

THE Hindu Organ.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

(Registered as a Newspaper)

[P. M. G., No. H. B.—59/300 of 13-7-38.]

Estd. Sept. 11, 1889

VOL. L.

Phone 56,

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1938.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 49.

THE PROPOSED EDUCATION ORDINANCE

Misunderstandings And Misapprehensions

WHY VESTED INTERESTS OPPOSE THE ORDINANCE

By J. N. Jinendradasa, Principal, Nalanda Vidyalaya

THERE seems to be a great deal of misunderstanding and misapprehension with regard to the proposed Education Ordinance. I do not think that many who criticise the ordinance have ever read it. If the provisions are compared with those of the Ordinance of 1920 and the English Education Act of 1921 with the subsequent amendments up to 1933 it would be clear that the new ordinance is a distinct improvement on the existing one and its provisions are based on the English Education Act.

The Very Rev. Father Long says that the English System of Education is the best in the world. The system has been adopted in other British self-governing colonies like Australia.

Then I cannot understand why he objects to the shaping of the Ceylon System to the English model by adopting the provisions of the English Act which governs the system in England and Wales. For most of the clauses in our new ordinance are copied almost word to word from the English Act.

The new ordinance is necessary in view of the Constitutional changes that have taken place in Ceylon. The main changes to which objection has been taken are the withdrawal of the rule-making power of the Board of Education, the abolition of Education District Committees and the creation of local education authorities.

Those having vested interests, who have been obtaining an undue share of Government funds for their own benefit rather than the education of the children, naturally fear a

curtailment of their privileges by these changes. But if the sections of the ordinance are studied dispassionately, those who have the true welfare of the country at heart would see that there is nothing sinister in them, and that the ordinance could be used for the progressive development of a system of education suitable to the country.

There is a great deal of misconception with regard to the Board of Education in Ceylon. Its history would be interesting. It was a body in which the Christian missionaries had a preponderant voice and controlled the education of Ceylon for their own benefit. There was a time when the Buddhist representative was Mudaliyar Gunaratne, a silent member, who was succeeded by Mudaliyar Tudor Rajapakse, another estimable gentleman. Mr. Bultjens, an eminent educationist, who was General Manager of Buddhist Schools at the time was never nominated owing to the opposition of Christian missionaries. It was with some difficulty that even Sir D. B. Jayatilaka found a place there. The Board opposed everything national. There was vehement opposition to the introduction of Sinhalese as a subject in English Schools. It is the much maligned Minister of Education who made the Board more representative of educational interests by appointing teachers' representatives and those qualified in education.

The Board is not at all comparable to the Board of Education in England which consists of the Secretaries of State, the Lord President of the Council, the First Lord of

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SEARCH FOR LEADERSHIP IN ENGLAND

Antony Eden's Claims

By A. G. Gardiner

NEVER was the landscape of Europe more menacing than it is to-day and never was the future more incalculable.

In such circumstances the need of a bold, instructed and imaginative leadership is urgent.

That leadership we in England, have not got.

I say this without disrespect to Mr. Chamberlain, whose honesty, industry and public spirit are beyond question and whose efforts to preserve the peace of the world command the respect even of those who believe his policy to be mistaken.

But his limitations are flagrant. His vision is narrow, and he lacks the essence of supreme leadership—the power of touching the nation's mind to great issues.

Nor are his own deficiencies in these respects supplied by his colleagues.

He distrusts minds which outsoar his own restricted orbit, and, excepting perhaps Lord Halifax, his Cabinet contains no figure that touches the imagination of the public or enlarges and stimulates its thought.

Moreover, he is reaching that age limit which must in any case make his term of office brief.

It is these facts which explain the concern felt by all responsible minds about the national leadership in the immediate future.

If democracy is to survive in face of the tidal wave of dictatorship that has swept over Europe, it must show that it can bring the man of power to the seat of power.

If it cannot do this it is doomed.

In this quest of the leader of tomorrow no one has caught the eye of the discerning public so much as Mr. Eden.

The circumstances of his sudden rise to the Foreign Secretaryship and his dramatic fall marked him at once as a man of courage and character.

He took up the office in that humiliating hour when the

Hoare-Laval episode had sealed the fate of Abyssinia and shaken the whole structure of the League of Nations to its foundations.

He went out of office rather than be a party to Mr. Chamberlain's deal with Mussolini over Spain.

He believed that the Duce's demand for an Anglo-Italian pact was, in the language of Lord Cranbourne, "blackmail".

It was a threat of war with the alternative of surrender.

Under the disguise of a mutual agreement, which would reduce us to inaction on one side and strengthen his bargaining power with Hitler on the other, he could carry his adventure in Spain to a conclusion as successful as his adventure in Abyssinia.

I do not suppose that Mr. Chamberlain had any more illusions about Mussolini than Mr. Eden had but in his eagerness to preserve the peace at any price he took the bait.

Mr. Eden, believing that the only way to peace was a courageous and undeviating policy, insisted that withdrawal from Spain must precede negotiations for a pact. He was over-ruled and resigned.

Events have shown that he was right.

The pact remains a scrap of paper.

It was to come into force only when the Italian withdrawal from Spain, which is the condition of its ratification, had become a fact.

But Mussolini, so far from withdrawing from Spain, was never more actively engaged there.

He makes no concealment of this. He openly and brazenly boasts about it.

If Mr. Eden were a political adventurer, he could hardly fail to yield to the temptation to make personal capital out of this sorry business.

But he has not yielded. On the issue on which he broke with Mr. Chamberlain and on its consequences he has preserved an austere silence.

He "will not interfere with

(Continued on page 2)

THE JAFFNA F. N. S.

Its History

At the Annual General Meeting of the Friend-in-Need Society, Jaffna, held on February 8, 1938, the President, Mr. E. T. Dyson, suggested the desirability of compiling a history of the Society, in view of its forthcoming Centenary on March 9, 1941; and stressed the necessity and importance of the work being undertaken at once when a certain amount of material was still available, says the author in his introduction to the book.

As it is, the sources of information for drawing up a detailed historical survey of the Society, and of its early beginnings, growth and development, are very scanty. Many of the old Annual Reports, Minute Books, and other documents appertaining to the Society are missing. Even among the Reports available, several are so tattered or mutilated as to be useless for purposes of reference. The earliest Report to hand is the seventh Report for 1848. The others available are for the years January 1, 1857 to June 30, 1859; July 1, 1859 to December 31, 1867; January 1, 1868 to December 31, 1888; 1891 to 1895; 1898 to 1907; 1912; and 1928 to 1937. The only Minute Books available are those from 1905 onwards. However, with the help of the records in the Jaffna Kachcheri, some early issues of "The Morning Star"—the only newspaper published in Jaffna in 1841, when the Society was instituted—as regards its early years, and of "The Jaffna Catholic Guardian" as to later years, Martyn's "Notes on Jaffna, Ceylon Almanacs of the early eighteen hundreds and Government Administration Reports, an attempt has been made to put together as complete and accurate a history of the Society as is possible in the circumstances; though, it must be regretfully admitted, that owing to the scrappy information available, many an important matter on which more light would have been desirable must, perforce, remain in the dark.

Friend-in-Need Societies came to be established in Ceylon in the early eighteen-hundreds. Those prior to the Jaffna Society were Colombo (1831) Calpenty and Kandy (1837) and Trincomalie (1840). The Galle Society was established in 1841. According to the Ceylon Almanac of 1844, the institutions at these places, with the exception of Calpenty, had affiliated Hospitals or Dispensaries for paupers. The Hospital of the Jaffna F. N. S. was only established in 1850; but to its credit it should be said that it continued to carry on the Hospital under its auspices for nearly 57 years—a much longer period than that of any of the other Societies mentioned.

In the review of the history of the Jaffna F. N. S. the salient points that emerge from the relation of the connected facts are:—its foundation in 1841 and early beginnings; the completion and opening of the Society's Hospital in 1850 and its continuance for 57 years under the Society's management, before its transference to

the Civil Medical Department; a general decline in the activities of the Society from 1908 onwards until it reached its lowest ebb during 1919 to 1927; and its re-organization and revitalization in 1928 by the then Government Agent, Mr. J. D. Brown.

The Society has gone through many vicissitudes during the past 97 years of its existence. It is a matter for pride that, in spite of the many financial and other difficulties and reverses it had to contend with from time to time, the Society still continues in its beneficent and charitable work to the great benefit of the public. This fact is a tribute not only to the courage and far-sightedness of those philanthropic men who initiated the movement, and those who in after years fostered it with the utmost concern; but also to the charitable and kindly disposition of the people of Jaffna.

It is to be hoped that the recital of the story of the past will awaken in the hearts of the people a true spirit of patriotism, and inspire them to rally round the Society in larger and ever-increasing numbers and give it every financial encouragement, so that it may be placed in a better position to render aid to the poor and needy on a more extensive scale in the future.

Financial and other statistics, names of office-bearers and committee members, and various other details are shown in the appendices hereto annexed. Unless necessary to elucidate any point, or to touch upon some remarkable or noteworthy fact, or for any other special reason, e.g. for purposes of comparison, such particulars will not be alluded to in the narrative.

Appendices 2, 3 and 5 do not purport to be complete lists of what they indicate, or to be quite accurate as to dates, although every effort has been made to make them as complete and accurate as possible from the available records.

It is probable that some may feel that it is unnecessary to record in great detail financial and other statistics, or other matters connected with, or incidental to, the Hospital of the Society, as that institution no longer comes within its activities; and that, at best, such information is but of aca- demical interest now. The justification, however, for a detailed account is that the Hospital was the people's, built and endowed with money raised among them, and managed by them for 57 years; and that it is of historical interest to the present generation, who would not only be able to gather from the information here given that their forebears were capable of great things, but also learn a lesson from the past as to what true patriotism means.

Change of Name

I Ramalingam Kanthar of J/ Karanavai Vetharanishwara Vidalayam, Karaveddi, do hereby inform the Government and General Public that I shall be known as Ramalingam Ponniah and sign as below, from this day.

R. PONNIAH

26th September 1938.

[Mis. 155. 29-9-38 — 10-10-38]

Search for Leadership in England

(Continued from page 1)

the man at the helm, nor spit on his deck"—to quote a remark attributed to Mr. Baldwin when he went out of office.

He has formed no "cave," headed no revolt, indulged in no "I told you so" dialectics.

He has resisted all appeals to challenge the leadership and policy of his chief.

But this does not mean that he has retired in despair or dudgeon. He is biding his time and preparing for the task before him.

He has become one of the most industrious students of social and economic problems and I hear of him in connection with all sorts of groups which are discussing the larger political issues that loom ahead.

Peace Problems

Those issues are not confined to the immediate question of peace or war.

He sees that if, mercifully the danger of war is avoided and the international situation clears up, every country, and this as much as any, will have to face domestic crises due to the demobilisation of industry and the change-over from armaments production to consumptive production.

Whatever the future has in store for us, whether peace or war, the tasks of statesmanship are going to call for an imaginative and enlightened understanding.

Hence the eagerness with which he is familiarising himself with the problems of labour, industrial organisation, unemployment and so on through the study of official records and intimate intercourse with all the accessible authorities.

Cool Head

He has youth on his side. But he has none of the impatience of youth and is entirely free (so far as I can see) from vanity and self-seeking.

The stern experience he has had in the past few years has given him an old head on his young shoulders.

He is always master of himself as well as of his subject.

No provocation ruffles his habitual courtesy, and whether at Geneva or in the House of Commons he states his case firmly and

with a cool dispassionateness which convinces by its sincerity and absence of over-statement.

The Pilot

He is respected by men of all creeds and parties and has no enemy outside the Chigi Palace at Rome.

There are those who would have him inaugurate a new Party. But he wisely holds aloof from such a course.

The immediate need of the nation is not for a new Party. It is the need of a man who can lead and inspire it.

When he is found, the Party will not be wanting.

There is a widening circle, not of one Party only, but of all Parties who feel that in Anthony Eden we may find the pilot who can weather the storm in which we are engulfed. (John Bull.)

Auction Sale

D. C. NO. 6246.

Dead 1. Subramaniyam Kayilayam and wife

Dead 2. Achimuttu of Nallur
Thambo Kanapathipillai of Thinnavelly a'ministrator of the estate of the late 2nd plaintiff in Testy Case 55 D. C. J. and as executor of the estate of the late 1st plaintiff in Testy Case No. 232 D. C. J.

Substituted Plaintiffs.

1. Joseph Daniel Veerasingham and wife
2. Livinia Beatrice Rajasundaram Veerasingham both of Jaffna Town

PROPERTY REFERRED

All that allotment of land called Aryathurayan Kerny alias Aryathurayan Tharai, in extent 5 Lms. V. O. and 8 1/2 Kls. with house well and other appurtenances belonging thereto situated at Karayoor and Vannarponnai in the parishes of Chundicully and Vannarponnai of the Division and district of Jaffna of the Northern province Registered in D. 37 (the parcels being registered in D. 37 and D. 37a) and bounded on the East by the properties of Sangary Seeny and others, North by the property of A. R. Subramaniyam and Pooranam wife of Muttiah, West by Road and on the South by the properties of Chellachy widow of Pavilupillai and Vinasi-thamby Arumugam.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna I shall sell the above property by Public Auction on Tuesday 25th October 1938 at about 4 p.m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,
Commissioner.

Vannarponnai West.

[Mis. 163. 6-10-38]

NEWS!

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[Y. 160. 29-9-38 to 28-9-39.]

[T]

HINDU BOARD ACTS AS BRIDGE-BUILDER

Sinhalese Classes for Tamil Teachers

CLASSICAL SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

THAT the new classes in Sinhalese for Tamil teachers and others would not only be helpful to the Tamils but would bring about a closer and better understanding between them and the Sinhalese, said Dr. S. Subramaniam, President of the Hindu Board of Education, speaking from the chair at the sixth anniversary celebrations of the classical school attached to the Saiva Training Institute, Tirunelvely.

The Sixth anniversary celebrations of the Classical School attached to the Saiva Training Institute, Tirunelvely, came off on Monday at 5 p.m. at the School Hall.

The celebrations took the form of a public meeting under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Subramaniam, President of the Hindu Board of Education.

Annual Report

Pandit S. Kanapathypillai read the Annual Report. The Report paid a glowing tribute to the untiring efforts and unselfish services of Mr. S. Rajaratnam, Advocate in founding that Institution. For the past six years the School had done invaluable service in encouraging the study of Classical Literature both Tamil and Sanskrit among the young men of Jaffna. During that brief period 8 Pandits, 50 Bala Pandits and 33 Piravesa Pandits had passed out of the portals of that Institution.

The Report urged that since that Institution catered to the students of the Saiva Training Institute, Saiva Orphanage, The Hindu Board teachers and other teachers of Jaffna without any distinction of caste or creed, it would be a wise step if the scope of curriculum was widened so as to include Vocational training like Printing, Book-binding, Weaving, and Gardening.

The Report announced that classes in Sinhalese had been started that day.

A Good Step

The Chairman congratulated Pandit Kanapathypillai on the good work he had done in that school. The speaker hoped that the new classes in Sinhalese for teachers and others would not only be helpful for the Tamils but would bring about a closer and better understanding between them and the Sinhalese. (applause).

The speaker thanked the Incumbent of the Naga Vihare for consenting to teach these classes.

Management Congratulated

Mr. C. T. Lorage, Divisional Inspector of Schools, speaking next said that it gave him great pleasure to congratulate the Management of that School on the encouraging report read a little while before. The speaker congratulated the Management on starting the Sinhalese classes. For sometime, he said, there was a move to make the study of Sinhalese compulsory in Tamil Schools and Tamil in Sinhalese Schools. Before the Government could launch such a scheme, these classes might be able to supply Tamil teachers who could also teach Sinhalese (loud applause). Last

year he (the speaker) was a silent witness when the Sanskrit class was started in that School.

Vocational Training

Continuing the speaker said that of all the work Pandit Kanapathypillai was particular about, what appealed to the speaker's heart most was the teaching of the Printing trade to the Orphans and to the other students. He (the speaker) would be one of the first persons to render any financial assistance towards such a project.

Messrs. V. Mahalingam and V. Ramaswamy addressed the meeting on the virtues of Sanskrit.

Mr. V. Sittampalam stressed the necessity of Tamils studying Sinhalese. That would bring about, he said, a good understanding between the two major communities in that Island.

The proceedings concluded with the singing of a Thevaram.

Need for Aliens Act in Ceylon

D. M. & S. S. Says It is Necessary

Colombo, Tuesday.

THE need for an Aliens Act to deal with the problem of alien doctors in Ceylon was stressed by Dr. S. T. Gunasekera, the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, in an interview with "The Times of Ceylon".

Dr. Gunasekera returned to the Island in the Worcestershire yesterday, accompanied by his wife and daughter, Miss L. H. Gunasekera, after a six month's holiday in Europe.

"The question of alien doctors was discussed at a recent meeting of the British Medical Association," said Dr. Gunasekera "and they decided on certain restrictions.

"The trouble in Ceylon is that any doctor who is admitted to the British Register can practise here," Dr. Gunasekera said.

"England can keep out whom she wishes through her Aliens Act. But we in Ceylon cannot do so. It is very necessary that there should be an Aliens Act in Ceylon."

OUR INDIAN LETTER

THE DANGER SIGNAL

The Sage's Finger Points to Pitfalls

(By Lanka)

Madras,
3rd Oct. 1938.

NUMBERS are as much the weakness of Congress as they are its strength, as Mahatma Gandhi has time and again had occasion to remind the votaries of this national institution. In recent months, especially as a result of Congressmen taking up office in seven provinces, he has had to point to the dangers dogging their footsteps and the abyss in front of them. This is the explanation for his repeated references to the danger of truth and non-violence gaining the upper-hand in Congress organisations, however much they displease and prick some of the Congressmen in position and power. That little joke of Gandhiji in July 1937 when Mr. C. Rajagopalachari went to take his advice along with other prospective premiers and ministers on the plea of office-acceptance, had all the strength of the Sage's conviction. Espying Mr. Rajagopalachari, Gandhiji, in his usual joking style, greeted him with the words, "Tainted money, tainted money". No doubt the joke went home, as it was realised by everyone that the reference was to the salaries which Congressmen in office and others through them were to get. The deeper significance was to the lure of lucre and the consequent danger to the principles of Congress.

PROBABLY if Mahatma Gandhi had not uttered those ominous words some of the Congressmen who were ready to shoulder the burden of office would have cheerfully valued their labour in terms of money not quite different from those to which the country had been used in the previous regimes. But Gandhiji had already known that the prospect of office acceptance had drawn to the ranks of Congress large numbers of luke warm nationalists and non-descripts and time-servers from all quarters. He feared these hordes and the incidents in various places from local Congress bodies to the highest committees, at various times clearly proved that the danger was not small and was definitely attributable to the advent of doubtful personalities. Municipal administration in many places had become the cock-pit of personal rivalries and animosities among Congressmen, and in Madras the situation at one time threatened to get out of hand, and the Ministry had to openly threaten supersession of the Corporation of Madras for the endless quarrels that arose. The fact is that when elections are ahead all sorts of people put on Khadar, brought or borrowed, take the pledge very much in the same manner as witnesses do in the courts, shout *Jais* and try to hook in positions. Once in their Khadar and the pledge disappears. If the Congress bosses are strong disciplinary action follows on one or more of the numerous lapses, and then charges and counter-charges and complaints. The country has become sick of this game and Gandhiji foresaw all this, but the

other local men in power had told him that they were making Congress more popular and wide-spread.

ELEVEN years ago when Congress was sweeping everything before it in Madras under the dynamic leadership of Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar the same danger was evident. In an enthusiastic campaign he had opened the gates of Congress to all and sundry, and with the finance that he could play with, of course out of his own pocket, he had attracted a number of undesirable adherents who cried the loudest for Independence. Soon he found that his own position was precarious. At that time once I happened to meet in the office of the *Hindu Organ* a South Indian Brahmin teacher who grew furious when I suggested that the cause of the then numerous bickerings in Madras Congress circles was the indiscriminate admission of people into the Congress camp under the mistaken guidance of Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar. He himself had in the end to beat a hasty retreat after quarrelling with the then High Command, but the poor patriot had wasted his wealth and a few years' labour in the cause. He had thought that the access of numbers would strengthen the Congress. Gandhiji then, as now, thought that a few thousands of genuine Congressmen would be able to evolve for Congress all the strength it required. He has never set much store by numbers. To the average leader numbers are a magic, the easiest way to plausible success. What numbers might help to obtain has to be steadied and secured by genuine fervour. Hence the insistent cry of the Mahatma to purge Congress of undesirable elements. It strikes terror into many hearts, but he will have his way even though it means the separation of some so-called strong men from the fold. He did not mind a Khare being kicked out of Congress.

APPOINTMENT AND TRANSFER OF TEACHERS

Teachers Union Protest Against Rule

The Executive Committee of the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers has protested against the circular of the Director of Education, which states that in future all appointments and transfers should date from the beginning of a term.

As, according to the Code of Regulations uncertificated teachers are employed on a temporary basis, the need for a renewal of appointments annually no longer exists and the use of a special form for this purpose has been discontinued.

The Department of Education will continue to approve the employment of uncertificated teachers now in service provided their work is satisfactory.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Case No. 645 T

In the matter of the Estate of the late Alice Muthamma Kandaya of Van-East.

Anton John Kanthyah Selvaratnam
Vannarponnai East,
Petitioner.

S. R. Stephen of do.

Respondent.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that Letters of Administration to the Estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna in the presence of Mr. C. T. Kumaraswamy, Proctor it is ordered that Letters of Administration to the Estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to Petitioner as her sole heir unless the Respondent shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on the 26th day of October 1938.

This 19th September 1938.

Sd. C. COOMARASWAMY,

District Judge.

[O. 47, 29-9-38 & 6-10-38]

DENTAL NOTICE

S. Imai, (Japanese Dentist)
Colombo,

will be at Jaffna at Tiruchelvam Buildings, Main Street, Jaffna, from 7th to 16th October 1938.

[Mis 130, 6-10-38]



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1938.

THE DAWN OF PEACE

THE SUDETEN CRISIS WHICH threatened to engulf Europe in a colossal conflict has been resolved to the satisfaction and relief of millions the world over. It would not therefore be out of place to examine the events that conspired to spell ruin to the peace, happiness, and security of Europe. The fact must be admitted that the Treaty of Versailles which concluded the World War was conceived in a spirit of vindictiveness and pride and did not therefore conform to the canons of justice and fairplay. The result has been that vanquished Germany has been nursing this grievance, smarting all along under it and longing to assert her equality with other great Powers. It must be said to the credit of the Nazi leader that he has successfully organised and reconstructed the post-war Germany into the mighty Power that she is. Having unsettled the terms of the Treaty in several important respects which we need not touch upon in this connection, the Fuehrer was bent upon annexing the Sudeten districts to the satisfaction of the German minority in Czechoslovakia. And he has now successfully realised his ambition in terms of the Munich Agreement by resorting to the bluff and intimidation which we have learned to asso-

ciate with the Nazi spit-fires. While we have every reason to be thankful that war has been averted and peace in Europe ensured at least for the time being, we must confess to the feeling that the Agreement marks the triumph of brute force.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, for whose efforts and sacrifices in the cause of peace the world cannot be too grateful, has attempted to justify the Munich Agreement in his statement in the House of Commons. The debate on Foreign Affairs in the Commons is bound to reveal his hold on the majority of Tory members. And it is a foregone conclusion that the debate will register the confidence of the House in the Premier. But an intelligent perusal of the proceedings makes it clear that the Foreign Policy of the Government does not meet with the approval of a section of his followers and the bulk of the Liberal and Labour members. MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S speech seems to have had a mixed reception, eliciting Ministerial applause and Opposition laughter. The First Lord of the Admiralty MR. DUFF-COOPER, who resigned his seat in the Cabinet, made a telling indictment against the Foreign Policy of the Government, which he characterised as having contributed in no small measure to the pride and prestige of the Dictator Powers and to the humiliation of the Democracies. He went so far as to say that HERR HITLER relaxed his position only when he knew of the mobilisation of the British fleet. Students of current affairs will admit that the world would have been spared all this agony and anxiety, if the two Great Western Democracies had followed a strong and vigorous Foreign Policy. MR. C. R. ATLEE correctly described the situation when he said in the course of the debate: "This has not been a victory for reason and humanity but for brute force."

In this hour of thankfulness and satisfaction that we have all been spared the horrors of war, we cannot but sympathize with that little Republic which has made the heaviest sacrifice for the peace of Europe. To quote MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S language: "Czechoslovakia has earned our admiration and respect for her restraint and magnificent discipline in the face of such a trial as few nations have been called upon to meet." The question naturally arises whether all the sacrifice and ignominy on its part will prove beneficial to the cause of peace, or merely go to swell the demands of Nazi Germany whose greed of territory has been increasing with every concession. One can well foresee that the question of German colonies will crop up in the near future, straining the international relations to breaking point.

It is therefore the duty of MR. CHAMBERLAIN and other peace-makers to explore all legitimate ways so as to secure and consolidate the peace of the world. The U. S. A. would do well to take an abiding interest in European affairs, setting aside its self-imposed isolation in this respect. Who does not know that "the views of the most powerful nation in the world could make itself heard across 3,000 miles of ocean to the mind and the men of Europe?" Only so can the world hope to secure the peace that is based on the principle of international rights and obligations.

The Jaffna F. N. S.

It was a happy thought that inspired the Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society to compile a history of the Society, a copy of which has been received by us. The compiler, Mr. P. Mortimer, was greatly handicapped, he says, by the scanty sources of information. We are certain that there are more sources than have been availed of that could profitably be tapped for further useful information. The forthcoming Centenary of the Society in 1941, we hope, would be made the occasion for issuing a more complete account of the Society's activities. Started in 1841, the Society has carried on very useful relief work for the suffering humanity in Jaffna, establishing a Hospital in 1850, conducting it for 57 years and then transferring it to the Civil Medical Department. Though the Society has had to pass through many vicissitudes, it has survived to this day, with a record of service that redounds to the patriotism and spirit of service of the people of Jaffna. It is no exaggeration to say that in recent years the Society has made marked progress in its activities, and it is hoped the present office-bearers who have shown much commendable enthusiasm and love for the work will strive to place the Society on a much stronger footing, so that it might be of greater benefit to the poor and the needy in the country.

HONOURING A JAFFNA SCHOLAR

Sixtieth Birthday of Vidwan Ganesha Iyer

The Sashti-apha-Poorthi of Vidwan Brahma Sri S. Ganesha Iyer will be celebrated at the Vaideshwara Vidyalyaya on Saturday, the 8th instant, commencing at 8-30 a. m. The Hon. Sir Waitilangam Duraiswamy will preside. A presentation will be made to the Vidwan. The speakers at the function are Srimat Swami Vipulananda, Rev. Fr. S. Gnanapragasar, O. M. I., Mr. S. Natesan, M.S.C., Brahma Sri V. Ramaswamy Sarma, Pandit V. Mahalinga Sivam and Pandit S. Kanapathipillai.

INTERNAL AIR MAIL SERVICE

SCHEME UNDER CONTEMPLATION

MORE LANDING GROUNDS TO BE OPENED

THE question of opening more landing grounds in Ceylon with a view to establishing an internal air mail service in Ceylon is now engaging the attention of the Minister of Communications and Works.

He has suggested Galle, Kandy, Batticaloa, Nuwara Eliya, Jaffna and Anuradhapura as suitable places for landing grounds, and has also asked the Director of Civil Aviation to investigate their suitability and submit a report on them.

The Acting Postmaster-General, it is understood, has also submitted a memorandum to the Minister on the proposed internal air mail service.

It is felt that mails to places like Jaffna, Batticaloa and Anuradhapura could be delivered, more cheaply, in addition to more quickly by air than by the present system.

The Agreement with Tata's does not preclude the establishment of such an air service in Ceylon.

It is felt that in the event of the opening of more landing grounds in Ceylon, the Aero Club could establish a regular air service to carry tourists, wanting to pay flying visits to the ruined cities and other parts of the Island.

At present Ceylon pilots are greatly handicapped owing to the paucity of landing grounds in Ceylon, and it is felt that cross country flying too would be greatly encouraged by the preparation of more landing grounds.

JAFFNA PROCTOR CHARGED WITH BREACH OF TRUST

To Stand Trial before District Court

Mr. J. M. T. Cooke, Proctor and Notary Public, Jaffna, has been committed for trial before the District Court of Jaffna. He is charged with criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of Rs. 300 entrusted to him by Mr. Seenivasagam Nalliah of Kokuvil, for investment.

GOVERNOR ARRIVING ON OCTOBER 23

A press communique issued by the Governor's Office yesterday states that a telegram has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies stating that His Excellency Sir Andrew Caldecott, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., will arrive by the Strathmore which is due at Colombo on the 23rd of October.

His Excellency's landing will be entirely informal.

ONE MEDICAL COLLEGE FOR BOTH SYSTEMS

HEALTH MINISTER'S HOPE

POOJA CELEBRATIONS AT AYUR. COLLEGE, COLOMBO

"I HOPE the time is not far distant when there will be one Medical College for both Western and Eastern systems of medicine," said Mr. W. A. de Silva, Minister of Health, at the seventh annual Saraswathy Pooja celebrations of the Tamil Students' Union, College of Indigenous Medicines, Colombo, which were held on Sunday.

Mrs de Silva also referred to two Bills which were being drafted, one for the registration of Ayurvedic practitioners and the other for putting the Ayurvedic College on the same lines as the Ceylon Medical College.

In reply to the welcome address of the President (Dr. A. Kanagaratnam), Mr. de Silva said that he believed in one science of medicine. There was no great gulf between ayurvedic medicine and Western medicine. What was known as Western medicine originated from Ayurveda. Their object should not only be limited to the study of the ancient system but to the modern system of medicine as well.

The credit for revival of the study for Ayurveda was due to Dr. Paul E. Pieris and Mr. K. Balasingham.

Mr. de Silva added: "I should prefer to have one medical college. That day is not far distant. One Institution to bring to the students the knowledge of Western Science and that of Eastern Science. On that day we will accomplish a great deal for this Island.

'Gradually we are beginning to put into practice the measures that were adopted in ancient times for improving the health of the people.

Two New Bills

"I am able to tell you that a Bill is being drafted to bring the Ayurvedic College on the same lines as the Government Medical College. I am sure it would meet with the approval of the State Council.

"At the same time, I would like to strike a note of warning that the Ayurvedic College is not going to be a refuge for those who have failed in other walks of life.

"Another Bill is being drafted to register ayurvedic medical practitioners"

Dr. Paul E. Pieris referred to the place of religion in the imbibing of knowledge and spoke of the great civilization of South India.

As for Mantras, some people may laugh at them, but just as they laughed at telepathy, and psychiatry they had still to produce the man who would expound to them the ancient knowledge of mantras.

Mr. R. Sri Pathmanathan spoke on the significance of the Saraswathy pooja celebrations.

More Money Needed

The President's report stated: "This institution was opened in the year 1929 and is run with an annual Government grant of Rs. 50,000... They expect us to show good results with that. We are treated like beggars in our own house, whereas allopathic medicine which is like the stranger at the door is treated to the

Sanitary Inspector Commended

Averted Threatened Strike of A'pura U. D. C. Labourers

A vote of appreciation of the courage and tact displayed by Sanitary Inspector Nagalingam in averting a threatened strike of the Council's labourers, was passed by the Anuradhapura Urban District Council at its last monthly meeting in September.

Mr. Nagalingam, it is stated, displayed great resourcefulness and tact in handling a situation, created by the labourers of the Anuradhapura U.D.C., that threatened to end in a strike which would have resulted in the dislocation of the Council's services. Mr. Nagalingam who was in Jaffna four years ago was noted for efficiency and tact.

Proposed by Mr. D. L. C. Jinadasa and seconded by Mr. F. A. S. Samaraweera, the Anuradhapura U.D.C. passed the following vote of appreciation:—

"That this Council resolves to place on record its appreciation of the commendable courage and tact displayed by Mr. Nagalingam, Sanitary Inspector, in averting the threatened strike of the Council's labourers in September last and the active interest he has taken thereafter to ameliorate the conditions of the labourers. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of Medical & Sanitary Services."

Jaffna Oriental Studies Society

The annual general meeting of the Jaffna Oriental Studies Society will be held on Saturday, the 8th instant at 4-30 p.m. at the Vaideshwara Vydyalaya, Vannarponae.

Death of Mr. Allan Driberg

The death has occurred in London of Mr. Allan Driberg, retired Puisne Justice of Ceylon.

sumptuous sum of Rs. 13½ millions. If we could get one million out of those 13½ millions or even half a million what splendid work indeed we could show!

"The bitterest part of this mean and beggarly treatment is that in order to manage the institution within the allotted sum we are forced to adopt the entirely un-Eastern and inhuman practice of charging even the poorest person who comes to us at least ten cents for a day's medicine. Ayurvedic medicine is the poor man's medicine and yet we deny to the poor what the allopathic hospitals do not deny to their poor.

"There are a few other things we need that I would specially like to mention on an auspicious occasion like this. We need a good research institute at which our drugs can be tested and analysed and described in the scientific terms that the modern world understands.

"The Financial Secretary, the chief authority on public finance in this Island, seems to think it would be impossible to finance two separate medical institutions. When India, which is poorer, can run these two quite smoothly, why should it not be possible to do that in our own land?"

A CO-OPERATIVE TEXTILE FACTORY IN JAFFNA

First of Its Kind in Ceylon

THE opening ceremony of the textile factory of the Sri Venkatesa Perumal Kovil Atheena Maha Sabai, Perumal Kovilady, Jaffna, took place at about 9.30 a. m. on Monday the 3rd October 1938, in the presence of a large gathering. The Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, the Maniagan, Jaffna Town, and the Inspector of Co-operative Societies, Jaffna Town, were among those present.

The President of the Maha Sabai, in welcoming those who had responded to their invitation; briefly explained to them how the factory had come to be established and how they proposed to work it. He then requested the Assistant Registrar to declare the factory open.

Causes of Decay

Mr. C. Ragunathan, the Asst. Registrar, in the course of his speech dwelt on the various causes that had led to the decay of the ancient hand loom industry that once flourished among the people of the locality, and pointed out that foreign competition and lack of initiative among the workers themselves were the chief among those causes. He then explained to them the various steps that the Department of Commerce and Industries was taking to revive the industries of the island and said that ere long the artisans who were at present unemployed and suffering untold misery and hardship would find employment. He exhorted the organisers and the others concerned to spare no pains in making it a success and assured them that in time to come, it would become a great and useful institution, yielding fruits a hundred fold, and cited as an example how the Perumal Kovil had grown from small beginnings to the present position. Then, amidst loud applause, he declared the factory open.

An Accomplished Fact

Mudaliyar C. Kanapathipillay speaking next said he was very glad to find that as a result of the Government Textile Demonstration Centre, he had opened there last December, a textile factory had become an accomplished fact so soon. He stressed the importance of co-operation, integrity and perseverance among the workers in the factory to ensure its success. He then distributed the certificates issued by the chief demonstrator to the successful candidates of the first two batches that had undergone training at the Govt. Textile Demonstration Centre and wished them all success in their future career.

President Thanks

The president, in his concluding remarks, referred to the valuable services rendered by the Textile Demonstration Unit and expressed their gratitude to the Department of Commerce and Industries for having done so much to them. He said that he entertained a fond hope that the Department would allow the unit to remain there for some months more and help the factory workers who had

Registered Unemployed Number 13,025

Employment Exchange Busy

THE total number of unemployed registered in connection with the census at the Government Employment Exchange is 13,025, of whom about 5,000 represent skilled labour and a similar number unskilled labour. Some professional and technically qualified men are also said to be among those who have applied for registration.

The Employment Exchange is still busy registering applicants—the daily average being between 25 and 30 at present.

The Exchange is now getting into communication with mercantile firms and other employers of labour—particularly with new establishments—with a view to securing work for the registered unemployed.

The Exchange, it is stated, has already succeeded in finding work for some of the men.

Obituary

MRS. C. S. BACKUS

The death at the age of 81 of Mrs. Catherine Sivakampillai Backus, widow of the late Mr. Joseph Aiadurai Backus of Annaicottai, Manipay, took place at Annaicottai on the 30th ultimo. The funeral took place on the 2nd instant. The funeral service was conducted at home and at the grave side by the Rev. G. N. Kanagaratnam assisted by the Revs. S. K. Jesudasan, J. M. Singanayagam, J. V. J. Arnold and Messrs. J. V. Chelliah and M. Chinnathamby. Special songs were sung on the occasion. The remains were interred at the Manipay burial grounds. The pall-bearers were her grand-children. The chief mourners were Dr and Mrs C. Jesudasan Mr. and Mrs. E. Nathaniel, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Thambiah, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. M. Jebaratnam (sons-in-law and daughters) Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Backus and Mrs. A. K. Backus (son and Daughters-in-law) Messrs. S. Kandiahpillai, V. R. Thambirajah and Thambirajah (sons-in-law) and Mr. M. Maruthappah, her brother.

The funeral was largely attended both by her relations and friends from different parts of the Island.

undergone training there, to become adepts in the art. He also expressed their gratitude to the demonstrators for their valuable services and made special mention of their indebtedness to Mr. G. E. Gangoda, the chief demonstrator, who had spared no pains in making the work of that centre a success. Further by visiting the houses of the weavers and giving them suggestions for the manufacture of table-cloths, tea-poy covers, curtains, etc. with designs familiar to them, he had helped them to produce articles easily marketable. He also referred to his services to the Sabai in buying the textile machinery, in planning the factory buildings and in setting up looms and said that his invaluable services would be always gratefully remembered by them.

He next thanked the Assistant Registrar, the Kachcheri Mudaliyar, and Mr. Cook, Inspector of Co-operative Societies for their presence there.

Those present then went round to see the working of the factory,

Work Before Retrenchment Commission—III

By K. Sivapragasam
(Retired Chief Clerk of the Galle Kachcheri)

ALLOWANCES

WHEN going through the Estimates of Expenditure it is found that there is a great number of allowances (hidden emoluments) paid to officers, such as rent allowance, headquarter allowance, overtime allowance, duty allowance, personal allowance etc. etc. All these allowances should as far as possible be abolished.

Rent allowance should be abolished and it is wastage of money to pay this allowance when officers are paid very highly. Perhaps officers drawing a salary of less than Rs. 2400 may be paid this allowance. Free quarters need also not be provided for. When the question of payment of rent allowance was first raised, Mr. L. W. C. Schrader, G. A. N. P., strongly opposed the payment of this allowance. It is also of not good sense to pay rent allowance to those Officers who reside in their own houses.

There is absolutely no reason whatever to pay the headquarter allowance to Officers of certain Departments such as the Secretariat, the Treasury, and the Audit Office and not to pay Officers of certain other Departments such as Excise, P. W. D., and Survey. It is rather an anomaly for the Officers of the Minister for Local Administration to be paid this allowance and for the Officers of the Commissioner of Local Government (an Officer under the said Minister) to be denied this allowance. What is the meaning of headquarter allowance? It must mean allowance payable to all officers who work in Colombo, the headquarters. If so why should officers of certain Departments be paid this allowance and others not? It is therefore absolutely necessary that this allowance should be forthwith stopped. The Commissioners should make a note of this especially.

Duty Allowance is drawn by 7 District Examiners and 5 Heads of branches of the Audit Office and Chief Clerks of Kachcheries who are not in the special class and Registrars of Lands. This allowance also should be withdrawn. The Officers of the Audit Office draw an allowance of Rs. 600 per annum which is the salary of a class iii officer who has put in some years' service.

In the Medical Department there is a large number of allowances such as house allowance, rickshaw allowance, diet allowance, laundry allowance, uniform allowance, light and fuel allowance, and shoe allowance; most of which is payable to Matrons, Sisters, and Nurses. It is for the Commissioners to see if they cannot either be abolished or reduced. Similarly there is a large number of allowances in the Police Department and other Departments.

Overtime allowance should be paid as officers work after office hours, provided Heads of Departments are personally satisfied that they work overtime.

Allowances such as those to Chief Headmen for clerical assistance

and for messengers and learners' allowances in the Excise, Irrigation and Survey Departments should be paid.

All the personal allowances should be stopped unless there are strong reasons to the contrary.

It is for the Commissioners to scrutinize all the allowances when they visit the various departments.

Travelling Allowances

Each department is provided with a travelling vote for its Officer to do travelling in connection with their duties. The travelling regulations are:—

Travelling allowances are paid in re-imbusement of expenses incurred in travelling and

All allowances are assigned to meet the cost of travelling actually done and no part of them is intended as a personal emolument.

Though it is stated that no part of the travelling allowances is intended as a personal emolument, it is doubtful if it does not go, in many cases, into the pocket of officers as a personal emolument.

The Officers are paid certain rates of subsistence and lodging allowances for each night they sleep out according to their salaries. For instance, an officer who is in receipt of a salary of £1400 and over per annum draws a subsistence allowance of Rs. 9 and a lodging allowance of Rs. 3 per diem. To entitle an officer to draw the lodging allowance, he must occupy a hotel, rest house or a recognised boarding house. It is contended that this rate of daily allowance is too much. Even if a hotel or resthouse is occupied, the maximum amount that is required for a day will be about Rs. 8 including all charges. If so the rate of this allowance should be reduced. Similar reductions should be made in the case of other officers who are drawing high subsistence and lodging allowances. Perhaps no reduction may be made in the case of Officers drawing less than Rs. 2400.

It has been the invariable practice for Heads of Departments and other Inspecting Officers to apply for supplementary provision on account of Travelling giving some reason or other. They do apply not only once but in several cases more than once. The readers will guess what it means. However there are conscientious Officers who do not misuse the travelling vote. Two instances may be quoted, one in which an Officer used a very great portion of the travelling allowance as a personal emolument and the other in which an Officer was very scrupulous in drawing the said allowance. The first Officer started from his station in the evening after tea, taking his dinner, his camp bed and the required linen etc. and slept out in the night and returned the next morning however after taking his morning tea at the resthouse. The said travelling cost him only Rs. 1.50 or so but he drew Rs. 22.50, one and a half days' subsistence allowance. The second Officer started in the afternoon after lunch and returned the next afternoon after taking lunch at the resthouse remaining out for full 24 hours. He could have drawn 22.50 (this was the rate at that time) but he drew only 15. There are instances where officers draw half a day's subsistence allowance without spending anything. An officer starts from his station at one o'clock after lunch and returns at 8 p. m.

INTER-COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL

Three Matches Last Week

The Inter-Collegiate Football competition started on Friday. Jaffna Hindu College beat St. John's College by the odd goal in five. A fierce southerly wind robbed the game of interest, but it must have taught the players the futility of high kicks. Hindu, playing with the wind forced several corners which were taken well, and opened the scoring within five minutes of the start. The tally was soon increased by a penalty—a St. John's back handling the ball. Another goal followed within a minute the Hindu inside right Murugesu scoring with a clever turn from an awkward angle. 3—0 in ten minutes—things looked bad for St. John's, but the first half produced no further damage.

On changing ends St. John's attacked and forced some corners but failed with the kicks. Towards the middle of the second half St. John's scored. The Hindu goalie failing to keep a hold on himself conceded another. The last few minutes were very exciting and it looked as if St. John's would wipe off the deficit but the Hindu goalie made amends for his earlier lapses by bring off some marvellous saves and giving his side the victory.

The Teams

St. John's College

Nadarajah, Kanagasabai, Kanagaratnam, Nadarajah, Scott (Capt.), Kanagasabai, Sathasivam, Rajakone, Scott, Jainudeen, and Thangaratnam

Jaffna Hindu College

Kandiah, Ratnasingam (Capt.) Tharmarajah, Jeevaratnam, Suriyar, Kadirgamathamby, Tharmalingam, Murugesu, Pancharatnam, Arupillai and Ramanathan.

A feature of the competition this year is that neutral linesmen assist the Referee. Mr. W. G. Spencer refereed and Messrs B. R. Motha and N. Kandiah were linesmen.

On Saturday

Two matches in the series were worked off on Saturday. The wind though not so fierce as on Friday was yet strong enough to upset the calculations of the players. It augurs well for the game that the fair sex is taking an interest in it. Quite a number of them watched the games.

In the first match Jaffna Central College beat Hartley College by the odd goal in three. Central did well to win their first match against a heavier side. A rare feature in the Central team is that it includes three brothers.

The Teams

Jaffna Central College

Thurairatnam, Thuraisingam,

He is entitled to $\frac{1}{2}$ a day's allowance if he stays 6 hours vote. If all the officers were to be so scrupulous as the 2nd officer referred to above, how much savings will there be under the travelling non. It should be said that all officers with very few exceptions are greedy in this matter.

It is therefore suggested that all the travelling votes allotted to Heads of Departments should be reduced by 20 or 25 per cent and they be asked to manage the travelling within the allotted amounts.

(To be Continued.)

Northern Province Teachers Association

A special general meeting of the N. P. T. A. was held in the Jaffna Hindu College Hall to consider the proposed Education Ordinance. There was a fairly good attendance.

The President, Mr. V. Veerasingam, in his presidential address, dealt with the main features of the Ordinance and called upon Mr. K. Nesiah to move the resolutions framed by the standing committee on education and accepted by the Executive Council of the N. P. T. A. In moving the resolutions Mr. Nesiah made a long speech explaining the implications of each resolution. Mr. S. Ambikaipakan seconded.

Rev. H. Peto, Messrs. A. K. Kandiah, L. V. Chinnathamby, J. C. Charles, V. Nagalingam and I. P. Thurairatnam participated in the discussion.

Of the resolutions passed one welcomed on principle the proposal to deprive the Board of Education of its rule making powers, and suggested the creation of two advisory bodies rather than one—one, composed on the lines of the Burnham Joint-Committee to deal with salaries, security of tenure of teachers etc., and the other of educational experts to advise on matters of education.

District Judge, Kandy

Mr. G. Crossette Thambiah, Additional District Judge of Colombo, assumed duties as District Judge, Kandy on Monday, succeeding Mr. R. F. Dias.

Thambirajah, Kandiah, Sabaratnam (Capt.), Kandiah, Izzadeen, Jacobs, Kanagaratnam, Pararajasingam, and Jacobs.

Hartley College

Sivapathasuntharam, Selvarajah, Theivananthampillai, Kumarasegarampillai (Capt.), Thillainayagam, Ramalingam, Ramanathan, Sabaratnam, Velupillai, Velautham and Subramaniam.

Mr. K. A. Selliah refereed and Messrs. P. Thiagarajah and E. J. Thurairajah helped him as linesmen.

St. Patrick's Vs. Jaffna

In the second match the large crowd was treated to a fast, clean, and high class game of soccer. St. Patrick's College beat Jaffna College by the only one goal scored and that too just a minute before the final whistle. The athletes Kibuka and George on either side did not seem to strain in their efforts as they had graver issues before them this week-end. The defence of both sides was good. The Jaffna College goalie was a treat.

The Teams

St. Patrick's College

Thiagarajah, Ganathan, Sathukulasingam, De Lina, Saravanamuttu (Capt.), Swampillai, Saverimuttu, Thirunavukarasu, Rajanayagam, Benjamin, Kibuka.

Jaffna College

Narenthra, Shanmugaratnam, Amarasingham, Naderajah, Kamalarajan, Sithamparanathan, Jayaveerasingham, Aiyadurai, Tharmaratnam (Capt.), Muttucumaru and, George. Rev. J. Cartman refereed and Messrs. G. Mack and E. M. Ponnudurai helped him as linesmen.

THE PROPOSED EDUCATION ORDINANCE

(Continued from page 1)

the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer under the Chairmanship of a President: eleven in number and all members of the Cabinet. The nearest approach to the English Board of Education is our Board of Ministers.

"The Board does not function and the President acts in all respects as the Minister in charge of an ordinary Government department." There are advisory bodies called Consultative Committees which are consulted when necessary.

Not less than two-thirds of the members of the Consultative Committee represent the views of University and other bodies interested in Education.

Our Board of Education served its purpose in the bureaucratic days of the old Legislative Council. Its functions are out of place in a system of popular government. Just as the Local Government Board, Agricultural Board and other Boards have disappeared with the inauguration of the State Council, it is natural that the Board of Education too cannot function as before. The Government is to be blamed for not introducing this ordinance earlier. At present the Board of Education could withhold sanction to anything proposed by the Education Committee. Again the Committee could turn down any proposal initiated or passed by the Board as it did in the case of the ban on married women teachers. Rules passed by the Board became law if no objection was brought by the State Council within a prescribed period.

The new ordinance proposes to make the Board of Education an advisory body like one of the Consultative Committees in England. In future the Ministry of Education will initiate proposals, consult the Board and then introduce a motion in the State Council for debate. This gives a far better opportunity than at present available for the public to state their objections through their accredited representatives. Therefore the fear about discriminative legislation is groundless. Certainly the State will be able to exercise greater control on public expenditure; and those who are making use of public money for proselytism may find their activities checked.

The opposition to this provision in the ordinance is really an opposition to the grant of self-government to the people of Ceylon. If we have no confidence in an elected ministry to look after the educational needs of the country we are unfit for any kind of self-government. It should be noted that in all progressive countries like England, the United States,

France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Japan, etc., the State lays down the policy and runs most of the schools. Private bodies conduct only a very few.

In democratic France where over 90 per cent. of the pupils are Roman Catholic, only 15 per cent. attend schools conducted by the Catholic Church, and they receive no grant whatever from Government funds.

The Education District Committees are mere channels for spending Government money on the building and maintenance of schools. By their abolition about nearly a million rupees could be saved. At present some of these Committees hardly ever meet. They transact business by correspondence. When any question arises with regard to the necessity of a school generally the view of the Government Agent prevails and that happens to be the views of the superior Headmen of the place. Committees have often obstructed the establishment of Buddhist schools if they thought that it would adversely affect a Christian school in the neighbourhood.

The establishment of local education authorities in place of these District Committees with power to raise funds will enable the people of a district to take great interest in their schools and thus develop local patriotism and local self-government. It will also tend to reduce the rising education bill. At present local bodies in Ceylon do not contribute any money at all for education, whereas in other countries a good portion of the money required for education is contributed by local bodies.

In Denmark, a small country with a population of about $\frac{3}{4}$ millions, local bodies spend 46 per cent. In Switzerland, another small country with a population of 4 millions, the Federal Government provides only 5 per cent., whereas the Cantons provide 49 per cent. In France, local bodies contribute 23 per cent.; in Germany, 50 per cent.; in Italy, 30 per cent.; in Holland, 40 per cent.; in Norway, 50 per cent.; in Sweden, 42 per cent.; in Russia, 56 per cent.; in Eng-

land, 48 per cent.; and in Japan 70 per cent. In Straits Settlements an education rate of 2 per cent. is levied on property in Municipal areas and of 1 per cent. on property in rural areas.

The Colombo Municipality could easily earmark a portion of their rates for primary education without raising any extra taxes. When millions are spent for the widening of roads surely something could be found for education.

According to a letter which I have just received from England the Central Government contributes only 30 per cent. for education in London. The County Council has to find 50 per cent. and the balance comes from fees and endowments.

The most important feature of the new ordinance is the creation of local educational authorities. As the English Act Section II says, "with a view to the establishment of a national system of public education available for all persons, capable of profiting thereby, it shall be the duty of the Council of every county and county borough, so far as their powers extend to contribute thereto by providing for the progressive development and comprehensive organisation of education in respect of their area."

At present there is a multiplication of schools. The Christians are afraid that the new ordinance would check their opening of new schools. According to the Director's report for 1937, there were 92,946 Christian children in all schools. Of these only 2,601 were in Government schools. The total number of children attending Christian schools were 189,698, showing that there were 99,353 children belonging to other denominations in Christian schools.

The Christian bodies are amply provided with schools. There is really no necessity for them to open new schools although there is nothing in the new ordinance to prevent them doing so.

There is another important aspect which has not been considered. Denominational schools naturally appoint teachers belonging to their own denominations. Therefore if a particular denomination has more schools than are really necessary for their numbers the State will be helping members

of a particular denomination to get employment as teachers.

At present nearly 4,000 Buddhists and Hindus are debarred from seeking employment as teachers not for any disability of their own but simply because they are not Christians.

There has always been opposition to all progressive movements by vested interests. When it was proposed to build the Labugma Reservoir which provides water for Colombo there was a public meeting of protest presided by no less a person than the great Lorenz himself. At that time people were drinking the water of the Beira Lake. The prime movers of that meeting were perhaps the contractors who carted the water.

When it was proposed to build the present rat-proof Chalmers Granaries during the last plague epidemic there was a big public meeting of protest presided by a retired judge of the Supreme Court at which well-known public men were present. It was found that either they owned property in Sea Street where rice was stored or had interests in them.

Recently there was a public meeting of protest against the Income Tax Ordinance.

At all these meetings dire consequences were predicted for Ceylon if the authorities pursued in their intentions.

It is said that it is the duty of the parent to decide the type of education necessary for his child. In a democratic country it is the parent who chooses his representative in Council. Therefore the Council should be the proper body to decide educational policy. The Councillors being servants of the public, that is, the parents, are entitled to evolve a system of education that would be approved by the parents. If they do not comply with the wishes of the people, the parents have the remedy in their hands. They could turn them out at the next election and send those who would respect their wishes.

In Catholic schools are the wishes of parents really consulted? Have they not to conform to the wishes of the clergy whether they like it or not? Has a Catholic parent the liberty to chose the

(Continued on Page 8)

C. G. R.

TRAVEL CONCESSIONS FOR OCTOBER 1938.

SINGLE FARE ^{FOR} THE DOUBLE JOURNEY

FOR

Festival at Vallipuram Temple, Point Pedro,

From all stations, to Kodikamam, October 1 to 9, returnable up to October 12.

Colombo Races,

From all stations, to stations Wellawatte to Narahenpita and from one station to another within the limits of Wellawatte to Narahenpita on October 1, 15, 22 & 29 including down night mail trains the previous day.

NOTE:—Holders of Cheap Tickets arriving at Junction Stations are allowed to leave the station premises, for refreshments, etc. on endorsements being made on their tickets. The journey must however be resumed the same day.

[G. 22, 6-10-38.]

The Proposed Education Ordinance

(Continued from page 7)

school that he likes? Does not the Catholic clergy bring pressure on parents to send their children to their own schools? Therefore this argument about the rights of the parents against the State seems to be rather confusing.

The State which contributes the funds has a right to control the schools. There is no country in the world where public funds are given to private individuals as in Ceylon.

In England schools are of two types "provided" and "non provided." The managers of provided schools are appointed by public authorities. Those of non provided schools are appointed in the ratio of 4 : 2 by the owners of schools and by public authorities.

Although this provision is not embodied in the Ceylon Ordinance the critics who have a free hand with schools funds fear that public education authorities will scrutinise their school finances too much.

If managers do not wish the State to look into their accounts by representatives on their Boards of Management they should not expect grants from the public exchequer but conduct their schools like the free public schools of England and Australia.

There are a few changes with

regard to religious instruction. The old Conscience clause is retained. Provision is also made for religious instruction in Government schools by Government teachers in addition to the right of entry for ministers and teachers of religion. In denominational schools the religion of the school authority cannot be taught to children of other denominations unless the parent expressly states in writing that he wishes his child to be given religious instruction. According to the existing ordinance school authorities could teach any religion unless the parent objects. The objection of Christian educational authorities to the new ordinance is really against this clause although they do not openly say so. They are afraid that the Government schools will become Buddhist or Hindu schools, and they will not be able to carry on their "evangelisation." Again according to the new ordinance a parent cannot be prosecuted if he does not send his child to a school because there is no school in his area managed by a denomination acceptable to him.

There is another important clause which makes it a penal offence for any person to open any kind of school without the sanction of the Director of Education. Now anyone can open any school in any street corner and mislead ignorant people, and according to the present law the parent of the child attending an undesirable school can be punished but not the proprietor. (Daily News)

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Printed and published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Vannarponnai, East, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannarponnai, Jaffna, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1938.