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HINDU ORGAN
INTHUSATHANAM.

THREE WONDERS OF CEYLON

1. SIGIRIYA—THE ROCK FORTRESS

BY PROF. G. C. BHATE, M. A.

[Retired Principal, Willingdon College, Poona]

(Special to the "HINDU ORGAN")

TO speak of seven wonders of the world is a long established tradition and convention. But nobody knows who selected, labelled and limited these wonders to the number seven. The 'seven wise' men of Greece or the constellation of stars called 'the seven sages' may be now incapable of addition. But there is no earthly reason why the wonders of the world should be confined to number seven. I have at least discovered three wonders in Ceylon. I believe that they are worthy of being recognised and of being included among the wonders of the world. By such inclusion the wonders of the world would reach the perfect decimal number ten, instead of the present odd number seven. Moreover, these three wonders of Ceylon have a double claim to be called wonders of the world. For, they are double wonders. They are wonders in so far as they are creations of the goddess of Nature by her magic wand of evolution; they are wonders in so far as they are wrought upon by man, the very eye of Nature, by help of his hand and head.

These three Sinhalese wonders are of a piece with each other, though each has its peculiar character and its special name. All of them are regarded as freaks of nature. Their similarity and difference may be adequately described by labelling them as high, higher and highest.

Difficult to Conquer

But these wonders cannot be visited in an easy and comfortable manner. For, no means of conveyance ever invented by man from the slowest *Zatka* (bull-driven cart) or rickshaw (man driven cart) to the fastest aeroplane avails here. The only available and usable means of conveyance for visiting these wonders is that with which man was endowed by God i.e. human feet. Not only must a man have a great capacity to walk to reach these wonders but also he must have strong nerves and a stronger heart. Moreover, he must remind himself that his remote ancestor was a monkey and that at one time man was a four-footed animal. Not only must he only remember that state but he must actually stoop to that state and then only can he conquer these wonders of Ceylon.

Sigiriya—Rock Fortress

Without further beating about the bush let me directly name these Ceylon wonders and describe them in the order in which I conquered them.

The first is a rock fortress called *Sigiriya*; the second is a sacred hill named *Mihintale* the third is a foot-print peak called '*Shripad Shikharabut*' labelled Adam's Peak. I visited the first wonder alone and by myself; I visited the second in the company of the family party of Mr. Vikramaratne, Excise Inspector of Anuradhapura, and lastly I visited the third, taking a young Sinhalese man as my companion.

Sigiriya is about 12 miles from Dambulla, a village centrally situated in the great central plain of Ceylon from which two main roads branch off, one to Anuradhapura and the other to Trincomalee. Sigiriya rock is about five miles to the east of the Trincomalee road, a separate road to Sigiriya reaching to the very foot of the rock-fortress. There is a pretty and pleasant resthouse at Sigiriya and one must stay for a day or two if one wants to see Sigiriya with its beautiful frescos and paintings in the pockets of the rock. One can see the exact copies of them in the Colombo Museum and also enjoy the fine scenery round about the rock-fortress. But one can visit Sigiriya from Dambulla in three or four hours' time by hiring a car for going to and returning from Sigiriya for about Rs. 5. I visited Sigiriya in this latter way.

Freak of Nature

This rock is really a freak of nature. It is a single, solitary, solid, granite rock rising sheer four hundred feet, wall-like, fissureless and footholdless in the midst of vast, waste, forest plain country but which in olden times was fully cultivated and thickly populated. This is indicated by many a tank and canal lying unused in the surrounding area. The first short ascent is by easy built stone-steps and is not very steep and now it is full of tall trees and so it is shady and cool

(Continued on Page 4)

OUTSIDE RELIEF FOR BIHAR

Suffering and Misery

"BADGE OF OUR TRIBE"

Babu R. Prasad's Letter to Mr. S. C. Bose

Patna Mar 14.

Writing to Mr. Subbas Bose, expressing his gratefulness for the efforts he is making to collect funds in Europe, for the relief of Bihar, Babu Rajendra Prasad hopes that as a result of these, a substantial sum will be collected. He says, "Foreign nations subscribed immense amounts for the relief of sufferers in Japan from the earthquake of 1923. Our disaster is on a vaster scale, covering at least four districts of North Bihar, Monghyr and parts of Bhagalpore, Purnea and Patna. The response from abroad to the appeal of officials and non-officials has not been so far much. I believe that it is due to want of information about the extent and nature of the havoc caused, but as we all know, misery and suffering is the badge of our tribe and we shall go through this with courage, and fortitude. God and sympathy and support of friends in and outside the country are inspiring us to efforts which would otherwise be unthinkable. We hope and trust your health will permit you to do something for us there."

Babu Rajendra Prasad adds that though one satisfactory feature of this terrible havoc has been universal sympathy, and though besides big donations, they have had a continuous flow of small donations, from all over the country, anyone of the stems of relief and reconstruction confronting them, is enough to exhaust the whole and most of the funds in hand. He states that Mahatma Gandhi is in Bihar to help with his suggestions and guidance in fixing up a programme and plans are being discussed with him.

(Hindu Cor.)

Reconstruction of Temples

Patna, Mar. 14.

At a meeting of the signatories to an all-India appeal for funds for the reconstruction and restoration of the Hindu temples, damaged or destroyed as a result of the earthquake, as also other prominent Hindus, held this afternoon, at Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha's residence, it was decided to form the Bihar Temples Repair Committee. The Maharaja of Darbhanga was elected president. Among the Vice-Presidents are Mr. C. Vijayaraghavachariar, Mr. N. C. Kelkar, Bhai Parmanand, the Maharaja of Kashmirbazar, Raja Raghunandan Prasad Singha, Mr. Jagatnarayan Lal is one of the three joint secretaries of the Committee.—Hindu Cor.

Short Story.

THE PRINCESS AS HUNTRESS

By Jeysingh

Shouts and yells—the trumpeting of elephants and the neighing of horses!

The tiger had been seen. The fatal round was rapidly getting narrower. The Prince was straining his neck from the *howdah*, the rifle shining in the rays of the setting sun.

With a mighty roar the tiger burst through the lines of beaters. The prince's rifle went off—a human scream! One of the beaters lay like dead. The animal had escaped.

x x x

"Move along there—" cried out the Prince. "Pursue the tiger. Four of you remove the body in a stretcher it is but fortunes of war."

And, turning to his European guest, for whose holiday this hunt had been arranged, the Prince said that, according to the Shikari rules of his State, the family of the dead man would be entitled to a pension amounting to his full salary for the eldest son.

"Generous!" replied the guest. With the sipping of brandy and soda, the mind transferred itself to the tiger. The dead man was forgotten.

II

Hasty whispers—a crowd of beaters were crouching at a distance from fear to approach the Prince.

What is it?

The Princess of Chittore had warned off the beaters as they pursued the tiger; they were trespassing into her father's State. The tiger had crossed the border!

"But surely our shoot must proceed. I shall tell the Princess," said the Prince as dismounting from the elephant he mounted his horse.

"Drop it Maharaja Sahab" the Political Agent was saying, "If it is Prince Kamalavathi, then she will not allow it. I know her."

"All the reason why she should agree, now that your holiday is spoiled—" and the Ruler of her neighbouring State, richer, with a reputation for political importance, friendship with the Viceroy, interviews with the King Emperor, went up to the young Princess accompanied by four of his A. D. C's.

"The Princess?"—said a rustic who was standing by an aeroplane "she has gone along with the stretcher to yonder hut, your highness."

And just as the horsemen turned towards the hut, the Princess issued out of the cottage with a human body on the stretcher.

III

"I am in haste to take that man to Delhi where an operation might restore the son to the mother, the husband to the wife, the father to the son" the Princess dashed a gathering tear from her eyes as she spoke. "As for the tiger, it is in my territory my father's and Mr. Thomas knows our Shikari rules. We do not allow beaters; if you would shoot here, pursue the animal, watch for it and meet it with your weapons, alone or one by one."

Respectful, but defiant. The Prince stopped to gaze at her, but she was gone. Placing the body in the plane, she herself manipulated the machine. The aircraft grace-

fully lifted and, in a few moments, was lost to sight.

"I told you Maharaj—" the Political Agent was saying, "her father dotes on her. He is the best shot, you know, but ever since Kamalavathi grew up, he has had to seek the tiger alone with her. She would not even allow a *machan* or its being lured by animals tied for its feast. She calls it cowardly, not sportsmanship."

The Prince was apologising when the Political Officer's attention was drawn to a crowd not far off.

"It is the father of the dead beater, sir, going to the spot where his son's blood is spilt. The mother and the wife and the little baby are following him." A shadow passed the Prince's face.

"Kamalavathi's face haunts me, Tom—" he addressed familiarly the Political Officer. "She has flown to Dalhi with the body. And yet the labourer was my subject! She happened to be near superintending her lunatic scheme of tinning of ham."

"Contradiction, is it not?" smiled the officer, "She not only permits the killing of pigs, but has invested State money to preserve and send out the flesh."

"But then that is what the people want—" replied the Prince, "the pigs destroy their crops. She does not want to preserve the animals for she has no faith in pigs-kicking"

He himself has come to ask your hand, Kamala, and it is a great honour to our house that, after centuries of feuds and fights and domestic quarrel the two houses are to be united. And he is a charming Prince, the foremost in the counsels of the high—"

"Father, I have already seen him—" Kamalavathi said and told him the story of the beater and the tiger.

"The man is alive and is employed in our palace. The Prince was writhing with mental pain, I am told, when his officers returned and reported that the wife of the beater had refused blood money; the State sent him his salary as, according to their official report, Madho was dead."

x x x
That was the rub. The Princess had been accustomed to have her own way. She observed no *purdha*. She ruled the State through her fond father. The pigs were a nuisance to the agriculturists! "Kill them that come to destroy your crops—Gandhi is the living embodiment of divinity in man—and he himself has sanctioned the killing of monkeys when they are a nuisance."

And the agriculturists hailed the Princess as Goddess.

To marry away such a personality, hope to put her in *purdha* and keep her as a doll for a man's pleasures—dressed and ornamented and fed?

"But you must marry—" the father was saying.

"And leave you alone here, father?" she answered. "Since my mother's death I am your life. I know it. I will not marry, father; if at all, I shall marry the man I may love for his own sake. Maharaj Peatap Singh is not the man I love. Father, I am sorry to say it, he is the one man I almost hate! He can kill a brother man and call it the fortunes of war."

V

A roar that almost shook the forest—the sound of a rifle shot—and all was still.

Anxious men on horseback and

(Continued on Page 4)

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1934.

THE COCONUT CONFERENCE

CONSIDERABLE INTEREST WILL centre round the deliberations of the Coconut Conference which met in Colombo last week to explore ways and means to lift the coconut industry from the perilous position into which it had drifted. There can be no doubt that the Conference has begun work under very favourable auspices. When it is borne in mind that no less than 2 1/2 million Ceylonese are either directly or indirectly dependent on the industry and the total acreage under coconut cultivation far exceeds that of all the other agricultural industries of the Island put together, the seriousness of the situation becomes apparent. The promoters of the Conference well deserve the thanks of the public for attempting the solution of a problem of vital importance for the economic well-being of the country. His Excellency the Governor was pleased to extend official patronage by opening the Conference with an address which left no doubt as to the attitude of Government towards the aims of the Conference. His Excellency drew on his own experience in Jamaica and pointed out the directions in which solution might be found. Mr. K. BALASINGHAM who has spent a lifetime in the study of the economic problems of the country placed before the Conference a detailed statement of the present position of the industry and indicated the lines of approach to the problem.

The value of the Conference will depend largely on the practical measures discussed and decided upon to ensure increased local consumption of the produce of the coconut palm. The conversion of the produce of the palm into useful products for which the local consumer spends large sums of money in importing from foreign countries should go a great way to rehabilitate the industry. This country spends annually in the neighbourhood of 15 million rupees for the sugar she imports from Java. A good portion of this money could be retained in the country if the people resolve to use palm jag-

gery instead of refined cane sugar. Apart from the dietetic superiority of palm-jaggery to imported sugar, the fact that the exercise of enlightened self-interest would result in rescuing the industry from total collapse should induce the people to stand up for palm jaggery. The present excise policy is undoubtedly unfavourable to the growth of the local jaggery industry. We have no doubt that the Conference will take early steps to mitigate the hardships in this direction and secure the support of Government to foster the local industry by tariff protection and concessions. The position of the sugar industry in India is an example of the success that follows concerted popular action aided by Government. We would invite the Government to emulate the example of the Native State of Mysore in which an enlightened Indian ruler has authorised the formation of a Joint-Stock Company with the Director of Agriculture as Managing Director for the purpose of opening a sugar-mill. Sixty per cent of the shares issued by the Company is guaranteed by the State and the rest is set apart for public subscription. It is necessary that our Government should adopt an equally bold policy to give a lead to the people. The question whether it is within the legitimate province of Government to start industrial concerns without leaving it to private enterprise to do so need not stand in the way of Government coming to the rescue of the only industry in the hands of Ceylonese

About sixty years ago, Japan, anxious to foster the industries of the country, started factories all over the country under Government direction till the people themselves were in a position to launch out industries unaided by Government. Ever today the dominant position enjoyed by the Japanese manufacturer in the world market is not a little due to the support given directly or indirectly to the manufacturing industries by the Government of Japan.

The Conference might study the problems relating to the coconut industry and reach excellent conclusions. They might draw up splendid schemes to save the industry from total extinction, but they will not be in a position to put into operation their plans without generous assistance from Government. Facts might be collected, figures tabulated and every bit of information gathered and yet no headway can be made unless the local capitalist can be persuaded to invest his money in an enterprise, about the fate of which he must remain sceptical in the absence of knowledge or experience. It is not that capital is lacking in the Island. There is money; but it is slow to back business ventures. It is shy. The people of this country have been denied the education necessary to equip them for efficiency in organising production or manufacture.

It behoves the Government to repair its own omission in this respect and give the people a demonstration in the methods by which the produce of the coconut palm could be utilised in the country itself without having recourse to the foreign manufacturer for articles that could be produced locally. The question of securing foreign markets for coconuts will continue to baffle the best brains in the industry, at least until such time as the present economic unsettlement in the world continues; but a good deal can

be done to salve the industry if steps are taken to convert the raw produce into finished products to suit the markets close at hand.

We trust that the Ministers in their anxiety to save the coconut industry will not be parties to any proposal which will put a heavy burden on the clothing of the poor at a time of wide-spread unemployment and distress as the present efforts will be made by interested parties to inveigle the Ministers into a position from which they cannot escape the accusation of the people or feel that their powers of bargaining have survived the test of trained and cautious diplomacy.

We invite the attention of the authorities to the rider appended to their verdict by the jury

Police Perversity? Who heard a criminal case at the Jaffna Assizes last week. This is not the first time that a jury have had to condemn the methods of the local police. In another case in the present sessions the jury had occasion to point out the inefficiency of the police force in Jaffna. In the last sessions the jury found that the investigations of the police in the Vallai Murder left much to be desired. There is not the least doubt that the police have become thoroughly unpopular in the District. The public have condemned police methods in no uncertain terms. Quite recently the Police Magistrate in discharging the notice issued at the instance of the police on the Chairman of the Vehiclemen's Union observed that there were no reasonable grounds to bind him over. It is clear that the police have forfeited confidence of the public. We are surprised that no efforts have been made to wean peccant police officers from pursuing methods hardly creditable to the prestige or popularity of the force. We trust that the Inspector-General of Police will look into the doings or misdoings of the local police and take steps to restore the confidence and respect of the public for his men by weeding out the undesirables.

"THE HINDU ORGAN" EARTH-QUAKE RELIEF FUND

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Jaffna Hindu College Senior Boarders	8	50
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Total	1026	32

* This amount was inadvertently mentioned as Rs. 935 28 in our last issue while it should have been Rs. 936 28.

Obiter Dicta—XX.

SOME RANDOM NOTES

Palpable Prejudice

THE SHIP was sinking. The Captain's wife and child had been put into a boat with some Chinese passengers, and as the boat was moving away there was a scramble for it by other passengers, and the boat was upset. An Asiatic Sergeant swam to the rescue of many of the perishing men and women, saved many including the Captain's child. He was too exhausted to do more. It was then that Mr. Jones, fresh and untired leaped into the sea and rescued the Captain's wife. The Royal Humane Society has awarded Mr. Jones a gold medal and the Asiatic Sergeant a bronze one. Now can't those stupid see that the distinction implies a tremendous amount of colour prejudice. Foolish bias and rank injustice? The black man risked his life at least as much as the white man, if indeed not more than the white Mr. Jones, and yet Jones gets the year's gold medal "for the most heroic deed of the year" and the other fellow but a bronze article. If the other fellow had been Smith he too would have received a gold medal! This is the kind of thing that might happen in a Colony but that it should happen in England surprises me.

"Brother Ceylon"

AN ENGLISHMAN, named Muirhead, came out not long ago to Ceylon to make money. As an irrigation engineer he made it. Now, he is somewhere in Trinidad. He has cause to be grateful to the people of Ceylon for feeding and clothing him during his stay in Ceylon. He has shown his gratitude by writing a vile book, a farrago of falsehoods, one long, unprovoked and unmerited libel. It is called "Brother Ceylon," modelled as to name and method upon the foetid intellectual excrement of an American woman called Mayo. Muirhead does not deserve the honour of a book in reply but summary treatment at close quarters.

Talk, Talk, Talk,

YOU GET THIS in copious quantities in Jaffna. There was a great stir some months ago in the country, especially in legal circles, over a Supreme Court Judgment on a well known principle of Thesawalame. The Judgment had revolutionized the law of the land and gone counter to the customs of the country. Yet, up-to-date no action has been taken by anybody in Jaffna on this very vital matter beyond talking, talking about it. Why have the lawyers not met? Why has no public meeting been held? Why has no attempt been so far made to place matters in their true light before the Attorney-General? Why? Why??

No Nomination Day??

THIS IS SUSPECTED. Indeed it is very desirable. The Government which in almost indecent haste secured an Order-in-Council to shield a peccant lexicographer, is taking a jolly long time over getting an order about a Nomination day for Jaffna. The delay is cruel if in the end there is to be no such Day at all, because ambitious men are out canvassing and money is current in the country, all to no purpose! The days of the present State Council are not many. To have an election for the few months left is a frivolous waste of money. There will soon follow the General Election. The best thing that can happen to Jaffna just now is to let the Boycott conditions remain till the dissolution of the present Council. For one thing it will give some utterly incompetent men who are now knocking about the country full of aspirations, plenty of time to rest and contemplate their obvious limitations.

A Whine from the Council Chamber

JUST A cursory glance at the marginal headings of some sections of Chapter XII of the Evidence Ordinance would have prevented that whine for legislation to prevent the bullying of witnesses in Courts of Law. Section 146 permits the cross-examiner to shake a witness's credit by "injuring his character", and the witness is protected by Sections 151, 152 against questions which are indecent or scandalous, or which are intended to insult or annoy the witness. Then there is always section 150 to which an appeal may be made when there are "no reasonable grounds" for any imputation in any question. Even the most wimple-faced anaemic-looking weed of a witness has enough, in the already existing law, for his protection from worst of bullies and consequently extra legislation is simply superfluous.

Police Humour

SOME POLICEMEN love jokes. Not long ago some plants had been stolen from a flower-garden. On the police being informed a real live detective was sent to the spot. He walked about the place, looked on the ground, at the unshelved plants, looked into flower-pots (empty) looked up at the sky, and looked at the bereaved owner of the late plants, and asked the pertinent question "Who stole the plants?" A man reputed to be a CID party had occasion, sometime ago, to investigate a case of theft of nine chairs from a Jaffna Church between 6 and 8 p. m. one day. He filled a note-book with statements from six different persons. They had to give him even biographical details of themselves. After three hours of continuous writing the detective turned to the clergyman in charge and asked him in a confidential whisper "Who stole the chairs?" The clergyman said, "Give me your belt and your whistle and I'll find that out." These police jokes are useful to arrest a man in the act of thieving only.

The Velanai case.

MR. JUSTICE DALTON has spoken plainly on the perversity of juries. The danger is that they admit extraneous evidence in favour of the prisoner, or against him, to reach their ears and this extraneous evidence is all rank rumour. There may be truth in the rumour and not in the evidence in Court but a juror who acts on the rumour, and not on the evidence led, is false to his oath. Not only juries but even magistrates often are frail enough to listen to outside talk whereby their judgment is swayed wrongly. I was once defending a man charged before an English Magistrate with theft from a dwelling house. My client was acquitted. Then the magistrate told me in open Court, "Your client had come before me four times already for theft, and on those occasions I had to jail him. This time the evidence against him is false!" A magistrate with so much knowledge of the accused had every reason to be prejudiced against him, yet he was British enough to blot out of his mind every possibility of bias.

Si O Si Sic Omnes!

SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION IN JAFFNA.

Commences on March 22

There will be an Exhibition of School Art at Parameshvara College Timmaveley, Jaffna, from 22nd to 25th March 1934 (Both days inclusive). It will be open from 9 a. m. to 12 30 p. m. and 2 p. m. to 6 p. m. daily.

Personal

Mr. S. Ratnasabapathy, Chief Clerk, Chief Police Office, Kula Lumpur, has, after a service of 24 years, retired from the service of the F. M. S. Government with effect from 10-2-1934. He will be returning to Ceylon, with his family, in early April and will take up residence at Katherodday. (Cor.)

Placing Coconut On Its Feet

ALL CEYLON COCONUT CONFERENCE

MR. BALASINGHAM'S MASTERLY ADDRESS

The present depressed position of the coconut industry in Ceylon and suggestions for placing it on its feet again formed the theme of addresses delivered on Friday morning at Cambridge House, Colombo, when His Excellency the Governor opened the All-Ceylon Coconut Conference.

Mr. K. Balasingham, Chairman of the Managing Committee of the Conference, in the course of his address made a comprehensive survey of the present position of the industry. Following are extracts from his speech:

"It is generally felt that something should be done without loss of time to help the coconut industry. The prices for coconut products have reached the lowest level. In 1839 the price of a 1,000 coconuts was about Rs. 33 (We had no rupee currency then). From 1893 to 1905 the average price was Rs. 45 for a candy of copra and about Rs. 35 for a 1,000 nuts. In 1913 the average price of a candy was Rs. 92 and the lowest level reached during the War was in 1917 when the average price was Rs. 38-50. In October, 1920, the price went up to Rs. 130 a candy. Since then the price has gradually come down and the price today is about Rs. 21 for a candy of copra or Rs. 12 for a 1,000 nuts.

One of the main objects of this conference and exhibition is to encourage the use in Ceylon of articles which can be made out of coconut products as substitutes for imported articles. There are obviously two ways of helping the coconut industry: one way is to make people outside Ceylon to use coconut products more largely than at present, and the other is to use more coconut products ourselves as substitutes for imported articles. It is not adequately realised that, by adopting the latter method, we can find a market in Ceylon itself for about 50 per cent. of the total produce of the coconut.

Favourable Conditions

Pardon me if I put in the forefront a proposal made by me in 1931, the first year of coconut depression: I then said:-

In Ceylon, the conditions for starting a sugar industry are most favourable. There is an unlimited supply of the raw material—sweet toddy from coconut and other palms, and an assured local market. In 1930 we imported nearly 1½ million cwts. of sugar. Nothing has been done to take advantage of so unique a combination of propitious factors. Let me quote a passage from the Indian Financial Year Book for 1933: 'Sugar has thus a definite place in national economy. If only encouragement had been given, immediately after the Sugar Committee's Report of 1920, India could have retained 1,000 million rupees in the sense that foreign imports could have been stopped. It would have added immensely to national wealth. After the war every country was taking steps to make itself self-contained so far as sugar was concerned. India alone was content to remain a passive spectator. Sugar illustrates what dangers can befall a country by a negative or adverse economic policy on the part of the State. The last three years is happily an illustration of the great good which active national economic policy can do to the nation. If State aid is not to any industry let it be sharp and quick and smart and substantial—this is the lesson and moral to be learnt from the last two years' history of sugar in India. The experience of the iron and steel industry proves that a naive or half-hearted or piecemeal protection does no good to nobody."

If a protectionist policy does not help to start immediately sugar refineries, it will at least revive the Jaggery Industry in Ceylon which has been practically killed by cheap Java sugar. At present we get our sugar from Java, a country which does not buy our produce—but is one of our rivals in the tea, rubber and coconut markets of the world.

Malabar Trade

It is evident that Malabar can never be able to supply Indian requirements. The plantations in the rest of India are hardly adequate to meet the local consumption and are not available for even the internal trade of India in other districts. The frantic appeals to the Government of India by the Native States of Travancore and Cochin to stop the imports from Ceylon are, therefore, ill-advised. These two States have very good reason to cultivate the friendship of Ceylon, where their surplus population are largely employed, and if instead of attempting to shut the door against Ceylon, they invite Ceylon to contribute to a Coconut Cess for joint coconut propaganda in North India, there would soon be a coconut famine in Malabar and Ceylon.

If India admits our coconuts, areacnuts, arrack, tobacco, tea and fruits free of duty, we can provide the best market for Indian rice, textiles, coal, coffee, sugar and other food products. If India will not treat us as we deserve, it would become necessary for us to cultivate trade relations with such countries as will treat us better, and reduce our trade with India.

But before seeking other remedies, we should make a determined effort to increase our trade with India to the utmost, for India will never be able to produce coconuts required for her 350 million people, and a free exchange of products between the two countries will be to the good of both.

The United States are developing as rapidly as India a partiality for the coconut. The report of the Food Research Institute says:-

"It is in a sense a 'new' commodity to American consumers, and its future development offers unknown possibilities."

"In 1912 only a negligible amount was used in the United States, while in 1926 its consumption had grown to just under 100 million pounds."

Governor's Remarks

His Excellency the Governor in declining the Conference said:

"I should like first of all to tell how we have been dealing with a similar situation on a smaller scale on the other side of the world. The coconut industry of Jamaica was not important in itself—I suppose it is about a tenth part of the industry here. We found we were suffering in the same way, coconut oil and copra being kept out of the European markets for the same reason which has affected Ceylon. We realised that the only thing to do was to develop the home market and we proceeded to do so by putting a heavy tax on cotton-seed oil and other oils, and thus by the time I left the Island everybody had been converted to the use of coconut oil for all cooking purposes. I may tell you I was one of the first people who insisted on using in my household coconut oil for cooking.

We also took up the question of soap and I think I am right in saying that the imports of soap were reduced at least by 50 per cent. in the first year.

The result was that an industry which was distinctly failing was placed on its feet again and found very valuable support at a time when hurricanes and other difficulties had made large inroads on the industrial prosperity of the country."

On the Political Horizon

AN ELECTION CIRCULAR

BY "RAMBLER"

An election circular on behalf of a candidate opens with the legend, "in response to the request of a large number of voters of Kayts electorate." The circular is signed by a man who has not cared to tell us why he displays so much solicitude for the candidate and who has authorised him to speak on behalf of the electorate and who are the voters, characterised as a large number, who thrust on him the responsibility to circularise the electors. This ruse of "a request by a large number of voters" puts me in memory of

"This is a tempter so skilled in policy
That (no disparagement
to Satan's cunning)
He might well read a lesson
to the devil
And teach the old Seducer
new temptations"

The circular contains contains an advertisement and an invitation. The advertisement further tells that the Candidate has kindly consented to stand for the Kayts Seat. What a kindness on the part of a man to serve the people whose interests he has already put in peril by his irresponsible talks of communal rights and safeguards to conserve those rights! Shall we remind this candidate and his John the Baptist that theirs is by no means the first effort in the world to gull a public. The electorate they are trying to bamboozle is so intelligent that I almost hear it say,

"Cursed be the gold and silver
which persuade
Weak men to follow far
fatiguing trade,"

The invitation in the Circular is for the Easter feast of a conference of the electors for a concert of measures to enable the candidate to enter the Council without a contest! No nobler purpose could be invented for the Easter holiday-maker in Kayts electorate! The travail of an Easter Conference for the glorification of a man who does not possess the necessary credentials for the suffrage of the people would be a misfit and an incongruity in the context of the passion of Christ for the iniquities of the world

"Long have his harp's best notes
been gone
Few are its strings and faint
their tone,
They can but sound in desert
lone
Their gray-hair'd master's de-
parted glory."

The man whose candidature the circular under notice advertises had perhaps a past of some note, for which he has earned the recognition of the British Government. If he did some useful work in a profession he has had rewards for it. Should he be for that service pitched into a position for which he is notoriously disqualified, if his recent utterances on political questions were taken for a measure? Let the voter in the area beware. A solitary man, of whatever consequences he may be in the society, is shouldering the responsibility of the electorate in putting forward a candidate whose age and political pigment do not recommend him. The young man in the area owe it to themselves and to their fellows and to the country at large to tell the voters to resist the smiles of the candidate and the wiles of his agent who has sent forth the first of a possible series of circulars,

NEW PROCTORS AND ADVOCATES

January Exam Results

The following have passed the Advocates' and Proctors' Second Final Examinations held in January this year.

Advocates' Second Examination

(1) R. M. E. de Silva, (2) O. L. de Kretser, (3) W. E. Abayakoon, (4) T. N. Gendram, (5) D. R. Gunasegaram, (6) A. C. Nudarajah, Stanley de Zoysa, (7) W. H. Robson, (8) V. N. Pillai. The Scholarship of Rs. 450 tenable for one year is awarded to R. M. E. de Silva.

Advocates' Final Examination

(1) R. G. C. Perera, (2) A. H. C. de Silva, (3) A. L. S. Srimano, (4) C. S. B. Kumarakulasinge, (5) K. Sivapathan, T. Paramasothy. The Cash Price of Rs. 250 is awarded to R. G. C. Perera.

Proctors' Second Examination

(1) F. M. Pullenayagam, (2) A. M. Masoon, (3) S. A. Villavayana, (4) H. R. V. Premachandra, (5) D. Fernando, (6) J. M. D. Smith, D. W. de Zoysa, (7) M. P. P. Samarasinghe.

The first Scholarship of Rs. 360 tenable for one year is awarded to F. M. Pullenayagam.

The Second Scholarship of Rs. 240 tenable for one year is awarded to A. V. M. Masoon.

Proctors' Final Examination

(1) H. V. Ram Iswera, (2) E. F. de Silva, (3) C. L. E. Perera, (4) S. B. Yutawara, (5) L. Alagandaram, (6) E. V. Jayasokere, (7) Donald de Silva, (8) T. Amarasinghe, (9) V. H. Abeyratne, S. M. Manikkarajah, (10) A. S. Herat Gunaratne, (11) C. E. Jayawardene, (12) S. N. Kadingamar, (13) K. Rasanathan, (14) W. T. de S. Wijekulasuriya, (15) M. L. M. Wickremasinghe, (16) P. P. Jayawardene, (17) D. Rajadurai, (18) S. T. N. darsja, (19) A. H. M. Sulaiman, (20) E. H. P. Jayatilaka, (21) E. B. Wickremnayaka, (22) J. J. David, (23) E. Gregory.

The Cash Price of Rs. 150 is awarded to H. V. Ram Iswera.

Matrimonial

SANGARAPILLAI-SINNA-THAMBAR

'Kappalvalawu' Chunnakam, was the scene of a pretty wedding on Friday last, when Srimathi Masilmany Ammal, the younger daughter of Mr. & Mrs. K. Sangarayillai, and a sister of Mr. S. Ambikapagan B. A. of Shivananda Vidyalaya, Batticaloa, and a niece of Mr. T. S. Thuraiappillai Notary public, Tellippalai was married to Mr. S. Sinnathambar, Irrigation Inspector, Selanjo, F. M. S.

A reception was held at the Bride's residence on the following three days and was largely attended. On Saturday an interesting Kathaprasangam on Tirunelkanda Navanar, was delivered by Mr. Rassupillai of S. India.

KANDIAH-KANAGASABAI

The marriage of Dr. R. Kandiah, House Surgeon, Civil Hospital, Kandy with Miss. Sivapaikavathy the second daughter of Dr. E. P. Kanagasabai of Kotah Bharu, Kelantan, and niece of Messrs. K. Chelliah, E. P. Chelliah, and E. P. Rasiya, was celebrated according to Hindu rites at the bride's residence, "Mangalagiri" Vannarponnai, at 9.45 p. m. on the 16th instant.

A large gathering of friends and relatives were present at the ceremony after which the wedded couple left for the bridegroom's residence. The bride's parents held a largely attended reception at "Mangalagiri" on the 17th at which Ramiah Bhazavather delivered a Kathaprasangam entitled "V. Ili Thirumanam".

Obituary

MRS. N. GANAPATHIPILLAI.

The death occurred in the Green Memorial Hospital, Manipay, on Sunday the 11th instant of Mrs. Sionammah Ganapathipillai, the beloved wife of Mr. N. Ganapathipillai (Sitiawan), after an illness of three weeks. The funeral took place on the following day at Sangrathai, Vaddukoddai, according to Hindu rites.

POLICE METHODS

AGAIN

"Not Satisfactory"

JURY'S RIDER IN ASSIZE VERDICT

In the case in which two men named Vaithy Gabriel and Manuel Anthony who stood charged at the Northern Assizes with having caused the death of Soosai Sariah by assaulting him with a club, the Judge sentenced the first accused to three years', and the second accused to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

The Jury added the following rider to their verdict:—"The method of inquiry as adopted by the police when the injured man arrived at the Police Station and also in the examination of other witnesses, was not satisfactory."

A MOTOR MISHAP AT VANNARPONNE

Victim's Arm Badly Fractured

A nasty motor accident, resulting in a bad fracture of an arm of P. Nagalingam, an employee in the "Hindu Organ" Office, occurred at 7 p.m. last evening. A motor bus coming into the Town from Kankasanturai appears to have swerved to a side and after knocking down the victim sped along prohibited routes and got back to its garage at Chunnakam. The Manager of the press was soon on the spot, communicated with the police and despatched the injured man to hospital where his injuries have been attended to. He is still in hospital.

We understand the driver of the bus has been traced. The police are investigating.

SWEEPSTAKES AND LOTTERIES

The Ministry of Home Affairs has decided that the operation of the circular dated January 31st, 1934, issued by the Inspector General of Police with regard to sweepstakes and lotteries should be suspended until December 31st, 1934, subject to certain specific conditions, in respect of Racing Clubs registered at any time under Section 5 of the Betting on Horse Racing (Taxation) Ordinance No. 9 of 1930.

NOTICE.

The undermentioned Government Timber at the Jaffna Depot will be sold by public auction on the spot by the Divisional Forest Officer, Dry Zone Division, Jaffna on Tuesday, March 27th 1934 at 9.30 a.m.

Lot I 50 Palm logs
Lot II 10 Satta logs
Further particulars and conditions regarding the Sale may be obtained at the office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Dry Zone Division, Jaffna.

A. B. Lushington
Conservator of Forests,
Office of the Conservator of Forests,
P. O. Box 500
Colombo,
G. 44 18-2-34
28th February 1934.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8269
In the matter of the estate of the late Annammata wife of Thambiayah Arunasalam of Nallur.

Decedent,
Thambiayah Arunasalam of Nallur, Petitioner.
1. Arunasalam and
2. Nellippillai widow of Kandavannam of Alaveddy. Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the above-named petitioner praying that Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named decedent be granted to the petitioner coming on for disposal before D. H. Bal-Quire Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna on the 5th day of April 1934 in the presence of Messrs. Sivaprasanna and Kathiresu Proctors on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named decedent be granted to the petitioner as the husband of the said decedent, unless the above-named respondents appear before this court on the 31st day of May 1934 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 11th day of May 1934.
Sd. D. H. Bal-Quire,
District Judge.
Order Nisi extended for 2nd day of May 1934.
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.
D. 45 24 10 3 34

Short Story

The Princess As Huntress

(O)

(Continued from page 1)

elephantback were scouring round the place.

Maharaja Pratap Singh was shooting. This time he had no beaters, only his own officials on horseback and elephants. He himself had gone on foot. He had been cut off from his party who suspected the rifle shot was his. Has he killed the animal? Or—they shuddered to think. They hurried on all sides to carry aid.

One more rifle shot—two—three and an aeroplane, with a terrific noise, burred over their heads and landed on the sandy bed of the river close by.

"Come with me—Your Prince wants help badly—" she said as Princess Kamalavathi unceremoniously mounted a horse. She was the first to take the bleeding man on her lap and to render first aid.

"Badly mauled—" the officers whispered.

Near by, a tigress seven feet long lay dead.

x x x

"You have come at last—" the Prince said to Princess Kamalavathi. "I feel I will die. But I did this to testify to you that my shikari ideals are changed. I did this, with you in my thought—"

Kamalavathi did not answer, but relented. Yes, this man really loved her. And he can hazard his life to carrying out her foolish notions of hunt! But this was no time for love making.

The aeroplane burred again. In the space of an hour, the surgeon had been brought from the capital to attend on the Prince, lying under a tree.

x s x

"No hope—" the whisper was going round the camp.

"We have done our best—" the doctor was saying to Kamalavathi.

x x x

"This is the Prince who shot your son—and I the Princess who brought your son back to life. Have you come for vengeance—then see him as he lies dying."

"I have deliberately come to give him life, even as you gave life to my son—" said the rustic, "for I saw in your eyes the flame of love. This ambrosia is a cure for tiger mauling. I got it from a Sanyasi. I have faith in it. Apply it."

x x x

"You will live—" said the doctor next morning as he saw the patient. The Prince knew and smiled.

"I am happy to live because through death I have won my wife" he said.

(Roy's Weekly).

THREE WONDERS OF CEYLON

and pleasant looking. This is really the base of the rock. But from there the treeless, grassless, bare, bleak steep rock begins. It is as straight as a wall and in some parts it overhangs the lower portion. So one would think that not a fly or an ant would dare climb or crawl up the steep rock. What man then would ever think of ascending such a steep rock and reaching the top of it? Who can, then, even dream that a palace could be built on the top and a royal road could be made to go to the palace? Is not the rock itself a wonder wrought by the magic wand of the Goddess of Nature? And is it not a greater wonder still that this rock was turned into a fortress, that on the top were built a palace and other buildings that hundreds of people including royal personages easily went up and down the rock fortress every day. But all these things were actually done by a Sinhalese King. This King lived on the top of this rock fortress and ruled the land for full 18 years. This absolutely inaccessible and impregnable rock was turned into a royal residence by the ingenious engineers of the King who built a spiral staircase like gallery by drilling double holes on the rock in rising rows; fixed strong bars in these holes; built a rising brick wall over the bars and then built gradually rising steps between the brick wall and the rock surface. Thus, a spiral beautiful gallery was constructed as far as the top of the rock and it became a royal road, easy comfortable and beautiful, palaces and buildings were built on the top; water reservoirs constructed and every convenience, comfort and luxury those times could yield were provided on this rock fortress.

The Ascent

Only a small part of this gallery remains amidst the ravages of time. But it has now been restored to its former condition. The rest of the ascent has to be accomplished by means of iron staircases put up in some places but throughout the remaining steep sides of the rock one has to ascend by holding in his left hand the strong iron railing now put up and by slowly putting one's foot on the small footholds carved into the rock. I have had ample experience of ascending forts and hill-tops. But I must confess even I felt nervous and giddy while ascending this part of the rock. It is here that a man has to become a four-footed animal and has to make use both of his hands and feet for conquering this rock-fortress. But at last I got to the top of the rock and what a wonderful and astonishing view of the surrounding country I got from the summit of the rock. Of course the palaces and buildings are now a thing of the past. Only relics of the old architectural work are to be seen scattered here and there in the form of carved pillars, carved stones and there is also the water reservoir intact though it is now choked up and water is muddy and dirty. The wonderful but tragic story of King Kasyappa who conceived and created this wonder of Ceylon is too well-known to be repeated here. I close the account of Sigiriya with the following quotation which would justify the claim of this wonder to be recognised as a world wonder:

"In imagination one sees it again in the days of its glory a walled city with tier upon tier of peaked tiled roofs rising up and up to where the vast cliff walled hills in the centre stood like a tower and was in turn capped by a terraced citadel, which rose sheer from the edge of the precipice and was only to be reached by the gallery that wound and zig-zagged to the summit. With its shining rows of white walls and high-pitched tiled roofs and with its great picture blazoned on the cliff face, Kasyappa's City of Refuge must have been one of the most wonderful efforts of building that the world has ever seen."

[In the next article which will appear in our next issue, Prof. Bhate gives his impressions of Mihintale, the sacred hill—the second of the three wonders of Ceylon.]

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(M's)

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8219.

In the matter of the estate of the late Subramaniam Vaitilingam of Kattankudy in Batticaloa.

Deceased.

1. Edwin Kanagasingham Yesudasam and
2. Wife, Euella Rajamany Yesudasam both of Kopy North.

Vs.

Petitioners.

1. Earnest Rajakone Vaitilingam of St. Andrews School, Batticaloa.
Minor 2. George Jeyaratnam Vaitilingam
" 3. William Selvaratnam Vaitilingam all of Uduvil

The 2nd and 3rd are minors appearing by their Guardian-ad-litem the 1st Respondent.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named petitioners praying that Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased be granted to them coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna on the 3rd day of January 1934 in the presence of Messrs. Sivapragasam and Kathiresu, Proctors on the part of the Petitioners and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioners:

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioners as mortgagee creditors, unless the abovenamed Respondents appear before this court on the 19th day of February 1934 and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 23rd day of January 1934.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy.

District Judge

Extended for 27th April 1934.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy

District Judge.