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## HOW ANCIENTS RID COUNTRY OF CRIME

### Sinister Significance of Crime in Jaffna

#### WHY COURTS AND POLICE HAVE NOW BECOME INEFFECTIVE

(Wie Mie Naime)

THE increase of crime during the last decade has sinister significance. No less perturbing is the disinclination of witnesses, and others in a position to assist detection, to volunteer to aid the Police.

May I be permitted to offer a few considerations through the courtesy of your columns touching the problem of crime. My claim to do so is two-fold. I am acquainted with conditions of life and labour in Jaffna as well as in the South and I have had experience of the Criminal Courts of the Island by association as government officer for about 35 years.

#### Restrict Entrants Into Peninsula

Sir Baron Jayatilake only touched the fringe of the garment when, in his speech at the Jaffna College, he said the people of Jaffna were imitating the Sinhalese. I have been speaking to the Sinhalese labour resident in Jaffna and often received the impression that their demeanour and deportment in the country of their sojourn were impressive, somewhat unlike those of their kinsmen in similar station in life in the South. It is certain that the philosophy of life of Jaffna Tamil labour was radically different from that of the Sinhalese labour. Imitation, as a trite old saying goes, is a form of flattery and we know what the great ones do, that the little ones imitate.

But commonweal or civilisation is not advanced by commission of offences against society; so, it would be well if some way can be arranged to restrict the number of Sinhalese entrants into the Peninsula—character, means literacy may form the ground on

which such restriction should be founded.

#### Police and Magistrates

To counter crime, localisation of the Police in Jaffna is necessary. The disinclination often commented on as the characteristic of the Jaffna man to assist the Police, is a fact. It springs from the inability on the part of men different in language, manners and views on life sent from Colombo to do police duties in Jaffna to inspire confidence in the average Jaffna villager.

The magistrates should be men of ripe experience and local knowledge. Young men with one eye on the "spoils" of the bar and the other on emoluments appertaining to the bench can confer no lasting benefit to the peace or prosperity of the country. On the present conditions of law and procedure a novice on the magisterial bench should find safety and prospects in acquitting an accused where evidence in his opinion is close to the marginal line or where any arguable points appeared to exist rather than convict the accused lest he might expose himself to the searching light which might be let by the counsel for the convicted-appellant before the Appeal Court.

#### A Symptom

Crime-on-the-increase is a symptom of disease of which the body-politic is afflicted; so, it would be useless, if not dangerous, to treat the symptom leaving out the disease to work itself out.

Society should take notice of rising crime in the manner a "token cut" in the budget estimates by the Legislature is taken notice of by the Gov-

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## BUDDHA GAYA AND KATARAGAMA

### Rival Claims of Buddhists And Hindus

By T. Mullucumaru

FANATICISM throws blinds over facts. It sees no reason. It has no imagination. It has only the instinct of possession. It misreads history. It creates religious bickerings. And it ends by attempting to divide the house against itself.

The squabbles over the shrines of Buddha Gaya and Kataragama illustrate the evils of fanaticism.

India and Ceylon from the Himalayas to Dondra Head (Devendrapura) is one cultural entity. History and traditions deny not this divinely settled fact. Dry-as-dust date-and-fact events need not find a place here to show this. Buddha Gaya and Kataragama shrines bring together for worship all men irrespective of race or creed. There they stand. Myriads of men and women, Buddhist or Hindu, or no-Buddhist or no-Hindu have come and gone and are still going on lifting up their hands in prayer at the feet of these rocks of all ages.

The Hindus and Buddhists lodging rival claims for temporal power hold with equal reverence, spiritually rivalling though, this common sacred shrine of Buddha Gaya. Gaya was a forest shrine, the resort of Rishis even before Buddha sitting at the foot of the Bo-tree at Gaya saw the Light of Truth. Every forest in India or Ceylon of the type of Gaya with a sparkling stream meandering in and across it stands as a hallowed sylvan shrine for God-intoxicated seeker after Truth. The Hindu or the Buddhist may come and go, but Gaya goes on for ever. Buddhism sprang up in India, and this rebel child while stretching out her arms of love and fellowship to the four corners of the world, as authentic history testifies, has lost or rather merged herself in her ever wonderfully assimilating mother from whom she had her origin, and in whom—whether her votaries

admit or no—she has her being.

The sectarian followers of the Buddha who wrangled with the Hindu Mahant for the management of the temple know not what they do. The Buddhists from Ceylon, or Burma, or Siam, or China, or politically dominating Japan are not nationals of India. In the eyes of the law, these have no claim for the control of an Indian shrine. But they have an inalienable right of freedom of worship, and India is proverbially the most tolerant country in the world. Religious persecution is utterly unknown in this holy land. Inscrutable forces, historic or no, have brought this Buddhist-Hindu shrine under Hindu control. British justice and fairplay would maintain it. Thus far and no further. The moment the Hindu control infringes the Buddhist freedom of worship, that moment the Hindu control ceases. Hindu traditions tolerate not religious intolerance. An appeal for freedom of worship according to the Buddhist Canon and practice to this deeply ingrained sense of tolerance of the Hindu made in the right way, not with threats as a matter of right, would not fail to be heard.

Kataragama is a Hindu-Buddhist shrine controlled by Buddhist Kapuralas. It has a history as ancient as that of the hills. The Tamil aboriginals of Ceylon protest that Kataragama is an out and out Hindu shrine. It existed even before Vijaya, the father of the Sinhalese race, arrived in Ceylon. Even in historic times, both Elara and Duttagemunu made votive offerings at the altar of Kataragama before they started the war. Throughout the ages, the Hindu and the Buddhist worshipped at this forest shrine. The Sinhalese Princes and the

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## Achievements Of Co-operation In The North

### The Success of Three Important Societies

#### Why The Tobacco Sale Society Deserves Public Support

THE achievements of three of the important Co-operative enterprises in the North are recorded in the Administration Report on the working of Co-operative Societies from May 1, 1937 to April 30, 1938. The three societies are The Jaffna Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sale Society, Ltd., The Jaffna Islands Co-operative Boat Service Society Ltd. and the Tholpuram—Moolai Union Co-operative Hospital, Ltd.

#### THE TOBACCO SALE SOCIETY

Co-operative Marketing in the Northern Division is synonymous with the Jaffna Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sale Society, Limited. The story of this society reads like an epic narrative, but it need not be retold here. Thanks to the grit and determination of its management (incidentally, the Board of Directors is composed almost entirely of actual cultivators) it has successfully survived competition, detraction, price war, and all the other ills that Co-operative Marketing is heir to. The price war reached its climax last year and the society was faced with the prospect of serious loss, but perseverance won in the end and a minimum price agreement was concluded between all the parties concerned in the trade in Quilon: the society now anticipates substantial profit on the stocks selling in Quilon to-day.

The society has reached the sixth year of its existence. Its membership has risen to 908, its paid-up share capital to Rs. 8,565, its reserve fund to Rs. 667. Its area of operations covers all parts where Malayalam tobacco is cultivated in the Peninsula, it looms large in the economic life of the Jaffna peasant and it has become the symbol of Co-operation in the North. Without the financial support of the Local Loans and Development Fund, however, the society would never have come into being and it gratefully acknowledges its indebtedness to the Commissioners of the Fund. The amount due to the Fund at the end of the year was Rs. 401,966 and the loan is covered by the society's stocks of tobacco as well as by its reserves and paid-up capital.

The stocks now selling in Quilon belong to the 1936 crop, of which nearly 55 per cent. came into the society's hands. The 1937 stocks have not yet been sent to Quilon. Last year's weather conditions spoilt the fields in Jaffna, the harvest was small and there was more than usual competition between the society and the outside traders for the possession of the crop. The traders offered slightly better terms, while towards the middle of the year a declining market even induced the society

to decrease its rates of advances. The result was that hardly two-fifths of the entire crop found its way into the society's godowns last year; which is proof that even in the Jaffna Malayalam Tobacco Co-operative Sale Society loyalty is the ultimate deciding factor in the success of Co-operative Marketing. The society does not buy members' tobacco outright. It acts as their agent and pays them advances not exceeding 60 per cent. of the estimated value of their tobacco, the balance being payable, less commission and expenses, at the conclusion of the sales. The traders buy outright (when they buy on the "advance system," which they rarely do, the farmer would be lucky if he received the balance due to him), and the prices paid by them have scarcely ever, in the long run, exceeded the rates advanced by the society. But it pleases the farmer to be oblivious of his experiences and the temptation is too strong for him sometimes to employ the society as a decoy bird to obtain better prices from the trader. Had he given his full support to the society from the beginning, even at the risk of loss, the society would have been able to pay him every year the rebate which it has been able to pay him only once so far. The prospects of paying a rebate on the 1936 crop are very fair and the full loyalty of members should be an assured thing next year. An institution which seeks to organize the major industry of the North on better lines deserves the fullest support from all quarters concerned.

#### ISLANDS CO-OP. BOAT SERVICE SOCIETY

##### A Second Launch to be Purchased

The Jaffna Islands Co-operative Motor Boat Service Society, Limited, has done another year's good work in providing the inhabitants of the Islands with a quick and efficient means of communication between their homes and the mainland. There are, however, certain features that call for comment. The year's working showed a loss of Rs. 54, the income was Rs. 997 less than last year and the membership fell by 12 to 331. A sum of Rs. 50 due as audit levy to the Federation is included within the year's loss. The issue of a certain number of free passes to members as a sort of rebate was no doubt the chief cause of the drop in income. The value of the free passes issued was Rs. 1,500 and in some cases the rebate worked out at 44 per cent on members' shares. The decrease in membership is attributed to the adverse economic conditions of the year. The example of the society inspired Government to start a launch service between the mainland and Moolai last year, but

#### KOKUVIL ANTI- CRIME SOCIETY

A public meeting of the residents of Kokuvil, organised by Mudaliyar C. Kanapathipillai, Kacheheri Mudaliyar and Chief Maniagar, Jaffna, was held at the Kokuvil Hindu English School, at 4 p.m. on the 27th ultimo to consider what steps should be taken to stop the increase of crimes in the area.

Mr. C. Muthavelu, J. P. and former Chairman, V. C., Kokuvil, was proposed to the Chair. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting and urged the formation of a Society for the purpose.

Pandit T. Kumaraswamy, Messrs V. Manikkavasagar, Proprietor, A. Muthutamby, Chief Clerk, Kacheheri and Mudaliyar C. Kanapathipillai, Kacheheri Mudaliyar, addressed the gathering in Tamil. The address of the Asst. Supdt of Police in English on the necessity of forming a Society for the said purpose, was interpreted by the Maniagar.

An Anti-Crime Society named "Thushdda Nikiraga Sankam" was formed an Executive Committee consisting of twenty four members, with Mr. C. Muthavelu J.P., President, Mr. A. Muthutamby, Chief Clerk, Kacheheri, Vice-President and Mr. A. Amirthalingam, Secretary, was duly elected.

although this service also touches Nainativu, there has been no competition affecting the society's income.

The society earned some Rs. 10,300 and incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 8,000. Its condition causes no uneasiness, but it will do well to follow certain advice that has been given in regard to internal control. It is anxious to purchase a second launch but it must take careful stock of its situation before it commits itself to a decision.

The society deserves credit for the originality of its enterprise. At the time it was registered the Local Loans and Development Fund feared to lend it money to purchase its first launch on the ground that the venture was speculative. The money was ultimately borrowed from the Jaffna Co-operative Central Bank and has been repaid in full. The society also has a contract with the Postmaster-General for the transport of mails to the Island.

#### NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT IN SELF-HELP

##### Co-operative Hospital at Moolai

An efficient and selfless doctor and a devoted committee have been responsible for the increasing success of the Co-operative Hospital at Tholpuram-Moolai. Its membership has risen to 187 and the working capital is Rs. 16,971. The share capital is Rs. 2,16 and profits have increased to Rs. 8,710. The number of patients treated daily is over 16 and the institution is as popular

#### ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION FOR MINORITIES

##### MR. MAC DONALD ON IMPORTANCE OF QUESTION

##### PUBLICATION OF DESPATCHES IN VERY NEAR FUTURE

London, Wednesday.

ANSWERING questions in the House of Commons, regarding the Ceylon Constitution, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, declared that the question of adequate representation for the minorities was one which was engaging the attention of the Governor and himself, and to which he attached great importance.

Asked when he would be in a position to make a statement, Mr. MacDonald said he proposed to publish the recent despatches between the Governor and himself in the very near future, but could not give a date.

Questioned regarding the Education Bill introduced in the State Council, which Sir Walter Smiles alleged was directed against the existence of recognised denominational schools, Mr. MacDonald said he had not yet received official information about the Bill, and until he did so he could not say whether any provisions called for intervention on his part.

Replying to a question whether the approval of Mr. P. N. Banks, Inspector-General of Police, Ceylon, had been sought for the personnel or terms of reference of the Commission appointed to enquire into the Bracegirdle case, Mr. MacDonald said the personnel and terms of reference of the Commission appointed by the Governor had the concurrence of the Board of Ministers, but he had no reason to think the Inspector-General of Police had been consulted in either sense.

among non-members as it is useful to members. Free medical relief to the extent of Rs. 195 was given to the poor during the year and Government assisted the hospital by making it a centre for the free distribution of quinine.

It was really a dispensary that was being conducted by the society until now and the hospital is only just beginning to be built. A public collection campaign was started last year in Jaffna and in Malaya and resulted in the gathering of Rs. 11,537, with further promises amounting to Rs. 2,500. Out of the funds collected a handsome administration block has already been built and the construction of the wards is about to commence.

The society is a notable achievement in Self-Help and deserves congratulation,

# THE ALARMING CRIME WAVE IN JAFFNA

## Public Anxiety For Security Of Life And Property

### SIR WAITIALINGAM'S SOLICITUDE: SIR BARON'S ASSURANCE

#### Remedies Suggested By Social Workers Conference

ON receipt of a letter describing the terrible happenings in Jaffna, Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy, Speaker of the State Council, immediately invited Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Minister for Home Affairs, to his office and showed him the letter. Sir Baron was ready and willing to do all he could through the departments under his charge to combat the crime wave in the Peninsula.

THE Minister saw the Heads of Departments to decide the course of action, and has written to the Government Agent to circularise all headmen warning them to do their duty, and also to the Excise Department to take steps to stop sale of toddy after 6 p.m. The Minister has also called upon the Police to report on the number of cases detected and undetected during the last three months. Sir Baron has assured Sir Waitialingam that he and the departments under him will do all they can to deal with the problem, and has requested him in turn to ask the people to extend their full co-operation in whatever they do. That was the last request the Minister made of Sir Waitialingam on Friday before the latter left for Jaffna to attend the Social Workers Conference.

THESE happenings in Colombo in connection with the crime wave in Jaffna were divulged by Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy on Saturday afternoon, presiding at the public meeting which concluded the Conference of Social Workers held in the Central College Hall.

Leading men from all parts of the peninsula and the islands attended the Conference which opened at 9-30 a.m. Mr. G. H. Bromley, Acting Deputy Inspector-General of Police, was present throughout the whole proceedings. The Conference opened under the presidency of Mr. P. J. Hudson, Acting Government Agent, N. P.

Rev. J. S. Mather, one of the organisers of the conference, in welcoming the large gathering, described the alarming situation in the country and referred to some of the causes that contributed to the present crime wave. The speaker opined that the disrespectful treatment of witnesses in Courts, the waning power and influence of headmen as against the power of rowdies, the lack of public confidence in the police as some of the factors that have contributed to the increase of crime. He said that satan seemed to have been enthroned in power over all forces of good and authority. A serious malady, he said, had caught the country and all of them were anxious to find out the causes and to take curative and preventive measures to arrest that disease. He welcomed them all on behalf of the organising committee.

#### Volunteers Congratulated

Mr. A. Mahadeva, M. S. C., speaking next said that his presence there was in a representative capacity. As a representative in Council, urgent messages from people employed out-

side the Peninsula were received by him, showing concern for their womenfolk left behind at home and asking for some definite steps to be taken to reassure them of safety. As a representative he was not unaware of his responsibilities and duties. One of the results of his representations was the presence there of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police. He had come to see what action was possible. Some reasons had been assigned by the previous speaker for the apparent breakdown of the machinery of Government to control crime in the Province. He had come there, he said, with the desire to be acquainted with the solutions suggested by the conference, and hoped that something practical would come out of it. He congratulated the people, particularly that band of young men who had organised themselves to deal with the problem themselves. The police would be glad of it. One could not expect from the police much without the assistance and co-operation of the public. Another matter of considerable anxiety to the people was unemployment and under employment. The distress that followed under employment could hardly be exaggerated. He had brought this to the notice of his colleagues in Council and they had not taken adequate notice of it. The plight of the cigar industry was then described by the speaker who said that it had affected about 40,000 people who

depended on it. The distress of these people had to be brought home to their legislators 250 miles away from Jaffna. He expected the assistance of the head of the administration in the Province in the securing of relief for his constituency. Finally, he said, that it did not lie entirely with Government but with the people themselves. It would be for the people to attempt to solve by their efforts the problems facing them.

#### Be Brave and Fearless

Madaliyar C. Kanapathipillai who spoke next said that as one who had visited every nook and corner of the Peninsula, and had seen conditions personally, he was in a position to speak on the question before them with authority. Crime was the all-absorbing problem. People had been panic stricken until last week. Attempts had been made in busy parts of the town to burgle. In the olden days they had heard of thieves at Vallai-Veli. But now they had thieves in the heart of the town, thieves who travelled in fast moving cars and carrying arms. The murder at Ilavalai was enough to strike terror among the people. It was therefore their duty to consider carefully the steps they should take to combat crime. The headmen were doing effective work. Wonderful work was done last week. The co-operation of the public, particularly in the past week, had given peace and rest to the people, by observing vigils. He did not know how long could that vigil go on. The headmen in the division were doing sincere work. The bit of advice he could give them was to be brave, fearless of danger or death. Respectable people should come forward to help the police and the courts when their services were required. To the Hindus he would commend the teaching of the Gita, to work for work sake and to do it as best as they could irrespective of consequences. If they could act in the spirit of the teachings of the Gita they could get rid of crime in one month. The present crime wave was a blessing in disguise. It was going to kindle in them that spirit of fearlessness. Civil patrol, he said, was absolutely necessary and certain powers should be given to them.

The Conference then divided itself into four groups, each to study one of the following subjects—Crime, Unemployment, Poverty and Drink Evil.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF "CRIME GROUP"

Crime, the problem of the moment, was the most popular group, pre-

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(Continued.)

posed a vote of thanks to the chairman and the speakers.

Mr. Kumaraswami Pillai music teacher of Parambhava College, gave a Katha Prasangam on the life of Sir Ramanathan, interspersed by stirring songs composed by him.

One noteworthy feature of the observance of Ramanathan Day at Ramanathan College was the installation of a beautiful image of God Nataraja at the College Temple by Lady Ramanathan.

## THE RAMANATHAN DAY, 1938.

### CELEBRATIONS AT RAMANATHAN COLLEGE

#### THE STATUE PROBLEM

THE Ramanathan Day was celebrated by the Saiva Mangayar Sabai, an association of the Hindu Ladies of Jaffna, at Ramanathan College on the 27th November, 1938. In the morning a pooja was performed at the Samadhi Temple in memory of the late Sir Ramanathan and at noon over 600 people were

present. A public meeting was held in the Ramanathan College Hall in the evening under the presidency of Dr. S. Subramaniam, J. P. A large audience consisting of ladies and gentlemen was present. Vidwan Rama Bhagavathar of Palghat gave a musical recital which was much appreciated by the audience. Dr. Subramaniam, the chairman explaining the need for the celebration of Ramanathan Day dwelt on the selfless work done by Sir Ramanathan and on his high spiritual attainments which made the Hindus regard him as a Saint.

Adigar A. Naganathar in a stirring speech exhorted the audience to use their influence and see that the statue of Sir Ramanathan which was made in England to be erected in Colombo in grateful memory of his heroic mission to the Parliament during the martial law days of 1915, was brought out from the lumber room of the Lake House and put up in a conspicuous place in Colombo. He said that lasting unity between the Sinhalese and Tamils would be effected only on the day that statue was erected.

Mr. C. T. Lorage, Divisional Inspector of Schools, who spoke next, paid his tribute to the many-sided activities of Sir Ramanathan who during his life time was looked upon by every Sinhalese school boy as a model to be followed. Sir Ramanathan's memory was already enshrined in the minds of those of the present generation, but an effort should be made that the rising generation also treasured that memory as a source of inspiration and patriotic endeavour.

Mr. V. Veerasingam, Principal, Manipal Hindu College, referred to the enthusiastic demonstration of loyalty to the memory of Sir Ramanathan which he witnessed at Nawalapitiya. He said that the Ramanathan Day should be celebrated throughout the Island and that there should be flag days for the collection of funds to perpetuate the memory of Sir Ramanathan in some lasting form. He also stressed the urgency of erecting Sir Ramanathan's statue and in this connection he referred to his recent correspondence with the proprietor of the "Ceylon Daily News" who he thought was in possession of the statue, but who now disclaimed all knowledge relating to the statue or to the Committee which collected subscriptions for the statue. Mr. Veerasingam said that he was ready to co-operate with Adigar Naganathar to get the statue erected and appealed to the Adigar to start a fund for the purpose.

Mrs. Kanagarayar, the secretary of the Saiva Mangayar Sabai, pro-

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## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1938.

### CRIME IN JAFFNA

OF THE SUBJECTS THAT WERE discussed at the North Ceylon Social Workers' Conference held in Jaffna on Saturday the alarming increase in crimes loomed large, showing clearly how deeply the public mind was agitated over the question. The resolutions adopted at the Conference reflect in an unmistakable manner that the thinking section of the people is painfully conscious of the causes that have conspired to make Jaffna, once the home of peaceful and peace-loving citizens, earn an unenviable reputation in the matter of crimes. We have ourselves so often written on the subject with a view to focussing the attention alike of the public and the authorities on this serious problem. It has often been said that, in the prevention and detection of crimes, the people have not been co-operating whole-heartedly with the police. Whatever might have been the force of this contention in the past, the fact must be admitted that the public is so fully alive today to the needs of the situation that it has offered its voluntary and vigilant co-operation with a view to helping the authorities in the suppression of crimes. Evidence is not wanting to show that everywhere volunteers have not merely rendered substantial assistance to the police but have actively worked for the detection of those who have been committing a series of diabolical crimes which have rudely shaken the confidence of the people in the potency and efficiency of the police to combat this growing menace to the safety of the people and of their property. The public has come to feel, rightly or wrongly, that the police have woefully failed to cope with the situation created by the increasing crimes in Jaffna. The Conference has therefore rightly resolved to request the Government to reinforce the police force in Jaffna in regard to its quality as well as its quantity so as to enable it to rise to the needs of the time. Another resolution requests the Government to establish a Branch of the C.I.D. in Jaffna. Only the other day the Jaffna Association, the premier political organisation in this Province, adopted a similar resolution, urging on the authorities the imperative need for a branch of the C. I. D. in Jaffna in view of the alarming increase in serious crimes. The enlightened section of the people feels that a band of intelligent, enthusiastic, trained C. I. D. men who could inspire fear of detection

among the criminals will be the most effective means of combating crime. The primary function of any Government worth the name is to give the people the sense of security of their persons and of their property. We know that, of late, in many a home in Jaffna the inmates have not been able to enjoy secure sleep for fear that at dead of night gangsters might break into their homes, committing nefarious crimes. It seems that a handful of desperadoes and habituals have established a sort of a reign of terror in Jaffna. We would therefore urge on the Government and particularly on the Home Minister with all the emphasis at our command to do all that in them lies to restore to the people of Jaffna the sense of security of their persons and of their property. The Government should consider no cost too high and no means too drastic to secure the people in the enjoyment of their fundamental rights.

The Resolution appealing to the lawyers of the Jaffna Bar to make a special gesture of co-operation with the public by refusing to defend habitual criminals, naturally came in for a heated discussion at the Conference. It is not for us to decide how far the resolution can be defended on professional grounds. But the fact, however, must be admitted that lawyers, particularly those who mostly appear in criminal cases, have it in their power to contribute in no small measure to the peace and safety of the public. If a lawyer is convinced that his client is guilty of a serious crime, it is his duty to see that the culprit is punished according to the laws of the land. To laymen like us uninitiated into the mysteries and subtleties of forensic art it appears that the function of a lawyer is to help in the administration of justice without fear or favour and not to save his client by means, fair or foul. MR. L. P. THURAI-RETNAM who led the discussion on the subject at the Conference said that he knew of lawyers who defended accused persons with the full knowledge that they had committed crimes. We may refer in this connexion to what MAHATMA GANDHI had to say to a deputation of lawyers who recently waited on him. The MAHATMA said that he himself was a lawyer and that he would "kiss the feet" of those lawyers who pleaded the cause of truth and justice. Such lawyers are indeed the guardians of the rights and privileges of the people, the mainstay of the public life of a country and ornaments to the society of which they are but units. Therein lies the secret of their influence, strength and power. It is not too much to hope that, at this critical juncture in the history of Jaffna, our lawyers will subordinate their personal and professional interests to the larger interests of the people.

## DETERIORATION IN FRANCO-ITALIAN RELATIONS

### Italian Challenge and French Retort

#### FRANCE CONCERNED OVER AFRICAN COLONIES

THE relations between France and Italy have deteriorated considerably during last week.

Count Ciano's references in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on Wednesday to the "legitimate aspirations" of Italy and the cries of "Tunis, Corsica and Nice" which greeted it have, says Reuter, caused great bitterness in France.

The position has been further aggravated by polemics in the papers. Signor Gayda, known as "Mussolini's mouthpiece", writing in the "Giornale d'Italia", says that the whole nation was behind the Government and was ready, if necessary, even to march against France.

This has drawn a French retort, condemning "these bombastics, whether from Signor Gayda, as the mouthpiece of Signor Mussolini or other polemic writers", and declaring that "no one doubts that the whole of France is likewise ready to rise in defence of any territories which now fly the French flag."

France is deeply concerned about the reserve of man-power in her African colonies. The fear that the Government has not yet realised this peril is at the bottom of the anxiety that the Government may yield to British pressure, and may agree to grant belligerent rights to General Franco.

### Bracegirdle Report Rejected by Council

#### Amended Motion Passed

Colombo, Dec. 2.

THE debate on the Bracegirdle Report was concluded in the State Council yesterday. The Member for Ruwanwella, Dr. N. M. Perera, continuing his overnight speech, stated that he learnt that certain Police officials had threatened to resign if their Chief was removed from office.

The amended motion "condemning and rejecting" the Report was passed by a majority of 34 votes to 14. Sir Baron Jayatilaka and the Member for Balangoda, Mr. H. A. Gunasekera, declined to vote.

The Speaker (Sir W. Duraiswamy)

presided when Council met at 2:30 p.m. yesterday.

#### Amendment Carried

The motion as amended, was then put to the House and carried by 34 votes to 14, two declining to vote.

The division was as follows:—

Ayes:—Messrs. C.W.W. Kannangara, D. S. Senanayake, Bandaranaike, Corea, W. A. de Silva, J. L. Kotalawala, Abeyegunasekera, Aluwihare, Batuwatudawe, de Fonseka, G. E. de Silva, F. de Zoysa, Goonesinha, D. D. Gunasekera, D. P. R. Gunawardene, R. S. S. Gudawardene, Neil Hewawitarne, Rajah Hewawitarne, Illangantillake, A. P. Jayasuriya, D. P. Jayasuriya, R. C. Kannangara, D. H. Kotalawala, Kuruppu, Nugawela, N. M. Perera, D. M. Rajapakse, Ratwatta, Samarakkody, Mrs. Saravananuttu, Messrs. Dudley Senanayake, Tambimuttu, Tennekoon and Wanigasekera—(24)

Noes:—Messrs. Freeman, Gaddum, Griffith, Jayah, Mahadeva, Natesan Iyer, Natesan, Oldfield, Parfitt, Sri Pathmanathan, I. X. Pereira, Razik, Vytilingam and Wille—(14).

Declined to vote:—Sir D. B. Jayatilaka and Mr. H. A. Gunasekera.

### THE ALARMING CRIME WAVE IN JAFFNA

(Continued from page 5)

which resumed sitting at 2 p.m. and adopted.

That this conference requests the Government to increase the Police Force in Jaffna and to equip and train them on modern lines in the detection and combatting of crime.

That this conference appeals to the members of the Jaffna Peninsula Bar to make a special gesture of co-operation with the public in the suppression of crime, by refusing to defend habitual criminals charged with theft and robbery.

That this conference is of opinion that the existing regulations made under the Public Performance Ordinance be so amended as to limit the time for Cinemas and other Performances to 9 p.m.

That this conference urges for a more rigorous censorship by the authorities of Films depicting exploits of Robbery and Crime.

That this conference requests the Government to establish a Branch of the C. I. D. in Jaffna.

That this conference requests the Government to see that all officers of the Police Force in Jaffna are transferred every three years.

# THE ALARMING CRIME WAVE IN JAFFNA

(Continued from page 3)

sided over by Mr. S. Kanagasapai, Crown Advocate. Messrs A. R. Subramaniam, Advocate and I. P. Thuraiatnam led the discussion in which many participated.

The President of the Group in his opening remarks referred to the one-time prosperous condition of the country, due to the flourishing state of the cigar industry, large remittances from the F. M. S. and to satisfactory economic conditions, in general. Wage-earners as well as young-men who had learnt and could afford to lead a life of ease then, though depending on the generosity of others, had become used to a false standard of life. Now that conditions had changed, they found it difficult to adjust themselves to the new conditions. They still required the comforts and luxuries which they could not afford now. They wanted fugi, silk, cigarettes and the rest of it. They attended cinemas where they saw thieves rushing in motor cars to houses, committing thefts and murders and dashing away with their loot dodging the police. The young men fell into bad company and joined the "original" criminals. The people, continued the speaker, had become used to a false standard of living, of living above their means, which they did not want to give up. Even poor men without any apparent means owned cars. These conditions induced many to burglary. Drink could be had anywhere and at any time. False standard of living, unemployment, drink and crime were all inter-related. It was their urgent duty to relieve the dreadful situation in the country. They were glad that the Deputy Inspector General of Police was there. He might go into the country and ascertain the causes of that outbreak in the country once noted for its peace-loving people and take immediate measures to suppress crime.

## The Discussion

Mr. I. P. Thuraiatnam opening the discussion, said the fundamental assumption on which he would proceed was that up-to-date methods of detection of crime were no substitute for the goodwill of the people. He proceeded to analyse the difficulties and give reasons for the weakness of the machinery to combat crime. The village headmen who were originally appointed to assist the police in the detection and suppression of crime had now multifarious functions. Most of the Government Departments expected a headman to help them. So that headmen were not now able to control people in a village as they did before. Today there was a travelling class of criminals who availed themselves of the increased facilities of communication and the headman could not be expected to round up those criminals.

The Police force in Ceylon, the speaker said, was inadequate. Compared with other countries, the amount they spent on Police was absurdly low. The proportion of police to population in Ceylon was 1 to 1664. Whereas according to figures quoted by him the proportion was much higher in other countries like F. M. S. where it worked at 1 to 273 and Hong Kong 1 to 399. In Ceylon they spent at

the rate of 69 cents per head of population on the police, whereas in Palestine it was Rs. 5.16 and F. M. S., 2.58.

Mr. Thuraiatnam proceeded to show by quoting statistics how certain kinds of crime were increasing, like plunder for profit. The percentage of successful prosecutions for the Island had gone down from 23 per cent in 1935 to 20 per cent in 1937. In the proportion of serious crime to population which was 1 to 521 for the island, that for the Northern Province was 1 to 402. It was admitted by the Inspector-General of Police that crime was on the increase in unpoliced areas. The mobility of the criminal, continued Mr. Thuraiatnam, must be met by the mobility of the police. He gave an example of a theft in Colombo, the culprit in which was arrested in Trincomalee 214 miles away from the scene soon after the offence. How quickly the criminals were able to move could be gauged from that instance. The police therefore must be provided with up-to-date equipments: a car with wireless set and other modern appliances that would help to detect offences. The skill of the police depended on the equipment, assuming they had the wit. Educated unemployment, he opined, also contributed to crime.

## How Lawyers Could Help

Lawyers, the speaker continued, could play a great part in the suppression of crime. He knew of lawyers who defended people who, they knew, were guilty. If the lawyers wanted to help the country they could do so by not accepting briefs from such criminals. The speaker knew first-hand from a lawyer friend of his who knowing the man guilty yet defended him. Though it might affect their pockets to refuse briefs from criminals, let them at least for six months not accept briefs from reconvicted criminals. That was the immediate problem.

The speaker urged speedy trial of criminal cases. Because of postponements and dates given, and criminals allowed on bail, criminals managed to escape by threatening witnesses and preparing false cases. If the public was expected to help the courts, speedier methods should be adopted in the disposal of cases.

## Ex-Judge's Experience

Mr. A. R. Subramaniam, Advocate and retired Police Magistrate and District Judge, Trincomalee, who also led the discussion said that 20 years ago Jaffna was a non-criminal place. But during the last 15 or 20 years, there was an abnormal increase of crime and now the condition was alarming.

As a class Jaffnese were not criminals, continued the speaker. Criminals came not from the educated, but from the lower classes. Unemployment, it was said, was a cause for crime. There was plenty of work and much better wages than 15 or 20 years ago, and still there was unemployment. The labouring classes had become impudent. There was plenty of work beyond Elephant Pass.

Drink, according to the speaker,

was not a cause of crime. What he felt was that drink was taken deliberately to commit crime.

Dealing with methods of checking crime, he said that the police and headmen were to blame to some extent. But his experience with the police was that under proper control they were good. If the Magistrate took personal interest and gave instructions to the police they would carry them out efficiently. But in Jaffna it was said that the Police were corrupt as a general rule. The speaker recalled here an occasion on which he had told Mr. Dowbiggin that police officers should not be kept in a place for a long time. If the police took bribes, why should, he asked, the public offer bribes. He did not think that high police officers took bribes. It might be true to some extent in the case of some petty officers.

The main cause for the increase of crime, he said, was there was now no fear for jail life. Prisoners had better comforts, better food with all the vitamins A, B, C, and lighter work than at home. The Government was to blame for having introduced a system not suitable to the country. Prisoners, he knew, got everything they wanted—cigars, ganja, tobacco etc. Many prisoners had asked the speaker to sentence them to jail. But generally he had fined or warned and discharged first offenders. Government ought to be asked to make jail life more rigorous, and until and unless that was done, crime could not be stopped. He also urged speedier disposal of cases.

Another method of suppressing crime was that the Superintendent of Police ought to be asked to form groups of villages and select young men of character and influence as volunteers to assist armed constables to patrol the villages. A number of policemen should do patrol duty in cars. The headmen too might be associated with these. The general complaint that headmen were corrupt was not true. It might be true to some extent, but as a rule it was not so. But the fact that they were unable to control the people, was due to the fact that now everyone wanted to assert individuality, and that not in the proper direction. The new probationary system to be introduced in place of the headman system was going to be worse than the present one.

## Public Flogging

The speaker advocated deterrent punishment for certain class of offences like housebreaking and theft, grievous hurt. The penal code, he said, ought to be amended as to allow of public flogging of reconvicted criminals. No lenience should be shown in the case of such criminals if they wanted to reform them.

He urged the increase of the strength of the police at least for sometime and wanted that the Superintendent of police should go out on frequent inspections to see if the policemen did their work.

Mr. Thuraiatnam, giving further figures, stated there were more than 1500 reconvicted criminals in 1935 and the number had increased in the succeeding years.

Mr. Kadiah, Member V. C. Araly, who said that he had served

in the Chief Police Office in Malaya, advocated the copying of Malayan methods. Criminals after their third conviction, he said, should be banished. If that was done crime could be suppressed. He urged the transfer after three years of police officers and the appointing of a good number of detectives which he said would help in the suppression of crime.

## Maniagar's Suggestions

Mulaliyar Velupillai, Maniagar of Valigamam North and East, suggested that effective patrolling should be done. Every headman must be given the assistance of an armed constable to patrol at least an Udaivar's division. A reconvicted criminal should not be allowed on bail. He said that he had tried his utmost to get some bad characters bound over, but all his efforts failed in the Court owing to the eloquence of criminal lawyers.

Mr. Buell, who was honorary Magistrate in Bombay, suggested that as in Bombay, habituals should not be allowed to roam about after 6 p. m. and that a company of 3 suspects should be dispersed and each sent to their respective places. He feared whether a curfew order would become necessary in the present state of things. He condemned the system of education as being the cause of all the evils.

Mr. K. Somasundaram, J. P. suggested the transfer of police officers every three years; the appointment of experienced sub-inspectors in place of raw hands sent to Jaffna to learn work; detailing of armed constables to patrol the streets as often as possible; flogging in public of criminals; the appointment of an itinerating magistrate; criminals should be made to be in their homes after 6 p. m.; the preparation of a list of criminals.

Mr. A. E. Tamber suggested the increase of police force in Jaffna and the provision of modern appliances. He suggested that the police force must be in the field. He wished that the Deputy J. G. P. had been in Jaffna two weeks ago.

## Appeal to Lawyers

The findings and views of the Group were then embodied in the form of resolutions and passed. One of the resolutions which appealed to lawyers of the Peninsula not to defend reconvicted criminals gave room for considerable discussion. The President too spoke against it. It was pointed out by the lawyers who took part in the discussion that in view of the oath they had taken on their admission to the profession, they could not subscribe to the resolution.

Mr. S. E. Kanaganayagam moved as an amendment to the resolution for the addition of an appeal to the criminals not to commit for the next two years any crimes.

After considerable discussion, the president having ruled the amendment out of order, the resolution was passed enthusiastically.

## Resolutions

The following resolutions of the group on Crime were then placed before the General Conference

(Continued on Page 4)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thefts and Jaffna Lawyers

Sir,—The current topics of Jaffna are about daring thefts and increase of crimes. Very recently anti-crime associations and Leagues of Good Citizenship had been formed in different parts of Jaffna. Among those who take active part in these organisations, some are eminent criminal lawyers. These lawyers are very often seen vigorously defending accused in theft and crime cases. Regardless of the loss of income will these lawyers in Jaffna refrain from appearing for accused in theft and crime cases till the present wave of thefts and crimes are abated? Some thieves are under the impression that if they pay handsome fees to lawyers they may defend and get them free. It is also true that owing to the weakness of the complainants and witnesses and the severe cross-examination of the lawyers, some culprits escape punishment. Will the Jaffna Lawyers Association take action on this matter?

"Interested".

### Northern Ports

Sir,—There are at present as many as five ports in Jaffna and each of them is provided with a separate staff for the whole year even though the ports are used by vessels during stated seasons only.

Kayts alone which is at one end of the peninsula can be used by small vessels throughout the year. In addition to the above ports there is Tondaiman Ar which is also being used frequently by vessels big and small for exporting salt, road metal and timber.

Will it not be a step in the right direction to amalgamate the several ports which are located within a radius of ten miles and centralise them in one place which bids fare to become an ideal harbour in course of time?

In that case, it would not only be a paying proposition from the point of view of Government but also would serve all Jaffna for all seasons fostering trade and passenger traffic with S. India.

PUBLICO.

Jaffna, 1-12 38

### ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY CLOSED

#### Sequel to Demonstrations by Students

Chidambaram Nov. 30.

Annamalai University was closed from Tuesday, November 29, till January 16, following demonstrations by some students.

As a disciplinary measure, one student was expelled from the University and the hostel and subsequently five others suspended. Thereupon friends of the expelled students and sympathisers called a general strike and resorted to picketing.

Mr. Srinivasa Sastri, Vice-Chancellor, on the unanimous advice of the Professors and the Registrar ordered the University to be closed.

### UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN THE MOTHER TONGUE

#### Mr. Natesan's Address To Teachers

That two institutions with University status—one for Tamil in Jaffna and the other for Sinhalese in Colombo—should be established simultaneously with the long-awaited Ceylon University was the opinion expressed by Mr. S. Natesan M.S.C. in the course of his address at the Annual General Meeting of the Valigamam North Teachers' Association held at the Bilingual School, Tellippalai, on Saturday the 26th ultimo commencing at 6 p.m. Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam, President, took the Chair.

Among the distinguished guests present were Mr. S. Natesan and Mr. C. T. Lorage, Divisional Inspector of Schools, the speakers of the evening, Mr. V. Veerasingham, President, N. P. T. A., Mr. S. Ampikaipakan, Secretary, N. P. T. A., and Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, A.C. District Inspector of Schools.

Two students of the Mahajana English School sang a welcome song after which the Secretary, Mr. T. Selladurai, presented his Annual Report which was adopted. The Treasurer's statement of accounts was also accepted by the house. The Chairman, in welcoming the guests, made particular reference to the speakers of the evening and called upon Mr. Natesan to speak.

Mr. Natesan in the course of his speech deplored the fact that some of the best intellects of the country who had a distinguished University career were not able to contribute to the development of Tamil or Sinhalese Literature since the education they received had made them aliens to their own language and culture. The new University at Kandy, Mr. Natesan pointed out, would not in any way solve the difficulty as English would be the medium of instruction even there. It was high time that the Tamils and the Sinhalese made the necessary efforts to express scientific ideas and embody the latest achievements of scientific research in their own mother tongue. A University course through the medium of the mother tongue, Mr. Natesan said, would herald a new era of development. The speaker further said that he proposed to move in the State Council that two institutions with University status—one for Tamil and the other for Sinhalese—should be established with a view to promoting modern scientific knowledge and culture.

Mr. C. T. Lorage, in a brief talk, emphasised the importance of vernacular education and said that a national revival on the lines suggested by Mr. Natesan was very essential. Mr. A. K. Kandiah proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturers.

The business meeting ensued and the election of office bearers resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam (re-elected).

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. V. Marugesu, T. Sinnathamby and Sandrasoodamany Iyer.

Secretary: Mr. T. T. Jayaratnam. Asst-Secretary: Mr. S. Sithamparappillai.

Treasurer: Mr. K. P. Ponnampalam (re-elected).

Sports Secretary: Mr. A. S. Ariaratnam (re-elected).

Asst. Sports Secretary: Mr. P. Camaraswamy Iyer (re-elected).

### Er radcasting

### AKASHA VANI, MYSORE

#### This Week's Programme

Wavelength: 70.2 Meters Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

CALL SIGN: V. U. 7. M. C.

Monday, the 5th December, 1938

HANUMA JAYANTHI CELEBRATIONS  
6 p.m. Devotional Music  
6-45 p.m. Tamil Harikatha: "Travancore Temple Entry"  
7-15 p.m. Reading from Kannada Literature  
8 p.m. Sociology: "Race and World Order" by M. A. Venkata Rao, Esqr., M. A.

Tuesday, the 6th December 1938

DATHATHREYAJANANAM SPECIAL PROGRAMME  
6 p.m. Karnatic Light Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Harikatha: "Dathathreya Jananam" by Brahmasri Gamaiki Ramakrishna Sastry

Wednesday, the 7th December 1938

6 p.m. Orchestral Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
Vocal Music Performance by Asthana Vidwan Titte Krishna Iyengar, and Party.

Thursday, the 8th December 1938

6 p.m. Hindusthani Light Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
6-30 p.m. Childrens Farce: "Puttu-Gombe"  
7 p.m. Popular Science: "Magnetism" by B. M. Sivaramiah, Esqr.  
7-45 p.m. Kannada Drama: "Ruk-mangada"

Friday, the 9th Dec. 1938

6 p.m. Dance Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
7 p.m. Readings from "Qirat" Hindusthani Music  
7-30 p.m. Urdu Talk: "Social and Historical Background of Islam" by M. A. Hussain Jahid (Alig) (By the courtesy of the Lajnat-ul-adab, Mysore)

Saturday, the 10th Dec. 1938.

6 p.m. Karnatic Instrumental Music  
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements  
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Vidwan S. Lakshmanasastry and Party

Sunday, the 11th Dec. 1938

No Broadcast

### Call for Moral Re-Armament

London Dec. 2.

The call for moral re-armament made by National leaders in Britain has received a wide response in certain quarters, both in Japan and China," declared Dr. Logan Roots, Missionary Bishop in Hankow, in a speech in London.

"I received, almost simultaneously, from Prince Konoye, the Premier of Japan, and Marshal Chiang Kai-shek and his wife telegrams endorsing the lead for moral re-armament."

### How Greater Germany was Created

#### Herr Hitler's Election Speech

Reichenberg, Dec. 2.

Herr Hitler delivered an hour's election speech today mainly devoted to the evolution of the Nazi idea and its subsequent practical application.

He recalled "how my enemies smiled" in 1919 when he found that Nationalism and Socialism must be combined for a National resurrection, otherwise the Nation must be destroyed.

He knew that he hurt many people badly because he had to deprive them of what he regarded was right and even sacred.

He had to ride over thousands of cherished traditions. He had to reject dynasties and their followers regardless of what they had achieved.

Religious denominations believed they could continue the old strife. Quarrelsome priests and Bishops would not realise that the time was over when they could make politics their arena.

Concluding a recital of the successive steps of application of the Nazi policy, Herr Hitler described recent events as a struggle for the soul of the German people—to realise German National unity.

"This year I was prepared to face any consequences. Millions of people could not join their families this summer and autumn because they were in barracks.

"So Greater Germany was created and took you into the Reich. In your hearts you belong to this people's National Socialist unity. You have now to acknowledge your heart's decision before the whole world."

### ASSAULT CASE SETTLED

When the case, in which Messrs M. Sinnadurai, S. Sanmugam and S. Nadesan stood charged with wrongfully tying to a tree one Nagalingam Kandiah of Kokuvil and assaulting him, was called in the Police Court, Mr. S. D. Tampoe, appearing for the accused told the Court that the matter had been settled between the parties. The Magistrate discharged the accused.

### Northern Province Teachers Association

The Annual General Meeting of the Northern Province Teachers Association will be held at the Tellippalai American Mission Bilingual School on Saturday, the 17th inst., beginning from 9.30 a.m. Rev. Father Peter Pillai will deliver an address.

## RETRENCHMENT COMMISSION'S INTERIM REPORT

### RECOMMENDATIONS

### REDUCTION OF EXPEN- DITURE BY SEVEN LAKHS

IT is understood that the interim Report of the Retrenchment Commission, which was recently forwarded to the Governor, deals with ten departments, the largest of which is the Public Works Department, and seeks to effect an annual reduction in expenditure amounting approximately to seven lakhs of rupees.

It is recommended that the posts of Provincial Engineers should be reduced to six and the holders designated Superintending Engineers.

It is also recommended that one of the two posts of Assistant Director of Public Works should be abolished while that of the Engineering Assistant to the Director of Public Works should be designated Chief Engineer, Designs.

The post of District Engineer, Headquarters, should, in the opinion of the Commission, be abolished in a year and the number of District Engineers' divisions reduced by six.

### Departments Concerned

The following, it is learned, are the departments dealt with in the Report and the approximate amount of the retrenchment estimated in each case:—

The Department of the Auditor-General, Rs. 52,000; the Treasury, Rs. 8,000; Income Tax Department, Rs. 36,000; Government Analyst, Rs. 8,000; Commissioner of Marketing, Rs. 16,000; Registrar-General's Office, Rs. 83,000; Tourist Bureau, Rs. 21,000; Colombo Museum, Rs. 16,000; Archives, Rs. 50,000; and the Department of Public Works, Rs. 400,000.

There are at present thirty-four District Engineers' divisions, manned by twenty-two District Engineers and twelve Assistant Engineers.

There are, besides, seven other District Engineers to relieve absentees, bringing the number of District Engineers to twenty-nine

### For Abolition

The following are the District Engineers' divisions recommended for abolition forthwith:—

Dandagamawa, Avissawella, Katugastota, Passara, Pallai and Tutalam.

According to the Retrenchment Commission's recommendation, the remaining twenty eight divisions would be manned by sixteen District Engineers and twelve Assistant Engineers.

There would then be three more appointments of District Engineers to act in place of others, bringing

up the total number of District Engineers to nineteen.

A further reduction of this number would take place in a year when the post of District Engineer, Head Office, which is included in the above-mentioned nineteen, is abolished.

Out of the remaining eighteen, it is recommended that one with architectural knowledge should be appointed District Engineer, Building, the number of District Engineers to seventeen, i.e., sixteen appointments in the Districts and one at the Head Office.

Thereafter, it is suggested, two additional appointments may be made for the purpose of relieving others who happen to be absent and on leave.

Under this scheme the number of posts open for competition among qualified young men joining as Junior Assistant Engineers would be greatly reduced.

It is recommended that the post of chief clerk of the Public Works Department should be abolished.

The two assistant architects, the Financial Assistant and the Administrative Assistant and the Drawing Office Assistant are, according to the Commission's scheme, to remain.

Other measures of retrenchment recommended in the Public Works Department include the reduction of the number of posts of inspectors from twenty to seventeen.

The Commission suggests that the number of sub-inspectors should be increased from thirty to thirty-five provided a proportionate reduction is made in the number of temporary sub-inspectors, of whom there are now twenty.

Another recommendation is that the number of draftsmen should be reduced from fifty-one to forty-six.

With regard to the question of surplus staff in all the departments dealt with in the report, the Commissioners state that they do not recommend the retirement of any salaried officers who are below the age of thirty-five or of members of daily-paid grades below the age of sixty.

They recommend that surplus officers in these departments should be transferred to other departments where vacancies exist.

These vacancies need not necessarily be in the same grade, class or even service.

### Salary Scales

It is also proposed that the Chief Architect and the Chief Engineer, Designs, should in future carry the combined scale of salary of the District Engineers and the Provincial Engineers' Grades and not solely the scale of the Provincial Engineers' Grade as at present.

This means that, for instance, a District Engineer being appointed to the post of Chief Engineer, Designs, or an Assistant Architect becoming the Chief Architect need not immediately be put on the initial salary of a present Provincial Engineer, but has to reach that figure after attaining the maximum grade of his former post.

### DENTAL NOTICE

S. Imai, (Japanese Dentist)  
Colombo,  
will be at Jaffna at Tiruchelvan Buildings, Main Street, Jaffna, from 7th to 16th December 1938.  
[M.S. 216, 5-12-38]

## How Ancients Rid Country of Crime

(Continued from page 1)

There has been too much of talk on social justice and too little of practical work for amelioration of the narrowing conditions under which the poor are consigned to live. The election-mongers spouted empty promises. Hope deferred maketh the heart sick. Education was begun about 10 years ago at the wrong end and there has been no leadership to adjust things to newer conditions as they arose. The well-to-do and the educated should resolve to do their duty by their less fortunate neighbours.

### How they Managed It

It is well to study how our forbears managed to keep the country rid of crime. Society has changed much since then and plans that worked efficiently then may be unsuited to modern conditions. Yet modern education cannot be adjudged to be lacking in resources as cannot adapt the old methods to suit present conditions.

Our forbears had society broken into pieces on the economic plane of cleavages for purposes of self-help, self-government, social service, leadership and supervision. The "pieces" were however not apart but held together, and that firmly, by links of mutual help, inter-dependence and co-operation. The leaders saw to it that the economic balance of the society was not upset by any undue disturbance. The courts were conciliar in constitution. The purpose of adjudication was to conciliate the parties, restore property and compensate losses of the aggrieved.

### Punishing the Offender

The Judicial Councillors spoke in the vulgar tongue i.e. in the language of the suitors and they were men of ripe experience and high reputation that no litigant or witness would dare tell an untruth in their presence. Then there was a system of espionage. The officers moved among people in disguise and gathered authentic information re movements and criminals etc.

When an accused has been found guilty of serious crime, punishment was severe. To purge the soul of the offender, the property of the convict had to pay for the burning of a perpetual lamp in the village temple or for some ceremony in propitiation. Close relatives of the convict were deemed to be subject to the pollution (சுரட்சு) engendered by the offence and society banned them, which ban continued to be in effect perpetually or ceased to be after a specified period. Often the headman of the group to which the convict belonged made penance or paid penalty in propitiation of the offence. Thus one sees that Church, law, and society took cognisance of serious offences.

What now! 'Civilisation' seems determined to deprive man of his background of religion i.e. the incentive to moral living. Society runs on slogans like 'every man to himself', 'am I my bro-

ther's keeper' and such others as display the belief that life should be lived on the atomic plane.

### Prisons Made Comfortable

Prisons have been made places of comfort and luxury. People who did not know how hard the honest man is put to here to make a living, nor the conditions of existence in the lower strata of society in Ceylon were responsible for the improved conditions of our jails. In spite of the improved conditions of our prisons, the subconscious fear of the old-world stigma inseparable from imprisonment in jail on conviction of a serious offence and ignorance of amenities of jail operated as deterrent factors against one taking the risk of going to jail.

To carry on an expensive system of government on the alien scale of salaries, revenue had to be found and revenue offences have been multiplied with very severe penalties tugged to a willy-nilly peace-loving people were roped into jail. The jail stigma has vanished. The discharged prisoner often does the propaganda work for increase of prison population.

The Court language, English, is like a smoke screen between the suitors and their lawyers. The client usually returns home with suspicions of underhand business against his lawyers. Faith is undermined.

The writing in the wall is unmistakable. Let Jaffna evolve its own salvation on the lines of her indigenous culture without vainly attempting to initiate the major community—the Singalese.

### SALE OF MARKET RENTS, 1939

Notice is hereby given that sealed tenders will be received by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, at the Jaffna Kachcheri up to 12 noon on Friday, 9 December 1938, for the purchase of the exclusive right to levy rents and fees in respect of the following markets for the period 1 January 1939 to 31 December 1939—both days inclusive.

Point Pedro (a) Vegetable market (excluding the 13 permanent stall)  
(b) Fish market  
(c) Omnibus stand and gala  
Valvettiturai (a) Vegetable market  
(b) Fish market  
(c) Omnibus stand and gala

Kayts —Vegetable and Fish market (excluding the 3 shop rooms)

2. Every tender must be made on the prescribed form—a copy of which will be supplied by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, on a deposit of Rs. 10/- for each form, to be made at the office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna.

3. Tenders may be sent by post or be deposited in the tender box provided for this purpose at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

4. The person making the highest bid or tender in respect of any market shall be declared to be the lessee of the said market. Such person shall immediately on his being declared to be the lessee deposit 1/4th of the amount of his tender or bid, in cash as security and shall enter into a bond in the form and on the conditions specified for this purpose by the Chairman of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna District, within one week of his being declared to be the lessee.

5. Further particulars may be obtained at the office of the Sanitary Board, Jaffna.

A. S. Kohoban Wickrome  
for Chairman S. B. Jaffna  
Sanitary Board Office,  
Jaffna, 28 November 1938  
[G. 33, 5-12-38]

## BUDDHA GAYA AND KATARAGAMA

(Continued from Page 7)

Tamil Chieftains of old had their fights now and again to cut one another's throats. The Sinhalese and Tamil politicians of today and their Buddhist and Hindu fanatical confreres seem to continue the same old feuds. The Ceylonese peasant, Buddhist or Hindu, look up as ever to this one Kataragama Deo for rain and succour at all times.

\* \* \*

Here again, the unseen unifying Force has brought this pre-eminently Hindu shrine under Buddhist management. The wheel of Time rolls on and on mysteriously; and pny man! dare not thou raise thine babel of tongues to bargain with those whom the Time Force has placed over the temporal government of this temple. Over Kataragama too, as over Buddha Gaya only nationals can have a legal claim for the management of the temple. And the Hindus who claim Kataragama for themselves are Ceylonese. Even these Ceylonese whether their recent descendants like it or no had for ages past accepted this divine arrangement of things for the control of this temple. Politicians and fanatics may fight and fight over their imaginary rights: they may cite scripture, and they may quote historical authorities in support of their doubtful and warring contentions. But neither politicians, Sinhalese or Tamil, nor fanatics Buddhist or Hindu dare ye not to cut asunder what the Wheel of Life has joined together for the good of Man!

### Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 613.  
In the matter of the intestate estate  
of the late Sinnappu Sivak-  
kolunthu of Evenai Deceased.  
Thankappillai widow of Sivakkolun-  
thu of Evenai.  
Vs. Petitioner.  
1. Veluppillai Thuraiyah and wife

## CRUSADE AGAINST CRIME

### Night Patrol for Moolai

A night patrol of ten young men were elected to go on circuit at the odd hours of the night, at the inaugural meeting of the League of Good Citizenship at Moolai.

Several resolutions were passed, one of which requested the headman to give a confidential list of suspected persons to the police.

The Chairman, Mr. M. Krishnaer, regretted the inability of the headman and the police to either cope with the increase in crime or to detect the burglars who rob the hard earned money of respectable and peace loving people. He said that people should co-operate with the headmen and the police.

Mr. P. R. Krishnaratne, A.S.P., said that he could bear witness to the fact that Jaffna was not such a criminal place about 15 years ago.

Mr. Sydney K. Bunker, the Principal of Jaffna College, said that in America, unemployment, alcohol and many other factors caused crime.

2. Pakkiam
3. Sivakkolunthu Rajanayagam and
4. Thiraviyam daughter of Sivakkolunthu of Evenai Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 31st day of August 1938 in the presence of Messrs Aiyadurai and Thambyrajah Proctors on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read;

It is ordered that the abovenamed petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the Estate of her late husband unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person shall appear before this court on the 23rd day of November 1938 and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 19th day of October 1938.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge.

November 23, 1938.

Time to shew cause is extended for  
December 5, 1938. (Intd) C. C.  
D. J.

[O. 67. 1 & 5 12 35]

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