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How Leaders Should Be Controlled

By

A Correspondent

More Indian & British Examples

A Striking Incident

WITH regard to my observations on party discipline, I made some reference to the action taken by the Indian National Congress for breaches committed by its prominent members. May I give you a most striking incident in this connection? The Congress showed itself for once to be a realistic organisation when it went to the extent of throwing overboard its great leader Mahatma Gandhi, and the principles of Ahimsa and Gandhism when the Congress Committee passed the now famous Poona resolution offering armed support to Britain against the Axis Powers if self-government was given to India. Mahatma Gandhi is said to be not only the greatest man in India but is claimed by many to be the greatest in the world. He is also the greatest leader the Congress ever had. His greatest principle is that of Ahimsa and he expressed himself against Indian participation in the war. In spite of this double set of circumstances, the Congress Committee, at the invitation of Mr. Rajagopalachariar, passed the resolution giving up the principle of Ahimsa. Thus, a great organisation dropped, if I might say so, the great pilot, because it felt that the step was necessary in the interests of the people of India; and this departure from the principle laid down by Mahatma Gandhi was advocated by no less a person than the ex-Premier of Madras who is said to be one of Mahatma Gandhi's greatest friends and followers.

British Example

I should like also to give an example from recent British politics. It was said that Mr. Neville Chamberlain was the most influential leader the Conservative Party had during recent times. People who knew things used to say that his influence in his party was greater than that of even Lord Baldwin or Mr. Winston Churchill. When, however, it was found that his policy of

appeasement was a failure, the Conservative Party had to give him up and accept Mr. Winston Churchill's leadership to save Britain and the Commonwealth during a period of unprecedented crisis. It should be remembered that Mr. Churchill was not a *persona grata* with the majority of the Conservative Party or even with the big bosses for a long period. I am giving this instance to show that the requirements of public interest and the safety of the people are paramount and should be always preferred to personal loyalties. It is principles and not personalities that should be allowed to count in public affairs. The Tamil people have been for a long time influenced, rightly or wrongly, by personalities, personal likes and dislikes, and not by principles. It is high time that we realised that the exigencies of the hour demand that we should be clear in our minds as to what principles we are standing for in the political life of the country and to hold fast to these principles regardless of personal likes and dislikes. Then only is there some hope of salvation.

Great Indian Leaders

MARKING back to the early politics of the Indian National Congress, I should remind your readers that even great leaders like Sir Surendranath Bannerjee, Mr. Gokhale, and Sir Rash Behari Ghosh were forced out of the Congress leadership as the people were not satisfied with their policy; the old leaders had to make way for men like Mr. Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, and Mr. C. R. Das. Even a devoted worker in the Congress for Indian Home Rule like Mrs. Annie Besant was left to herself without any support by the Congress as the organisation found itself to be in disagreement with her views after the advent of Mahatma Gandhi.

The Greatest Example

ONE of the greatest examples when an important public man was removed from his high place and another person was installed in his stead was that of the last King Edward

VIII, now the Duke of Windsor. When the British public, represented by the Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, Lord Halifax, and the Archbishop of Canterbury were in disagreement with the King on account of his matrimonial affairs, the King had to accept the decision of his subjects and withdraw himself. This incident speaks volumes for the strength of public opinion in Britain. It is no use people in Jaffna or Ceylon saying that they are as good as the British people in every respect. People here worship office, power and success, and those who wield power and those who have succeeded by fair means or foul, by any devious method, are respected and worshipped by the public who are fully aware of the disqualifications and vices of the parties concerned. This practice is not so much prevalent in Britain. An individual who was once King-Emperor over the British Commonwealth and ruling nearly 550 million people is content to serve in the outposts of the empire as Governor of the Bahamas. The incident shows the strength of public opinion in Britain and at the same time reveals the spirit of loyalty with which people in high places fall in with the requirements and wishes of the people. I would give another example. Mr. Lloyd George who was Prime Minister and who was said to have won the last Great War, had to give up office as he did not have a majority in the House of Commons and is now content to serve his country as a private member.

The Lesson

THESE examples should serve as a guide and an incentive to the people of this country to assert themselves, with or against their leaders, and should also serve as a lesson to the leaders to withdraw from their places of vantage if they are not wanted by the public. They should not act on the policy that a person of authority can do no wrong and that a man who is once a leader is always a leader. In the pre-

reform days when the political life of this country was not so advanced and when we had no measure of self-government, the Tamils in common with the other communities looked up to personalities in the absence of any political principle which had not come into vogue at that time. The old days have now gone for ever never to come back, and public opinion should keep pace with the advance of political thought and adhere to definite principles and should not entirely go after individuals and persons. In this connection, I would add that undue regard still continues to be paid as in the days of old to Governors, Government Agents, Judges, and Civil Servants. This was bad enough in the olden days but if the people of this country are really serious about attaining self-government and accelerating the rate of political progress, they must learn to keep these officials in their proper place. People must learn to look more and more to their political leaders for guidance, inspiration, and direction, and get away from the apron-strings of the bureaucracy. In the councils of the nation officialdom has no place. On the other hand, our political leaders also should act with that sense of responsibility, dignity, honour and efficiency, which is required from people of their position, and encourage the people to give them the first place in their thoughts. Unless the public and the political leaders realise their responsibilities to one another and act sensibly and properly, the country can never progress on correct lines, and self-government, even when it comes, will only prove to be a hollow mockery, and will not last. No community of people can be free without purging itself of selfishness and cant. This is what Mahatma Gandhi has been preaching all these years. Nothing is to be gained by girding at the British or anybody else. We have made ourselves what we are: this is the supreme secret of our degradation. We are the only enemies of our own salvation. Let us, therefore, while there is yet time, take note of our own errors and defects, and see whether we cannot, by our own unaided efforts, raise ourselves to the level of free men and patriots ready to offer the hand of friendship to those who are now struggling for the preservation of those very ideals which we seek to realise in our midst.

MANAGER'S NOTICE

The Offices of the "Hindu Organ" and the Saiva Prakasa Press will be closed on Sunday, the 19th instant, for Theepavali Festival and therefore there will be no issue of the paper on Monday, the 20th instant.

MANAGER.

16-10-41.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1941

MOSCOW

WHILE THE GERMANS CLAIM that their artillery is within range of the outermost defences of Moscow, it is stated that Marshal Timoshenko's troops are making a courageous stand on the historic battlefield of Borodino and have succeeded in halting the German advance. It is strange how history repeats itself. Napoleon invaded Russia, as Hitler has done, defeated the Russian armies, and entered Moscow after fighting his last battle with the Russians at Borodino. The German Army is doing the same thing. Is the result going to be different?

The Russians have been wise enough to defend every city that could be defended. It is probable that Moscow will be defended with as much courage and tenacity as Leningrad has been. The Russians have not fallen into the error committed by the French General Staff when it refused to defend Paris. Their policy in this regard is more in accord with the repeated declarations of Mr. Winston Churchill last year that London would be defended street by street in the event of invasion.

It is obvious that the Germans have thrown all their available resources into the latest attack on Moscow. New Soviet armies hitherto held in reserve are, however, being brought into action, and these new troops have succeeded not only in halting the German advance but also in launching counter-attacks on a fairly large scale.

A Moscow broadcast to France recently declared: "There are no Petains or Laval's here. The German hordes will travel endlessly over the remains of Russia without breaking the spirit of the Soviet people or their resistance". This is the spirit in which the Russian armies are meeting the Germans. In the meantime, Japan is still on the fence—a circumstance which clearly proves that the German victories in Russia are not regarded as decisive.

INDIA AND CEYLON

Details of the agreed conclusions arrived at between the delegates of the Government of India and the delegates of the Ceylon Government have not been published. The public is, therefore, not in a position to express an opinion on the outcome of the negotiations. The "Indian Express" of Madras hit the nail on the head when it said that no pact would be satisfactory unless it recognised the vital fact that the 800,000 Indians in Ceylon are not birds of passage but form part of the population of the island. The problem here presented is grave enough but it must be faced fairly and squarely. The Indian point of view is that, with the fairly considerable measure of self-government Ceylon is now having and the grant of adult franchise, the Indian community will not be able to develop itself materially and morally as it is entitled to do, unless the franchise is also conceded to its members. Without its proper share of political power, no community in Ceylon, whether it is European or Indian, will be able to lead an honourable and happy life and contribute its quota to the common welfare. Any attempt to deny the franchise to a section of our population will be only a repetition of what happened in ancient Greece and Rome. These countries maintained slave populations without political rights in order to minister to their physical and material needs. Such a state of affairs will have a demoralising effect on the whole country and is bound to lead ultimately to disaster and misery. While we agree that the interests of our nationals should be safeguarded, it is at the same time imperative that nothing should be done to hinder the closer co-operation of India and Ceylon leading in the fulness of time to a perfect identity of interests between both countries in all matters. The denial of the franchise to Indian Tamils will have an important bearing on the position and status of the Ceylon Tamils who cannot afford to stand by and see members of their own race treated as hewers of wood and drawers of water to satisfy the politicians and the capitalists. The Tamils have as much right as anybody else to have a voice in deciding the issues that have been raised, and they cannot, and should not, allow themselves to be ignored. We wish to say in this connection that the honour of India alone is not at stake. The honour and safety of the Tamils of Ceylon is even more at stake, and we cannot allow any section of our race to be relegated to the position of serfs in the body politic which has been built up greatly through Tamil efforts. It is unfortunate that this aspect of the matter is not so vividly present in our minds as it ought to be.

COMPLETE EDUCATION
IN TAMIL

What It Has Done For Jaffna

We have taken the following extracts from the interesting report presented by Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam, Principal, Union College, Tellipalai, at the recent prize-giving, a report of which appears elsewhere.

That Committee

THE Special Committee of Education has been at work now for 18 months. They have spent sleepless nights touring the country from north to south and east to west in quest of a remedy for our educational ills. We must confess that neither sun nor stars have appeared in the educational firmament during these many months. In spite of our misgivings and our protests, the Minister promised to deliver us from the confusion that had enveloped us. The Special Committee was to be the pillar of fire that would lead us. Yet, the promised land still seems to be a tantalizing vision. However, a silver lining seems to appear in the clouds. We venture to think that Dr. Ivor Jennings is the leader who can deliver us from the bondage of a foreign system of education and examinations and lead us into the promised land of a freer and broader system suited to the peculiar genius and culture of our people. Let us have an atmosphere in which our rich heritage would live and thrive and be not throttled and choked.

The Mother Tongue

I had thought all along that it was a prize-day truism to say that the mother tongue should be the medium of instruction in our schools. I had thought that in our small, unsettled world of education, we could at least take this view for granted. But we have been not a little distressed to see the pronouncement of Mr. H. S. Perera, after his research into the last 5th standard test, that "learning through the medium of English does not retard the average girl at all and the average boy by only a year and that in any revision of the system of schools in Ceylon, there seems to be no case at all for completely giving up the English School system." This is not the place for me to join issue with Mr. Perera on this subject. An able reply has already been given to his contention by a distinguished member of the teaching profession. However, it is difficult for me not to refer to the phenomenal success that resulted from an education imparted in the mother tongue in these very premises during the latter half of the last century. Men like Allen Abraham went out of these portals after a complete course of education in Tamil. They learned Algebra and Geometry in Tamil. They took up the study of English later, graduated and made a mark in life. Some got into the judiciary while others became great lawyers and

teachers and pastors. The name of Allen Abraham is not a mere memory to many of us. With primitive instruments and an improvised observatory, did he not predict the appearance of the Halley's comet in 1910 with great precision? Was not the title of F. R. A. S. conferred upon him for this achievement? Talk to any of the old graduates of Tellipalai and you will be struck by their clear grasp of principles and their original thinking as compared to the superficial knowledge of the spoon-fed boys of today. This I have said not in praise of Tellipalai but in defence of a national system of education with the mother tongue as the medium of instruction.

Tyranny of English Schools

If all this is true, it may be asked why the Bilingual system of education has failed or is failing. The reason is this. There are three different types of schools existing side by side today—English, Bilingual and Vernacular. These names emphasise not only the media of instruction but also unhappily the differences in social status of the parents and pupils. This the parents will not brook. They will beg, borrow or steal and send their children to English Schools. It is no wonder the other schools suffer. The remedy for this situation lies in the hands of the Government. Though it is true that a people get what they want in such matters, still in this instance the Government should give a bold lead and sweep away the different types of schools and introduce just one.

Denominational Schools

We have had reasons in the course of the year to be anxious concerning the future of denominational schools. In the 1939 Ordinance the Minister attempted to do away with denominational schools in one fell stroke. The country gave its answer in no uncertain manner and the design was given up for all appearances. But later the idea was resurrected with the appointment of the Special Committee and several attempts were made to undermine the stability of the denominational schools. We now come to understand that in the face of the determined fight put up by denominational authorities, the morale of the Minister's men has been so severely shaken that they have no chance of winning the battle. All that we wish to say is that the closing down of denominational schools will mean the black-out of all educational enterprise and idealism.

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

Whom Do Our Leaders Represent?

What is the Truth?

I have read with care the articles that have appeared in the "Hindu Organ" on the question of the balance of power and the status of Indians in Ceylon. Both these questions have been discussed with a great deal of bitterness for some time past. I am really surprised that leaders of the people in this island should give so much attention to these matters at a time like the present when a war is being fought which will change the shape of things to come whatever happens to the miserable storm in the local teacup. I feel that the public has been completely misled into the idea that the Bandaranaike and their satellites are fighting to make the Sinhalese community the dominant section in this country. The analysis of the present intriguing situation by the Mayor of Galle, Mr. Dahanayake, is, I suppose, more correct. The Bandaranaike are fighting their holy war for nothing holier than the supremacy of the Buddhist Goigama section of the Sinhalese community, and it is, I am sure, still more correct to say that the wealthier elements in that section are the particular object of their attentions. Further, their vituperations may be safely overlooked, because I am certain that the tails which can wag so eloquently can also droop at a word from Queen's House.

The Tamils Also

At the same time it is my earnest conviction that there are also persons amongst the Tamils who are really fighting, not for the rights of the Tamils as a whole, but for

The Parasitic One Per Cent!

the rights of the wealthy and noisy section of the Tamils. I know these people well. I know also the way they herd voters to the polls. If anybody wants proof, he can have it, because I am personally acquainted with facts which prove the truth of my charge. Further, by no stretch of imagination, can the gentlemen who shed crocodile tears over the Indian cause be regarded as the representatives of the Indian labourers. There are many representatives of the money-lending and land-grabbing section of the Indian community who are a bane to any society in any part of the world.

Whom Do They Represent?

THAT leaders of this type should be given any hearing is beyond my understanding, as they cannot honestly claim to represent one per cent. of the people of Ceylon. The fact that they are able to lead armies of voters to the polls is no criterion of their claim to a representative character. We cannot take them seriously. Some of them seem to enjoy kicks from brown feet, while others think that such compliments are the sole monopoly of white feet. But, both sections are agreed on one interesting point: that 99 per cent. of the people of Ceylon should be the passive recipients of these little attentions without laying claim to a share of the spoils.

Curse of Insularity

I feel that it is all wrong to discuss any question in Ceylon from

an insular point of view. A war is being fought out on a scale which would have defied the imagination of our ancestors. Geographical boundaries are being altered every day. It is necessary that we examine our problems from the international point of view also. The war, when it started, was between two groups: one pleading prescription, and the other trying to acquire. But the people who are really affected by this struggle are the masses in every country. This is a fact which all declarations and charters have to take note of. But with the entry of Soviet Russia, the war has changed its complexion. It has become, more completely than it was before, a war of opposing ideologies, and every individual, however distant he may be from the scene of battle, is now called upon to make his choice finally and irrevocably. No amount of windy resolutions in the State Council or discussions on the precious Indo-Ceylon question will, to my mind, check the current of events.

A Diversion

MY view is that all these fireworks in regard to the minority question and the Indo-Ceylon question are actually diverting the attention of the vast majority of the people of Ceylon from the epoch-making events in Europe and the Far East. The great task before us is to adjust ourselves to these events. The people of Ceylon—I refer to the 99 per cent. and not to the parasitic and

By

C. Tharmakulasingham

noisy one per cent.—should organise themselves so that they may, if possible, play an effective part in the shaping of things to come. There is no reason to despond because Ceylon is such a small speck in the Indian Ocean. We are a part of the world and we are soldiers who should array themselves on the side of the oppressed peoples all over the world. We are not alone in this bitter struggle. Immense sacrifices are being made by our comrades and friends in the fighting line, be it in England or in Russia. Victory for them is victory for us. There is only one question confronting us all: are we to submit forever to the spirit of Nazism wherever it may be found, or are we going to help those who are trying to overcome it and make the world safe for you and me?

Only One Answer

THERE can be only one answer to this question. Call your new State what you will. Let it be a republic or a Soviet or a constitutional Monarchy on the staid British model. But the first thing to do is to save the dignity of man that clamours for salvation. I ask our politicians when they talk about rights what they propose to do with these rights if the whole world is to become a concentration camp. Once the Nazis win, liberty will lose its meaning and there will be no rights to fight for and to preserve. Do our politicians realise this?

Encouragement of Cottage Industries

Pt. Pedro Sabha's Resolutions

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Point Pedro Maha Jana Sabha held in the Sabha Hall on 3rd. October 1941, it was resolved:—

To ask the Government to open a training centre for ceramic at Thunnalai and to send an expert to teach the local potters and others interested in the industry the art of making earthenware articles on up-to-date scientific lines.

Mr. Sam. T. Solomons, the President of the Sabha, in proposing the resolution said that annually several thousands of rupees worth of pottery was imported from South India through Point Pedro alone. There was near Thunnalai, a village which was inhabited mainly by potters who were plying the trade from early times, but owing to the archaic methods of manufacture they were unable to compete with the foreign goods in respect of both quality and cost. Consequently the industry was dying. It was a pity that though they had the proper kind of clay and all other facilities they could not get a living wage. It was chiefly due to the inferiority of their goods. It was the duty of the Government to come to their rescue and teach them the up-to-date methods of manufacture. They requested the Government

to move in the matter without delay and do something to help the potters whose only means of existence was slipping out of their hands.

It was decided also to request the Government to open training centres for other suitable Cottage Industries in the District. Mr. Solomons suggested Hosiery as a promising item and worthy of serious consideration. He pointed out that Vadamarachy being an agricultural place, the people had to spend four to six months of the year in enforced idleness. If they could be trained to spend this time in some useful and productive manner it would improve their economic condition. Hosiery seemed to be a profitable work. The speaker said that he was surprised at the strides which South India had made in this line. In his recent visits to South India he had come across several families all over Malabar and the Tamil Districts, where knitting, hosiery and other articles gave steady work at home from which they derived a considerable income.

The establishment of Hosiery Industry, i.e. the manufacture of

knitted goods as a Cottage Industry was worthy of serious consideration. It could be taken up by all classes of people. This would afford alternative sources of employment for the predominantly large agricultural population in this country. Of all the cheap industries Hosiery manufacture seemed to be the most useful and cheap and it could be conducted in this country with less capital and more success than mills. Ceylon markets were now overflowing with Japanese and foreign Hosiery goods. These were, although very cheap and good looking, not durable. If the Industry could be introduced amongst women it would serve two useful purposes. It would provide a healthy occupation for the members of the agricultural families in this country and make possible for young girls and women to work in their leisure hours in their own houses and for the members of the same family to work in shifts on the same machines. A hand machine for socks and frocks will cost between Rs. 150/- to Rs. 300/-. Conditions in Jaffna were very similar to those in South India. Hosiery required no great initial expenditure, but when brought to a work-

ing condition ensured a steady income. Here also the difficulty seemed to be the want of a training centre where those interested could be taught so that they could continue it in their homes.

The problem of unemployment was being felt by all classes both educated and uneducated. Thousands of young men who passed yearly from schools and colleges were seen knocking at the doors of Government offices and private firms in search of employment. They returned disgusted and disappointed when they received at every place the same stereotyped reply "No vacancy". The condition of the agricultural and labouring classes was no better. Living had become very dear, while the source of income was quite limited. They were subject to continuous suffering, hardship and utter distress. With the exception of a few capitalists, the majority of the population in this Division consisted of middle class and poor people with limited means. They were anxious to find some new and simple occupation which does not require a big capital outlay and in which the working costs were not unduly high but the returns were quick and continuous. (Cor.)

Krishna Bai's Message To Humanity

IN these days of scientific individualism and godless materialism when there is so much of spiritual emptiness in the soul of the world, Birthdays of Sages and Saints have a special significance to the distressed humanity. On 20-9-41 Her Holiness Mother Krishna Bai of Anandashram, Kanhangad, South Canara, entered upon the 39th year of her life on the physical plane. It is really a sacred day for rejoicings and thanks giving to Almighty. It is also gratifying to note that her devotees in Ceylon are having this year a celebration at Jaffna.

Mother Krishna Bai is one of those rare flowers of human life, which blossom on this earth, from time to time, for the sole purpose of shedding the sweet fragrance of love and service for the joy of the world. Simplicity is her very nature. Born of the universal spirit of Love, she toils and sacrifices her all for the sake of Love. Her life is a shining example of what is best and highest in our spiritual truths, and it strikingly reminds us and makes us feel proud of the rich heritage of our Mother-land.

It is nearly seven years since the writer had the rare privilege to come in personal touch with this foremost woman saint of modern India. His first visit to Anandashram to pay homage to His

Self-Surrender and Service

Holiness Swami Ramdas, the founder of that Ashram, was a sudden and unexpected one. Spiritual vibrations sent out by saintly souls travel far and wide, annihilating space and time, until they are caught up by those finest and highest radio sets, human hearts, in tune with the transmitting agencies. The writer experienced such vibrations just before this first visit. There was then a crowd of several hundreds at the Ashram, and we observed a small made lady in spotless white taking the most active part in serving dinner to the devotees. She appeared so pure, so blissful, so elevated from the rest of humanity, and consequently so attractive that her very presence was like the light of the full moon on a cloudless night. Her approach filled my heart with love and beauty, and roused divine emotions in my mind. A little while later I learnt that the lady who made such an everlasting impression on my mind was no other person than the presiding Goddess of the Abode of Bliss.

Mother Krishna Bai's worldly life was full of severe trials and sad experiences. They all have a great lesson for every one of us.

At a time when she was overwhelmed with grief due to the sudden and untimely death of her beloved husband, she came under the benign influence of Swami Ramdas and the Divine grace expressed through him enabled her to view the problems of life from our ancient seers' angle of vision. In other words, when the unreality of things knocked at the door of her heart, it opened to Reality, and the transient miseries of this world ceased to disconcert or vex her. On the contrary, misery gave her mental discipline; sorrow toned her subtle body, and purified her soul. And today she is a great physician prescribing tonic for our spiritual health. Her touch heals. Her presence charms the very air in which she moves. She lives and serves as the incense burns. She teaches us, more by practice than by precept, that 'whatever God does is for our good', and that the easiest, shortest and quickest method for salvation is to follow the path of self-surrender.

Thus, we clearly see her life to be a practical illustration of the essence of Bhagawad Gita. After describing the different

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paths that lead to perfection, its Divine Author summed up His instructions by the statement,—"Surrendering all other duties, seek refuge in ME alone; I shall liberate you from all sins, grieve not."

The casual visitor to Anandashram gets away with the impression that it is only a Modern Brindavan, the place of Love, but when he repeats his visits or makes his stay on the first visit itself a little longer, he comes to realise that this Ashram represents Mathura (place of knowledge) and Dwarka (place of work) as well, or, in other words, a living example of the synthesis of Bhagawan Sri Krishna's life and teachings.

Blessed indeed is Mother India, who has given birth to Mahatmas like Swami Ramdas and Mother Krishna Bai. They are the eternal Lights of Civilisation. In fact, they are the saviours of humanity. May there be many more happy returns of this day during the life of Her Holiness.

Valigamam East Teachers' Association

First General Meeting

As the first general meeting of the Valigamam East Teachers' Association for 1941-42, held at the Urumpirai Hindu College, Chunnakam, on Thursday last, with Mr. J. S. Thiru Rajasingham in the chair, the following four resolutions were unanimously passed and submitted through the N. P. T. A. and the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers to the Executive Committee of Education:—

(1) That Uncertificated Teachers, with London Matriculation or Senior Cambridge qualifications employed after June 1933, be given the same rights as Provisionally Certificated teachers.

(2) That the action taken by Provisionally Certificated Teachers in the Island regarding their classification in the salary scale of Uncertificated Teachers (old entrants) be heartily endorsed;

(3) That war bonuses be paid by the Government to all teachers drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 100 or less, as is being done in the case of government servants;

(4) That the political activities of members of the teaching profession be not curtailed in any way and that the personal liberty of every teacher be safeguarded.

These resolutions, together with the seven resolutions previously published in the "Hindu Organ", are expected to be on the agenda of the N. P. T. A. annual general meeting to be held at the Central College, Jaffna, on Saturday, October 18.

The association viewed with disfavour the present system of conducting the J. S. C. examination and suggests that the Examination be conducted on the lines of the S. S. C. examination. It is felt that the Standard 5 Departmental Tests are essential.

The considered view of the Association is that the 'Thadachi' Competition organised by the Divisional Inspector of Schools, N. D. be conducted separately for English and for vernacular schools. The Secretary was authorised to correspond with the D. I. of schools in this connection. English qualified teachers in vernacular schools were not given the option of joining the Association as members as it was felt that they were and could be members of vernacular teachers' associations.

The Balance sheet for 1940-41, duly audited was passed. It was decided to apply for copies of the "Ceylon Teacher" to be distributed to each school in the district. Mr. M. S. Changarappillai was elected a committee member.

(Cor.)

A Lecture

A public lecture, under the auspices of the V. E. T. A., will be delivered on Thursday, October 23, at 4.45 p.m. at the C. M. S. English School, Kopay, when Dr. E. W. Adikaram, M. A., Ph.D. (Lond), Principal, Anna-da Sastrajaya, Kotte, will speak on "Educational Reform."

Valigamam North Teachers' Association

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the above association was held in the Tellippalai Union College Library room on Tuesday, the 7th instant. There was a garden party in the College lawn at 5 p.m. and then the meeting commenced at 6 p.m. under the presidency of Mr. S. Srinivasan, the President of the association. After the reading of the minutes of the last annual general meeting, the Secretary and the Treasurer read their reports which were unanimously adopted. The President delivered his presidential address touching on many important educational problems of the day. This was followed by a very interesting and thought-provoking address by Miss A. Paramasamy on "Education as a means of social adjustment." The speaker gave an outline of the system of education prevailing in some of the progressive countries in the world, the method of testing pupils etc and suggested some useful methods to be adopted in the classroom for producing better and more reliable results. The Office-bearers for the ensuing year were then elected and resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. K. Chinnappah, Vice-President: Mr. S. Krishnasamy Iyer, Secretary: Mr. B. K.

Mr. S. Natesan, M. S. C., F. R. E. S., B. A., B. L., Member of the Executive Committee of Education, is expected to preside. All teachers and the general public are welcome.

Somasundaram, Asst Secretary: Mr. R. T. Seevaratnam, Treasurer: Mr. S. Sithamparappillai.

Representatives from the different schools in the area were then elected as members of the Committee.

The President and Secretary were elected as the representatives for the Executive of the N. P. T. A.

Mr. T. T. Jayaratnam then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring office-bearers and Mr. A. K. Kandiah, B. A. thanked the lecturer for her instructive address. The meeting then terminated at 7.30 p.m. (Cor.)

Puttur Health League

The following were elected office-bearers for 1941-42 at the first annual general meeting of the Puttur Health League held at the Mission Tamil School recently:—

President: Miss. M. P. Dore; Vice-President: Mr. K. Sivaguru; Joint Secretaries: Messrs. T. Kathiravelu and A. D. Sangarapillai; Treasurer: Mr. S. Thamoortharappillai, Committee: Miss. K. Chelliah, Messrs. S. S. Vadivale, K. Balasundaram, G. Sylvester, K. Kandappu, K. Visvanathan and J. A. C. Arulanantham. (Cor.)

WANTED

A person with a good knowledge of English and Tamil. Salary on scale Rs. 254-6-408 per annum. Applications in writing, before 25-10-41, to:—

Assistant Registrar,
of Co-operative Societies,
Jaffna.

[G. 24. 15-10-41.]

The Youths Social Service League

THE Annual General Meeting of the All Jaffna Youths' Social Service League came off on Saturday, the 11th instant, at 3.30 p. m. at the League's Paper Factory Building. Mahatma Gandhi's birthday and Rabindra Nath Tagore Memorial day were observed on the occasion. The invitations for the meeting had been printed on paper manufactured from Palmyrah leaf at the League's Paper Factory.

The meeting was well attended by a large number of students from the different parts of the peninsula. A fairly large number of lady students also took an active part in the celebration. Mr. K. S. Nadarajah, the League's president, presided. The proceedings commenced with an inter-religious prayer. The president in his address referred to the ancient glories of the East, and deplored the present degraded state of our people. "Lethargy and false imitation of the West have taken the place of activity and originality. No employment, no vacancy, have been the order of the day. Let us put into practice the slogan 'back to the land.'"

Mr. S. SenathiRajah, the Secretary, in his annual report traced the history of the Society from its inception. The promotion of inter-communal harmony, the amelioration of the conditions of the villages through Rural Reconstruction and the solving of the unemployment problem through industrial and agricultural development are the main aims of the League. Social Service free from politics was their motto.

The League had established a tradition for the crystallization of its ideas into practical scheme. The Sinhalese classes conducted by the

A Record of Splendid Work

League tended to promote better relationship between the major communities of the Island. The practical Rural Reconstruction work carried on by the members especially the ladies of the League's branch organization at Vaddukoddai was very successful. The League's Paper Factory, the first of its kind organised in the island, has successfully completed its experiments. Good quality paper of various kinds and types have been manufactured from local raw materials, viz, Palmyrah leaf, Sun hemp, Straw, Bamboo leaves and waste paper. The League has received large orders and they have begun to increase the production. Seventy five per cent of the workers employed are students. In addition to the paper the League was manufacturing Ink, Soap, and Coir goods. The League has decided to offer two Industrial scholarships for male members and Rural Reconstruction scholarships for lady members during the ensuing year.

The business meeting being over, Mr. K. Pathmanathan B. A., the new president, took the chair. Mrs. Gladys Reufrew addressing on "Youth Movements", described the activities and the far-reaching 'youths movements' of the various countries of the world she had toured by cycle. She commended the League on its practical programme and gave very valuable hints for its future. She advised the League to work for the abolition of the distinction between the manual labourer and his employer, the freedom of women and the removal of untouchability.

Then a demonstration of spinning was given by the members of the League.

Mr. A. Sambanthar, addressing on Mahatma Gandhi, outlined his life and said that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest man living today resembled Mohamed in his universal love, Buddha in his search for truth and denunciation of riches, and Christ in his non-violence compassion for the poor and lowly and utter simplicity. "Blessed is the name of the Mahatma and thrice blessed are we who have the good fortune to be his contemporaries. Gandhiji stands head and shoulders above the rest of mankind, marking the highest point of perfection yet reached by man in his ascent towards God."

Miss. Grace Lee, B. A., moved the following vote of condolence on the death of Tagore, which was offered with three minutes silence:—"This association expresses its sincere regret on the sad demise of the embodiment of world culture at a time when the world is in the throes of a barbarous onslaught for the lack of the very ideals of art and philosophy Tagore stood for. This league promises to work towards those ideals in its varied activities."

Miss. Lee then proceeded to speak on the part to be played by women in the upliftment of this country. She narrated the servile status of women in the Roman and Grecian civilizations and said that in England as late as 1884 a farmer auctioned his wife at the market for

£ 1-19s and a Newfoundland dog. It is only now that woman has got a little amount of freedom in the West. It is a pity that in the East where woman who enjoyed a very high status in every aspect of Society in the good old days of the past, is now deprived of her pristine glory. She appealed to the men to give their women their due right and not to regard them as instruments for biological function. The real progress of a country could only be achieved when both these sections of human society advanced hand in hand. She appealed to the women to abandon their drawing room habits and to join hands with the men in the upliftment of Mother Lanka.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. E. S. Moorthy, the Secretary of the League's Vaddukoddai Branch and supported by Mr. S. SenathiRajah, the Secretary of the Central organization.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:— Patron: P. de S. Kularatne, B. A., (Hons), L. L. B., Bar-at-Law, Principal Ananda College; President: K. Pathmanathan, B. A., Vice-President: Miss D. Nesaratnam, Joint men Secretaries K. S. Nadarajah and A. T. Paramanathan, Joint lady Secretaries, Misses R. Amirtharane, and S. Nesaratnam, Industrial Executive S. SenathiRajah, Information Bureau E. S. Moorthy, Treasurers: K. Balasingham and T. N. Wijayaratnam, Editors: C. Subramaniam and Miss. T. Navaratnam, Librarian: K. K. Rajaratnam. Representatives from branches M. T. Sultan, K. A. Pannaratne, A. Rajadurai T. Poopalan, K. Sivaguanam, V. Jegannathan and S. ThuraiRajah.

Public Meeting of Ratepayers

Fifteen Resolutions for Consideration

A public meeting, under the auspices of the Jaffna Rate payers Association, will be held in the Town Hall on Sunday, the 19th instant at 4 p. m.

Fifteen resolutions bearing on questions affecting the well-being of Urban residents will come up for consideration at the meeting.

One resolution requests the Urban Council to conduct the proceedings of its meetings in Tamil so that ratepayers who attend these meetings may be able to follow the proceedings.

Other resolutions urge, among others, the redistribution of the electoral areas and an increase in the number of wards to ten; the discontinuance of the principle of nominating members to U. C's, the waiving of arrears of rates in the case of poor rate-payers who are unable to pay their taxes; the reduction of the assessment rate from ten per cent to

eight percent; the stopping of the annual increments to officers of the Council, amounting to Rs. 8000 in view of the war; restriction of hours of the entertainments; and the levying of entertainment tax; the Central Government to bear the cost of feeding Tamil school children within the urban area.

Messrs. A. Mahadeva, S. Natesapillai, G. G. Ponnambalam are among the speakers who will participate in the meeting.

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P. Nadarajah.

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

[Q. 82, 7-8-6-11-41.]

Union College Prize-Giving

The Annual Prize Giving of Union College, Tellippalai, took place on Saturday the 11th instant at 6 p.m. in the College Hall. Dr. R. Saravanamuttu, the Mayor of Colombo, was the chief speaker and Mrs. A. J. R. Vethavanam, wife of the Divisional Inspector of Schools, distributed the prizes.

The Annual Meeting of the Old Boys' Association was held earlier in the afternoon. This was followed by the Principal's Tea. Later there was a pleasant ceremony when Mr. Prasad, the Government Agent, and Dr. R. Saravanamuttu unveiled the tablets—one in honour of Mr. & Mrs. Clough, two benefactors of the College, and another in memory of Mr. K. Shanmugam in whose name a donation had been made to the College by Mr. & Mrs. A. Poopalasingam. Mr. Prasad referred to Mr. Clough as a benefactor not only of the College but also of the whole of Tellippalai. Dr. Saravanamuttu declared that the age of self-help had dawned in Jaffna. The Principal made a brief statement concerning the gifts. A distinguished gathering was present.

WANTED

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S. ADCHALINGAM, General Manager of Schools.

Hindu Board Office, Jaffna, 10-10-41. (Mis. 108, 16-10-41)

Postal Clerical Service Examination, December 1941

NOTICE is hereby given that an examination for candidates wishing to enter the Postal Clerical Service will be held commencing on the 19th December 1941.

2 Candidates should be between 17 and 22 years of age on 1st October 1941 and should have previously passed:-

- The Cambridge Senior or the London Matriculation, or the Senior School Certificate [English] Examination; or
- The Final Examination for the Commercial Certificate of the Ceylon Technical College; or
- The Cambridge Junior or the Junior School Certificate [English] Examination and either (i) the Higher Commercial Certificate Examination [either section] of the London Chamber of Commerce, or (ii) the Commercial Certificate Examination [either section] of the London Chamber of Commerce.

[3] For entry forms and Syllabuses apply to the Postmaster General's Office before 20th October 1941, stating date of birth and educational qualifications.

[4] Completed entry forms together with all original certificates, marked "Postal Clerical Examination" on the top left hand corner of the envelope should reach the Postmaster General not later than 2 p.m. on October 27, 1941.

J. P. APPLEBY, Postmaster General.

Postmaster General's Office, Colombo, 10th October 1941, [G. 25, 16-10-41]

OBITUARY

MR. A. S. THAMBOO

We regret to announce the death of Mr. A. S. Thamboo, Head Overseer P. W. D. Tanjong Malim, F. M. S., on Tuesday, the 7th instant.

Mr. Thamboo, who returned to Jaffna on long leave in May last was aiding for some time and received treatment at Doctor Reinam's Private Hospital, and died at the General Hospital, Colombo, at 5 a.m. on Tuesday. The body was brought to his residence at Navaly and the funeral ceremonies were performed according to Hindu rites and the cremation took place at the Ariampiddy crematorium, Navaly, on Wednesday the 8th instant.

The funeral was largely attended by his relations and friends from Karainagar, Araly, Manipay, Navaly Sandilipay and other parts of Jaffna.

Mr. Thamboo had his early education at St. John's College, Jaffna when his uncle Mr. A. R. Subramaniam, retired District Judge, Trincomalee, was on the staff of that College. Later he completed his Cambridge Local Examinations at the Anglo-Chinese School, Ipoh, where his father the late Mr. Ambalavanar Sithamparapillai was employed as Overseer P. W. D.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Mr. Thamboo joined the Public Works Department of the F. M. S. Government in 1912 as Technical Assistant, after completing a course of 4 years at the Government Technical School, Kuala Lumpur.

During his 29 years of service in Malaya, Mr. Thamboo took a leading part in the social activities of his community in particular and of other Asiatic communities in general and largely contributed to charitable and public institutions in Ceylon and Malaya.

Mr. Thamboo married Amuthaledchumy, the elder daughter of Mr. K. Vethakuddy of Navaly in 1917 and leaves besides his wife two daughters Misses. Nageswari and Ganapooashani and a host of other relations and friends to bemoan his loss. (Cor)

MR. K. CHELVADURAI

The death occurred on the 10th instant in the General Hospital, Colombo of Mr. K. Chelvadurai (57), of the Railway Accountant's Office, Kuala Lumpur. The funeral took place the next day at his residence at Chittakurichchi, Araly North, and was largely attended.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1073

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Vaithilingam Apputhurai of Erlalai Deceased.

Annaladchumy widow of Vaithilingam Apputhurai of Erlalai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Parvathythai daughter of Apputhurai
2. Apputhurai Velautham
3. Apputhurai Murugaiyah and
4. Apputhurai Sivapiragasam all of Erlalai. They all being minors by their guardian-ad-litem
5. Vaithilingam Muthiah of Erlalai Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on the 25th day of September 1941 in the presence of Mr. C. Ramalingam, Proctor, and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the 5th respondent be and he is hereby appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th respondents to represent them and to watch their interest in these proceedings and that the petitioner, as widow of the deceased, is entitled to have Letters of Administration issued to her unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 31st day of October 1941 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 41. 13 & 16-10-41.)

MRS. S. MASILAMANI

The death occurred at Rangoon on 25th September 1941 of Nagarathna Ammal, wife of Mr. S. Masilamani (Mathakal, Jaffna), employed in the Accountant General's Office, Rangoon, and daughter of Mr. V. Ponnudurai, Overseer, Lindula. The funeral was well attended and speeches were made at the cremation ground by Dr. N. E. A. De Zoysa and Mr. V. V. Somasundaram, President and Secretary, respectively, of the Burma Ceylonese Association, extolling the noble qualities of the deceased and expressing the sympathies of the Association for the great loss sustained by Mr. Masilamani and his three children, the youngest of whom is only a fortnight old.

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Mis. 127. 14-11-40—

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