Britain's difficulties in her heroic struggle, the Conference is equally desirous that India's domestic problems should not be pressed to her disadvantage. As the first step towards the removal of the present deadlock and until a permanent Constitution is brought into force the Conference desires to emphasize the immediate need for the reconstruction of the Governor-General's Executive Council.

The Conference considers that the present Council, which consists of three European members from the Indian Civil Service in addition to the Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief, is neither adequate nor sufficiently representative to organise and direct India's war effort at this moment of grave peril.

#### Transfer of Portfolios

The Conference is anxious that India's defences should be put on a firm basis and that the resources of this great country in men and material should be used to the fullest advantage not only for defending her own frontiers, but for helping the British people to the fullest extent possible consistently with the best interests of India.

For the reasons mentioned above this conference is of opinion that the whole Executive Council should consist of non-official Indians drawn from important elements of public life in the country. This

would naturally involve the transfer of all portfolios, including the vital ones of Finance and Defence to Indians. The Conference will be content during the period of the war that the reconstructed centre remains responsible to the Crown and so far as defence is concerned the position of the Commander-in-Chief as Executive head of the Defence Forces of the country should not be in any way prejudiced.

At the same time the Conference is strongly of view that the reconstructed Government should not merely be a collection of departmental heads, but should deal with all important matters of policy on the basis of joint and collective responsibility.

In regard to all inter-Imperial and international matters the reconstructed Government should be treated on the same footing as the Dominion Governments.

#### Declaration Sought

The Conference is further of opinion that with a view to creating a favourable atmosphere for working the reconstructed Central Government, it is necessary to remove the doubts and misgivings of the people of this country as regards the genuineness of the intentions of His Majesty's Government by making a declaration simultaneously with the reconstruction of the Government that within a specified time limit after the conclusion of the war India will enjoy the same measure of freedom as will be enjoyed by Britain and the Dominions.

The Conference authorises its President, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, to communicate the terms of the resolution to the Viceroy and the Secretary of State for India and take such other steps as may be necessary to achieve its objects.

#### Post of Assistant Master, J. Kopay Training School, Jaffna

Applications will be received by the Superintendent, Kopay Training School, Jaffna, on or before 30th March, 1941, for the post of Assistant Master, Kopay Training School, Jaffna.

2. Candidates who are not already in the Public Service must be Ceylonese and only those who possess a knowledge of English and have obtained First Class Tamil Trained Certificate and Pandit's Diploma should apply for the post.

3. Salary Rs. 900-60-1,500. The appointment made, which will be on a temporary basis, for the present, will be subject to such salary scales and terms of service as are decided on by the Select Committee of the State Council appointed by Government to report on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Commission, contained in Sessional Paper No. 18 of 1939. The conditions of service will be as for new entrants to the Public Service and the selected candidate if not already in the Public Service will be required to contribute 4 per cent of his salary towards the School Teachers' Pension Scheme. The candidate selected for appointment will also be required to pass a medical examination before he is appointed.

4. Canvassing and personal applications will be considered a disqualification.

L. Mc D. ROBISON,  
Director of Education.

Education Office,  
Colombo, 12th March, 1941.  
(G. 50. 17-3-41)

## 100 Years of Social Service in Jaffna

(Continued from page 4)

society was not doing work which daily came under the public eye may have been responsible for the change of heart of a generous public. The number of pensioners steadily increased from 99 in 1908 to 268 in 1911.

#### Critical Period

The period 1919-27 was the most critical in the life of the Society. The funds continued to diminish steadily. The Presidents of the society were also changed consequent to the frequent transfers of Government Agents, no less than nine in the period, 1913 to 1937. On December 1926 the Society had only Rs. 4101-66 to its credit, in 1921 it had Rs. 7000-32. To make matters worse, committee meetings were not held for want of a quorum. This meant that a number of cases deserving help had to be put off month after month. When the life of the Society was fast ebbing away Mr. J. D. Brown became the Government Agent on 31st January 1928. A meeting of those interested in placing the Society on a sound basis was held at the Ridgeway Hall. Mr. Brown stressed the urgent need of giving the society a new lease of life. Mr. R. R. Nalliah was elected Honorary Secretary. The election of the committee was carried out by a procedure, which though novel, was really necessary at this juncture of the Society's career. Mr. Brown told the gathering that he wanted workers and not figure-heads. He called for volunteers, those who were willing to do useful work, to serve on the committee. Out of the present committee of 25 there are only 3 members who were elected at the meeting of March 1928. Under the able leadership of Mr. Brown and the enthusiasm of the Secretary Mr. R. R. Nalliah and the new Treasurers Mudaliyar G. Subramaniam and S. M. Visuvalingam the Society turned the corner and entered another era of prosperity. It was decided to increase the number of Life Members. Rs. 100 was fixed as the membership fee. The progress the Society made was phenomenal. The society which had Rs. 4101-66 in 1927 had Rs. 14,971-08 to its credit on 31st December 1930. Mr. J. D. Brown had during his short stay of three years in Jaffna done yeoman service. The Society's funds reached its peak in December 1934 Rs. 19,647-76.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah continues to be Secretary from 1928. Under his tenure of office the Society has given relief to the tune of Rs. 42,948-79. Mr. R. R. Nalliah's services in the Local Board and Urban Council extends to well nigh 25 years. His name is on the Marble tablet as the one who laid the foundation stone of Jaffna's finest building, the U. C. Office, but a more enduring and proudest record of service is the service he has unostentatiously given the society for the last 13 years.

The Centenary celebrations of the Society will be marked by a drive for an increase of life membership, subscriptions and donations. A capable committee has been appointed and work is going on. A new sub-committee has been appointed to extend the scope of relief of the Society. The extension of the relief work of the Society will depend on the volume of public support. It is hoped that the Jaffna public and all interested in social work in the Island will realise that the Society is Jaffna's proudest asset. Relief work has been done for a century. More than 8 lakhs have been spent on relief work to suffering humanity during the past 100 years. And what grand opportunities the Society has given to generations of social workers. Who can assess in rupees and cents the amount of hard work, time, thought and self-sacrifice

## VADDUKODDAI POST OFFICE

### Deputation Waits On Minister

A deputation consisting of Messrs. K. Kanagaratnam, Rev. S. K. Bunker, K. T. Chittampalam, M. Ramalingam, Secretary of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch, and J. F. Ponnambalam, Secretary of the Jaffna College Alumni Association, Vaddukodai, waited on the Minister at 9.30 a. m. on Saturday, the 8th instant.

Mr. K. Kanagaratnam acted as spokesman and introduced the other members of the deputation. The inconvenience caused by the reduction of the staff and the working hours of the Post Office was discussed at length with reference to the previous correspondence on the subject with the Minister and the Post Master General. The latest position in regard to this matter was also reviewed and the Minister was informed that in addition to the increase of the normal activities of Post Office, the closing of the Chulipuram Receiving Office will throw additional work on the Vaddukodai Post Office. Mr. Kanagaratnam also desired to discuss with the Postal authorities the basis on which the unit of work was calculated and the Minister agreed to ask the Post Master General for a further report and also to request him to give the necessary facilities to Mr. K. Kanagaratnam to obtain the information desired by him.

The deputation then withdrew after thanking the Minister for the kindness and courtesy extended to the deputation and for the patient hearing of the case put forward by the deputation. (cor.)

### Wanted

A Hindu lady teacher graduate or an English trained qualified in music and needlework for a Biligual School at Anarativu from the 1st of April 1941. Salary C scale. Apply to Manager V. Chellappah, Thalaiyaly, Van. East Jaffna. (Mis. 207. 13 & 17-3-31)

### Obituary

#### MRS. A. KANAPATHIPILLAI

We regret to record the untimely death of Rasammah, beloved wife of Mr. A. Kanapathipillai of the P. W. D. Head office, Colombo, which sad event took place at her residence at Wellawatte on the morning of Saturday the 15th inst, after confinement.

She leaves behind besides her husband and three infant daughters and two sisters, Packiam wife of Mr. C. Kulaveerasingam of the Colombo Kachcheri, Chellamah wife of Mr. S. Rajendram, Broker, Colombo and a host of other relations to bemoan her loss. The cremation took place at Galkissa General Cemetery, the following morning and was largely attended.

Our heartfelt condolence to the bereaved.

given by the social workers down the century? The past 100 years has been a brilliant record of work. Let us hope that a more glorious future awaits the Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society.

(This article is based on the Official History of the Society published by Mr. P. Mortimer in 1939.)



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## Specialised Study for Ceylonese

(Continued from page 1)

fulfil, and it is our firm belief that it will come to stay for long. We welcome the establishment of a University for Ceylon at the earliest possible moment. The pulse of a nation is measured by the extent of its intellectual activities. Nothing greater awaits Ceylon than the early fruition of the idea of an University. All the same, we believe, that an University cannot provide a complete curriculum adequate to the needs of a nation. In this respect we are not alone. Even the highly advanced Universities of the West find it beyond their powers to provide specialised knowledge in all the multifarious branches of human thought and action. Greatness lies in realising our own limitations. It does not derogate our sense of honour for a moment when we realise that we Ceylonese will have to seek education innumerable channels of knowledge at the hands of our great neighbour India. The Association is alive to the compelling fact that specialisation is the key-word to modern progress. Progress—we must have—and in a great measure. It would then be foolish on our part to restrict ourselves and be content to live within the four-walls of a Ceylon University, great as we want her to be.

The Association notes with pleasure that the Ceylon Government has realised the need for experts in all sections of knowledge. Ceylon is in the throes of a nationalist spirit. Whatever the objection to the contrary, we believe that great things are done under the spur of patriotism. Ceylon has made a resolute will to undertake gigantic schemes for industrialisation, to reconstruct our rural parts, and to see that her nationals are placed beyond economic wants so that she may advance culturally and spiritually. This work could only be undertaken by the help of a great army of technicians, engineers, doctors, educationists, aesthetes, and economists.

The Ceylon Government has always sent a few scholars abroad, but this is inadequate for our purpose. India, we think, is the only country that is near, cheap, similar in character, and the only place for certain types of knowledge of our culture, e.g. fine arts. We therefore honourably admit that we are and shall be indebted to India in this respect. A practical application of this has been made by the Ceylon Government. She has granted scholarships for Tamil Research and Music in the University of Madras, and has rightly contemplated to send young men to study the manufacture of glass, match paper, etc., and the tanning of leather. These, we believe, will be followed by fresh students whose thirst for knowledge will find full vent in the vast continent of India. In pursuance of this policy, we believe that the Ceylon Government will assist the Ceylon students in prosecuting their studies in India, so that when they return home they shall be prepared to serve their country in their respective capacities.

## Mr. Churchill, England's Man of Destiny

(Continued from page 4)

father's mild protests that they must be given at least a little credit for this, as the world had been going on for some time before they appeared on the scene, went quite unheeded.

Whether Mr. Churchill's style would have been impaired if he had been willing to submit to the yoke of a classical education we can but guess. But I think there is not one of us who can regret that he decided to dispense with it. His natural ear for the music of language needed no tuning-fork. He says, truly, that he has "in his bones the essential structure of the ordinary British sentence—which is a noble thing. His last three speeches in Parliament can hold their own with those of Pericles, and with any in the English language. Any yet to call them 'classics' does not quite describe them. In speech and writing he combines with classic form and balance a fire and colour which are his own alone. There lurks in every sentence the ambush of the unexpected. We are always spared the inevitable conclusion to which the classics sometimes accustom us to look.

### Above All Else

When we try to assess the factors which have contributed to this unique career of various achievement, there is one that we must not overlook—and that is Mr. Churchill's tireless industry, and his astounding power of concentration. I think it was William James who said that those who have genius differ from ordinary people not in any innate quality of brain, but merely in the subjects and purposes on which they concentrate and in the degree of concentration which they manage to achieve. Mr. Churchill has a power of concentration amounting to obsession.

That power is now harnessed to a single purpose—the purpose which through all the changes of his tempestuous life he has followed like a star—to serve and save his country. He has many and diverse claims to immortality. As statesman, as writer, as orator, as artist in action, his name must live but History will record that he was above all these a great Englishman.

(John O' Londons' Weekly)

cities. We are blessed, a thousand times blessed, for being ever so fortunate in our proximity to a nation that has through ages held the torch of civilisation.

### Resolutions

This Association therefore resolves that:

(1) A Board of Education be established to facilitate and provide courses of study for Ceylon students in India.

(2) That a "Ceylon House" be started to enable the Association to have a site for holding its meetings and to provide students facilities for boarding and lodging.

(3) That the Ceylon Government be urged to send her nationals to India to pursue specialised courses of study in arts and Science, to extend the present grant of scholarships, to give grants to institutions in India in order to provide seats for Ceylon students, and to absorb them in the service of their country.

(4) That the Ceylonese residents in Madras be approached to secure guidance for the Association; and

(5) That politics shall be eschewed by all its members.

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