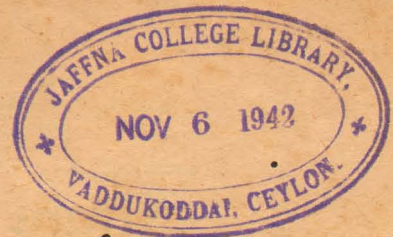


THE Hindu Organ.



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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Japan's "Greater East Asia"

The appointment of the first Japanese Minister for Greater East Asiatic Affairs was announced by the Japanese news agency. He is Kazuo Aoki, a former Finance Minister and former President of the Cabinet Planning Board.

Acting Railway Accountant

Mr. A. Sabaratnam, Deputy Chief Accountant, has assumed duties as Acting Chief Accountant of the Railway. He is 60 years old, but Government has, in view of his special knowledge of this work, decided to avail itself of his services for another year.

Case Against Police Inspector

The case in which Mr. F. D. E. Dassenayake, Inspector of Police, Jaffna, stands charged before the Jaffna Magistrate, with having caused grievous hurt to Elayavi Kathiravelu, a barber, and with having wrongfully confined him, was sent to the District Judge for trial.

Cholera in South India

Cholera is now raging in an epidemic form in the Tanjore district, Mannargudi and South Arcot in South India. The Collector of Tanjore has, therefore prohibited the celebration of Thula Festival at Mayavaram from November 6 to 16. Twenty-nine villages in Mannargudi have been affected by the epidemic.

U. S. To Register Women

A nation-wide registration of women from 18 to 65 is being considered by the United States Government, President Roosevelt revealed at a Press conference. The President gave no specific time for such registration and said that, for the moment, man-power for war work was adequate, but there was no knowing what the situation would be like some months from now.

Textile Conference

A Conference between the Controller of Textiles and representatives of the import, wholesale and retail groups of textile traders was held at the Chamber of Commerce. The general scheme was discussed, and it was agreed to classify all textiles into utility, luxury and commercial textiles. The conference made good progress and it is hoped that all the preliminaries will be settled within the next two or three weeks.

Stringent Economic Controls In China

The People's Political Council on Friday adopted a sweeping programme of economic control proposed by Gen. Chiang Kai-shek. Price ceilings are to be fixed, production guided and consumption restricted. Adjustment of taxes and improvement of transport also come under the measures adopted by the Council.

A SYMBOLIC QUESTION— "WHAT ABOUT INDIA?"

WHAT CONFRONTED MR. WILLKIE DURING HIS TOUR

MR. Wendell Willkie, President Roosevelt's Special envoy, on his return to New York after a tour of thirteen Allied countries, gave a broadcast speech which was an impassioned plea to the Western world to proclaim that the era of Imperialism is over and that in the future there can be no colonies.

The one question that confronted him everywhere he went was "what about India?". "Many of them" he said "asked the question which has become almost a symbol all-through Asia".

Deep Impression

Mr. Willkie's speech has roused considerable interest about the Indian problem both in his home country and in influential circles in Britain.

Mr. Willkie's address, which radio experts estimate was heard by thirty-two million Americans, undoubtedly deeply impressed the public and brought the speaker a thousand approving telegrams—some observers believe it may forestall his candidacy for the 1944 elections. While Mr. Roosevelt was non-committal in regard to Mr. Willkie's speech and Mr. Hull rejected the criticism of the State Department, newspaper comments are generally favourable.

Mr. Willkie's Address

The Special Correspondent of the "Madras Hindu" in a message from New York states:—

Mr. Willkie in his address referred to doubts that he had encountered, when he was asked: "Is there to be no charter of freedom for a billion people in the East? Is freedom supposed to be priceless for the whiteman of the western world but of no account in the East?" He continued: "Many of them asked the question which has become almost a symbol all-through Asia: What about India? Now I did not go to India and I do not propose to discuss that tangled question, but it is one aspect in the East that I should report. From Cairo onwards it confronted me at every turn. The wisest man in China told me 'when the aspirations of India for freedom were put aside to some future date, it was not Britain that suffered in the public esteem in the Far East, it was the United Nations.' This wisest man was not quarrelling with the British, it was just with British Imperialism in India. He does not happen to believe in it, but he was telling me that by our silence on India we have

already drawn heavily on our reservoir of goodwill in the East. The people of the East, who would like to count on us, are doubtful. They cannot ascertain from our government's wishy-washy attitude towards the problem of India, what we are likely to feel at the end of the war about all the other hundreds of millions of Eastern peoples. They cannot tell from our vacillating talk whether we do stand for freedom or what we mean by freedom. In Africa, the Middle East and throughout the Arab world, as well as in China and the whole Far East, freedom means the orderly but scheduled abolition of the colonial system.

"I can assure you that the rule of some people by other peoples is not freedom and that is not what we must fight to preserve.

"You must understand that I am not talking about the Commonwealth of Free Nations, but I am talking about the colonial system wherever it exists under whatever nation. Americans are still too apt to think and speak of the British Empire. You must recognise the truth that in vast areas of the world there is no longer any British Empire, but instead the Commonwealth of Free Nations. The British colonial possessions are but remnants of their Empire.

"Our Problem"

"India is our problem. If Japan should conquer the vast sub-continent, we will be the losers. We must believe these simple truths and speak them loudly or there will be lots of tough problems. Not all the peoples of the world are ready for freedom or can they defend it the day after to-morrow. But they all want a date to work towards it and some guarantee that that date will be kept. They do not ask us to solve their problems. They ask only for a chance to solve their own problems with our economic and political co-operation. The peoples of the world intend to be free not only for their political satisfaction, but also for their economic advancement."

Press Comments

The London "Times" declares, "It is a misfortune that Mr. Willkie was unable to visit India. He rightly records the anxiety with which other nations are watching the difficulties and hesitations that beset the crowning phase of Indian political evolution. In the military sense—and that can have a broad application—India

LAST YEAR'S EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE.

INCREASE OF 10 MILLION IN INCOME

There was an excess of expenditure over revenue in September, 1st amounting to Rs. 9,790,243, according to a Treasury statement. The revenue for the month was Rs. 25,625,653, and the expenditure Rs. 35,415,896.

The main sources of revenue were as follows: Customs, Rs. 8,830,141; Miscellaneous Heads, Rs. 4,958,322; Interest Annuities, etc., Rs. 2,647,279; and Income Tax, Estate Duty, Stamps and Excess Profits Duty, Rs. 2,333,110.

The main items of expenditure, apart from money spent on Defence, were: Rs. 4,039,335 on Emergency Expenditure; Rs. 2,838,213 on Education; and Rs. 2,407,835 on Health.

Figures for 1941-42

The Treasury statement also gives the figures of revenue and expenditure for the financial year October, 1941, to September, 1942.

The total revenue in this period was Rs. 159,167,763, and the total expenditure Rs. 166,349,248. Thus there was an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to Rs. 7,181,485, as compared with an excess of revenue over expenditure amounting to Rs. 8,185,228 in the previous financial year 1940-41.

The main head of revenue in 1941-42 was Customs, which yielded Rs. 63,712,201.

Income Tax, Estate Duty, Stamps and Excess Profits Duty amounted to Rs. 38,974,419 in 1941-42, as compared with Rs. 28,003,237 in 1940-41. The increase under this head in 1941-42, therefore, amounted to over Rs. 10 million.

Main Items

Apart from money spent on Defence, the main items of expenditure in 1941-42 were: Education, Rs. 22,132,925; Emergency Expenditure, Rs. 15,061,724; and Health Rs. 14,159,447.

The total supplementary provision for the year 1941-42 was Rs. 44,597,500.

is very much the concern of the United Nations.

Saying that the touchstone is India, the "Manchester Guardian" continues, "Let us hope the British Government will read between the lines and see in Mr. Willkie's careful and generous phrases how failure in India reacts on the common cause. Mr. Willkie will find more people in this country to agree with him about the future of empires and colonial policy than many of his American hearers may think. He has said what diplomatic convention has prevented others from saying.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1942.

THE ENVOY SPEAKS

SIR BARON JAYATILAKA HAS at last broken his silence. His speech in the State Council is a model of discretion. He has managed to tell the public what the Ministers evidently think just enough to keep the public interested. There has been no mystery about Sir Baron's visits to the various Indian cities and his discovery that a good deal of misunderstanding exists regarding the attitude of the Ceylonese Ministers towards Indians in Ceylon. He has said these things before, though one would wish that the Minister was more explicit in regard to the steps taken by the Ministers to remove this misunderstanding. We are glad to note, however, the assurance given by the Indian Commerce Member that the deficit in the quantity supplied to Ceylon was not due to any unwillingness on the part of the Indian Government to supply the agreed quantity but "was due to shortage of stocks in India coupled with other commitments both within the country and abroad." It is, of course, easy to understand what these commitments are. Certain parts of India are not self-supporting in the matter of food and their needs have to be met. Then, again, food has to be supplied from India to the troops in certain theatres of war. It is inevitable that these demands should interfere on occasions with the promised supplies to Ceylon. In these circumstances the goodwill of the Provincial Governments and the Indian public would be a valuable asset to Ceylon, and the public of Ceylon should be grateful to Sir Baron for his efforts to correct the misconceptions about the treatment of Indians in Ceylon. We take it that, in addition to these efforts, Sir Baron has not failed to note that other measures are also needed to secure Indian goodwill. While misconceptions have certainly to be corrected, it would be as well to remember that the ground has been prepared for these misconceptions. A word to Sir Baron's colleagues on this subject would not, therefore, be amiss. We agree with Sir Baron that so far as the public of Ceylon is concerned, there is no hostility whatever towards Indians as such, and nothing should be allowed to stand in the way of removing any impression in India that such hostility exists.

We gather from the Home Minister's speech that a good

deal remains to be done in India on behalf of the Ceylon Government in the matter of speeding up supplies. Decisions have to be taken on the spot without delay. Sir Baron is not satisfied with the existing arrangements made by the Ceylon Government for the purchase of food in India. The whole purchasing organisation has to be remodelled and reorganised, and with this object he has submitted certain proposals which are receiving attention.

With regard to the proposed embassy Sir Baron has said very little. It is understood, however, that a reply has been received from His Excellency the Viceroy to the proposal of the Ceylon Government to send a Ceylonese "Ambassador" to India. The reply, it is stated, implies approval of the proposal, but we understand that his Excellency has, at the same time, referred to a number of questions that will have to be discussed closely between his Government and the representative of the Ceylon Government. If one of these questions is the attitude of the Ministers towards Indians, we think there is no one better qualified to place the Ceylon case before the Indian Government than Sir Baron, but it is imperative that his efforts in this direction should receive the sincere support of his colleagues. The Board of Ministers should now realise that a determined and honest effort should now be made to secure India's goodwill, and that any ground that may exist for misconceptions and misunderstanding should be removed.

INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME

Mr. D. S. Senanayake is going on with his internal purchasing scheme, while leaving it to Sir Baron Jayatilaka to secure the promised supplies from India. An organisation is being built up to enable the authorities to secure all surplus stocks of paddy and rice throughout the island. These would, to some extent, remedy the deficiencies in the quantity rationed at present. The scheme, however, has this advantage over supplies from India: it will give the consumer some food that is immediately available, though it will not be much.

The Minister has accordingly requested the Government Agents to obtain all the paddy and rice in the hands of producers and traders that are a surplus over their respective normal requirements. To ascertain this surplus, the revenue officers have been asked to make a "rough calculation" of the surplus paddy in their areas. Now, some of these "rough calculations" have been brought to our notice. Those shown to us seem to be on the whole correct. It would, however, be safer to base these calculations on definite information supplied by the producer. The latter can be compelled to give this information, and, what is more, punished for making a false declaration. Once the total quantity produced is ascertained, there will be no difficulty in ascertaining the surplus. As we have pointed out in these columns, the allowance given for the

producer's domestic consumption seems to be satisfactory. The authorities, however, have everything to gain by giving generous consideration to the individual requirements of producers under this head. After all, it must be remembered that a producer has also other stomachs to feed than those of his own family. In these days when competition by the Government and the military authorities in the labour market has led to a sharp rise in wages, a little surplus paddy is certainly a powerful argument in the producer's hands in negotiating with the labourers. We think this principle has been conceded by the authorities, but in the case of landowners under the Karachchi Irrigation Scheme certain difficulties arise in the application of this principle. These landowners have, in most cases, two establishments—one on the farm and another at home in Jaffna. We take it that the authorities have no objection to a reasonable quantity of paddy being reserved on the farm itself. They meet the producer's domestic requirements in Jaffna by allowing him to transport to his home a quantity of paddy sufficient for the purpose. So far the arrangement may be regarded as satisfactory. But, at present, owing to the scarcity of imported labour these landowners have to fall back on the man-power of their own villages for the labour needed to produce the paddy under the Karachchi Irrigation Scheme. This man-power consists mostly of village labourers who can be induced to spend about a fortnight or twenty days on the farm. They will not remain longer for fear of malaria and any attempt to keep them for a longer period will wreck the whole plan. The families of these labourers are paid by the landowner in Jaffna out of the labourers' wages. Our suggestion is that the landowner should be placed in a position to assist these families with a little of the paddy produced by the men. Nothing will be lost by permitting it. This, however, is not all. The landowner's establishment on the farm is run by a handful of resident labourers mostly imported, whose number depends on the size of the farm. Wherever possible it is also the practice to employ any labour available on the spot. Paddy is needed to feed these people as well. It is obvious, therefore, that the landowner under the Karachchi Irrigation Scheme has to keep a reserve of paddy on the farm and another at home in Jaffna for the purposes indicated above. This does not include the landowner's requirements in regard to seed which the authorities will have no difficulty in estimating with a reasonable allowance for wastage both before and after sowing. Under existing arrangements it is impossible for the landowner to feed the families of labourers from the Jaffna villages. We would invite the attention of the Emergency Officers to this important aspect of the matter and trust that relief will be given where it is needed.

On the other hand, we are not at all impressed by Mr. Senanayake's references to the powers to be vested in the purchasing officers. It is quite possible that the Minister's statement on this point has been neither correctly nor fully reported. From his statement published in the press we gather that these officers have been given dictatorial powers so that "they may have at their immediate disposal all the weapons of human acquisition from begging and cajolery down to taking over by force". Force will no

doubt have to be used in certain eventualities, but the statement does not indicate the procedure to be adopted before the purchasing officers descend on the recalcitrant producer. Does the Minister seriously propose to let loose on the countryside an army of these officers with nothing better than some rough calculations to guide them in the task of commandeering stocks? We think not. The first thing to do is to assess the surplus, giving the producer an opportunity of showing cause against the assessment. When the assessment has been made finally, the producer should be given an opportunity of surrendering the surplus assessed. If he does not do so, there is always the machinery of the Magistrate's Courts with their summary powers to compel the producer to do his duty. It would be unsafe to entrust such wide powers involving the use of force, which ought to be exercised by a court of law even in times of emergency, into the hands of comparatively untrained, subordinate officers. The Minister of Agriculture and Lands knows little of these niceties, but he has the Law Officers of the Crown and his own colleagues to advise him in the matter. We are glad, however, to indorse Mr. Senanayake's appeal to the people to share their food with their fellow-countrymen. Even in Jaffna one finds people grumbling about sharing the produce of our harvests with other parts of the island less favourably placed in the matter of food. It is an unjust and uncharitable attitude, and we trust that the Minister's appeal will not fall on deaf ears. It would be ridiculous to divide the island into several watertight compartments in regard to its food supply.

NOTES & COMMENTS

The Fighting in Egypt

THE latest cables show that the British attack on the German positions is much more formidable than it looked at the outset. Certain points have been pierced by the British forces who have now the advantage of heavy armour and air support. The result of the fighting will be awaited with the greatest anxiety, as the Egyptian front is directly more vital to the Empire than any other theatre of war. If Field Marshal Rommel is successful in defeating the British forces in Egypt, the Germans will be able to penetrate into the Middle East and threaten India. Both sides are fighting for very high stakes. On the British side, every precaution seems to have been taken against failure or surprise.

Japan and the Pacific

THE withdrawal of the Japanese fleet that approached Guadalcanal is believed to be temporary. The Japanese Air Force was so badly mauled by the Americans that the enemy fleet has been compelled to withdraw, evidently for repairs and fresh equipment. The Americans are no doubt outnumbered by the invaders, but their defence has been so far effective and resourceful. The enemy's naval superiority in this region is not likely to be allowed to continue for long. American resistance in the Pacific is of the utmost help to us in Ceylon and India. The more deeply the Japanese become engaged in their attempts to throttle Australia, the better it will be for our own defence. And Japan's failure to neutralise Australia will be the signal for a determined attempt on the part of the Allied Nations to carry the war into Japanese waters. This is what is needed to prevent the Japanese from undertaking enterprises elsewhere. They have lost heavily in ships and aircraft, and if the Americans stand firm these losses are bound to increase,

SIR BARON ON HIS MISSION

20,000 Tons A Month Probable

"My mission has resulted in a definite quantity of rice as well as of other grains and pulses, at a reasonable price, being secured from India. But of course a great deal more has to be done before we can be in a position to ensure the continuance of an adequate ration which is dietetically sound."

Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Leader of the House, made this statement when the State Council met on Tuesday. Reviewing his work in India, Sir Baron said:—

"The necessity for the food mission to India arose from the fact that although the Government of India had previously agreed to our importing 38,000 tons of rice per month for Ceylon, we had failed to secure all that was expected owing to various circumstances,

"My mission was mainly concerned with the availability of supplies and the adequacy of our own organisation in India for purchase and transport.

"I spent 12 days in Madras during which time negotiations were carried on with the Madras Government and arrangements confirmed for the purchase by the Madras Government of the quota of rice supply agreed to by them.

New Arrangements

"The new scheme, of course, involved entirely new arrangements for the taking over of the stocks and its transport to Ceylon. It was a fortunate circumstance that I was able to agree on behalf of this Government to the various executive steps that had to be approved.

At Calcutta negotiations were carried on with the Government of Bengal with a view to inducing them to agree to release a larger quantity of rice than was being done at that time. At about the time I visited Calcutta that city was experiencing great scarcity of rice owing to various causes.

"It was here that I met for the first time vigorous opposition from the press and certain commercial organisations against the export of rice to Ceylon. I took every possible opportunity of correcting these misunderstandings and allaying public feeling.

India's Aim

In Delhi I had several interviews with the Commerce Member. The whole ground of Ceylon's claim on India for assistance and the quantity of rice needed by the population, which had been discussed by the Ceylon Ministers who visited Delhi previously, were gone through afresh. The deficit in the supply, it was explained by the Commerce Member, was not due to any unwillingness on India's part to provide the agreed quantity but was due to shortage of stocks in India coupled with other commitments both within the country and abroad.

"At my last interview, the Commerce Member stated that they would aim at supplying at least 20,000 tons of rice a month and that they would also assist as far as possible by releasing for Ceylon a portion of any surplus that might become available.

Continuing Sir Baron said:—"I telegraphed to His Excellency the Governor the outlines of a scheme for the remodelling and strengthening of our purchasing organisation throughout India. I am happy to note that the Government has given this matter very prompt attention.

"At Bombay I again met with a certain amount of anti-Ceylon opposition due largely to the campaign of misrepresentation which had been going on in India for a long time.

CEYLON POSTS IN INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF GOVT SUPPLIES

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments in the Civil Service with effect from November 1 1942.

Mr. K. Vaithianathan to be Commissioner, Department of Ceylon Government Supplies in India.

Mr. K. Kanagasundram to be Assistant Commissioner, Department of Ceylon Government Supplies in India.

Mr. A. O. Wirasinghe to be Secretary, Department of Ceylon Government Supplies in India.

NEW BOY SCOUT COMMISSIONER

Mr. K. Somasuntheram, acting Director of Commerce and Industries, has been appointed Chief Commissioner, Boy Scouts, Ceylon, in succession to the late Mr. J. M. de Saram.

This information has been received by His Excellency the Governor in a message from Lord Somers, Chief Scout of the British Empire.

Here too at official meetings, at social functions and at Press interviews, I endeavoured to correct the misconceptions about the treatment of Indians in Ceylon.

"On my return journey I stopped a day at Madras and attended to certain delays in the despatch of rice to Ceylon.

"I have given the House a very brief account of my Mission which has resulted in a definite quantity of rice as well as of other grains and pulses at a reasonable price, being secured from India. But of course a great deal more has to be done before we can be in a position to ensure the continuance of an adequate ration which is dietetically sound."

Paddy Compulsion

Continuing Sir Baron said:—"An internal organization is being quietly built up to enable the Government to tap the food resources within this country itself.

"Mr. D. S. Senanayake (Minister for Agriculture and Lands feels that the supplies he will get from this source, though smaller, will be more certain than the supplies we hope to get from outside. Further than this, it will provide the machinery that will help him to achieve, even after the world war is over, his aim of making Ceylon self-supporting in the matter of food.

"With this end in view he has requested the Government Agents to obtain all the paddy and rice in the hands of producers and traders that are a surplus over their respective normal requirements. The revenue officers have also been asked to make a rough calculation of the surplus paddy in their areas so that there may be on record some figure to which the results of their activities are referable.

For the purposes of making these collections, the purchasing officers have been given almost dictatorial powers so that they may have at their immediate disposal all the weapons of human acquisition, from begging and cajolery down to taking over by force.

"Every grain of surplus paddy must be sold to Government so that a fair distribution may be made among those in need. Do not say that the Government price is too small; Rs. 3.25 per bushel is a very adequate price. To induce you to sell at this juncture, I guarantee you a price of Rs. 3.25 per bushel for five years more. This should induce you to improve your methods of cultivation which are indeed woefully primitive. If you do this alone and double your output, Ceylon will be free indeed in its most important requirement and you will not put your leaders to the humiliation of begging for bread outside for you all."

PAPER INDUSTRY IN U.S. AND CANADA

REDUCTION IN PRODUCTION

Washington Oct. 30.

The American and Canadian Governments have ordered that the production of paper and paper products, including newsprint, shall be frozen to the figure averaging production over the last six months, which is 87 per cent of the theoretical capacity of the American industry. This move is said to be the first step towards further reduction and concentration of industry on an international basis.

CEYLON WAR EFFORTS PICTURES COMMITTEE

The Ceylon War Efforts Pictures Committee met on the 30th October, 1942, and noted progress. The position is promising as there were 47 applications up to date, and still further entries are expected.

A number of persons do not appear to understand the meaning of the word 'medium' and think that they might send in as an exhibit a piece of art work done with thread or photographs. It should be stated that the word 'medium' includes painting in water colours, oils, black and white, or etching. A number of applications were also received for access to military establishments and are being dealt with by the Public Relations Officer.

REVISED REGISTERS OF VOTERS

The revised registers of voters relating to the Kayts, Kankesan-turai, Jaffna and Point Pedro Electoral Districts have been completed and are open for inspection during office hours at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

TAMIL SPEECHES IN BATTICALOA U.C.

The Batticaloa Urban Council has permitted one of its members to express his views in Tamil, subject to the condition that speeches would not be interpreted to him nor would his speeches be interpreted to other members.

"THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTA"

Mr. C. K. Subramania Mudaliar, B. A., writes:—

I thank you for your kindness in sending me a copy of the Elements of Saiva Siddhanta by a graduate of Ceylon. The book supplies a real want among English educated Saivite public who, I am sorry to say, are in sore need of a book of this kind, as they are losing, if not lost, all touch with religious literature in Tamil. Other religionists are also given the opportunity of learning all essentials of Saiva Siddhanta through this English medium. The work is written in simple and elegant English and affords easy and interesting reading. The author has taken great care to explain the essential elements and distinguishing characteristics of Saiva Siddhanta (the great Agamic religion of India) such as the postulation of the three entities, the goal and the means to attain it, the nature of the final bliss or Mukti and the like, in as simple and comprehensive a manner as the difficult subject would admit of.

I heartily commend the work to all who may be interested in knowing about Saiva Siddhanta. I wish the author all success.

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Modern Bungalow near Hindu College.

Apply to:

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Jaffna.

A SIDE-LIGHT OF HISTORY

By
R. C. P.

About the year 1283 A. D. the Sinhalese King Buvaneka Bahu I made Yapahu (about 3 miles from Maho) his capital and claimed to exercise dominion rights over the Wann and the Pearl fisheries. The then King of Yalpanam, Jeya Vira Singkai Ariyan, (according to *Vai-pava Mulai*) was not prepared to concede the claim and King Buvaneka Bahu looked about to secure a powerful ally in order that he might, with his ally's help, secure a victory at war over Ariya Chakravarti and thus make good his claim. The Sultan of Egypt was spoken of as a powerful sovereign exercising rights of ownership over the Persian gulf fisheries and the Sinhalese King decided upon sending an Ambassador to the Court of Egypt with a letter written in his own hand. The Ambassador, a Muslim, with his suite left Ceylon for Egypt and reached Bagdad in 1283 A. D. The letter was handed to the Sultan. Its contents were as follows:—

"Ceylon is Egypt and Egypt is Ceylon. I desire that an Egyptian ambassador accompany mine on his return and that another be sent to reside in the town of Aden. I possess a prodigious quantity of pearls and precious stones of every kind. I have vessels, elephants, muslins and other stuffs, wood of *bagum* (Brazil wood) cinnamon, and all the objects of commerce, which are brought to you by the *bania* merchants. My Kingdom produces trees, the wood of which is fit for making spears. If the Sultan asks me for 20 vessels yearly, I shall be in a position to supply them. Further, the merchants of his dominions can with all freedom come to trade in my Kingdom. I have received an ambassador of the prince of the Yemen, who is come on the part of his master to make me proposals of alliance. But I have sent him away through my affection for the Sultan. I possess 27 castles, of which the treasuries are filled with precious stones of all kinds. The pearl fisheries are part of my dominions, and all that is taken therefrom belongs to me"—(The translation is by H. W. Codrington)

The embassy to Egypt was the signal to Ariya Chakravarti to send an invading army to Yapahu. What followed is described by the *Mahavamsa* writer thus:—"And when he (Ariya Chakravarti) had landed and laid waste the country on every side, he entered the great and noble fortress, the city of Subagiri (Yapahu). And he took the venerable tooth relic and all the spoil wealth that was there and returned..." (*Mahavamsa* Chap. XC W 41-7). Buvaneka Bahu I disappears from the scene, probably he was killed and later his son Buvaneka Bahu II fixes up his capital at Kurunegala marrying a Muslim lady. It would seem that before the return of the ambassador Ariya Chakravarti had finished with the Sinhalese claim.

This incident in history has some noteworthy points:— (a) The Sinhalese King invites a Muslim ally with words "Ceylon is Egypt, Egypt is Ceylon" and he offers his wealth to Egypt. (b) The Ambassador was a Muslim, Al Haj Abu Uthman, selected in preference to any Sinhalese official. (c) The disinclination on the part of the Sinhalese King to settle an indigenous dispute in the indigenous way.

MANIPAY HINDU COLLEGE

SUIT TO DECLARE IT PUBLIC PROPERTY

Answer was filed on the 22nd ultimo by Mr. V. K. Gnanasundram, Proctor, on behalf of the defendants in the case filed in the District Court of Jaffna by Dr. K. Cathiravelu, and Messrs. K. Sundarapillai, S. Thiagarajah and C. N. Devarajan of Manipay against Messrs. S. Pararajasingham, J. P., S. Doresamy, and S. Pathmanathan of Colombo, praying that the Court do declare the college and its lands public property and that the Court do frame a scheme of management.

The defendants state that their father the late Mr. Sangarapully built the college on his own land, spending mostly his own money and certain contributions made by his friends and relations without any conditions or duties imposed on him, that no trust was ever declared, that he managed the college until his death and that during the minority of the defendants certain other people managed the college, and that the executors of their father's last will conveyed the property to them by deed, that the defendants are looking after the school in its own interests without any profit or benefit to them, and that it is not their duty to publish the accounts.

The defendants also deny the averments in the plaint that a portion of the land was held by Mr. Sangarapully in trust, that he in his capacity as Chairman of the Managing Committee, on his death, held a public meeting and elected a board of directors and that rules were framed to conduct the board's business. They admit that in a case filed in Colombo by the Directors of the College against the Executors of the Last Will of Sangarapully, a consent decree was entered that the Executors should pay to the Directors a sum of Rs. 6200 out of the money collected by Mr. Sangarapillai, but they deny that the said decree is a bar to their claim in the proprietorship of the college. They further deny that any cause of action has arisen against them, and even if there be any that the plaintiffs have any status in the action.

Trial has been fixed for the 15th February 1943.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 38.
In the matter of the intestate estate of L. S. Edwards of Vaddukodai

Mrs. A. R. B. Edwards of Vaddukodai Vs. Petitioner.
1. Rosabelle Sothimalar Edwards minor of Vaddukodai by her Guardian-ad-litem
2. T. V. Edwards of Rosemead Place, Colombo. Respondents.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testy. No. 20

In the matter of the estate of the late Kovindar Subramaniam of Karainagar Deceased.
Sellamma widow of Kovindar Subramaniam of do

Vs. Petitioner.
Minor. 1. Thangammah daughter of Subramaniam of do and
2. Kovindar Arumugam of do Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambiah Esquire, District Judge on the 12th day of August 1942 in the presence of Mr. A. Arumugam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read: It is ordered that the 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st Respondent and the petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate as his widow unless the respondents shall appear in person before this court on the 25th day of September 1942 and state objection or shew cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

Sgd. G. C. Thambiah District Judge
21st August 1942

26-10-42
Time to show cause extended to Intd. G. C. T. 23-11-42
D. J.
(O. 70. 5 & 9-11-42)

This matter of the abovenamed Petitioner praying that the 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the first Respondent who is a minor and that the petitioner be appointed Administratrix of the Estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambiah Esquire District Judge on the 18th day of September 1942 in the presence of Mr. S. R. Arianayagam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and her petition and affidavit having been read: It is hereby ordered that the 2nd Respondent be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem of the first respondent minor and that the petitioner be appointed Administratrix of the estate of the deceased as widow of the said deceased and Letters of Administration be granted to her unless the Respondents or any other person interested shall appear and show cause to the contrary on or before the 14th October 1942 at 10 a.m. It is further ordered that the proposed Guardian-ad-litem the 2nd Respondent and the minor the first respondent do appear before this Court on the said date.

The 18th day of September 1942.
Sgd. G. C. Thambiah District Judge
Extended for 16-11-42.
Sgd. G. C. Thambiah, District Judge.
(O. 69. 5 & 9-11-42.)

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