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## SATISFACTORY STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### No Epidemics in 1937

#### HEALTH WORK IN THE NORTHERN PROVINCE

THE general state of the public health was satisfactory in so far as there was no outbreak of infectious disease. The usual increased incidence of malaria, pneumonia, dysentery, and enteric fever was observed at the beginning of the year: but was not noticeable at the end of the year which as a rule is the case, states the Government Agent, N. P., in his Administration Report for 1937. This absence of any serious epidemic disease, however, is insufficient cause for congratulation, the Report adds, when it is realized that the death rate is 27 per thousand in the town and 25.8 per thousand in the rural areas, against an average death rate of 23 for Ceylon, the infant mortality rate 257 per thousand in the town, and 159 per thousand in the rural area, and the maternal mortality rate 25 per thousand in the town and 24 per thousand in the rural areas. It is hoped that the change, which took place in the course of the year, by which the Urban District Council delegated all public health duties to the Medical Officer of Health making him an executive instead of an advisory officer will have a good effect in the town. Two additional midwives were appointed by the Urban District Council and in the rural areas 4 midwives were appointed for the Village Committees of Uduppiddai, Changanai, Mayyiddi, and Vaddukoddai under the scheme by which Government and the Village Committees concerned share the cost. The Village Committee of Pandaterippu had previously adopted the scheme. The Sanitary Board towns of Point Pedro and Valvettiturai each has a midwife whose services are well used, while at Kayts the other Sanitary Board town the maternity ward is well patronized. A maternity ward was provided at Chavakach-

cheri in the course of the year and very many confinements take place in the American Mission Hospitals at Louvil and Manipay.

The birth rate for the year was 30.1 in the Urban District Council area showing a slight rise over the rate of 29.4 for 1936; for the whole district however, the rate fell from 34.2 in 1936 to 31.6 in 1937.

#### Health Exhibitions

Three Health Exhibitions were held during the year, two in Town, and one at Point Pedro. Health education was carried on under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health by lantern lectures, cinema shows, school talks, and village talks. Four Health Leagues were inaugurated during the year at Valvettiturai, Changanai, Uduvil, and Urumpirai. The maternity home at Karaiyur which used to be conducted by the Jaffna Ladies Health League has now been taken over by the Jaffna Urban District Council. The Ladies League conducts three General Welfare and Medical Aid Centres at Karaiyur, Chiviyateru, and Moor Street.

To meet the seasonal increase in the incidence of malaria additional dispensaries and visiting stations are opened during the fever season and for areas not within easy reach of these centres quinine was entrusted for distribution to headmen, teachers, and others. The Medical Officer of Health held meetings at Chavakachcheri and Pallai to explain the object of this distribution and the most effective doses.

Anti-plague work was undertaken in the Urban District Council area and in the Sanitary Board Towns. The main requirements of the regulations were enforced in commercial

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## ANCIENT TAMIL MUSIC

### Its Antiquity

By S. R. Muttukumar

(Continued from our last issue)

THE antiquity of the Tamil Music is readily understood from the fact that Tholkappiar, whose date is entirely shrouded in mystery, makes us to understand that at his time dancers (கூத்தர்), musicians (பாணர்), actors (பொருடர்) and songstresses (கிறையர்) were an established class of people enjoying a certain status in society.<sup>3</sup>

Vahniki in his *Ramayana* says that even in the remotest regions of Kishkinda, Music was incessantly heard, and that Rama listened from the top of Rishiyamuka Hill to the voices singing to the accompaniment of *Mirudanga* (drum), and to the hilarious dancing of the residents of Kishkinda. He also states that, as Lakshmana entered the inner departments of Sugriva's harem, he heard the ravishing strains of Music that were played on the *Veena* and other stringed instruments and which were accompanied by singers who were so expressive as to make every word and even every syllable intelligible, which blended with the instrumental music in perfect harmony.<sup>4</sup>

That the *Vanaras* of South India and the *Rakshasas* of Lanka, who were Dravidians, were expert musicians is also apparent from the fact that Hanuman, the leader of the *Vanara* hosts, was a noted musician and the author of a celebrated treatise on Music known as the *System of Pavana*. Sir William Jones says:—"If we can rely on Mirzakhan, there are four principal *Matas* or systems, the first of which is ascribed to Iswara or Osiris; the second to Bherat; the third to Hanumat, or Pavan, the Pan of India, supposed to be the son of Pavana, the regent of air; and the fourth to Callinath, a *Rishi* or *Indian* philosopher eminently skilled in music, theoretical and practical; all four are mentioned by Soma; and it is the third of them, which must be

very ancient, and seems to have been extremely popular, that I propose to explain after a few introductory remarks".<sup>5</sup>

Another notable example is *Ravana*, the only mortal to obtain the third eye of Siva as a result of his proficiency in the Art of Music. By his sublime singing to the accompaniment of a *Veena*, whose strings were his own arteries, he appeased the wrath of Siva, whom he had offended in one of his heighly moods.

During the early period, the Tamils were classed under four groups as shown in the following stanza in *Puranamuru*:  
"தமிழன் பாணன் பறையன் கம்பனை  
நிகான் சல்லது குடியினினை"<sup>6</sup>  
Panar of this period were learned men well versed in Music and Dancing, and they were thus the favourites of kings and chieftains.

In later times, when the Tamil land was known as *nanilam*—the land of the four tribes) the chief pastime of the *Mullai-makkal* (pastoral tribe) was dancing hand in hand with young cow-herdresses on the luxuriant meadows to the accompaniment of flutes playing their tribal air *Sadhari* (சாதாரி). On this account, their villages were known as *Cheri* (சேரி-பாட்டுக்கச்சேரி) and *Padi* (பாட்டு-சேரி), from which *Patnam* (பட்டினம்) takes its name, probably called so from the clamorous songs and joyous sounds in which the *Mullai-makkal* delighted.

During the mediaeval times, bards and minstrels were the representatives of Tamil Music. They not only considered themselves as equals to any ruling chieftain, but were also highly respected by their countrymen. Kings and nobles, heroes and commanders showered their wealth and their valuables on really deserving bards.

#### Its Excellence

The human frame is the noblest and sweetest of musical instruments, and is endowed

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(3) "கூத்தரும் பாணரும் பொருடரும் கிறையரும்"  
மாநிலிடைக்காட்சி யுறழ்த்தோன்றி"  
Poruladikaram, 36.

(4) Kishkinda Kanda, xxxiii. 27

(5) Complete works, iv. 185.  
(6) Op. cit. 335: 7. 8.



## RECEPTION TO RECIPIENTS OF HONOURS

### Public Reception to Muhandiram S. K. Swaminathan

The residents of Manipay and friends and well-wishers gave a public reception to Muhandiram S. K. Swaminathan on the 16th inst. in the Manipay Hindu College premises. The lawn in front of the College was tastefully decorated with silk umbrellas and Manavarai in a purely Tamil fashion.

Muhandiram and Mrs. S. K. Swaminathan were received at the gate by the members of the reception Committee and taken in procession to the platform to the accompaniment of native music. Mr. C. Coomaraswamy C. C. S., Adigar Naganathar J. P., U. P. M., Dr. Isaac Tambyah, Messrs J. V. Chelliah M. A., and E. Murugesampillay J. P., the Chairman of the reception Committee and Mrs. H. P. Chelliah were accommodated on the platform along with the chief guests of the day. Mr. Murugesampillai garlanded the Muhandiram and the District Judge and Miss T. R. Thambirajah presented Mrs. S. K. Swaminathan with a bouquet.

While the Manipay Hindu College Scouts were busy serving the many varieties of delicacies provided for refreshment, the gathering was treated to a series of dances once popular in Jaffna but now moribund for want of patronage. The dances exhibited were, the hunting dance, the pugilist dance, the monkey dance and the Royal dance. The dances were much appreciated by the audience. After the refreshments, the public meeting began with Mr. C. Coomaraswamy C. C. S. in the chair. The public address was read by Mr. S. Subramaniam B. A. of the Manipay Hindu College and the address of the Vivekananda School of which the Muhandiram is the Manager was read by a girl student of the School.

Mr. Coomaraswamy in offering his congratulations spoke of the retiring and unostentatious nature of the Muhandiram and of his silent ways of contributing to deserving causes.

Dr. Isaac Tambyah who followed, his expressed great satisfaction that his prophecy made almost a year ago on the occasion of the opening of the Saraswathy Memorial Library founded by the Muhandiram had come true. He was glad that a kinsman of his and a resident of Manipay had been honoured.

Mr. J. V. Chelliah spoke in Tamil and paid very high compliments to the Muhandiram as the Manager of the Vivekananda School. He said that Mr. S. K. Swaminathan was an ideal private Manager and wished that all Managers would follow his example.

Adigar A. Naganathar who spoke last said that he knew the Muhandiram's people for five generations and paid glowing

tribute to the Shroffs of Manipay and especially to the father and grand-father of the chief guest. Speaking of his father, he said that he used to be called a "Padre" for his meekness and humility. He also said that the name of 'Ponnampala Shrapper' was still remembered in Kandy where he was a shroff. Ponnampala Shroff, he said, was perhaps the first and only Tamil to own and maintain 24 horses in his stable with a European groom on a salary of £ 30. He spoke of the generosity of the ancestors of Mr. S. K. Swaminathan and was glad that Mr. S. K. Swaminathan was following in their foot step.

Muhandiram feelingly replied and expressed his desire to be of greater service to the public. After a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. V. Veerasingham, the Muhandiram was taken in procession to his house, "Chandra Giri", in a decorated carriage followed by a huge crowd of people who enjoyed thoroughly the dances which reminded one of the Kandyan dances, the music discoursed by experts and the display of fireworks. (Cor.)

### New J. P. Feted

Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam, Proctor S. C., who has been appointed a Justice of the Peace, was entertained at a reception by the residents of Tellipalai on Wednesday, the 15th instant at 5-30 p.m. Several prominent residents of the Parish received Mr. Rajaratnam at the Tellipalai junction, and conducted him in procession to the Mahajana English School. The party arrived at the school by 6-15 p.m., when the visitors were entertained to light refreshments. The gathering included Adigar Naganathar and several leading lawyers and teachers from different parts of the peninsula.

The public meeting commenced at 7 p.m., and Mr. S. D. Tampoe, Advocate, was proposed to the chair. Mr. K. Sri Sundaramoorthy read and presented to the new J. P. an illuminated address in Tamil, on behalf of the residents of Tellipalai. Messrs. T. S. Canagaratnam, Proctor, K. Iliatamby, retired teacher, and K. S. Kanagarayer, Proctor, spoke on the brilliant qualities of the guest of the evening. The varied activities of Mr. Rajaratnam, specially those directed towards the welfare of the peasants, and his genial and amiable nature which had captivated the hearts of all alike, were touched upon by the speakers. It was also mentioned that Tellipalai felt it a special pride to entertain one of her own sons who had been honoured by the Government.

Mr. Rajaratnam, in the course of his reply, said that he prized service to the People much higher than any Imperial honour, and that the progress and prosperity of the people were his greatest concern. Mr. S. D. Tampoe, the Chairman, in a humorous speech, said how closely he had been associated with the new J. P., from his infancy, and how ser-

## League of Nations and Dope Traffic

### A Drive Against The Evil

By S. A. N.

**N**ERO fiddled while Rome burnt. The League of Nations, established for the main purpose of promoting peace among nations, is highly concerned with by-lateral questions in the midst of a world up in arms. One of such by-lateral questions is the control of clandestine manufacture

viceable Mr. Rajaratnam could be to the people of this country.

Mr. T. T. Jayaratnam, the Secretary of the Reception Committee, proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair. Mr. S. R. Kanaganayagam, Advocate, then called for three hearty cheers to the distinguished guest and to Mr. Tampoe. The meeting terminated at 8-30 p.m. (Cor)

### Reception to Muhandiram A. Visuvalingam

Some of the leading residents of Vaddukodai met Muhandiram A. Visuvalingam on Sunday the 12th instant at 6 A.M. at the Jaffna Railway Station on his return to Jaffna after the investiture. Mr. M. Sabaratoosinghe, Principal, Hindu English Institute, Vaddukodai, garlanded the Muhandiram, while Messrs W. Velupillai and S. Sinnatamby, Registrar of Marriages, presented a bouquet and sprinkled rose water respectively. The party motored to Vaddukodai via Sangarathai Road. From a distance of half a mile from his house, Mr. Visuvalingam was taken in procession attended by a band of musicians with nilapavada and poonthal.

At Muhandiram Visuvalingam's house, after the serving of pansupari, Mr. Singhe on behalf of the public of Vaddukodai congratulated Mr. Visuvalingam on the honour conferred upon him and wished him long life and prosperity. Mr. Visuvalingam replied suitably.

In the afternoon Mr. & Mrs. Visuvalingam were 'At Home' and a large number of their friends and relations attended the function. (Cor)

of, and illicit traffic in, dangerous and narcotic drugs. In pursuit of a League resolution the British Secretary of State for the Colonies directed an inquiry about any organisation of anti-Narcotic activities in Ceylon. Thereupon the Minister for Home Affairs asked for a joint report by the Inspector of Police the Commissioner of Excise and the Principal Collector of Customs. The report has, we understand, been made and the three Heads of Departments are agreed on a scheme. They admit the failure of their departments severally and in cooperation to effectively control the illicit trade in Narcotics and plead that the failure was due to the unlimited capital of "the dope rings" and to the meagre resources available to the Departments. And they suggest the establishment of a new, separate department under a full time head to deal with the problem. The prosecutions in the courts of law provide an index to the large volume of undetected traffic. The supply centre is no doubt India. That is for opium and ganja. Other drugs like morphia and cocaine are brought from western countries. India being so near, coasting vessels ply a roaring trade in opium and ganja and detection is rendered difficult by the reason of the Ceylon coastline offering every facility to the smuggler. And it will prove very expensive to guard all the coast. Even then a flighty "catamaran" can dodge any vigilant watch. The report of the three Chiefs has been accepted by the Home Ministry and the necessary legislation is being drafted to give effect to the recommendation. The League member nations are said to have assured the League Assembly that they would organise forces to combat the evil. The question is whether the League will get loyal co-operation in the solution of this question. Though jingoism is the chief enemy of world peace and prosperity, narcotism itself is a dangerous enemy. China's man-power is not of much value in spite of numbers for the opium habit has made it a land of emaciated, half-sunk

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# THE SECRET BEHIND THE SCREEN

JINNAH'S JINGOISM UNMASKED

## PINCHBECK SATYAGRAHIS' PARADE

(By Lanka)

Madras 18th June 1938

THESE Congressmen seem to be sitting firm on the saddle and they ride almost to perfection. Should not something be done about it? That, one can imagine, is the reaction on the minds of the ruling classes and the reactionaries who had profited in the past by the subjection of the people's will. Mahatma Gandhi had seen this when he hinted about it during the Bihar Ministry crisis some months ago. Here, then, is the explanation for the ferment in the country which shows itself out in anti-congress and anti-Hindi demonstrations and particularly Jinnah's crusade.

### Trip The Horse!

THE Britisher dare not go against the Congress government and influence in the governing sphere, but he cannot brook to see erstwhile convicts and prisoners and law-breakers holding the reins of government in a manner that spells trouble for Imperialism. The best thing, then, to do is to pat Congressmen on the back and smother them with flattery and praise to show the world that Britain is happy in passing power to Indians, while Indians could be got to show red-rags to the Congress governmental horses or throw logs of wood on their track or do something to make the horses restive and the riders lose hold. The world would then know that Congressmen are not so popular as they said they were. It is a nice game, this, and so easy, and so well tried out on many occasions.

### The Jinnah Bogey

Mr. Mahomed Ali Jinnah had long been a bogey force and he had been sent to the lunatic room. He himself had not taken a single interest in India politics in the last few years, since this interest to him was confined to India from work and security in England. Besides, showing, by some followers of his, as his shoulders the burden of Muslim India's political progress over him, however, into this business of political leadership. To him who was a contemporary of Cripps and Mehta and of the elder Nehru, the sight of the younger Nehru carrying all the country with him was not at all palatable. In the correspondence that has now been published one can see the undercurrent of this personal jealousy of Jinnah towards Jawaharlal. Jinnah has completely given the show away by the premature publication of this political correspondence. It did not need the scrutiny of political insight to see the palpably poor case that Jinnah has tried to argue with so much of rancour and rant. As the *Madras Mail* said Mr. Jinnah does not shine well in this correspondence. Nor has he shone better in the ruthless campaign he has carried

on for some months now against Congress. His first point was that, in his inability to establish his claim for leadership of the Muslims as absolutely as he professed and protested, Congress should set him up as the sole leader of the single Muslim political body for all-India. In pursuing this he did not want Congress to run away with the idea that it was the Nationalist organisation of country-wide influence. It must write itself down as a sectarian body, plausibly Hindu, though the Hindu Maha Sabha would in its turn see to it that Congress was not stated to be representative of the Hindus. If these conditions are created Jinnah would be happy, never mind if the country, including Muslims, go to blazes. One only wonders that with such aims so clearly and angrily expressed it was necessary for Congress leaders to pursue a correspondence with this man. But they wanted to give Jinnah a long rope, and the longer the rope the rougher he grew in his expressions. Poor man, Jinnah would go down in Indian history as the leader who did more than anybody else for the widening of the gulf between Hindus and Muslims.

### Pillars of Tamil!

If Jinnah gave battle to Congress on a sort of all-India ground the puny creatures of the anti-Hindi circus in the South shook their fists at C. R. and his government with street boyish glee. They even hisped about hunger strikes and satyagraha and civil disobedience and all the implements that Gandhiji had forged for better service. These people knew that under the Congress government they could go a good length without endangering their personal safety. There would be no lathi-charge, no beating, no taking as in the late days when the Justice party was in power and Congressmen paid for their patriotism in suffering. The moment these present-day hunger strikers and satyagrahis know that they lay themselves open to beating in the streets and lock-ups as of old, their concern for Tamil would vanish into thin air. Significant of this is that two of the leaders of this anti-Hindi movement are strangers to Tamil, one an Andhra who wanted to help in the carrying on of the King's government when National India despised to touch the offer, and the other a Malayali who would not sanction buttermilk to Congress prisoners when he was in power under the Justice ministry. The fact of the matter is that this Southern show is another diversion designed by clever persons to distract the attention of the Congress government and to show to the world that Congress in power cannot manage its own countrymen. When Congress took up office, in one of my letters, I stated that they were under a cross-fire. The firing is there, alright, but it is such a poor affair.

## TAMIL DEPUTATION TO WHITEHALL

MESSRS PONNAMBALAM AND MAHADEVA NOMINATED

## REFORMS MEMORANDUM APPROVED

MESSRS G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C. and A. Mahadeva, M. S. C. have been nominated as the delegates of the Jaffna Association to go on a deputation to Whitehall to present the case of the Tamils for the reform of the Constitution.

This decision was reached at a meeting of the Committee of the Jaffna Association held at Penang House on Friday under the chairmanship of the Rev. Dr. T. Isaac Tambyah.

The draft memorandum clarifying the demands of the Tamils of the Northern and Eastern Provinces for a more effective representation in the State Council was approved by the Committee.

It is learnt that the memorandum urges strongly the introduction of the fifty-fifty ratio of representation in the State Council. It is understood that it further urges that half of the total number of the seats for the minorities should be allocated for the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

The memorandum also stresses that minorities should be represented in the Cabinet.

The Committee unanimously decided to nominate Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam and Mr. A. Mahadeva as its delegates to Whitehall.

An All-Ceylon Tamil Conference will be held on July 9th at the Town Hall under the auspices of Jaffna Association.

Leading Tamils from all parts of Ceylon are expected to attend. It is likely that the venue of the second day's sessions will be at Pt. Pedro.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam was present throughout the deliberations of the Committee, at the special request of the Association.

## 27 Bags of Beedy Tobacco

## Smart Detection at Pt. Pedro

Point Pedro, Tuesday

Mr. F. P. Albrecht, the Preventive Officer, Point Pedro, while going in his launch last night suspected a cargo boat carrying some contraband. He gave chase to it. The people in the cargo boat attempted to throw the Beedy tobacco into the open sea. Before they could do so Mr. Albrecht took control of the situation and was able to produce A. Sangarapillai, K. Vythilingam, P. Kathirayetpillai, S. Rasakity, I. Retnasamy and P. Kumarasamy all of Valvettithurai and 27 bags of Beedy tobacco, in the very early hours of this morning before the Point Pedro Customs Officer.

It may be mentioned in this connection that this was the fourth detection this month in Point Pedro. (Cor.)

## THE CHARM OF JAFFNA

GOVT AGENT'S ADMIRATION FOR JAFFNA

MR. E. T. DYSON FETED

Mr. E. T. Dyson, Government Agent, Northern Province, was entertained at a farewell "Garden Party" on Saturday, on the eve of his impending departure on furlough.

There was a large gathering present including many ladies. The Town Hall grounds, the venue of the function, was gaily decorated for the occasion and at nightfall the illumination with multi-coloured jets lent charm to the whole setting.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai, Crown Advocate, who took the chair, said that their popular Government Agent had done much good to the people of the peninsula.

### Difficult Task

Mr. Dyson had identified himself not merely with official duty, but had also found the time to mix with them at their social functions. They admired him for the interest he had evinced in the people and the province.

It was difficult for a Government official to give satisfaction both to the Government and to the people. Mr. Dyson had performed this difficult task and thus won the approbation of all.

During his regime he was responsible for the Paranthan and Pooneryn cultivation schemes, and had been in the forefront of the move to connect Mannar and Jaffna by road. This would be a shorter route to Colombo.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam M. S. C. said that he was not sure that this was a farewell because Mr. Dyson had an uncanny way of returning to Jaffna. During his stay of eight years at Jaffna Mr. Dyson had proved such an apt pupil of the Thesawalamai that there was a fear he might introduce it even into England.

Though Mr. Dyson might not have seen eye to eye with them in all matters, yet he had a desire to get on with them.

### Interest in People

The Rev. E. M. Weaver, Chairman of the North Ceylon Methodist Mission, said that he had been struck by Mr. Dyson's interest in the people, which had largely contributed towards his success as an administrator.

The Rev. Father T. M. F. Long, Rector, St. Patrick's College, said that Mr. Dyson's wide, comprehensive sympathy and high humanity had helped him to weld the frayed relationship between the communities.

Mr. Dyson said that during his time in Jaffna epoch-making events had happened. The boycott had happily departed without any ill effects, electricity was now an accomplished thing.

The Town Hall had reared its head and was the next best to Colombo. The Urban District Council was to be congratulated on its accomplishment.

He claimed credit for the establishment of the motor boat service to Delft. He disclaimed the many merits attributed to him, but admitted an interest and admiration for Jaffna. The charm of the place had grown on his wife and him. He was thrilled by the beauty of Jaffna and the friendliness of its people.





## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1938.

### PILGRIMAGE TO WHITEHALL

IT IS REPORTED THAT THE Governor has despatched his recommendations for the reform of the Constitution to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. That is why, perhaps, he now finds himself free from the inflictions of deputations that have been raiding Queen's House since the announcement that he had been requested by Whitehall to report on the working of the Constitution and recommend necessary changes in it. The sympathetic and well-meaning administrator that he is, he thought it prudent to appeal to leaders of various groups in the country to put their heads together so as to devise an agreed scheme of reforms. The earnestness of his call for "bridge-builders" seemed at that time to have had some response: there were an all-parties conference, informal discussions among leaders of various community groups and to crown it all a "bridge-building" dinner. All these have evidently served to widen the gulf between the communities; the Governor's appeal for bridge-building, therefore, though it raised some hopes in the hearts of the people, has had the regrettable and undesired effect of stimulating the communal greed for snatching more power for the respective communal groups. The result has been, contrary to the expectations of the Governor and the people alike, not bridge-building but the pulling down of even the few props of communal understanding set up by "bridge-builders" in the past. We are now confronted with the sorry spectacle of a legion of communal groups striking discordant notes and confounding the "bridge-building" Governor and wrecking the future political harmony of the country. The tried statesman that he is, the Governor gave time for a settlement of the leaders' disputes. He has been disappointed. He has had to perform therefore the difficult and unpleasant task of sifting all the conflicting views placed before him and presenting to Whitehall a report obviously of the childish ways of our politicians, recommending such reforms as seem to him best and feasible in a country that is barren of leaders and statesmen. We would not be surprised if His Excellency even recommended

under these circumstances any retrograde changes.

Having played their praiseworthy part at Queen's House, some leaders of the Ceylon National Congress now propose to go on a pilgrimage to Whitehall to pray for boons for their group. They perhaps suspect that the Governor does not go far enough with them in their demands. Their purpose evidently is to steal a march over the other communities by gaining the ear of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The passion for self-advancement cannot go further; it knows no shame, nor is it conditioned by considerations of national self-respect. But we are certain the Secretary of State is too shrewd to be bluffed and influenced so easily in the face of the weighty and studied recommendations of his trusted representative on the spot. There are yet times when even the most careful and determined of the best of rulers are taken unawares by the prayers of artful beggars. It is therefore imperative that the minorities who so bitterly complain against the aggression of the Congress high command should be keen in safeguarding their interests by not letting their case go by default. The Jaffna Association is therefore justified in deciding, in these circumstances, to send a deputation to Whitehall to press the case of the Tamils before the Secretary of State. Whatever may be our differences with the Jaffna Association as regards the Tamil demand, we are convinced that the Association has taken the right step in this respect. The Congress leaders who are so indifferent to minority demands and so zealous of their own interests should realise that they cannot, by themselves, hope to realise what they desire. The other minorities too, we are sure, will follow the lead of the Congress caucus that arrogates to itself the pompous and ridiculously inappropriate title of Ceylon National Congress. Time was when the name actually described what it really signifies. The effect of all this will be that the Secretary of State will find himself placed in the same unenviable predicament as the Governor. But MR MALCOLM MAC DONALD has this advantage; he has before him the considered view of his trusted Officer who has seen and judged things for himself before he made his recommendations. They are the conclusions of a Governor whose impartiality, broad sympathies and statesmanship are beyond question. We have therefore no doubt that they will go a long way towards satisfying the conflicting demands and interests of a divided people.

It is indeed a painful duty to criticise the leaders who give a wrong lead to the people and

to constantly din into them their responsibilities. The present confused state of our political life and its gloomy prospects are largely the result of lack of magnanimity on the part of the majority community leaders who refuse to emulate or have not the imagination to appreciate the mighty efforts the majority leaders in the neighbouring continent make to win the confidence and goodwill of the minorities. The Congress leaders in India realise fully that in unity lies India's freedom. It is a pity that our leaders do not appreciate this fact. If they had at least partially realised it, and longed for the country's freedom, they would have snatched the golden opportunity offered by His Excellency to bridge the gulf here and spared themselves the tedium of the pilgrimage and the discomfiture that awaits the deputationists in Downing Street. The country could well have been spared all these inter-communal passions and conflicts over the question of constitutional reforms.

### The Hindu College Playground

On Saturday, the 25th instant, the new playground will be formally declared open by our popular Doctor S. Subramaniam, J. P. The auspicious occasion happily coincides with the annual Inter-House Athletic Meet, which has always evoked keen enthusiasm and healthy rivalry among the teachers and pupils of the College. It will not be out of place if we mention in this connexion that for many long years the great desideratum of the College was a proper playground in close proximity to the College. Realising the importance of a playground as the best training school for our youth to learn how to play, and play a worthy part, in the great game of life, the authorities of the College have spared no pains nor sacrifices to secure it. The fact must be admitted that even the most sanguine of us never cherished the hope that the management could obtain land sufficient for a playground in close proximity to the College. For no such lands were available, granting that the acquisition was within their means. Hence the price of the new playground in a thickly populated quarter of the town is, indeed, priceless. All honour to those whose unflinching devotion and self-sacrificing labours in the cause of the College have turned the wildest dream into a solid achievement of which the College may legitimately feel proud. The auspicious occasion should be one of thanksgiving to Ishwara for having blessed the College with a playground, with ample scope for future extension and expansion. It is to be hoped that all friends, well-wish-

ers and Old Boys of the College will make it a point to contribute generously towards the Playground Fund so that its acquisition may not affect the finances of the College. The Old Boys in particular should rise to the occasion and demonstrate practically their grateful affection for their *alma mater* by handsomely contributing towards it. We hope and trust they will not be slow to respond to the call of their old College.

### Hinduism— Essentials and Non-Essentials

By Panfalantus

IT IS USELESS to pursue this matter further as it is developing along irrelevant lines. I will, therefore, close my side of the question with a brief resume of my contention.

The central point of my original article was that *Varna* and *Asrama* are among the fundamentals of Hinduism. In elaborating this point, I said that the *Vedas* describe the origin of caste; that the *Gita* doctrines are based upon caste; that, age after age, caste has gone on growing in strength; and that Hinduism cannot survive the destruction of caste.

S. A. P. offered a criticism on this argument by saying that the *Sruti* was the only authority binding on all Hindus, and that the *Sruti* did not insist on *varna* as an essential part of Hinduism. Thereupon, I explained that the *Sruti*, i.e., the *Vedas*, cannot be understood without the aid of the *Vedangas*, in which the *Smritis* are included; that the whole fabric of the *Smritis* is raised upon a foundation of caste; that the *Parasara-smriti*—the one governing the *Kaliyuga*—is as much based upon caste as any other; that, as this *Smriti* is still in force, we cannot wage war upon caste; and that, unless a new *Smriti-karta* i.e., compiler of *Smritis* appears on the scene and sweeps off the institution of caste as being unsuitable for the age, we must accept caste as an integral part of Hinduism. S. A. P. says that Vivekananda and Gandhi are such *Smriti-Kartas*. S. A. P. is quite welcome to hold his own opinion in the matter, but I cannot subscribe to that opinion. Vivekananda and Gandhi are, no doubt, great in their own way, but the Hindu world has not recognized them as *Smriti-Kartas*, and their obiter dicta challenging a few doctrines of traditional Hinduism do not constitute a *Smriti*. For my own part, I do not even acknowledge them as my teachers in religion, for, to neither of them do I owe anything of my knowledge of Hinduism, which, derived from a reverent study of the original sources and fortified by faithful apprenticeship, ripe experience and careful thought, obliges me to reject all conclusions which are at variance with my own reasoned convictions. In these circumstances, S. A. P. and I can agree only to differ, and so I bid him good-bye.

[This correspondence will now close—Ed.]



## AN APPEAL

### THE HINDU BOARD OF EDUCATION WANTS

Rs. 2,00,000 for the Hindu Ladies College Orphanage.

Rs. 50,000 for improving its existing 90 schools opening new Tamil schools.

#### BOARD'S ACHIEVEMENT

THE Hindu Board of Education has during the past 14 years achieved much. It controls the education of 14,000 students by teachers in 90 schools and possesses lands and buildings well over Rs. 300,000. During the last 3½ years it opened 30 new schools 22 have already been registered for Government grant. The necessary delay caused by Government in registering these schools for aid has cost the Board about Rs. 30,000.

#### Work Ahead

(1) The Board has to carry out urgent improvement additions to existing schools.

(2) It has to introduce industrial and agricultural education in many of its existing schools.

(3) It has to provide facilities for the education of Hindu children who are being educated under alien influence opening new schools in Hindu centres not only in Jaffna other parts of Ceylon.

(4) Above all it has to establish a Hindu Ladies College Girls Orphanage at a cost of Rs. 200,000 in the Town of Jaffna save our future mothers and future generations from our alien faith and being thus lost to the Hindu fold.

#### Appeal

The Board makes an earnest appeal to all Hindu gentlemen to rally round its banner and help to educate Hindu children in Hindu schools by Hindu teachers in a atmosphere and thus realise the dream of our great Sri Arumuga Navalar.

A. Chellappa (Hony General Manager)

C. Ponnambalam (Hony Secretary)

A. K. Navaratnam (Hony Treasurer)

S. Rajaratnam (Organising Secretary)

S. Subramaniam (Hony Secretary)

M. Krishnar (Hony Treasurer)

R. Sivagurunathan

S. R. Kanagasayam

M. Vaithalingam

## TRAVANCORE BANK SUSPENDS BUSINESS

### CROWDS GATHER AT JAFFNA BRANCH

#### CONTINUOUS RUN ON BANK

GREAT excitement and panic was caused over the temporary suspension of business from Tuesday till July 1, by the Jaffna Branch of the Travancore National and Quilon Bank Ltd.

It was later learned that all branches in Ceylon of this Bank have suspended business.

Several thousands of depositors in Jaffna, Colombo, Kandy and Galle are affected by the Bank's decision not to transact any business for some days.

Thousands of depositors thronged at the bank premises on Tuesday and the Bank authorities had to seek police assistance to avoid any disturbance.

There has been a continuous run in the Jaffna Branch since last week and it is reported more than Rs. 150,000 had been withdrawn up to Tuesday.

#### The Trouble

The reason for the Bank's decision is explained in a notice signed by Mr. K. M. Eapen,

Joint Managing Director, died at the Colombo Branch which stated:

Bank's management have decided that with a view to consider the situation resulting from continuous run duly met all months should be dealt with future, a short interval is necessary in the interest of shareholders, depositors and other constituents.

Banker's authorities are in a position to successfully establish that the whole trouble started as the result of propaganda. All attempts made by Bank's authorities to avoid continuing ill-will were unsuccessful.

Bank's management is submitting all facts of the case to the Government of India, requesting them to appoint an appropriate committee of enquiry to investigate the trouble, and help the Bank to secure adequate compensation and relief.

Pending receipt of reply of the Government of India, the management have decided that in the interest of depositors and others the business of the Bank should be adjourned temporarily. Accordingly all transactions of the Bank including receipts and payments will be adjourned until the 1st July, 1938.

The management will issue further announcement before 1st July. The management desire to avail themselves of this opportunity to thank all shareholders, depositors, constituents and other friends for uniform cordiality and goodwill extended to the Bank throughout and particularly during these months of great stress.

They appeal for their continued

(the Minister's view was to be modified by the uncalculable response of draining an extensive area of paddyland and site formation.

In addition, forty-two peasant settlements have arisen within its ambit, since the original census showed that ninety-two families would have to be evicted to make room for the University.

goodwill and sympathy; and beg to assure them that they will do everything in their power to safeguard the interests of shareholders, depositors and constituents in the best manner possible.

#### Minister not a Position to Intervene

Colombo, June 22.

In response to a telephone message from Kandy, Mr. George E. de Silva, M. S. C., appealed to the Minister of Home Affairs, to intervene in the situation that has arisen by the temporary closing of the Travancore Bank, Colombo, and its outstation branches.

The Minister, it is understood, replied that he was not in a position to intervene as the situation at the moment was one that fell outside his purview.

## PERADENIYA SITE FOR UNIVERSITY

### INSPECTION OF SITE

#### WILL COUNCIL RATIFY RECOMMENDATION?

Colombo, Monday.

Three suggested sites in Peradeniya for the erection of the Ceylon University were inspected this morning by the Minister of Education and the Minister of Communications and Works, who had with them their technical advisers. The others present were Prof. R. Marrs, Principal of University College, Mr. W. J. Price, Acting Director of Public Works, Mr. A. Ratnaike, M. S. C., Dr. S. C. Paul, Dr. Andreas Nell, Mr. H. E. Billimoria, Chief Architect of the P. W. D., Mr. J. G. Morley, Government Valuer, Mr. T. A. Hudson, Government Agent, Central Province, Mr. R. Schokman, Assistant Valuer, Mr. R. A. de Mel, Mr. C. Bern, representing the proprietors of the New Peradeniya Estate, Mr. O. T. Nettelton, Provincial Engineer, Mr. E. A. Berin, District Engineer, Mr. B. Ratnaike, R. M., Kachcheri Mudaliyar Wijekoon, Mr. Volvin R. de Silva, Secretary to the Minister of Communications and Works, and the Superintendent of New Peradeniya Estate.

The site most favoured was the one on New Peradeniya Estate with an extent of about 186 acres.

The wide expanse of land is surrounded by hills on three sides and the Mahaveli on the other.

Dr. Paul expressed the opinion that the site is free from malaria. Mr. Ratnaike said that he came to see the site with an open mind. Prof. Marrs was heard to remark that it was a beautiful site.

The Kandy correspondent of the "Times", writes.

What the present generation of Ceylonese, their children and Ceylonese still unborn will come to regard as an epoch-making event was enacted in the environs of Kandy yesterday when, for all practical purposes a site on New Peradeniya Estate was selected as the home of the future University of Ceylon.

The State Council has yet to ratify the certain recommendation by the Minister of Communications of the New Peradeniya site, but if any debate may be anticipated, it will, in all probability, be limited to the financial settlements involved in the proposal.

The inspection by the Minister of Communications and the Minister of Education yesterday was intended to cover the three recommended sites around Kandy, but Dr. S. C. Paul and Dr. Andreas Nell, having surrendered their sponsorship of the Augusta site, overlooking the Lewis Links, only New Peradeniya Estate and the Wafapuluwa site in Dumbara were visited by the Ministers and the large party who accompanied them.

At the close of the inspection two sites, which was concluded before lunch, the question was raised whether the whole of New Peradeniya Estate (an extent of 374 acres) should be acquired, or only such part as is necessary for the requirements of the University, some 200 acres.

It is understood that the Government Valuer was requested by the

(Continued on Previous Column)



## LETTER

## "Multiplicity of Receptions"

Sir,—With reference to a correspondence appearing in your issue of 16th June under the head line of Multiplicity of Receptions I am rather puzzled to know whether the correspondent refers to the function held at Sir Kanagasabai Vidyasala at Pannalai on the occasion of the King's Birth-day celebration in honour of the conferment of the Justice of the Peace on Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam or to the one held at Tellippalai Mahajana English School on the 15th June. If it refers to the former, I admit that the function was quite a unique one and that a large and representative gathering from Pannalai and other adjoining villages was present though it was conducted only by the Manager and the school staff. Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam was garlanded and presented with an address and after the distribution of prizes to the school children, he was taken in procession round the village with native music with the school children carrying the Union Jack.

Coming to the late Mr. V. Apparsamy, J. P. I am well informed that his relatives and friends that he was never approached for a reception to be accorded to him. Whatever may be, it is now too late to propose as he has passed away from our midst. Will the learned correspondent let the public know whether he (Mr. V. Apparsamy) informed his relatives that no condolence meeting should be convened after his death? There are many young men in Government service who had secured his favour in the form of recommendations and character certificates to enter into departmental service and these gentlemen have failed to convene a condolence meeting at least to show their gratitude towards the late Mr. V. Apparsamy.

Coming to the second function held in honour of Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam by the so-called residents of Tellippalai Parish, I can boldly say that it was not well represented, as the majority of the members of the Village Committee and the public (irrespective of caste or creed) were not present. Some gentlemen who signed the conveners' list did not attend the conveners' meeting as a result of the non-inclusion of the V. C. Members and the prominent gentlemen of the Parish. I may safely point out that at the conveners' meeting some persons walked away being thoroughly dissatisfied with the procedure adopted in pushing through certain resolutions, which were once passed unanimously and subsequently altered. Further certain members of the reception committee did not attend the function and in fact one informed me that he was against the proposal to bring a president from outside to preside over the function. It is rather surprising to bring a president in the person of Mr. S. D. Tampoe, Advo-

cate, to preside over the function when there are many worthy gentlemen viz. lawyers, doctors, graduates, retired Government servants etc. in the Parish. This remark was made by the president of the function when he found that the meeting was not well represented. I am proud to say that functions of this nature were presided over in the past by educated village Chairmen viz. Mr. V. Kumarasamy, B. A., Proctor, and Mr. T. S. Thuraiappah, Notary Public, and further I may say that we are not wanting in self-sacrificing intelligent and capable young gentlemen of the place who are quite competent to preside over such and similar functions in the village and guide the destinies of the country safely.

In these circumstances it is proposed to hold a third function in Tellippalai Parish to honour Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam who is doing great services particularly to the peasant population, and to show to the public how to conduct a function

Tellippalai  
21-6-38

Yours etc.  
A Vigilant.

## BOOK REVIEW

## "Songs"

BY

ISAI TAMIL CHELVAR.  
T. Lakshmana Pillai, B. A.

The system of music that is in vogue in the Tamil country is the Carnatic System, but unfortunately all the master-pieces that are being sung are in Telugu, a language foreign to the Tamils and such they are "Songs without words." The great Thyagarajah who gave an impetus to South Indian Music through his songs, composed them in Telugu and every one of them is a masterpiece without an equal or superior. The composers who came after him, many of whom were Tamils, thought it fashionable to compose in Telugu and did so forgetting the service they were rendering their own mother tongue. Another unfortunate thing was that recently the educated and respectable Tamil kept music at a distance as it was thought a disgrace to learn music and much more to sing in public. As a result of this short-sighted policy, like its sister art dancing, became the sole monopoly of the alien sister in the Tamil country, and this contributed largely to the paucity of musical-pieces in Tamil. This was not only a great drawback but a slur too, and it is left to the *Isai Tamil Chelvar* to come to the rescue of our mother tongue and prove to the world that Tamil was not second to any other language as a medium of musical composition.

The book under review is a collection of about 150 Songs composed in Tamil by Mr. T. Lakshmana Pillai B. A. of Trivandrum. Mr. Pillai is a native of Travancore and belongs to one of the most respectable vellala families there. He is a graduate of the Madras University, and a highly cultured gentleman of profound scholarship. His writings, both in English and Tamil, are master-pieces and reminds one of some of the greatest masters in those languages. His compositions are mostly devotional, but unlike Thyagarajah, our author has not confined himself to this alone, and one finds many philosophical and ethical ones too amongst his Compositions. "In their felicity of diction, aptness of melody, uncommon originality of form and fecundity and variety of variations, his compositions rank with the best pieces of Thyagarajah." He is the product of the combined culture of the East and West. He is one of the living authorities on South Indian Music and his compositions mostly Kiritees and Keerthanams in Tamil are not second to those of the great Thyagarajah. Mr. Lakshmana Pillai has done a positive service to his country and when the time comes for the history of the music of Tamil Nadu to be written, I predict, Mr. Pillai will himself be surprised to find his name at the top of the list of composers. If today anybody wants to find a new name to Mr. Pillai it shall be "Thyagarajah of Tamil Nadu." Mr. Pillai is not only a composer but a musician both vocal and instrumental, too. He is a musician of rare merit and it is only those who had the privilege of hearing him, could assess his value. The present writer had not only heard him but had also the rare privilege of

## Careers for Schools Boys

## Efforts of Secondary Schools in Jaffna

Determined efforts are being made by the big secondary schools to bring home to their boys that many of them must aim at other careers than the professions and Government service. It is much to be hoped that these efforts will be successful. If not the only solution of the problem of unemployment among well-educated youths would seem to be the pessimistic one of curtailing the numbers receiving higher English education by the Colleges combining to raise their fees. The savings in Government grants consequent on any such reduction of numbers should be spent in providing an adequate number of scholarships for really brilliant poor boys, observes the Government Agent, Northern Province, under the head Education in his Administration Report for 1937.

The Report further states:—

Mr. Nevins Selvadurai was again elected Chairman of the Education District Committee.

The school building at Allarai was improved and extended and the teacher's quarters at Nallur (Punnakari) and Pokkaruppu were improved; work was started on a new building for Thunnaikai maintained school.

There has been an improvement in attendance which is reflected in a drop from 8,118 to 6,135 in the number of cases instituted against the parents of absentees. This is partly attributed to the provision of free mid-day meals in certain areas.

sitting at his feet and learning a few of his out-pourings direct from him. I wish I had learnt more.

It is said that a hero is not honoured in his own country and that one's merits are not recognised and appreciated during his or her life time; but Tamil land has belied this theory for it was only just a couple of years ago the country of his birth honoured our author by unveiling a life size portrait of his at Reivandrum in recognition of the rare services he has rendered to his country and mother tongue.

True, his compositions are as not popular as they ought to be, but time is not far off when these songs will be sung in the byways and highways of South India and Ceylon, and may our author live long to witness such a sight.

Mr. Lakshmana Pillai has rendered a great service to our country and language and the best way his countrymen could show their appreciation and gratitude, is by buying copies of his book by the hundreds. Though the book is worth its weight in gold, Mr. Pillai has priced it at only Rs. 5/- a copy. Every song is rendered in swaram notation and this makes it quite easy for the student to master these without the aid of a teacher.

—(N. MAHESWARI DEVI)



### SATISFACTORY STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

(Continued from page 1)

premises, rat holes blocked, and premises fumigated.

#### Crime

The figures obtained from the various Police Courts of the District indicate that there has been a decrease in crime.

	1936.	1937.
Total number of institutions	13,475	10,996
Cases of serious crime	1,223	1,057
True cases	986	882
Convictions	305	270

The decrease may be attributed to the improved judicial arrangements resulting in the prompt disposal of cases. The additional Magistrate who sits at Kayts and Mallakam was appointed towards the end of 1936. This appointment relieved the Police Magistrate, Jaffna, who formerly had to sit at both these courts and also made it possible for the Additional District Judge, Jaffna, to sit three days a week at Point Pedro thus relieving the Magistrate, Point Pedro, of some of his civil work.

The situation was further improved by the appointment from July 1, 1937, of a President, Village Tribunal, who has relieved the Jaffna and Mallakam Police Courts of many trivial cases.

Provision has been made in the Estimates for 1937-38 for the establishment of Police Stations at Changanai and Chunnakam.

A most dastardly case of house-breaking with violence at Kudatanai engineered apparently in revenge because of the rejection of the marriage proposal of one of the gang was finally disposed of during this year though the actual crime was committed in 1936. All five accused were sentenced by the District Judge to 4 years' rigorous imprisonment and the sentences were affirmed in appeal.

During the last quarter of the year a gang of burglars who were operating in Valikamam West was rounded up with satisfactory results.

There has been some increase in cattle theft attributed to the abolition of cattle vouchers. It may prove necessary to reintroduce permits for transfer of cattle from one division to another.

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 587

In the matter of the intestate estate of Vaitilingam Kulantavelu alias Sinnatamby of Vannarponnai West. Deceased. Viyaladchy widow of Sinnatamby of Vannarponnai.

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Mangalamma daughter of Sinnatamby
2. Sinnatamby Balasingham
3. Sinnatamby Kalirajah
4. Chotiledchumy daughter of Sinnatamby
5. Thilagavathy daughter of Sinnatamby
6. Vaitilingam Saravanamuttu all of Vannarponnai West.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esqr., District Judge of Jaffna on the 4th day of April 1938 in the presence of V. Navaratna Rajah, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner abovenamed

### Alleged Assault by F. M. S. Pensioner

That an F. M. S. pensioner had assaulted a labourer and tied him to a pillar was alleged in a case in the Jaffna Police Court. Court Sergeant Nair charged Mr. Manapulasingam Sinnadurai, Pensioner, and two others before Mr. E. V. R. Samarawickrema, with wrongful confinement of Nagalingam Kandiah, of Kokuvil West.

Messrs. R. R. Nalliah and Sam A. Sabapathy defended.

Nagalingam Kandiah stated that while he was going along the Koddady Road three persons chased him. Mr. Sinnadurai struck him in the back and he fell. The three of them then dragged him to Mr. Sinnadurai's garden.

He was tied to a pillar in a workshop. When he raised cries Mr. Sinnadurai brandished a knife to stab him, but his son said something in Malay and the father desisted.

He was then assaulted by all three. A Police Constable, hearing his cries came up and untied him. Before the police arrived they brought some pots and pans and kept them in front of him so as to allege that he had stolen them.

After the evidence of P. C. Visuvalingam, bail was allowed in Rs.50.

### League of Nations and Dope Traffic

(Continued from Page 2.)

people who are a cheap gun-fodder to the Japanese. The plight of China would have been far more miserable than what it is today had not the British Government acquired the opium monopoly and thus prevented a free trade in the dangerous stuff. British Government's solicitude for the welfare of the peoples of India, Ceylon and China is well-known. But for it, the opium habit would have grown far and wide and ended in great calamity. Drink-habit has very widely spread in Ceylon. It is dangerous enough. To allow the dope too to play its havoc is to give the people an authority for suicide. The Government of Ceylon has long tackled the problem in a half hearted manner. For, they feared the expenses. We hope that the proposed legislation will smash the traffic that has long thrived.

and the affidavit of the said Petitioner dated 28th day of March 1938 having been read.

It is ordered (a) that the 6th Respondent be and he is hereby appointed guardian-ad-litem of the minors, the 1st to 5th Respondents to represent them for all the purposes of this action and (b) that the petitioner be and she is hereby declared entitled as widow of the abovenamed deceased to have letters of administration to this Estate issued to her unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 18th day of May 1938 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 7th day of April 1938.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,

District Judge.

Extended to 24th June 1938.

Intd. C. C.

D. J.

[O. 18. 20 & 23-6-38.]

### Ancient Tamil Music

(Continued from page 1)

with a natural disposition to resonance and sympathy, alternately affecting and being affected by the soul which pervades it. It cannot be denied that the whole nervous system in the human body is affected in a singular manner by combinations of sound, and that melody alone will often relieve the mind, when it is oppressed by intense application to business or study. It seems, therefore, reasonable to believe that a few agreeable airs, either heard or played without effort, must have all the good effects of sleep and none of its disadvantages, "putting the soul in tune", as Milton says, for any subsequent exertion.

That the Tamil Music produces this effect not only on man, but even on the lower animals, is attested by *Ahananuru*, when it states that, on hearing the sweet song of a *Kurinchi* maiden who was watching her field, an elephant stood motionless, and then went to sleep, forgetting its feed of millet, and without chewing the cud. (\*)

It may also be remarked here that the *Ragas* or Melodies of the ancient Hindus have been translated into pictorial terms. These are known as the *Raga-Mala* or Melody pictures. The painters have translated the Hindu melodies into their own language by forming a mental picture of the impressions these melodies have made upon them. The Pahari painters made great use of this art by many illustrations. (\*)

One of these melody-pictures represents a lady seated under a flowering tree, and pouring out her soul in song to the accompaniment of the *Veena*, while the pet gazelle by her side, the birds and even the trees seem to be attentive listeners. (\*)

In this connection, Sir William Jones writes thus:—

"I hardly know how to disbelieve the testimony of men, who could have no interest in deceiving me: first I have been assured by a credible eye witness, that two wild antelopes used often to come from their woods to the place, where a more savage beast, Sirajuddaulah, entertained himself with concerts, and that they listened to the strains with an appearance of pleasure, till the monster, in whose soul there was no music, shot one of them to display his archery..... Thirdly, an intelligent *Persian* who repeated his story again and again, and permitted me to write it down from his lips, declared, he had more than once been present, when a celebrated lutanist, MIRZA MOHAMMED, surnamed BULBUL, was playing to

- (7) "தலையக் வாராயி குளரினன் கொடிச்சி பெருவரை மருக்கிற் குறிஞ்சி பாடக் குரலுக் கொன்றாது நிலையிலும் பெயராத படாஅப் பைக்கண் பாடுபெற் றெய்யென மறம்புகண் மழுகளி றறந்து காடன்." 102
- (8) Percy Brown's *Indian Painting*, p. 109.
- (9) E. B. Hewell's *A Handbook of Indians Art*, pp. 211-12.

### CE. P. RADEN FOR UNIVER

the nightingale, sometimes warbling with the musician, sometimes warbling on the trees, sometimes fluttering from branch to branch, as if they wished to approach the instrument, whence the melody proceeded, and at length dropping on the ground in a kind of ecstacy, from which they were soon roused, he assured me, by a change of the mode." (10)

It is, therefore, not strange that *Jivaha Chintamani* tells us that "the singing of a Tamil songs-tress was so exquisite that birds fell senseless to the ground on hearing it." (11)

(10) Complete Works, iv. 169,170.

(11) "தலைப்பொழில் குரல்கின்வீன்ற துண்டளிர் நிலத்திலடப் பறவைமெய்ப்பறந்த ன வீழ்த்ததே...657.

(To be Continued.)

### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Mr. Saravanamuttu, son of Sinnadyyar of Madathuvasal Mathagal, Pandatteruppu but presently residing at Battu Pahat, Johore, has given notice to his wife, Madam S. Sinnapillay, daughter of Vyrarnuttu of Jathambai, Mathagal, Pandatteruppu, revoking the power of Attorney made in her favour by our client.

Notice is hereby further given that all acts or transactions by the said S. Sinnapillay will not be hereafter ratified by our client.

CHIA & Co.,  
Solicitors for the said  
S. Saravanamuttu,  
Batu Pahat,  
Johore.

[Mis. 65. 9-6-38-8-7-38.]

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 600.

In the matter of the estate of the late Samuel Porter Selvadurai of Uduvil Deceased.

Sanmugam Sinnadurai of Uduvil

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Rani Selvamany daughter of Selvadurai
2. Elai Manonmani daughter of Selvadurai
3. Daniel Sabaratnam Selvadurai
4. Walter Selvanayagam Selvadurai, all of Uduvil

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the abovenamed 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the minors the 2, 3 and 4 Respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed Deceased be issued to the petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on the 17th day of May 1938 in the presence of Mr. S. V. Chinniah Proctor for Petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read. It is ordered that the abovenamed 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-Litem over the minors the 2, 3 and 4 Respondents for the purpose of representing them in this case and that the petitioner be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed Deceased as the Son-in-law of the deceased and as one who looks after the affairs of the said heirs unless the abovenamed Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 29th day of June 1938 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 31st day of May 1938.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

[O. 17. 20 & 23-6-38.]



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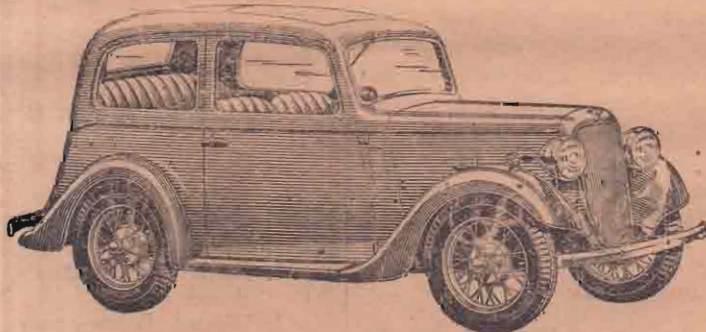
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