

# The Hindu Organ.

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

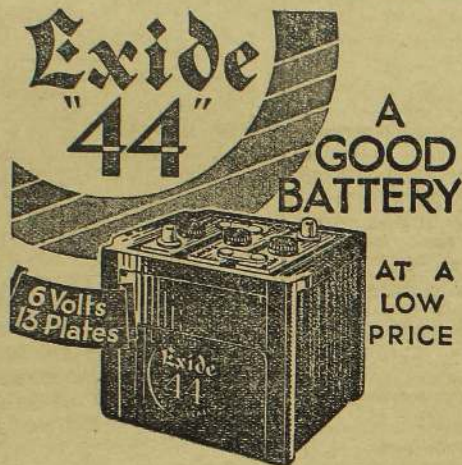
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## Order Nisi.

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7949

In the matter of the estate of the late Ponniah Muttatambay of Changanal who died at Government Hospital, Palgathi in South India

Deceased.

Theyvannappillai widow of Ponniah Muttatambay of Urumpiray, Jaffna.

Vs.

Petitioner.

1. Muttatambay Nagalingam of Urumpiray and  
2. Ponniah Thambusamy of Changanal

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for appointment of the abovesaid 2nd Respondent as guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 1st Respondent and for grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour, Esquire, District Judge on the 25th day of August 1931 in the presence of Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Proctor for Petitioner and the affidavits of the Petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the said 2nd Respondent be appointed such guardian ad-litem and Letters of Administration be issued to the Petitioner in respect of the estate of the abovesaid deceased, unless sufficient cause be shown to the contrary on the 11th day of November 1931

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,

District Judge.

October 18, 1931.

Time to show cause 9th December 1931.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,

D. J.

11.11.31.

O. 300. 5 &amp; 16.

## The Hindu Organ.



JAFNA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1931

## THE PREMIER AND THE MINORITIES AGREEMENT.

THE STATEMENT WHICH MR. RAMSAY MacDonald made at the Minorities Subcommittee of the Round Table Conference appears to us to be an ominous one. The Minorities problem in India has been considerably exaggerated by him. The failure to arrive at an agreed solution of the Minorities question is probably to be taken as a ground for postponing the grant of the substantial measure of self-government to India, promised in his declaration of January last and confirmed in the Irwin-Gandhi agreement.

The Minorities agreement is a reactionary document and it is a matter for regret that the Premier should have thought it fit to include it in the official records of the Conference. The Conservative Diehards will seize upon it as their political scripture to nullify the generous pledges and promises made by the British Government in the past.

The problem of community representation, community rights and community protection is no doubt a thorny and difficult subject in India. But it is not such as cannot be solved by the just and right application of democratic principles and standards. The Minority problem at one time loomed large in the Balkans. It was the parent of many a political upheaval in that part of Europe. The League of Nations to whom has been entrusted the task of protection of Minorities, did not regard it as insoluble. The formula evolved by it consistent with the principles of democratic government has been acceptable to all concerned and it has proved an excellent solvent of the Minorities difficulties of those countries which had come under the supervision of the League of Nations. There is no reason why the Indian question should not be referred to this body in view of the failure of the Minorities Sub Committee to arrive at a agreed settlement, seeing that India is an original member of the League. If the solution is to be found by the Indian themselves no better solution can meet the situation than the one offered by the Indian National Congress which as pointed out by Mahatma Gandhi represents between 85 and 95 per cent of the population not merely British India but of the whole of India. If this solution is not acceptable the other alternative will be to refer this matter to the arbitration of an independent and impartial tribunal.

Further the Minorities agreement is based on the false assumption that the signatories represented 46 per cent of the population in India. It is surprising that Mr. MacDonald himself has fallen a victim to this misrepresentation. We are glad to note that Mahatma Gandhi has promptly repudiated the representative character of the signatories to the agreement. In the past there was only one division of people and that was based only on religion but now caste is introduced as a factor to divide the country in political matters. We are sure that this will be resisted by every right-thinking Indian.

Dr. Datta, who represented one important section of the Christian community repudiated this agreement and exposed the hollowness of it in the following words:—

"Continuing he doubted whether an agreement was possible by communal representation and weightages and affirmed that he believed that it would be an infringement of his rights when the State says 'You vote in a particular constituency'."

He asked whether he would be disfranchised, if he changed his religion or declared he had no religion. Supposing a Christian member of the Legislature for private and personal reasons became a Muslim, would he vacate his seat? He probably would even as an undischarged bankrupt or a person who committed a felony be compelled to vacate his seat on the same grounds and for the same reasons "I want to protest against that."

## Income Tax in Ceylon.

The draft of an Ordinance to impose a Tax upon incomes and to regulate the collection thereof is published in last Friday's Gazette. The draft is a reprint with certain minor alterations of the Income Tax Bill which was published in the Ceylon Government Gazette of the 21st February, 1930, as amended at the third reading of the Bill in the last Legislative Council in December 1930.

The bill if passed will be put into effect from 1st April 1932, and tax will be charged in respect of the income of the 12 months preceding that date.

## Assistant Auditor for Railways.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. V. C. Manicom, Chief Audit Examiner to act as Assistant Auditor for Railways, will effect from October 5 1931 during the absence on leave of Mr. A. R. Kale or until further orders.

## The Ceylon (State Council Elections) Order-in-Council, 1931

—O:—

The Government Agent, Northern Province, in his capacity as Registering Officer for the Electoral Districts of Kayts, Karakasaturai, Jaffna and Pt. Pedro, notifies that the revised registers of voters relating to the abovesaid electoral districts have been certified, and that such registers are open for inspection during office hours at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

## Relief for Debtors.

—O:—

It is reported that the Committee of the State Council appointed to go into the question of giving relief to judgment debtors have nearly concluded their labours and their report will shortly be signed. It is learned that the question of suspending debt payments for any period has been completely ruled out by the Committee who have agreed that such a course would be too drastic. The Committee recommends instead, that the English law of Mortgage be introduced into Ceylon. Under this law, a debtor unable to pay his debts surrenders his mortgaged property to his creditor who holds it for a stipulated period in trust. If within that period the creditor is liable to recover from the income from such property the total sum due to him from the debtor, the mortgage bond is cancelled and the debtor recovers possession of the property. If on the other hand, the creditor is unable to recover the money due to him from income of the property of the debtor, the property, without a deed of transfer, passes into the possession of the creditor.

## Call on "Dangerous Character."

POLICE OFFICER'S WHISKY AND SODA.

## STRUCK OFF THE LIST.

The scoring out of a name from the list of "dangerous characters" in the Police Gazette, was the subject of cross examination of a police officer in the Police Court of Jaffna, before Mr. M. F. de S. Jayaratne, when the application came for hearing on Tuesday, in which the Jaffna Police moved that Mr. Kumuru Kandiah, renter of Grand Bazaar, be bound over to keep the peace. The court was unusually crowded.

Inspector R. Stewart of the Jaffna Police, presented, while Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam, instructed by Mr. S. Ratnasabapathy, appeared for the accused.

Inspector Stewart, said that the respondent was an accused in the Grand Bazaar murder case in July last. He was a partner with O. Nadarajah in the Grand Bazaar market rents. The respondent was also interested in the attempted murder case against K. Subramaniam who was a son of Kathiresapillai, and others, which came up before that Court on September 20th. On October 26th there was a big riot, Kathiresapillai's party being on one side and the respondent's party on the other. Cases were still pending. Witnesses had charged fourteen men belonging to Kathiresapillai's party and nine men belonging to the respondent's party. As the respondent seemed to have been behind one of the parties witnesses moved that he be bound over.

## Cross Examination.

Witness was cross examined by Mr. Ponnampalam. Witness admitted that the respondent had never been charged in that Court except in the Peramankovillady murder case in which he was acquitted by the Supreme Court, where his complete "alibi" was accepted by judge and jury. In that case the respondent's defence was that he was not present at the scene of murder and that the case was connected by Kathiresapillai, who was behind the scenes. Kathiresapillai had been the renter of the Grand Bazaar market for a long time till the respondent outbid him and secured the rent. Witness was aware that Kathiresapillai had submitted a good tender this year for the market. Witness further admitted that Kathiresapillai exercised control over almost the whole labour force working in the market area.

## "Dangerous Characters"

Mr. Ponnampalam:—Has Kathiresapillai's name been in the "Police Gazette" in the list of dangerous characters?

Witness: Yes.

Did you insert the name in the list? Y, or, but on instructions left my predecessors.

When was the list made?—In June last year.

Did Kathiresapillai canvass a large number of signatures for a petition against you to the Governor?—Yes, to the Governor and the Colonial Secretary.

Did you remove his name from the list this year?—Yes.

On whose authority?—At my own instance.

Why?—Because there were other men more dangerous than Kathiresapillai whose names did not appear in the list.

Were there not seven names in the list last year?—I cannot remember.

Here Mr. Ponnampalam read out the two lists which showed that there were seven names in last year's while in this year's list the only name omitted was that of Kathiresapillai.

Mr. Ponnampalam: Is it usual for the members of the Police Department to dine or lunch at the house of a dangerous character? No.

## Whisky and Soda.

Did you at any time go to Kathiresapillai's house and dine there?—No, I went one day with Mr. T. R. Nalliah, Advocate, and Mr. V. R. Malingam, Proctor, to Mr. Kathiresapillai's house.

What did you take there?—I took whisky and soda.

Nothing more?—No, nothing more.

Did you go there for the purpose of investigation?—No.

How many hours did you stay there, About an hour.

Counsel: I am not suggesting that the removing of Kathiresapillai's name from the list of dangerous characters was the result of the meal you had at his place, but chronological.

Continued up

## News &amp; Notes.

His Excellency the Governor has given permission to Sir H. L. de Mel to introduce a motion re-commuted pension.

It is reported that the sales of Poppies this year has been more satisfactory than last year.

The Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor on the Market Garden Scheme recommends that immediate start be made and a sum of Rs 10,000 be granted to defray the initial expenses.

The 'Guilt-Committee' investigating the conduct of the leading members of the old regime has sentenced the ex-king Alfonso of Spain to imprisonment for life and all his property confiscated for "lese majeste" against the nation.

The inquiry into the petition presented by Dr. H. M. Peiris against the election of Dr. R. Saravanamuttu to the Colombo North Seat in the State Council, on the ground of corrupt and illegal practices, will be heard by Mr. Justice Driberg at the Supreme Court on Monday, December 7, 1931.

His Lordship Justice Akbar delivered his order upholding the objection to the security tendered in connection with the Gampaha Election Petition. The security fell short of Rs. 550/- and the Petitioner could remove the objection by depositing the sum of Rs. 550/- within five days of this order.

The situation in Cyprus is so bad that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has issued Letters-Patent to the Governor approving the Legislative Council of Cyprus to cease and granting the Governor power to make law. These Letters-Patent should be regarded as an emergency measure and it will be necessary hereafter to review the whole question of the constitutional future of the Island.

The necessary legislation to authorise temporary abatements in the salaries of the Indian Civil Servants has been provided in a Parliamentary Bill. The Bill provides that the abatements from pay shall not exceed 10% and shall not apply before December 31, 1931, or after March 31, 1933. The abatements are subject to the approval of a majority of votes in the meeting of the Council of India, which may either be varied or rescinded. These abatements will not affect pensions.

## Suicide.

## SELF INFLICTED STAB WOUND ON NECK.

A Case of suicide near the Nallure Kandaswamy Kovil took place yesterday morning. It appears that the deceased was a native of Malaitivu, who had gone to the temple for worshipping; after the usual worship the deceased stabbed himself in his neck with a knife facing the deity; he was instantly removed to the Madam near by, where he expired by noon. It is rumoured that he resorted to this action owing to incurable disease.

Continued

Originally was it not after this visit that his name was removed from the list.

Witness: Yes.

Witness, on being further cross examined said that after the recent troubles at the Grand Bazaar, he had posted a special constable on beat duty there. Witness could prove that the respondent was interested in the riot of October 26th, but witness was not charging him as he had no evidence against him. Witness was charging Kathiresapillai as the first accused in the case as the latter had come in his carriage and entered Koyan's boutique at the time of the riot. Witness admitted that excepting some petitions sent by Subramaniam, the son of Kathiresapillai, against the respondent there were no other representations against respondent.

After the evidence of K. Subramaniam and his father, K. Kathiresapillai, the Magistrate disallowed the application and discharged the respondent.



## The Minorities Meeting. PREMIER'S OPENING SPEECH

### MAHATMA GANDHI'S STRONG DISSENT

"My friends, I have been in close touch with Lord Sankey during all these weeks and he has reported to me from day to day, or from time to time, how the business in the Federal Structure Committee had been going on. I have also been in touch with what has been going on on the subject of minorities. There are two important Committees that have been working during this phase of the Round Table Conference.

"I feel that as far as this Committee is concerned—and I am informed that Lord Sankey has come to the same conclusion regarding his Committee—we ought now to make our reports to a plenary meeting of the full Conference so that the work may be wound up and so that the Government may be in a position to make as it did at the end of the first phase of the Conference a statement of its own position.

#### Presenting the Reports.

"We are practically in a position to do that now. Before doing so, the Committees will have to terminate their work and present their reports to the full Conference and then the Conference may like to make certain observations on behalf of individuals or on behalf of communities. When that is done, the Government will indicate what view it takes of the situation.

"As regards this Committee, I am profoundly sorry that complete agreement has not been reached because I want to emphasise what I have said before—and I think every one of you will agree with it—that at the foundation of any progress towards the setting up of an Indian Constitution lies the problem of community representation, community rights, community protection and so on.

"The work of this Committee, therefore, was from the very beginning of supreme importance and I am sorry that you have been unable to present to us an agreed plan.

#### Minority Deputation.

"Last night, however, I received a deputation representing the Muslims and the Depressed Classes, and at any rate a section of Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and the British Community. I think that is the complete range. They came and saw me in my room in the House of Commons last night with a document, which embodied the agreement that they had come to among themselves.

"They informed me in presenting the document to me that it covered something in the region of 46 per cent of the population of British India.

"I think the best thing would be, as we have had no time to consider this, to treat this document as a document which is official to the records of this Committee and in order that that may be done, I shall ask the Aga Khan formally to present it here so that it may be entered in our official record.

#### Passing the Document.

"Unless there are any observations to be made upon the situation, what I propose to do as Chairman of this Committee is just to report to the Plenary Conference that this document has been handed in and I will as Chairman of the Committee again officially hand it into the Plenary Conference itself. That will put the whole thing in order and it will be passed over for the Government to consider the situation.

"I do not think that I need say anything more myself at this stage. We have all done our best. I have been more anxious than perhaps some of you can imagine that we should succeed in clearing out this fundamental obstacle. But all I can say at the moment is that the Government will not allow this obstacle to stand in its way in carrying out its pledges to India.

#### Government Sincerity.

"I hope that the statement I shall be authorised to make by the Government at the last meeting of the Plenary Conference will be such as to assure all of you that the declaration that I made to you at the end of the first session of the Conference holds good, that the British Government's intention is sincere and firm to do to India what it believes is right and that the detailed intention is precisely what it was when we asked you to come here and when we said a temporary goodbye to you at the end of the first session of the meeting.

Continued up

## The Jaffna Mutual Benefit Fund Ltd.

The 13th Annual General Meeting of the Share holders of the J M B Fund, Ltd was held on Saturday, the 31st October, 1931 at the Vivekananda Vidyalyaya, Vannarponnai. A large number of the Share holders were present. In the absence of the President, and Vice President, Mr S Sivapiragasapillai, Notary Public, and a Director of the Fund, was voted for the chair. The minutes of the last annual general meeting were read and confirmed. The Balance sheet was passed. The company is slow and steadily gaining the confidence of the public, in spite of the depression. The support of the public is very much needed to enable the Fund to carry its objects further.

Three of the senior Directors, Messrs V M Vayagesum, A V Chariar and K Obelliah retired by rotation according to the Articles of Association and their places were filled by the re-election of Messrs. V M Vayagesum and K Obelliah and Mr S Adibalingam, F M S. Pensioner and Manager "Hindu Organ", Vannarponnai, was elected in place of Mr. A. V. Charles, Mr. C Arulambalam, Advocate, resigned from the Directorate, owing to private circumstances, and his place was filled by the election of Mr. C A. Chandappasegaram, Licensed Proprietor, Vannarponnai. The appointment of Mr. S. Onellappah as Manager was confirmed. The election of Office bearers for the new year took place after this. Mr S Sivapiragasapillai, the veteran Notary Public of Vannarponnai was elected President, Mr. V. M. Vayagesum, Teacher, was elected Vice President, Mr. V. Somasundaram, F.M.S. Pensioner, Tirunelveli, was elected Secretary, Mr. K. Velupillai, a retired officer of the fund, suggested the desirability of reducing the cost of expenditure and wanted that a Committee of the shareholders should be appointed to go into this question and suggest concrete proposals for such reductions. The suggestion was approved by the General Body, and the Directors undertook to appoint a Committee of the Board to investigate into the matter and report.

The meeting came to a close at 5.30 p.m. with a vote thanks to the Chair proposed by Mr. C A. Chandappasegaram and seconded by Mr. S. Vaidalingam.—Cor.

#### Continued.

"I believe, my Indian friends, you will find that that is so when the declaration is made, but, of course, the declaration before it is made must become the official declaration of the Government. I am not in a position to make that declaration at the moment but it will certainly be made within the next few days and the intentions of the Government will be made plain."

Mr Gandhi dissented from the view that a solution of the communal question was the essential condition prior to constitution building. He could not help feeling that it would be a sorry ending to the Conference that because there was no agreed communal settlement, the policy of the British Government should not be announced.

He disputed the statement that the proposals might be taken as acceptable to 46 per cent. of the population and claimed that the Congress represented between 85 and 95 per cent. of the population, not merely of British India but of the whole of India and that he represented the vast mass of untouchables.

He submitted that the Congress offered the most workable solution of the communal problem, but the alternative course suggested was that there should be impartial arbitration. If none of these proved acceptable it was better to remain without so called responsible Government.

The Prime Minister emphasised that the documents put in and the speeches made would be examined. The Government had wanted the closest co-operation and taken every step to get it. They were disappointed that the Federal Structure Committee could not in the circumstances finish its work.

"Mr. Gandhi has made a very impressive declaration—other impressive declarations have been made," the Premier continued. "Will every member of his Committee sign a request asking me to give a decision, even a temporary one, on the communal question and accept and work to the best of his ability under the new constitution?"

#### Notice of Revocation of Power of Attorney.

It is hereby notified that Mr. S. Sangarapillai of Sittankerny, Jaffna who had hitherto been acting as my Attorney in relation to my property in Ceylon, has ceased to be so and that the Power of Attorney executed by me on 22-5-29 has been revoked.

Batu Pahat,

25.10.31.

(M/s 401. 12-23)

MAKANDU ARUNASALAM.

## Future of Christian Colleges.

### CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

The Lindsay Commission's Report on Christian Higher Education in India gives interesting statistics not otherwise easily available. There are 38 of these colleges. The number of students attending them is 13,312 of whom no less than 11,380 are non-Christians. The number of teachers in these colleges total 842, of whom 181, are Europeans or Americans, and 661 are Indians. Of the latter 246 are Christians and 415 non-Christians. The total sum received by these colleges from Government grants as shown in the Report is a little less than Rs. 22 lakhs, as against the Home Grant amounting to Rs. 10.3 lakhs. The former figure is obviously an underestimate as the non-recurring grants reported to the Commission amount only to Rs. 39,146. The Madras Christian College alone received some 15 lakhs a year or two ago for transferring itself to a site some miles outside Madras city. These figures show that the Christian Colleges in this country depend both as regards finance and scholars on non-Christian sources—the Government grants being paid out of the taxes collected from a population hardly 5 per cent of whom profess the Christian religion. The Government grant even according to the figures supplied to the Commission amounts to double the Home Grants, and the bulk of the fees of course, are paid by non-Christian students. We cannot help feeling in perusing this Report that the Lindsay Commission have not sufficiently considered the bearing of these statistics on the problems which they were considering. It may be hoped that in a self governing India, the duty of providing national education in all its branches will be adequately discharged by the State. The heavy subsidies paid to Foreign Missions, whose avowed aim is to subvert the Indian religious will not be accepted as a legitimate use of public funds either in Great Britain or in the United States. The future Indian Finance Minister not tied down to Whitehall may take the same view of his responsibility. He will not share the apprehensions of the Lindsay Commission regarding a successful renaissance movement in Hinduism and Islam. The central recommendation of the Commission, that the Colleges should appeal for additional funds to the Home countries apart from its incongruity with present economic and religious conditions in those countries is calculated to hinder the assimilation of these Colleges with the national system through which alone they can continue to serve the intellectual and spiritual interests of the Indian people. The days when an educational army of occupation was acquiesced in, are fast passing beyond recall.

—I S R

## Boils and Abscesses.

CAPT. SHYAM LAL, B A M B.,  
Civil Surgeon, Ballia.

You find that during the rainy season in India a large number of children suffer from boils and abscesses.

In the hospital practice, the number of cases coming to the hospital for the trouble both out door and indoor increases four or five times more than in other parts of the year, out of which the number of children suffering from the trouble is three times the number of the adults.

The cause is simple enough; during the rainy season, a good number of all kinds of insects are brought into existence.

These bite or sting, and the site of the bite becomes the site of infection, and the boils and abscesses are the result.

In the case of children, the skin, being tender is more susceptible to bites and its effects.

Children sometimes badly suffer on account of the trouble and becomes the chief cause of worry and suffering to the parents especially at night.

Not infrequently the infection develops in pyaemic abscesses and deaths.

Generally the children are bitten at night by insects during sleep, as using mosquito curtains at night for all the members of the family is within the pecuniary means of only a very few.

A simple prophylaxis of the trouble lies in rubbing the bodies of the children with some oil before getting them into bed; mustard oil is the best.

Mustard oil should be boiled first strained and then kept in a stoppered bottle or phial.

Every night before going to bed, the children should be gently rubbed with the oil all over the body, chiefly the exposed parts.

—Health

## Right to Cut Allowances.

STATE COUNCIL AND  
PUBLIC OFFICES.

### RULLING BY THE SPEAKER.

An important ruling affecting the right of the State Council to move the reduction or deletion of the allowances paid to public officers was made by the Speaker.

"The Hon Member for Obillaw sought to move the deletion of the item marked 'Personal allowances to clerks and stenographers' under Head 1, sub Head 1, on page 1 of the details of expenditure, whereupon a point of order was raised by the Hon. the Chief Secretary that under Article 87 (1) Hon. Members of this Council are barred from making motion for the reduction or deletion of any allowance of a public officer without the previous sanction of His Excellency the Governor. As I considered the point raised a most important and vital one I took time for consideration till this morning before I made my order.

Firstly, it should be remembered that every item of expenditure placed before this Council is so placed in order to obtain the sanction of this Council for such expenditure. It is therefore subject to the approval or disapproval of this Council. The item in question is one such item and is one of a class of items of a similar nature running right through the Budget. If Article 87 applied to items of this nature it was a useful procedure to place such items before this Council and ask for its approval or disapproval.

#### OLD CONTRACTS.

"Secondly, in my opinion Article 87 does not apply to items of this nature. 'Allowance' there-in referred to is an allowance which is attached to an individual public officer who was in receipt of that particular allowance at the time that this Constitution came into being. The interpretation I put on section 87 is that if an officer had a certain salary and allowance attached to him under the former Constitution, this new Constitution should honour that contract and that salary and allowances should continue under this new Constitution unless with the sanction of His Excellency the Governor it is altered or amended by this Council. 'Allowance' I repeat again herein means an allowance attached to an individual officer. For example if A was in receipt of a salary and special permanent allowance when occupying a particular post that salary and allowance should continue so long as A continues to hold that particular office. But that does not mean that when B succeeds A in the same office that B by right is entitled to the same allowance without the sanction of this Council. All such subsequent allowances to my mind are entirely within the purview of this Council.

If, of course, any Hon. Member of this Council desires to bring in a substantive motion or resolution affecting the salary or permanent allowance which any public officer was in receipt of at the time this Constitution came into being, then Article 87 (1) would apply. But, so long as the Government seeks the approval of this Council to continue certain items of expenditure I hold that any Hon. Member is entitled to move that such approval be not given or that the terms on which such approval should be given be varied or modified. This, in my opinion, is the spirit in which this Constitution was framed. Otherwise, if approval cannot be withheld by this Council when such approval is sought it were a mockery to seek such approval."

## Ceylon Government Railway. TENDER NOTICE.

Tenders are hereby invited for the privilege of selling refreshments (excluding intoxicating liquors), preferably on Hindu lines, to 3rd class passengers at Talaimannar Railway Station, from date of acceptance of tender to September 30, 1932, subject to conditions which can be obtained on application at the Office of the General Manager of the Railway.

All tenders should reach the Office of the General Manager not later than midday on Tuesday December 8, 1931.

General Manager's Office,  
Colombo, November 7, 1931.

T. E. DUTTON,  
General Manager.  
(G. 116 16h.)

## WANTED.

A full responsible financial partner with Rs. 1000 for a well known Tea business. Can draw Rs. 40/- per month.

Apply "Tea" C/o Hindu Organ,  
JAFFNA.

(M/s 406 12 & 10).



## Co-operation in Ceylon.

The following extracts taken from the concluding portion of the Administration Report of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for 1930-31 will be of general interest to our readers. The Registrar and his staff have taken greater interest in shaping the destinies of the Societies, and bring them to success in these times of depression.

He writes thus:—

Co-operation is work which can only be done by personal contact. It deals at present mainly with the villager, and time spent in an office in writing letters to villagers is almost entirely wasted. Even if they can read them, it is almost certain that they will not answer them. Consequently the Inspectors must spend most of their time on circuit, in personal contact with individual Co-operators, and staff officers must get round to see that they are doing so. Travelling necessarily costs money, and I am much troubled in my efforts to obtain the necessary funds by an impression in the minds of many that travelling is largely joy-riding and merely a thinly disguised form of extra salary. In the Co-operative Department at any rate this is quite definitely not true. It would ill become me to dilate on the hardships and inconvenience of the life I lead, though I receive much sympathy on the subject from those who see it being done.

But in justice to the subordinate staff reference may be made to a few authentic incidents. An Inspector left Mr. Lucette at the close of a meeting which finished shortly after 8 p.m. and on being offered a lift home, said that he had another meeting to hold the same night. Another one on his way home from a meeting at 11.30 p.m. was waylaid on the road by a party of villagers who carried him off to attend an organization meeting which finished at 2 a.m. Another met elephants on his way home from his work after dark. An Honorary Supervisor who was with him undertook to charm them away, but the charms did not work as the weather was thundery, and they both spent that night in a tree. Another on leave in Diyatalawa walked several hilly miles to attend a meeting which Mr. Maybin was holding there, and afterwards went on with him to Badulla at his own expense to attend another. A Deputy Registrar from the Madras Presidency came over on a visit and spent some days with Mr. Maybin and his staff. He expressed his amazement at the fact that the official co-operators in Ceylon appear to get no time off duty for either meals or sleep.

## General.

At a time when nearly everything is miserable owing to depression and slump, it is particularly pleasant to be able to record that Co-operation has triumphantly demonstrated its power to enable members to stand up against even times like these. There has been no lack of difficulty. Coconuts have been as low as Rs. 15 per 1,000, paddy cents 75 per bushel, village green leaf tea cents 2½ per pound, ginger Rs. 8 per cwt., betel cents 12 per 1,000 leaves. In estate areas there has been an enormous loss of employment on contract work for masons, carpenters, &c., tapping on rubber estates, casual labour on tea estates. In spite of some fall in the cost of living there has been a big general loss of purchasing power. But the Societies have refused to be depressed by the depression, have stood up to it well and improved their position in every respect. Repayment cannot have been easy, but they have chosen this of all years to produce the lowest percentage of default which we have ever achieved in Ceylon. The percentage of default for the whole Island in Primary Credit Societies only excluding Thrift, Central Bank, &c., on Rs. 1,161,957 91 outstanding is only 13.88 per cent. while, if the Eastern Province, whose history has been peculiar, is excluded, the percentage comes down to 8.78 per cent. There is nothing to be ashamed of in that!

Co-operation is far the heaviest and most difficult work I have been called upon to do in Ceylon but also by far the most pleasant. It involves no punitive or repressive functions. It is almost entirely in rural areas and, as it is based on character, among the cream of the population. It provides unrivalled opportunity for getting an insight into village life. With a view to making the most of these opportunities all Inspectors are now required to keep a notebook in which to enter interesting information about village customs and economies. These are periodically inspected.

There is often an impression (I used once to share it myself) that very little goes on in the average Ceylon village beyond paddy and chena cultivation. An examination of the objects for which a village Society lends discloses the rather surprising fact that cultivation accounts for only 23.74 per cent. of the total. Even if all loans for buying cattle, carts, buying, leasing, and improving land were all classed under cultivation, which is very far from being correct, the percentage would be only 37.52 per cent. A single Society in the Bombariya area was found recently with loans outstanding for 19 different objects, namely, buying land, leasing land, taking a field on mortgage, paying administration costs, examination fees, marriage expenses, trade in copra, trade in sundries, repayment of debt, buying a gun, enlarging a house, furnishing, cultivating paddy, betel, and ginger, school fees, levelling a compound, building a house. Other objects such as blacksmith's and goldsmith's work, carpentry, shoemaking, lace making, clothes, bicycle, food, printing, and an infinity of other objects are encountered.

Continued up.

## Mahatma Gandhi in London.

## WHEN SWARAJ COMES?

London.—"It is quiet and peaceful on the roof garden where Mahatma Gandhi is staying at Kingsley Hall, Bow, London. On one side are cells, monklike in their austere simplicity. They contain little furniture and no beds, for Gandhi and his disciples sleep on the floor.

Even the cell of the Mahatma itself holds but a few chairs and a lovely rug spread upon the floor.

Facing the cells is a narrow strip of terrace gay with boxes of flowers. Looking down from this terrace one sees below the roofs of hundreds of little houses in mean streets, houses of the poor, for Gandhi, an apostle of the poor and down-trodden, has chosen to live among them.

When I had mounted the stairs leading to the roof garden I found Gandhi eating his evening meal. He was reclining on the floor. The principal dish consisted of some kind of tomato salad and there were many fruits, oranges, grapes and nuts, for Gandhi is a vegetarian and does not eat meat. He will not even keep a leather suit case, for it is made from the hide of slaughtered beasts.

Seating myself on the ground opposite him, I listened and he began to speak.— Thus writes the correspondent of "John Bull".

## Comin of the Vision.

"I was a very ordinary boy," said Gandhi, "and had no looking as to my future destiny. I used to run about the streets barefoot and play with the other lads.

"I went to an Indian school, for, of course, I was born in India; not Africa, as people think I had a happy childhood, and was not precocious in any way. My father was Prime Minister of the State in which I was born.

"The soil to lead India did not come to me in the nature of a sudden revelation. It simply came, when it came. It was rather a gradual realization. I prepared for it by fasting and self-discipline. My political work grew out of my spiritual preparation."

"You ask me to compare the poverty in the East with that of the West." The Mahatma sighed and a look of pity brooded in his calm eyes.

"It is impossible. The two cannot be compared. In the East, poverty exists to a degree undreamt of in the West. Many thousands are entirely without food, and quite without shelter.

## His One Ambition.

"You ask me how would I fulfil my dreams if I had the power. What would I do to wake the 'lump starving millions' from their lethargy, make them articulate, and give them food?"

Gandhi leaned forward impressively.

"I would make them work. At what? At the charka (spinning wheel) and hand-looms. I would educate them, yes, on Indian lines.

"I would build new roads—fine roads, that would benefit both man and beast. I picture the new India as filled with linked villages, happy in their industries.

"If India gets her freedom I should be guided by circumstances as to whether I should take my place at the head of the nation or return quietly to my Ashram."

He sighed wearily. Enormous calls upon his time and transactions of many weighty affairs make the Mahatma one of the busiest men in England to day. He sighed for the peace of his Ashram, or monastic college.

"I should love to go back, but I should not hesitate to shoulder the burden of leadership if it came to me. I should follow the guidance of my inner voice."

Continued up

## NOTICE.

The branch office of the "Continental Provident Insurance Society Ltd., Madurai", has now been removed from Kokuvil to Kondavil.

K. Ratnasingham,  
Mis 463. 12 & 16. Branch Secretary.

Continued

## Acknowledgements.

The main task of an official Co-operative staff is to convince the public generally that organization on these lines can confer on participants inestimable benefits, and enable them by their own joint efforts to grapple with and overcome difficulties which they have been in the habit of regarding as insuperable. The revelation of these possibilities ought to result automatically in eliciting the active co-operation of all who have the capacity and the inclination to do something for the improvement of the social, moral, and economic condition of the whole country. The degree in which such unofficial assistance is forthcoming and the spirit in which it is given is the best index of success or failure. The response in Ceylon has been most gratifying and is a source of the greatest satisfaction to me at all times except that at which I approach this section of the annual report. It would be quite impossible to select names for individual mention. I am induced to do so for myself to generalities by this fact and by my knowledge that those who have worked hardest in the cause are already well aware how much their assistance is appreciated.

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- year round for you at
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—(Y. S. 1-31-12 32.) (C)

## Continued.

## To America.

"Shall I go to America? Invitations have reached me, but their agent I shall do as my inner voice tells me.

"You ask, Is this an actual definite voice? No! It is the voice of conscience. I am prepared to compromise on non-essential matters, but not on essentials.

"Yes, certainly I think the co-operation of the Indian Princes is necessary for a successful Swaraj.

"Enemies of India say that the Hindus and Muslims will fly at each other's throats as soon as the British rule is withdrawn. I do not believe it. We have lived together in perfect unity before the British advent in the seventeenth century—and we shall do so again.

"But supposing that we have to fight, we shall fight. Will the Hindus conquer, you ask? No; neither side will conquer. There might be conflict in India, but we shall come to terms and reach an agreement.

"We have fought before now and come together again. The heads of the two parties, the Hindus and the Muslims, would come to terms.

"Who would fight? Not the masses. They would continue to live as they do now, in perfect peace. Those who fought would be only the interested people. I think Britain is bound to concede Swaraj. Sooner or later it is sure to come."

He paused to select some grapes.

"My wife has been extraordinarily good to me, and it is she who cares for my physical welfare. How did I marry her? My parents arranged the marriage, as parents do most marriages in India, but I knew her before and love existed between us."

## Women's Role.

Reminiscently the Mahatma leaned back. "I started life as a legal adviser to a Mussalman firm in South Africa, and when I saw that the Indians there were being persecuted, I thought it was my duty to take up their cause.

"I therefore settled in South Africa and I was successful. The disabilities for which we were fighting were removed by a settlement of the South African Government.

"What would be the position of the women in India under Swaraj? They would be our co-workers and colleagues; enjoy the same rights and privileges as the men.

"No, I was not surprised to find I had so many sympathisers here. I fully expected it. I am hoping that the people of Great Britain will see the utter justice of India's claim.

## R. Papyah.

(late of P. Orr & Sons Ltd.)

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Consultation 8 a. m. to 1 p. m. and 3 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Y. 14. 12-11.3-32.

## Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7978.

In the matter of the estate of Thangapillai wife of Naganathar Kandiah of Chunnakam presently of Singapore

Deceased T. Kamaraswamy of Chunnakam attorney of Naganathar Kandiah of Chunnakam presently of Singapore.

Minor 1. Kandiah Navaratnam  
" 2. Sivapakkiam daughter of Kandiah  
" 3. Naganathar daughter of Kandiah  
" 4. Kandiah Soibinathan and  
" 5. Ampalavanar Murugesu all of Chunnakam.

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying that the abovesaid 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian ad-litem over the minors the abovesaid 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased be granted to the Petitioner, as the Attorney of Naganathar Kandiah husband of the deceased coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 15th day of October 1931 in the presence of Mr. T. S. Kanagaswamy, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovesaid 5th Respondent be appointed guardian ad-litem over the minors the abovesaid 1st to 4th Respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased be granted to the Petitioner as the Attorney of Naganathar Kandiah husband of the deceased, unless the abovesaid Respondents appear before this Court on the 25th day of November 1931 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

October, 1931.  
O. 297 12 & 16,

District Judge.

## ORDER NISI.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7986.

In the matter of the estate of the late Sankarappillai Murugesu Arulampalam of Mallekum.

Deceased. Arulampalam Muttukumaraswamy of Mallekum.

1. Arulampalam Nagendram and  
2. Arulampalam Sivapakkiam all of do

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna on the 23rd day of October 1931 in the presence of Messrs. Komaraswamy & Kanagaswamy, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased be granted to the Petitioner as the heirs of the said deceased, unless the abovesaid Respondents appear before this Court on the 30th day of November 1931 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This, 1 day of October 1931.

O. 298 12 & 16.

District Judge.

## NOTICE.

In order to avoid inconvenience and delay, our friends, who are good enough to send us advertisements, are kindly requested to see that the same are sent to us at least a day earlier than the date of publication.

Manager.

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