

The Hindu Organ.

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS
H.S. THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XLIII—NO 85. (Phone 56.) JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1932. (Registered as a Newspaper.) PRICE 5 CTS.

STATE COUNCIL'S BALANCE-SHEET.

The Need for Leadership.

(BY SPECTROSCOPE.)

"It provides, no doubt, seats of honour to a few unofficials and an arena for their eloquence or for their silence. But they are little more than advisory members and their presence in this Council as in lesser bodies Municipal Councils, Local Boards, etc.,—serves to conceal the autocracy under which we live. The Legislative Council, as at present constituted, hardly answers a useful purpose." This was in the truest colours the picture of the Ceylon Legislative Council painted by Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam even in 1917; the time is not inopportune to survey its present utility after a fairly long allowance of a decade and half. The tentative period has been long enough to observe the growth of the self-governing capacities of any people, especially when it is accelerated by causes internal and external, but, if the State Council of today, which for obvious reasons is in no way an efficient meter to gauge the potentialities of the nation, does not represent a higher step in the ladder of national advancement and does not serve for the popular political aspirations to materialise, then it is only an impediment on the road towards the desired end, having to its credit but a bombastic nomenclature and a ceremonial costume.

BRITAIN'S GENERAL POLICY.

Fable has it that a helpless man prayed for a very long time to be cured of elephantiasis on his left leg, but was at the end rewarded by the deity with a more terrible one on the right leg too; Ceylon hungered for immediate retrenchment and is at last granted a Commission which is to push on with its investigations till there will be no need to adopt their recommendations. Reduction in public expenditure seems to mean not only the discontinuance of telegraphic conveyers and the forced prolongation of the life of blotting paper, but also a heavy expenditure on experiments with retrenchment. The decided line to be adopted by the Government will be unaltered and unalterable; and the general policy of Britain has been very clearly outlined in Sir Samuel Hoare's biting metaphor; "The caravan will go on in spite of the barking of the dogs." It is not consistent with reason or experience for Ceylon to expect a higher degree of lenience or condescension from the very same masters trained in the self-same school of absolute superiority complex and racial prejudice; and more so because of the additive disadvantage consequent on the difference between an Empire and a Crown Colony, upon the disproportion which five million bears to 352; and particularly on the inexperience which handicaps brave, wise and independent action on the part of the people of Ceylon.

THE STATUS OF THE COUNCIL AND COUNCILLORS.

The status occupied by the Council and the Councillors in the eyes of the Government is by this time clear as day-light. The authoritative condition imposed upon the mere introduction of a Bill for the reduction of salaries; the unpopular amendments and the sheaf of certification amendments and piecemeal supported by utter wholesale and piecemeal opinion, make it only disregard of public opinion, make it only clearer. The advocates of the axe had in their minds a practical remedy to redress the

financial ills of the country but the primary object is none of the concern of the Government which finds on the most flippant grounds, justification to maintain the allowances for home sickness; and the Financial Secretary whose mental and intellectual fatigues bear only a scandalous comparison with those of a British Prime Minister, stubbornly refusing to be reconciled to his own countryman, Mr. Lloyd George, in regard to his ideas about the atmospherics of Ceylon, recently reputed to be the most beautiful health resort in the world.

A BIG EUPHEMISM.

It is time that any last or lingering hope, if at all there is any, to be dismissed from the minds of those who were loath to foresee the demerits of the Donoughmore Constitution in time. The dote of adult suffrage, the Council prerogatives enjoyed by a privileged few and the playground afforded for abortive debates constitute only a big euphemism so long as the reserve powers of the Governor are intact, as responsibility is not thrown on the sons of the soil and the substance of independence is absent in the scheme adopted. The application of Thomas Carlyle's sound principle that the representative chosen by a people measures their governing capacities, to present-day Ceylon is rather blasphemous. So far no Councillor can feel himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him by his constituency; on the contrary, some are even alleged to have kicked down the ladder by which they had mounted. The greatest achievement of the lady member too, whose sudden appearance in the scene was over-applauded as the first of its kind in the annals of Ceylon's history, has been her unavailing recommendations for adequate sex representation in the stenographic staff of the Income-tax department.

NOT AN OBJECT FOR ADMIRATION

Recent happenings in the State Council, the inability of the Councillors to engender confidence in their own countrymen through disinterested and earnest service, the Income-tax Bill with its accompanying amendments and the Bill for relief to judgment debtors which has gathered so much of ill savour around it, have made the Council an object to be heartily admired neither by those whom it has the misfortune to represent, nor by the foreigners, nor even by the Bureaucracy. The stipend which is being spent on the councillors for their academic course in the State Council College should have been better utilized for more useful and noble purposes which would have benefited the country at large in these hard days of trade depression and financial stringency.

UNDESIRABILITY OF COUNCIL-ENTRY

Events in India subsequent to the historic awakening of 1921 especially, should have by this time convinced Ceylon of the undesirability of Council-entry so long as the existing executive system sits in judgment over it. India's sad experience inside the Council and her glorious triumphs outside, together with the non-co-operation on the part of such veteran Council fathers as Messrs. Malaviya and Vithal Bhai Patel each after piloting the Indian Legislative Assembly

(Continued up.)

Boycott of the State Council.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JAFFNA.

Youth, the Hope of the Country.

WHAT THE ANTI BOYCOTTERS
PINE FOR.

"The hope of the country is in its youth. I have great faith in our young men and in the youth movement. This movement has already achieved much in the North. In the South—in one Sinhalese district it is still in its infancy. It has great obstacles to overcome, because the re-actionary element is still powerful and the consolidation of the forces of youth here is not quite so easy. I congratulate the young men of Jaffna. I congratulate the older politicians of Jaffna, too, on their ready response to the call of youth and the wise directions they have given to the activities of young men. There are, of course, toadies and croakers even in Jaffna," said Mr. Francis de Zoysa K. C. in the course of his presidential Address at the Annual Meeting of the Liberal League held on Saturday last in Colombo.

"Isolation of Jaffna"

"We have heard recently a great deal about the isolation of Jaffna. If it is isolation, it is a splendid isolation. What has Jaffna lost by this isolation? Four Council seats and perhaps one or two ministerial jobs. It has not however lost its self-respect. It has gained the respect and admiration of the rest of the country in a measure that it never enjoyed before. It has given the lead to the rest of their country in the fight for freedom. We have been told that the Sinhalese districts did not approve of Jaffna's boycott movement. The fact that we did not or could not act likewise, is no proof that we disapproved of it. On the contrary, most men here feel today that we lost a great opportunity, that we lacked the necessary courage and unity to prove ourselves worthy of our country.

Did the South think of Boycott?

"As soon as the Order-in-Council was published which proved to be far more reactionary than even the Donoughmore proposals, and before I knew anything of the developments in Jaffna, I for one stated from more than one platform that the best course to adopt was a boycott of the Council, if it could be made general. A prominent member of the Congress, an ardent supporter of the Donoughmore Scheme told me that in his opinion the Order-in-Council was a travesty of the Donoughmore Scheme and that he was going to move a boycott at the

Continued up

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for such admirably long periods of a quarter of a century, should have been wisely assimilated by Ceylon to her own advantage. What is essential is a thorough overhauling of the existing governmental machinery and not a mere substitution of the wooden spokes by metallic ones, more smooth and glaring though they may appear to be. Substitution cannot claim decent permanence so long as the core is defective; it entails troublesome and periodic attention which may put off the day of judgment.

WANT OF TRUE LEADERSHIP

It is a brilliant column of sincere and through-bred politicians, with a definite programme of national work and a capacity to educate and instil confidence into the minds of the masses that is the fundamental pre-requisite for the success of nationalism; and not a herd of unschooled and momentarily enthusiastic juveniles under high-sounding guises of congresses and leagues adorned but with the paraphernalia of annual sessions and empty resolutions. It is want of true leadership that makes Jaffna's Campaign looked down upon as a mimicry and the national dress crusade a fancy dress competition. Without leadership sufficiently backed up with efficiency, sincerity, persistent self-sacrifice in national affairs and absolute disregard of self, there can be no hope of redemption; and the Council will only remain insolvent so long as its debtor-column outweighs its creditor.

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT.

NEW APPOINTMENTS
ANNOUNCED

The following appointments to the Income Tax Department have been sanctioned by the Governor:—

Assessors.

Mr. T. H. Burah.
" W. R. J. Mann.
" D. W. Rajapatirana.
" C. A. Speldewinde.
" S. Subramaniam.

Assistant Assessors.

Mr. L. G. Gunasekera.
" S. G. Obeyesekere.
" I. Rasanayagam.
" C. Van Langenberg.

Apart from the officers mentioned above the Income Tax Department is now constituted as follows:—

Commissioner: Mr. H. J. Huxham
Assistant Commissioners:—
Messrs. T. D. Perera, J. M. Doulton,
Assessor:—Mr. J. S. A. Raju.
Assistant Assessors:—Messrs. M. Ramachandran and R. B. Antia.
Administrative Secretary:—Mr. C. E. Arndt
Probationers:—Messrs. B. R. Blaze, E. L. K. T. Ekanayake, H. Lourensz, T. L. Percis and Miss M. F. C. Weerasooriya.

Continued

Congress Committee meeting which was to be held to consider the Order-in-Council.

Entered Council to Reform It

I made a public appeal from a Colombo platform to the leaders of all parties to join in a general boycott and was arranging to get into personal touch with them, when the decision of the Congress Committee was announced that there was nothing wrong with the Order-in-Council and that it should be worked. Time was too short to counteract this move and we decided that the next best thing was to send men into Council with a definite mandate to reform it forthwith from within.

"Not only the Liberals but many Congressmen got into Council on that pledge, which however is now conveniently forgotten. When we heard of the proposed boycott in Jaffna, we approved of the principle although we expressed doubts as to its practical results unless it was general. But once Jaffna had decided it had acted promptly and effectively. We congratulated Jaffna then and we congratulate it now on their courageous adherence to their principles and policy in spite of official blandishments and unofficial misrepresentation and vilification.

Another Nomination Day

"I have no doubt there are people even in Jaffna who would like to enter the State Council if they could. If such people seriously want another nomination day fixed why do they not, instead of writing letters to the Press, taking memorials round for signatures, and making frantic efforts to have the boycott lifted, take the simple and obvious course of applying to the Governor to appoint a nomination day, if he refuses or fails to do so, of moving the Supreme Court for a mandamus on His Excellency. So long as there is even one man willing to exercise the right of the franchise the Governor is bound to fix a nomination day.

The Purpose of the Anti-Boycotters

I have a suspicion that what these people really want is not a nomination day—for they must be knowing as well as any body else that they certainly will not get elected even if a nomination day was fixed, but to impress the powers that be with their great loyalty and good sense. Whenever there is any movement which may be in any way considered to be distasteful to the officials, there will always be toadies shrieking to attract official attention and secure official recognition. This is a phenomenon not peculiar to Jaffna, not peculiar even to Ceylon, but to be found everywhere—even in India. There was an attempt in this part of the country to discredit the Jaffna boycott by attributing to it a desire to go back to communalism and to revive communal electorates."



The Hindu Organ.

YALPANAM, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1932.

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS.

THE WELTER OF WORDS, SOFT AND serious, let loose during the month by leaders in and out of Council has only made the gloom more visible to us. It is unfortunate that the leaders of the people have not been able to bury the hatchets which they took in hand during the last scramble for seats and ministerial jobs and in the atmosphere of fellowship hammer out a constitution to ensure the prosperity of this country. We have not here problems as in other countries which baffle solution or settlement and furnish excuses for the dominant nation to continue its tutelage. The people in this country are awake to the immense possibilities before them once they secure responsible self-government. They are prepared to face any hardship and willing to undergo any sacrifice to regain their freedom. If ever the people of Ceylon could have an opportunity to unite for the good of their country, it is now. For the financial depression has levelled down the people and opened their eyes to the insecurity of their economic foundation. Foreign exploitation has made the sons of the soil slaves in their own country under the necessity to buy their food and clothing and lighting from outside. The country's resources are under the control of foreign capitalists. Poverty and malaria are claiming their toll in death or debility. Unemployment is on the increase. Taxation, both direct and indirect, strains at the capacity of the people to pay. There seems to be no hope in any quarter. The people are ready but the leaders do not seem to be.

Pious resolutions are passed and sanguine hopes expressed promising the people Dominion Status but no one seems to realise that resolutions, the most solemn and reasonable, are not heeded unless the people are ready to back the resolutions by united action. Government is looking on till the differences between the parties grow acute enough for it to say that the ultimate and final control of affairs should be in its hands, if only, to maintain harmony between the discordant elements in the nation and safe-guard the interests of the dissident sections. It would be easy for Government thereafter, if history has any lessons for us, to coquette with each of these sections by turns and contrive to continue the overlordship for an indefinite length of time. The parties divided among themselves will be encouraged to develop along lines apart each other and build up traditions and hopes which deny the common background and evolve into groups which will always clash with each other. We appeal to the leaders of the people to meet in conference and draw up a constitution for the Island providing for full responsible Government. If the local Government cannot endorse the demand of the people, the remedy is in the hands of the people themselves.

What curse of man or God has decended on the leaders of the people that they should spurn the opportunity before them and indulge in petty bickerings unworthy of their age and wisdom! Is it too much to expect them to sacrifice their personal ambitions and unite for the greater glory of Lanka? The people trustfully hope and pray that in the midst of the feuds and rivalries and discords will arise the harmony which will help this country to regain its soul. Opportunity once

past is bald behind. Who can say that an opportunity like the present, when every section of the people feel the necessity for constitutional reform, and financial stress has drawn man to man and every subject nation is straining its utmost to win freedom and world opinion is in favour of liberating every country to pursue its own progress—will come to us again.

Empty words cannot console a long-suffering people and bring them nearer the goal of their aspirations. Words are dispersed by the winds. What is needed is clear vision, stout heart and firm action on the part of the leaders.

Our Impotence.

BY MAHATMA GANDHI

(12th November 1925.)

I could not see my way to accept their advice to send a cable to the League of Nations in the name of the Congress, and therefore sent the following answer:

"I have the letter signed by you and Hakim Sahab. What is the use of the Congress President sending a cable to the League of Nations? I feel like a caged lion, only with this difference that the lion foams and frets and gnashes his teeth and lashes the iron bars furiously in the vain attempt to be free, whereas I recognise my limitations and refuse to foam and fret. If we had any power behind us I would immediately send the cable suggested by you. Things I omit to mention in the pages of *Young India* are buried deep down in my bosom, and they are far weightier than those I advertise. But I do not fail to advertise them daily before the Unseen Power. When I think of the horizon about us my heart becomes sick and weary. And when I listen to the still small voice within I derive hope and smile in spite of the conflagration raging round me. Do save me from having to advertise our impotence."

But the next best thing I could do was to publish the valuable letter and my reply. I do not believe in making appeals when there is no force behind them, whether moral or material. Moral force comes from the determination of the appellants to do something, to sacrifice something for the sake of making their appeal effective. Even children instinctively know this elementary principle. They starve, they cry, or, if they are naughty, they do not hesitate to strike their mothers who will not grant their peremptory demands. Unless we recognise and are prepared to reduce to practice this principle we can but expose the Congress and ourselves to ridicule if not worse.

We cannot be naughty even if we will. We can suffer if only we will. I want us as Indians, Hindus or Mussalmans, Christians or Parsis, or Asiatics to realise our impotence in the face of this humiliation, barbarity, Dyerism, or call it what you will, inflicted on Syria. A definite realisation of our impotence might teach us to imitate, if it is only the animals who in the presence of stormy weather come close together and seek warmth and courage from one another. They do not make a vain appeal to the god of the weather to moderate his wrath. They simply provide against it.

And we, Hindus and Mussalmans fight against one another and the gulf seems to be daily widening. We have not yet understood the meaning of the Charkha. Those that have find all kinds of pretexts not to wear Khaddar and not to spin. The storm is raging round us. And instead of seeking warmth one from the other, we prefer to shiver or petition the god of storms to stay his hand. If I cannot bring about Hindu-Muslim union or persuade the people to take up the wheel, I have the wisdom at least not to sign any petition for mercy.

Municipality for Jaffna.

—O:—

SUGGESTION BY COMMISSIONER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Jaffna Town being a very extensive one, the question of having a Municipality for the town will have soon to be considered, observed Mr. S. H. Wadia, acting Commissioner of Local Government who visited Jaffna on the 7th instant with the Minister of Local Administration, the Hon. Mr. C. Batuwatudawa. They inspected the Karayur Reclamation grounds and later they visited the Jaffna Power Station the Grand Bazaar Fish Market and the Grand Bazaar.

Mr. Wadia suggested extensive improvements to the Grand Bazaar Market on loan funds. He was sure the amount spent could be recovered in five years.

NATIONAL POET OF JAFFNA.

SINNATHAMBY PULAVAR

(BY S. NATESAPILLAI, B. A. B. L., F. R. E. S.)

Jaffna has played an important part in fostering Tamil Literature and in conserving Shaiva religious tradition. Amongst the Tamils of Ceylon there has been an unbroken succession of poets, scholars and religious exegetes for several centuries. During the last century, Jaffna produced quite a galaxy of literary men. The revivalist movement that has taken such rapid strides in South India really originated in Jaffna. Of all the men of letters of Jaffna, Arumuka Navalar is, of course, deservedly the best known in South India and Ceylon. As a scholar of deep learning, as a pioneer editor of Tamil classics, as a writer of clear, fluent prose, as an orator of rare eloquence, and as a Shaiva propagandist of fiery zeal and vigour, he was one of the most outstanding personalities amongst the Tamil people of his time. But there were several other eminent literary men in Jaffna during the last century, whose contributions to Tamil literature and learning were very considerable, but whose names are not as well known as they deserve to be. C. W. Thamotharam Pillai, Sabapathy Navalar, and Sankara Pandithar are a few of these names.

Jaffna Poets Since Sangam Age.

There have been quite a number of poets in Jaffna since the Sangam Age. Elathu Pothan Thevanar whose poems are found in the classical anthologies of Sangam Poetry seems to be the earliest of Ceylon poets whose fame was recognized in South India. Arasakesari, the royal poet and translator of Kalidasa's "Raghuvamsam" is another great poet of Jaffna. But by far the most popular and best known poet of Jaffna is Sinnathamby Pulavar who composed Marasai Anthathi and Kalvalai Anthathi. Interesting articles on his life and writings have appeared lately in the columns of this paper. It is but right and fitting that a movement has been inaugurated to perpetuate his memory in some signal manner.

Sinnathamby Pulavar's poetic talents were remarkable and varied. It is said that he composed Marasai Anthathi when he was barely fifteen, an astonishing achievement, considering that it is a great *tour de force* in Tamil Literature, there being only a few other poems of that type, replete in difficult *Yamakam* rhymes and at the same time conveying religious sentiments of a high order in flowing poetic language. "Kanthar Anthathi" of Arunagiri Nather and the Anthathis of Pillai Perumal Iyenger are other examples of this type of composition. It is the usual custom to include Marasai Anthathi amongst the works to be mastered by those who begin a study of Tamil Literature, and the custom has been well justified on account of the real grasp of poetic vocabulary which a study of Marasai Anthathi affords during one's early acquaintance with Tamil classics. Kalvalai Anthathi also is a work equally honoured.

Gem of a Poem.

Personally, I attach more importance to Sinnathamby Pulavar's *Paralai Vinayakar Pallu*, which was published recently. It is a gem of a poem, and here we see Sinnathamby Pulavar at his best. In his *Anthathis*, he had achieved distinction as a skilful practitioner of a difficult type of prosodic composition. But in his *Pallu*, his poetic genius which revelled in beautiful imagery and variety of rhythm, comes into full play. *Pallu Natakam* is a dramatic poem in a light vein, somewhat like a *Kuravanji*, and relates to agricultural life. There is much scope in a *Pallu* for description of Nature, for realistic art, and for touches of humour. A composition of this kind is a far cry from *Anthathis* which are circumscribed by more or less standardized thought and poetic diction. *Pallus* and *Kuravanjis* can be, and actually have been written, in racy and colloquial language, so that even illiterate

people may sing and enjoy them. It is unfortunate that only a few *Pallus* and *Kuravanjis* are extant now, though there is ample reason to believe that a large number of these poems were composed in honour of Hindu deities in different localities in South India and Jaffna. *Mukkudal Pallu*, *Meenakshi Ammai Kuram* and *Kurral Kuravanje* are the best known poems of this kind. Sinnathamby Pulavar's *Pallu* outstrips *Mukkudal Pallu* in poetic beauty and rivals *Meenakshi Ammai Kuram* and *Kurral Kuravanje*. Even Kumaraguru Para Swamy and Thirukuta Raja Kavirayar, the distinguished poets who composed respectively these last two poems, do not seem to have the airy lightness and grace of Sinnathamby Pulavar.

Best of its Kind

I think it may be said with justice that *Paralai Vinayakar Pallu* is the best of all the *Pallu* compositions so far published. Some of the stanzas in this poem have such poetic perfection that if an anthology of the best Tamil verse is published, they should find a place in it. There are two or three stanzas describing a downpour of rain, and one cannot find their parallel in the whole range of Tamil Literature. I quote here one of them to give the reader an idea of the enchanting quality of the verse:

கருமலி லாடக் குவிநிலம் வாடக்
சலிவன மோடக் கழபுகுவாய்
பொருட்பி யாசித் திண்மனா காரந்
புறமுழு பதறித் திடுகிடவே
யருகுமு தவனக் குலமன தகரத்
தடநிலி ரிவிந்ருத் தநிந்தவே
சொரிமல திலிப் பகலா ருநியத்
சோவென மாசி பொழிந்தவே.

National Poet of Jaffna.

As some of the best stanzas of this poem were quoted and their translation was given in a review which appeared in these columns a few weeks ago, I do not wish to quote any more stanzas. But I must refer to the beautiful stanzas on Ceylon, ending with the refrain, "சமுத்திர கரடெகன் கரடே." They should be on the lips of all the Tamil boys and girls attending our schools; and they are bound to become as popular as the patriotic songs of Subbaramania Barathi. Sinnathamby Pulavar may well be hailed as the national poet of Jaffna.

Of all the poets of Jaffna he seems to have been the most poetically gifted. His *Karavai Velan Kovai*, which has not yet been published, will certainly strengthen this claim, when it is published. The other day, at a literary conference held in connection with the annual celebrations of the Oriental Studies Society at Jaffna, a Tamil scholar of Karavetty, who has a copy of the manuscript of *Karavai Velan Kovai*, quoted a few stanzas of the poem; and I was so charmed with their alluring beauty that I wondered whether I was not in a fairyland of Poetry.

MEMORIAL To Sinnathamby Pulavar.

A fund has been opened in this Office to erect a suitable Memorial to the memory of the immortal Sinnathamby Pulavar.

Subscriptions will be received by me and acknowledgments made in these columns.

A meeting of contributors will be held before deciding upon the shape the Memorial should take.

M. S. ELIATHAMBY,

EDITOR, HINDU ORGAN,

HINDU ORGAN OFFICE JAFFNA.
12-5-32.

Sir,
At the annual meeting of the Liberal League, Dr. Paul spoke highly of the food-value of toddy and said that it was a good preventive to malaria. But it is my duty to inform him and the public that expert medical opinion does not agree with him.

Last year there was a heated controversy about the same subject in India and Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, the ardent prohibitionist that he is referred the matter to Colonel Maccarison, food specialist under the Government of India, and got the following in reply. As I am writing from memory I can give only the substance.

"It is no doubt true that toddy contains certain vitamins. But these vitamins can easily be obtained from foodstuffs (especially butter milk) which are in common use in India. Therefore I will not advise anyone to take toddy which contains 12% alcohol. Most of the people who write about food nowadays do not know what they are writing." So much for the food-value of toddy.

Then as regards temperance, Dr. Paul said that he would advise people to take only a small quantity. Here the doctor ignores human nature. He must know that there are very few people who can set a limit to the quantity. When people first take to alcoholic drinks, they drink only in small quantities and it is only as days go by and when they lose all self-control, that they become confirmed drunkards. In this connection it is good for us to remember the noble words of Mahatma Gandhi. Speaking about alcohol, he said, "we must dread alcohol more than we dread a snake; for the former kills both the body and the soul whereas the latter kills only the body."

Yours etc,
A Teetotaler.

Anti-boycotters boycotted.

VERDICT OF PULOLY V. C. ELECTION

One of the prime movers in the anti-boycott campaign, Mr. M. Kanapathipillai, Chairman of the Puloly Village Committee and of the North-Ceylon Village Committees Conference, and his supporters sustained a complete defeat at the last Village Committee election which took place on Monday last at Puloly. Neither Mr. Kanapathipillai nor anyone of his supporters was elected.

Extraordinary interest was taken by the people of Puloly in the election this year, as there was a general dissatisfaction in the village in regard to the manner the affairs were conducted in the Village Committee and also on account of the anti-boycott activities of the Chairman who, it was felt by the people, has used his office as Chairman to further the cause of the anti-boycott campaign. The canvassing for the election, therefore, began very early this year. The progress of this campaign left little room for doubt as to Mr. Kanapathipillai's fate at the election. Anyhow with bull-dog tenacity he tried his best to checkmate the activities of his opponents, but all to no avail. The latter were daily gaining in strength which ultimately threw Mr. Kanapathipillai and his few supporters over-board.

Before the election commenced, it was decided that there should be 40 elected members.

Mr. Kanapathipillai submitted 30 names to the Presiding Officer, Mr. E. T. Dyson, Government Agent, N.P., and Mr. K. Subramaniam, Proctor, submitted 43 names.

40 out of the latter were elected while the whole lot of 30 names submitted by Mr. Kanapathipillai was rejected by the electors.—Cor.

Notice to Correspondents.

P. N. THIRUNAVUKARSU: These columns have been closed for Council-Boycott controversy. Besides, your letter has already appeared elsewhere.
—Ed. H. O.

REFORM OF THE CONSTITUTION.

RESOLUTIONS FOR SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS.

"Milk and Water" Changes.

A special session of the Ceylon National Congress will be held at the Ananda College Hall on May 11th commencing at 1.30 p.m. to consider the "demand for the immediate amendment of the Constitution in the following respects, for the removal of those defects, which have now become apparent, particularly owing to the failure of the Officials to co-operate with the State Council in working the new Constitution in the liberal spirit that was intended at its inauguration."

Governors' Powers.

(1) The repeal of Article 22 of the Order-in-Council which confers powers of certification on the Governor.

(2) The repeal of Articles 78 and 80 of the Order-in-Council which empower the Governor to postpone the operation of a Bill or to enquire that a particular Bill should be passed by a two-thirds majority.

(3) The amendment of the Royal Instructions to provide that the subjects in respect of which the Governor may refuse his assent to a Bill should be restricted to those relating to religious or communal discrimination.

Public Purse and Public Services.

(1) The amendment of Article 61 of the Order-in-Council to provide that any payment from the public funds contemplated by this Article should be made with the authority of the Board of Ministers instead of the Governor.

(2) The amendment of Article 86 of the Order-in-Council to provide that:

(a) appointments of a class which is common to every branch of the establishment, the holders being inter-changeable, should be made with the approval of the Board of Ministers;

(b) appointment of a class which is not common to the whole establishment, but which is common to two or more Government Departments not controlled by the same Minister and Executive Committee, should be made with the approval of the Board of Ministers;

(c) appointment of a class which is confined to one Department only, or to two or more Departments controlled by the same Minister and Executive Committee, should be made with the approval of the Minister and Executive Committee concerned.

(3) Article 87 of the Order-in-Council should be amended deleting the provision requiring the prior consent of the Governor to the introduction of any Bill mentioned therein, or the assent of the Secretary of State.

(4) The repeal of Article 91 of the Order-in-Council, which fixes the Salaries of the Governor and the Officers of State and exempts the Governor's salary from Income Tax.

Officers of State.

The abolition of the Officers of State and the vesting of their functions in Ministers elected by the State Council.

Committee System and Election of Ministers.

The amendment of Article 35 of the Order-in-Council to provide for the election of Ministers by the State Council and not by the Executive Committees.

The King's Concurrent Powers of Legislation.

The repeal of the proviso to Article 72 of the Order-in-Council which vests in the King in Privy Council power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Island.

MADRAS PAPER'S COMMENT.

Commenting on the above resolutions, the "Madras Hindu" says:

The Executive of the Ceylon National Congress has, however, proposed changes in the Constitution of a milk and water type which are not calculated to improve the situation. What is required is the abolition of the Committee system, the removal of the three Officers of State from their dominating position and the entrusting of real responsibility to the elected representatives of the people. As has been discovered in British India there can be no half-way house between autocracy and full responsibility.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA, Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8032.

In the matter of the estate of the late Kathirapillai wife of Sinniah Suppiah of Nallur, Jaffna.

Sinniah Suppiah of Nallur presently of Eravur in Batticaloa..... Deceased. Petitioner

(Continued up.)

Learn "Swadeshism" from Foreigners.

TWO INTERESTING STORIES.

Professor Bhababihuti Vidyabhusan, M.A. in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika":—

In a house in South Calcutta lived two friendly families, one English and other American. One of my friends, a dealer in 'Socony' motor oil, has been in close touch with the American 'gentleman'. One day he called at that house and requested the American friend to buy his motor oil from his shop. He accepted the request readily. But when the same request was made to the British gentleman referred to above, who was at the time sitting in the common parlour and was holding conversation with a certain gentleman, he sharply refused saying, "Baboo, I'm sorry. On principle I cannot use your oil as it is non-British. When many of my countrymen are unemployed and many are starving in consequence of the present worldwide economic crisis, I cannot suffer even a single farthing for the benefit of a foreign trade."

The gentleman felt no scruple in uttering these words boldly and frankly in the presence of his American friend, nor was the latter offended at this remark in the least.

Gentle reader! I shall relate to you another incident. An English gentleman, with a ten-year old daughter of his, motored to my friend's shop to buy oil. But as soon as he noticed that it was an American concern he said by way of apology: "Sorry, no—I've made a mistake. I thought it belonged to B. O. C.—a British concern". The little girl in the car, unable to realise her father's sudden change of mind, enquired: "Papa, why did you not take oil from this store? What's the harm?" The father whispered in a voice of course audible to my friend who stood near: This is not British oil, my child!" "The girl then said: "We must not then buy it. Let's go to a British firm".

These stories which were related to me by my friend are true, and speak volumes. The first shows the keenness and sincerity which these people feel for the growth of their national trade. The second shows how even little English girls are conscious of the value of the use of their country-made commodities and how they are taught to cherish love for indigenous articles. From the cradle they are so taught; later on it practically becomes their instinct. The genuine Swadeshi spirit is thus to be inculcated into the minds of our tender-aged boys and girls. It is the prime duty of every Indian parent and teacher by precepts and examples, to teach children to love Swadeshi goods. No education is perhaps more beneficial to the country at the present moment than this.

Indians have taken to 'Swadeshi' for more than once. Their previous efforts failed because of lack of stamina and firm determination. The present Swadeshi movement seems to have taken a deeper root on the Indian soil. Manifestations of this widespread and healthy spirit are to be found throughout the length and breadth of the country. What is necessary is a genuine love for Swadeshi goods. Let that feeling be ingrained in all of us. I have given the two stories above with no other purpose than to show how the Swadeshi spirit can be imbibed from foreigners.

Continued

VS.

1. Gnanasavuthary daughter of Suppiah
2. Puvanesavuthary daughter of Suppiah both of Nallur
3. Vellupillai Visuvalingam and wife
4. Mankyatkarasy of Koekuvil, now of Colombo.

Minors.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 11th day of January 1932 in the presence of Mr. H. R. Ariyacutty proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the above-named petitioner having been read: It is ordered that the abovenamed 3rd and 4th Respondents be appointed Guardian ad Litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st and 2nd Respondents and that the Letters of Administration of the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner as he is the lawful husband of the deceased, unless the respondents or any other persons shall on or before the 18th day of March 1932 shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.

This Order Nisi extended, for 27th April 1932.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour

D. J.
Extended to 16/5.

D. H. Balfour,
O. 857. 12 & 16.

NEWS AND NOTES.

The Jaffna Hindu College re-opened today after the New Year Vacation.

Swami Vipulananda left for Batticaloa yesterday evening, where he would stay for some days and then proceed to Colombo.

Swami Ketheeshwarananda of the Ramakrishna Mission, is staying at the Kala Nilayam, Vannarponne. He is instructing some young men in Yogic Physical culture. He will be here for about a week and then join Swami Vipulananda in Colombo, from where they intend proceeding to Chidambaram.

A rain-storm was experienced in Colombo yesterday morning. Between 7 and 10 a.m. nearly nine inches of rainfall was recorded and another inch was added by 11 o'clock. Many roads were submerged under water, and houses flooded. But it is reported that none of the Railway lines were dislocated and the Telegraph services were only temporarily affected.

It is revealed that 22 persons were killed, over 100 injured and 220 convicts are missing as a result of the appalling disaster due to a cyclone, at Mymensingh Gaol. It is feared that many others are entombed in the debris of the goal buildings which were completely demolished, portions of the brick walls and iron girders being carried long distances by the force of the cyclone. The cyclone also swept neighbouring villages, demolishing many houses and killing and wounding a number of persons.

An agreement has been signed between the Government of India and Tata Sons Limited, says the London correspondent of the "Times," for the company to operate a weekly air mail service with light machines between Karachi and Madras, with stops at Ahmedabad, Bombay and Bellary. The service which is expected to start in mid-September, will connect with the present England-India air mail, and will save 2½ days over the ordinary Karachi-Madras journey in each direction. It is unofficially stated, says the correspondent, that a later extension to Colombo is contemplated.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No: 8016.

In the matter of the estate of the late Ponnammah wife of Karthigesar Ayadurai late of Klang.

Deceased.

Karthigesar Ayadurai of Valvetty presently of Kuala Lumpur F. M. S. by his attorney S. Sinnappah of Valvetty.

Petitioner.

1. Ayadurai Sivapathisundram
2. Ayadurai Alalasundram and
3. Ayadurai Ratnasundram all of Valvetty presently of Kuala Lumpur and
4. Mooththamby Sivasubramaniam of H. M. Customs, Colombo.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st, 2nd and 3rd Respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esq. District Judge on the 10th day of December 1931 in the presence of Messrs. Sivapiragasam and Kathiresu, Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st, 2nd and 3rd Respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner, unless the abovenamed Respondents appear before this Court on the 11th day of February 1932 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.

February, 4, 1932.

Extended for 23rd May 1932.

O. 356. 12 & 16.

Repression in India.

HOW THE CONGRESS WAS HELD.

MALAVIYA'S REJOINDER TO
SIR SAMUEL HOARE.

The following is the text of Pandit Malaviya's statement in reply to Sir Samuel Hoare:—

When the Deputy Commissioner of D. I. I. informed the Secretary of the Indian National Congress that the Government would not allow the Congress to be held in Delhi, I ventured that announcement not withstanding, to say that the Congress would be held in Delhi on the day that had been fixed for it. I thank God that that prediction has come true. The Congress has thrown out a bold challenge to the Government when it decided to hold its 48th session in Delhi in the circumstances existing in the country. Sir Samuel Hoare and Lord Willingdon's Government have been trying for some time past to persuade the British public and the civilized world generally that the measures adopted by the British Government in India to crush the Congress movement had succeeded. If their statement were true, one should have expected that few Congress-men would come forward to attend the Congress at Delhi. But the fact that in spite of all the repressive measures taken by the Government about 1,500 delegates managed to reach Delhi and that many more were prevented from going there by the numerous arrests of those who were proceeding to Delhi, shows how deeply the Congress is rooted in the affections of the people and how futile must be the endeavour of even so mighty a Government as the British Government to crush the movement for which this great national organisation stands. It is very much to be hoped that the Government will profit by this experience and instead of persisting in the policy of repression retract their steps. But I must confess that I feel little hope that this will be done, when I find Sir Samuel Hoare repeating that the only change in the Indian situation that had occurred since the last Round Table Conference was in the attitude of the Congress. The world knows that it was the Governor-General of India who most unjustifiably refused to grant an interview which Mahatma Gandhi sought of him and which would have in all human probability brought about an agreement between the Government and the Congress on the difference which had arisen between them towards the end of the year. In the letter which I addressed to the Viceroy on the 29th January last I have shown that it was the Secretary of State and the Viceroy who changed their policy and decided to try to crush the Congress instead of allowing it to continue to co-operate.

Sir Samuel Hoare is reported to have said, 'We have not ended the chapter of co-operation; we are always ready to co-operate with anybody who was prepared to co-operate with us.' But only a short time ago he had said that he was prepared to co-operate with those Indians who were ready to co-operate with them upon the policy laid down by the House of Commons. Mahatma Gandhi had in his correspondence with Sir Samuel Hoare indicated that he would be prepared to co-operate with the Government if the statements of the Prime Minister and Sir Samuel Hoare in the House of Commons on the subject of his Reservations and Safeguards, were not the last word on the subject and it would be open to a member of the Working Committee to ask for the modification or removal of any of them. The Working Committee of the Congress has made it quite clear that it does not regard the safeguards and the reservations insisted upon by the House of Commons as satisfactory in the interests of India. In insisting, therefore, upon Indians co-operating with Sir Samuel Hoare upon the policy laid down by the House of Commons he is asking not for co-operation but for unquestioning submission, India's honour and national interest do not permit of her accepting such a position. The Congress has made it clear that it wants the same measure of independence for India as England and every other free country enjoys. This is the *sine qua non* of a friendship between India and England, honourable to both the countries.

'SEVERE AND RIGID MEASURES'

It is sickening to hear of this talk of co-operation in framing a constitution for India in the state of affairs which the Government has brought about in this country. Sir Samuel Hoare repudiated the charge that because there were men and women in prison in India the country was suffering under the horrid heel of Russian tyranny. If Sir Samuel Hoare would dare tell the public the truth about the ruthless repression that has been practised during the last four months in India, it will be seen that it is difficult to find a parallel to it even in Russian history. During this four months up to 20th April last according to the reports published in the press, 86,616 persons, among whom were included 5,325 women and many children, have been arrested, imprisoned and humiliated. This could not possibly include arrests in the far off villages in the interior of the country and, therefore, the Congress estimates the total arrests to be over 90,000 up to that date. The jails overcrowded, and ordinary prisoners are being released before their time to make room for political prisoners. To this has to be added the number of arrests made during the

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(Continued.)

last ten days, including those of the delegates to the Delhi Congress. It is difficult to describe the indignities, the hardships and the cruel treatment to which they are subjected. According to the reports in the press filing has been resorted to at least in 29 cases with considerable loss of life. There have been lathi charges on unarmed crowds at 325 places. There have been 633 cases of house searches and 102 cases of confiscation of property. A general policy has been pursued of imposing extraordinarily heavy fines on persons who have been convicted in connection with the movement and property far in excess of what was necessary for realising the amount of the fines has been attached and sold. The press has been gagged as it had never been gagged before. One hundred and sixty three cases have been reported where the newspapers and public presses have been regulated by orders for confiscation, demands for security and consequent closing down of the presses, warnings, searches and arrests of editors, printers or keepers. Numerous public meetings and processions of non-violent men and women have been dispersed by lathi charges, and, sometimes, firing. In the face of all this, Sir Samuel Hoare has been repeatedly saying that the emergency powers which have been given to the police have been sensibly and limited. Will Sir Samuel Hoare and his colleagues agree to a commission consisting of three eminent public men of international reputation being appointed to inquire into the working of the 'severe and rigid measures' introduced in India, upon which Sir Samuel Hoare dwells with glowing satisfaction? Let the truth of the matter be thus established beyond cavil or dispute.

It is surprising to find Sir Samuel Hoare repeatedly asserting that the situation in India has been considerably improved. The import trade returns of Bombay published a few days ago tell a different tale. Besides in ever so many places in the country Government orders are being defied and despite all the attempts of the Government to prevent them Congress activities are being carried on. The repressive policy is progressively becoming more and more intense and in equally progressive measures are people coming forward to continue the movement and to carry it forward. There is not one item in the Congress programme which the Government has succeeded in suppressing altogether. All this surely indicates the contrary of an improvement in the situation from the Government point of view.

Sir Samuel Hoare seems to have a very wrong idea of human nature in India if he imagines that with 80,000 of India's patriotic sons and daughters locked up in jails under oppressive and humiliating conditions any self-respecting Indian can entertain any proposal of co-operation with the Government in the work of framing a new constitution for India.—"Hindu"

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Order Nisi,

—O—

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8086.

In the matter of the estate of the late
Ponnu widow of Sthamparepillai Mail-
vaganam of Chulipuram

Deceased.

Mallvaganam Thambiah of Chulipuram

Va.

Petitioner.

1. Sivagurunathan Ellathamby of do

2 and wife Nasagam of do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour, Esquire, District Judge, on the 21st day of April 1932 in the presence of Mr. T. Vallalingam, Proctor, for Petitioner and the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioner having been read, it is ordered that Letters of Administration be granted to the Petitioner to the estate of the abovesaid deceased unless sufficient cause be shown to the contrary by the Respondents or any others to the satisfaction of the Court on or before the 30th day of May 1932.

83, D. H. Balfour,

April 29, 1932.

District Judge.

O. 355. 12. & 16.

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.

Printed & published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Aiyankovilady, Van: West, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabha, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannarponnai, Jaffna.