

The Hindu Organ.

"Arise! Awake! and stop not till the goal is reached."

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

H.S THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XLIII—NO. 24. (Phone 56.) JAFFNA, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 1931. (Registered as a Newspaper.) PRICE 5 CTS

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(Y. 7. 19-18-1-32.)

NOTICE.

The
Jaffna Co-operative Stores
(Limited).

The Thirteenth Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Company will be held at the registered office "Maha Mar dapan" Hospital Road, Jaffna, on Monday, the 12th October, 1931, commencing at 4 p.m. to receive the report of the Directors and the statements of accounts for the year ending 30th June, 1931, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the Meeting.

V. M. Veysgasun,
Secretary.

Jaffna,
14th September, 1931
(Mis. 871 21-23.)

R. Papyah.

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—(Y. 8. 1-31 12 32) (A)

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(Mis. 850, 27-28/9/31)

The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1931

SCHOOLMASTERS IN JAFFNA

—O—

SCHOOLMASTERS IN JAFFNA NOT ONLY exceed in number the members of any other learned profession but also wield an enormous influence directly or indirectly all over the country. They are to be found in every village where they are still regarded in the same way as clerks were looked upon during the Middle Ages. The Jaffna schoolmaster usually takes an active part in the public life of the country and some good work in the field of politics, in Temperance and other useful organisations still lie to his credit. He has been the soul of the Students' Congress movement, and, but for him, it is very doubtful whether Jaffna would have ever succeeded in its attempt to boycott the present Constitution. But it is rather unfortunate that the very men whom the country expects to keep up the programme of boycott have turned traitors to the cause and have badly let down their own countrymen. We particularly refer to the recent incident in connection with the visit of the Minister of Education to Jaffna. As is well known, many of the prominent members of the Northern Province Teachers' Association are also leading lights of the Students' Congress and of the boycott movement. It would not have mattered much if a member of the present Government chose to visit Jaffna of his own accord or came accidentally in contact with members of the teaching profession in the course of the legitimate discharge of his duties. But to take the initiative in inviting one of the most prominent supporters of the present Constitution and giving him a sort of reception tantamounts to throwing their political principles to the winds. It is to say the least not fair to the country, and teachers, above all, of whom a high standard of character is expected, should never have been a party to it. They should have been the last to take the initiative in an affair like this, no matter what they, as a community, stood to gain by such a gesture. By this action of theirs they have not only shown a want of foresight but also betrayed the trust reposed on them by their countrymen. It is not that we want teachers to work against their own professional interests nor do we want to dictate to them as to what they should do or what they should not. What we would earnestly request of them is to place the interests of the country as a whole above those of everything else. Teachers, with the exception of those serving in Government schools, belong to an independent profession. It is not correct to say that a good portion of their salaries comes from Government. Government only assists schools by guaranteeing a portion of the salaries of teachers, such guarantee being possible by the Vote for Education. They are really employed by the schools in which they work and their security and tenure of office depend entirely on the management under which they serve. They are working under a contract which came into force long before the present Constitution came into existence. If teachers imagine they are as good as Government servants they are really acting under a delusion. They are absolutely in the service of the institutions where they are employed. Jaffna teachers will remember that not very long ago their Association had occasion to interfere in a case where it had grounds to believe that the management was not justified in the summary dismissal of a teacher. If the information we received is correct, it received little comfort from the Education Department. Government cannot and will not interfere

in such a matter. To say, therefore, that teachers are dependent on Government for their means of livelihood is not correct. It is at best an attempt on their part to justify their action when they found that it exposed them to criticism. One redeeming feature of the whole affair was that there were at the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Province Teachers' Association at least two members who had the moral courage to stand up and question its appropriateness. The Chairman of the meeting seems to have got over it by ruling that the Association had nothing to do with politics. But if we remember correctly, that gentleman's memory must be rather short, for not long ago the Association is reported to have seriously considered the question of inviting candidates for the State Council to address the members. This is said to have happened before the boycott was launched. We at least expect consistency in a body of noble, dignified, and learned professional men.

Schoolmasters in Jaffna are a body of useful men. But if, as was pointed out by one of the two who questioned the action of the Northern Province Teachers' Association, they, as a body, were to let down their own men and not to abide by the decision of the people of Jaffna, they would be really revealing a want of uniformity in conducting public questions.

State Mortgage Bank

MR MAYBIN AS MANAGER

It is learnt that Mr. J. A. Maybin, Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, is likely to be appointed Manager of the State Mortgage Bank.

Market Garden in Colombo.

TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT.

The establishing of a market garden in Colombo has been recommended as a means of alleviating unemployment, by the Committee appointed by the Governor to devise ways and means of alleviating unemployment.

The Committee has recommended that land be allotted to the unemployed for growing vegetables, and that the work be carried on under the supervision of the Agricultural Department. The Minister of Agriculture had appointed a Board and it is hoped to start operations in the vicinity of Colombo.

Salt Harvest at Mannar.

20,000 CWT COLLECTED.

Self formed salt amounting to about 20,000 cwt. has been collected at the pans a few miles away from Mannar, says the Mannar correspondent of the "Daily News."

A most every year these pans provide self-formed salt and this year such a large amount has been collected owing to the severe drought which Mannar is experiencing at present. It is believed that with better provision for the formation of this salt, the amount realised every year would be in the neighbourhood of 50,000 cwt.

Budget for 1931-32.

—O—

DEFICIT OF 16 MILLIONS.

LEADER OF THE HOUSE MOVES FIRST READING.

The Hon Mr. D B Jayatilleke, Leader of the House, moved the First Reading of the Appropriation Bill in the State Council on Tuesday last.

There is a deficit of Rs 16,574,029 which the Board of Ministers contemplate meeting by extraordinary measures. The estimated revenue is Rs 87,675,000 and the expenditure is Rs 104,249,029.

The Board proposes to meet this deficit of Rs 16,574,029 by withdrawing 10 million rupees from the Surplus Funds, 4 millions from a New Loan and Rs 2,500,000 from Savings under Personal Emoluments.

Minister Advises Boycott.

TO REDRESS GRIEVANCES

HON. MR. KANNANGARA'S ADDRESS TO JAFFNA TEACHERS.

The Hon Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara, a portion of whose address to the Northern Province Teachers' Association appeared in our last issue, said that next to teachers, came the managers of schools, in their interest in education. There were doing a great work. He must confess that there seemed to be a great deal of friction between the teachers and managers. He hoped that the conditions prevailing elsewhere were not prevailing here. He may tell them frankly, with a full sense of his responsibility, that there were returns in the Department in which there were found receipts which were not regular. There had been several cases in which receipts had been obtained for salaries larger than were actually paid, or for sums not paid at all. This had landed the Department in great difficulties. Half the petitions received there could be traced to them.

Mal-Practices

He wished to give them a bit of advice. He knew the difficulties under which they were working. He also knew that if they refused to do as they were told by their managers they might get their marching order the next day. "But," for the sake of truth and honesty, for the sake of self respect, for the sake of raising your own status, may I tell you not to do that. It is a disgrace to the whole teachers profession and equal disgrace to the managers who ask for such things," said the speaker. If any manager should ask a teacher to give a receipt like that, he would, Mr. Kannangara continued, ask that teacher to sacrifice that post. They should stand up for honesty and truth, and they would be able to overcome such mal practices.

It seemed to him he said, that the general idea of every body was that the Government should be responsible for the education of children. But he would beg of the general public to take a lively interest in the education of their children. They must realise that it was a great responsibility, just as it was a privilege to have children. Every privilege had its corresponding liability and responsibility. The general public also should take a keen interest in education.

Resort to Boycott

Something else struck him, said Mr. Kannangara. Boycott had become familiar in this part of the country. If the teacher found that a fellow teacher had been unjustly treated, they might resort to that which they called "boycott" (Laughter).

Continuing he said that he should congratulate their Association for having education on national lines as one of their objectives. They were a people with a great tradition behind them, and the teachers should impart such education to their children as to draw from them what is essential and an appreciation of what their forefathers had done. The education of a child was not such a thing as business without capital. The child started with a great past, and was thus already standing on a good foundation. Everything that had been done by his forefathers accrued to him. Further they were not barbarians. Therefore it should be made a point so to arrange their work as to impart the best knowledge to the child. The teachers must take a lively interest in seeing that all the defects in the present system of education were removed.

H II Mark of Practical Wisdom

Another thing that the teachers should see to, was that the type turned out of their schools had the hall mark of practical wisdom. Their products should have the hall mark of being able to get on in the world. That was the material aim of education. If they looked at the intellectual and moral aim of education they should see that they had a nation not of selfish and helpless men and women, but a nation of useful citizens. They did not want practical failures in their country. A great deal had, therefore to be done, by those in charge of education. He hoped his words would not fall on deaf ears. They would aim at a much more practical education than the present, so that the time and money spent may not be wasted and that the unemployed might not be a menace to the peace of others. As teachers they would be able to solve this question. The officers of the Department would do their best and the Ministry of Education would try to do its best. The Board of Education also should co-operate. Let them all come together to see that something was done to better the system of education.

(Continued on column 8.)

News & Notes.

—O—

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the British Premier, is suffering from overstrain and has been ordered a few days' rest in the country.

According to a Reuter's Message, Mahatma Gandhi has cancelled his Lancashire visit desiring to study the effect of the financial crisis on the Indian situation.

The Prime Minister gratefully accepted the Round Table States' Delegations' offer to forego the Imperial Governments' contribution towards their expenses, in view of the financial crisis.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike has given notice of a motion in the State Council to the effect, that in view of the serious and increasing unemployment among Ceylonese workers, immediate steps be taken for the restriction and effective control of immigration to Ceylon of workers from other countries.

According to the last census, the population of India is 352,936,876, of which 181,921,914, are males and 171,064,962, females. There is an increase of 10.6 per cent of the population since 1921. The present total population of Hindus throughout India is 238,330,912. Muslims number 77,743,928, Sikhs 4,363,412 and Christians 5,961,794.

A Film of the Ceylon Tea Industry for general publicity purposes has been prepared and the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce has arranged to have it screened at a special private performance at the Royal Theatre, Colombo today. The film will last only about ten minutes. Ceylon tea will be served after the performance.

Sir Samuel Hoare has received a letter from Mr. T. D. Barlow, Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Ceylon Trade Organisations, inviting the Indian delegates to the Round Table Conference to visit Lancashire for a "frank and friendly discussion of mutual economic problems, which will help to bring about a better understanding of the difficulties with which both India and Lancashire are faced."

There was a persistent rumour in the Fort Colombo on the 22nd afternoon, says the "Times of Ceylon" to the effect that a wireless message had been received stating that war had been declared between Russia, China and Japan. No official confirmation could be obtained and in well-informed circles there appeared to be an impression that the report emanated from an amateur with a high-powered set from which it is said false rumours are being broadcast.

Mr. G. K. W. Perera has given notice of a motion to the effect that members of the State Council should be granted the privilege, within their respective electoral divisions, of attending and addressing upon any subject the meetings of all local bodies such as Municipalities, Urban District Councils, Sanitary and Local Boards, Village Committees, Education Committees, Excise Advisory Boards and District Road Committees and that the Attorney-General be requested to introduce a legislation for this purpose.

England has abandoned the gold standard, "for the time being," as from the 21st instant. A bill for this purpose was introduced on Monday and was rushed through all stages in both Houses of Parliament. The reasons which led to this decision are that since the middle of July funds amounting to more than 200 million sterling have been withdrawn from the London Market. During the last few days preceding this decision, withdrawals of foreign balances had so sharply accelerated that the Government felt bound to take this momentous decision.

Anti-Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kankasanturai.

ADMISSION ONLY TO PAYING PATIENTS.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Kankasanturai, which has remained closed ever since the buildings were completed some months ago, is at last to be opened in the course of November this year if the arrangements that are being made at present have been concluded by that time says the "Ceylon Daily News". Owing to the depleted exchequer of the Government and its inability to contribute the Rs 25,000 which is necessary for the maintenance of the institution it is proposed for the present to admit only paying patients, the charge being Rs. 2 per head per day.

Self Supporting

The object in admitting only paying patients is to make the institution as self-supporting as possible. The dieting of the patients will be on a Ceylonian basis, the food being selected to suit the condition of the patient. The patients will be allowed to have anything extra they desire at their own expense and at the discretion of the Medical Officer in charge of the institution.

In The Earlier Stages

Dr. O. I. de Silva, Superintendent of the Anti-Tuberculosis Institute, informed a "Daily News" representative, who saw him on Saturday that patients admitted to the Kankasanturai Sanatorium would be restricted to the earlier types of tuberculosis. "Every care and precaution," he added, "will be taken to see that

only these are admitted because, in the words of Professor Philip, the greatest living authority on tuberculosis in England, 'sanatorium treatment is not only useless but may be positively harmful to cases not fit for that type of treatment'.

In sanatorium treatment we do not place so much reliance on drugs and other extraneous aids but work upon a graduated system of exercises and habit forming methods of routine and personal hygiene, and thus help nature to establish a resistance in the patient to the disease. It is most important not to forget the educative factor of these institutions. When a patient leaves a sanatorium he knows how to carry out in his own home the methods and routine that have been inculcated into him at the sanatorium."

Special Advantages

"Is there any particular advantage that Kankasanturai possesses over Ragama and Kandana for a tuberculosis patient?" the reporter asked.

"The sanatorium was built at Kankasanturai," replied Dr. De Silva, "on the decision of the Anti-Tuberculosis Fund Committee because the climate of the Northern Peninsula and particularly of these areas has been looked upon in Ceylon as very favourable for cases of pulmonary diseases. It is fine site with pleasant surroundings, and when it is properly established it will be most attractive.

Considering that there is a large percentage of recoveries at Kankasanturai I have no doubt that the percentage of recoveries at the new sanatorium will be greater, given, of course, the proper type of cases for treatment there.

The rate of payment is fixed at a minimum because we hope thereby to tap that social circle who really can afford to pay something and are not able to look after themselves in the way of engaging private hospitals, and are above the type of patients admitted to Kandana, which is meant for the necessitous."

How to get There

Questioned with regard to the procedure according to which patients would be admitted to Kankasanturai, Dr. De Silva said that it was suggested that application should be made to the Headquarters of the Anti-Tuberculosis Institute in Colombo through the local doctors or through the patient's own doctor. The application should be made either personally or in writing, and the selection would be made on reports furnished by the patient after investigation by Dr. De Silva himself. The Medical Officer at the Sanatorium would only admit a patient when he received the necessary authority from the Headquarters of the Institute—"O. D. N."

Personal.

Dr. Vignallagum of Uru'u, Deputy Medical Officer, General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur, is now in Jaffna on his return journey to F. M. S. from London having qualified as an Eye specialist.

Gandhiji's Walk in Epping Forest.

ROUND TABLERS SHOOK BY EXPLOSION.

London, Sept 20

Mr. Gandhi, taking advantage of the fine weather, spent some time in the open air to day. In the morning he took his usual early walk at Bow afterwards receiving a number of visitors in his cell at Kingsley Hall, including several delegates to the Round Table Conference.

He then motored to Epping Forest, where he walked several miles which he afterwards said, he enjoyed extremely.

Mr. Gandhi then visited the house at Buckhurst Hill owned by members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and talked with the members of the Fellowship before returning to Kingsley Hall late in the afternoon.

FALSE ALARM AT RESTAURANT.

Diners at an Indian restaurant in London this evening, including a number of delegates to the R. T. O. were considerably alarmed by a large fire work, thrown in from the street, which emitted a good deal of smoke before the manager extinguished it with his foot.

The irate diners ran into the street to catch the thrower but he had vanished.

The fire work was found to be harmless and it is believed it was practical joke.

Progress of R. T. C.

INDIAN DELEGATES' IMPATIENCE.

London, Sep. 20,

The impatience of the Indian delegates to the Round Table Conference at the slow progress of the Federal Committee has deepened during the week end as it now seems clear that certain sections are determined to delay decisions until after the Minorities Committee meets.

Gandhiji and his Congress colleagues feel that the Conference is being allowed to drift. They contemplate joint action with a view to the acceleration of the business and taking steps to secure the co-operation of the Liberal delegates to urge the Government to make an early declaration of policy confirming and developing Mr. MacDonald's speech on January 19th, especially on the fundamental issues raised by Gandhiji last Thursday.

They fear the domestic crisis may precipitate a General Election creating a situation prejudicial to India's claims. The feeling grows that continued "Second Reading" speeches on the subsidiary matters are only a vain repetition.

"The New Statesman" thinks that the opening days encourage guarded optimism about the results of the Conference. It finds nothing in the first speeches to suggest that the Congress representatives are not prepared to take their part in the ordinary deliberations or that they claim to speak for the whole of India. "So long as Mr. Gandhi and his three colleagues remain in the Conference they should bring an open mind to the detailed work of constitution-making," *Hindu*

Bengal in the Grip of Flood.

AN APPEAL FOR HELP.

The following appeal is signed by Dr. R. bindranath Tagore, President, and a large number of leading Bengalese:

The public are already aware of the fact that several Districts of the Province of Bengal are in the grip of a terrible flood. The Districts of Mymensingh, Pabna, Bogra, Dacca, Rurgpur, Faridpur, Rajshahi and Tipperah are the worst sufferers and barrowing tales of distress are pouring in from the interior of the Districts. Jute and paddy have almost been completely destroyed. Cattle in large numbers have been carried away and those that are left, are standing in water without fodder. People are seeking shelter on trees and on the roofs of the houses. About ten thousand square miles in area have been very badly affected. There are plenty of workers to day, thanks to existence of Congress organisations in the country, but they are all awfully handicapped for want of money and other resources.

The Bengal Congress Flood and Famine Relief Committee has opened its Central Office at 1, Wellington Square, where all contributions in cash or kind will be thank fully received. A single piece of worn-out cloth will save a dying brother or sister from cold, a morsel will give a longer lease of life to a starving fellow creature.

We appeal to the generous public to rise to the occasion and send whatever they can spare to Capt. N. N. Datta, Secretary, Flood and Famine Relief Committee, 1, Wellington Square, Calcutta.

Letter To The Editor.

JEWEL BOX AND BANK DIRECTOR

Dear Sir,

Contested rights are decided legally by pronouncements in the Courts, and their moral aspects are held out by Newspaper reports. There are not a few in life who are most concerned with the moral aspect of things. Gilding headlines in newspapers are contrivances least appreciated when they fail to rescound the context of recorded proceedings. They indicate a twist towards misrepresentation.

I did not charge the Managing Director of the Jaffna Bank, as the Colombo Daily report, with misappropriation of the contents of any jewel box but only charged him with denying the deposit of a jewel box, for not 13 years but for 15 years. When the box was suddenly unearthed after a quest of 8 years, I had reasons to have it opened before a Magistrate. The contents were found to be intact. Whether they remained there for 15 years or 15 hours I cannot say, but I was satisfied to let go things at that. All parties showed an inclination to take that view.

The Colombo papers' statement that I apologised to the accused is wrong; but certainly I went up to him and voluntarily expressed my regret over the incident as a whole, as a matter of courtesy. Mr. Mather could have gone one better but I am afraid it did not strike him at the time.

When again the Reporter says that the Magistrate said "that in view of the insinuations" made against Mr. Edward Mather etc, he says something which the magistrate never said. Reporters are welcome to join those who desire to see the Bank and its Directors regain a position in the public estimate but it is an error to arrive at that by sneering at honest attempts.

I may mention that as Executor of the late Mr. S. Ramanathan I am supposed to administer assets rather than that of the Bank in question, and when added to my large rights in the shares of the Bank itself, I conclude that the Banker and myself are not a jot behind one another in each others' responsibilities to trusts.

Yours faithfully,

S. R. CHELVARAYAN,

Executor of the Estate

of

S. RAMANATHAN J. P. (Deceased).

21st Sep. 1931.
Ramanathan House,
Jaffna

London Matric. Exam.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

The following candidates from the Jaffna centre have been successful at the London Matriculation Examination held in June last.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Alfred, Santhipillai Markopillai (St. Patrick's College). | Arumayagam, Philips (St. John's College). |
| Arulampalam, Chinniah (Private study and tuition). | Balasigam, Thambimuttu (Private study). |
| Clough, Evelyn Matilda Mahalewary (O. M. S. Girls' College and Private study and tuition). | Daniel, Paul Ephraim (St. John's College). |
| Jegatheey, Aiyadurai (Private study and tuition). | Kandaiye, Kanapathipillai (Victoria College and Private study). |
| Kandasamy, Karibigan (Manipay Hindu College). | Kanthiah, Thampimuttu (Private study). |
| Kathirgamaeksharan, Kanapathipillai (Parameshwara College and Private study). | Konarathnam, Christopher Stephen (Private study). |
| Loganathan, Chelliah (Private study). | Nagalingam, Sinnathambi (Private study). |
| Navaratnaraj, V. V. V. (St. Patrick's College). | Nocholas, Walter Mathew Tambiturai (St. Joseph's College and Private study). |
| Santharasekaram, Valligum (Parameshwara College and Private study). | Sankilgo, Pedripillai Saminadapillai (St. Henry's High School). |
| Saravananathan, Kathiravelu (Private study). | Saverimuttu, Philip (St. Patrick's College). |
| Salvaratnam, Joseph Albert (St. Patrick's College). | Sionlah, Arumugam (Private study). |
| Somasundaram, Murugasapillai (Private study). | Somasundaram, Thambiah (Private study). |
| Soppananiam, Kandiah (St. Patrick's College). | Thambiyasb, Kathiramar (Manipay Hindu College). |
| Thiagarajah, Chelliah (St. Patrick's College). | Thirunavukkarasu, Vyramuttu (Private study and tuition). |
| Thirunavukkarasu, Soppananiam (Private study and tuition). | |

Supplementary Certificate.

Venkatram, Velupillai (Private study) L. J. (Jaffna).

WIT & HUMOUR.

"Minna, there's six weeks' dust on the sideboard."
Servant-girl: "I can't help it ma'am, I've only been here a month."

Father to his little Son: "Shall I help you with you sums?"

"No, teacher says, I must make my own mistakes."

"It's no use talking," said McDooey, dejectedly. "It's impossible to make a woman understand even the first principles of finance."

"What's the matter now?" inquired his friend.

"Matter! Why, when I was away yesterday the baby swallowed a penny. And what does my wife do but call in a doctor and pay him five shillings for getting a penny back!"

"I say, old man, I'm sorry I called you a rhinoceros yesterday."

"That all right—you said it in the heat of the moment."

"Yes. I read in the papers to-day that a rhinoceros is worth £500."

Minister Advises Boycott.

Continued from column 3

A Power for Good

In conclusion, he said that if they wanted their Association to be a power for good, it was up to them to help themselves. The objects of their Association were very good. Whatever school they might belong to, once they became members of the Association they should try their utmost to sympathise with the other members. They must remember that without their help, their fellow teachers would be at the mercy of others. Just as the ocean threw out dirt so also their Association should throw out all dirt. If they did not do it they would not be justified, for they had come together all with one purpose, not only to make the children great and wise men but also to purify themselves. In that ocean of their Association they would have pearls, great animals, fishes; great leaders who would set the example of duty and devotion. He hoped that the good work they had started would go on from day to day and they would be a power for good in this Peninsula and be a shining example to the rest of the island.

Mr. K. Sivaprakasam proposed a vote of thanks to the Minister of education which was seconded by Mr. K. Nesiiah.

Civil Service Promotion

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to sanction the promotion of Mr. C. Sittampalam from Class IV to Class III of the Civil Service with effect from October 1st 1931.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7808.

In the Matter of the estate of the late Veeragattipillai Chinniah of Puloly East

P. Veeragattipillai Senthirajiah of Puloly East

Plaintiff.

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Veeragattipillai Ponniah of do | Respondent. |
| 2. Mappanar Velupillai and wife | |
| 3. Wallipillai of do | |
| 4. Paramu Arambam and wife | |
| 5. Sivapackiam of do | |
| 6. Annapoornam daughter of Veeragattipillai of do | |
| 7. Kanapathipillai Mahendrarajiah of do | |
| 8. Letchmipillai widow of Chinniah of do | |
| 9. Chinniah widow of Veeragattipillai of do | |

by their guardian ad litem the 1st Respondent

This matter coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on July 1, 1931, in the presence of Mr. K. Muttukumaru, Proctor, on the part of the Plaintiff and the Petition and affidavit of the Plaintiff having been read;

It is ordered that the 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minors the 6th and 7th Respondents and that the Plaintiff be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall appear before this Court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary on or before September 30, 1931.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,

District Judge,

August 28, 1931.

O. 372, 24 & 28.

Mr. H A P Sandrasegara
K. C. Acquitted.

MOCK TRIAL IN COLOMBO

CHARGE OF BOYCOTTING
STATE COUNCIL.

"Not guilty!" was the verdict of a Special Tribunal composed of 24 ladies and gentlemen representing the various communities of the Island, in the mock trial which took place at Cambridge House, Darley Road, the Headquarters of the Ceylon Liberal League, in which Mr. H A P Sandrasegara, K.C., faced a charge preferred against him by 48 citizens of Ceylon, and asking him to show cause why he should not be suitably dealt with in that

"you did without sufficient justification abstain from offering yourself as a candidate for election to the State Council of Ceylon and thereby did perversely omit to place, as member thereof, your undoubted talents and gifts at the service of the Country."

The Court was presided over by Dr. S O Paul. The prisoner at the Bar pleaded "not guilty," to the charge read out to him by the Registrar, Mr. Ralph Daraniyegala.

The Rev. J S H Edirisinghe prosecuted, and Mr. Sandrasegara defended himself.

The Judge was assisted by two assessors, Messrs Francis de Zuyva and T B Jaysh.

"We are not an orthodox Court of Law. We are not a heterodox, heretical, cosmopolitan caseload. We are men and women of the people, drawn from the people, come to wage war, paradoxical as it may seem, against a King's Counsel," said the Prosecutor in opening the case against the accused.

"The President is an eminent surgeon, the jury are men and women of the people, the Prosecutor is a poor unassuming pastor, utterly unversed in this sort of thing. He is going beyond his last today. He may as some people say preach a somewhat tolerable sermon, on the other hand some say he is rather good at a marriage homily, but better still at a funeral oration, but in trying to convict a K.C. he has missed his mark," he continued amidst loud laughter.

"What has drawn us here together?" he asked, "It is the admiration and respect which we have for Mr. Henry Alexander Patrick Sandrasegara. It goes through my heart to arraign him but I trust that I may bring the conviction of guilt to his heart. It is because of his capability that we are going to consider his culpability."

"What are his aims?" he asked. "What does he want? Does he want self government? Does he want autonomy, swaraj or purna swaraj?"

"The late Sir Ponnambalam Ramesan said that there were two kinds of freedom, the freedom of the philosopher and the freedom of the wild ass. (Laughter). There is another kind of freedom which the late Bishop of Peterborough, William O'Connor Meger, referred to in talking in the House of Lords on the Liquor Traffic Licence Bill. He said: 'I would like to see England drunk and free, than fettered and sober, for with freedom we would gain sobriety, but in the other alternative we would lose both freedom and sobriety.'"

Mr. Sandrasegara wants freedom, he wants autonomy within the British Empire. How is he going to achieve it? Is it to be by violence or non-violence? He should have adopted the method of constitutional agitation. He should have entered the camp of the enemy. Whom did he object to, in the legislature? No matter whom he objected to he has been skulking and sulking like Achilles in the tent.

His Face.

"Look at his face!" he continued, amidst a burst of laughter. "They say that a woman's fortune is in her face. But those who run after beauty know that beauty often deceives. Mr. Sandrasegara's face is worth a fortune. (Continued laughter). I was first attracted to him by the characteristic features of his face. Have you seen another man with a countenance like this?" he asked amidst peals of laughter.

"He advocates boycott," said the Prosecutor, "but it is a devastating weapon. It is against the laws of nature. The interdependence of nations is the foundation of the prosperity of peoples."

"We must see that Mr. Sandrasegara is adequately punished," concluded the prosecutor, "for prostituting his gifts." (Applause and laughter). "I plead that condign punishment be meted out to him."

The Defence.

Mr. Sandrasegara, conducting his own defence, said: "This is not the first time I have entered upon a defence, but this is the first time I have entered upon my defence." He questioned the jurisdiction of that Court to try him, and complained that charges of that sort were made in ancient Rome. He quoted the case of Warren Hastings as an example of what happened to a man who had tried to do his duty to his country. "I realise," said the prisoner, "that your charge is not so grave as it might have been made against somebody on whom was imposed greater responsibility than was imposed on me."

Continued up.

Auction Sale.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Under Mortgage Decree No. 27003

Under and by virtue of the commission issued to me in the above case, I shall offer for sale for the amount decreed therein poundage and costs on Wednesday October 14th 1931 commencing at 3 p.m. at the spot.

1. A piece of land situated at Kadduvan called Sivarathanai in extent 62½ lms V. C. do Sivarathanai in extent 40 lms. V. C. both aggregating to 102½ lms V. C. with young palm trees and bounded on the East by cremation ground, on the North by the village of Veemankamam, on the West by the village limit of Veemankamam and front by lane and by the property of A Visuvanathan and on the South by the property of A Visuvanathan, Santharammah widow of Somasundaram Aiyer and others, Sethupillai wife of Kasari and others. The whole hereof.

2. A piece of land situated at Do. in extent 12 lms V. C. called Sivarathanai with young palm trees and bounded on the East by Moothar Sinnathamby and others, and of P. Suppiak, on the North by the property of K. Rasanarajalai and brothers and sisters, on the West by cremation ground and on the South by the property of Sethupillai wife of Thamotherspillai and others, M. Sinnathamby and others. The whole hereof.

3. A piece of land situated at Veemankamam called Ponnysiemah, Nikilavattai, Karuvavattai and Penruthorai in extent 17½ lms V. C. with well houses cultivated and spontaneous plants and bounded on the East by lane, in extent 4 cubits and by the property of Sinnathamby Kathirgamer and Rairak, on the North by the property of Lelechpillai wife of Elankayer, on the West by lane and on the South by a lane in extent 4 cubits. The whole hereof.

J. A SETHUPATHY,
Auctioneer & Commissioner
"Sethupathy Vasa"
Jaffna. Mis 373 24th.

Continued.

He prayed that in the unlikely event of a conviction he would not be banished to Elephant Pass.

"The Prosecutor is one with whom I have measured swords before," he said, "in our college days. He was greater even than Sir Stewart Schneider, who managed in some way or other to get his words back again into his own mouth, like the Australian boomerang. He was unlike me one who loved." (Loud laughter).

The prisoner frequently addressed the jury "Gentlemen and Ladies" and corrected himself. "I have not got used to put ladies first," he apologized, "but when you ladies get into juries I will be the first man to try and win your smiles." (Laughter).

An Impossible Constitution.

"The manner in which the constitution in question has been imposed on us is a thing which deserves all serious notice," Mr. Sandrasegara continued. "I will make a bold assertion, I challenge the prosecution to say whether there has been one constitutional authority to say that this constitution is one which can be worked."

Mr. Sandrasegara went on to quote from half a dozen authorities to show that it was a constitution that could not be worked. He then challenged the capabilities of the Donoughmore Commissioners themselves in constitution making, and showed from the present working of the constitution itself the impossibility of making it a success.

"I do not want what I am saying here repeated outside," Mr. Sandrasegara said, "because I do not want to eat my own words. It is a very poor fodder for a man to eat his own words."

"There is no collective responsibility in the present Council. In this a Council?" he asked. "A Ministry is something which involves a great deal more than merely being elected by half a vote or one's own vote."

Referring to the occasion on which he had introduced a motion to cut the salaries of public servants by 10 per cent, he said, "There was a sneer on the face of Sir Wilfrid Woods, and an assinine laugh from the great bovine."

Not a Buffalo.

In conclusion he stated that he refused to enter the Council because 'I declined to be a bull's ass captured by the goys and harnessed to a plough,' which would be his position if he had done so and been appointed a Minister.

After the summing up the jury retired and, after an absence of ten minutes, returned. The foreman (Dr. Mrs. Robinson), in reply to the Registrar, said: "We find the prisoner not guilty. We are with the exception of three of us unanimous. We wish to add a rider that Mr. Sandrasegara should, in order to justify his position, engage in more active propaganda work outside the Council."

The prisoner was honourably acquitted.

—Times of Ceylon.

Federal Committee

GANDHIJI'S SPEECH

The following is a fuller summary of Mahatma Gandhi's speech as reported by the correspondent of the "Ceylon Daily News," delivered at the Federal Structure Committee on last Thursday, in the course of a general discussion on the methods of election to the Federal Legislature:—

Mr. Gandhi confessed at the outset that he participated in the discussion at the present stage after great hesitation. He said he had been having a feeling of growing oppression since Monday. First, because he realised that the delegates were not the chosen ones of the nation but of Government and he felt an oppressed sense of unreality at the composition of the Conference. Secondly, there was a sense of unreality as the proceedings seemed to be interminable, leading practically nowhere. He tendered his deepest sympathies to the Chairman for the patience and courtesy with which he was handling the members, and congratulated him on the pains he was taking. Mr. Gandhi hoped that eventually it would be possible to congratulate him on enabling or compelling them to achieve a tangible result.

Continuing Mr. Gandhi wished to make a humble and gentle complaint against His Majesty's advisers. They had brought together a committee consisting of busy people but had not given them any lead. He appealed to them through the Chairman to let the committee know their mind. He would be delighted if they would bring forward concrete proposals on which to take the committee's opinion. If a step of that sort was taken he had no doubt they would reach conclusions, good or bad, satisfactory or unsatisfactory, but if members simply revolved themselves into a debating society, he did not think they would serve the purpose for which they had been brought together.

Call To Government.

Mr. Gandhi suggested to the Chairman to appoint a subcommittee to give some points for conclusion. He asked the chairman to bring his suggestions to the notice of His Majesty's advisers.

Lord Sankey said he would certainly do so.

Mr. Gandhi proceeded urged the Government to place its own cards on the table. He said he wanted them to say what they would do if the members appointed them as arbiters of their destiny and if then they sought the Committee's advice it would be given.

Position of Princes

Continuing Mr. Gandhi dealt with the position of the Indian States and said they should not tell the States what they should or should not do. The Indian States came generously to their aid and in this connection he endorsed the opinion expressed by Sir Sultan Ahmed and which had been emphasised by Mr. Gavin Jones. What they in British India could do was to plead with the States and point out to them the special difficulties in British India.

He urged—being a man of the people and for the people and representing the lower classes—the advisability of finding a place for these people in the Constitution and to evolve a scheme acceptable to the Committee.

Closer Contact.

Mr. Gandhi had no doubt that the Princes had the interests of the Ryots at their hearts. They were coming more and more into contact with British India and they would make common cause with them as the people in British India were coming into closer contact with the Princes. There is no division between the two. India had lived as one country from time immemorial. The Princes, he said to their credit, had declared courageously for Federation and by doing so, they had proved that they were of the same blood. How could they do otherwise? There was no difference between them and the Princes except that God had made them noblemen. He prayed that their prosperity would be utilised for the good of their own people.

Beyond that Mr. Gandhi would not go because he could not go. It was for the Princes to make up their mind whether or not to come into the Federation and it was up to British India to make it easy for them. He would ask the Princes not to come into the Federation unless they could do so whole heartedly.

The Vote.

After dealing with the question of disqualification (an expression which did not frighten Mr. Gandhi, because he was sure that if there was a case of moral turpitude, there were judges who would adjudge) he said that if they were to submit to some test or to some age limit, they should have also to submit to a Character limit.

Mr. Gandhi next dealt with questions of direct and indirect election. Here again the words "indirect election" did not frighten him. He was wedded to adult suffrage and Congress swore by it, because it enabled them to satisfy all the reasonable aspirations of the Mohammedans as well as the vast number of untouchables.

Continued up.

The Untouchables.

He said that he was unable to bear the idea of a wealthy man getting a vote while an honest labourer was debarred because of his poverty. As one who had lived with the poorest, he prided himself on being considered an untouchable. He knew some of the finest specimens of humanity among the poor and among the very untouchables themselves. He would rather forgo the vote than see his untouchable brother deprived of it.

Mr. Gandhi was not enamoured of literacy, though he desired to see the people literate, but he was not prepared to wait for it before the people were enfranchised. He realised the difficulty of bringing everyone on the list of voters and shared Lord Peel's fear that, with unwieldy constituencies, a personal contact of the candidate with voters would be impossible. He had been through villages, talukas, districts and provinces with the Working Committee. He said that the four years qualification could be waived in cases where it was proved to be an insupportable burden.

voters' Lists.

Mr. Gandhi also drew attention to the method by which voters' lists were at present prepared. He said that it amounted to this, that anyone, who wanted to vote, must take measures to see that he was on the list. Mr. Gandhi suggested that this course might be adopted, and, subject to the age condition and any other condition, applicable to all without distinction of sex, those who wanted to vote might be included in the register.

After explaining the Congress plan, Mr. Gandhi said they were not supported by bayonets but by something infinitely superior. The people conformed to their decisions and no insurmountable difficulties were encountered. He visualised five hundred thousand villages of India electing their own representatives and these representatives would elect their representatives to the Central Legislature, if adult suffrage was adopted. It had worked excellently, expeditiously and cheaply and without any difficulty in establishing contact with the humblest villager.

Single Chamber

Opposing a Second Chamber, Mr. Gandhi said that he had no fear of the popular Chamber hastily passing laws of which they would have to repent but he could visualise a battle royal between the popular and the Upper House. While he would not take a decisive attitude, he personally thought that one Chamber was sufficient and advantageous.

Coming to the question of representation, he said, the special treatment of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh was tangible but it would not extend this in any way. Congress would share with Dr. Ambedkar the onus of representing the interests of the 'Untouchables,' which were as dear to them as any other interest. He would, therefore, resist special representation. Labour did not need special treatment with adult suffrage and certainly he had no desire to dispossess the landlords but they should act as trustees for their tenants.

The Europeans.

Referring to the Europeans, Mr. Gandhi suggested they had hitherto been a privileged class, enjoying Government protection. If they now made common cause with the people, they need not be afraid. He would take Mr. Gavin Jones throughout the country and show him that he (Mr. Gavin Jones) would be preferred to an Indian. He assured the Committee that Mr. O. F. Andrews would be elected from any part of India. Such instances could be multiplied. The Europeans must rely on the goodwill of the people. In any scheme to which Congress was a party, there could be no room for special protection. He had letters from organisations such as those of the Christians, who needed no special protection.

Oath of Allegiance.

Referring to the oath of allegiance, Mr. Gandhi said he was unable to express an opinion as he wanted first to know what form of oath it was to be. If it was to be complete freedom, the oath of allegiance must be of one kind and one kind alone. If it was to be a subject India he had no place in it.

Mr. Gandhi next touched on the question of nomination, which he strongly opposed. If experts were wanted, they should give their opinion and retire. He could not possibly endorse a scheme for nominated members.

He added that there should be a clause in the Constitution providing that, if the constituencies failed to elect representatives of certain classes, as for instance women, Europeans and representatives of Commerce, they should be selected or nominated by the Legislature.

Printed & published by S. ADCHALINGAM,
residing at Ayanarkovilady, Van: West,
Jaffna, for and on behalf of the
Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana
Sabhai, Jaffna, at their Press, the
Saiva Prakasa Press, Varnarponnai,
Jaffna.