

The Hindu Organ.

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HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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AUCTION SALE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No 7801

In the matter of the Last Will
and Testament of the late
Thamotharampillai Sathasivam
of Chavakachcheri

Deceased
Visuvanathar Thamotharampillai, of do.
Administrator.

Under and by virtue of the commission
issued to me in the above case I shall
sell by public auction the undermentioned
properties on Wednesday the 13th Janu-
ary 1932 commencing at 2 p.m. at the
spots.

1. Land situated at Chavakachcheri
called Kulaikkaddavalavu in extent 5 Lms
V. C. and bounded on the East by the
properties of the heirs of the late Satha-
sivam, North by the property of Satham-
barapillai Sathasivam, West and South
by lane of this an undivided 5/12th share.

Continued up



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Continued.

2. Land situated at Chavakachcheri
called Kommaddithoddam and Karadikuli
in extent 20 Lms. V. C. and bounded on
the East and South by lane, North by
property of Sinnachchy wife of Karthi-
gesu, West by the properties of the heirs
of the late Sathasivam and Candar
Vallipuram. The whole hereof.

3. Land situated at do called Enmai-
paddypulam in extent 29 Lms. V. C. and
bounded on the East and North by the
property of Sathambarapillai Sathasivam,
West by the property of the heirs of the
late Sathasivam, Sannungam Abraham
and sisters and South by the property of
Vaitilingam Muttukumaru and brother
the whole hereof

V A DURAYAPPAN,
Commissioner
(Mie 487 31st)

Jaffna, 24/12/31

The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1931.

THE FLOODS IN JAFFNA.

—:O:—

THE RECENT FLOODS AND SUFFERING in Jaffna have once again brought into prominence the question of sanitation and drainage. The Urban Council had put the cart before the horse and had started with the lighting scheme before tackling the question of water supply and drainage. Perhaps the Councillors had a speculative turn of mind and had in view the fat income which they anticipate from the scheme. While commending the Chairman and members for their zeal in giving some measure of relief to the sufferers by cutting channels and distributing provisions, we trust that the Council is now fully convinced of the urgency of providing efficient drainage and the necessary water supply. No better opportunity could have been provided for the officers of the Council to study the natural courses of the flood water and the spots where culverts and drains are urgently required. Before this experience is erased from their minds the Council and officials when they meet next month should take this as one of their first duties.

In the rural areas the indifference of the officials has been conspicuous. The villagers had very often to take the law into their own hands and the roads were soon crossed by innumerable channels. In many places these channels have been annual features but the officials had turned deaf ears to the petitions of the poor villages. While the condition of the roads are far from satisfactory we would urge the authorities concerned to provide sufficient culverts along the main as well as the minor roads. That these officials had not cared to inspect the roads under their care even now, though it is now over a week after, is shown by the fact that some of channels have either been not covered up or have been attended to by the inhabitants on the spot so carelessly that some of the roads are still impassable for wheeled traffic. We trust that these officials would do less of fawning before their superiors and give more attention to the needs of the villagers who have been left under their care. We trust that immediate steps would be taken by these officials to press on the authorities the urgent necessity for these culverts. If the Government is keen as it should be, on encouraging agriculture it would be foolish parsimony to show niggardliness in spending money on the maintenance of these roads in a good condition.

The floods have also shown the necessity for greater co-operation among the villagers themselves. The draining off of the floods of the whole village should be a communal concern and individuals should be prepared sometimes to sacrifice some of their personal interests for the sake of the common good. Towns who are better favoured by Providence should consider it their duty to give relief to their suffering brethren. There is nothing nobler than service and sacrifice to fellow beings and we trust that all local associations and societies would organise relief in their own villages. Too long have we as a race depended on the Government to mete out justice and sponsored us. It is high time that our local governing authorities develop a sense of responsibility for the welfare and happiness of their communities. The villagers should get over the habit of depending on Government and its corrupt officials for everything and learn to organise and look after their own interests. This should be their first step towards Swaraj.

Spectacle Making in Ceylon

AN ANCIENT ART

SURVIVES IN KADUGANNAWA

The ancient art of spectacle making was demonstrated at the Exhibition that is being held in conjunction with the All Ceylon Ayurvedic Congress. It is being carried on by one of probably the only two surviving craftsmen in Ceylon today in a village near Kadugannawa says a "Daily News" representative.

Minister's New Spectacles How They were Made

The Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Mr. S. Sumanasekera was among those struck by the wonderful finished product of the crude methods of the spectacles made. Trying on some glasses he found a pair that suited him and bought them.

There are three stages in the making of spectacles. First comes the cutting of the stone—a form of crystal it appears to be, and is said to be found round about Anuradhapura. An ordinary stone cutter of the kind used by precious stone cutters is employed. The man who does the cutting holds the stone in his hand. Though it is in as firm a position as it would be if held by a clamp, nevertheless he makes a very accurate vertical cut turning it round between his fingers against the sharp edge of the wheel. A form of paste made of emery powder is used for lubrication, but it is said that the powder of a particular kind of stone was used in the old days. The process of getting two slabs for the glasses takes a whole day.

The next stage is the smoothing and rounding of the stone. This is done by rubbing the flat surface and the edge on a stone which has the appearance of limestone. The stone employed is concave in the centre, and is about six inches in height and about one in diameter.

The degree of concavity of the stone used depends on the age of the person for whom the spectacles are made. There is a separate stone for every ten years difference in age. For instance the glasses for a man between 30 and 40 are smoothed on one stone, and for those between 40 and 50 another stone is used. This process occupies two days.

Perfect Transparency.

The last stage is the polishing of the glasses. This is done on a piece of wood, prismatic in shape and treated with a kind of paste. The wood is said to be of a particular tree, and the paste is made of powdered precious stones.

This process takes two days, the whole work thus taking five days for a man working alone at it.

Of perfect transparency and absolutely symmetrical in shape, the finished product has little apparent difference from the machine made article.

The demonstrator claims that he can make glasses to suit anyone. The frames he fits the glasses into are imported. His is an inherited art, and the apparatus he uses are also handed down for generations. For instance, the smoothing stone was used by his grandfather fifty years ago.

Religion of the "Kural".

"SAIVA SIDDHANTAM".

MR. SUBRAMANIAM PILLAI'S LECTURE.

Mr. K. Subramaniam Pillai, M.A., M.L. delivered a very interesting lecture on "The Religion of 'Thirukkural'" at the Kokkivil Hindu English School on Tuesday the 28th instant at 6 p.m. Mr. S. Shivapadaaswaram presided.

The lecturer in the course of a very thoughtful address said that the religion propounded by the "Thirukkural" was Saiva Siddhanta. He gave very original interpretations to many stanzas and words found in the book.

The President in the course of his remarks said that though they had studied "Thirukkural" all these years, they were never aware of the new ideas and the original interpretations given by the lecturer. That was the first time they came to know that "Thirukkural" was capable of such interpretations.

Pundit Kanapathipillai proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer and the President and said that till then "Thirukkural" was held as a work common to all religions. But he would say that it was conclusively proved to them that night as one of the Saiva Siddhanta works.

Veda-Agama Saiva Siddhanta Maha Sabai

ANNUAL SESSIONS.

The annual sessions of the Veda-Agama Saiva Siddhanta Maha Sabai commenced yesterday at the Vythilinga Madam, Koorimalai. The session terminates today.

Religion in our Schools.

By B. U. Somanagaram,
Vice-Principal, Victoria College.

APPROPOS the remarks passed by one of the speakers at the Ramaswamy Day Celebrations held at the Vidyalam this month it will be interesting to find out whether sufficient importance has been attached to the teaching and practice of religion in our Hindu Schools. Sir Ponnampalam, the great Bunkian that he was, could not conceive of an educational institution which does not have as its nucleus a shrine where all the students will have their prayers and practice religion daily. He fully realised the importance of daily worship and both by precept and practice tried to teach the same truths to future generations.

Just as it is always accepted that evil has greater attraction than good so also irreligiousness and a certain scepticism that is born of ignorance and little knowledge seem to be the natural heritage of school children. With the growing faculty of reason but provided with insufficient data of experience the youth tries to solve the problems of life and the world and finding insurmountable difficulties, loses faith in every accepted faith and denies even the existence of God. It is to prevent such a calamity overtaking youths that educationists all over the world have strongly emphasised the importance of religious practices. A visitor to any of the big educational institutions of the West will be struck by the comparatively magnificent proportions of the College chapel and the solemnity of the services held in them. As the bell rings all the students weed their way to the chapel. The teachers are in the platform, the prefects are in their positions and the boys take their places with solemnity and precision. As the organ begins to peal forth all the boys join their voices in hymns to the saviour. At Eton, Harrow and even in the colleges belonging to the Universities this assembly and services are regular features. This serves a double purpose. It helps to make religious practices a habit. The environment becomes so solemn that even the boy who comes to scoff remains to pray. Secondly it serves as an admirable training in discipline and a means of promoting the solidarity of the institution. The student who learns to take his place quietly and punctually in the chapel incidentally learns how to fall into his position at the time of national need. So well are these children disciplined in the school that the English as a race have been credited with the observation that they are the nation with the greatest self-control.

A visitor from the West coming to one of our institutions would be struck with the indifference and shoddiness with which things are done here. While the missionary institutions following Western models and run by sincere enthusiasts trained on Western lines are honestly attempting to instil some sense of order and discipline into our life of chaos our national institutions whose chief and only pretensions are that they are national are either doing things shoddily or are so lazy that they do not make any attempt to give the boys any such training in discipline. In very few of them are the daily assembly conducted with any show of earnestness or solemnity. Philosophers of all ages and climes have agreed on the value of music to devotion and training of the mind. Plato prescribed it as the chief means of training the soul. A small boy singing a song badly learnt, indifferently rendered and hardly reaching those at the end of the hall is all the music, prayers, and devotional practices in some of our school assemblies. While some of our schools could organise choirs for concerts or dramatic entertainments no school has made any attempt to form a permanent choir to help the services in the college. The choir boys of Westminster or St Paul's have obtained world wide fame and most of the institutions in the West have well-trained choirs as permanent features.

It is not in the least suggested that everything Western is ideal and should be imitated. The Orient has its own systems and culture. The Guru-Kula system is the ideal Scheme of education but whether we have willed it or not all of us agree that we cannot hark back to those ideal conditions. The schools and mass education have come to stay and if we want to get the best results out of the system we must embody in our training all those principles that have been accepted all over the world as psychologically sound.

The following urgent changes are necessary in our national institutions specially with

Continued up.

News & Notes.

—:O:—

The streets of Rio De Janeiro may be lit by "coffee gas", says a Reuters message, as a result of a gas company's experiments to obtain an illuminant gas from the coffee bean in order to use up Brazil's surplus coffee production.

The spectre of starvation faces millions, declared Mr. Hadson, Executive Secretary of the Welfare Council of New York giving evidence on the unemployment question before the Senate Committee, says a Washington message. Nearly 7,000,000 dollars are needed to relieve unemployment during the coming year according to Mr. Gidamith, Director of Jewish Charities in Chicago.

The new Chinese Government has been officially elected by the plenary session of the Kuomintang Committee. The Acting President, Lin San, has been elected Chairman of the Government with powers virtually the same as the President of the French Republic. Sun Fo, a former Minister of Railways, has been appointed President of the Executive Yuan, an appointment practically equivalent to the Premiership. The Government is composed of five Yans (Councils) namely, Executive, Legislative, Judicial, Examinations and Control.

There were over 1700 Malayalees in the Government Railway Workshops, said Mr. A. E. Goonesinghe addressing a meeting of the Kandy Labour Union. That would mean, he remarked, that more than 1700 Ceylon men with their families were left unemployed and were starving to death. He laid the whole blame for this state of affairs on the British rule. The result of 125 years of British rule, he said, was that they were left miserable and thousands were unemployed. Therefore, he declared, it was time that they should adopt methods to manage their own affairs.

An ingenious crook, feigned death by paraking of large doses of quinine, obtained a death certificate from a doctor attended his own funeral, and subsequently lived in comfort on his own life insurance, has been arrested at Lyons, says a message from Paris. The "dead man" has made a full confession. He says he took twelve quinine tablets on rising and twelve on going to bed. His fiancée then called a doctor who diagnosed sunstroke. "Deceased" painted his face with permanganate of potash to simulate death and then went to bed as a corpse, while his fiancée went to the doctor and stated that the patient had died, whereupon the doctor granted a death certificate. Immediately thereafter the services of an undertaker were obtained and a coffin procured, in which a figure stuffed with sand was placed as the body. "Deceased" hid in a cupboard while the coffin was screwed up and then attended his own funeral as a mourner. After three months application was made for the insurance money.

Continued

regard to the practice of religion. The whole school should be well organized into houses or groups with plenty of authority delegated to them. The senior boys should be given a training in leadership. The daily assembly should be a permanent feature and should be conducted with all solemnity. It should preferably be held in the College shrine which should be suitably built for the purpose, but where such facilities are not available the services may be held in the College Hall. The bad workmen complain with his tools and we have too long laid the blame for the disasters in our education on factors over which we have no control. Our national schools should cease to be mere examination factories and lay the due emphasis on the training of life and the formation of character based on true foundations of religion. If they want to lay any claim to the word "national" and deserve the whole-hearted support of our country.

Mahatma Gandhi in Bombay

EXCELLENT APPEARANCE AND
HAPPY SPIRITS

IS RENEWAL OF FIGHT INEVITABLE?

Bombay, Dec 28th.

The first person aboard the S.S. Pilana, when she tied up at Ballard Pier, just after dawn today, was Mr. Gandhi's wife, whom the Mahatma embraced affectionately, but in silence, this being his day of silence.

Mr. Gandhi gave a resounding whack on the back to Mr. Vallabhai Patel and other members of the Working Committee.

Women admirers garlanded Mr. Gandhi with flowers, while others bowed reverently before him. All remarked on his excellent appearance and happy spirits.

Without loss of time, the whole party, Mr. Gandhi, carrying his inseparable spinning wheel, left the ship for an enthusiastic reception on the quayside, where Mr. Gandhi was greeted by various associations and Congress organisations.

He left the pier through a bodyguard of long drawn lines of suffraganated Deshsevikas (Congress women volunteers), who had kept all night vigil.

Mr. Gandhi refused the gaily decorated motor car, especially prepared by the Congress Committee, preferring the drab looking non-descript car of one of his followers.

To the disappointment of cheering crowds, Mr. Gandhi drove away at a fast pace to Manibhavan, the home of one of his friends, where the leader expressed the desire to receive without delay reports of the situation in the country from his chief lieutenants.

In contrast to the enthusiastic crowds which greeted Mr. Gandhi, a long, silent, black flagged procession of several thousands of Ambedkar's (depressed classes volunteers) marched in martial order in the opposite direction to counteract the effect of Mr. Gandhi's welcome.

Have to Face Bullets.

UNFIT FOR SWARAJ SAYS CABINET
MINISTERS.

Bombay, Dec 29th.

"If a fight becomes inevitable I invite you to be ready for it. However, I won't give up my attempts to save the nation from the fiery ordeal, but if there is no single ray of hope I won't flinch from inviting you to undergo any amount of suffering," declared Mr. Gandhi, in his public speech on the Azad Maidan this evening.

Mr. Gandhi said, "We have no reason to believe that the Cabinet Ministers in England are dishonest in their convictions. They sincerely believe that we are not fit for Swaraj. This is how they have been tutored by the men on the spot."

Referring to the Stevens murder, Mr. Gandhi said it grieved him to learn that two girls had allegedly murdered an Indian Civil Service officer in Bengal. The Indians did not want to kill anybody. The fight that Congress was carrying on was a fight of love and peace. There could not be any poison in it. He could not defend the murder, nor could he describe his grief, but, at the same time, he could not defend the Government's attitude.

The Bengal murderers might be hanged, but the Government could not unman the whole race. He could not expect that he would be able to exercise the same amount of restraint on himself as before if it came to taking strong steps.

In the last fight they had to face bullets in this fight they would have to face bullets.

Addressing the Welfare of India League tonight, Mr. Gandhi said that if the Bengal Ordinance were repealed he would advise Congress to see its way to co-operate with the Round Table Committee and added that he had pledged himself to many British friends that, despite the disappointment of the Round Table Conference, he would try his best to seek avenues of co-operation, but what he had learnt after his arrival in Bombay, had left very little hope for co-operation unless he was to lose all sense of self respect.

Alluding to the Round Table Conference, Mr. Gandhi paid a striking tribute to Sir Samuel Hoare, whom he described as an honest and frank-hearted man. *Observer*

Late Mr. K. Sunderesan

We deeply regret to learn that Mr. K. Sunderesan, brother of Mr. K. Natarajan, died on the 17th instant. The deceased was more a son than a brother to the esteemed editor of our contemporary.

We tender our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Natarajan on his bereavement.

Letter To The Editor.

REV. FR. MATHEWS
AND THE
HINDU BOARD OF EDUCATION

Sir,

On the occasion of the last prize distribution the Christian Charity of Father Mathews of St. Patrick's College prompts him to wipe out of existence the Hindu Board of Education because an appeal for funds explaining the "financial difficulties" appears in the columns of the Daily Press. The Hindu Charity enjoys the householders to help the needy even at the point of the greatest sacrifice expected of him.

The Roman Catholic clergy, according to him, "bail day and night and toil success fully to pay their teachers fully and regularly". Is it the fact? How could it be when for months a fraction of the salary only was paid to the teachers by more than one General Manager of Roman Catholic Schools with an undertaking to pay the balance after the grant is received from the Director of Education? The Hindu Board of Education did not do anything beyond what the Catholics did. There may be a difference in degree.

This difference in degree is due to many causes. The Roman Catholics are a well organised and priest ridden lot that the laity do the bidding of the clergy in the name of the Pope. The General Manager of Catholic Schools takes a 3% of the grant and sends the balance in 12 monthly instalments to the Local Manager who is another priest. He in turn takes a 10% of it, perhaps as tythes, and pays the balance to the teachers who give receipts for the full amount of the departmentally approved salary. Besides the Catholic Fathers, Brothers, Mothers, and Sisters lend their signatures to receipts to show that they have received their salaries when the full amount actually goes to their respective institution or Church. This money-making Roman Catholic clerical machinery is so well organised that it can replace the lay teachers whenever required. This is a matter of common occurrence. No wonder that the officers of the Catholic School Manager are thus more readily filled up than those of the Hindu Board. Above all the Ceylonese educational societies are unable to get temporary accommodation by way of over drafts from any of the Banks as they are controlled by non Ceylonese.

Fundamentally the system of paying grant is at fault. Six millions of rupees are paid out yearly by Government as grant to aided schools. To get this grant of six millions all the Managers in Ceylon are forced to advance six millions as salaries to teachers for 12 months to get it back only after 2 or 3 months after annual inspection. Why should not the Managers be saved the trouble and annoyance of finding out and advancing six millions for 12 months? This difficulty is easily overcome if the grant is paid monthly, or if the Director pays the teachers' salaries directly every month.

Again all sorts of ugly rumours are current that the teachers do not get their full salaries. That the managers make a regular levy of 3% to 15% on the teachers' salaries. Why not all Managers or rather all "honest" Managers request the Director to pay the salaries of teachers monthly and that too directly to the teachers so that the conduct of all Managers may be like Caesar's wife above suspicion.

If Father Mathews is a statesman and not a politician he will readily consent to the above viz: direct payment to teachers their monthly salaries by the Director.

Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others. I wish he acts up to the teaching of his Master who, when a woman who had stoned was taken to him to be punished, told the accusers if there is one who had not stoned let him throw the first stone at the woman. No one came forward.

I am, Sir,

S. RAJARAMAN,
General Manager of Schools,
Hindu Board of Education.

Jaffa 28 12 31

Kankasanturai Sanatorium

OPENED ON 15th JANUARY

The Sanatorium at Kankasanturai will be opened on the 15th January, 1932. To start with it will be open only for paying patients.

Sequel to Caste Trouble.

ALLEGED RIOT IN PIRAMPATTAL.

SEVERE CROSS-EXAMINATION OF
INSPECTOR.

When the case in which 31 men of Pirampattal are being charged with rioting, unlawful assembly causing hurt to police Officers, preventing public officers in the discharge of their duties, was taken up, Mr. G. Ponnambalam continued the cross-examination of Mr. R. Stewart, Inspector of Police.

Repeatedly Charged

Mr. Stewart stated that he was charged 6 or seven times with assault. Most of the cases were in Colombo. In Jaffa he was twice charged with assault and once with detaining a man in custody for 24 hours. In a Civil Case in Colombo he was sued for Rs. 25, and the matter was referred to the I. G. P. There was an instance when he issued a cheque to the Best House Keeper, Jaffa, and it was returned, as he had closed his account with the Bank. He knew of a man called Benjamin who presented a petition alleging he was indebted to a number of firms in Jaffa.

Crown Counsel objected to the question being recorded.

The Judge allowed it to stand. Mr. Ponnambalam (continuing): Your car was burnt in Colombo?

—Yes.

You alleged that some Constables burnt the car?—Yes.

What happened to those Constables?—Two were transferred.

Soon after you came to Jaffa, somebody tried to commit mischief by trying to throw dirt into your house?—Yes.

How long ago was that?—A year and six months.

Your shifting to the Beach Road had absolutely nothing to do with that incident?—No.

Since then it was alleged that you went to reside at Beach Road in order to accept bribe?—Yes.

Crown Counsel objected to the question.

Since then you filed a case on behalf of one Bokman charging a man with house-breaking and theft?—Yes.

You charged the man who was living with the dancing girl Bukmani with house breaking and theft?—Yes.

How many days after the alleged incident did you file plaint?—I cannot say.

Not even approximately, between one and thirty days?—I cannot say.

Mr. Ponnambalam: That plaint was about three weeks old.

The man you accused was proved to be keeping that dancing girl as his mistress?—That was his defence.

He lived in the same house?—Yes.

The Magistrate held that the Police should not have brought such a charge?

Crown Counsel: Before the witness answers that question, I object.

The Court allowed the question.

What did the Magistrate say?—He said that the plaint was false.

Witness continuing said that he received instructions from the Superintendent of Police, who had inquired into the case and asked him to charge.

Dangerous Character.

In the Police Station you have a chart of dangerous character?—Yes.

There were on the list seven names?—Yes.

The name of one K. Kathiresapillai appeared on the list?—Yes.

Kathiresapillai presented a monster petition against you and wanted the removal of his name?—Yes.

The petition was presented in August this year?—Yes.

The name was not removed?—No.

Subsequent to that, you went along with others and visited Kathiresapillai in his house?—Yes.

You had talks there?—Yes.

At that time he was on the list of dangerous characters?—Yes.

Subsequent to that, his name was removed?—Yes.

You were cross examined about this incident in another case?—Yes.

At this stage witness was heard to remark "gotto voo" "you are a bully".

Mr. Ponnambalam jumping up demanded an immediate apology. "I must have it," said Mr. Ponnambalam, or I shall have to withdraw from the case."

The Court (to Mr. Ponnambalam): You must admit you have been grossly insulting him during the cross-examination.

Mr. Stewart: I apologise.

Too Big for His Shoes.

Mr. Ponnambalam: He thinks he is too big for his shoes. These Police Officers, major or minor, must remember that they are Policemen in uniform. I would not stand this impudence even from the Inspector General of Police.

Continued up

Indo-Ceylon Train Service.

NO THROUGH TRAFFIC UNTIL
SUNDAY

The Indo Ceylon train service is not likely to be resumed till about Sunday, says a report. The branch on the railroad is being rapidly repaired.

The passengers from India who had been marooned at Talaimannar since the line was breached were taken to Colombo on the 28th morning by the down Jaffa mail. They were transported from Mannar to Murungan and picked up there by a special train connecting with the Jaffa mail at Madawachchi.

OBITUARY.

REV. FR. CHAS BEAUD

We regret to record the death of Rev. Father Chas. Beaud, O.M.I., Manager, St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Jaffa, which took place on the 28th instant. The remains were interred at the St. Mary's Burial ground the next day at 7 a.m.

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(Mis 438 31st-18th)

Continued.

Mr. Ponnambalam (continuing the cross examination): Your explanation was that the list of dangerous characters was too long and you had to omit Kathiresapillai's name?—I can't remember.

Mr. Ponnambalam: I produce the record, Sir and that will show that he has been proved a liar. He said that the list was too long for the Constables to remember the names, and all the while there were only seven names.

Mr. R. B. Nalliah, who appeared for the 28th, 29th and 30th accused one examined the Inspector.

This was followed by the re-examination by Crown Counsel.

How long have you been cross-examined?—For ten hours.

You said you had occasion to go into the middle of armed crowds in riots in Ceylon?—Yes.

You referred to places, Piliat, Piliat?—Yes.

On either of these occasions did you shoot anybody?—No.

On either occasion were you shot?—Yes.

and you did not fire?—No.

After further re-examination by Crown Counsel this case was postponed for the 7th January.

The Bardoli Enquiry.

MR. GORDON'S FINDINGS.

Bombay, Dec. 28.

Mr Gordon, Enquiry Officer, in the course of his report, says:

Of the two main issues, namely, higher revenue and coercion, the first regarding collection of revenue was clearly the most important, that regarding the action of the police was only secondary. In fact in the event of the first issue not being proved, the second will not properly arise at all, as the coercion referred to in the terms of reference is coercion to make extra payment and not coercion in and by itself. According to the terms of reference the question of "standard" was a plain matter of fact one, relating to the conditions within the Bardoli taluka alone, and had no concern with other talukas in the same district.

The only organisation which appeared before the Enquiry Officer was the Congress represented by Mr. B. J. Desai.

The report then briefly deals with the events leading up to the withdrawal of the Congress Council from the enquiry and states that after that, the Government decided to call no more witnesses. Similarly, the Enquiry officer also decided not to call any Government officials, as it would mean partiality.

Dealing with the evidence of the Khatedars supporting the allegations against the police and the revenue officials, the report says: "The evidence of measures actually taken to collect showed that they were mild in the extreme, the only coercive measures employed being distraint of movable property. Far from people being ignored to pay more than they could pay, the amounts they offered were accepted without making any difficulty. The Congress Council had made out a case for special treatment to H. J. Khatedars, but in the opinion of the Enquiry Officer, there was no necessity to show such exemption, as others in similar circumstances paid their dues without difficulties. Further, the Khatedars had failed to show special reason or did not try to show any special reason for such exemption. But nearly fifty per cent of the alleged loans came from near relatives of the H. J. Khatedars who themselves went on Hajrat, so that we have H. J. Khatedars proving that they, as a class, cannot pay assessment by the evidence of loans borrowed from the ex-Hajrat. In twenty five cases, it has been found that the lenders were close relatives of the borrowers. Therefore, these circumstances, as they stood, connected merely temporary family arrangements and not true borrowing, as in no case was the lender a stranger."

"The Khatedars borrowed in friendly ways from their relatives or from people who in no sense were money-lenders."

Another important feature of the situation which came out strongly in the evidence, was that while the Khatedars were making these complaints, they had no hesitation in spending large sums in other directions either from their own or by borrowing.

Commenting on the evidence, the Enquiry Officer says: "Either the witnesses had been deliberately put up to make false statements or they themselves had given false information which had been taken as true and put before him as such. He however was unable to accept the latter alternative, especially when taken in conjunction with the facts given under the head 'Police'. In connection with the conspiracy to give false evidence against one particular police officer, old Mumbai women and girls did not make up false stories on their own account and there is no doubt they were taught to do so. Who individually was responsible for doing that, it is not possible to say, but the Congress has been responsible for putting up the case as a whole, and therefore they should be held responsible for the details also."

The Enquiry Officer continues: "In the light of these facts, it is impossible to place any reliance upon any stories about borrowing and therefore, under the circumstances, I should certainly be unable to accept the statements of the Khatedars about their borrowings without other good corroborative evidence. It is possible that some, perhaps a good number, may be true stories, but there is no way of distinguishing the true from the false. Taken individually, they are just as likely to be inventions as stated above, and seeing that they are also made in the interest of the witnesses, so far as this enquiry is concerned, it will be impossible to accept them as they stand. My opinion, therefore, is that from even the standpoint of the Congress this evidence is valueless, and no reliance can be placed on it. I would remark in conclusion that it is impossible to see how research into such documents as the orders of the Government of India or Bombay regarding the Delhi Pact could have made any difference favourable to the Congress case when the facts are so clear."

Police Action.

The second part of the report deals with the evidence regarding police action and it is pointed out that it is the role evidence of Khatedars. It is also pointed out that in no case was there any allegation of force or violence having been used by any policeman except in one case. No Khatedar

Continued up

Prohibitory Order on Jawaharlal

PANDIT'S REPLY TO MAGISTRATE

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has written the following letter to Mr. Bomford, District Magistrate, Allahabad:

"On arrival at Chhachhi, I received a notice signed by you purporting to be an order under Section 5, of the U P Emergency Powers Ordinance of 1931. I am desirous, in this notice, to restrict my activities in a variety of ways and to refrain from leaving the municipal limits of Allahabad without your sanction or that of the Superintendent of Police."

"I should like to inform you that I am not in the habit of taking orders from any one except the great organisation of which I have honour to be a member. It is for the Indian National Congress to order me, and I recognise no other authority."

"It appears to be your desire to make me a virtual prisoner in Allahabad town and to cut me off from my friends and colleagues and prevent me from carrying out the duties which have been entrusted to me. I cannot agree to any limitations to my activities; much less can I submit to anything that interferes with my work as the General Secretary of the All India Congress Committee and as office-bearer or member of other committees and boards so long as I am physically capable of doing so, I shall endeavour to do justice to the work with which I have been charged. I should like to inform you, therefore, that I propose to carry on all my usual activities without seeking any permission from you or the Superintendent of Police."

In particular, I have to inform you that I shall leave Allahabad whenever any work demands my presence elsewhere. Within two or three days, I propose to go to Bombay to meet Mahatma Gandhi and to attend the meeting of the Working Committee of the Congress. I should further like to make it clear that I shall continue to give publicity to my views in regard to any matter where ever I think it desirable to do so. As it has often happened that the Provincial Government and the District authorities of Allahabad have given publicity to false and misleading statements in regard to facts, I shall place the truth before the public whenever necessary for this may arise."

"As I can only accept decisions of the Congress in regard to my public work, I am prepared to place, should you so desire it, any communication from you or your Government before the Working Committee of the All India Congress Committee or the Council of the U P Provincial Congress Committee for their direction."

"I should like to point out that your notice asking me not to leave the municipal limits of Allahabad was served outside these limits. It is not quite clear to me how I was supposed to confine myself to Allahabad town when I was actually many miles away from it at the time of the service of the notice."

"I shall be glad, if you will kindly take the trouble to write my name correctly in any communication that you might send. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Press"

(Hindu)

Continued

witness ever alleged that he was even touched or that any personal restraint was exercised on him. From this, it is clear that the allegations are mostly of a general and miscellaneous kind, which are easy to make and which, given in mass, give the impression that something bad at any rate must have happened."

Mr. Gordon continues: "In such circumstances and in view of the fact that no rebutting evidence of Government officers was heard, all that I can do is to make remarks on points regarding which it seems possible to arrive at any definite conclusion on the basis of the evidence produced. Of police persecution such as could be termed intolerable, there is no trace at all and even on the evidence as it stands, the amount that could be said is that possibly the police were used to tell the people to see the Revenue Officer before going to their fields, and even on this point the rebutting evidence of the officers concerned has not been heard. The force alleged to have completely blocked and surrounded two large villages, consisted only of six constables, and there is no complaint about harassment and filthy abuse. The story of the breaking open of the back door of a house and of an assault of two children was not even attempted to be proved. In fact, it is pretty clear that this incident, which formed the subject matter of a special telegram to Gandhi, was, in itself, in the existing shape, one of a series meant to involve a head case in various trouble on account of his anti Congress activities." (Hindu.)

Prohibition a Blessing.

EDISON'S VIEW.

The death of Thomas Alva Edison, the "Wonder Smith of the World" marks an epoch in history. With fifteen hundred patented inventions to his credit, he died leaving a memorandum outline of future scientific work, with suggestions as to investigations. These, it is estimated, will keep scientists and inventors busy for a hundred years to come. As Nicola Tesla said of him, "his method of finding a pin in a haystack was not 10 philosophic about how it got there. On the contrary, he would examine every single straw until he found the pin." He cared little for theory that could not be sustained by facts.

In this same spirit, he examined the prohibition question. He was never concerned about any theory as to how that policy would work; he was only concerned as to how it would work. A few months before his death, he submitted to an interview. As usual, he demanded that the questions be put to him in writing, and he wrote his answers with his own hand. The questions and answers follow:

Question. Has Prohibition helped the industrial and economic life of America, and strengthened the industrial standing of our nation abroad?

Answer. Yes. It has, and to a greater extent than realized.

Question. In your judgment are children better fed and clothed and educated since the coming of National Prohibition than they were before?

Answer. In my judgment, I would say, decidedly yes. In support of this opinion and in this connection let me cite my experience as a manufacturer, which is similar to that of other manufacturers. On pay days, before prohibition, hundreds of pale faced women, shabbily dressed, some with faded shawl around their head, appeared at our factory in West Orange. They were waiting to get some of their husband's money before they got to a saloon. Within a year after the Amendment not a single woman appeared. Surely we Americans do not want a return to this state of affairs. Undoubtedly, the condition of the mother indicates the condition of the child, although they are a little better off than she because, she will do anything even giving up her life, to protect them.

Question. Should the Eighteenth Amendment be retained as a blessing to our American homes to day, and to those of future generations?

Answer. Yes. Enforcement is getting more practical day by day. We are now attacking the large manufacturers of liquor right in our midst, instead of men with flasks and home brew.

"I. S. R."

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7938.

In the matter of the estate of the late Annapillai widow of Subramaniam of Valveddi

Saravammutha Thampoo of Valveddi

1. Valliammal daughter of Subramaniam
2. Subramaniam Comarasamy
3. Ellyapillai daughter of Saravammutha all of Valveddi

The 1st and 2nd Respondents are minors by their guardian ad litem the 3rd Respondent

Respondent.

This matter of the petition of the Petitioner abovesaid praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, on the 7th day of November 1931, in the presence of Mr. S. Appadurai, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 19th day of October 1931, having been read, it is declared that the 3rd Respondent be and he is hereby appointed Guardian ad litem over the minors the 1st and 2nd Respondents and 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 Respondents or any other person shall, on or before the 19th day of January 1932 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.

November 17, 1931.

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Y. 14, 12—11-3-32.

All-Ceylon Youth Congress.

TRI-COLOURED "FLAG OF LANKA"

The first sessions of the All Ceylon Youth Congress was held at St. Peter's College Hall yesterday afternoon, with Mr. Aelian W. Pereira, the President, in the chair.

After an address of welcome to the delegates from the various parts of Ceylon by Mrs. Geo. A. Caldera, Mr. Aelian Pereira addressed the meeting strongly urging on them to take immediate steps to attain political and economic freedom and be a free partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Saffron, red and green were adopted as the colours of the national flag.

The constitution was adopted and Messrs. Geo. Caldera and Valentius Pereira were elected Joint Secretaries and Mr. K. Samangam, the Treasurer.

"We stand first and foremost for the attainment of independence and economic emancipation of Ceylon," said Mr. Pereira. "In outlining our policy it is necessary to clear the air, because when terms such as independence and economic emancipation are used, we are apt to be put down to a rapid band of fire-eating youths who are incapable of practical achievement, because independence is taken to mean something against the British Empire."

That movement, continued Mr. Pereira, was calculated to make Ceylon a free country and an equal partner with the other units that made the British Empire. Independence meant that they wanted the right to govern themselves and be partners rather than vassals.

Assuming that Ceylon was made a free partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations, what would be the position of the European community in the island and what arrangements would be made for safeguarding their interests? The average colonial Englishman looked upon Ceylon as a place to be exploited for his own benefit and the indigenous people as an inferior race of human beings. If he changed that attitude, not only would his interests be safeguarded but also it would be too likely that he would be entrusted with the largest share in the Government of the country.

Mr. C. E. Jayewardene, in proposing the adoption of the national flag, explained that saffron stood for immortality, red for the colour of their life blood and green for eternal life.

Dr. T. Nallathambi seconded this, and saffron, red and green were unanimously adopted as the colours of the national flag.

"Times."

Continuation of R. T. C. Work

BRITISH MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES

The names are announced of the British members of the Committees to continue the examination in India of matters arising out of the discussions of the Round Table Conference, which the Prime Minister, in his statement on December 1st, at the final session of the Conference, said it was the intention of the Government to appoint.

The names of the Indian members will be announced as soon as possible.

Three Committees. TERMS OF REFERENCE TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY.

The following will serve on the Committee which is to investigate and advise on the revision of the franchise and constituencies:

The Marquess of Linton, Under-Secretary of State for India (Chairman), Sir Ernest Bennett, Mr. R. A. Butler, The Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, Sir John Kerr, Major J. Milner, and The Hon. Mary Pickford.

The following will serve on the Committee which is to put to the test of detailed budgetary facts and figures the recommendations of the Federal Finance sub-Committee:

Lord Easdale Percy, former Education Minister (Chairman), Sir Louis Kerehaw, and Mr. F. F. Robinson.

The British members of the Committee which is to explore more fully specific financial problems arising in connexion with individual States will be:

Mr. J. O. C. Davidson, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Chairman), Lord Hastings, Sir Robert Hotchkin, Sir Reginald Glancy, and Sir Maurice Gwyer.

These members of the three Committees are proceeding to India on January 14th.

It is stated that a further announcement regarding the scope and character of the Committee's work will be issued shortly. (Times)

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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