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H. 61.

PUBLIC AND BANK HOLIDAYS—It is gazetted that March 23, 1928, being the day following the end of Ramazan will be observed as a Public and Bank Holiday and that April 5, 1928, Maundy Thursday, as a Bank Holiday.

TAMIL NOTARIES EXAMINATION—Messrs. V. Senabai R. Jayagaram and K. S. Sarma have passed the Notaries Final Examination with a view to practice in the Tamil language.

THE SUPREME COURT—Mr Justice Lyall-Grant goes away on holiday from the 15 inst. (today) and Mr E. W. Jayewardene s. c., has been appointed to act for him.

RELIEF FOR THE MULLATTIVU FAMINE-SICKEN—At the next meeting of the Finance Committee, Government is asking for a supplementary vote of Rs. 55,000 in connection with the rendering of relief work due to the famine in the Mullattivu District. The Assistant Government Agent of Mullattivu has reported that there was a serious shortage of food in the Vavuniya District consequent on the partial failure of the last paddy crops caused by the prostration of the North East Monsoon and the paddy pest. The tobacco crop and others, cultivation are also reported to have suffered for want of rain and as a result of this about 3,000 people are in distress.

LONDON INTER ARTS EXAMINATION—Last Friday's Gazette publishes certain amendments relating to the syllabus in Indian History and in Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Sinhalese and Urdu for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, 1928, of the London University.

ENGLISH TEACHERS' CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION—The same Gazette publishes certain amendments to paragraph 2 of the regulations for the Preliminary Examination for English Teachers' Certificate.

INDEX TO THE GAZETTE—The same Gazette publishes the Ceylon Government Gazette Index for July to December, 1927.

NOTARIES IN CEYLON—The same Gazette publishes a list of Notaries in Ceylon on January 1, 1928. The list consists of (a) Proctor Notaries, (b) Notaries appointed under section 6 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1907, (c) Places where records are kept by the Notaries, (d) Notaries required to write instruction book in their own handwriting, (e) Notaries required to write protocols in their own handwriting, (f) Residential offices of Notaries who have more than one office and (g) Notaries who are not in actual practice.

A DRAFT ORDINANCE—The same Gazette publishes the draft of an Ordinance to amend the Vagrants Ordinance, No. 4 of 1914, so as to provide for the better protection of girls (under sixteen years of age) from seduction or prostitution.

REMISSION OF WATER RATES—At the meeting of the Legislative Council held on Tuesday last the question of the remission of water rates to paddy growers under the irrigation scheme was taken up for discussion at the instance of the Hon. Mr. E. R. Tambimuttu. It was pointed out that the water rates were remitted for five years in order to encourage cultivators to carry on food production on a large scale especially after the food crisis of 1919. But in 1926 this concession was withdrawn and water rates were levied. After discussion it was decided at the suggestion of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to summon a round table conference and to arrive at a decision. It was also stated that Government would not collect the rates until then.

NEW LORD SINHA—The new Lord Sinha (Hon. Anan Sinha, eldest son of the late Lord Sinha) who was in Switzerland at the time of his father's death, has left for India.

LAW EXAMINATION RESULTS—The following are among those who have been declared to have passed the Law Examinations held in January last:—*Proctors' Second*: M. M. Kanagasingham, V. Peramoorthy, K. Srinivas, S. A. Nathan, S. Kandaswamy and S. N. Navarathnam. *Proctors' Third*: N. Saravananth, V. M. Gurusamy, M. Ellathambay, M. A. L. Karapiper and S. Mallavagaram. *Advocates' Second*: P. Thevarajah, J. B. Vanniasingam and S. K. V. Sathyanathan. *Advocates' Final*: C. Ponnampalam and T. Muttusamiappal. M. M. Kanagasingham is awarded a scholarship of Rs. 300 tenable for 1 year. N. Saravananth is awarded a money prize of Rs. 150. C. Ponnampalam is awarded three prizes one of money and two of books for the value of Rs. 250, Rs. 50 and Rs. 50 respectively. Mr. C. Ponnampalam is the second son of the late Mr. A. Cattravulu, Crown Proctor of Jaffna. Mr. T. Muttusamiappal is the second son of the late Mr. S. Thevarajah, Proctor S. O. Jaffna.

INDOPE LOVE DRAMA—In spite of opposition from many sources the conversion of Miss Miller, the fiancée of the ex Maharajah of Indore, took place at Nelsk in the Bombay Presidency. The religious ceremony was performed by Bankaracharya of Kavar Pith. It is reported that Miss Miller has embraced Hinduism of her own free will and choice as the result of deep and sincere convictions and not from any worldly motives. She also expressed her determination to always remain true to Hinduism and strive to maintain its high ideals. The new name adopted by Miss Miller is Devi Sharmista.

Notice to Correspondent.

HON. SECY. Y. M. H. A., PONNALARADU
YAN.—Too bolded an account.

SCHEME BEFORE THE COUNCIL.

The Legislative Council resumed on Monday last the debate on the scheme put forward by the Government for the control of intoxicating liquor in the Jaffna Peninsula. In a half filled House, two clauses of the scheme were adopted, after a six-hours' session. Further consideration of the scheme was postponed until Thursday, (today). The Christian Churches are allowed the use of wine for sacramental purposes without a permit from the Government Agent.

The clauses referred to above are:—

1. In the Case of Persons domiciled in the Jaffna Peninsula—The possession, consumption, and use of foreign liquor and arrack shall be prohibited, except in cases where the Government Agent, Northern Province, may by permit, the issue of which shall be in his sole discretion, authorize such possession, consumption, or use for religious, medicinal, or industrial purposes only.

2. In the Case of Persons not domiciled in the Jaffna Peninsula—The Government Agent, Northern Province, may by permit, the issue of which shall be in his sole discretion, authorize the possession, consumption or use of such amount of foreign liquor or arrack as may appear to him to be reasonable in each individual case.

MORE COMFORTABLE WITHOUT TAVERNS.

The Hon. Mr. A. Canagaratnam said that the subject of alcoholic drinks had engaged the attention of the people of Ceylon for a number of years and when, after very careful consideration, an Ordinance was passed in that Council, today was elapsed among alcoholic drinks. That he thought disposed of the idea of the food value of toddy once for all and he thought they should not discuss it at the present stage.

If the Government had stepped in at the time when all taverns were abolished in Jaffna there would have been no agitation. The taverns had been closed by the exercise of the will of the majority of the people of Jaffna and they in Council represented the wishes of the majority. But at the same time they respected the opinion of the minority and the only course open to them was to advise Government to allow a referendum for the minority to prove that there was a reasonable demand in the Peninsula for liquor, and if a referendum were required, the wording of the memorandum should be with the minority or the defeated party. It had been said that that was interfering with the liberty of the subject, a grand phrase. The European Commercial Member had said that he was speaking for the poor of Jaffna without knowing that it was the poor of Jaffna that had abolished the taverns. They were now much more comfortable without the taverns. If Mr. Freeman wanted a referendum he thought the women should not be neglected because he (the speaker) had as much sympathy with the women as with the men. No one in Jaffna wanted a tavern near his home. Mr. Freeman wanted to know why he should take a permit with him when he wanted to go to Jaffna in the same manner that he took his motor car license with him. If he had to take his motor car license with him why should he not take his liquor permit with him?

Mr. Canagaratnam next referred to the question of interfering with the liberty of the subject and said that they were interfering with that liberty every hour because what they sought in wise administration was the greatest good of the greatest number.

SELF DETERMINATION FOR JAFFNA.

It had been stated that Jaffna should be asked to pay something for the enforcement of prohibition. The law operated over the whole island and when Jaffna had achieved success they meant to penalise it. They might think that every other place would think twice before abolishing taverns because they would not like to be penalised like Jaffna but the keenness of temperance workers was such that they would undergo any penalty to bring about sobriety. Besides, if the Jaffna man was asked to pay for it he would lay down his own terms because that theory was founded on self determination. If the British administration was prepared to grant them that he did not know whether the Jaffna man was not prepared to run his own show not only in regard to prohibition but everything. If self determination was to be given it had to be done in consultation with the Jaffna man and then they would say they wanted full self determination. And that theory would have to be extended to every other place, like Kalkata for instance. It was of course against the interest of Europeans—by did not mean to attribute anything to his friend—because he had to represent the wishes of his constituency—to throw away liquor in any part of Ceylon and therefore he was not surprised that there should be a strong view against prohibition based on such a thing as the liberty of the subject.

COLONIAL SECRETARY AMAZED.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary said that "a gazed with amazement at the empty chairs in this House. Here was a problem which in other parts of the world had aroused an infinity of tension, heat and trouble and they were trying for the first time to introduce prohibition into Ceylon. He would like to ask where was the member for Mullattivu who was fighting this cause. Where was the venerable Tamil Knight who wished to see Jaffna dry? Where was the Tamil member for the Western Province and the member for Trincomalee? It was strange that in a matter like this the prime movers in the

Women's Education in Burma.

Burma is one of the most advanced provinces as regards Women's education. The latest Quinquennial Report on Public Instruction in Burma shows an increase in the number of girl students all round. In the Colleges, their number has increased from 55 to 146, in Secondary Schools from 42,174 to 81,847, in Primary Schools from 78,455 to 102,091, in Training Schools for teachers from 488 to 511 and in other Special Schools from 541 to 898. These figures are gratifying, says the "Harrington Daily Mail," but in a country where the majority of the population have no public education, there is no prejudice or sentimental objection against an education. That of a total of 168,088 girls under instruction only 35,569 are in Girls' Schools while the remainder are in mixed schools is another evidence in favour of educational expansion among girls in Burma. With such facilities as these girls' education should make rapid strides. We are also told that girls in schools now days compete equally with boys, and they no longer stand in need of Special Girls' scholarships. Mr. C. A. Snow observes: "To day the girl in any Anglo Vernacular school is at least as intelligent a pupil as her brother, and certainly more staid, to morrow she will have outstripped him, and it is quite probable that the next quinquennial will have to report the award of Special Anglo Vernacular scholarships for boys to protect them from the terrors of competition with their sisters."—"L. S. R."

prohibition agitation were not present to support the measure advocated by them.

The Colonial Secretary proceeded to point out how some of these members had previously maintained that illicit sales were increasing in the Northern Peninsula and the Islands. If they put their hands to the plough, they were not going to turn back, they must have the necessary machinery.

It was stated that Headmen would be sufficient for the purpose. Every Headman was an Excise officer and was encouraged by the Excise Commissioner to take independent action. Of 113 Headmen who were non-official Excise officers all over the Island only three did their work. Government felt that it could not rely on the Headmen system. With regard to deterrent fines advocated by some of the members, he would say that the Police Magistrate of Polio Pedro recently imposed a fine of Rs. 1000, but in appeal it was reduced to one of Rs. 200.

The House then went into Committee to consider the proposals item by item.

A RETROGRADE STEP.

The Hon. Mr. W. Doraiswamy commenting on the proposal before the House said that it was a retrograde policy in that they were going back from the position they had achieved after many years of Local Option polling. As regards sweet toddy there was no restriction and nobody desired it but as regards fermented toddy its manufacture had been prohibited in the Jaffna Peninsula. The only difficulty was that they had passed a regulation making possession of toddy illegal. The present position wanted them to go back and give permission for 14,000 trees to be tapped. That seemed to him an attempt to bring back the worst features of the tavern system which was introduced by the Ordinance of 1912 by Sir Hugh Clifford which encourage the consumption of toddy. He denied that toddy had any food value. He could understand the European members being unable to realise the evil consequences of toddy among the people of this country. He could speak on behalf of the people of Jaffna but however much the member for the North-Central Province might have been sympathetic towards the people of Jaffna while he was Government Agent he entirely failed to go into the sentiments of the people, their needs and wants owing to his inability to ascertain the facts. He could understand the failure of those ignorant of the country but his Hon. friend the nominated Tamil member has been a problem to how to understand. (Laughter) He was one of those for total prohibition and a great temperance worker. He (the speaker) never for a moment thought that a change of opinion would come so soon and suddenly and so indirectly opposed to the wishes of the people of Jaffna. He moved the deletion of the second part of Clause (b) provided that not more than 14,000 trees shall be licensed for the drawing of fermented toddy.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman: "Why not?" The Colonial Secretary explained that the palm-tree tree flowered half the year and the coconut tree the other half.

The Hon. Mr. Cary moved an amendment to the effect that henceforth be issued to tap coconut trees also in the Jaffna Peninsula.

The Colonial Secretary: Government accepts that.

COCONUT TREES NOT TAPPED.

Mr. Doraiswamy said that in Jaffna they never tapped coconut trees for toddy as they reserved them for other produce and he opposed the amendment. The Colonial Secretary suggested taking the clause as it stood. Mr. Freeman proposed to omit section (a) for the drawing of sweet toddy, subject to the rules in schedule A.

Mr. Doraiswamy explained that it was for the purpose of controlling the tapping from marked trees only and deterring any illicit tapping for fermented toddy that a license was required.

The amendment after further discussion was put to the House and on a division being called resulted in 3 voting for and 30 voting against. The amendment was lost.

The debate on prohibition will be resumed on Thursday, (today).

[Extracts from the "Ceylon Daily News"]

LIQUOR CONTROL IN JAFFNA.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE ON LIQUOR control in Jaffna was resumed on Monday last. The Legislative Council went into committee and considered one by one the regulations framed by the Government on the subject. Those relating to the possession and consumption of foreign liquor and arrack were passed substantially in the form in which they were published subject to the right of the Christian Churches using wine for sacramental purposes to make their own arrangements without Government permit. As we pointed out in a previous article the concession to allow non-domiciled persons to have foreign liquor or arrack on permit is sure to lead to their illicit consumption by domiciled persons. Unless this regulation is modified in some form which will remove the opening for such abuse the effect of the regulation confining the permits in the case of domiciled persons to medicinal or industrial purposes will be considerably weakened. The undertaking of the Government to exercise strict control and supervision in the issue of permits to non-domiciled persons cannot be considered an effective safeguard against the abuse of the privilege granted to them.

The regulation regarding the grant of licences to tap 14,000 palmyra trees for fermented toddy is the most controversial of all. The apostasy of the Hon. Mr. Balasingham at the eleventh hour is a disconcerting feature in the debate. The attempt of this Honourable Member to justify his false position with flimsy excuses cannot bear scrutiny. We are sure it will be condemned by all who are interested in the cause of temperance. There is a section of people in Jaffna who have always doubted the sincerity of Mr. Balasingham's devotion to public weal. This doubt after the unaccountable change of front shown by him moment on the question of toddy will be shared by a still larger number.

"There was a large number of people," said Mr. Balasingham in the course of his speech at the Council meeting, "in the Peninsula who took one meal a day and subsisted on toddy morning and noon. There is no denying of the fact that people owing to poverty took articles of food which they scorned..... He could say that a large number of people subsisted on toddy to a great extent". When did Mr. Balasingham make this great discovery? Is it after the noted he smiles of the powers that be in the Executive Council who framed the scheme that is now under discussion? Mr. Balasingham maintained on a previous occasion that toddy was not a food and that it was not a wholesome drink. In that case is it not far better to take away from the people an article of consumption which is bad both for the mind and the body? The so-called poor people are not all tappers. They have to buy their toddy either from the tapper or from the tavern. The paternalism is the only member in a family that indulges in this luxury of toddy-drinking to the detriment of the other poor members. If toddy is regarded as a food by the poor people why should all the members of a family other than the paterfamilias shun toddy-drinking. If the facilities for toddy-drinking are taken away the money which is spent on it will be more profitably utilised for the purchase of food stuffs which will benefit the entire family.

We need not remind Mr. Balasingham of the general maxim that no man can serve two masters. Mr. Balasingham is not going to be an exception to it. He cannot serve both the Government and the people. At the critical juncture of the debate on a measure which is to benefit the people of the Jaffna Peninsula Mr. Balasingham has turned tail and supported Government at the expense of the people. His apostasy is a living illustration of the danger of having Ceylonese in the Executive Council without their being made directly responsible to the Legislative Council for their acts.

Terrible Railway Disaster.

26 KILLED AND 41 INJURED

The most serious accident in the history of the Ceylon Government Railway took place shortly after 8 o'clock yesterday (Monday night) between Kalutara South and Kalutara North when the express from Galle came into collision with a slow train to Alutgama, causing the death of 26 persons and injuries to 41 persons.

One train left Colombo for Alutgama at 6 p.m., while the other left Galle at the same time for Colombo. The down train got to Kalutara South at 7.57, which was over 20 minutes after scheduled time.

The train from Galle was due at Kalutara South at 8 p.m., and the down train was intended to wait in the siding at Kalutara South until the Galle train passed through. For some reason the driver of the down train failed to do so. He took the train out of Kalutara South station, leaving the Head Guard on the platform.

The Officer in Charge of the station expected him to back into the siding, but instead, the driver proceeded towards Kalutara North. Efforts were made by the station authorities at Kalutara South to stop the train going southwards, but these were of no avail.

At 29 miles, 58 chains (from Colombo) where there is a sharp curve and a culvert the two trains collided head-on. The sound of the crash was heard by Mr. Ashton Elerts one-and-a-half miles away. Mr. Elerts said it resembled the explosion of a tremendous rocket, followed by a loud hissing noise which continued for about five minutes.

The engine of the express, which weighed about 80 tons, was hauled off the line. Behind it were three or four wagons containing tea and copra. These were smashed to smithereens and behind them three third class bogies were reduced to matchwood.

A few minutes after the accident medical aid was available. Prominent residents of the place, went to the spot and immediately began rescue work. A ambulance was sent to the drivers' cottages, hiring cots and "casses" who gave all assistance in the removal of the injured to the Kalutara hospital.

The engine of the slow train was also a complete wreck, but was not absolutely derailed. The first carriage behind it had mounted the engine, and bent the bunker on top of the driver and the fireman. Three or four bogies were reduced to matchwood in this train also.

DRIVERS' FLOCK.

Driver Percy Bunnell, who was in charge of the slow train, is said to have displayed most remarkable pluck under trying circumstances. Only his arm was visible after the crash and it was pinned by the wheel to the engine.

After the arrival of the breakdown special wedges were used and it was then possible to move his arm. He was found in a half crouching position. He was conscious and in great pain, but he did not moan or murmur.

The Doctors climbed at some risk to the top of the engine and gave him a hypercortic injection and he was allowed cigarettes. Brandy was also administered to him. His left leg was free, but it was found that his right leg was twisted and pinned at the ankle and knee between the plates and a sandbox. A foreman platelayer succeeded in extricating his ankle, but it was impossible to release his knee and as his strength was failing Doctors Blaise and Wickremasinghe asked him whether he would permit of his leg being amputated, as that was the only chance for him. He readily agreed and while he was in this position he was chloroformed and operated on at 4 o'clock in the morning. He was removed to the Kalutara Hospital, but did not regain consciousness and died at 11 o'clock this morning (Tuesday) in the presence of his wife and other members of his family.

It was only this morning (Tuesday) that two of the four firemen were extricated from the debris. They were scorching from head to foot. A search is still being made under the engine for Driver Cowe and the other two firemen.

The Head Guards on the two trains, Messrs. Arulanandam and Dikson escaped without injury, while the Under Guards Abdeen and Sivagurunathan have injured and are in the Kalutara Hospital.

Altogether 41 persons were admitted last night (Monday) to the Kalutara Hospital, of whom four were females. Several of them were removed this morning by their relatives for native treatment.

The bodies of the dead at the scene of the accident are left at the spot for identification. Only four bodies were claimed up to this afternoon. Most of the dead have injuries on the head.

ENQUIRY.

The General Manager held an enquiry in his saloon on the spot while the magisterial inquiry is fixed for 2 p.m. in the Police Court.

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS.

Traffic is being transferred at the point of obstruction, trains going up to Kalutara South and Pellyagalla South from where transfer arrangements are being carried out. The point of obstruction is so difficult to cross that about three-quarters of an hour is taken for transfer work.

REFERENCE IN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

In the Legislative Council this morning, before commencing the business of the day, the Colonial Secretary said he was sure the House would wish him to express their deep sympathy with the relatives of the victims of the railway accident last evening.

PREVIOUS ACCIDENTS.

The Northern mail train met with a serious smash, on January 15, 1922, but happily no lives were lost.

While the down train from Talaimannar was between Maho and Gannawatte, the engine, tender, travelling post office, the forward guard's van and the first of the third-class bogie carriages subsided at a bridge affected by the floods. The travelling post office van was completely telescoped, as was also the forward guard's van. The engine, postal van and bogie van sank between 10 and 12 feet below the normal level of the permanent way into mud and rapidly rising flood water. The engine driver, fireman, postal clerk and the under guard had amazing escapes.

A serious disaster took place on February 2, 1923, between Amradhapuzza and Maawachchi in the early hours of the morning. On this occasion the train ran into floods, which had washed away the line. Twenty passengers lost their lives.

Continued up.

Letter To The Editor

SCHOOLS AND ACCOMMODATION FOR THE UNTOUCHABLES.

Sir,

The question of accommodating the "low caste" children into the Jaffna schools is viewed with great fear by high caste men. They fear that they have to lose much of their acquired prestige and control over them. The liberal minded men sympathize with the movement, free talks about it and quotes great authorities. He has however not the courage of his convictions; he would allow things to drift on. There are others who are enthusiastic and would plunge into the business with a vengeance and effect a right social change in a day. Their justification for this attitude is the indifference of the high caste men towards these untouchables all these years.

I understand that some of the high caste men have sent a petition to His Excellency the Governor or begging him to leave the matter of seating the low caste boys to the Managers themselves and to let the existing order of things continue in the schools. They advance the following reasons:

(1) That during more than a century and a quarter of benign British rule the children of the high castes have been permitted to attend schools without any offence to their social and religious susceptibilities. The answer is contained in the text itself. This implies parity on the part of the British Government to the higher castes. The benignity of the British is as much the pride of the low caste as that of the high caste. It does not admit of exclusion. For that very reason the low caste should be granted its rights.

(2) As regards the social and religious susceptibilities it is none of the concern of the Government. The question will certainly arise if the Government would legislate on social and religious matters. Nobody wishes the Government to do it at any time. Men are free to cherish their time-honoured social customs and religious sentiments in their houses and other private places, but not at all in public places. The Government have control over the public places; schools are as much public as any other public body controlled by the Government. Hence schools should be free from the display of very private sentiments.

(3) They refer to the great differences between the two castes. The reply here again is in the assertion. I say that these differences should disappear in public places; and schools are public again. They point out to the unholy contact of the high caste children with those of the humbler ones. Not all the high caste children are clean, always—neither are the low caste children always untidy. The exceptions are becoming more striking everyday. The sentiment makes the one clean and the other unclean. The school is not the place to combat such taken-for-granted sentiments but to teach cleanliness for the unclean. Hence I urge the claims of the taken-for-granted unclean people. There should be no opposition that way; if there is, it would only mean a desire on the part of the strong to still crush the weak to protect their customary monopolies at the expense of the "low caste" people.

To give a religious colouring and obstruct the emancipation of a portion of humanity kept in wifful bondage is to commit an error of judgment based on a wrong interpretation of the text. Social customs ought not to be mixed up with religious sanctions. The Hindu low caste people are Hindus after all and Christians' low caste members are not the less Christians. It is certain the "high caste" men will have nothing to lose and they will on the other hand have enormous gain. The low caste will enjoy their rights without any infringement on any body's public rights. The low caste men are human beings with equal potentialities for good, and untouchability and unapproachability are grotesque practices never meant for human beings. The low class men are sons of the soil and they will be sons of the soil enjoying the common rights bestowed on them by the British Government. When justice is at play prejudice has no place.

In conclusion I beg to urge upon the Government and the Councilors to kindly see that this reform which is long overdue is brought into effect at once.

Faithfully,
March 9.

Yours etc,
FAIRPLAY.

Continued.

and about 43 persons, all third class passengers were injured. On reaching the washaway the engine and tender sank, dragging four of the bogies. The front eight bogies were totally or partially wrecked. They were intertwined and more or less piled on one another, two being telescoped.

On November 14, 1906, the mail train to Jaffna was suddenly derailed. A number of carriages were telescoped. Nine third class passengers were badly injured. The train was completely wrecked.

A Telegram of condolence was received from H. E. The Governor by the General Manager of the Railway and was acknowledged by the latter. The Magistrate's Enquiry into the disaster commenced on Tuesday last at 8 p.m. at the Kalutara Police Court and was continued yesterday (Wednesday).

The Government has appointed a Committee of Enquiry from the Railway Advisory Board. Extracts from the "Times of Ceylon" dated 13th and 14th inst.

Jaffna Urban District Council.

DRAINS THAT ARE A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

The following are the Minutes of Proceedings and extracts of speeches made at a General Meeting of the Jaffna Urban District Council held at the Jaffna Kacheri on Saturday the 10th March 1928 at 9 a.m.

Present.—Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Chairman; Mr. R. Subramaniam, Vice Chairman; Mr. H. E. de Koster, Provincial Engineer, N. P.; Dr. E. W. Scherrenpauw, Provincial Surgeon, N. P.; Messrs. T. H. Crossett, K. Kanagasabai, R. R. Nalliah, P. Moses, G. Arulanbala, K. Somasundaram, V. S. S. Kumaraswamy, A. M. M. Abdulader and the Secretary.

The Minutes of proceedings of the meeting held on the 11th February 1928 having been previously circulated among the Members of the Council were taken as read and confirmed.

With the permission of the Council Mr. C. Arulanbala was allowed to move the motion standing in his name at the close of the agenda.

JAFFNA CLOCK TOWER.

Considered letter No. 68 of 25th January 1928 from the Provincial Engineer, N. P. re Jaffna Tower Clock.

[The Chairman said that the question of the Jaffna Clock Tower had been deferred for a long time and at last they had the final decision in hand. They had tried to repair the clock, and failed. So they had decided to buy a new clock. There were quotations from Messrs. Benson and Co. for two clocks, one weighing 8 cwt., and the other 10 cwt. The first cost £358 18s. or Rs. 5,500, and the second cost £386 16s. or Rs. 6,000. He left the decision in the hands of the Council.]

Mr. K. R. Nalliah moved that a tower clock with a bell weighing 10 cwt. as quoted by Messrs. Benson & Co. Ltd. be obtained and that a sum of Rs. 6,000, be voted for the purpose. [He said that Jaffna had only one clock tower and if that were to be in such a miserable state as at present, it would be a disgrace to the Council.]

Mr. T. H. Crossett seconded.—Carried.

Considered the provision of an additional building at Grand Bazaar and a new Fish Market.

Mr. C. Arulanbala moved that the matter be deferred and that in the meantime papers be referred to a committee consisting of the Provincial Engineer, Messrs. R. R. Nalliah and A. M. M. Abdulader for inspection and report.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah seconded.—Carried.

Considered application from Mr. V. M. Nagalingam, Scavenging and Conservancy contractor to be allowed to assign the contract to Mr. V. A. Doraisappah.

Mr. R. Subramaniam moved that the application be allowed.

Mr. A. M. M. Abdulader seconded.—Carried.

In this connection the question of carrying on the scavenging and conservancy work after the termination of the contract at the end of the year was considered.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah moved that the matter be referred to the Sanitation Committee with the addition of the Provincial Engineer and Mr. C. Arulanbala for early report.

Mr. K. Somasundaram seconded.—Carried.

COST OF TOWN SURVEY.

Considered letters Nos. 218 of 11th February 1928 and 239 of 15th February 1928 from the President, Local Government Board re Town Survey.

Mr. K. Somasundaram moved that the Hon'ble Mr. A. Canebratnam be approached with a view to obtain the loan for the Town Survey on more favourable terms and that the question of the payment of half of the Council's share of the cost be deferred for the next meeting.

Mr. P. Moses seconded.—Carried.

Considered the application of Sanitary Inspector Selvadurai for six uniform suits as allowed in the case of the other Inspectors.

Mr. R. Subramaniam moved that the application be allowed subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

Mr. P. Moses seconded.—Carried.

STREET LAMPS VERSUS ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

Considered application for street lamps. The Chairman said that they had received applications from the people of the different wards for lamps. He hoped that the Council will sanction the purchase of ten lamps at a cost of about Rs. 100 each.

Mr. Somasundaram asked what the Director of Public Works had written on the proposed electric lighting scheme.

The Chairman replied that when they requested the Local Government Board for a loan for the electric lighting scheme, they asked them to furnish full details as to the repayment of the loan. In consequence they had to employ two overseers, and go round the urban area and get signatures from those who wanted electric lights. After getting the signatures, they had written to the Director of Public Works for the maintenance charges and costs as they had to charge every household accordingly. They were still expecting a letter from the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Crossett said it was quite a long time since the electric lighting scheme was taken up and they all must try to push it forward as early as possible and not incur vain expenses in buying street lamps every year.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah moved that the matter be deferred and that in connection with the electric lighting scheme the Hon'ble Mr. A. Canebratnam be requested kindly to interview the Director of Public Works, the Director of Electricity Undertakings and other Heads of Departments if necessary with a view to expedite the sanction of the scheme.

Mr. K. Somasundaram seconded.—Carried.

Considered by laws regulating vehicular traffic. Mr. R. Subramaniam moved that the laws be adopted.

Mr. T. H. Crossett seconded.—Carried.

Considered Local Government Board Circular No. 5 of 9th February 1928 re "The Revenue Collection Ordinance 1925."

Mr. P. Moses moved that the draft regulation be adopted and that necessary steps be taken in the matter.

Mr. C. Arulanbala seconded.—Carried.

Considered papers re cement drain opposite the New Aerated Water Manufactory, Vannarponnai.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah moved that the amount of Rs. 110/5 be refunded.

Mr. R. Subramaniam seconded.—Carried.

Continued up.

Depressed Class Boys in Schools.

EQUAL SEATING URGED BY LAW.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY'S EXAMPLE.

A recent report of the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay, states that during the year 1926-27 the orders of the Bombay Government on the subject of admission of children of the Depressed classes to schools, have been observed generally in all the schools maintained by Local Bodies in the Presidency. These orders declare that schools maintained or aided out of public funds which refuse to admit depressed class children, will be deprived of assistance from public funds, and educational officers are called upon to see that no disability is imposed on these children in any school conducted by public authority in its own or in a hired building. The Educational Inspector, Northern Division, has, however, reported six instances in the Rural District, where admission was refused to depressed class children. There are District Local Board Schools at Goshan, Madhar, Moribar, Motavarantha, Sanis Hamad and Kharvasa. The Deputy Educational Inspector and his assistants are, we understand, striving their utmost, even by personal example, to persuade the people of the advanced classes to allow the depressed class pupils in the above schools to be seated along with those of other castes. It is hoped that their efforts will be successful and the opposition of high castes will gradually disappear.

—"Myore Economical Journal."

Continued.

Considered application from the Lighting Overseer for a motor cycle allowance.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah moved that the application be refused and that his request for monthly salary and change in designation be considered along with the next budget.

Mr. K. Somasundaram seconded.—Carried.

PRESENT DRAINS A NUISANCE.

Pursuant to notice Mr. C. Arulanbala moved: "That, as there is a reasonable complaint by the public that the cemented side drains in existence within the Council area generally send out an offensive smell owing to their not being flushed, and, as at present, it is not practicable to have them flushed in the absence of a water service and as further some of the cemented side drains in the Council area have not yet been continued to proper outlets, and the impure matter from the said incomplete side drains accumulate at the spots where the side drains terminate at present, forming stagnant pools affording breeding places for mosquitoes, and giving much annoyance to residents, this Council do take immediate steps in the interest of public health to enforce, within the Council limits, the provisions of Section 97 sub section 5 of the Local Government Ordinance which makes it an offence for any owner to allow any water, filth or other substance or thing to flow or run from such land or house into or upon any such road."

[In moving the above resolution, Mr. Arulanbala said that he had brought up this resolution as he had heard complaints from ratepayers about the side drains. The public were not aware of this provision and he hoped careful consideration will be given to his motion.]

Mr. A. M. M. Abdulader seconded. [Mr. Nalliah pointed out that the law on this matter was quite clear and if they passed this motion it would work hardship among the ratepayers. If this motion was passed, it would tie the hands of the Chairman, and he would not be in a position to use his discretion. The side drains at present are not completed, and hence be opposed the motion.]

Mr. Somasundaram remarked that they will be prosecuted in turn by the people. Mr. Subramaniam pointed out that the Council should not have built side drains without having a system for flushing it. Sea water could be used for flushing.

The Provincial Engineer said that once the side drains are completed the nuisance will abate. Mr. Crossett pointed out that the Sanitary Inspector were not doing their work satisfactorily. The motion was put to the vote and declared lost 3 voting for and 7 against.

U. D. C. LIMITS.

Mr. C. Arulanbala moved the motion on the re-adjustment of the Council's limits submitted the report of the committee.

It was resolved to circulate the report and bring it up before the next meeting.

A NEW OFFICE FOR THE COUNCIL.

Considered the question of a site for the Council's office. [The Chairman brought in the notice of the House that their present office belonged to the Government, and at any time the Government might take them unawares and want back the building. Then they would find it very difficult to find an office. It was for the House to find out a suitable site for a new office.]

Mr. R. R. Nalliah moved the matter be referred to the Committee considering the question of the Infectious Diseases Hospital for early report.

Mr. K. Somasundaram seconded.—Carried.

WHAT IS THE TROUBLE WITH THE MID WIFE?

Mr. T. H. Crossett brought to the notice of the Council complaints against the midwife's work under the Council.

Mr. T. H. Crossett moved that the matter be referred to a Committee consisting of the Provincial Surgeon, N. P. Messrs. G. Arulanbala, R. Subramaniam and T. H. Crossett (Chairman) and a member of the Jaffna Women's Health League and a report made to the Council early.

Mr. K. Somasundaram seconded.—Carried.

TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE DISASTER.—It is reported that two severe earthquake shocks in two districts in Persia occurred on the 9th and 11th inst. destroying half a village comprising a 1000 houses and damaging the rest. Owing to darkness when the night was awake for the greater part of the night, on 4 were dead and 1 seriously injured. Terror stricken inhabitants are living in tents outside the village.

ITS EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

The following is culled from the concluding portion of an article entitled "Some reflections on the educational work of the Ramakrishna Mission."—Contributed by Srmat Swami Nivedananda to the March number of "Parabuddha Bharata":

CHARACTER BUILDING.

Education is a misnomer unless it helps one to build one's character. By character we mean here only training of the will, which implies strengthening the will and directing it properly. Will may be said to be a force on the mental plane having both magnitude as well as direction and character-building signifies increasing the magnitude and adjusting the direction of this mental force. A man of character will loyally and honestly and has the firmness to execute his will to spite of resistance from within or without. It is interesting to note that character-building was given a prominent place in the Hindu scheme of education. It was recognised by our ancient educators to be the immediate aim of education; for without character, without a thorough training of the will, they observed correctly, no one can be fit for utilising in life any knowledge that may have been imparted to him. Moreover they found that even to qualify anyone for acquiring knowledge of any kind a preliminary training of the will to a certain extent was a necessity. The mind as an important instrument of knowledge and as the managing of all actions drew the devoted attention of our early educators more than anything else and they have left for us a precious lore about mental training, which we can ill afford to ignore.

CONCENTRATION AND SELF-CONTROL.

Will is strengthened by the practice of concentration and self-control and chastened by a culture of refined and lofty sentiments. This is all that our ancient found essential for character building, and perhaps no modern educationist can add a whit to this so far as principle is concerned.

No less astounding was their discovery with regard to the method of imparting this training. The very conception of the Brahmacharya Ashrama reveals how our ancient educationists were conscious of the value and importance of 'self activity' as an effective educational method and also of the potency of an 'environment' for rousing self activity. In the light of our ancient teaching, we need attach more importance to character building than to the stuffing of information in the pupil's brain, which is tending to be the sole concern of educational institutions of our country. For strengthening the will "systematic practice of concentration and self-control" must be provided for and it should be remembered that examples, and not mere oral instructions, are required of the teachers. This practice will also be of immense help in sharpening the intellect and developing different faculties. This must be looked upon as an indispensable factor of any healthy education.

Fickleness and irresolution are almost synonymous with restlessness of mind. Will force is bound to be dissipated when the mind runs after too many things at a time. A mind agitated by too many thought waves cannot be fixed on any object with undivided devotion. Such a mind has to be calmed and mental energy has to be conserved before the mind may flow mightily in any given direction. "For this a systematic practice of concentration is a necessity".

IMPORTANCE OF BRAHMACHARYA.

Self-control is a healthy exercise of the will against base instinctive impulses, and undoubtedly this goes to develop the will considerably. Discipline of any kind is nothing but a lesson in self control, and surely "Brahmacharya," (abstinence) of account of its physiological as well as psychological effect, "must be considered as the very basis of all kinds of discipline." The various vows or "Vratas" of our girls have their educational value in so far as they develop the will through self control and they should find a place in any modern scheme for our girl education, of course, with necessary modifications by way of eliminating credulity. Boys and young men also should be made to practise occasional fasting and silence. Moreover struggles against laziness, inertia, for maintaining a high standard of active, methodical and well regulated life, as mentioned in the topic on practical education, will also contribute a good deal towards developing the will power.

Now, besides strengthening the will we have to give it a proper direction and for this the heart has to be chastened and inspired with noble sentiments. Verily, "Love is the channel along which will flows." Love for flesh, lustre and fame determines the will-path of the ordinary man of the world, while love for God, humanity, country and community directs the will of noble souls. A man is said to be elevated in proportion as his love for the little self is replaced by a higher form of love. Character building therefore requires that pupils should be trained to feel for others, and their love should be gently led, away from their little self, to higher and higher spheres, family, neighbours, community, country and humanity, which are like so many "stairs that slope through dark caves up to God." This will undoubtedly purify their heart and help them to be really noble and heroic in their deeds. Sister Nivedita has put it very nicely to give us idea of the educational value of this love:

"Even an ignorant mother, by teaching her boy to love and to set on his love, can be the finest of educators. It is this that makes so many of our great men of day attribute so much to their mothers."

EDUCATION IS MEANT FOR SERVICE ALSO.

Pupils should be made conscious of their environment and helped to feel that their education is meant not for the good of themselves alone but also for the good of "Jana-desh-dharma." They must be made to feel that their development is intended for the benefit of the environment. A healthy education must let them know that "no man liveth to himself alone," and it must stir up in them the desire to serve, the longing to better conditions, advance their fellows, and lift the whole.

(i) Now, "love is awakened by faith and developed by service." Children should be early taught to respect their parents and superiors and to perform every day as a rule little acts of service by way of helping members of their families as well as neighbours. The schoolmaster

should make it a point to take note of these acts and encourage his pupils by awarding prizes for "Service."

(ii) No education can be called national unless it inspires love for the country. Sister Nivedita writes emphatically:

"Let love for country and countrymen, for people and soil, be the mould into which our lives flow hot."

For this the first thing necessary is to instil into the students a faith in their country and their people. A proper presentation of history which will introduce students to the glorious achievements of their forefathers, will certainly arouse their faith and admiration. They must be made conscious of the precious contributions of their motherland to religion and speculative philosophy and also of the propagation of her cultural ideals beyond the borders of India even in the hoary past. They should also know how these contributions are valued by modern thinkers, how Vedanta philosophy as well as Buddhism have become important subjects of study and research even in the academic circles of the West. Then our students should also be made to see for themselves in museums and art galleries or through pictures and lantern slides the characteristic beauty of Indian painting, sculpture, and architecture, and in this connection they should be made familiar with the appreciative remarks of modern connoisseurs. For is there anyone whose heart is not filled with admiring love for our country when he reads passages like the following from the pens of Mr. Harvel and Mr. Percy Brown or even when he simply hears the import of such a passage?

"Their art, used only in the service of truth and religion, has made their hands obedient tools of a heaven sent inspiration and their unique power of realising this, with a depth and sincerity unsurpassed in the art of any land, or in any epoch, gives them a right to rank among the greatest of the symbolists in the whole history of art."—"Indian Sculpture and Painting."

"The oldest painting therefore at Ajanta represents no primitive beginning, but an art of some maturity; not the first efforts of individuals groping in darkness of inexperience, but the finished work of a school of artists trained in a high art, manifesting great and ancient traditions."—"Indian Painting."

GRANDUR OF EARLY LITERATURE.

Then the students should also be made to feel the grandeur of their early literature, specially of the two magnificent epics, and in this connection also they should be made to know how the literary merits of these early productions have been appreciated by modern critics. Our students have also to be made conscious of the contributions of our forefathers to positive sciences as described by Sir Brijendra Nath Seal, Sir F. C. Roy, S. Radhakrishnan Mukherjee, and others. They need also feel proud of the contributions to political, economic and sociological science as found in Kautilya Arthashastra, which have opened an immense and fruitful field of research before the modern scholars of this country.

All these will undoubtedly awaken faith in the country and love for the people. Every effort should be made to deepen the love thus awakened by training students to serve the people. Enrolling batches of students as volunteers for Seva-work during floods, famines, epidemics, should be made a factor of our education.

LOVE FOR COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY.

In this way systematic efforts have to be made to rouse a burning love for their community and their country. Emancipation of sympathy and intellect is of course a necessity. So while calling up love for their country or community, care must be taken to convince them of the fact that they have no reason to hate other communities or countries. They must be made to feel that under the diversities of faiths, customs, histories and traditions, the same human heart beats everywhere, and thus they should be led to feel for humanity as a whole. But in this we must always remember that "one who cannot love his community cannot love his nation, and without loving the nation one cannot possibly feel any kinship with humanity."

LOVE FOR GOD.

More important than any one of these forms of love as a purifier of the heart is the love for God. All the remaining forms are comprehended in real love for God. One who can love God surely feels for all. Systematic efforts for developing love for God and religion should be made. This should be made the central gem as it were of the characteristic Hindu heart. Elucidation of our sacred texts, exposition of the lives and sayings of saints and sages, presentation of ideal spiritual lives from Puranas and History, devotion to holy places and holy men, spiritual lives of the teachers themselves and the spiritual environment of the school or residence of the students, all these are necessary for awakening this love. Moreover, students have to be disciplined through regular prayers, hymns, worship, etc. in certain forms of ceremonial graded according to their age and capacity.

DEVELOPING THE AESTHETIC SENSE.

These different forms, as it were, of love will go to chasten the heart and give a proper direction to the will. In this connection we need add that a "development of the aesthetic sense" is also a mighty agent for chastening the heart. Love for the beautiful is already in man; this has to be drawn out by making the pupils feel and appreciate the beauties of nature. They should be trained to observe and enjoy Nature's bounteous beauty by taking them to lovely spots during excursions. They are to be helped further to take delight in artistic expressions of the beautiful through poetry, music, painting, modelling or sculpture. They should be encouraged and helped to express their own refined ideas and emotions through their own productions of fine art. Regular lessons in Drawing, Painting, Modelling, Music, etc. go a long way to refine feelings, a flower garden in the school reared by students will be found to be highly profitable in setting up the aesthetic sense. It must be noted that the environment of the school or residence of the students should be alive to aesthetic requirements.

If we seriously intend to see that our boys and youths develop character, our education must provide all these for a systematic training of the will.

The glaring omissions in the present system of education described in this article, together with the fact that nearly ninety per cent of our population do not receive any education at all, make the immensity of the task of properly educating our countrymen obvious. In the next article we shall determine how we may fully utilize our strength and resources to put in our maximum contribution towards the solution of this task.

INDIAN & FOREIGN.

To BOYCOTT BRITISH GOODS:—A mass meeting in Calcutta has called for the boycott of all British goods.

AN ASSISTANT COLLECTOR ROBERTS:—It is reported that Mr. S. Ambuddin, Assistant Collector, Dahanu District, has been robbed of Rs. 16,000 while camping.

SUCCESSOR TO THE LATE MR. THOMAS HARDY:—Sir James Harris succeeds the late Mr. Thomas Hardy as President of the Incorporated Society of Authors.

FIRST INDIAN NAVAL OFFICER:—The first Indian Naval Officer is a Bengali youth, Dwijendranath Mukherji who has been appointed Engineer Sub-Lieutenant in the Royal Indian Marine.

FATAL INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC IN TOKIO:—Deaths occur on an average of 55 per day among the sufferers from the serious influenza epidemic in Tokio.

MYSOOR WOMEN'S ACTION FOR SWADESHI:—Two thousand women last Saturday night at a meeting at Mysore Park, took the solemn vow of Swadeshi and resolved to stand by men in making the movement for the boycott of British cloth a success.

CHAMBER OF PRINCES:—The Chamber of Princes held its first meeting, the Viceroy as President addressing the Princes, advising them to separate Executive from Judiciary and Privy Purses from Public Exchequer, and deprecating their lavish expenditure and foreign tours.

THE LARGEST ENGLISH BELL:—Casting of the largest bell ever made in England and the fourth largest in existence was commenced at Oldbyton by 2,800 bellingers from all parts of the country. The bell which others have been made for Oscillon in the Riverside Church at New York. It is now two whole tones lower than any bell hitherto turned in this country. The weight of the bell is 181 tons.

ALL WORLD WAR STORY COMPETITION:—For the most interesting and memorable story of at least 70,000 words having a background of the world war the firm of publishers of Houghton and Mifflin and the American Legion Monthly are jointly offering a prize of 25,000 dollars in addition to the customary royalties. The competition is open to all Nationalities but the manuscripts must be in English.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6447.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Thangammis widow of Kanapampillai Kadigamer of Point Pedro

Kadigamer Velupillai of Point Pedro

Petitioner.

Vs.

Kadigamer Kanapampillai of Point Pedro

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying that Letters of Administration be granted to him to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before G.W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on May 18, 1927 in the presence of Mr. N. Madir, Krishna Pillai, Proctor for Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated May 18, 1927, having been read:—

It is ordered that Letters of Administration be granted to the Petitioner in respect of the Estate of the abovesaid deceased by a son and an heir of the deceased unless the abovesaid Respondent or any others shall on or before January 19, 1928 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

J. D. Brown,
District Judge.
2nd December 1927.
Extended to
20th March 1928.
O. 1428.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6629.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Kanthappan Kanagasabai of Anaisittu

Sivakampillai widow of Kanthappan Kanagasabai of Anaisittu

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Kanagasabai Saravananathan of do
2. Kanagasabai Ponnampalam of do
3. Kanagasabai Velupillai of do
4. Kanagasabai Elayathambiy of do
5. Kanagasabai Kandiah of do
6. Kanagasabai Vattianathan of do
7. Sivakampillai Vattianathan and
8. wife N. Saravanan of do

The 5th and 6th Respondents are minors appearing by their guardian ad-litem the 1st Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before J. D. Brown Esquire, District Judge, on December 22, 1927 in the presence of Messrs. Sivakampillai & Kanagasabai Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated November 16, 1927, having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner as the lawful widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before February 23, 1928 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

J. D. Brown,
District Judge.
17th January 1928.
Order Nisi extended for 22 March 1928.
Antid: J. C. W. R.
D. J.
O. 1428.

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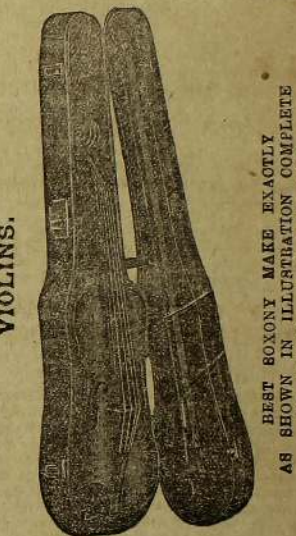
Notice To F. M. S. Tamil Passengers.

Our customers are requested, to note that "Tamil Home" Colombo, (Established 1910 and managed by Mr. C. Perumalpillai of Colombo) is now removed to No. 54 Hill Street, Colombo.

Our customers are also requested to note that some unscrupulous persons mislead intending Passengers using the name "TAMIL HOME".

K. SARAPATHY, for Manager.

M. 58.



The Jaffna Apothecaries Co.

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