

# The Hindu Organ.

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

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ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XLIII—NO. 39. (Phone 56.) JAFFNA, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19, 1931. (Registered as a Newspaper.) PRICE 5 CTS.

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(Y. 7. 19—18—1—32.)

## London Editors' Talk with Mahatmaji.

"IF YOU WILL PLAY THE GAME— THEN CONGRESS WON'T OBSTRUCT"

### MAHATMAJI'S BILL OF FARE.

Mr E Wrench, the editor of the *Spectator*, writes in its issue dated October 24. Mr. Gandhi had promised to come round to see me at 8 o'clock, but knowing how many engagements he has to fulfil. I expected that he might be late. Within a couple of minutes of the appointed time I heard a motor car drive up and a minute later my parlourmaid opened the door of my sitting room and announced Mr. Gandhi. In flowing white robes, the prophet and leader of Indian Nationalism stood before me. Whether he would prefer to sit on cushions on the floor, on the sofa or in an armchair, and he chose the last. His flowing robe was a soft Kashmir shawl wound round him and his bare arms kept during the conversation when he wished to emphasize any point with his capable long fingered hands. His legs were bare and he wore sandals. Occasionally during the talk his feet would get uncovered and he would then wind the folds of his garments round his legs to keep himself warm, but he told me so far he has suffered no ill effects from the British climate.

The first impression, and a lasting one, which Mr Gandhi made on me was that of a 'human nest'. I felt entirely at home with him and I soon found myself talking to him as to an old friend. The second impression he made on me was that of his 'soul force'. Here was a man leading a life devoted to the ideals in which he believes with every fibre of his being. Our conversation lasted nearly three hours and it ranged over a very wide area, including Religion and Faith, World Co operation, sex and marriage, the treatment of animals, diet, the works of Ruskin and Tolstoy, and, of course, primarily, the future relations of Great Britain and India. The following represents some of the subjects discussed.

### Last Visit to England

Myself: I am very glad to have this opportunity of having a talk with you, Mr. Gandhi, for the benefit of the readers of the "Spectator".

Mr Gandhi: One of the things I wanted to do while in England was to talk to the editor of the "Spectator", because we in India appreciate very much the part the "Spectator" has played in enlightening the people of Great Britain on Indian problems. I know that you may not necessarily agree with all the views I hold, but I recognize that you have repeatedly stated in the columns of the "Spectator" that the only satisfactory basis for the future relations of Great Britain and India is one of friendship, absolute equality and a recognition of the fact that the people of India must be the final arbiters of their destiny.

Myself: Let's see; when were you last in England, Mr Gandhi? It was some time before the War, wasn't it?

Mr G: Yes, I visited England in 1909 and I was here again just two days after the outbreak of war. On that occasion I assisted in the organization of a Red Cross unit, but unfortunately I fell ill and a severe attack of pleurisy prevented my doing what I wanted to do before I returned to India at the end of November, that year.

### British Understanding of Indian Problem

Myself: What is your chief impression as regards the British understanding of the Indian problem to-day? Do you find that the public opinion has changed much?

## Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA Testamentary Jurisdiction No 7977. In the matter of the Intestate estate of the late Sannabandy Murgern of Sandilpay late of Colombo

Decedent. Annamma widow of Sannabandy Murgern of Mulligem

Petitioner.

vs.

Misc. 1 Murgern Thilainathan of Sandilpay 2 Annabavasar Kandasippillai of Sandilpay, presently of Baruwela Respondents.

This matter coming for disposal before D H Balcer Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 16th day of October 1931 in the presence of Mr. S. Hayathiramy, Esquire on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavits of the Petitioner dated the 26th day of June having been read:

It is ordered that the abovesaid 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st Respondent and the Petitioner be declared entitled to administer the said estate as the lawful widow of the decedent and that Letters of Administration be issued to her accordingly, unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 26th day of November 1931 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

November 8, 1931, Egd. D H Balcer, District Judge O 801 19 & 28

Mr G: Yes, I find a vast change in the attitude of the man in the street, and I have made a special point of talking with all sections of British people. I am very happy in London and I have received wonderful signs of affection from your ordinary folk. In the East End I have been greatly touched by the friendliness displayed. People come out of their houses and shake hands with me and wish me well. I was much gratified by the reception I received in Lancashire, where the people seemed to me to understand my position; and despite the fact that my policy in India was reported to have affected Lancashire so grievously, no grudge was borne me and I found genuine friendship both from operatives and employers alike.

Myself: What about the so-called upper and official classes. Do you think their opinion has changed and are they ready to give India what it wants?

Mr G: I fear they still do not understand the position and are not ready to give the freedom that we claim as our right. They think that India is not ready to-day to control her own affairs and I fear not many of them would be prepared to admit our right to the same freedom that Great Britain possesses; that is, the right to control our armed forces, our finances and our external affairs.

### Status of India

Myself: As you know Mr Gandhi, the "Spectator" has always been a great believer in what is called Dominion Status. We think it has achieved the apparently impossible task of reconciling two apparently opposite, cooperation and independence. Would India be satisfied do you think, with the same status that South Africa has as a Dominion within the British Commonwealth?

Mr G: I regard the status of India as unique. After all we represent a fifth of the human race. I do not think, therefore, that a political status which might suit Dominion of the British Commonwealth would necessarily suit us. You must remember that India

has been a subject nation for a very long time. If Great Britain approaches the question of the future relations between our peoples in a spirit of friendship with no reservations, she will not find India basking in an easy to meet her proffered hand. We would be quite ready once our right to independence has been recognized, to enter into an alliance or partnership on equal terms which would place the relations of Great Britain and India on a satisfactory basis.

Myself: Once Great Britain has stated finally and once for all that the peoples of India have the same right to control their own destiny that we have, do you think that India would still want to employ on terms within India's means, British officials, British soldiers, British technicians, and to the draw upon our experience in building up the Indian State of the future?

## Notice under the Excise Ordinance No. 8 of 1912

### LOCAL OPTION POLL IN MANNAR

It is hereby notified for public information that the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar, in exercise of the powers vested in him by rule 6 of the rules specified in Excise Notification No. 146 published in Government Gazette No. 7478 of August 14 1925, as amended by Excise Notification No. 180 published in Government Gazette No. 7661 of August 31 1928, has appointed the undermentioned date places for recording votes for the purpose of ascertaining whether 60 per cent of the inhabitants of the area mentioned below are in favour of re-opening the Arrack and Foreign Liquor Taverns at Periyakadal in Mannar Town.

Taverns:—Arrack and Foreign Liquor Taverns at Periyakadal, Mannar.

Date of Poll:—23rd January, 1932 (8 a. m. to 12 Noon and 1 p. m. to 6 p. m.)

Place of Poll:—Mannar Kachechery and Roman Catholic School at Pallimnall.

The Voters of Pallimnall shall vote at the Polling Station at Pallimnall.

Area Served:—Sinnakadal, Pettah, Moore's Street, Uppukulam, Panankaddikode, Periyakadal, Chavakkado, Tuddakaddo, Valsikode, Painters' Street, Tharankankodal, South Bar, Pallimnall.

M. K. T. SANDYS,  
Asst. Govt. Agent.  
(G. 118, 19th)

Mannar Kachechery,  
16th November 1931.

## The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1931

### JAFFNESE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY OF MALAYA.

—:O:—

JAFFNESE WHEREVER THEY ARE found, have shown a talent for organisation. This is particularly true of those sons of Jaffna who have gone to Malaya and distinguished themselves in different walks of life there. In Malaya our people are daily brought in contact with the enterprising Chinaman and the European businessman and evidently by this close association they have been able to learn something of business methods. Even when they return home after retirement they continue to show the same amount of energy, public spirit, and enterprise as characterised them during their official career in Malaya. For example, the present President of the Jaffna Co-operative Central Bank is a retired Malayan Government officer. The Manager of the "Hindu Organ" and the Saiva Prakasa Press is another retired gentleman; while in the various parts of Jaffna we have several Malayan Pensioners, some of whom are directors of various business concerns, some are pioneers in agricultural developments in the Wann, many are taking a very prominent part in the work of Village Committees and not a few who are spending their time and money in educational work. Jaffna is really proud of them for what they have already achieved in these various directions.

One of the greatest achievements of the Jaffnese in Malaya is the successful manner in which they have organised and conducted the Jaffnese Co-operative Society. This is the only communal society which appears to be doing well in Malaya. It speaks well for the co-operation, public spirit, and patriotic enthusiasm of its members that a society with a working-capital of a little over \$400,000 and membership totalling 1607 and covering an area very much larger than Ceylon, is able to hold its own side by side with very much bigger concerns directed and controlled by much more experienced and richer communities.

According to the Annual Report of the Society for the financial year ended 30th June, 1931, the net profit for the year is \$25,495-54 while a dividend of 5% is declared on \$287,170, the amount representing fully paid up shares. The balance of the profit goes, according to the recommendations of the Committee of Management, partly towards honarium to the chief honorary workers and partly towards philanthropic work such

as scholarship funds, Flood Relief Fund etc. A sum of \$189,000 of the Society's money is invested on pretty safe securities such as Singapore Municipal Debenture Stock and F. M. S. Government Loan. The working expenses in the year amounted to \$12,284.89 which represents nearly one third of the society's profit for the year but a redeeming feature is that they are considerably less than those in the previous year.

During the year under review the work of decentralisation recommended in the previous Half-yearly Report has proceeded with some success. There are now 23 sub-committees of which 10 are in the metropolis and 13 in outstations. The President, Mr. R. N. Thamby-Thurai, appears to have been in close touch with these various organisations. Considering the fact that the work of the society extends not only throughout F. M. S. but also embraces in its scope the Straits Settlements it would be advisable to have many more decentralisation sub-committees working particularly in the Straits Settlements. We find the response from the Colony is very poor. The number of members from Singapore is only 13 while Penang is able to give only 5 members. We hope the propaganda committee will take immediate steps to bring into existence the proposed bulletin and conduct a regular membership campaign during the ensuing year. It is gratifying to note that there are as many as 116 lady members but we see no reason why the number should not be increased. Ladies can do much to popularise the aims and objects of the society and we do hope that they find a place on the propaganda committee.

We are pleased to note that the "Committee of Management" met 62 times during the year which averages more than one meeting per week, and it is an index not only of the amount and urgency of the business of the society, but also of the willingness and faithfulness of the members of the Committee who have very loyally, and ungrudgingly performed their duties. The committee has done well in tightening the loan policy of the Society although it might mean the loss of a few self-interested members who joined the Society only for enjoying loans. Such members cannot be helpful to a society whose watchword is cooperation.

In Ceylon, as far as we are aware, the Co-operative Department does not charge any fee for inspecting accounts of Societies but in Malaya we understand that an audit fee of 50 cts. per member is being levied. This is rather unfortunate. The Malayan Societies, however, do not appear to be in favour of it. We hope strong representations would be made to the Registrar to suspend the working of this rule. We also feel that if the Society succeeds in getting the aid of Heads of Government Departments in the matter of the recovery of loans, the worries of the society would be considerably lessened. We agree that the formation of sub-committees will somewhat obviate the necessity for Government assistance in the matter but we are sure that with the assistance of Government the work of the sub-committees will be considerably lessened.

We also hope the Society will not forget the good services of Mr. A. Cavendish, the Director of Co-operation in Malaya. We have been in touch with the affairs of the society almost from the start and we are aware that the society owes much to the advice and encouragement given by Mr. Cavendish. Finally we join with the Committee of Management in its legitimate hope that the Members of the Jaffnese Co-operative Society will, by an excellent degree of regularity in dealings with the society, co-operation and patriotic enthusiasm, put the Society in an excellent position so that even its detractors may be drawn into it and be a source of new strength and further encouragement.

## Ceylon State Council.

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### RUANWELLA BY ELECTION

#### MRS MOLAMURE'S BIG MAJORITY.

The bye-election for Ruawella electorate took place on Saturday the 14th inst. There were four candidates who contested the seat of whom one is a woman, the wife of the Hon. Mr. Molamure, the Speaker of the State Council. Ballot boxes were opened on Monday morning, and counted Mrs. Molamure secured a big majority of 9,398 votes over Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardena, the Colombo Advocate.

### Ceylon's First Woman Councillor.

#### TO TAKE HER SEAT ON FRIDAY OR TUESDAY

It is reported that Mrs. A. F. Molamure, the newly elected member of the State Council for the Ruawella seat will take her seat in Council on Friday the 20th instant or on Tuesday the 24th instant, when the Council meets. She will on one of these dates will take her oaths before the Speaker.

A Gazette extraordinary issued on Tuesday night notifies her election to the State Council.

### The Chief Secretary.

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#### GOING ON LEAVE.

It is reported that the Hon. Sir Bernard Bourdillon, the Chief Secretary of Ceylon is going on leave about the middle of next year. It is understood that Mr. F. G. Tyrrell, Deputy Chief Secretary who is now on leave in England will have returned to Ceylon by the time Sir Broad goes on leave, and will act for him.

### The Matale Forgery Case.

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#### NO RE-TRIAL.

The Hon. Mr. Justice Lyall Grant delivered his order on Monday morning overruling the objections raised by Mr. R. L. Perera, K. C. and Mr. H. Sri Nissanka, defence Counsel in the above case in regard to the admissibility of the evidence of two prosecution witnesses. The trial was resumed at noon on Monday, and is proceeding.

### Galle Whaling Project "Off."

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#### ATTORNEY GENERAL RULES

It is reported that the Hon. the Attorney General has ruled out that the Whaling Licence issued to Mr. Barnetson, Director of Fabrica de Industrial Maritima, in January cannot be renewed next year because the Ceylon Whaling Ordinance makes no provision for the issue of a fresh licence during the pendency of the licence which has been already issued. The Attorney General's decision should now mean that the Whaling Project off Watering Point in Galle falls to the ground.

### State Councillor Sued.

#### PAYMENT BY INSTALLMENTS.

Mr. G. Crossetto Thambiah, Additional District Judge, Colombo has delivered his order on the application of Mr. G. K. W. Perera, Member of the State Council to allow himself and his wife to pay the plaintiffs in monthly instalments in the case in which Messrs. Gordon Fraser & Co., Ltd, sued them for the recovery of a sum of Rs. 6,499.36 on a promissory note. The Judge ordered that the defendants should pay the claim of the plaintiffs by monthly instalments of Rs. 200/ for six months from December 10, 1931, and thereafter at Rs. 300 per month until the claim is satisfied.

### Overstaffed Government Departments.

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#### MOTION FOR A COMMISSION.

At yesterday's meeting of the State Council Mr. G. R. de Soysa gave notice of a motion asking for the immediate appointment of a commission to report upon the over-stuffing of Staff Officers in Government Departments, and as to the desirability of reducing the number without impairing efficiency.

## News & Notes.

His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer a Viscounty upon Mr. Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer of the last Government and now Lord Privy Seal in the new Cabinet.

Mr. Vallabhai Patel, the Indian National Congress President, underwent a minor operation for nose trouble, and is making satisfactory progress. He has been ordered complete rest for a week.

The Council of India rejected by a big majority the proposal of the Government of India to increase the postal rates, which is expected to yield ninety lakhs of rupees.

The deficiency of Rs. 550/- in the security tendered by the Petitioner, Mr. H. B. Mendis in the Gampha Election Petition case had been deposited with the Registrar of the Supreme Court on Wednesday, and perfected.

His Excellency the Governor visited the Welikade Jail attended by his Private Secretary Mr. H. S. M. Hoare. He was shown round the various departments and quarters by Major Walker, I. G. Prisons, and other officers of the Prison Department.

At Tuesday's meeting of the State Council Mr. A. E. Goonasinghe again reopened the question of continuing the secret sessions of the State Council. It was finally decided that the future meetings should be open to the press and public.

At a meeting of the Urban District Council held on Saturday last a vote of Rs. 500/- was passed in connection with the proposed Health, Electricity, and Handicrafts Exhibition to be held by the Jaffna Health Association in the early part of next year.

The Hon. the Attorney General has ordered that a Police inquiry should be held in connection with the complaint made by one B. S. Fernando Levangama a merchant, against Podisinghe Gan Aratchi of Levangama of criminal intimidation of Voters, supporters of Mr. E. A. V. de Silva, a candidate for the Ruawella seat.

Mr. F. H. B. Koch who was specially gazetted to act as Additional District Judge of Colombo to try the case brought by Mr. F. Wells Jansz of Kottahena against the Colombo Municipality for the recovery of the sum of Rs. 2000/- as compensation owing to his not having been permitted to construct an upper floor as an addition to the buildings standing in his premises at Kottahena delivered his order on Monday for the Plaintiff as prayed for with costs.

It is reported that the new Secretariat buildings at Galle Face, have been strongly condemned by the Sanitary Department and proposals for alteration to suit sanitary conditions are being put forward by the Sanitary Department. A question is raised as to why the Public Works Department had not consulted the Sanitary Department when the plans were prepared? The various staffs accommodated are dissatisfied and thus lend support to the representation made by the Sanitary Department.

### MATRIMONIAL

—:O:—

#### SOMASEGARAM—SANMUGAM.

The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place of Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, Vice Principal, Victoria College, Chulipuram with Srimathy Vilvamangalamma daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. Sanmugam of Moolai, and niece of Mr. C. Ranganathan, Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, on Friday, November 27, 1931 at 12.30 p. m.

# HINDU EDUCATION WEEK.

DECEMBER 24th—31st.

The Hindu Board of Education is organizing a collection campaign to raise a sum of Rs. 100,000 which is urgently needed to avert the threatened ruin of the great work the Board is doing.

Financial difficulties have come to a crisis.

At this critical moment it is the duty of every Hindu who loves his religion to come to the aid of the Board.

The Board controls 58 Saiva Schools, A Saiva Training School and a Saiva Orphanage.

—Mis. 410 19

## Governor or U. D. C. Chairman?

### OPENING OF POWER HOUSE.

At a meeting of the Jaffna Urban District Council held on Saturday last the question as to who should open the Power House was discussed. Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, the Chairman stated that His Excellency the Governor will be in Jaffna in January 18, 1932, and open the Health, Electricity and Handicrafts Exhibition, and wished to know from the Members whether they would like to take advantage of the Governor's presence and invite him to open the Power House.

Mr. C. C. Somasegaram suggested that the Chairman or Mr. W. Duraiswamy be requested to perform the ceremony which raised laughter among the members. It was decided on the suggestion of the Chairman that the question be deferred for the next meeting of the Council.

## New Police Headquarters

### REMOVED TO OLD SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS

It is reported that the Police Headquarters will be removed to the old Secretariat building excepting the office of the A. S. P. Depot. When the offices are removed to Queen Street, the old police buildings will be converted into dwelling places for constables.

## Telephone Call from America.

### MAHATMA GANDHI INVITED.

Mahatma Gandhi had his first transatlantic telephone conversation on Tuesday when Bishop Fisher telephoned to him from America asking him to visit America. The Mahatma declined the offer.

## Income Tax Commissioner

### MR. HUXAM'S APPOINTMENT FAVOURED.

It is reported that the Financial Secretary, Sir W. W. Woods has submitted a lengthy memorandum to the Board of Ministers proposals regarding the composition of the Income Tax Department which is to come into being shortly. Sir W. W. Wood's recommendation with regard to the appointment of the first Commissioner of Income Tax has been formally approved by the Board of Ministers, at a meeting of the Board, held last Saturday. Mr. Woods has recommended Mr. Huxam, the Income Tax Adviser, as its first Commissioner.

## Prison Inquiry Report.

### RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT

In the State Council, yesterday, when the question of the votes for the Prison Department was discussed, Mr. M. J. Oary asked whether the Report of the Hon. Mr. Justice Garvin had been received by Government. The Chief Secretary replied that the report had been received by Government, and that it would take sometime before it is printed. Mr. George E. de Silva mentioned the desirability of lowering the salary of the Inspector-General of prisons, by appointing a local officer when the present holder retires.

## Sandirasegara Pillaiyar Kovil.

### MANAGER SEVERELY ASSAULTED

We understand that in connection with the "Soora-Sumara Festival" at the Sandirasegara Pillaiyar Temple at Nalluru, the Manager was severely assaulted last night. Two of the assailants have been arrested, and warrant is out for the arrest of the other. Details are awaited eagerly.

## Ramanathan Day.

### CELEBRATION IN COLOMBO

A meeting of the Ramanathan Day Celebration Committee was held on the 10th instant at 5.15 P.M. at the Vivekananda Society, Colombo.

It was decided to celebrate the anniversary of the death of Sir P. Ramanathan on the 15th of December 1931 at the Vivekananda Society, by having addresses on the life and ideals of the departed Leader and also an oratorical contest in English, the winner of which will be awarded a gold medal. It was also resolved that other public institutions be requested to observe the day.

## OBITUARY.

We regret to record the untimely death of Mr. A. Candiah Pillai of No. 180, Dalhousie Street, Rangoon on Sunday, September 27, 1931 at his residence at Rangoon. The deceased had been ailing for some time, and passed away peacefully in the midst of all his wife and children. We express our condolence to bereaved family, and to his son Mr. O. S. Ratanam, particularly.

## A Buddhist Monument.

On Wednesday the 11th instant, the Great Vihara which has been raised on the site near Benares where Gautama Buddha preached his first sermon, was opened in the presence of a large congregation of followers and students of the illustrious teacher who had come from many countries. Buddhism, as foreigners think, is not extinct in the lands of its birth. It was never expelled from India. In the course of centuries popular Buddhism became indistinguishable from popular Hinduism and the Hindu revival which followed absorbed in large part the teachings of Sakyamuni. The opening of this shrine will give a stimulus to the study and contemplation of His graceful life and teachings which are among the most precious heritages of this land. (I.S.B.)



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—(X. S. 1—31 12 82) (A)

## The Colombo Observatory.

SUPERINTENDENT RETIRES.  
Mr. A. J. Balford, Superintendent, Colombo Observatory retired from service after many years service and sailed for London yesterday. He took advantage of the Donoughmore Sabana, and retired.

