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## Hindu Astrology.

### THESA-BUDDHI SYSTEM—THE BASIS OF PREDICTIONS

#### A DOUBT

BY DR. T. M. SUBRAMANIAM

(Special to the "HINDU ORGAN".)

AMONG the astrological systems existing at present, the Hindu method is one of the oldest. Centuries ago, under the patronage of the kings, astrology was much developed among the Indians. But today it is far behind and the reason for it is obvious. At present we are simply glorifying the past and do not care about the present and future.

That astrology is the science of sciences, is the opinion of the eminent astrologers of this day. Astrology is the soul of astronomy. It was the study of astrology that led to the study of astronomy. Astrology is much harder to study than astronomy, which is purely mathematical. Astrology stands higher. It requires the study of all the sciences. It is really the cosmic science. "If anyone would say that he is a perfect master in astrology, I would call him an impostor," is the remark of an eminent astrologer.

#### Methods of Predictions.

Methods of predictions are many and varied. There are various systems of predictions among the different schools of astrologers but none of them is perfect. It could hardly be ever so. The shepherds of old, having explored the starry heavens after long observations, grouped the stars into constellations, differentiated the planets from the stars, determined their effects on humanity, and further formulated various systems of predictions. The original arrangement of the constellations along the Ecliptic, named and described by them, stands today as then. Therefore the system of predictions propounded by the ancient cannot be dismissed without disproving them.

Among the Hindus, the basic system of prediction is the Thesa-Buddhi—the subject of this article. No doubt, it had stood the test of centuries and, therefore, there should possibly be great truth in the system. But it has been observed by some astrologers that this system of prediction comes to pass off correctly in some cases and in some others fails, in spite of very correct calculation and reading of the horoscopes. (Mr. V. Muthiah, M.R.A.S., an eminent astrologer of long practice, is of this opinion.) Therefore there must be certain causes for this, which must be found out and a verdict on this could only be passed after long observation of many cases.

#### A Mystery.

Solar and lunar progressions are the important basis of predictions in astrology among the different schools of astrologers. It is evident that the Hindu system of Thesa-Buddhi is a method of lunar progression. But it is a mystery that even the greatest astrological Pundits of India have not so far found out the origin of this system. Mr. V. Muthiah suggests that the orbits of the planets as imagined by the ancient then, basing Sun in the place of Earth, might have made them to have arranged the planetary periods as existing now. As the placing of Rahu and Ketu does not agree to this orb's arrangement, this suggestion also stands to doubt.

Besides this point, the number of years assigned to each planetary period seems to be a mysterious arrangement. The Sun, the lord of this solar system, is given only six years, whereas Rahu (ascending node of Moon), which is not a planet but merely a point in the Zodiac, is given 18 years! Is it of an arbitrary or a fundamental basis? Will these astrologers who are lucky enough to know the basic reasons of the above arrangement, or those ingenious brained ones who could possibly glean out the possible reasons, be good enough to reveal them to the world?

#### The Zodiacs.

The natural zodiac, i.e. the twelve constellations that lie along the ecliptic, is to be distinguished from the intellectual zodiac, i.e. the twelve signs marked by the precession of the sun from the annual vernal equinox. The characteristics of the twelve constellations are described and it is the presence of the Sun in a sign and the rising sign that give the real characteristics of any particular individual born at a particular time. It has been found by observation, some astrologers say, that as the sun's position in a certain constellation gives important characteristics by its presence there by the direct motion, so by the backward movement, known as the precession of the equinox, the Sun leaves certain important characteristics. They observe that though the Sun does not cross the equator at the same point each year owing to precession of the equinox, the first 30 degrees from the point where the Sun does cross the Equator at the equinox have the same effect to that ascribed to the constellation Aries, the next thirty degrees to Taurian influence and so with the other ten sections of thirty degrees each.

Now coming to the point in question, when the Sun by precession was in the Hindu lunar mansion of Ashlesha (අශ්ලේෂා) E. Hydrae, the Hindu Thesa-Buddhi system was unknown, for proofs could not be had from books. But there is evidence of the existence of this system of lunar progression, when the sun, precessionally, was in the lunar mansion of Krittika (කර්තිකා) Alceon. When the precession was in Krittika, the first 1/27th portion of the circle, i.e. 13° 20' and the subsequent similar trine portions of the circle were assigned to the sun's period (සූර්යායාම) the second 1/27th portion to Moon, the third to Mars and so on, according to the present arrangement of Thesa period. In this way, the Aswini (අශ්විනි) portion—B. Arietis was assigned to Kethu period (කේතුවාම).

When, by precession, the Sun was in the first degree of the constellation Aries, that is, when the first degree of the natural (Nirayana) and the equinoctial (Sayana) zodiacs coincided, Varaha Mihira corrected it in about the year 548 A. D.

#### A Probable Cause

This was only an astronomical correction to determine the Hindu zodiac. But it appears that the astrological point of the Thesa system (planetary period) was not corrected, whether knowingly or otherwise we do not know. At present, though the Sun by precession (Ayanamsa) is in the constellation Pisces, 22° 45' further from the first degree of the

Continued up

### VALLAI MURDER CASE.

COMMITTED TO THE ASSIZES.

On instructions from the Attorney-General, the Additional Police Magistrate of Jaffna committed Gnanamuttu, Elayavan and Kanapathy to stand their trial at the next session of the Assizes on charges of the murder of the Sinhalese girl Elsie whose body was found in the Vallai causeway.

(Continued)

constellation Aries, the first portion of the Hindu (natural) zodiac is given to the Kethu period, which appears to be incorrect for the following reasons. This seems to be a probable cause of the failing of predictions in certain cases. The Sun being the centre and consequently lord of this solar system, it is more likely that the first portion is assigned to him, either from the Hindu (Nirayana) or the equinoctial (Sayana) zodiac.

In Suria Sithantham, we find that the signs plus and minus are given for the precession (Ayanamsa) of the sun from the first degree of the constellation Aries. This itself seems to prove that the Thesa system is to be based from the first point of the equinoctial and not the natural zodiac and that the first 1/27th portion to be assigned to the Sun's period (සූර්යායාම), he being the lord of the universe. If it were to be said that the Thesa system is based only from the natural zodiac, it is quite unlikely and unsound to apportion the first 1/27th portion to Kethu (Descending Node of the Moon), which is not a planet but only a point in the zodiac caused by the crossing of orbits of the Moon and Sun (Earth).

Various reasons are given by some astrologers for the failing of the predictions by this system but most of the reasons go to show that the mistake seems to be in the application of the system.

#### Some Error Somewhere

Therefore I think that there is some evident error somewhere, which is to be found out by observation. I dare not condemn this system of prediction but what I state is that there appears some mistake in the application of it.

As an enquiring student of astrology, wishing to have the real facts of this cosmic science, I wish to make the following suggestions, so that ardent students of astrology can do them, observe the results and reveal their impartial and unprejudiced verdict as to which is more correct.

Certain horoscopes, especially their own or their near relatives, are to be taken and the Thesa Buddhi to be made into three ways: (1) as at present, having Kethu period to the first 1/27th portion of the Hindu zodiac; (2) having sun's period to the 1/27th portion of the Hindu zodiac; and (3) having sun's period to the 1/27th portion of the equinoctial Zodiac. The arrangement of the periods are to be in the same order as at present.

Those astrologers who maintain that the present system is infallibly correct are requested to publish the reading of certain known horoscopes. Certain horoscopes where predictions fail may also be given to their verification and reading.

The reason of writing an astrological subject as this to a newspaper instead of an astrological magazine, is that it may be read by many and those who read may show to astrologers and get the truth to bring the Hindu system of astrology more perfect.

### NEW TEACHERS' SALARIES SCHEME

TO AFFECT ONLY FUTURE ENTRANTS

#### Board's Amendments

The Island-wide protests by teachers against the proposed scheme for revised control of assisted schools and the salaries and conditions of service of teachers seem to have had some effect. The Board of Education, it is learned, has suggested amendments, making only future entrants to the teaching profession governable by the new proposals, leaving those already in service on their present status.

The following amendments made by the Board will, it is understood, be placed before the Executive Committee of Education for their approval:—

"Nothing in Clause 30 (a) shall affect adversely the salary scale approved for a teacher who held a Special Post at the date of confirmation of this Clause, provided (1) that the condition for the approval of Special Post as given in Note (b) of Appendix A of the 1931 Code for Assisted English Schools is complied with and (II) that no change is made in the scale of salaries approved for the school.

"Nothing in Clause 30 (a) shall affect adversely the salary scale approved for a teacher on the eligible staff of a school at the date of the confirmation of this Clause provided (I) that no change is made in the scale of salaries approved for the school, and (II) that such teacher on transfer to the eligible staff of another school on the same scale of salaries, occupies the class of post for which he is eligible."

#### Government Grants.

Regarding grants to assisted schools, the Board proposes the following:—

(a) The grant assessed for any school shall not exceed the difference between the Manager's contribution as shown in Appendix B towards the salaries of the approved staff and the salaries of the staff paid according to the appropriate scales as appearing in Appendix A attached to this Code.

In schools for which Scale A salaries are approved, not more than 60 per cent. of the staff eligible for grant under Clause 31 (a) shall be reckoned for grant as occupying Class I. posts (Vide Appendix of this Code), and more than 80 per cent. as occupying Class I. and Class II. posts together.

In schools for which Scale B salaries are approved and which have less than 45 per cent. of the staff eligible to occupy Class I. posts, not more than 40 per cent. of the staff eligible for grant under Clause 31 (a) shall be reckoned for grant as occupying Class I. posts, and not more than 70 per cent. as occupying Class I. and Class II. posts together.

#### Scale B Salaries

In schools for which Scale B salaries are approved and which have more than 45 per cent. of the staff eligible to occupy Class I. posts, not more than 55 per cent. of the staff eligible for grant under Clause 31 (a) shall be reckoned for grant as occupying Class I. posts and not more than 70 per cent. as occupying Class I. and Class II. posts together.

In schools for which Scale C salaries are approved, not more than 30 per cent. of the staff eligible for grant under Clause 31 (a) shall be reckoned for grant as occupying Class I. posts, and not more than 60 per cent. as occupying Class I. and Class II. posts together.

(Continued up)

### IMPROVING A'PURA'S HEALTH

NEED FOR HEALTH PRACTICES

#### Health and Agricultural Exhibition

The general infant and maternal mortality rates of Anuradhapura town were very high and that the people there should learn the various health practices, to improve the general health of the town, was the view expressed by the Provincial Surgeon, N. C. P., while stressing the need for a health and agricultural Exhibition at Anuradhapura.

A well attended meeting of the public of Anuradhapura was held on Monday the 10th instant at 4.30 p.m. at the office of the Urban District Council for the purpose of inaugurating a health and Agricultural Exhibition at Anuradhapura. Mr. S. Nataraja, Chairman, U. D. C. was voted to be the Chair.

#### High Mortality Rates

Dr. R. W. Willenburg, Provincial Surgeon, N. C. P. addressed the gathering on the objects of a Health and Baby week. He pointed out that the general infant and maternal mortality rates of this town were among the highest in his island.

Dysentery and enteric fever were endemic owing to unsatisfactory public water supply and extensive soil pollution. He therefore, urged those present to support the Health and Baby Week so that the people of the town may learn various health practices and improve the general health of this place.

Mr. C. L. Wickremesinghe, Government Agent, N. C. P. then proposed that a Health and Baby Week with an Agricultural Section be held at Anuradhapura for the area within the U. D. C. from 3rd to 9th September, 1933.

Office bearers and various Committees of the Exhibition were then elected.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

(Cor.)

### NO CONFIDENCE IN MINISTERS

NOTICE OF MOTION IN COUNCIL.

Notice of a motion of no-confidence in the Board of Ministers was given by Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike in the State Council on the 20th instant. The motion is as follows:—

"This House has lost all confidence in the Board of Ministers whose actions are calculated to diminish the prestige of the State Council, weaken the country's fight for reform of the constitution and strengthen the Governor in exercising his reserve powers unreasonably".

(Continued)

II. posts together. The remainder of the eligible staff shall be reckoned for grant as occupying Class III. posts.

The above provisions are subject to the exceptions indicated in Notes 3, 4 and 5 to Appendix A.

In reckoning the number of teachers from the above percentages, a fraction of over one-half shall count for an additional teacher.

(b) A reduction of grant may be made if the proportion of fully registered teachers on the eligible staff is less than 50 per cent.



**Hindu Organ.**

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1933.

A PRESSING NEED.

THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT among educated youths of the middle class in life is reaching an acute stage. If educated young men do not resort to demonstrations to impress the country of the urgency of the situation, it should not be put down for any lack of concern in their own affairs. They do realise now, more than ever before, the seriousness of the problem and are only too willing to help themselves out of the impasse in which, for no fault of theirs, they find themselves, if they could only get a little guidance and help. Left to himself, the chances are, the young man unable to grapple with the problem single-handed, will resign himself to what might seem his destiny and drift aimlessly along currents that ultimately lead to desperation. With a little effort and sacrifice on the part of the leaders of the country, it might be possible to save the growing and numerous army of unemployed young men from sinking into the deeper depths of self-diffidence and helplessness. It is good neither for the youngmen concerned, among whom may be found some of the most gifted of the community, nor for the community itself which claims them, that they should be allowed to languish for want of opportunities.

There can be no doubt that much of the present distress is directly traceable to the faith the Tamil parent put on English education as a means of providing a dignified living for his children. The attraction which English education exercised on the youths of this province has evoked the admiration of visitors from outside. Service under Government had almost become an industry and parents willingly made sacrifices to equip their children for such service. The world-wide financial depression and the consequent unsettling effect on educated employment has, however, brought home to many thoughtful parents the need to revise their faith on Service as a source of profitable employment. There are still many parents who nurse pet ambitions of service under Government for their children and refuse to be convinced by the logic of recent events.

It is to their credit that young men for whom parents had decided upon careers in Government Service and who find upon entering the larger school of life the doors of Service barred against them should be prepared to relieve their parents of the burden of supporting them while they keep on looking out for a job which may not come at all. These young men understand the implications of the situation well and refusing to add to the worries of their parents are prepared to face the problem and undergo any hardship or privation. This attitude of mind is a valuable asset and should be availed of before it yields to despair. There are not a few youngmen who are alive to the sacrifices made by their parents and would willingly requite in ever so small a measure the

affection lavished on them if they have an opportunity to do useful work.

In the absence of statistics of any kind to guide us, it is difficult to ascertain the number of youngmen who are unemployed with any degree of accuracy, but one will not be far wrong to guess that there are few families in this province which do not claim to have at least a couple of educated youngmen who are without any sort of employment. In many cases there are more. Not a few are on the verge of destitution. Our people do not, as a rule, make much of their personal misfortunes and are content to suffer in silence rather than broadcast them in public. They would tighten their belt and go without even the bare necessities of life than hurt their own self-respect by parading their want or misfortune.

It is time that some definite action is taken to alleviate the growing distress and harness to useful purpose the talents of our educated youngmen, which for lack of opportunities, are withering away in the silence of suffering. An organisation which would collect statistics with regard to the number, status in life, education etc. and set youngmen on their feet is the most pressing need of the day.

**BY THE WAY.**

In a sense all scientists destroy human solidarity. They cannot help construct or strengthen the brotherhood of mankind. That is a job reserved for theologians, social workers and up-lift societies. Cold reason cannot find the stick-it tube to weld together the shattered fragments of humanity. Man know in a vague and inchoate way that the New Year had nothing very new about it. But as a national festival it served a useful purpose. May be that physico-chemically all men, and for that matter all women, are equal, but the fact of the approach of Sun to the constellation Aries does not seem to affect all of us alike and more especially those who have been hit by the depression. The numbing effect of the financial stringency blinds us to the physical or chemical effects of the New Year. Moreover, Einstein, has knocked the bottom out of the New Year superstition. Whether one accepts his conclusion or not—the steps of his reasoning are beyond the comprehension of normal man—it is common experience that the New Year has not come for many of us. It has certainly come—and gone for those Government Servants who snatched a holiday from novel-reading in their office. The New Year is yet with those who have managed to forget the trials and temptations of the last year and have secured a dissolution of their troubles by a decree for divorce. The New Year is yet to be for those who are counting the days of the Irish Sweep Draw. Coming events seem to cast their shadows and forebodings in the case of these would-be millionaires. Till May is out their eyes will not know good sleep. Castles shoot up into the air by day and mates neigh in their dreams by night. These do not, however, rush to consult a physician for insomnia or neurasthenia. Their day dreams and night fantasies have a pleasant odour about them. To these the New year will not be before the Draw Results are announced.

Perhaps, it is in each of us to make each day a New Year day. But, try however hard, it is not possible for some people to pull themselves out of the entanglements of the past. They must solemnly and as they think, honestly, enter up the "brought forward" item in

their diary. There is a quaint joy for them to find themselves run over by the wheel of life. Who can say? It may be that some gland in the abdominal region is not functioning well with these persons, or heredity might account for defective optimism.

Chemical or political, whatever the reason, the New Year always finds the current of national activities in spate. There is such a surfeit of them that one has to enter up his engagements in a diary and mark out which functions he would like to miss. It is not yet possible for one to be at more than one place at the same time.

Sports meet, Religious meetings, Music parties, literary conferences, political congresses etc. etc. etc. Students congregate from the four corners of the Peninsula and make things hum a bit. Truly the youngmen are coming into their own. The spirit shown by the youths is evidence of a marvellous vision which has seized them. They seem to have sensed a light which baffles their staid and shrewd elders. All praise for them. It is easier for the young to see the Light—that which endures for ever amongst that which in the circumstances of time is fleeting. The youths must know it and become it. They will then be in a position to spread it abroad throughout the country. In this the youths of the country have a great responsibility.

One glances in vain through the proceedings of the various conferences to find any reference to the problem of unemployment. It is a problem which affects them more intimately, and one would have expected youngmen to address themselves to it instead of waiting and watching others to do it for them.

The Youth Congress meets this week and we trust they will not fail to consider the question and reach wise decisions.

**Vadamaradchy Youth League**

3RD ANNUAL SESSIONS

The Vadamaradchy Youth League held its 3rd Annual Conference at Vadamaradchy Central School, Vathiri, on the 22 and 23 inst.

The proceedings began with the address of the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Mr. W. A. Walton B. A. The President Mr. K. Muthucumar Proctor delivered his Presidential Address. Mr. T. M. Sabaratnam, ex-member Legislative Council addressed on Future of Ceylon.

The attendance was more than 250. Almost all the members of the Executive Committee were present.

One of the resolutions passed at the sessions was for doing propaganda to encourage the use of locally made goods.

On the second day Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam spoke on "Our Rights for Swaraj" and Mr. T. N. Subbiah on Communalism.

**Business Meeting**

In the evening business meeting was held and the election of the Office-bearers took place.

President: Mr. T. Ramalingam, B. Sc., Advocate

Joint Treasurers: Messrs Vyramuttu and J. E. Edwards.

Joint Secretaries: Messrs Senatharajah and N. Vallipuram.

After this a 'Social' was held by the committee members. (Cor)

**YOUTH CONGRESS, JAFFNA. NINTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.**

**Resolutions Approved By Committee.**

Arrangements are on hand for the ninth annual sessions of the Youth Congress, Jaffna, which commence on Friday the 28th instant at 2.30 p.m. with the hoisting of the National Flag in the Jaffna Esplanade. The sessions will be held for three days and will be presided over by Mr. K. Balasingham, Advocate. Mr. V. Coomaraswamy B. A., Proctor, will preside at the Tamil Session.

The final program for the sessions has not been published, but it is understood that Mr. H. A. P. Sandra-segira K. C., Mr. S. W. Dasse-naike M. S. C., Mr. Francis de Zoysa K. C., and other Sinhalese leaders are expected to take part in the proceedings.

Steps are being taken to hold the Industrial and Handicrafts Exhibition this year in the Congress Pandal itself. Some Exhibits from South Ceylon have already arrived and some more are expected from there, besides the local exhibits.

**RESOLUTIONS**

The Executive Committee of the Congress met this evening and adopted the following resolutions to be placed before the annual sessions:

1. "That the Jaffna Youth Congress, in annual session assembled, unconditionally and unreservedly supports the national demand for Dominion Home Rule and resolves to take all legitimate and non-violent measures to attain it. This Congress further calls upon political leaders all over the country to sink all differences and work towards the evolution of an All-Ceylon political organisation capable of speaking authoritatively and acting decisively on behalf of the whole country.

2. This Congress being of opinion that communalism is a negation of nationalism resolves that the Youth of the land devote themselves to wipe out the forces that engender inter-racial discord and seek to achieve Swaraj for the whole nation.

3. That the Jaffna Youth Congress is emphatically of the opinion that in order to strengthen the National demand for Dominion Home Rule immediate steps should be taken by the electors in all districts to persuade members of the State Council to refuse to participate in the Government of the country, if the British Government does not give an assurance before the end of the year that immediate steps will be taken to give Dominion Home Rule to Ceylon. This Congress is further of opinion that any measure introduced in the State Council for amending the Constitution should not in any way lower the national demand for Dominion Home Rule.

4. That the Jaffna Youth Congress is of the opinion that the system of education obtaining in the country is wholly unsuited to the national genius and urges that the mother tongue should be made the medium of instruction, in all secondary and elementary schools. This Congress is further of the opinion that the teaching of Sinhalese and Tamil should be made compulsory in all schools up to a suitable standard.

5. That the Jaffna Youth Congress resolves, in co-operation with organisations working along similar lines to promote the production in the country of necessaries of life and other articles and to carry on a swadeshi campaign.

6. That the Jaffna Youth Congress stands for the total prohibition of intoxicating liquor and resolves to co-operate with all bodies working with the same end in view.

7. That the Jaffna Youth Congress expresses its deep sympathy with the people of India in the (Continued up.)

**HINDU BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

**NINTH ANNUAL MEETING.**

The ninth annual general meeting of the Hindu Board of Education was held at the Jaffna Hindu College hall on Saturday the 15th instant at 5.30 p. m. Mudaliyar A. Naganathar J. P., U. P. M., presided.

After the Secretary's report and the Treasurer's statement of accounts were adopted Directors for set A, who retired, and vacancies in Sets B and C were filled.

**New Directors**

The new Directors are:— Mr. S. Kandiah, late Supervisor of Tamil Studies.

Mr. M. Krishnar, J. P. of Moolai Mr. P. K. Somasundaram, Proctor, Thavadu.

Dr. S. Thuraijappah, V'Ponnai. Mr. R. Thamocharampillai, Proctor, Udupiddu.

Mr. C. Thabalasingham, Proctor, Pt. Pedro.

Mr. C. Ariyanayakam, Proctor, Matale.

Dr. S. Subramaniam, Ayurvedic Physician, Nayanmarkadu. and Mr. S. Sivasubramaniam, Proctor, Colombo.

A vacancy of a representative for North Central and North Western Provinces was not filled up.

**Civil Service Changes.**

It is understood that Mr. E. W. Kannangara, Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, will shortly be relieving Mr. V. Coomaraswamy as Clerk to the State Council.

Mr. V. Coomaraswamy will go as Government Agent, Eastern Province.

Mr. A. G. Ranasinghe will be appointed Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture in place of Mr. Kannangara.

**Urumparai Hindu Eng. School.**

The third name on the list of subscribers published in the 'Hindu Organ' of the 13th inst towards the prize-function should read "R. Seeni-vasagam, Rs. 10." and not T. Sinnatamby.

**Sudden Death of Boutique Assistant**

**HEART FAILURE ON WAY TO BOUTIQUE.**

A case of sudden death due to heart failure of a boutique-assistant occurred on Saturday at Ariyakulam. It appears that the deceased Ponnambalam Thanotharampillai (45) while returning with a pot of water to a boutique at the Ariyakulam Junction fell down and lost consciousness. He was immediately removed to his house close by and given first-aid. The man died within a short time. An inquest was held by Mr. S. Aiyampillai, Coroner, who returned a verdict of death due to heart failure. It also transpired at the inquest that the deceased was for some days complaining of a pain in the stomach.

(Continued.)

sufferings they are undergoing their fight for Swaraj.

8. That the Jaffna Youth Congress re-affirms its protest against the social disabilities based on birth or wealth existing in our country and resolves to secure equal opportunities to all and to co-operate with other organisations pursuing the same ideal.

In the event of any member wishing to move any amendment to these resolutions, the Committee has decided that 24 hours' notice should be given to the Secretaries of such amendments before the commencement of the Sessions.

The Committee has been adjourned for Thursday next at 5 p.m. to Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy's office to consider some deferred items.

# THE DONOUGHMORE CONSTITUTION.

## MINISTERS FILLED WITH ALARM.

### INTOLERABLE SITUATION.

The following extracts from Sessional Paper V. 1933 (correspondence between the Board of Ministers and the Governor relating to the Appropriation Bill 1932-33) throw illuminating light on the financial condition of the Island, the powers of the Governor and the rights of the Board of Ministers and the State Council.

#### Further Taxation Impossible.

After exploring all avenues for retrenchment and the utilisation of funds not immediately required, the Board found that the Budget could not be balanced without recourse to fresh taxation. But they were fully convinced that the country could not at this time bear further taxation, Income Tax and increased import duties having been already imposed during the year. Ceylon is a country in which there is very little capital. Its enterprises, even agricultural, must generally pay interest on capital before any return can be taken. Inability to pay that interest has led to many small businesses being closed down and many holdings sold up. So much for the position of the average capitalist. Some idea of the condition of the labourer can be gauged from the circumstance that while many estates have been closed down, some merely as a concession to the labourers, and at their entreaty are working paying a labourer the reduced wage of 20 cents a day. Its equivalent is only 33/5 pence and is utterly inadequate to keep body and soul together, even of a labourer without a family.

(Board of Ministers to Governor, Sep. 14, 1932.)

#### Further Duty on Rice.

After the most careful consideration of the present situation in all its aspects the Board of Ministers have come to the conclusion that at this juncture it is not possible to propose fresh taxation for the purpose of balancing the Budget. The suggestion that has been made by the Financial Secretary (paragraph 7 of his minute), that an additional duty of 50 cents may be imposed on imported rice, is based solely upon the present price of rice which is certainly cheaper than it has been for the past two or three decades. But he overlooks the important fact that even if the cost of rice has fallen 50 per cent, the earning capacity of the people who use rice as their staple article of food has fallen much lower, and, in the case of thousands thrown out of employment as a result of the economic depression, it has dwindled almost to nothing. At this time of widely prevalent want, when large numbers, especially in towns like Colombo, are dependent on private or public charity, it is impossible to contemplate with equanimity even the smallest addition to the cost of rice as a result of increased taxation. It must also be remembered that Income Tax has been introduced and import duties enhanced during the current financial year. The Board of Ministers do not propose to rule out further taxation for all time but they are convinced that any addition to the burden of taxation which will affect the masses of people in this time of want cannot be justified, and that any such proposal will be resisted both by the State Council and the country and will only result in creating a serious political crisis.

(Board of Ministers to Governor, July 14, 1932.)

#### Public Service and State Council.

It is often said that an unhealthy element of the politics of Ceylon is the degree of interest taken by the State Council in the conditions of service, salaries, pensions, &c., of public servants, and advice has freely been offered to the State Council by individual Officers of State that they would do well to leave the public services alone. This is a view which appears to have much force, particularly when one considers the scope of Parliamentary politics in highly organized countries of the West, where questions of foreign policy, defence, weighty questions of domestic policy, such as those arising from the modern conditions of industrial life, financial questions relating to currency and the Public Debt, and many similar matters, engage a considerable

part of the attention of the Legislature. In Ceylon few, if any, of these questions arise. This is illustrated by the fact that of our public revenue of 92 million rupees over 50 millions is absorbed in the payment of the salaries and pensions of public servants. A considerable portion of the balance expenditure is on interest and Military contribution; and the expenditure on other services is comparatively small. There are few legislative measures which do not involve financial considerations, many schemes of social legislation cannot at the present time be thought of owing to lack of funds. It is inevitable that, whether it is a question of taxation, or of some measure involving a financial burden on the country, the public service which absorbs more than half the public revenue should loom large in the deliberations of the Council. The very fact that the constitution contains stringent safeguards of the privileges of public servants imposes upon the State Council the duty of scrutinizing any attempts to enlarge these privileges to the detriment of the small and inadequate portion of the public exchequer left for schemes of social legislation and advancement of the general prosperity of the country. This attitude is naturally more pronounced at a time like the present, when the revenue is rapidly dwindling, and social and other public services have been cut down to the barest minimum. These circumstances intensify the gravity of the three amendments referred to in this letter. In regard to one at least of these amendments, viz., the increase of the number of years' purchase of commuted pensions, we understand that exhaustive representations were received by Your Excellency and the Secretary of State from the Civil Service Association and kindred bodies of public servants, and that these representations were carefully considered. Is it an unreasonable complaint that the people of Ceylon, who have to provide the money for payment of these enhanced pensions, have not been consulted through their chosen representatives in the State Council? The cry of "leave the public service alone" can only come from one who is either ignorant of the social and political conditions of this country, or refuses to acknowledge realities.

(Board of Ministers to Governor, Sept. 14, 1932.)

#### Rights of Governor and Board of Ministers.

I am not prepared to accept the proposition contained in paragraph 8 of the Ministers' letter E that the Order in Council gives the Governor no power to add to the privileges of public officers. Apart from the powers conferred on the Governor by Article 22 of the Order in Council, the Governor has full power, derived from Ordinance No. 6 of 1905, in the matter of the pensions of public officers, to make minutes on pensions and to alter minutes already made, even though he may thereby commit the Government to additional financial burdens. It is scarcely necessary to say that this power has never been used, and is not likely ever to be used, so as to create large additional financial burdens without consultation with Ministers and the State Council. The authority of the Board of Ministers and the State Council in regard to measures for raising revenue is fully recognized by the Order in Council and there is no reason to suppose that it will be disregarded by the Governor when he has under consideration measures having serious financial implications, even though they are measures which it is within his own power to adopt.

(Governor to Secretary of State, Oct. 5, 1932.)

#### Governor favours Further Taxation.

Their next argument is, in effect, that the only way in which they could

### Kayts Public Library. FIRST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

A Social on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Karampon Public Library, Kayts, was held at Sanmuganatha Vidyasalai on Saturday the 15th instant. Mrs Masillamani Mangalammal, the distinguished guest and Chairman, spoke briefly on the crying need in Ceylon for founding Libraries and Reading Rooms as are all the civilised countries over. She was glad, she said, that Kayts was borrowing the latest methods of library building from the progressive nations and putting them into practice with such ease and effect. She wished it all success.

Miss M. Maheswari Devi, the well-known Vina player, led the musical programme with a rousing applause. Misses S. Puvanesvari, K. Sivagooneswari, P. Sukirthambal and Mr. V. Thillayampalam, all of great musical talents entertained the audience in turn. The audience was inordinately large, women forming the majority. After a hearty vote of thanks to all concerned the gathering broke up at 10 p. m. (Cor)

find the money for payment in full of the salaries, allowances, gratuities and pensions of public servants was to suspend the right of partial commutation. They believed that further taxation was impossible and that therefore they were faced with the alternatives of either reducing emoluments or suspending the rights of commutation. They further believed that in choosing the latter alternative they were adopting a course which was less objectionable to public servants than a further cut in their salaries or a cut in pensions would have been. I think it may be admitted that the public services would have perferred the suspension of the right of commutation of pensions to an inroad on the actual amount of emoluments or pensions. Ministers seem to assume, however, that it is quite legitimate to make repeated inroads on the emoluments and privileges of public servants in order to balance the Budget. I am not satisfied that further taxation is impossible: on the contrary I am satisfied that it will prove before long to be inevitable.

(Governor to Secretary of State, Oct. 5, 1932)

#### Responsibility Of Government

The Government of a country cannot possibly make itself responsible for the earning capacity of the inhabitants generally in the sense in which it is responsible for the emoluments of the particular individuals whom it has taken into its own permanent employment.

#### Financial Condition.

There is therefore a risk that by the end of the year, if not earlier, the Government's liquid resources will be negligible, that in the meantime the Government may be forced into the grave necessity of temporary borrowing, with the attendant danger of impairment of its credit, and that if action to restore the financial situation is too long delayed, the measures adopted to that end will take effect only after the financial stability of the Island has been endangered. As already stated, however, I am unable to say that the present measure in itself endangers the financial stability of the Island.

(Statement of Acting Financial Secretary Nov. 18, 1932.)

#### The Prospect.

In the circumstances I consider it essential that serious and early consideration should be given to the probable necessity of imposing additional taxation, or of effecting suitable and adequate economies, or of adopting a combination of both these methods, in order to maintain financial equilibrium in 1933-34 and subsequent years.

(Secretary of State to Governor, February 1, 1932.)

#### Obituary.

##### MR. S. KANAPATHIPILLAY.

We regret to record the death of Mr. S. Kanapathipillai, (65) F. M. S. Government Pensioner, Neeraviady, which took place last week at his residence in Neeraviady. The deceased after retiring from service in the F. M. S. returned home and engaged himself in contract work under Government. He leaves behind a son, Mr. Sinnaduray, F. M. S. Pensioner, and a daughter with whom much sympathy will be felt.

### The Jaffna Urban District Council.

#### NOTICE.

Applications are invited for the post of Assistant Driver Electrical Department, Urban District Council, Jaffna.

Applicants should possess thorough experience in care and maintenance of Vertical Oil engines, Electrical Switch-gear and machinery and Power house auxiliaries; running of engines in parallel and overhauling engines.

Experience in similar Power-Houses in town lighting schemes and experience of National Vertical Oil Engines will be counted as further qualifications.

Applicants should state age and produce testimonials re efficiency and character.

Only experienced mechanics need apply. The salary attached to the post is Rs. 540/- per annum with free quarters or house allowance in lieu, 10% if married or 5% unmarried.

Applications should be addressed to the Chairman, Urban District Council, Jaffna, and should reach this office on or before 12 noon on Monday the 1st May 1933.

R. R. NALLIAH, Chairman, U. D. C.

Office of the Urban District Council, Jaffna, 19th April, 1933.

Mis. 656. 24.4.33.

### Death of a Prominent Celyonese in Madras

Quite suddenly on Wednesday the 19th April, there passed away at Purasawakkam, Madras, Mr. K. Amirthalingam Pillai, at the age of sixty-seven. Though he complained of a slight pain in the chest the previous evening, he was to all appearances hale and hearty.

Mr. Amirthalingam Pillai was a worthy son of Jaffna, one of a family of distinguished men of letters, some of whom had been eminent in government service. Second son of the late Mr. Kathiresar of Mallakam Mr. Amirthalingam was educated in Madras and graduated from the Christian College, and joined the Postal Dept. where his uncle, the late Mr. V. Kanakasabhai Pillai was already employed. By hard work and close study of details he rose steadily till he became Deputy Post Master General, Madras, and acted twice as the Presidency Post Master after the death of his elder brother Mr. K. V. Lingham, who had already obtained honours in that position. In 1921 Mr. Amirthalingam Pillai retired from service and devoted himself to study for which he was noted since his early days. Philosophy was his favourite subject, and the notes that he made of his reading would alone provide food for thought for many a student.

He married the eldest daughter of his uncle Mr. Kanakasabhai Pillai, and had three sons and a daughter. His wife predeceased him in 1929, while his last son died four years earlier. His other two sons, Chandrasekharan and Ponnambalam are employed in the Post Master General's Office, Madras, while his daughter was married to his nephew, Mr. R. N.

### CROSS-WORD PUZZLE.

#### NEW YEAR COMPETITION RESULTS.

##### Prize-Winners:

Rs. 5: P. Shanmuganathan Odlumadam Road Vannarponnai.  
Re. 1 each: V.S. Ponniah, c/o A.S.S. Sadayappa chettiar, Debiowita and M. Mylvaganam c/o S. Muragesu No. 85, Castle Hill Street, Kandy.

Besides the prize-winners the others who sent in correct solutions were:

- K. Subramaniam, Oddumadam;
- K. Kandiah, Debiowita;
- S. Coomaraswamy, Moolai;
- S. Namashivayam, Thaliyali;
- S. Namashivayam, Jaffna.
- R. S. Sihanparanathan, Nallur;
- Punithavathy Canagaratnam, Chavakachcheri; S. V. Sabaranathan, Batticaloa; S. Apputhurai, Ayanarkovilady; A. Senathiraja, Kokuvil;
- K. Nadarajah, Karanavay Nj; K. Rajasingam, Colombogam; S. Satchithananda, Colombo; S. Rajandran, Colombogam; S. Sathyanathan, Vannarponnai; S. K. Sanmuganathan Nallur; Miss Kamalam M. Asaipillai, Avai-panthi; T. S. Sundaram Vannarponnai; C. Sivasubramaniam Vaddukoddi; C. K. Kandasamy Vannarponnai; C. Sakunananathan Urumparay N.; P. Ramanathan Vannarponnai; S. Ratnasabapathy Vannarponnai; S. Ganeyaspillai, Vaddukoddi; K. C. Coomaraswamy, Vannarponnai; V. Velayutham, Vannarponnai; A. V. Mylvaganam, Kopay S.; V. Sivaramalingam, Vannarponnai; S. Vythialingam, Naranthanai N.; V. M. Coomaraswamy, Mallagan; N. Navaratnam, Vannarponnai.

### The Solution.

Down	Across
1	Ambalavi
2	End
3	We
4	Era
5	Sinhalese
6	Ay
7	Kayts
9	No
13	Severe
14	Or
16	Mer
17	Urg
20	Eve
22	Eye
3	Wesak
8	Minnery
10	Do
11	An
12	As
15	Lemuria
18	Aver
19	Verge
21	Eye
23	Ire
24	Be

Sivasambu, Proprietor of Modern Publicity Co. Madras.

The funeral which took place the same evening was attended by a large gathering of friends and relatives including officials of the Postal Dept. In Mr. Amirthalingam Pillai the community loses a student and students lose in him a sincere friend.

-Cor.

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## PERUMAL KOVIL COMMISSION REPORT.

With reference to the commission issued to us dated 15.11.32 we submit the following report:

The petitioners stated their grievances in person before us and called a witness to support their contention. In our opinion, their evidence is not sufficient enough to prove that the temple was founded or managed by the Saivaites. On the other hand, the trustees produced a large number of documents, notarially executed, which prove beyond doubt, that the temple and its temporalities were in the possession of and managed by the Cherniya Chetties who are Vaishnavaites by faith and not Saivaites. No evidence was placed before us as to who founded the temple except a letter written by Mudri Rasanayagam from which we infer that the temple must have been founded by the Cherniya Chetties, when Ceylon was a Dutch Colony. This is a matter for historical research and we consider it outside the scope of this report to dwell at length on this issue. It is clear that the Saivaites who have been worshipping at the temple and even making gifts never managed the temple; nor were they in possession of the temple its temporalities at any time after it was founded.

For management of the temple was always in the hands of the Cherniya Chetties, who, at meeting assembled, elected trustees among themselves, generally five in number, to carry on the executive functions of a manager. The trustees had to account to the general assembly for all moneys that came into their hands. Balance sheets had been published annually though not regularly.

The earliest notarially executed document by which trustees were appointed was dated 1870. Under the

above deed two Cherniya Chetties were appointed trustees. Similar deeds were executed in 1878, 1901, 1908, 1917 and 1927 and it is under the last mentioned deed the present trustees are functioning. They were originally five in number but one is now dead. There is also a deed of 1850 which shows that the then trustees entered into an agreement with certain musicians who were to serve at the temple; the deed specifies the terms of employment and indicates that the management of the temple was at that time in the hands of Cherniya Chetties.

We find that balance sheets signed by the trustees were generally printed and published after being passed at the general meeting, sometimes once in 4 or 5 years.

We should suggest that balance sheets be published annually or more often if necessary at regular intervals in some local newspaper, after being approved at the general meeting of Cherniya Chetties.

On the materials before us we are of opinion that there is no need for a Court of Law to intervene in this matter and we are not prepared to recommend that a certificate should be issued to the petitioners.

Sgd. T. Muttasampillai.  
Sgd. S. T. Chittampalam.  
Sgd. K. Aiyadurai.  
Sgd. R. Sivagurunathan.  
Sgd. S. Kanagasabai.

Jaffna,  
8th March, 1933.

True Copy.

(Sgd.) P. MORTIMER,  
for Government Agent, N. P.

Jaffna Kachcheri,  
23rd March, 1933.  
Mis. 685. 24-4-33.

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