

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, *Advocate.*

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

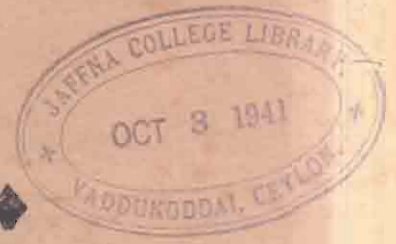
VOL. LIII.

'Phone 56.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1941.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 47.



The Essence of the Tamil Demand

By

Sir P. Arunachalam on Safeguards

A Correspondent

Hard Words

"CEYLON Tamil" states that the Tamil demand for balance of power is "arbitrary, impolitic, mischievous, and reactionary." He uses four hard adjectives and must be thinking that he has demolished our just claims. He argues that it is arbitrary because we are trying to convert the majority into a minority. He is wrong in his inference as well as in his reasoning. Nobody desires to convert the majority into a minority. We only desire that no particular community should be in a position to impose its rule over the others. We desire to prevent a permanent communal majority from having an exclusive control over the government of the country, and desire to have it replaced by a National Government composed of representatives of the various communities in the island. Even in a scheme of representation with the principle of balance of power embodied the Sinhalese community will have the largest number of seats in the Council and will constitute the largest single group having a great influence over the Government of the country. No other community will have more members than the Sinhalese community. Every one of the other communities will have a lesser number of members in Council. Thus, the majority community will not be reduced to the position of the minority. At the same time, no single community, not being a majority political party, will be in a position to arrogate to itself the role, position and powers which belong to the country as a whole and the Ceylonese in general.

Is It Impolitic?

IT is argued that the demand is impolitic in that "it exhibits a sense of narrow sectionalism irrespective of the larger interests of the country." One must be having strange notions of sectionalism and

the larger interests of the country to take this view. The demand for balanced representation flows from a desire to eradicate the narrow sectionalism created by the concentration of power in one communal entity and to distribute such power among all sections of the people. It is wrong to argue that the demand is mischievous because it attempts blindly to play the imperial game of divide and rule. We are not told the real connection between the principle of balance of power and the policy of divide and rule. It is the absence of balance of power that has destroyed communal unity. If we had the balance of power now as we had it prior to the Donoughmore Scheme for nearly a century, the various communities would be united and the policy of divide and rule could not work even if someone tried to put it into operation. The writer of the article appears to be ignorant of the history of the constitutional development of this country and the conditions that obtained during the pre-Donoughmore era when we had a Constitution, or what passed for it, which accepted the principle of balance of power and as a result of which the various communities of the island were far more united than they are today. Similarly, the argument, that the scheme advocated by me is reactionary in that it attempts to revive communal representation and goes against the basic principle of democratic government, does not carry any weight for the simple reason that the present Board of Ministers is a shining and concrete example of the manner in which this basic principle has been applied to the governance of Ceylon.

Not Pakistan

"CEYLON Tamil" also says that the Tamil scheme has a tinge of Pakistan. He must surely be drawing on his imagination. The leaders who are pressing for the principle of balance of power have never

suggested that Ceylon should be split up into small geographical entities as wrongly stated by him. The further argument that the other minority communities have not supported the Tamil demand for the principle of balanced representation betrays his ignorance of recent happenings. The principle in question, which the Jaffna Association advocated, was reaffirmed at the All Ceylon Meeting of Tamils held in the Town Hall, Colombo, in March 1939. Thereafter the public meeting of Indians put forward the same demand. The All Ceylon Muslim Conference also accepted the same principle. The European Association at its general meeting expressed its agreement with this principle. I am referring to this because of the writer's statement that the other minorities are not supporting the demand for balanced representation. The worth of a political principle, however, need not depend on the support it gets from the other communities. The Tamils of Ceylon are entitled to take the lead in political matters, as they had been doing hitherto, and place before the public a scheme for the better government of the country which they may consider better suited to our conditions.

A Red Herring

THE writer seeks to discredit the demand for balanced representation on the ground that it originated from the mathematical brain of a Scottish accountant of a Colombo firm (as if that by itself were a disqualification), but, in truth, the origin of the idea is more ancient. The following extracts from a letter written by Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam to Governor Sir William Henry Manning throw some light on this important aspect of the matter: "I often said in my public addresses that, while the general principle would be territorial representation, there must be safeguards for the minorities. There are safeguards under the

existing system for communal representation and an almost equal proportion of members. The Europeans, Burghers and Tamils have enjoyed these safeguards for nearly a century, and the Kandyan Singhalese and the Muhamadans for forty years. Every resolution of the Congress, as well as of bodies which preceded it—the Ceylon Reform League, the Ceylon National Conference, and the Ceylon National Association—contained this important qualification with due safeguards for minorities. This was inserted with the special object of disarming their suspicions and fears and of assuring them that the Congress wished their rights to be continued to them unless and until they acquired full confidence in the majority community themselves and desired to waive their rights and join the general electorate. None of the minority communities joined the Congress except the Tamils...and the Tamils only upon conditions distinctly stated in writing to the two Sinhalese gentlemen abovenamed who cooperated with me in organising the reform movement and in founding the Congress. The conditions are contained in a letter addressed by them to me on December 7, 1918, and by me forwarded to the Leaders of the Tamil community in the Northern Province.

The Undertaking

"THE letter was based on the following resolution: That the Legislative Council should be enlarged and reconstituted so as to contain a substantial majority of members elected upon the basis of territorial representation with a broad franchise, with due safeguards for the minorities. It will be noted that the resolution placed emphasis on two points, first, territorial, or local representation, and second, due safeguards for minorities. Territorial representation does not of course mean numerical representation. Ireland, for example, had territorial representation in the British House of Commons but was represented by a far larger number of members than its population alone justified. In the letter referred to there was a pledge given on behalf of the Association of which these gentlemen were Presi-

Continued on page 6



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1941

COMPETITION IN MORTGAGES

REFERENCE WAS MADE RECENTLY in these columns to Mr. D. S. Senanayake's complaint that, out of the fifteen lakhs of acres owned by Ceylonese, ten lakhs were under mortgage. The mortgage habit is undoubtedly an evil and it is an evil not confined to any particular community or part of the country. Even in the North, where the old independent and thrifty small-holder kept clear of mortgages, mortgage rights have in course of time given place to full rights of ownership with the result that owners have been deprived of their title to lands. In the North, however, there has been no outcry against mortgagees, for the simple reason that, if a mortgage is an unmitigated evil, it is also a solemn legal contract to which there are always two parties. Rights and liabilities created by such a contract cannot be lightly disregarded on the ground that the mortgagor is greatly inconvenienced by the logical and legal consequences of his own acts. Amongst the Tamils, therefore, landlessness caused by unrealised and unrealisable mortgages has not developed into a predatory conspiracy on the part of injured mortgagors against the entire tribe of money-lenders, foreign as well as local. The Tamils have realised that one effective remedy for the evil is to increase the general prosperity and economic independence of the community by taking more land under the various irrigation schemes in the Northern Province and elsewhere. As for those whose temperament makes it inevitable that their lives should begin and end with a mortgage, the State can do nothing for them.

Hitherto the prevailing impression has been that the Ministers and their supporters in the State Council have been more anxious to secure greater facilities for executing mortgages than to pay them off. The State Mortgage Bank, and, later, the Bank of Ceylon were opened in order to satisfy the craving for more loans. It appears, however, from what Panabokke Adigar said in a recent speech at Kandy, that the Kandyans are not at all satisfied with their share of the loans given by the mortgage bank. The Adigar complained that, with-

out political influence, it was not possible to get Kandyan title accepted by the Bank as security for loans. The charge was indignantly repudiated by the Bank which has refused to accept the somewhat unsatisfactory apology given by the Adigar. Panabokke Adigar's complaint is interesting for one important reason: it reveals an earnest desire on the part of Kandyans for greater facilities in the matter of raising money by mortgaging their lands to the Mortgage Bank and a corresponding degree of dissatisfaction at the cavalier treatment meted out to Kandyan titles. The complaint itself appears to have been prompted by the desire to see that steps are taken to "remove the difficulties which stood in the way of Kandyan landowners having their titles accepted."

While it is certain that no Bank mindful of its duties would permit itself to be influenced by considerations not relevant to the sufficiency of the security required for a loan, it would, at the same time, benefit the tax-payer to know that all this competition in the field of mortgages has for its object the utilisation of public money for private purposes. There is a Tamil saying which is very expressive: ஆற்றிலே வந்த தண்ணி, அண்ணை குடி, தமிழ் குடி, and which means: This is water that has come down the river; let the elder as well as the younger brother drink. Any complaint about mortgages after drinking in this manner would be to put it mildly highly unreasonable.

THE STATE COUNCIL AND BRIBERY

It is not possible to congratulate the members of the State Council on the manner in which they have postponed the passing of the Ordinance for protecting witnesses giving evidence before the Commission on Bribery. It will be recalled that the Commissioner was appointed to investigate the charges of bribery and corruption made against Members of the State Council. Before the Commissioner could proceed with his inquiry, the Ordinance had to be passed. The fact is well known that in the absence of adequate legal protection witnesses will not come forward to give evidence before the Commissioner. If, therefore, the Council wanted the Commissioner to enter upon the performance of his duties, it should have passed the Ordinance without delay. As matters stand at present, the Commissioner can do nothing. He has to wait till the Council passes the Ordinance. And, the Council is the accused in the case. It is to be hoped that Members of the State Council will realise in time the true significance of their attitude.

Notes & Comments

The Wealth in Palmyrah

EDIBLE products of the palmyrah, which are now looked upon by the "civilized" with considerable disfavour, will before long enjoy equality with other fashionable edibles, if the researches of Mr. C. Charavanapavan, Food Technologist of the Department of Agriculture, prove successful. There was a time when the palmyrah supplied one of the staple foods of the Jaffna man. The fruit and the root formed the main articles of diet throughout the year. But civilised society regarded these as too tough to find a place in their modern bill of fare. Even the "uncivilised" villager came under the spell of this modernism in diet, and the palmyrah was elbowed out by more costly imported foodstuffs. But tradition dies hard. The survivors of the palmyrah days and indigenous medical opinion always sing the praises of palmyrah products. The "Hindu Organ" has more than once urged the need for research work that would enable palmyrah edibles to come back to our tables in a modern garb. We are glad that the Food Technologist has succeeded in his efforts to prepare toffee, jam and flour from palmyrah fruits and roots, in a form acceptable to the moderns. The processes of manufacture seem to be so simple as could be adopted in every home. Here is an opening for the Jaffna people to build up a cottage industry that should prove of immense economic value to them. The neglected and despised palmyrah famed for its multifarious uses to man can be made to bring prosperity to the cottages of the peasants. The Director of Commerce and Industries, we hope, will bring this new knowledge to the doors of the Jaffna peasants and encourage the production of these articles and find markets for them in and outside Ceylon. Rural workers can play a great part in popularising this industry. Jaffna's hope lies to some extent on the palmyrah palm.

Supreme Court for Jaffna

A Permanent Supreme Court in Jaffna seems to be necessary! The last sessions which commenced in February continued for seven months, one case alone taking about three months. The second Northern Circuit, which normally begins in July, has therefore to be postponed. There are said to be a dozen cases awaiting this session which should run at least for two months. It has thus become necessary for the Supreme Court to hold its sessions for nine months in the year. The cost of the sessions is not negligible and "Tatler" in the *Times of Ceylon* says that, under the circumstances a permanent Supreme Court in Jaffna would be less costly. Second to Colombo in its importance as a town, Jaffna bids fair to maintain this rank in every other sphere too. The idea of a permanent Supreme Court here, with a break of a month or two during midsummer, is certainly attractive, but it has its drawbacks too. We feel that Jaffna's good name lies in nullifying such a prospect.

Place for Lawyers

THERE seems to be, after all, a place for lawyers. The point was driven home by Mr. N. C. Kelkar in a recent address at the annual social gathering of the students of the Poona Law College. After pointing out that altruism and idealism have a place even in the legal profession, Mr. Kelkar proceeded to pay a tribute to the lawyer class for setting up the example of political leadership. "A legal knight-errant," he said, "is always in demand everywhere. Nor is there any want of leisure or unemployed talent for the purpose. What perhaps is wanting is the inner urge to take up a career

of public service, without an eye to reward or praise....Selfless public spirit is a strong and sure solvent for all the supposed sins of the legal profession".

Always a Lawyer

IN the legal profession, the successful lawyer looks forward as a rule to a successful career on the Bench. The ambition is perfectly natural and has worked with advantage to the Bench and the Bar. But there are also successful lawyers who have refused to surrender their independence for the sake of rounding off their careers with a few comparatively quiet years on the Bench. Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, the present Dewan of Travancore, is one of them. Under the guidance of the new Dewan, Travancore has made great progress in every direction, as will be seen from the interesting article by Mr. A. W. Nadarajah appearing in another column. In the midst of his work as Dewan, however, Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer still finds time to address meetings in the Madras Presidency on a variety of subjects. His latest speech was addressed to the Law Students of Madras. He tells us how a Chief Justice wanted him to accept one of the Puisne-Judgeships of the Madras High Court and why he refused the offer. Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer told Sir John Wallis, the Chief Justice, that he would much "prefer to talk nonsense for a few hours each day than to hear nonsense all day long". He told his audience about this incident for the reason that they might derive two lessons therefrom: first, that it was possible to be a lawyer for long years without ascending or descending into the judicial seat, and secondly, that the "nonsense" one might talk a few hours a day should be appreciated in its intrinsic sense. In Ceylon there are two lawyers of outstanding merit who have failed to succumb to the temptation to mount the Bench: Mr. H. V. Perera and Mr. R. L. Pereira. Both have so far preferred to talk for a few hours daily the "nonsense" referred to by Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, but it remains to be seen how long they are going to retain this cherished and extremely paying privilege.

Indo-Ceylon Relations

ALL Ceylon will remember Dr. E. Asirvatham who gave us some extremely interesting and instructive talks during his visit to the island. In a recent lecture at Triplicane, Madras, Dr. Asirvatham pleaded for continuous social, cultural, and religious contacts between India and Ceylon. The lecturer said it was not right to say, as was done in certain quarters, that Indians in Ceylon were thriving on the fat of the country. The total amount of money through postal savings sent out by Indians in Ceylon to India worked out to about two rupees per head per annum, which was like a drop in a bucket compared with the large amounts going out of Ceylon in the form of interest and dividend to European countries. As regards the vexed question of citizenship, the lecturer said that full citizenship rights should be extended to Indians in Ceylon who had put in at least five years' residence and held permanent interests in the country. The federation of India, Burma and Ceylon was a reasonable possibility. Geographical contiguity, cultural unity, religious affiliations and mutually beneficial trade relations—all pointed in the direction of a closer union between India and Ceylon.

Opinions expressed by writers in contributed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.

Progress of Modern Travancore

Recent Industrial Development

Kollam

A journey to the Malabar country took me first to Quilon, where I had to transact some business. Kollam is a quaint old commercial town with red roads and open spaces. The beautiful brick buildings have picturesque tiled roofs after the Javanese pattern. One does not realise that tiled roofs could be so patterned to take such beautiful curves, till one saw these roofs at Quilon. There are innumerable tile works round about Quilon which send their famous tiles to all parts of the world and to us in Ceylon. Somehow or other our Ceylon folk have not yet learnt how well to lay these tiles, nor do these tiles seem to suit us during the hot months. The Javanese patterned roofs in Travancore also prove the fact that at one time Travancore had a maritime power that carried her trade, her culture, her colonists to Java. In recent years ethnographers have traced the famous Javanese dances back to the Malabar *Kathakali*, danced to this day in Travancore in the original form.

Quilon is a rising commercial town and much of our tobacco sent for the Travancore market, is landed there and kept in bond at the Government Customs bankshalls, till it is released for sale by the Mellabham merchants.

Tiruvitamkur

TIRUVITAMKUR, Malayalam for Travancore, is a picturesque state in the South-western corner of the Indian peninsula and the continuous Western Ghats isolate it from the Madras Presidency and thus confer a distinctiveness on Travancore history and culture. From the mountain heights the country undulates towards the west over hills of dense vegetation, till it reaches the cultivated plains which are skirted by the backwaters or shallow lagoons. The banks of these backwaters are covered with dense coconut plantations. The striking characteristic feature of the country that strikes a wayfarer in Malabar are these broad backwaters, which form a cheap highway traffic from the extreme north as far south as Trivandrum. These backwaters are connected by navigable canals along the entire littoral of Malabar. Travancore is just about one fourth the size of Ceylon, but the population is almost the same in both countries, being about six million people. It is peculiarly interesting to observe that in Northern Travancore people live in a semi rural way, in detached homesteads, each nestling in its own tree-planted and mud-walled garden. In southern Travancore beyond Trivandrum, where Tamil speaking population predominates, villages and village life may be seen.

Cashewnuts

A new and growing industry in Travancore is the cashewnut canning industry. There are number of factories round about Quilon for roasting, shelling, and canning cashewnuts. Hardly any machi-

nery is used in all these processes, and also it does not seem necessary. Cashewnuts have recently been planted in many tracts which have been regarded as waste lands. It grows luxuriantly in the hard red laterite soils which are generally not fit for other vegetation. Raw cashewnuts are also imported from East Africa and the nut is roasted and canned in Travancore. This is possible because labour for this type of work is exceedingly cheap here. This flourishing industry today engages nearly a lac of people, mainly women and children in the cashewnut factories. The canned cashewnuts are chiefly exported to America, where it is highly prized as a delicacy.

Ceramic Industries

IN very recent years the Travancore Government has undertaken an active and aggressive policy of immediate industrialisation and improvement of manufacturing facilities. The establishment of the *Ceramic Factory* at Kundara is one of the principal items on the carefully planned industrial programme sponsored by the Government. The factory is situated a few miles away from Quilon, on a high elevation on the shores of the Astamudi Lake. As one stands on the factory grounds one sees the shores of the lake fringed with green coconut palms and promontories of china clay break the green monotony. The Ceramic Factory is equipped with the latest type of machinery at a cost of about four lacs of rupees and works in two sections, one dealing with the refining of china clay, the other with the manufacture of porcelains and stoneware goods. Extensive deposits of Kaolin of excellent quality are found all round this place. The refined china clay sent out from this factory has captured the market. The manufacture of porcelain and stoneware goods has found a place in the local and external markets. The pickle jars and stoneware pipes made in this factory are excellently turned out and finished and are in much demand locally and outside the state. The Travancore Government Ceramic Industry has been well set and there are indications that it will in the near future be one of the key industries of the state.

Mineral Sands

FROM Quilon we go north by maver boat along the backwaters and along the beautiful Astamudi Lake to Chavara about ten miles away. Here are situated the mineral sands factories. Travancore has an inexhaustible wealth of mineral resources from the sand, like monazite, ilmenite and zircon. The littoral sands of the coast line near these regions abound in these minerals. The deposits in these sands are ready for exploration and the extremely high degree of purity make these occurrences unique. Being sands, no extensive mining operations are required to get at them. The sands are taken into the factory built close to these deposits, they are washed and elaborate and highly magnetised equipment separates them into their

different constituents. Recently a few more minerals have been separated from these sands, such as sillimanite and rutile. It will be interesting to note that ilmenite is used as raw material for the manufacture of certain kinds of superior enamels and paints. America is the largest buyer of these minerals.

Hydro-Electric Power

FOR industrialisation cheap power is necessary. The Hydro-Electric station at Palliyasal which was recently completed is able to supply electric power to many places in Travancore and the very low rates of tariff offered have opened up great possibilities in the fields of industrial and agricultural development of the country.

Rubber & Sugar Industries

THE Rubber Factory in Trivandrum was inaugurated by the Government and is now conducted by a private concern. The factory today is working day and night to cope with the large orders placed by the Government of India. We watched bicycle tyres and tubes being made in this factory and the products turned out are as good as any in the market. The Travancore Sugars and Chemicals Ltd. at Trivandrum and Paper Mills at Punalur are two successful undertakings conducted by private concerns with Government patronage.

Aluminium & Cement Factories

THE Aluminium Production Company are constructing a factory at Alwaye in extreme north Travancore, and this factory will commence smelting aluminium on a very large scale. The company has also contracted for the purchase of all their power requirements from the Palliyasal Hydro-Electric System. The Government has the plans ready for the inauguration of a cement factory. One of their chief highways, the main southern Road from Trivandrum to Cape Comorin has a cement concrete surface for its whole length of fifty-four miles. The Government as soon as their cement factory manufactures cement, will give cement-concrete surfacing to all their highways and thus save much of the money that is now wasted on tar for the roads and for their periodical maintenance.

Modern Industrial Travancore

THUS we see the progressive Travancore Government pushing ahead with its vast and intensive programme for the industrial development of the country. Where local enterprise and local capital has not been forthcoming for industrial or manufacturing purposes, the Government has stepped in and opened up factories themselves and sponsored powerful private concerns to undertake the matter. The Government has not neglected agriculture and the small industries. Industrialisation does not merely mean for them the starting of great factories involving large sums of capital and engaging hundreds of labour. Cheap power must mean the return of prosperity to the vil-

By

A. W. Nadarajah,
Advocate.

lages. To attain this end they are encouraging cheap power to be utilised for cottage industries, like paper making and artificial silk production. "Either we must industrialise or perish," is the alternative placed before the people of Travancore by that brilliant and bold Dewan, Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. He has observed that six million people in a small tract of country, without any intensive agricultural operations, for which the local farmer is inapt, must industrialise themselves if they are to prosper. Travancore with cheap power, excellent and inexhaustible raw materials and abundance of intelligent and skilled human labour, under the aegis of an enlightened and progressive Ruler, is fast developing from a nascent industrial country into a modern industrial State.

TAMIL LITERARY CIRCLE

A number of Tamil lovers in Colombo assembled on the invitation of Mr. A. V. Mylvaganam of the staff of Royal College on Sunday, the 21st September, 1941, at the Wellawatte Recreation Club with Mr. S. Peciathambay B. A. in the Chair. The meeting was convened with the object of forming a Tamil Literary Circle in Colombo called *Ilakkiya Arangu* on the lines of the Royal Asiatic Society (Colombo Branch) in order to afford its members the facilities of higher studies, discussions and researches on Tamil literature etc. A sub-Committee consisting of Messrs K. Sittampalam, K. Sabanathan and S. Sivapathasudaram with Mr. A. V. Mylvaganam as Secretary was appointed to draft the necessary constitution etc. (Cont.)

Pungudutivu Village Progressive Association

A public meeting under the auspices of the above Association will be held on Saturday, the 4th of October 1941, at 6-30 p. m. in the Sdivinayaga Vidyasalai Hall, Mr. V. Pasupathipillai, Chairman, V. C. Pungudutivu, will preside. Mr. S. G. de Zoysa A. S. P., N. P., will speak on the subject of "Preventing Crimes." All are cordially invited to be present.

Personal

Mr. T. Kathiravelu, who contributes today a second article on topics connected with the teaching profession, was formerly on the editorial staff of the "Straits Times" and the "Malaya Tribune." He is the Secretary, Valakamam East Teachers' Association, a Joint Secretary of the Putter Health League and a government-trained teacher of Singapore.

Notice to Correspondents

N. GANESALINGAM: Not suitable. (Ed.)

What is Wrong with our Education?

By

S. Ambalavaner,
(B.Sc., Lond.)

Member, Board of Education,
& Principal, Shivananda
Vidyalaya.

Grouping of Schools

THE scheme outlined diagrammatically in the questionnaire can be divided into two main divisions: (a) Primary Education; (b) Post-primary Education. By Primary Education is meant, I believe, that basic minimum of education, needed as the irreducible minimum for existence in any civilised community and the ordinary routine work of each individual in the community. This basic minimum of education will be postulated as a fundamental right of every citizen and must be provided free of cost to the recipient. The task of post-primary education is to make one understand the fundamental nature of one's own work, to develop its technique and so help to determine the place of each individual and his work in the society in which he lives. Post-primary education should include not only what are called secondary schools, but also all forms of technical training or practical work, which will help the individual to choose his vocation in life in accordance with his natural aptitude and training. In this conception, post-primary education should lead not only to the highest stages of purely scientific or cultural education but also must include a whole additional host of technical schools, practical work and vocational institutions. It is in this stage that a correlation between education and the work of the individual must be steadily established. This correlation must be maintained in such a way so that there may be no unavoidable period of waiting and stagnation till one really finds one's life work. It is only then we will have a rational system of education, in which there will be no more educated people than there is employment available and no more work than there are trained workers to do it. That is the distinguishing mark of a rational society and without it we shall have chaos. The scheme of grading submitted, I hope, will meet the needs of primary and post-primary education outlined above and therefore I concur with it.

Medium of Instruction

I am in favour of the adoption of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction up to the age of at least 14; i. e. till the end of the Junior stage of the secondary schools. The reasons are as follows:—The chief advantage of the mother tongue medium is that it is a great liberating influence. It relieves the strain on the pupil through its naturalness and helps to follow intelligently the entire ground of the subjects in which instruction is given. It saves the time and energy of the pupil and promotes quick and precise understanding. It acts like a life-belt

Some Aspects of the Problem

The following is a Summary of the Evidence given by me before the Special Committee on Education.

to the swimmer whereas the foreign medium acts as a dead weight. With the mother tongue as medium, what is called "poverty of ideas", will ravish and originality will be more in evidence. As long as English is the language of the administration of the island, it must be taught as an additional language from Std. 3 upwards. In the senior departments of our secondary schools English should be the medium of instruction until such time as we are able to give instruction in the advanced stages of modern knowledge in our own languages. For the purpose of bringing about better understanding between the two major communities of the island I would suggest the introduction of Sinhalese in Tamil schools and Tamil in Sinhalese schools in the senior stage.

Control of Schools

I wish to deal with this subject with special reference to the conditions in the Eastern Province. For over half a century, education in this province has been a missionary monopoly. Even out of the 14 English schools in this province are managed by the missionaries, 2 by the Ramakrishna mission and 1 is private school managed by a Hindu lady of Tricomalee. Nearly 140 of the 200 vernacular Schools are owned and managed by missionary bodies; only 12 are Hindu Schools and these are managed by the Ramakrishna mission. There are 27000 school going children in the Province, of them 16000 are Hindus, 7000 are Muslims, 1000 are Buddhists and 3000 are Christians. In this Province we have therefore the denominational system at its worst. The main argument advanced by the missionaries who advocate the denominational system of education is that they want their children to be educated in a religious atmosphere. As the head of a Hindu institution, I too agree that real education can be imparted only in a religious atmosphere. "I look upon religion," says Swami Vivekananda whose ideals any school is supposed to represent, "as the innermost core of education". But it must be the religion which the manager of a school imposes on the school. I consider the religious atmosphere which is foreign to the child definitely detrimental to his growth. The general educational backwardness of the people of this Province will bear ample testimony in support of my contention.

If the state can make it possible for Hindu children to study in Hindu schools and Christian children in Christian schools, I would consider it an ideal system that would be just and fair to all denominations. The continuation of the present system whereby Christian missions are allowed to run schools in Hindu areas is a gross injustice to the Hindus

of this Province who constitute the bulk of its population. The Government, by continuing to pay grants to Missionary institutions on behalf of Hindu children, is perpetuating this injustice. On behalf of the Hindus of this province, I must demand protection and deliverance from this unjust state of affairs. I believe that the existing denominational system is unsound on educational grounds and unjust on religious grounds. If the denominational system is to be continued, the payment of grant to Christian schools on account of the attendance of Hindu children should forthwith be discontinued. This principle will apply to Hindu Schools as well. No grant should be paid for Christian children attending Hindu schools. Then all the denominational schools will be on an equal footing. If in any Hindu village the Hindus are unable to provide schools, then the Government should start schools and also provide facilities for the teaching of religion.

In purely Muslim areas in this province there is not a single Missionary school. A Muslim is greatly attached to his religion. He will never change it. I have not heard of a single case of the conversion of a Muslim. The fact that no missionary school exists in Muslim areas shows the real motive of the missionaries. They are not concerned with the general progress of the province. Their schools exist primarily for proselytizing purposes.

Teachers

TO ensure the success of any system of education there should be an efficient and contented teaching service. The teacher is the main instrument of education. On him lies the responsibility of guiding the destinies of the children. The teaching service is the most vital social service in the country and recruitment to it must be made on grounds of proved merit. I would suggest that a public statutory authority similar to the Civil Service Commission be appointed to recruit men to the teaching service. Once a teacher has been appointed, his rights and privileges should be codified and guaranteed by the highest legislative authority. He should have a decent wage, security of tenure, freedom of thought and expression, immunity from political changes and an assured social position. It is only then we shall have an efficient teaching service, that will be able to give out its best to the country.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1057

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Senathirajah Raja.

gopal of Alaveddy

Deceased.

Nannippillai widow of Senathirajah
Rajagopal of Alaveddy

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Rajagopal Ramachandran of Alaveddy
2. Nagamany Chelliah of Alaveddy

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 4th day of August 1941 in the presence of Mr. S. Uayathambi Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner dated 2nd and 4th day of August 1941 respectively having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the abovenamed 1st Respondent minor for the purpose of representing him in this Testamentary proceedings and of protecting his interests and that Letters of administration be granted to the petitioner unless the abovenamed Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 12th day of September 1941 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 4th day of August 1941

(Sgd.) C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge

12-9-41

Order Nisi extended for 24-10-41

(Sgd. C. C.
D. J.

(O. 36. 2 & 5-10-41)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1069

In the matter of the ntestate estate of the late Amirthaledchumy wife of Muttar Ponnampalam of Elalai,

Deceased.

Muttar Ponnampalam of Elalai,

Vs. Petitioner.

- Minor.
1. Pathmasany daughter of Ponnampalam,
 2. Inthirani daughter of Ponnampalam,
 3. Pushparany daughter of Ponnampalam, and
 4. Veluppillai Chellappah, all of Elalai,

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before D. A. Leavage Esquire, Addl. District Judge, Jaffna, on the 4th day of September, 1941, in the presence of Mr. M. S. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read: It is ordered and declared that the abovenamed 4th respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd and 3rd minor respondents for the purpose of safeguarding their interests in these Testamentary Proceedings and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued and granted to the petitioner unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person shall appear before this Court on the 15th day of October, 1941 and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna, The 4th day of September 1941

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge

Drawn by
Sgd. M. S. Subramaniam
Proctor for Petitioner

(O. 37. 2 & 5-10-41)

A SOCIETY OF TEACHERS

SUGGESTIONS BY THE A. C. U. T.

BY T. KATHIRA VELLU

IN my first article in the "Hindu Organ" of Sept. 15, I stressed the need for a Corruption Commission in connection with forced levies on teachers. In this second article I propose to refer to a fresh memorandum from Mr. E. R. de Silva, President of the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers. Circulated to the N. P. T. A. by Mr K. Nesiab, the suggestions are as follows:—

- (1) On employment every teacher shall become a member of a Society of Teachers to be organised by the A. C. U. T ;
- (2) The Government shall not approve of any appointment unless a teacher is a member of this Society;
- (3) That all schools, assisted as well as recognised, shall guarantee to the teachers their salaries according to the approved scale;
- (4) Membership in the Society of Teachers shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) No teacher will consent to any direct or indirect levy on the salary and will make no voluntary contribution towards school funds directly or indirectly except with the approval of the Society;
 - (b) On joining the profession every teacher shall join a Teachers' Benevolent Association;
 - (c) Every teacher shall follow an approved refresher course once in 3 years.

I expect that district teachers' associations are discussing these now. What are the final implications? If these proposals are carried out, after slight well-considered modifications, the Society of Teachers will attain an ideal 100% membership and become a professional trade union. Forced levies on teachers will become nil. Teachers will help one another effectively through a Benevolent Association while their teaching theory and practice will be reorientated through refresher courses.

Society's Work

The new society should be an Incorporated Society of Teachers modelled on the lines of the Royal Society of Teachers, London, whose executive is the Teachers' Registration Council (established by Parliament, 1907, and constituted by Orders in Council, 1912 and 1925). The Society could be incorporated under an effective Ordinance, introduced by the Minister of Education, and sanctioned by the State Council. I confidently expect it to perform functions akin to the Incorporated Societies of professional people like engineers, miners or accountants. These societies guard all the interests of their respective members and act as the representative, responsible body for each profession.

There should be a full-time paid pensionable secretary, on whose initiative, tact and energy a great deal depends. These are suggestions, a trifle idealistic perhaps, but essential to outwit the chaotic conditions in the profession today. The Society should keep in touch and collaborate with organisations like the Royal Society of Teachers of

the National Union of Teachers (of Great Britain.)

Intermediate Stage

While the Society is in the crucible of formation, depending mainly on the efforts of the A. C. U. T. and of the Department, there comes an intermediate stage, when all appointments and dismissals of teachers should, with beneficial repercussions, be in the hands of the Department of Education. This government assumption of responsibility will ensure a good "take-over" by the freshly inaugurated Society. There would be no need for a membership drive as membership is incumbent on every teacher but a grading of membership according to the qualification, status of appointment, and salary received may seem essential. The whole subject of "salary scales" must be sympathetically reviewed, the New Entrant Scale abolished and a scale applicable to everybody (regardless of the date of entry into service) introduced

Further investigation should improve the position of Provisionally Certificated teachers and Second Class certificated teachers as stagnation in salary prospects is detrimental. Every English qualified teacher in a vernacular school be allowed the option of joining the society. Finally, the whole question of British, foreign and Empire teaching qualifications should be revised and countries within the Empire should give reciprocal recognition to teachers' training establishments. For this we need a non-conservative cosmopolitan attitude.

I appeal for a greater support of societies like the Northern Province Teachers' Provident Society, Limited. Every registered teacher, wherever possible, should become a member. In Malaya we have strongly supported teachers' thrift, loan and co-operative societies. Every English and Bilingual school should subscribe to the "Ceylon Teacher", the official organ of the A. C. U. T., which, I am told, holds its annual general meeting in February. By then I hope that some of the black clouds over the educational horizon would have drifted away. If not, criticise boldly in the press, organise mass meetings and agitate for our rights.

"KAYA KALPA" SPECIFIC TREATMENT

For Rejuvenation, Impotency, Diabetes, Rheumatism, Infantile Paralysis, Convulsion, Skin Diseases & Leprosy.

"MEHARAJA"

The Surest Specific for Urinal and Diabetic Troubles at any Stage

[Sugar, Albumen Sediment, Acid, Excessive Urination] NO DIETING, PRICE Rs. 4 PER BOTTLE (15 DAYS)

This is what the Postmaster, Chundikuli says:-

I have been using your medicine "Meharaja" for Diabetes for one month and I find my urine is free from Sugar, I am greatly obliged for the cure.

P. Nadarajah.

Consult, DR. K. T. MANGALAM R.I.M.P., (Madras), M.S.V.S. Member Chundikuli, Jaffna.

[P. 32, 7-8--6-11-41]

THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

V. 'Atu - Atu - Athal' (அது அது ஆதல்) or the Assimilative Character and Lack of Independence of the Soul

(Continued from our issue of 22-9-41)

Herein lies the *raison d'être* underlying the practice of untouchability and other social customs. We have no desire to discuss this most controversial question here, but content ourselves with stating that it has a most scientific, hygienic and spiritual background behind it but has degenerated in practice and assumed a cast iron form and that it requires mending (but not ending). We say "but not ending" advisedly, as even those who are loudest in denouncing the custom as a social evil practice it unwittingly in their everyday lives, more or less. We happened to be present once at a gathering of some Jaffna folk in an outstation town some ten or twelve years ago when Jaffna was highly excited with the question of equal seating and interdining of children in Government and grant-in-aid schools. It was night time and time was hanging heavily on us. Various topics ranging from the most serious to the most trifling were talked about and discussed, and some one started the equal seating and interdining question. There was a learned doctor, a highly cultured and most amiable gentleman, who waxed eloquent over the evils of untouchability. It was found however that his children were sent daily to a distant school. When asked why the little ones were not sent to a Tamil school situated much nearer to his house, he explained that that school was attended by the riffraff of the locality and he did not want his children to be spoiled by keeping bad company. Herein then lies the secret that forms the substratum for the practical observance of untouchability even by those who denounce it in theory, and therefore it is that we say that it requires mending and not ending.

St. Tiruvalluvar gives a word of advice to mankind in the following couplets:

பற்றுசு பற்றற்குக் பற்றினே அப்பற்றைப்
பற்றுசு பற்று விடற்கு.
சார்பு உணர்ந்த சார்பு கெட ஒருகில் மற்றுத்தித்
சார்பா சார்தரும் கோய்.

Desire the desire of Him who is desireless. Desire that Desire so that all (evil) desires may leave you. If you learn to discard your (false) friend (impurity) and know your (true) friend (God), such action will destroy the adhering disease (Pirapatham and Sauchitam) and no other disease (Akamiyam) would adhere to you.

Tirukkallittupadiyar expands this latter couplet as follows:

சார்பு உணர்ந்த சார்புகெட ஒருகில் எந்தமயால்
சார்பு உணர்ந்தல் தானே தியானமும் ஆம்--சார்பு
கெட ஒருகில் கல்ல சமாதியும் ஆய் தேசம்
பட வகுவதில்லை வினைப்பற்ற.

As it is laid down that one should discard his (false) friend and know his (true) Friend, such knowledge (or union with Gnanam) is contemplation on the Deity and (steadfastness in) the discard of the (false) friend would result in real Samadhi (God-realisation). Then there will be no occasion for the performance of (Akamiya) Karmam and the resultant suffering (of new births)

If it were not for this particular characteristic of the soul of benefiting by instruction and adapting itself to its environments (bodily, mental or spiritual), books will be of no use, Sadanas (or performance of religious practices) become purposeless and there can be no such thing as Moksham or Veedu (liberation from suffering). In fact, Unapathiyar uses the fact of the existence of the Vedas and other books (அவ்வகல் உணர்ச்சி கிணறுத லாழை) as one of the reasons for proving the existence of a separate entity called Pasu, other than Pati who is omniscient, and hence requires no books for his edification and other than Pasam which is insentient and cannot therefore learn and derive any benefit from them. Propaganda, whether educational or otherwise, is effective because of this characteristic of man. Trade propaganda, in which the British and comparatively recently the Japanese are adepts, political propaganda, like that of Goebbels of Germany who seems to be an expert in this branch of "Statecraft", religious propaganda, like that of the Missionaries, whether open propaganda by direct preaching and making conversions or covert and indirect propaganda through the instrumentality of schools, or propaganda of any other variety, it all has the tremendous effect which we find it possesses because of this particular characteristic of man. Our leaders urge the education of our children in Hinduschools in a Hindu atmosphere for the same reason. But even in Hinduschools if the Ekamavayalia or Lokayata element predominates the children imbibe views of a similar nature, while if beef-eaters or drunkards or those who associate with beef-eaters or drunkards be in the ascendant, God save the children who attend such schools! Material gain, the acquisition of a few rupees, nay, of all the riches of the world, is no criterion, no compensation for the moral and spiritual loss, the temptation and the evil example set before the children. "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" says Jesus the Christ, one of the noblest teachers the world ever produced whose teachings, alas! have been misinterpreted and misunderstood even as the Vedas are often misinterpreted and mistranslated.

To be continued

THE ESSENCE OF THE TAMIL DEMAND

Continued from page 1

ents, namely of the Ceylon National Association and the Ceylon Reform League—a pledge given to the Jaffna Association to accept any scheme which the Association may put forward not inconsistent with the principles of the resolution, and further to actively support the demand for the provision or reservation of a seat for the Tamils in the Western Province. It was only because negotiations were broken that I was compelled, with all the Tamil Associations, to secede from the Congress, and, thereupon, the Congress fell to pieces. It was reduced to a condition in which it had not only ceased to represent the bulk of the Ceylon population but did not represent even the Singhalese. This is clear from the great diminution in the numbers of delegates who, at the last session of the Congress, numbered scarcely forty as against many times that number under my Presidency. The men now guiding the Congress have never forgotten me for my secession which had such disastrous results, and have pursued me with misrepresentation and abuse." The position today is essentially the same as it was when Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam wrote this letter to Governor Manning. Nothing is to be gained by trying to side-track the whole question of safe-guards for minorities by the use of words which have no bearing whatever on the subject. In my next article I shall deal with the other misconceptions in "Ceylon Tamils" article.

NOTICE

It is proposed to acquire private lands suitable for allotment under the Land Development Ordinance to persons of the peasant class in localities in which there is insufficient crown land available. Owners of land who are willing to offer their lands for the purpose are invited to forward to the Revenue Officer of the District in which the lands are situated the following information regarding each block

- Name of the land
- Situation and survey reference (if any)
- Conditions [e.g., forest, chena, or cultivated]
- Extent and
- Price claimed for the land.

C. L. WICKREMASINGHE,
Land Commissioner.

Colombo, 25th September, 1941.
[G. 22. 2-10-41]

THE JAFFNA MUTUAL BENEFIT FUND LTD.

(Established 1918)

BANKERS.

Authorised Capital Rs. 800,000.00
Amount of Calls made Rs. 134,367.00

SHARES: 8000 shares of Rs. 100/- each. 75 monthly instalments of Re. 1/- per share will earn Rs. 100/- for each at the end of the period. Shares issued all times.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 500/-.

FIXED DEPOSITS received for periods of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months and interest allowed at 1, 2, 4 and 6 % respectively.

DRAFTS issued on the National and Imperial Banks to Colombo and the Principal cities of India. Remittances to and from F. M. S. by special arrangements.

INDIAN MONEY bought and sold

LOANS on the security of Jewels a speciality. Interest charged at 9% per annum (Part payments accepted.)

For further particulars apply to

S. KANAGASABAI,
Shroff.

Y. 89 A. 21-11-40—20-11-41. (19)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1042

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Murugesapillai Kathiravetpillai of Vannarponnai East Deceased.

Dr. Murugesapillai Kandaswamy of Vannarponnai East presently of Kurunegala Vs. Petitioner. Minor 1. Kathiravetpillai Murugesapillai

2. Chelvakanmanyammah daughter of Kathiravetpillai
3. Nagarajeswary daughter of Kathiravetpillai
4. Rasammah widow of Kathiravetpillai all of Vaddukoddai East Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 7th day of July 1941 in the presence of Mr. V. K. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavits of the petitioner and witnesses to the said Last Will dated respectively the 27th and 6th days of June 1941 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad litem over the minors the 1st to 3rd Respondents for the purpose of watching their interests in these proceedings and that the Last Will and Testament of the deceased abovenamed dated the 17th October 1940 which is filed of record in this case be and the same is hereby proved and that Letters of Administration with the will annexed be issued to the petitioner as the brother of the deceased unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 20th day of October 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

The 16th day of September 1941
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

(O. 35. 25 & 2-10-41)

NOTICE

Applications for the post of Rest-House Keeper, Mullaitivu, will be received by me up to 12 noon on 3rd October, 1941.

Applicants should have a good knowledge of cookery, and should be able to read and write Tamil or Singhalese and speak English. Copies of testimonials should be annexed to the application.

The salary attached to the post is Rs. 22/50 per mensem. Allowances for conservancy and Rest-House Labourer are Rs. 15/- per mensem.

CARLTON S. COREA,
Chairman D. R. C. Vavuniya.

The Kachcheri,
Vavuniya, 22nd September, 1941.
[G. 21. 2-10-41]

N. VAITILINGAM & Co.,

HARDWARE MERCHANTS & BUILDING CONTRACTORS

COLOMBO & JAFFNA

Telephone No. 30. (Jaffna.)

We stock Japan, German, Danish, Italian and English cements. We are Sole Distributors in Jaffna for Asano cement which is a superior cement and well patronised by Government and other local bodies in and out of Jaffna. As we get down these cements direct from Europe and Japan we sell them at surprisingly cheap price.

QUOTATIONS WILL BE GIVEN ON APPLICATION
We Undertake Building Constructions of Steel Structures Or any other Kind or Size

We have a good stock of roofing and plain sheets in all sizes, Round iron, Barbed wire, Brassfittings, Paints, Varnishes, Oils, Asbestos roofing, Ceiling, etc.

Head Office

38. Third Cross Street Colombo.
Y. 20. 1-4-41—31-3-42. (T)

Phone No. 2210 (Colombo)

BEST

"CROWN" BRAND

TILES

WEST MINISTER CHIMING WALL AND BRACKET CLOCKS
GRANDFATHER CLOCKS

RADIO RECEIVERS

BEST

CEMENT

&c.

STOCKED BY

EMMANUEL TIRUCHELVAM

"TIRUCHELVAM BUILDINGS"

MAIN STREET, JAFFNA.

(DIRECT IMPORTER)

REPAIRS TO RADIO SETS & CLOCKS UNDERTAKEN

Charges Competitive.

T'gram: Tiruchelvam

T'phone: 52.

(Y. 23. 12-5-40 to 11-5-41.)

(T)

WELLAWATTE SPINNING AND WEAVING MILLS' CLOTHS

ARE NOW A HOUSEHOLD WORD IN EVERY JAFFNA HOME

Once Tried — Always Liked

We Manufacture Cloths of Every Description

VATTEES
SHAWLS
SAREES
SARONGS
CAMBOYS
TOWELS
LONG CLOTHS
MULLS
BEDSHEETS

DRILLS
SUITINGS
TUSSORES
SHIRTINGS
SHEETINGS
TICKINGS
TABLINGS
POPLINS
CASEMENTS

ETC.

ETC.

ETC.

CALL AT OUR
RETAIL DEPOT:

GRAND BAZAAR, JAFFNA.

WELLAWATTE SPINNING & WEAVING MILLS

(Incorporated in India)

The liability of members is limited.

Mis. 127. 14-11-40—