

The Hindu Organ.

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ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1839.

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(Phone 56.)

JAFFNA, THURSDAY JULY 2, 1931 (Registered as a Newspaper.)

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(Continued on page 4)

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H. 4. 30—6—31

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(Y. 5. 27—26—11—31.)

(M. P. Coy.)

ORDER NISI.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7880.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Gnana Retnammal wife of Kanagaratnam
Thillainathan of Araly North

Deceased.

Kanagaratnam Thillainathan of Araly North,
presently of Colombo

Petitioner.

Vs.

Minor 1. Poovaneswary daughter of K. Thillai-
nathan of Araly North

Guardian-
ad-litem 2. Carthigesar Somasundaram of do
Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before
D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna,
on March 30, 1931, in the presence of Mr. S.
Nagalingam, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner
and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated March 20,
1931 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd
Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over
the minor the abovenamed 1st Respondent and
that Letters of Administration to the estate of
the abovenamed deceased be granted to the
Petitioner as the lawful widower unless the above
named Respondent or any other person shall on
or before May 27, 1931 show sufficient cause to
the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour
District Judge.

May 19, 1931.

Extended for 8-7-31.

O. 242. 29 & 2.

Cement. Cement.

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your inquiries.

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Y. 7. 19—18—1—32

Fundamental Rights of Indian Citizens

REPORT OF CONGRESS COMMITTEE

The following is the report of
the Committee on Fundamental Rights
appointed by the Working Committee of the
Indian National Congress held last at Karaobi.
The report was released for publication
on the 24th ultimo by the convener, Mr. Sri
Rakasa.

The Fundamental Rights Committee that
met at Masulipatam on the 24th and 25th
instants carefully considered the clauses of
the original Karaobi resolution and all the
amendments and suggestions received and
have recommended the resolution in the
revised and amended form given below.

Fundamental rights and duties and the
economic programme.

Fundamental Rights and Duties.

I. The Swaraj constitution should provide or
enable the Swaraj Government to provide for the
following fundamental rights and duties and
economic, social and administrative reforms.

Continued up,

Arrack Rent Sales 1931-32 Mullaitivu District.

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling arrack at the taverns in the under-mentioned localities during the period October 1, 1931 to September 30, 1932 subject to the arrack rent sale conditions published in Government Gazette No. 7, 837 of March 20, 1931.

2. Tenders are to be made strictly in accordance with condition No. 9 on forms which will be issued by the Assistant Government Agent, Mullaitivu to persons producing a Kachcheri or Treasury receipt for Rs. 500/- deposited in the name of the Assistant Government Agent, Mullaitivu, for each tender form for each tavern.

3. Each tender should be accompanied by a receipt for Rs. 500/- deposited at the Treasury or at any Kachcheri in the name of the Assistant Government Agent, Mullaitivu and an uncanceled stamp for Rs. 10/-.

4. Special attention is drawn to conditions Nos. 10 (a), (b), (c), (d) and 11, (as amended by notice appearing on page 1017 of Government Gazette No. 7858 of 5th June, 1931), 12, 14, 15 and 22.

5. Tenders close at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, August 5, 1931. The Tenderers must be present at this Kachcheri at the time fixed for closing of Tenders.

R. S. V. POULIER,
Assistant Government Agent.

Mullaitivu Kachcheri,
26.6 June, 1931.

Schedule.

No.	Division.	Locality or Range.
1.	Mattima Pattas	Mullaitivu
2.	Vavuniya North	Markulam
3.	Vavuniya South	Vavuniya

All taverns will be opened at 8 a.m. and Mullaitivu closed at 8 p.m., Markulam at 6.30 p.m. and Vavuniya closed at 7 p.m.
G 89, 2.

The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1931.

SOME LESSONS FROM THE ELECTIONS.

THE STATE COUNCIL ELECTIONS WHICH had just been concluded, have vindicated the wisdom and foresight in extending the franchise to the adult population in the Island. The total number of voters registered is a million and a half. If we exclude the voters registered for the four constituencies in the Jaffna district and those in the constituencies where the candidates were returned unopposed the total number of voters in the remaining constituencies—thirty-seven—was about a million and a quarter. Of this nearly 60 per cent. of the voters have turned out to the polls to record their votes. This percentage compares very favourably with that in the western countries where the franchise had been enjoyed by the people for several decades. It is clear from the number polled and the enthusiasm displayed in the elections that they were well organised, and that the people themselves have taken considerable interest in them.

There is no party system in the country, although some label themselves as Congress party, while some others go under the designation of Liberals and a few as Labourites. But the elections had not been fought on well recognised party principles and ideals. In some instances appeals were made to creed, caste and race. Pamphlets of unworthy nature were published in favour of one or other of the candidates. Arguments of a silly character too were trotted out to bolster up the fitness of a candidate. But the result of the elections turned largely on the personal merits of the candidates and on the organisation and machinery employed for bringing the voters to the poll. The return of Mr. E. W. Perera is an instance where personal merit had been the main factor in his success. Mr. Perera did not rely on any adventitious aid. He appealed to the electorate on the strength of his undoubted services to the country. Mr. Perera is a public man of unblemished record of service to the people. He stood by them in their trials and tribulations. While others were making strenuous efforts to bask in the official sunshine, he stoutly defended the cause of the people and was an uncompromising critic of the Government whenever their measures and actions ran counter to the interests of the people.

The large majority by which he was returned, notwithstanding the overwhelming odds he had to fight against shows only the good sense of the electorate, and it is an illustration that the people appreciate genuine service.

The wisdom of abolishing communal representation has been doubted by some among the Tamils. In fact, when the Donoughmore scheme was discussed the Tamil members with the exception of two or three voted for communal representation. However much such a system of representation might have been necessary, when a transition is made from a system of nomination to that of election, the maintenance of it for any period longer than is necessary is detrimental to public interests. When the Donoughmore Report was first published, we made the following comment with regard to the abolition of communal representation in our issue of July 23, 1928:—

"Therefore the Commissioners are justified in putting an end to communal bickerings and wranglings by eliminating elected communal representation altogether. Events of the last four years have amply demonstrated that communal interests have exercised hardly any influence in the consideration of public questions in the Legislative Council. No doubt, the minorities may feel disappointed at this recommendation but if they should consider this matter dispassionately they cannot but come to the conclusion that the step taken by the Commissioners is not only to the advantage of the minorities concerned but to that of the Island as a whole."

The retention of the Western Province Tamil seat was insisted on by some on the ground that a Tamil had no chance of being returned in the Colombo Town. The doubts and misgivings on this score have been dispelled by the return of Dr. R. Saravanamuttu by a handsome majority by the Colombo North electorate. His election justifies the abolition of communal representation. He was opposed by a Sinhalese of position and standing in the community. Dr. Saravanamuttu's return supplies the best evidence that public service of undoubted character and practical sympathy for the poor can overcome considerations of caste, creed and race in an election. Like some wealthy Tamils in Colombo Dr. Saravanamuttu has never despised the poor and the needy nor like them did he live a life of self-centred aestheticism. He has lived, moved and had his being among them. When the time came to show their gratitude and appreciation they came in their numbers and voted for the man who had been their friend in their trials and troubles.

Among the defeated candidates we find the name of Mr. E. R. Thambimuttu who had sat in Council for nearly ten years and did some valuable work for his constituency. In the latter days of his Council life, there had been an impression among the people that he had lost his former vigour and independence and had allowed himself to be led by others. His support to the Donoughmore Scheme which he ruthlessly criticised when it was first debated in Council is the greatest disservice he has done to the country and this change of front his constituents never forgot. His defeat may remind many of the following familiar stanza of Robert Burns:

But, Mousie, thou art no thy lane

In proving foresight may be vain

The best laid schemes o' mice and men

Gang aft a-gley,

And lea's us nought but grief and pain

For promised juy.

Taking everything into consideration the electors have given signal proof that they are fit for managing democratic institutions. The political education of the people still remains defective and it is the paramount and immediate duty of every public man to set himself to the task of educating the electorate. This they can do by the institution of public lectures and night schools and organisation of public libraries, cinemas and the like. It is by education and organisation of the people that the demand for Swaraj can become irresistible. In the agitation for full swaraj we should show our critics that the demand has the entire country behind it.

State Council Officers.

CLERKS SHIFT TO
COUNCIL BUILDING.

In a day or two, says the 'Times of Ceylon,' the first step in breaking up the old Secretariat offices will have been taken, when the clerks attached to State Council move into their new offices in the Council building. The furniture for their use has already been removed to the new apartments which are now practically ready for occupation. The stenographers were the first to shift and are now working in the State Council Office.

Kataragama Festival.

CHEAP RAILWAY TICKETS

In connection with the annual festival at Kataragama which commences in the third week of July, first, second and third class return tickets at single fare double journey will be issued to Haputale and Matara from all stations distant over 25 miles therefrom, from July 14 to 29 available for return up to and including August 4.

Ceremonial of State Council.

COUNCIL TO DECIDE

The 'Daily News' learns that the State Council will be asked to decide the form and extent of the ceremonial which should attend the meetings, as suggested in the Report of the Donoughmore Commission.

It was generally expected that rules governing the ceremonial—for instance, whether the Speaker should wear a wig and whether there should be a Mace—would be embodied in the new Standing Rules of the Council which have to be published in the 'Government Gazette' before the State Council meets.

It is now understood that these very questions of the Wig and the Mace will have to be decided by the Council.

It is understood that the drafts of the new Standing Rules will be published next Friday. The Council, of course, has the right to amend the Rules.

Public Officers.

REGULATIONS UNDER THE
NEW CONSTITUTION.

A Gazette extraordinary issued on Tuesday night contains the regulations defining the position of public officers under the new constitution with regard to appointments, transfers, promotions, dismissals and general discipline in the Government service. The regulations take effect from July 9, 1931.

A Judicial Appointments Board, consisting of the Legal Secretary (as chairman) and two Judges of the Supreme Court will advise the Governor in regard to the appointment of lawyers as Judges.

Empire Baby Week.

MATARA GETS THIRD PLACE.

A Rector's message states that the Imperial Baby Week Challenge Shield for the best Baby Week held throughout the British Empire (excluding the United Kingdom) has been won by Mombasa Parvatipur (Madras) is second and Matara (Ceylon) is third.

National Service League, Jaffna

RE ORGANISATION OF THE LEAGUE.

A meeting of the National Service League, Jaffna, will be held on Friday, the 3rd instant at the office of the Youth Congress, Jaffna. The meeting will consider about the re organisation of the League and the starting of branch associations to the League.

Gaol Officers Stabbed.

INCIDENT IN JAFFNA GAOL

Two gaol officers were stabbed by a prisoner last week. The prisoner was one of a group who were taking exercise. He rushed into his cell and brought out a pointed piece of iron and stabbed sub-overseer Coulton in the face twice. Then he rushed at Head Overseer Mariadas and stabbed him in the shoulder. The man then ran into his cell and closed the door. It is said that the overseer had reported the prisoner for breach of prison rules. The injured officers are in hospital.

News & Notes.

"I am not a Mahatma, I am only a Bhangi (sweeper)" said Mahatma Gandhi replying to an address presented by a deputation of the Depressed classes of Bombay city, "because I take pleasure in cleaning up and scavenging."

Capt. Neville Black, and J. R. Chaplin left Lympne on the 29th morning in an all-British Vickers-Napier machine in an attempt to make a record flight to Karachi and back. They hope to accomplish the double journey in six days.

The 'Daily News' learns that permission has been asked for from the Attorney General to initiate a prosecution on a charge of exercising undue influence in respect of the election in the Colombo North Constituency which has returned Dr. R. Saravanamuttu, beating Dr. H. M. Pieris, the next in order, by 5,195 votes.

The average daily consumption of water in Colombo for all purposes including trade and shipping is now eleven million gallons, says the 'Times', or 88½ gallons a head on a resident population of 284,000. Seeing that this quantity is close to the limit of the carrying capacity of the supply mains investigations are on foot with a view to obtaining an additional source of supply.

Sir John Simon has resigned his membership of the Official Liberal Party in Commons as a protest against the alliance between Mr. Lloyd George and the Labour Government. Another Liberal member Mr. Ernest Brown has also resigned from the Liberal "Shadow Cabinet" and the Liberal Parliamentary Party. The Liberal Party is thus faced with a serious split in its ranks.

Nothing short of complete transference of power from the British to the people of India will meet the requirements of the situation, declared Mr. V. J. Patel presiding at the Indian National Conference, London. "If Mr. Gandhi attended the Round Table Conference in London" he further declared "and returned to India with a of fulfilled Dominion status in his pocket it would not be altogether easy for him to persuade the country to accept it."

Every Muslim in Ceylon is called upon by a public meeting held in Colombo under the auspices of the Indian Muslim Association, to follow the lead given by Egypt, Iraq and India in boycotting Italian goods as a protest against the atrocities committed by Italians on the Muslim inhabitants of Tripoli. A resolution was passed by the meeting condemning the atrocities, demanding the Italians to withdraw from that country and expressing disgust at the acts of Vandalism perpetrated by them on the places of worship and the Holy Koran which is "a shameful blot upon Western civilisation."

The need for an enquiry into kangany system obtaining on the tea estates in Ceylon says an editorial not in the 'Hindu' is emphasised by the Additional Sessions Judge of Kandy in a recent judgment of his. He observes "that there must be something wrong with a system which allows a kangany to get eighty times the salary of a 'coolie'. It is a matter for the Government to take up." Repeated demands have been made for enquiry into the conditions of estate-labour in Ceylon, but without any response on the part of the authorities. It is notorious that even estate superintendents move in dread of the all-powerful kangany. In the case referred to above an estate-superintendent is reported to have deposed that he would "rather offend anybody" but the head-kangany. The interests alike of estate owners and the labourers require that the kangany should be taught his place.

Letter To The Editor

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS.

Sir,

Doubtless most of your readers are aware that a Commission for enquiry into the preservation of important Historical Manuscripts was recently set up, the last act of our late Governor, Sir Herbert Stanley, before he left the island. The members of this commission are anxious to obtain the widest possible publicity for its aims, and I am therefore asking you to afford us some space in your valuable columns. Our principal object is to ascertain the fullest available details of manuscripts, relating to the civil, ecclesiastical, literary, and scientific history of the island, in private hands or in the possession of institutions.

Such details can only come from members of the public who have such manuscripts in their possession, or who can furnish us with information as to their present whereabouts. We therefore appeal to all such persons to write and give us the fullest possible information in their power. It is only by their co-operation that our object can be achieved. Ceylon has a long and interesting history, but many points need clearing up by the discovery of fresh sources of information. The field to be explored by us will yield many valuable results if we can rally round us many generous co-operators.

The first object of the Commission is the collection of information; afterwards it will be our duty to make recommendations as to the publication of some, at any rate, of the more valuable finds. As a guide to those who are prepared to help us in our search I append a list of the types of manuscripts from which we expect to derive valuable information. They include:

- 1 Official documents in private hands.
- 2 Title deeds of lands, and land surveys.
- 3 Family histories and pedigrees.
- 4 Letters, diaries, and private accounts.
- 5 Pamphlets now out of print.
- 6 Pictures, drawings, and photographs.
- 7 Copies of inscriptions not previously recorded.
- 8 Literary remains (unpublished).
- 9 Descriptions and photographs of coins and other antiquities not previously published.

Furthermore, there exists a valuable field as yet largely unexplored. This consists of oral traditions and folk songs which still exist in villages, and which have been handed down from one generation to another. There are rapidly disappearing with the spread of modern education and Western civilisation. We therefore venture to suggest that a great service would be done if observers would collect such traditions and the words of such songs, write them down, and send them to us. In this connection we should welcome especially the co-operation of village school teachers and their pupils, by whose old folk songs may well be rescued from oblivion and perhaps sung by the children of Ceylon for generations to come. It is also possible that some local names may be of historical significance; we should welcome suggestions on this point. In the schools of many countries to-day local history is made a basis of historical teaching; now that all schools in Ceylon study the history of the Island, such information collected and disseminated might be of great value in this branch of learning.

All communications should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission, Mr. E. Reimers, Government Archivist, Colombo, or to me.

Thanking you, Sir, in anticipation for your courtesy in inserting this appeal in your valuable paper, a courtesy of which I hope to take further advantage.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
Sgd S A Pakeman.
Chairman,

Historical Manuscripts Commission,
University College,
Colombo, 24th June 1931.

[We are sorry that the publication of this letter was delayed—Ed. H. O.]

Manipay Hindu College.

FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS.

The Anniversary celebrations of the Foundation Day and the College Union Day of the Manipay Hindu College will be held on Saturday, 4th instant. The programme is a full day one. Dr. I. Bandeman M.A., B.Sc., P.D. will preside and give away the prizes.

All-Ceylon Youth Congress.

BOYCOTT OF FOREIGN GOODS.

PROMOTION OF SWADESHI

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the All Ceylon Youth Congress was held at the office of the Liberal League on Saturday, with Mr. Aslan Pereira in the chair.

It was decided to secure premises at Jasmine Cottage, Hulsford, for the office of the Congress, and to call for a special subscription of Rs 1 from members of the Executive Committee to meet the expenses of furnishing and equipping the office.

It was also decided to circulate copies of the constitution to affiliated Leagues.

Mr. Walaratna proposed and Mr. N. Kumarasinghe seconded:—That this Congress accepts the principle of Swadeshi and that a Select Committee be appointed (a) to ascertain what articles are manufactured in Ceylon and what imported articles should be boycotted; (b) to organize spinning and weaving in all villages and towns in Ceylon and the disposal of cloth so produced, and create such conditions as would enable the members of this Congress to wear Ceylon produced cloth within one year from the inauguration of this Congress.

The following Committee was appointed to carry out the proposals:—Messrs. A. T. G. Brito, C. S. Kumarasinghe, W. Dickson Perera, D. Walaratna, Valentine S. Perera, Miss Bridget Boteja, with Mrs. Geo. A. Caldera as convener.—"Times"

Ruining Aesthetic Beauty.

CUTTING DOWN TREES FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTING

"I have the honour to state that in my opinion," writes Mr. M. H. Kantawala to the Negombo U.D.O. "the aesthetic beauties of the Negombo esplanade are being irreparably ruined by the modernising effect produced by the planting of posts in connection with the Electrical lighting scheme for the Negombo Town."

Similar complaint was made by the residents of the Jaffna Urban area when the U.D.O. began mercilessly to lay the axe on very old and beautiful trees which were giving shelter to pedestrians and beauty to the town. The cutting down of trees seems to be a necessary destructive process before modernising a town with electric lighting.

Evil of the Dowry System.

UNFORTUNATE GIRLS COMMIT SUICIDE

"Amrita Bazar Patrika" says:—

How long will the evil of the dowry system in this country be allowed to continue? When the young girl, Snehilata, burned herself to death to relieve her parents of their anxiety on account of her marriage, the entire Hindu Society was convulsed with grief and remorse. Young men took a vow that they would never consent to marry if any dowry is demanded by their parents. The heads of the family also resolved to put an end to the evil. One wonders what has come out of all this noble determination.

We are led to this reflection by the report that has come from Patna of a young unmarried Bengali girl following the example of Snehilata. The girl in question watched the trouble and worries which her guardians had to undergo in the vain attempt to secure a suitable match for her. At last she became disgusted with her life and ended her agony as also that of her guardians by committing suicide. The blood of this innocent but unfortunate girl is on the head of the leaders of our Society. When will they once again come forward to atone for this sin?

Mahatma's "Ifs"

PROPOSED VISIT TO ENGLAND

Borsad, June 30

After the proposal to invite him to visit Lancashire and discuss Lancashire's future trade relations with India Mahatma Gandhi, interviewed by the Associated Press, said:—"If I succeed in reaching London and if I am invited to visit Lancashire I would certainly put aside all other work and visit Lancashire and there place before the leading men the Congress position and remove the terrible misunderstanding that has gathered under the policy of the Congress in connection with the exclusion of foreign cloth. Assuming that the Congress position is otherwise accepted, I anticipate no difficulty in making a proposal that would be beneficial in operation both to England and India."

The 1931 Census of Ceylon.

INCREASE OF SEVEN LACS.

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF DECREASE IN MANNAR.

The following statistics compared with the census of 1921 will be of interest:—

Total Population.

Province and District.	1921.	1931.	Increase or Decrease Per Cent.
CEYLON	4,504,549	5,309,404	17.87
PROVINCES.			
Western	1,251,639	1,445,504	15.89
Central	717,739	953,395	32.83
Southern	671,358	771,283	14.88
Northern	375,463	399,094	6.29
Eastern	192,047	213,970	10.90
North-Western	492,287	546,988	11.11
North-Central	96,525	97,365	.87
Uva	284,027	303,419	29.65
Sabara-gam-muwa	471,814	578,868	22.53
Miscellaneous	751	8	—

DISTRICTS.			
WESTERN PROVINCE:			
Colombo	927,893	1,081,719	16.58
Kalutara	828,746	868,785	12.37
CENTRAL PROVINCE:			
Kandy	438,993	587,918	35.47
Matale	116,684	129,897	11.25
Nuwara Eliya	167,162	285,782	41.05
SOUTHERN PROVINCE:			
Galle	318,280	368,575	16.07
Matale	288,509	288,349	18.80
Hambantota	119,619	124,859	8.96

NORTHERN PROVINCE:			
Jaffna	330,842	355,516	7.46
Mannar	25,914	25,266	-2.50
Mullaitivu	18,706	18,312	-2.11
EASTERN PROVINCE:			
Batticaloa	158,807	174,929	10.15
Trincomalee	84,140	89,051	11.98
NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE:			
Kurunegalla	354,197	397,289	12.15
Puttalam	85,716	85,103	-1.70
Chillaw	102,874	114,640	11.98

NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE:			
Anuradhapura	96,525	97,365	.87
PROVINCE OF UVA:			
Badulla	284,027	303,419	29.65
PROVINCE OF SABARAGAMUWA:			
Ratnapura	202,975	268,801	29.97
Regalla	268,839	314,567	17.01

Municipalities:			
Colombo town	248,828	287,729	15.63
Kandy town	32,562	37,747	14.88
Galle town	39,167	48,489	-1.84

*Decreases shown thus—, the rest are increases.

†Including the Municipality.

Alleged Murder at Thavady.

INJURED DIES IN HOSPITAL

News is to hand of an alleged murder in the village of Thavady, three miles from Jaffna Town, on Saturday last at 7 p.m. It is alleged that one Negamuttu Subramaniam stabbed one Eilalamby Mallyagaram (40) with a knife in four places. The injured was at once removed to the hospital where he succumbed a little later the same day. The accused was absconding till Monday and he surrendered in Court on Monday and was remanded.

Boycott Propaganda at Nainativu.

FESTIVAL AVAILED OF TO PREACH BOYCOTT OF FOREIGN GOODS

The presence of large crowds at the festival in the Nainativu Nagammal Temple was availed of by the Jaffna boycotters to preach the boycott of certain foreign goods such as cigarette, beedy, sugar and kerosine oil. On Saturday evening a meeting was held on the Northern courtyard of the temple presided over by Mr. T. Muttusamipillai, Advocate. Two national flags were hoisted at the venue of the meeting and some members of the "Valipar Thero Oolyas Sangam" Vannarponnai, gave demonstrations in spinning by the takli. Mr. Rajaperumal recited a poem composed by him on the boycott of foreign goods. Messrs. N. Seervatnam and N. Ponnudurai spoke on the necessity of boycotting at least some foreign goods to start with and using home made things, and finally completely to boycott foreign goods with a view to encouraging local industries and establishing economic stability in the country.

After the Chairman's remarks, the meeting terminated amidst shouts of "Lanka Deva ki-ki".

Wellawatte Tamils' Association

REUSCITUATION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the residents of Wellawatte was held on the 28th ultimo at 7 p.m. at No. 10, Colla Lane, Wellawatte, to reconstitute the activities of the Sarawathi Association.

Mr. K. Kanagaratnam presided. The motion for the reconstitution was proposed and carried unanimously. Then in the course of the adoption of the rules it was decided that the name of the Association should be changed to "The Wellawatte Tamils' Association." The election of office-bearers for the ensuing half year resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. K. Kanagaratnam.

Vice presidents: Dr. T. Nallanathan and Messrs. S. Nadarasar and R. Valthirigam.

Joint Secretaries: Messrs. S. Ponnappah and S. Thilliar.

Treasurer: Mr. A. R. Ranayagam.

Asst. Treasurer: A. Velanthampillai.

Managing Committee: Messrs. M. S. Thiruvillangam, E. Rajiah, S. Mallyagaram, S. Thambidurai, V. Sundaram, V. Thillampalam and M. Swaminathan.

Auditor: Mr. K. Sahanathan.

Editors: Messrs. S. Sivarathamby and R. N. Sivapragasam.—Cor.

Y. M. H. A., Nawalapitiya

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was celebrated as a special event under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Ponniah. After the adoption of the report and balance sheet, the rules were revised. In the interval refreshments were served and the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—

Patron: Mr. Peri Sundaram, M.S.O.

President: Dr. K. Ponniah.

Vice Presidents: Messrs. K. Ramachandra, V. Kathiravala and T. A. Periasampillai.

Secretary: Mr. K. Salvadurai.

Treasurer: Mr. S. T. Vijayarajam.

Assistant to Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. T. Sivakurunathan.

Librarian: Mr. A. Vethivelpillai.

Committee: Messrs. N. P. Govindasampillai, O. Subramaniam, K. Subramaniam, T. Sivaramalingham, V. M. Ngarajah, O. Sinnadurai and S. N. S. Pallanappa Chettiar.

In addition to the lecture by the Swamiji, Mr. A. Vethivelpillai delivered a lecture in Tamil on "Soul Power."

It was also unanimously decided to place on record the able services rendered by Mr. P. Kanagaratnam who retired from the post of Secretary owing to his transfer to the General Post Office.

—Cor.

Proselytising Missions.

ALLIANCE OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONS WITH IMPERIALISM

The following editorial note appears in the "Indian Social Reformer" of June 27:—

A recent issue of "Young India" published a remarkable letter from the Rev. B. W. Tucker in which he expressed his full agreement with the protest against the methods employed by Christian missions in their efforts to gain proselytes through education, medical service and the like. He pointed out that many missionaries who denounce interference with this method as an interference with freedom of religion, are carrying on their operations under terms which in practice amount to a pledge to support Government. "It is a standing indictment," he writes, "of the alliance of Christian Missions in India with the world's greatest collective evil, imperialism, that they have acquiesced in this arrangement." He approves of Mahatma Gandhi's latest assertion that this kind of proselytism will be permitted even under a Swaraj government, for the curious reason that he thinks it carries with it the seeds of its own destruction. "The present universal dissatisfaction with missionary activity demonstrates," he writes, "that such methods carry within themselves the seeds of their own destruction, and it is never necessary to pass laws to establish the eventual triumph of truth and right in such matters." Truth cannot triumph unless men exert themselves to destroy falsehood the way of legislation is the only alternative to the way of violence.

Fundamental Rights of Indian Citizens

(Continued from 1st page)

- (3) The culture language and scripts of the minorities and of different linguistic areas shall be protected.
- (4) All citizens of India are equal before the law irrespective of religion, caste or creed or sect.
- (5) No disability attaches to any citizen by reason of his or her religion, caste, creed or sex in regard to public employment, offices of power or honour and in the exercise of any trade or calling.
- (6) All citizens have equal rights and duties in regard to wells, roads, schools and places of public resort maintained out of State or local funds or dedicated by private persons for the use of the general public.
- (7) Every citizen has the right and obligation to keep and bear arms in accordance with regulations and reservations made in that behalf.
- (8) No person shall be deprived of his liberty nor shall his dwelling property be entered sequestered or confiscated save in accordance with law.
- (9) The State shall observe neutrality in regard to all religions.
- (10) Franchise shall be on the basis of universal adult suffrage.
- (11) The State shall provide for free and compulsory education. The aim of educational institutions shall be good moral training, cultivation of public spirit, personal and vocational efficiency and the development of the spirit of Indian nationality and international friendliness. In giving instructions in public educational institutions care shall be taken not to wound the susceptibilities of those holding different opinions.
- (12) The State shall confer no titles.
- (13) Every citizen of India is free to move throughout India and to stay and settle in any part thereof to acquire property and to follow any trade or calling.
- (14) No person shall be punished for any act which was not punishable under the law at the time it was committed.
- (15) The privacy of correspondence of postal, telegraphic and telephone services shall not be infringed except in accordance with law.
- (16) Every citizen has the right of complaint or petition to competent authority or representatives of the people. This right may be exercised by individuals or several persons in common.
- (17) There shall be no capital punishment.

Labour.

II. The State shall safeguard the interest of industrial workers and secure for them by suitable legislation and in other ways adequate wages healthy conditions of work, limited hours of labour, suitable machinery for settlement of disputes between employers and workmen and protection against economic consequences of old age, sickness and unemployment.

3. No person shall be compelled to labour against his will and without due compensation except when such labour is imposed by law.

4. Attention shall be paid to the special needs of women workers including care of infants when their mothers are at work and adequate provision during the maternity period.

5. Children of tender age shall not be employed in factories and mines.

6. Workers have the right to form unions to protect their interests.

Taxation and Expenditure

7. The system of land taxation shall be reformed and an equitable adjustment made of the burden, immediately giving relief to the smaller peasant by a substantial reduction in agricultural rent and revenue, now paid by them and in case of uneconomic holding totally exempting them from rent or revenue, with such relief as may be just and necessary to holders of estates affected by such exemption or reduction in rent and to the same end, imposing a graded tax on incomes from land above a reasonable minimum.

8. A graduated scale of death duties on property above a fixed minimum.

9. A policy of peace with neighbouring countries will be pursued and there shall be a drastic reduction of military expenditures so as to bring it down to at least one half of the present scale.

10. Expenditure and salaries in civil departments shall be largely reduced. No servant of the State, other than specially employed experts and the like shall be paid above a certain fixed figure, which should not ordinarily exceed 1,000 per month.

11. No duty shall be levied on salt manufactured in India.

Economic and Social Programme

12. The State shall protect indigenous cloth; and for this purpose pursue the policy of exclusion of foreign cloth and foreign yarn from the country and adopt such other measures as may be found necessary.

13. Interlocking debts and drugs shall be locally prohibited.

14. Currency and exchange shall be regulated in the national interests.

15. The State shall own or control key industries, mineral resources, railways, shipping and other means of public transport.

16. Adequate steps shall be taken for the relief of agricultural indebtedness and the prohibition of usury.

17. The State shall take steps, directly or through local bodies, to improve the condition of people in rural areas by providing healthy amusement, facilities for adult education, the extension and improvement of agriculture, revival and development of handspinning and handweaving and other indigenous arts and crafts, and the adoption of an effective programme of village sanitation, drinking water supply, and medical relief.

18. The State shall provide for the military training of citizens so as to organize a means of defence apart from the regular military forces.

—(Hindu)

Rural Reconstruction in Ceylon

BY
DR. ANDREAS NELL

THE COUNTRY'S GREATEST NEED.

The revival of Village Councils, true *Ganasabhas* as at present the greatest means available for the salvation of the village-folk. This theory is unassailable; past and present practice buttresses the theory with overwhelming proofs of utility and advantage. For past practice, we have the centuries of successful existence of *Ganasabhas* in Ceylon and in India. For present practice, we may note that the recently revived Parish Councils have proved to be a boon in England. This fact should not be ignored by those in Ceylon who wish us to look to England for good example and good precedent; in respect of this question of Village Councils, there is this good example and good precedent. A wider circle in Ceylon would seek for example and precedent in India. Here, again, present practice gives good example and good precedent.

In India.

In India, the necessity for the revival of Village Councils was realized earlier than in Ceylon; many economists have urged the need, and, some years ago, the attempt was made on a limited scale for the purpose of trial and observation. Close watch was kept on the villages which were freed for Self-Government, and the responsible observers have reported favourably year after year. Gradually, more villages were permitted local self government under their own elected *Panchayats* Councils of five village elders chosen by the villagers. The results have been most gratifying. Further extension is contemplated. Thus, present practice in India supports the advance of the system of Village Councils as much as past practice in Ceylon and India for centuries justify the plea.

The term *Panchayat* signifies a *Ganasabha*. When we consider how the terms *Ganasabha* and *Village Tribunal* have been misused in the Ceylon Ordinances establishing Inferior Police Courts under these titles, it is well to remember that *Panchayat* is available as an alternative title for a *Ganasabha*.

The Traditional System.

The functions of a *Ganasabha* or Village Council need not be recapitulated at length, because we have stated the particulars in the second and third papers of this series. To copy those examples in ancient times is laudable; the changed conditions of modern times affect only the external relations of the village; the internal affairs of a village are the concern of the Village Council. This system, in India and in Ceylon, flourished for over two thousand years; it enabled the villages to survive invasions and civil wars, famine and pestilence, generation after generation, century after century, until British legislation and an over-centralized system of Government killed it. In pleading for a return to the traditional system and traditional methods, we do not advance objections to changes, provided such changes are the decision of the Village Councils. As a living organism, responsive to stimuli from within and without, its freedom should not be fettered by an Ordinance enjoining uniformity on all, nor hampered by Kachcheri control. The village which elects its own Village Council suffers from its own mistakes, and profits by its own good sense; it does not have to suffer from the mistakes of a benevolent despotism, on the other hand, any benefit derived from a benevolent despotism is never a permanent good to its mind and soul, it only weakens and corrupts. The village must be spoon-fed no longer; for weak or woe, it must be free to exercise activity in all its own concerns.

The external relations of the village concern the Central Government, the District Kachcheri, the Departments of Agriculture, Irrigation, Forests, Sanitation and Education. The orders from the Central Government, the Legislative Enactments, and the work of the Police are concerns which should not affect its village life in detail, and compliance with these three concerns, as in the past and in the present, would be readily given except by law breakers, who are not the standard for which an organization is formed. As in the old days in Ceylon and India, the Village Headman is representative in a dual capacity; he represents the opinions and desires of the Village Council, and is the executive head in any work undertaken by the Village Council; he also represents the Central Government to the village and is the natural intermediary between the Central Government and the people of the village. Such was the case in ancient times, such is almost the practice in modern times, and the needed change is only the removal of the interference with the Village Headman by subordinate public servants in the special departments.

The Kachcheri.

Taking up the external relations of the village in the order set down in the last paragraph, we come next to the Kachcheri. Many of the present errors and misjudgments of the Kachcheri will disappear if the rule about the vernacular languages is observed and compliance with it enforced, instead of the present laxity of the Government continuing. It was properly ordained by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that Ceylon Civil Servants should learn the vernacular language before passing from the initial grade of *Osdi*; this rule has been made more plastic, but there still persists payment for a teacher and examinations in the language. It seems injurious that, after studying for two years

or more and undergoing examinations in the language, a Civil Servant should proceed to spend the best part of thirty years in Ceylon without using in his daily work among the people their language, the language he was compelled to learn to pass the examination in it. It is only the indifference and laxity of the Government which permits this absurdity. Sir Arthur Gordon was more particular and made an order, which is still in the regulations, that promotion to the senior posts would be denied to those unable to converse colloquially in the language of the people. This rule has also been disregarded by subsequent Governors. This condition has been explained, because it is necessary to emphasize the fact that much misunderstanding and mischief result from the attempts made to guide and control villages by the intervention of translators and interpreters. The Kachcheri represents the Government to the village; but, when the Head of the Kachcheri, on circuit, comes into direct touch with the village, there is at once interposed a screen of translation and interpretation. On other, and more numerous, occasions, deskwork and a file of papers are too often the only aids to a decision which required personal knowledge.

A Tragic Failure

The external relations of the village with the Agricultural Department are a tragic failure. If the "Agricultural Inspectors" be transformed into an agriculturist and a public servant, the most effective step towards improvement of village agriculture is easily taken. The "agricultural village-guide" has only to cultivate a paddy field successfully for the whole village to learn and to quickly follow his methods. Why have small village plots been grown in tea and rubber? Because villagers saw profitable agriculture of those products and imitated the methods which appealed to them as successful examples. If the "agricultural village guide" will cultivate a village-chena with rotation crops successfully the whole of the chena land in the village will be profitably used by the converted. It is not by lectures and expensive farms for demonstration that converts can be made, but by successful and profitable cultivation of a village's plot. It would be the business of the Village Council to allot a plot belonging to one of the villagers and to ask for an "agricultural village-guide" to use the new and improved methods and prove their value.

The Right Relations

A brief statement must suffice in mentioning the right relations which should exist between the village and the Departments of Irrigation, Forests, and Sanitation, thus avoiding another big question. Briefly, no effort should be spared and no changes shirked, that could remove from the subordinate officers the stigma of being present-day officers. Certainly, it would be reasonable to allow the Village Council the privilege of asking for advice from the Irrigation Inspector or the Engineer, or applying for the guidance of the Forest Officer in planning any scheme of replanting forest, or seeking to have teaching from the Sanitary Inspector. If the vain title of Inspector be abolished and that of Instructor bestowed on the Irrigation and Sanitation subordinates, those officers would better understand their obligations as public servants, and the village prejudice against Inspectors, based on past experiences, would be avoided.

The Department of Education is so centralized that the village loses interest in the school; however strictly departmental control is continued, the Village Council should have advisory rights as to the curriculum, and the responsibility for maintenance of the buildings in good order.

A Promising Feature

One of the promising features in the present situation of decay and deterioration is the assured success of the Co-operative Societies in the villages. Mr. Stockdale's successors as Registrar have converted a failure into success by leaving much to the initiative and voluntary joint endeavour of the villagers. I regard this as confirmation of my argument that the Ceylon village needs less benevolent compulsion from above than freedom for a healthy organic expression of village opinion.

The main thing that the Central Government can do is to constitute a strong Local Government Board. I do not mean strong in benevolent compelling power, but strong in official and unofficial personnel. It is essential to have this modern equivalent for the ancient Council for Home Affairs which helped the ancient sovereigns. The duties of such a Local Government Board would be the inspection and auditing of the accounts of Village Councils, the explaining of legal points and giving other advice as asked for, and above all, the collection of information regarding all village needs, and collating the reports of Village Councils. It is not right to leave local self-governing bodies without aid and advice, and then expect them to speedily attain the success, which they will attain in any case, but, only after delay and missteps for some years, unless given aid and in the earliest stages. An enlightened Local Government Board will avoid interference with the normal working of a Village Council, will not thrust its own opinions and preferences upon a Village Council, nor seek to control; it will seek to help, and to suggest the opinions and experiences from various parts of Ceylon so as to form a compendium to which reference can be made when any individual Village Council seeks information.

—O. D. N.

Auction Sale.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

No. 26569

Suppar Kathiravelu of Vadducoddai West

Vs.

Plaintiff

1. P. Linnappah Kanagasabai and
2. P. Linnappah Malligeesam both of Vadducoddai West

Defendants.

Under and by virtue of the commission issued to me in the above case I shall sell by public auction the undermentioned mortgaged properties to recover the sum stated therein poundage costs etc. on Friday the 17th July at 4 p.m. at the spots.

1. All that piece of land situated at Vadducoddai West within the jurisdiction of this Court called *Keruthimmanthoddam* in extent 4½ Lms. V.O. with well and cultivated and *apothecary* plantations and bounded on the East by lane, North by the property of Kathiravelu Thambu, West by the property of Sinnappah Kathiravelu and shareholders and on the South by the property of P. Linnappah Kanagasabai, exclusive of the one fourth share of the well lying herein and thereof way and water course.

2. All that undivided one fourth share with its appurtenances out of all that piece of land situated at Vadducoddai West called *Valukattupalam* in extent 6½ Lms. V.O. with palm trees and bounded on the East by the property of Vaitthanathar Murgasan, on the North by the property belonging to Thiruchethoor Kandamsey Koll, West by the property of R. Malligam Sallathurai and on the South by the property of Sittampalam wife of Maruthakuday, together with one third share of the half share of the well lying on the Eastern boundary land thereof and watercourse.

V. A. Durayappah,
Commissioner.

Jaffna, 23.6.31.
Mis. 299, 2731

AUCTION SALE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7572

In the matter of the estate of the late Muttukumar Nagalingam of Changanai

Deceased.

Kathiravelu Ratnasingham, Secretary
District Court, Jaffna.

Official Administrator.

Under and by virtue of the commission issued to me in the above case I shall sell by public auction the undermentioned properties on Saturday the 18th July 1931 commencing at 2 p.m. at the spots.

1. All that piece of land situated at Changanai called *Kittali* in extent 15 Lms. P.O. with one half share of well and bounded on the East by the properties of Ponnu wife of Kanapathippillai and Velu Ponnar, North by the properties of Sinnappillai wife of Arumugam, on the West by the property of Chellammah wife of Kandiah, Sittampalam Kanesu and Sittampalam Sivanesbramaniam and on the South by the property of Sittampalam Thillaiampalam and shareholders.

2. Land situated at do. called *Pirattiyarparaku* in extent 5 Lms. V.O. and 17 Ka. with *Ituppal* trees, young palm trees and bounded on the East by the property of Arunagalam Kandiah, North by the properties of Thangamuthu wife of Vythi and Thelvanai wife of Sinnathamby, West by lane and on the South by the property of Kanagasabai Thillaiampalam exclusive of the share of *Ituppal* trees standing in the middle of the Southern boundary.

3. All that piece of land situated at do. called *Thachobanallai* in extent 7 Lms. V.O. and 15½ Ka. with palm trees and bounded on the East by the property of Valliammai wife of Kandiah, North by the properties of Valliammai wife of Kandiah and Thamar Ponnar, West by the property of Valliammai wife of Kandiah, and on the South by the property of Kanagasabai Muttukumar.

4. Land situated at do. called *Palakapulam* in extent 4 Lms. V.O. with share of well way and watercourse and other plantations and bounded on the East by the property of Thampu Sinnathurai and brother and Perumaiyinar Arumugam, North by lane, West by the property of Sinnathamby Nadarajah and South by the heirs of the late Ambalavazh Kanagasabai.

5. Land situated at do. called *Navalvattai* in extent 5 Lms. V.O. and 9½ Ka. with palm trees and spontaneous plantations and bounded on the East by the property of Thelvanai wife of Thillaiampalam, North by the property of Kananathilavarukkal, Paramanaykumkall, West by road and on the South by the property of Murugan Kandiah.

V. A. Durayappah,
Commissioner.

Jaffna, 23.6.31.
Mis. 300, 2

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