

The Jaffna Organ.

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(Y. 7. 19—18—1—32.)

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7986
In the matter of the estate of Thangammah wife of Sabapathippillai Muttiah of Karativu West late of Kuala Lumpur in the Federated Malay States.

Deceased.
Sabapathippillai Ponniah of Karativu East
Vs.
Petitioner.

- Minor. 1. Muttiah Nadarejab and
2. Valliammal widow of Suppar both of Karativu West.

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of Sabapathippillai Ponniah the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Thangammah wife of Sabapathippillai Muttiah coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, on September 23rd 1931, in the presence of Mr. T. Arumainayagam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated September 17th 1931, having been read, it is ordered that the 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-rem over the 1st Respondents and that the petitioner as the attorney of Sabapathippillai Muttiah husband of the said intestate is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the 2nd Respondent or any other person shall on or before November 18th 1931 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,

October 9, 1931. District Judge.

Order Nisi extended till 11th December 1931.

O. 807 7 & 10.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7992
In the Matter of the estate of the late Visuvanathar Ponniah of Manipay

Deceased
Visuvanathar Sinnatampy of Manipay
Vs.
Petitioner.

1. Thangammah widow of Chellappa of Visuvanatha Villa, Manipay South and
2. Nagammah widow of Ponniah of Araly South

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Visuvanathar Ponniah of Manipay coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, on the 30th day of October 1931 in the presence of Mr. P. K. Somesundaram, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 27th day of October 1931 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the brother of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before the 11th day of December 1931, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,

November 16, 1931. District Judge.

O. 806 7 & 10.

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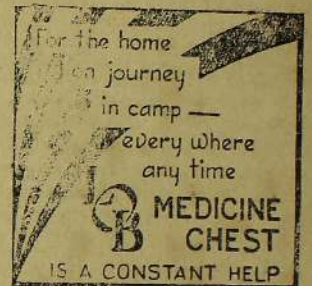
3 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Y. 14. 1—11.3-32.

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(Y. 8. 1—81 12 32) (A)

ORDER NISI.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
ANURADHAPURA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 430/7957.
In the Matter of the estate of the late Vethavanam Sabapathippillai of Anuradhapura

Deceased.
Aramba Sinnarama of Anuradhapura
Vs.
Petitioner.

Sabapathippillai Vethanayagam by his guardian ad litem Sinnatampy Kandiah of Anuradhapura

Respondent.

This matter of the petition of Aramba Sinnarama aforesaid praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Vethavanam Sabapathippillai, coming on for disposal before J. N. Vethavanam Esquire, District Judge, on the 2nd day of December 1931 in the presence of Mr. V. Ramaswamy, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 27th day of August 1931, having been read, it is declared that the petitioner is the mother in law of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 21st day of December 1931, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

J. N. Vethavanam,
District Judge.

December 2, 1931.

O. 808, 10 & 14.

NOTICE.

Victoria College, Obulipuram, re-opens after the Tiruempavai holidays on the 30th inst. A London Matriculation Class will be formed for the examinations of June 1932 and January 1933.

S. SHIVAPADASUNDARAM,
Principal.

10th December 1931 Mis 426 10

The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1931.

COST OF EDUCATION

THERE HAS BEEN RECENTLY A LOT OF correspondence in the press on the high cost of education in Ceylon. Not only in the case of the average parent but also from the point of view of the State, the 'education bill' appears to be the heaviest. Various remedies have been suggested but they all seem to be mere patchwork and touch but the fringe of the subject. The people of Ceylon are an improvident race and believe only in patchwork. Each generation lives for itself and no wonder the present generation will be quite satisfied if it could just manage to get over the prevailing depression. We are all gamblers by instinct, and we appear to imagine that a golden age will succeed this period of gloom. But if we think seriously we shall find out that there is no silver lining in the cloud either in the near future or in the distant future. This is a good time to take stock of things and if we are sensible we should plan for all times of adversity.

Education taxes the average parent in two different ways. He pays directly in the shape of school fees, money for books and clothes and in many cases even for endowment of schools. Most of the institutions in Ceylon have been founded and are being run by public or denominational agencies. Indirectly almost every person in the Island pays tax, part of which goes towards the maintenance of the Education Department and the Government schools and colleges and for paying grants to aided institutions. Grants and school fees together cover the cost of teachers' salaries. Now if we are to effect retrenchment we must look into each of these several items and see how far it is possible to bring about an all-round reduction in the cost of education.

There is also another aspect of the question and that is the large amount of money which goes out of this country as examination fees. We see no purpose in running parallel examinations or examinations having the same standard and value where we could easily manage with only one of them. Let us take for example the Cambridge Junior Certificate Examination and the local E. S. L. C. Examination. As far as Ceylon is concerned, they are very nearly of the same standard and are recognised as such by all Government Departments. Even if the E. S. L. C. standard is not up to the mark, it is within our power to raise its standard without incurring much expenditure. But that which makes the greatest difference between the two examinations is the cost of their fees. The fees for the E. S. L. C. Examination is only Rs. 3-50, whereas the cost of fee for the Cambridge Junior Certificate Examination is Rs. 24/-, nearly seven times as much as that for the E. S. L. C. Examination. It is understood that the authorities are seriously considering the abolition of the Cambridge Junior Examination. We cannot understand their hesitation. The sooner it is done, the better it would be for all concerned.

We believe the same thing may be said with regard to the Cambridge Senior Certificate and London Matriculation Examinations, though the cost of fee for the former is somewhat less than that for the latter. However, it is admitted that the London Matriculation Certificate has a higher value in the world than a mere Cambridge Senior Certificate. Even now students have to qualify for exemption before they could proceed with their University studies. Since in Ceylon higher studies are mainly confined to the London University, we see no reason why at some time in the intermediate stages the Cambridge University should step in. There is no point in entering a University which cannot take us as high as it is possible for it to provide for us.

It is our opinion that the system of education in Ceylon could be much more simplified if one can get rid of these superfluous examinations. We find that in the lower forms of Senior Secondary Schools as far as the pre-Junior form, there is not very much difference between the syllabus followed and the syllabus prescribed for Junior Secondary Schools. Yet there is a marked difference in the scales of salaries of teachers between the two types of schools. We cannot understand this invidious distinction. Since there is provision for a Senior Secondary School to adopt a lower scale we think it is quite possible to make both Junior Secondary Schools and Senior Secondary Schools adopt a uniform scale.

The work of schools will be much more simplified and the cost of education will be greatly reduced if we can get rid of the Cambridge examinations altogether and have only one course for all English schools leading up to the London Matriculation examination. From the Primary school a boy passes into the Junior Secondary School and remains there till he passes the E. S. L. C. Examination paying only Rs. 3/50 as examination fee. Then he gets into the Senior Secondary school and appears for the London Matriculation examination in two years. Schools will have less trouble. The Education Department will have less work. Parents and pupils will have less worry and there will be an all-round reduction in the cost of education.

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THE HINDU BOARD

Rs. 100,000/- wanted
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If every Saivite gives a
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Hindu Education Week
December 24th-31st.

Personal.

Mr. C. Sankararam, the eldest son of the late Mr. N. Chemburaj, Udayar of Kandavil and Clerk, Ceylon Government Clerical Service, has been promoted to Class I with effect from 1st August 1931.

Jaffna U. D. C. Assessment Work.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD'S APPROVAL.

The Local Government Board, at its meeting of the 30th ultimo, assented to the request of the Jaffna Urban District Council to pay its Secretary Rs. 180/- for work in connection with the assessments during the current year in view of the fact that he had already done the work, but did so on the distinct understanding that this would be the last occasion on which the Board would approve such remuneration.

Jaffna U. D. C. Elections

DETAILS OF VOTES.

The following figures give the details of votes registered at the various polling centres at the last triennial elections for the Jaffna Urban District Council:—

Ward No. 3	
Mr. R. Subramaniam	224
Mr. V. A. Duralappah	178
Dr. Vethivelu	74
Ward No. 5	
Mr. Ramapillai Rajadurai	259
Mr. K. Somasundaram	245
Majority	14
Ward No. 6	
Mr. K. Aiyadurai	252
Mr. M. Assaipillai	207
Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai	134
Ward No. 7	
Mr. R. Sivagurunathan	664
Mr. S. Patanjali	306
Majority	358
Ward No. 8	
Mr. Sam. A. Sabapathy	847
Mr. A. M. Abdul Cader	727
Majority	120

Election Petition Against Doctor.

INQUIRY OPENS IN COLOMBO

The inquiry commenced on Monday at the Supreme Court, Colombo, before Mr. Justice De-Isberg into the Election Petition submitted by Dr. E. M. Piaris de Saaram Place, Colombo, praying to have the election of Dr. R. Saravanamuttu, as Member of the State Council for the Colombo North electorate declared void on grounds of bribery, undue influence, personation and conveyance of voters.

Mr. Francis de Zuy a K. O. with Messrs. L. G. Gunasekera instructed by Messrs. S. A. Jayasekera and Valentine S. Perera appeared for the Petitioner.

Mr. F. J. Soeritz with Messrs. T. F. C. Roberts, S. J. V. Obelvaayagam and H. E. Amerasinghe instructed by Mr. N. Saravanamuttu appeared for the respondent.

Ramanathan Day.

PUBLIC CELEBRATION AT PARAMESHWARA COLLEGE

The Thirteenth instant will be celebrated as the Ramanathan Day by the public of Jaffna.

Processions from various parts of Jaffna will converge at Parameshwara College at about 5 p.m. A public meeting will then be held in the College hall.

Income Tax Bill.

SECOND READING IN COUNCIL

The Financial Secretary, Sir Wilfred Woods moved the Second Reading of the Income Tax Bill on Tuesday.

Liberal League's Attitude.

The Liberal League Executive has decided on Tuesday that the Liberal policy of insisting upon immediate retrenchment before fresh taxation be communicated to the Liberal Members in the State Council with a request that they should support this view on the Income Tax Debate in Council.

Mr. Lloyd George in Colombo.

TO STAY A WEEK IN THE ISLAND.

The Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George, his wife, and their daughter, Miss Megan Lloyd George landed in Colombo at 9 a.m. on Monday. They were received at the jetty by a large gathering. The Hon. Mr. A. F. Molamere, Speaker of the Council welcomed the party on behalf of the people of the Island.

Mr. Lloyd George addressing the gathering said: 'I thank you on behalf of myself my wife, my daughter and my friends for the exceedingly kind welcome given us to this beautiful Island. I have only heard of it so far by report, but judging from the gateway the Island must indeed be a very beautiful one. It is a beautiful gateway to an exceedingly exquisite Island. After I have been a few days round I am sure you will meet me with an opportunity of telling you what my impressions are. For the moment they are enhanced a great deal by the cordiality of the welcome of those who dwell in this beautiful Island.'

Mr. Lloyd George and party will leave Ceylon on December 16th or 17th. It is stated that he has much improved in health.

News & Notes.

Sir C. V. Raman has been invited to attend the ninth session of the International Congress of Chemists to be held in Madrid in April 1932. He is expected to open discussion there on "Raman effect in relation to the Chemical Constitution."

It is understood that Dr. L. D. Parsons, F.R.E.S., M.B., Ch.B., Medical Superintendent of the Angoda Lunatic Asylum has announced his intention of retiring under the provisions of the new constitution. He leaves the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services on April 20th, 1932.

A number of officers who were to have been seconded for duty in India have received an official communication that they are to remain at Home, says the "Morning Post's" military correspondent. According to Reuters, the explanation may be reasons of economy, but the decision is so sudden as to suggest that something out of the ordinary has occurred.

It is said that Mr. Lloyd George has brought with him to Ceylon his Manuscript of War Memoirs which he commenced writing about the beginning of last month. His intimate and first-hand knowledge of all the secrets of the Great War will make the book, when it is finished, very interesting. So far the memoirs have been written by hand but neither the title nor the form which they will take has been decided upon.

Fifteen hundred "hunger marchers" who arrived in lorries and motor cars from all parts of the United States clamoured for Mr. Hoover outside White House when the 72nd Congress opened last Monday. Strong posses of Police bristling with machine guns and tear-gas bombs guarded the Capitol and White House. Previously, the marchers including many negroes endeavoured to gain admission to the floor of the Senate. They were twice repulsed by the police.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru executed on the 5th instant the deed of trust of the "Swaraj Bhawan," formerly known as the Anand Bhawan, where Pandit Motilal Nehru lived, for the general benefit of the people of India as represented by the Indian National Congress. The deed, among other things, recites that he is desirous of carrying out his father's wishes and of transferring the property to the trustees for the benefit of the Indian people; for the advancement of knowledge, health, social and economic well being and specially with the object of promoting unity among all classes and creeds of the Indian people; for raising the status of the Indian woman and for the elevation and betterment in all respects of the suppressed classes in India and the Indian workers and peasants; and for the promotion of social equality among all peoples and classes in India. The trustees appointed under the deed are Dr. M. A. Ansari, Delhi, Mrs. Perinbat Captain, Bombay, Seth Jammalal Bajaj, Wardha, C. P., Dr. B. C. Roy, Calcutta and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehrū himself.

Cheap Railway Tickets.

TO COMMENCE ON DECEMBER 19

First, second and third class tickets at single fare for double journey will be issued from all stations distant 50 miles and over from 19th December to 31st January available for return up to and including 9th January.

As during last year concession rates are extended to those passengers who intend spending their holidays in India.

Mahatmaji in France.
ADDRESS TO FRENCH YOUTH.

London, Dec. 5th

Squatting Buddha-like on a table in a gilded dance hall, Mr Gandhi this evening expounded his doctrine to a gathering of 2,000, consisting mostly of youthful persons.

He urged the French to study deeply the Indian independence movement, which has based on truth and nonviolence.

Replying to questions, Mr. Gandhi expressed the opinion that there was a chance of a mutual settlement of the Indian problem.

He said he was not satisfied with Mr. MacDonald's speech.

"God only knew" how long it would take India to obtain independence.

Mr Gandhi, who was obviously very tired at the end of the evening, was greeted with tremendous cheers.

Interview to Pressmen.

London, Dec 6th

Montreux—Mr. Gandhi, squatted on cushions and wrapped in a white shawl, received this evening a small party of Pressmen and a few friends, including ladies.

Replying to questions, he said he had nothing to add to what he said prior to his departure from London.

He flatly denied the report from London published in a Geneva newspaper that Indians would resort to violence if their wishes were not realized. He said that personally he would give his life to prevent this.

Asked with regard to Mr. MacDonald's statement in the House of Commons, Mr. Gandhi said he would like to hear the views of the Congress before making any pronouncement on the statement.

His message to the people of India was that they should come to no hasty conclusion but await his statement.

Mr. Gandhi will leave Villeneuve on Friday, en route to Rome, where he will break his journey before embarking at Brindisi on December 14th for India. (Times)

Stationmaster who was Missing.

JAFFNA TRAIN HELD UP FOR AN HOUR.

Considerable excitement attended an unusual incident which was responsible for the down Jaffna mail being held up a few days ago for over an hour at a station on the Northern Line while a search was made for the Stationmaster and the Officer in-Charge says the "Observer." The search, however, proved fruitless, and as the train had somehow to be started, a railway officer who was travelling in the train temporarily took charge of the station and gave the authority for the train to proceed. It was only the following morning that the Stationmaster and the Officer in Charge arrived at the station, it is stated, after having lost their way in a forest.

None in Authority.

It appears that the train left Paranthan as usual and on arrival at Mankulam at about 9.50 P.M. was held up at the signals. A Railway policeman working at Mankulam who saw the train enabled it to proceed to the platform by lowering the signals. No one in authority being present at the station either to receive the train or to give the necessary permit for the train to proceed, considerable excitement prevailed among the passengers. A search was made for the Stationmaster and the Officer in Charge but they could not be found and it was gathered from the uniform staff at the station that both of them left the station some hours earlier and had not returned.

Hour's Delay.

A Railway Divisional Traffic Inspector who happened to be travelling by that train at once communicated with the Divisional Transportation Superintendent's Office at Anuradhapura for instructions as to what could be done in the circumstances. It was an extraordinary situation and, according to regulations, the train could not leave the station without the necessary permit from someone in authority at the station. In the meantime every compartment in the train was searched with a view to finding any Railway officer who was qualified to take charge of the train. Fortunately a clerk who was returning from leave was found and with the approval of the Divisional Transportation Superintendent, which was obtained on the telephone, he was temporarily placed in charge. The train eventually left after a delay of over an hour.

Monthly Payment of Grant to Schools.

NEW EDUCATION ORDINANCE.

It is learnt says the "Ceylon Independent" that the Executive Committee of Education will sit for three consecutive days, commencing on Tuesday morning, to consider the draft of the new Education Ordinance before it is submitted to the State Council for discussion.

Features of the new Ordinance are understood to be better provision of medical treatment and of prompt payment of teachers' salaries.

The salaries of the teachers are to be paid by the Government monthly instead of the annual Government grant.

The different schools under various managements will be brought under the control of Government and supervised to a wider degree than now by Education District Committees.

Health and Sanitation.

The Ordinance makes particular provision for Health treatment.

The Education Committees are expected to supervise the Health and Sanitary treatment in schools. In case of sickness the Committees have to get the children treated by efficient medical practitioners and charge the expense against the parents. Free treatment is afforded to children of poor parents.

The Ordinance, it is understood, also makes provision for many free scholarships.

The Commercial Corporation.

MEETING OF CREDITORS

Mr. Edward Mather Liquidator of the Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd. sends us the following account of a meeting of the creditors of the Corporation:—

In pursuance to a notice issued to all creditors dated 27th November 1931, by the Liquidator of the Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd. (in Liquidation) a large number assembled in the Bank Hall at 3 p.m. on Monday the 7th December, 1931.

Mr. J. V. Obelliah M. A., Editor of the "Morning Star" was voted to the chair.

The Liquidator Mr. Edward Mather J.P., submitted accounts and invited those present to ask him questions. Messrs O. W. Phelps, O. P. Thamotheram, A. Arucasalam were among those who asked questions.

The Chairman addressed the meeting. Thereupon Mr. O. P. Thamotheram B. A., Principal Hartley College, Point Pedro, moved the following resolutions, and Mr. V. Ponnampalam seconded it, and Mr. O. W. Phelps supported it.

"The Creditors assembled in special meeting desire to express their full appreciation of the great efforts made by the Liquidator appointed by the meeting of the shareholders and their confidence in his capacity and satisfaction at the rate at which payments have been made during the last three months."

Mr. V. Joseph advocate rising amidst applause spoke as follows:—

"We have unanimously passed a resolution reposing our full confidence in Mr. Edward Mather as Liquidator of the affairs of the Jaffna Commercial Corporation. The resolution which I am going to submit to you is merely a corollary to the one accepted,

I see in this Hall many responsible and self-respecting men. It is with feelings of disgust that we have seen a campaign of vituperation engineered against Mr. Mather. Many of you have experience of the Commercial life of this town, all of you have had dealings with the Corporation. We have seen how efficiently, honourably, true to the great traditions set by the founder of the firm, the late revered William Mather, his son has carried on the business. As he has told you he has been connected with the business for the last 36 years. Every one of those years of loyal efficient service—is a certificate in his favour. You have seen the last balance sheet of the Corporation. It is a document which does credit to the business acumen of Mr. Mather. We ought to be thankful that under such adverse conditions the balance sheet discloses such a creditable state of affairs. The creditors of the Company have already been paid a 30% of their deposit, and, but for the unfortunate case which has been filed, Mr. Mather would have

Continued up

Hindu Women's Movement

FANCY BAZAAR.

A fancy bazaar, organized by the Colombo Hindu Women's movement, was held on Saturday afternoon, at Naga Villa, Bambalapitiya.

The arrangements, directed by the Secretary of the movement, Mrs. Nallanathan, were splendid, and the bungalow and grounds were tastefully decorated. There were, in all, eight stalls—the linen stall, vegetable stall, fruit stall, flower stall, Ceylon produce stall, refreshment stall and the Indian stall.

Lady Arunachalam, Patron of the movement, arrived shortly after 2 o'clock and was welcomed by the President, Mrs. T. Thirunavakaras, and the stall holders. She then declared the fair open, expressing great pleasure in doing so.

The following were the stall holders and their helpers:—

Linen Stall: Mrs. K. Sathasivam and Mrs. Nagalingam.

Vegetable Stall: Mrs. Sithamparapillai, Mrs. Sabaratnam, Mrs. Nagalingam and Mrs. Thiagarajah.

Fruit Stall: Mrs. Kandasamy and Mrs. Nagarathnam.

Flower Stall: Mrs. Obelliah, Mrs. Sithamparapillai, Miss Obelliah, Miss I. Sathasivam and Miss R. Rajaratnam.

Ceylon Produce Stall: Mrs. John Rockwood, Misses Rockwood, Mrs. S. Selladurai, Mrs. S. Somasundaram, and Mrs. S. Thyagarajah.

Spinning Corner: Mrs. Rajaratnam Misses Ponnampalam and Misses Sithamparapillai.

Refreshment Stall: Mrs. K. Namasivagam, Mrs. M. Tambyah, Miss Tambyah, Miss Rajaratnam and Miss J. Ponniah.

Lucky Dip: Miss O. Ponniah.

Indian Stall: Mrs. S. Rajaratnam.

State Mortgage Bank.

FRAMING OF BYE LAWS

The "Ceylon Independent" understands that the Directors of the State Mortgage Bank are at present engaged in framing the bye-laws to govern the working of the Bank. In accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance of the Bank it was established on December 6th till the bye-laws are framed the Bank will not function. The Directors expect that the bank will commence to operate by January, 1932.

Location

Government, it is understood has offered the Directors the use of two rooms at the Old Education Office to accommodate the Bank. The question of site however has still not been finally settled.

With regard to the appointment of a Manager and clerical staff it appears that the Directors have decided to advertise in the local Press.

It is understood that the Directors have already received several applications for loans and the purchase of Dabenturea. The volume of business already in the hands of the Directors is stated to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of over a lakh of rupees.

Applications for Posts

Already, without any advertisement in the local Press, the Directors have received applications for the post of manager. The applicants include several with experience of Bank working and Government Servants in the first and second class of the Clerical Service. However no appointment will be made till the posts are duly advertised. The selections will take place by the beginning of January.

Continued

had the opportunity of making another payment. It is fortunate that Mr. Mather took the opportunity of placing before the shareholders a true and correct statement of the affairs of the Corporation, and advise them that time had come to wind up the affairs of the Company. Mr. Mather's connection with the firm for the last 36 years, his intimate knowledge of the affairs of the Company, its securities, his knowledge of the courts and people make an ideal and acceptable Liquidator. The resolution which I have pleasure in submitting for your acceptance is that the creditors of the Corporation in meeting assembled resolved that Mr. Edward Mather do continue as Liquidator of the Company."

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting terminated.

Ceylon Government Railway. NOTICE.

CHEAP TICKETS FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS 1931-1932.

Cheap tickets will be issued between all stations distant 50 miles and over on the Ceylon Government Railway from December 19, 1931, to January 8, 1932, available for return up to January 9, 1932.

Cheap tickets from all stations distant 50 miles and more from Talaimannar Pier on the C. G. R. will be issued to stations Manamadurai and beyond on the South Indian Railway and vice versa from December 11 to 31, 1931, available for completion of the return journey up to midnight of January 15, 1932.

For full particulars see poster notices exhibited at stations.

T. F. DUTTON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office,
Colombo, December 8 1931.
G. 128, 101b.

Headman Convicted.

FAINTS AFTER SENTENCE

One M. C. Appabamy, Police Headman of Pihakattumulla in the Obilaw District, was charged before Mr. E. B. Selvadurai, District Judge of Obilaw with perjury in the course of a trial of a case in the Court of Requests Obilaw. After a lengthy hearing, the Judge convicted the accused and sentenced him to a term of six months' rigorous imprisonment, and in the event of his appeal, bail on Rs. 200/-. When the sentence was passed the accused fainted and fell. A Doctor was called and later he was taken charge of by Fiscal's Guards.

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BECAUSE our TILES are LIGHT.
our TILES are DURABLE.
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and above all
THEY ARE DEAD PROOF against
TROPICAL HEAT AND RAIN.
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Sole Agents,
Jaffna, Kankesanthurai
& Point Pedro.

Telephone (Jaffna) No. 93.
H. 14. 10 12-31—9-6 32.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7850.

In the matter of the estate of the late Paruthippillai wife of Somasundaram of Vannarponnal East

Deceased,
Veeravagupillai Somasundaram of Vannarponnal East
Petitioner.

Vs.

- 1. Arumugam Namasivayam of Vannarponnal West and
- 2. Ponniah Rajakopal of Vannarponnal West Respondents

This matter coming for disposal before D. H. Halfour Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 12th day of March 1931 in the presence of Mr. S. Parasujah, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read; It is ordered that the 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st Respondent and that the Petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration in the estate of the said intestate unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 4th day of May 1931 and show cause to the contrary.

Sd/- D. H. Halfour,
District Judge.
April 1, 1931.
Time extended to 2-11-31.
Again extended to 7-11-1931.
Again extended to 14th December 1931.
O. 809. 10 & 14.

Full Text of Premier's Statement.

CLOSING OF R. T. C.

The following is the full text of the Premier's speech delivered at the close of the Second session of the Round Table Conference on the 1st instant:—

We have now had two sessions of the Round Table Conference and the time has come to survey the important work which has been done first of all in setting out the problems, which is the task of Indian constitution-building we have to surmount and then in trying to find how to surmount them. The reports presented to us now bring our co-operation to the end of another stage and we must pause and study what has been done and the obstacles which we have encountered and the best ways and means of bringing our work to a successful and as rapidly as possible.

"I regard our discussions and our personal contacts here as of the highest value and make bold to say that they have raised the problem of Indian constitutional reform far above the mere technicalities of constitution-making, for, we have won that confidence in and respect for each other, which has made the task one of helpful political co-operation. That, I am confident, will continue to the end. By co-operation alone can we succeed.

"2. At the beginning of the year, I made a declaration of the policy of the then Government and I am authorised by the present one to give you and India a specific assurance, that it remains their policy. I shall repeat the salient sentences of that declaration.

"The view of His Majesty's Government is that responsibility for the Government of India should be placed upon the legislatures, Central and Provincial, with such provisions as may be necessary to guarantee, during the period of transition, observance of certain obligations and to meet other special circumstances and also with such guarantees as are required by the Minorities to protect their political liberties and rights. In such statutory safeguards as may be made for meeting the needs of the transitional period it will be the primary concern of His Majesty's Government to see that the reserved powers are so framed and exercised as not to prejudice the advance of India through the new constitution to full Responsibility for her own Government."

"3. With regard to Central Government, I made it plain that subject to defined conditions, His Majesty's late Government were prepared to recognise the principle of the Executive to the Legislature if both were constituted on an All-India Federal basis.

"The principle of Responsibility was to be subject to the qualification, that in the existing circumstances, Defence and External Affairs must be reserved to the Governor-General and that, in regard to Finance, such conditions must apply as would ensure the fulfilment of the obligations incurred under the authority of the Secretary of State and the maintenance, unimpaired, of the financial stability and credit of India.

"4. Finally, it was our view that the Governor-General must be granted the necessary powers to enable him to fulfil his responsibility for securing the observance of the constitutional rights of minorities and for ultimately maintaining the tranquillity of the State.

"5. These were, in broad outline, the features of the new constitution for India, as contemplated by His Majesty's Government at the end of the last Conference.

"6. As I say, my colleagues in His Majesty's present Government fully accept that statement of January last as representing their own policy. In particular, they desire to reaffirm their belief in an All-India Federation as offering the only hopeful solution of India's constitutional problem. They intend to pursue this plan unwaveringly and to do their utmost to surmount the difficulties which now stand in the way of its realisation.

"In order to give this declaration the fullest authority, the statement which I am now making to you, will be circulated to-day as a White Paper to both Houses of Parliament and the Government will ask Parliament to approve it this week.

"The Difficulties"

"7. The discussions which have been proceeding during the past two months have been of value in showing us more precisely the problems we have to solve and have advanced us towards the solution of them. But they have also made it plain that others still require further examination and co-operative consideration. There is still difference of opinion, for instance, as to the composition of powers of the Federal Legislature and I regret that owing to the absence of a settlement of the key question of how to safeguard the Minorities under a Responsible Central Government, the Conference has been unable to discuss effectively the nature of the Federal Executive and its relationship with the Legislature. Again, it has not yet been possible for the States to settle amongst themselves their place in the Federation and their mutual relation-

ship within it. Our common purpose will not be advanced by ignoring these facts nor by assuming that the difficulties they present will somehow solve themselves.

"Further Discussions Required"

"Further thought, discussion and reconciliation of different interests and points of view are still required before we can translate the broad general aims into the detailed machinery of a workable constitution. I am not saying this to indicate the impossibility of nor to overshadow any pause in our work. I only wish to remind you that we have put our hands to a task which demands alike from His Majesty's Government and from the leaders of Indian opinion care, courage, and time, lest, when the work is done, it may bring confusion and disappointment and, instead of opening the way to political progress, may effectively bar it. We must build like good craftsmen well and truly. Our duty to India demands that from all of us.

"8. What then is the general position in which we find ourselves as regards a practical programme for the advancement of our common aims? I want no more general declarations which carry us no further in our work. The declarations already made and repeated to day are enough to give confidence in the purpose of the Government and to provide work for the Committees to which I shall refer. I want to keep to business. The great idea of an All-India Federation still holds the field. The principle of a responsible Federal Government subject to certain reservations and safeguards through the transitional period remains unchanged. And we are all agreed that the Governor's provinces of the future are to be responsibly-governed units enjoying the greatest possible measure of freedom from outside interference and dictation in carrying out their own policies in their own sphere.

Future of Frontier Province.

"9. I should explain at once in connection with that the last point that we contemplate as one feature of the new order that the North West Frontier Province should be constituted a Governor's Province, not with any regard to the necessary requirements of the Frontier and that, as in all other Governor's provinces, the powers entrusted to the Governor to safeguard the safety and tranquillity of the Province shall be real and effective.

Sind to be separate Province.

"10. His Majesty's Government also accept, in principle, the proposition which was endorsed at the last Conference that Sind should be constituted a separate Province if a satisfactory means of financing it can be found. We, therefore, intend to ask the Government of India to arrange for a conference with the representatives of Sind for the purpose of trying to overcome the difficulties disclosed by the report of the expert financial investigation which has just been completed.

"Federation not to be Achieved in a Month."

"11. But I have degenerated from the question of a programme in the light of the accepted factors—Federation as the aim and self-governing provinces and the Indian States as its basis. As I have said, our discussions have made it clear to all of us that a Federation cannot be achieved in a month or two. There is a mass of difficult constructive work still to be done and there are important agreements to be sought by which the structure must be shaped and cemented.

"It is equally plain that the framing of a scheme of Responsible Government for the Provinces would be a simpler task which could be more speedily accomplished. The adjustments and modifications of the powers now exercised by the Central Government which would obviously have to be made in order to give real Self Government to the Provinces should raise no insuperable difficulties. It has, therefore, been passed upon the Government that the surest and speediest route to a Federation would be to get these measures in train forthwith and not to delay the assumption of full responsibility by the Provinces a day longer than is necessary. But it is clear that a partial advance does not commend itself to you. (Applause) You have indicated your desire that no change should be made in the constitution which is not effected by one all-embracing statute covering the whole field and His Majesty's Government have no intention of urging a responsibility, which, for whatever reasons, is considered at the moment premature or ill advised. It may be that opinion and circumstances will change and it is not necessary here and now to take any irrevocable decision.

"We intend and have always intended to press on with all possible despatch with the Federal plan.

"It would clearly be indefensible, however, to allow the present decision to stand in the way of the earliest possible constitutional advances in the North West Frontier Province. We intend therefore to take the necessary steps as soon as may be to apply to the North West Frontier Province, until the new constitutions are established, the provisions of the present Act relating to Governor's Provinces.

The Communal Question.

"12. We must all, however, realise that there stands in the way of progress, whether for the Provinces or the Centre, that formidable obstacle: the communal deadlock. I have never concealed from you my conviction that this is, above all others, a problem for you to settle by agreement amongst yourselves. The first of the privileges and the burdens of a self governing people is to agree how the democratic principle of representation is to be applied, or, in other words, who are to be represented and how it is to be done. This Conference has twice essayed this task. Twice it has failed. I cannot believe that you will demand that we shall accept these failures as final and conclusive.

"13. But time presses. We shall soon find that our endeavours to proceed with our plans are held up (indeed they have been held up already).

"If you cannot present us with a settlement acceptable to all parties as the foundations upon which to build, in that event His Majesty's Government would be compelled to a provisional scheme, for they are determined that even this disability shall not be permitted to be a bar to progress.

"This would mean that His Majesty's Government would have to settle for you not only your problems of representation, but also to decide as wisely and justly as possible, what checks and balances the constitution is to contain to protect the minorities from an unrestricted and tyrannical use of the democratic principle expressing itself solely through the majority power. I desire to warn you that if the Government have to supply, even temporarily, this part of your constitution which you are unable to supply for yourselves and though it will be our care to provide the most ample safeguards for minorities, so that none of them need feel that they have been neglected, it will not be a satisfactory way of dealing with this problem.

"Let me also warn you that if you cannot come to an agreement on this amongst yourselves it will add considerably to the difficulties of any Government here which shares our views of an Indian constitution and it will detract from the place which that constitution will occupy amongst those of the other nations. I, therefore, beg of you once more to take further opportunities to meet together and present us with an agreement.

"14. We intend to go ahead. We have now brought our business down to specific problems, which require close and intimate consideration, first of all by bodies which are really Committees and not unwieldy conferences and we must now set up machinery to do this kind of work.

"Working Committee of Conference."

"As that is being done and conclusions presented we must be able to continue consultations with you. I propose, therefore with your consent to nominate in due course a small representative Committee—a Working Committee of this Conference—which will remain in being in India, with which, through the Viceroy, we can keep in effective touch. I cannot here and now specify precisely how this Committee can best be employed. This is a matter which must be worked out and more, to some extent, depend on the reports of the Committees we propose to set up. But in the end we shall have to meet again for a final review of the whole scheme.

"The plan in a word is this: I would like you to carry it in your mind that those two sessions have provided now a mass of details. You have sketched out in a general way the kind of constitution you want. Then, you have said, 'This wing of it, that wing of it, that aspect of it, has not yet been drawn in detail by any architect' and we now have to consider the stresses and the strains that will be put upon the fabric—the best way to protect it. With that material in front of us we appoint this Committee, that Committee and other Committees to study the matter and to produce proposals for us for dealing with them. That is what you would call the detailed work that must be pursued.

And you know perfectly well, my friends, that a Conference as large as this or a Committee as large as some of those Committees that have been meeting under the Chairmanship of the Lord Chancellor cannot do that work. There are too many long speeches. (Laughter). There are too many written speeches. There is not enough intimate, practical and pointed exchange of view sharp across a table, without ten minutes speeches—two seconds observations met by another two seconds observations. Only in that way are you going to work it out. But whilst this is being done, we have to keep in contact with what I would call the large, representative political body—a body of this nature, a body which this typifies. That is the plan, the conception of His Majesty's Government—of quiet, effective, scientific and certain work in the building up of the great constitution of India, to which reference has been made."

"15. It is our intention to set up at once the Committees whose appointment the Conference has recommended viz.,

(A) To investigate and advise on their revision of the franchise and constituencies.

(B) To put to the test of detailed budgetary facts and figures the recommendations of the Federal Finance Sub-Committee and

(C) To explore more fully the specific financial problems arising in connection with certain individual states.

"We intend that these Committees shall be set work in India under the Chairmanship of distinguished public men from this country as early in the new year as possible. The views expressed by you here on the other outstanding Federal problems will be taken into consideration at once and the necessary steps taken to get better understanding and agreement upon them.

"16. His Majesty's Government have also taken note of the suggestion made in paragraph 26 of the Federal Structure Committee's third report with the object of facilitating an early decision on the distribution among the states of whatever quota may be agreed upon for their representation in the legislature.

"It follows from what I have already said that they share the general desire for an early agreement on this question among the States and His Majesty's Government intend to afford the Princess all possible assistance by way of advice in this matter. It is apparent to the Government that there is likely to be undue delay in their reaching an agreement amongst themselves the Government will take such steps as seem helpful to obtain a working settlement.

Safeguards for Minorities

"17. I have already alluded to another matter to which you have given ample evidence that you attach great importance, and to which you will expect me to refer. A decision of the communal problem, which provides only for representation of the communities in the legislatures is not enough to secure what I may call 'natural rights'. When such provisions have been made the minorities will still remain minorities and the constitution must therefore contain provisions which will give all creeds and classes a due sense of security that the principle of Majority Government is not to be employed to their moral or material disadvantage in the body politic. The Government cannot undertake here and now to specify in detail what those provisions should be. Their form and scope will need the most anxious and careful consideration, with a view to ensuring on the one hand that they are reasonably adequate for their purpose and on the other that they do not surmount to an extent which amounts to a violation upon the principles of representative Responsible Government.

"In this manner the Committee of Consultation should play an important part, for here also, just as in regard to the method and proportions of electoral representation, it is vital to the success of the new constitution that it should be framed on a basis of mutual agreement.

"18. Now, once again, we must bid each other goodbye.

"For a time we shall meet individually and we shall meet, I hope, on committees carrying on this work to which we have set our hands. Not 'we' in the sense of His Majesty's Government, but 'we' in the sense of you and us together.

"Great strides have been made; greater, I am sure you will find, than the most optimistic think. I was glad to hear, in the course of these debates, speaker after speaker thanking that view. It is the true view.

"These Conferences have not been failures in any sense of the term. These Conferences had to come up against obstacles. These Conferences had to be the means by which the diversity of opinion had to be expressed. These Conferences enabled us not only to mobilise the goodwill of India and England, but also enabled us to mobilise the great problems, the historical problems, of India. These problems have enabled us all, you and we together, to come down and face hard reality and to gather from mutual conference the spirit and the determination to overcome difficulties.

"We have met with obstacles but one of those optimistic, to whom humanity owes most of its progress, said that 'obstacles were made to be overcome.' In that buoyancy of spirit and the goodwill which comes from it, let us go on with our task. My fairly wide experience of the Conferences like this is that the road to agreement is very broken and littered with obstructions to begin with and the first stages often fill one with despair. But quite suddenly and generally unexpectedly the way success itself out and the end is happily reached. I not only pray that such may be our experience, but I assure you that the Government will strive unceasingly to secure such a successful termination to our mutual labours."

— "Hindu."

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