

REALITIES OF THE STATUS OF SINHALESE & TAMIL IN 1813

'EQUAL ENCOURAGEMENT' POLICY OF THE BRITISH

The 'Tribune' in an interesting article quotes the Despatch of Sir Robert Brownrigg, to the Secretary of State which deals with the view that Tamil and Sinhalese obtained equal status throughout the history of this Island. The article is reproduced here in full.

On the 10th of July 1813, Sir Robert Brownrigg, Governor of Ceylon, writing to the Secretary of State, the Right Hon. Earl of Bathurst, in a Despatch from King's House, Colombo, makes reference to certain Regulations that had been drawn up by Governor Maitland for the Ceylon Civil Service, and comments as follows on the language question, thereby outlining the Government policy at that time.

"As to the qualification required in the knowledge of the native languages," wrote Sir Robert, "the Portuguese and Sinhalese only being mentioned excludes one which is fully as necessary in the Northern Districts as the Sinhalese in the South. I mean the Tamil language commonly called the Malabar language, which with mixture of Portuguese in use through all the Provinces, is the proper native tongue of the inhabitants from Putalam to Batticaloa northward inclusive of both these Districts Your Lordship will therefore, I hope, have no objection to my putting the Tamil on an equal footing of encouragement with the Sinhalese."

The Secretary of State, it is presumed, approved of Brownrigg's suggestion, for since the days of the British Administration, Sinhalese and Tamil have been on an equal footing of encouragement. It is also significant that in the year 1813, the Tamil speaking areas were north of a line drawn horizontally from Puttalam to

Batticaloa. Since that time, there has been some re-penetration of the Sinhalese language into the North-Central Province, but Tamil has not been displaced from the predominating position it had held for centuries in the Northern and Eastern Provinces and the Puttalam District of the Northern-Western Province.

This state of affairs in Brownrigg's days was only an indelible hangover of the two kingdoms that had existed in Ceylon from time immemorial. A Sinhalese as well as a Tamil kingdom has always been part of the history of Lanka from its earliest days, and the Sinhalese and Tamil languages have always prevailed in this land. What Governor Brownrigg required of Civil Servants to know, after the British Administration was firmly established in this land, were the two native languages, Sinhalese and Tamil on an equal footing of encouragement. In doing this, he only translated into actual administrative practice the realities of the language situation that obtained in the island at that time.

Nor can it be said that the Tamils were "recent immigrants" to Ceylon in 1813. Dr. Paranavitarne the Archaeological Commissioner, had discovered sometime ago at Anuradhapura a Tamil Householders Terrace with an inscription on it. The date of this Terrace and inscription is somewhere between 3 B. C. and 3 A. D. There is also

evidence of Dravidian Tamil immigration to the island during the days of the Nagas and the Yakkas, i. e. long before the Sinhalese race came into being. But the Anuradhapura discovery is significant in that Sinhalese and Tamils co-existed in harmony in Anuradhapura in the heyday of the Sinhalese Kings.

All this ancient history is important only to emphasize that the two major communities and

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First Non-Lawyer Mayor for Jaffna

Mr. S. S. Navaratnam, M. M. C. was elected Mayor of Jaffna at a meeting of the Jaffna Municipal Council held on Monday January 16.

Mr. V. K. Devendran M. M. C. proposed and Mr. A. Thuraijasingam M. M. C. seconded the name of Mr. Navaratnam.

Mr. E. K. N. Selvadurai M. M. C. proposed and Mr. V. M. M. Aboosaly M. M. C. seconded the name of Mr. J. S. Nicholas M. M. C.

The voting was close and Mr. Navaratnam obtained 8 votes as against 7 for Mr. Nicholas.

Mr. Navaratnam referred to the fact that it was the first time that a non lawyer had been elected as Mayor of Jaffna.

Mr. A. V. Chinniah; the Municipal Commissioner presided.

A TRIBUTE

TO

The late Mr. R. Sivagurunathar, M. B. E.

(By MUHANDIRAM E. P. RASIAH
Treasurer, Saiva Paripalana Sabhai)

MR. R. Sivagurunathar who may well be called the Laird of Vannarponnai, was ailing for some time from the effects of a stroke. As he lay semi-conscious, I offered him the Prasatham received from the High Priest of Chidambaram. He appeared to be quite pleased and said, "Quite good, how did you manage to remit the Rs. 507." Those were his last words to me—meaning the contribution that is annually sent to Chidambaram Temple for the Markali Thiruvathirai Puja by the Saiva Paripalana Sabai, of which he had been the indefatigable President for nearly ten years. As Mrs. Sivagurunathar touched his forehead with the Holy Ashes and Kunkum he gave me an appreciating look, which keeps haunting me even to this day. He however passed away peacefully amidst the singing of Thiruvasagam & surrounded by his kith and kin on his 72nd year. Friends and neighbours, men and women of all rank and station spontaneously bemoaned his loss. A shower of rain that came down earlier in the day was, perhaps, an indication that even the Heavens were moved to tears.

Mr. Sivagurunathar, the scion of an aristocratic family, grew up to be an advocate and champion of the poor, the oppressed and the underprivileged. He was a tolerant man, disliking fame, fervently religious and intensely humble. He believed in radiating love equally to a friend, towards an indifferent person and to an enemy. His career, which had confounded and confused those unacquainted with him, can be explained simply as the resultant of two powerful and conflicting attitudes—he was entirely devoid of personal ambition and had always been intent on working unostentatiously. But the closer one came in contact with him, the greater grew his respect and admiration for him.

He was pious as a Hindu, great as a Tamil and greater still as a Yalpanan who spent his time, his health and wealth for the growth of Saivism, the good of the Tamils and the future of Jaffna. Had he been selfish and personally

ambitious, the story of his life would have been different—there was no position of wealth or affluence which he could not have achieved—but he had thought it proper to dedicate his life to the service of the common man and had preferred to lead a Spartan life. It was not for these alone that Jaffna mourns his loss, but because of its affection to him approaching almost veneration. His guileless heart had won him the love and respect of all—young and old, rich and poor, literate and illiterate, teachers and the taught—compelled by his humility and simplicity. His hand was ever ready to help anyone and his voice to cheer.

Born into life in the lap of luxury and opulence, he lived to discard ease and indolence and voluntarily to embrace austerity and asceticism. Although denied the advantages of a University education, yet he lived to be a pioneer in the struggle for higher education to our boys and more especially to our girls. He had toiled as the Founder of some Colleges, as Manager of several educational institutions throughout this District and as God-Father of the Hindu Ladies' College at Vannarponnai—abiding monuments, far more lasting than marble statues, to his zeal and philanthropy.

Blue-blooded by birth, he lived to be the elected representative of the Vannarponnai ward and became the democratic leader of Jaffna's populace, composed of various castes and creeds. He was, however, a politician by the compulsion of events; but by choice he was a thinker and a welfare-worker. Great as has been his work in the Jaffna Urban Council, greater still has been his record of Social service. He talked with crowds and kept his virtues; he walked with kings but never lost the common touch. It is no exaggeration to say that he "reigned supreme" at Vannarponnai in utter simplicity but in regal dignity. He preferred the cadjan roof and the ancient oil lamp to modern tiled roofing and electric lights, which he had

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NOTICE

The Saivaprakasa Press and the offices of the Hindu Organ and Inthusathanam will be closed on Friday 27-1-56 on account of Thaipoosam Festival.

MANAGER



சென்னை நகரில் ஹிந்து ஓர்கன் அலுவலகம் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதுவரை எந்தவிதமான தாமதங்களும் இல்லை.

Hindu Organ

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1956

Treasure These Thoughts

God is above. Our human standards which are but His creations and our salvation lies in realizing His true nature and attaining His state.

NEED FOR REASONABLENESS

"I would earnestly appeal to all our countrymen and comrades to consider these matters in a spirit of peaceful co-operation. India appeals today to the world for peaceful co-existence between nations. How much more is that necessary within the broad confines of our dear country. We shall be false to our message if we do not live up to it ourselves. Above all, we have to approach every problem in a spirit of sweet reasonableness and co-operation"—These significant words that were spoken by one of the stalwart statesmen of the world—Premier Nehru—require to be read, re-read and reflected upon by all those who are parading the political platforms of Sri Lanka and working up the communal frenzy of the people to a feverish pitch and those Parliamentarians who are propounding astounding theories of administration.

Communal conflicts on a linguistic or religious basis are ominous signs of national set back and cultural demoralization. Realizing this fact the Indian Government has taken great care to approach the problem of 'official language' in a cautious and well considered manner thus avoiding all circumstances that may directly or otherwise precipitate a national crisis. The Commission appointed by the Indian Government to report on 'official languages' has set about on the fact-finding enquiry in a spirit of national service and with a determination to put the question above the level of sentiment and selfishness, patronage and perverted pride. The memorandum submitted by the Madras Government to the Commission has enunciated in clear terms what exactly the significance of an official language is. Dr. C. V. Raman, the distinguished scientist of world fame, is reported to have uttered the warning that the 'propagation to replace English by Hindi for any of the official purposes for which English was used at present in India was a wholly misconceived one and that such a change would not only serve no useful purpose but it would, on the other hand, accentuate the already existing linguistic conflicts and result in a very great set back in the progress of India in diverse fields of human activity'.

The politicians of Sri Lanka have miserably failed to maintain the democratic aspect of the present constitution, an aspect that was assured by the first Premier the late Mr. D. S. Senanayake in a solemn undertaking that was given by him to the people of the Island on the fateful day when the State Council was prevailed upon by him to accept the Soul bury set up. More than that, the leaders have erased from their minds all traces of the memories of the struggle that was jointly put up by the different communities for freeing the country from foreign yoke. Above all, there has been created an atmosphere of racial acrimony and linguistic alarm. Sweet reasonableness which is the first requirement for the smooth working of a democratic government is sadly absent. And yet there is the tall talk of this country having marched ahead of other young nations towards the goal of progress! What a travesty of truth!!

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

[Here is the text of the resolution submitted by Minister Natesan to the Resolutions Committee of the U. N. P.]

THIS RESOLUTION HAS SINCE BEEN RULED OUT BY THE COMMITTEE.

1. All inhabitants of Ceylon shall be entitled to full and complete protection of life, liberty and security of person, without distinction of birth, nationality, language, race or religion.

2. All inhabitants of Ceylon shall be entitled to the free exercise, whether public or private, of any creed, religion, or belief whose practices are not inconsistent with public morals or public order.

3. All inhabitants of Ceylon have the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and in particular, persons belonging to any religious, linguistic or racial minority shall be entitled to use the right of association for the purpose of furthering their interests as regards their language, culture, religion, ethnical character or social relations.

4. All Ceylon nationals shall be equal before the law, and shall be entitled without discrimination to equal protection of the law, and shall enjoy the same civil and political rights without distinction as to race, language or religion.

Differences of race language or religion shall not prejudice any Ceylon national in matters relating to the enjoyment of civil or political rights including admission to public employment, functions and honours or the exercise of professions and industries

5. No restriction shall be imposed on the free use by any Ceylon national of any language in 'private intercourse, in commerce, in religion, in the Press or in publication of any kind or at public meetings.

Adequate facilities shall be given to all Ceylon nationals to use their own language orally or in writing before the Courts or in transacting their business with public departments or administrative bodies whether local or central or in performing their functions as members of local bodies or of the Houses of Parliament.

Any section of citizens having a distinct language

or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same.

6. Ceylon nationals who belong to racial, religious or linguistic minorities shall enjoy the same treatment and security in law and in fact as the other Ceylon nationals. In particular, they shall have an equal right to establish, manage and control charitable, religious and social institutions, schools and other educational establishments with the right to use their own language and to exercise their religion freely the rein.

7. In the public educational system in towns and districts in which a considerable proportion of Ceylon nationals belonging to a linguistic minority are resident, adequate facilities shall be provided for ensuring that education shall be given to the children of such nationals through the medium of their own language.

8. In towns and districts where there is a considerable proportion of Ceylon nationals belonging to racial, religious or linguistic minorities, these minorities shall be assured an equitable share in the enjoyment and application of the sums which may be provided out of public funds under the State, Municipal or other budget, for educational religious or charitable purposes.

9. Rights of ownership shall be safeguarded. No person's goods or property shall be expropriated for the public benefit, and in the circumstances and in the manner prescribed by law, and on condition that just compensation is paid

10. Every inhabitant of Ceylon has the right to an effective remedy by the Courts of law for acts violating the fundamental rights granted by the Constitution of Ceylon.

11. There shall be no amendment of any provision in this chapter unless it is passed by three-fourths of the total number of members in the House of Representatives.

Tamil Sangam Conference At Delhi

Inaugurating the sixth annual conference of the Tamil Sangham at New Delhi, Mr. B. N. Datar, Union Deputy Minister, spoke of the great contribution made by Tamil language and culture not only to India's ancient civilisation but also to modern thought.

Dr. Krishnan said that for the last several years, the Tamil Sangham had been meeting in various parts of the country. This first originated in Calcutta and several conferences had been held in Poona, Jamshedpur and other places. They had arranged speeches by representatives of various languages because such things alone would enable them to appreciate the beauty of other languages. While pride in one's own language was good one should be able to appreciate the fact that there were many fine things in the neighbouring languages also.

Mr. Datar referred to the great scholars and saints of South India and the contributions made by them to philosophy and literature. Especially the great Kural depicted in a wonderful way, human nature and conduct. All the languages in India were bound to flourish and develop

A symposium on the growth of Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Sanskrit and Bengali was held. Mr. Justice Venkatarama Aiyar said that Sanskrit was never regarded as an alien language in the South. Sanskrit, he said was an All-India language to which writers from every part of the country had made their contribution. The greatness of the language, he said lay in the fact that it had expressed Indian thought for a period of 4,000 years. The language he said, had a unique plane in the culture of the country.

Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University, said that Tamil literature was full of liberal sentiments. Tamil literature was unique in the sense that it had a large number of commentaries on the outstanding works in the language. Tamilians, he said, were not opposed to learning Hindi. In fact, they were increasingly devoting themselves to it. But they believed in the growth of every regional language. They could not afford to neglect their own language. (From the Madras Hindu)

VAVUNIYA IN THE VANGUARD OF POLITICAL STRUGGLE

FORMER M. P. FORMULATES 'TAMIL AUTONOMY' PROGRAM

Mr C Suntharalingam's appeal to the voters of Vavuniya

"The struggle for Tamil autonomy has already begun.

"You are aware of the events which have transpired since I stopped attending Parliament for reasons set out in a statement to you and to the public of Ceylon.

"You will remember that in that statement I gave five specific grievances of Tamil-speaking peoples which have been brought about by the Government of Sir John Kotelawala, since he came into power. They are:

- 1 Linguistic discrimination;
- 2 Discriminatory recruitment to the public services;
- 3 Civic discrimination on linguistic grounds;
- 4 Discriminatory land alienation and colonisation in violation of law;
- 5 Suppression of liberty.

"My statement of policy was formulated in close consultation with and with the active co-operation of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress and the Ilankai Tamil Arasu Kadchi.

"Since then we have endeavoured to form a United Front of Tamil-speaking peoples and I am happy to inform you that in the enunciation of objective practically all leaders of Tamil-speaking peoples, are agreed.

"That policy is best embodied as follows: 'autonomous Tamil Ilankai—Federal or Independent—as determined by plebiscite!'

"I was particularly glad when all those who could speak on behalf of the Tamil peoples were agreed that their future would be most seriously prejudiced, if not placed in grave jeopardy, unless, as a first essential step, an auto-

nomous Tamil state is inaugurated without delay.

"It is only after that inauguration Federalism or separatism can be considered not only by the Tamil-speaking people but also by the Sinhalese speaking themselves inhabiting this Island of ours.

"I am sorry, however, to state that the Tamil speaking leaders have so far, not been able, notwithstanding, determined and protracted efforts, to reach agreement about the ways and means of inaugurating the autonomous Tamil state.

"One difficult hurdle has been party allegiance. Are existing parties to be dissolved and a new party merging all to be formed, or is there to be a coalition of parties?

"Can persuasion succeed in making the present U. N. P. Government or its successor, which must necessarily be Sinhalese in complexion, to concede autonomy for Tamil-speaking peoples? Must we have recourse to ahimsa or to satyagraha? Or must we evolve some new technique, or adopt time tried techniques, modern or ancient?

"For my part I am of the humble view that the time has come when the Tamil-speaking peoples must choose as their representatives only those who will be ready and willing to undergo suffering and sacrifice, to court imprisonment or like true satyagrahis face bullets and bombs.

"The people will no doubt choose leaders in whom they can repose implicit confidence and give them full authority to take far-reaching decisions and implement them,

"No war council, from Kurukshetra to Hiroshima ever discussed strategy or plan of action with the people. The people themselves must follow their elected leaders whatever the consequences.

"It would be unworthy of Tamil-speaking peoples

and untrue to their traditions of thousands of years to lose their independence, their liberty, and their self-respect without sustained resistance. To labour that alone is your right but never to the fruits thereof'. This teaching of Sri Krishna to Arjuna comes forcibly to my mind.

"I have been, during the past few days, visiting a number of villages in my electorate. After having explained to my voters the necessity for the present by-election—in fact they were well aware of them through the 'Virakesari, and the 'Times' group of papers—and for the General Election that will follow immediately after I have asked them to signify their acceptance of my policy in a clear manner.

"As one step of their signification, I have asked them to observe the 4th of February, 1956, as a 'Tamil Day of mourning'.

"On that day no Tamil parent who has any loyalty to his race, or love for his language and culture, or regard for his self-respect, should send his child to school. Instead, in every Tamil-speaking home which accepts our objective a flag of mourning should be hoisted, a white flag or a black flag according to the religion persuasion of the household.

"Those Tamil-speaking people who are public servants, (specially government teachers, headmen, and other officers, will conform to the circular and directives of the Minister of Home Affairs or of heads of departments. The Tamil speaking peoples, on the whole in whatever part of Ceylon they may be, will be well advised to observe the Tamil Thukka Thinnam. "As a second step of your signification I am asking you all to cast your votes according to your conscience and you should find your way to the polling station at both the elections.

"As a third step, every Tamil-speaking voter should cast his vote at

this election and at the General Election against Sir John Kotelawala's party. You will not forget that the present turmoil started only after he came into power. If Ceylon is to be saved he has to be defeated.

"I have referred to him only recent rights of the Tamilspeaking peoples caught in the very act of theft.

"Any Tamil-speaking voter who does not actively work, and vote against the treacherous U.N.P. under Sir John Kotelawala must be branded as a traitor to the Tamil Cause.

"The other steps that have to be taken to promote the struggle will have to be determined after this by-election, and the General Election.

"The Tamil-speaking peoples have before them in the immediate future toil and tears, suffering and sacrifice.

"With the grace of Providence in a righteous struggle there can be no doubt of victory. The Tamil-speaking peoples shall not fear.

"We shall inaugurate an auto-nomone Tamil Ilankai—Federal or Independent—as determined by plebiscite.

Notice of Application

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF POINT PEDRO
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 555

In the matter of the British Courts Probates (Resealing) Ordinance (Chapter 84)
Vallipuram Thambiah of Karaveddy North then of Thambay Abdulla Road Kuala Lumpur of the Federation of Malaya Deceased

Notice is hereby given that after the expiry of twenty days from the date hereof application will be made to the District Court of Point Pedro under the above ordinance for the sealing of the Probate of the Last Will and Testament of the late Vallipuram Thambiah of Thambay Abdulla Road Kuala Lumpur granted in the supreme Court of the Federation of Malaya in the High Court at Kuala Lumpur on the 21st day of May 1955.

The 16th day of January 1956

K. SUBRAMANIAM
Proctor for Arunasalam Ponnampalam of Karaveddy North the attorney of Thangamuttu widow of Thambiah of 46 Thambay Abdulla Road, Kuala Lumpur.

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Realities Of The Status Of.....

(Continued from page 1)

languages have co-existed in this country throughout the ages and that it would be unfair and unjust to attempt to banish and liquidate one owing to the superiority of numbers of the other.

It would be foolish and futile to turn back on the pages of history and re-create two kingdoms in this island in order to make it possible for the two languages and communities to co-exist in harmony. Modern political developments have shown mankind that it is possible, in a united democratic state, for many communities and many languages to co exist on terms of absolute equality. The framework for such a unitary state exists in Ceylon today, but the democratic content of this state needs to be strengthened by the enshrinement of fundamental rights in the Constitution. One such bulwark in the statement of Fundamental Rights is the official recognition on a footing of equality of the two national languages.

Any decision to make Sinhalese the sole official language will destroy every vestige of the democratic character in the multi-racial, multi-linguistic State which Ceylon is. If the Ceylon Government adopts the Sinhalese language as the sole official language, then, until the time the Tamil language is restored to its rightful place, this country will forfeit every claim it can make to being a democratic state. Trappings of democracy may exist, but the content and essence will not be there.

Further more, the forces which now compel the displacement of the Tamil language will also seek to make this country a theocratic Buddhist state where all other religions will be frowned upon and oppressed.

Can the forces of democracy assert themselves in this country today? Or is Sri Lanka temporarily doomed to suffer, in this enlightened age, the darkness of racial oppression and religious persecution? The word temporarily is used advisedly, because in this era of democratic upsurge, oppression and persecution cannot last for ever. Democracy will assert itself, particularly if it has been subjected to baptismal fires kindled from the oppression of man by man.

Language Problem In India

How The Madras Govt. Views It

[Following extracts from the memorandum submitted by the Madras Government to the Official Languages Commission appointed by the Indian Govt make useful reading in the context of the Language Problem in Sri Lanka.]

The people of India, numbering 36 crores, constitute a single nation. This nation (the second largest in the world) is composed of many groups, each of which speaks a different language as its mother-tongue.

The largest of these groups is the Hindi language group, numbering about 13 crores. Though more numerous than every other world-language group except the Chinese, English and possibly Russian-language groups of the world, the Hindi language group is only a little more than one-third of the Indian nation. It does not form a majority of the Indian nation. It is one of the many linguistic minorities within the Indian nation, each of which is more numerous than many nations of Europe and other parts of the world.

Among the other language groups of India, there are many who speak languages which are closely similar to Hindi in structure, terminology and script. These are classified as Aryan languages and may be distinguished from others which are mainly Dravidian. There are also some pre-Dravidian languages. The Dravidian and pre-Dravidian languages may be referred to as pre-Aryan languages. The reasons underlying the inter-connections between the Aryan languages are lost in antiquity. Most of them are known to be related to Sanskrit as their common ancestor, a circumstance which distinguishes them sharply from pre-Aryan languages. All the Aryan language groups number about 26 crores, while the pre-Aryan language groups number 10 crores. Among the latter, Dravidian language groups number more than nine crores while pre-Dravidian language groups number rather less than a crore.

The Constitution of India specifies 15 Indian languages by name (Article 351 and the Eighth Schedule). They account for 34 crores out of 36 crores.

There is a wide spread belief that the Constitution has declared Hindi to be the "national" language of India; that other named languages are "regional" languages, and that the unnamed languages are ignored. This belief is incorrect. Hindi has not been declared to be the national language of India—it is the 'Official language of the Indian Union' which is not necessarily the same thing. Any language in use in any

of the States of India is referred to as a "regional" language. This includes Hindi, and it does not exclude any of the unnamed Indian languages.

There is, thus, no warrant in the Constitution for the spirit of linguistic sectarianism which has developed in recent years. In view of the large part played in this development by loose and misleading use of the expression "national" language it is desirable that this usage should be changed. The Indian nation has always been and will always continue to be multilingual. This is not a skeleton to be hidden away in the national cupboard. It is a cultural heritage of which the nation can and should be proud. Every language of Indian origin, spoken by any group of Indian citizens as their mother-tongue, should therefore, be referred to as an Indian national language. It is no doubt convenient to have a name in order to distinguish a language which is or which is intended to be used by a sub-group—the intelligentsia—within every Indian national language group for any purpose of common interest to all of them. Such a language, it is suggested, may be called an "all-India language." An "all-India language" is not the same thing as a national language; it is the common language of the national intelligentsia.

The first step towards understanding the language problem of India is to appreciate this distinction and see it in its true historical perspective. It should be recalled that in the long history of the Indian nation (for some thousands of years) Sanskrit used to be the all-India language. Then (for a few centuries) this role was shared by both Sanskrit and Persian. Finally, a profound change took place during the last century, whereby the English language replaced Sanskrit and Persian as the all-India language. These changes reflected not merely the changes which occurred in the sovereign power; they also reflected the changes which occurred in the social composition and functions of the national intelligentsia. In particular, the latest all-India language—English—has been mainly instrumental in breaking the bonds of caste and creed within the intelligentsia of every National Language Group. For the first time in recorded history, an all-India language has come into being, which is free from specific affiliation to any one caste or

creed. The significance of this fact should be borne in mind in following the controversies which have arisen over the language problem.

Englishmen ceased to govern India on August 15, 1947. The machinery of Government which they had built up and operated for over a hundred years continued to function without interruption. The basic tool of operation of this machinery was the English language. That tool continues to be in use even though the Englishmen have left. If, by some hypnotic process, it can be arranged that all English-educated Indians forget English to-morrow, the machinery of Government will break up into many different and unrelated parts; all of them will slow down; and the most important parts will grind down to a standstill.

English is the authorised legal language. All laws are recorded in the English language. Parliament and the State Legislatures make and change laws in English. They also vote taxes and approve budgets in that language. Statutory rules, orders and notifications are promulgated in that language. The Supreme Court, the High Court three hundred and odd district courts and most (though not all) of the subordinate courts administer justice in that language.

English is the authorised official language of executive administration of the Union Government. (Though Hindi has been already declared to be the official language of the Union by Article 343 (1), its official character is, so far, only titular. Article 343 (2) which provides that English should continue to be used for 15 years is in effective operation now.) English is the authorised official language of executive administration in every State of India. In practice, it is always necessary for some official business to be transacted in the mother-tongue of the people concerned with that business. The extent of such use varies, however, from district to district, as well as from State to State. In some States especially States which were, until recently under Princely rule—the mother-tongue is used in preference to English to a considerable extent. In this State the taluk is the level at which the mother-tongue and English are in about equal use. English is practically the sole medium at and above the district level it is likely that the same position obtains in almost all non-Hindi States. The 1951 Census Report furnishes particulars about the educational attainments of all the people of India (except Kashmir). They are summarised below:

Out of a total of 357 millions, 59 millions (or roughly one in six) are literate. They may or may not have gone to school. But they can read

HEALTH HABITS

Place Of Onions In Daily Diet

A housewife is often required to act speedily in certain cases. In our own times, there are useful products and preparations available for use in times of emergency, but all housewives cannot afford to have a sort of "family chest" at home and few of those who do afford to have it, care but little to own it. It is, therefore, important to know at times the qualities of a few things; almost every house does have a "family chest" and tries to understand their remedial as well as preventive action. Of such things, onion is the handiest possible article and is to be found generally in every kitchen.

Cut out an onion and inhale it as frequently as possible.

Take onion juice, one table-spoonful, and mix it with a tea-spoonful of pure honey. This should be taken regularly everyday for three weeks at least. It is also claimed that 4 oz of onions cut in slices and fried in pure butter, if taken regularly, provides for man an elixir of life.

Take a large onion, boil it, cut it into shreds and apply it as a poultice on the abscess or ulcer. However obstinate the growth, it will yield to poultice. Let the poultice be as hot as bearable.

Of the numerous remedies available, give onion a trial. Cut it out in halves and rub them briskly on the affected part. This applies

and write simple letters in their mother-tongue. The others five in six) cannot. The proportion, of course, varies. In the greater part of North India and Central India, illiterate persons are as many as nine out of ten.

Out of these 59 million literate persons some 52 lakh have attained what may be called the Basic educational level. That is to say, they have passed the third form in Secondary Schools or the highest class in the Higher Elementary Schools, or attained a similar standard otherwise. Nearly all of them can understand English. They are fairly evenly distributed among all the different language groups of India—numbering roughly 15 per 1,000 persons. This proportion, naturally, varies and may be as low as 7 or 8 per 1,000 persons over large areas in North India and Central India.

to scorpion stings as well. People suffering from heart trouble are advised to make a more frequent use of onion in raw state. It is best taken in the form of vegetable salad made of tomatoes, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber, coriander leaves and onion.

Cut out a large onion into small pieces and after pounding it take its juice; about a teaspoonful of this juice be allowed every five minutes to be sipped drop by drop by the patient.

Where parents find that a child is not growing in a normal way, the Ayurveda prescribes a simple but effective remedy. For this purpose, onion mixed with molasses should form a part of the child's regular diet, and may be given during breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Where eyes are swollen, two or three drops of onion juice will provide a quick relief.

Children susceptible to have their eye corners jammed hard early morning will find onion juice their best friend. Take a few drops of onion juice and add to it a few drops of syrup made from pure sugar. Apply some drops in the eye corners before retiring to bed.

Take a fairly large sized onion and cut it into halves. Rub briskly one part on the forehead and let the affected person inhale the other half frequently as possible.

Take two fair sized onions, boil one of them and cut it out into small shreds, the other one in raw state should also be similarly cut out and all mixed together with one teaspoonful each of powdered cumin seed (jeera and loaf sugar). This mixture may be given to the affected person once only.

As an appetiser, onion acts quickly, if in its shredded state it is mixed with curds and coriander leaves. A pinch each of salt pepper and powdered cumin seed may also be added.

—Universal Digest.

GOVT NOTICE

JAFFNA KACHCHERI

N102-Local Option Poll 1955/56 for the opening of an arrack tavern at Soren Pattu in the area of the D. R. O., P. K. Pallai in the Jaffna Dist. It is hereby notified that this poll which was advertised to be held on 28-1-56 in the Govt. Gazette No. 10870 of 16-12-55 will not be held on 28-1-56. The notice of 10.12.55 is hereby cancelled.

JUST OUT!

JUST OUT!!

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(SECOND EDITION)

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Spirit of Co-operation and Sweet Reasonableness

While announcing to the Indian nation the Government decision on States Reorganisation, Premier Nehru pleaded for sweet reasonableness and co-operation and added:—

I should like to draw your attention to the world we live in and the major problems that we have to face. It is in this wider context that we have to view everything, or else we shall lose ourselves in controversies and quarrels about relatively petty matters

"The dominant fact of the modern world is atomic energy and its dreadful symbols—the atomic bomb and the hydrogen bomb. If these terrible weapons are let loose on humanity, then all our hopes are dashed to pieces and humanity perishes.

"We have protested against war and against the production and experimentation of these weapons. It must be remembered that even without war, if these experiments of explosions of the hydrogen bomb go on, eminent scientists tell us that the future of humanity is imperilled and yet we have recently had such an experiment in the Soviet Union and we are told that there is going to be another experiment in the Pacific area. All this is of tremendous practical importance to every human being and it raises moral issues of great significance.

"We have talked of peace and followed a policy of peace in our external relations. We have put forward the Panch Shila or the five principles and spoken of peaceful co-

existence. All this has no meaning if the hydrogen bomb pursues its triumphant and malevolent career.

"In a few days' time we shall celebrate the Republic Day and complete six years since the formation of our great Republic. During these years we have made marked progress and impressed the world not only with what we have done but with our energy and determination to achieve great things in the future. We have laid down the socialist goal and we are on the eve of the second Five-Year Plan which will require, as everything that is worthwhile requires, a tremendous effort on the part of our people. More than ever we require unity, co-operation and hard work,

"I would earnestly appeal to all our countrymen and comrades to consider these matters in a spirit of peaceful co-operation. India appeals to-day to the world for peaceful co-existence between nations. How much more is that necessary within the broad confines of our dear country? We shall be false to our message if we do not live up to it ourselves. Above all, we have to approach every problem in a spirit of sweet reasonableness and co-operation. We all go forward together or not at all. Violence is the very negation of what we stand for and our progress.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Select Committee Recommendations

[More important recommendations of the Select Committee on the Ceylon (Parliamentary Elections) Order in Council.]

Section 11 of the Order in Council requires that electoral registers be maintained in English. In Your Committee's opinion, they should be maintained in the national languages as well. In India, where the registers are maintained exclusively in the national languages (except in urban areas where they are kept in English also) the practice is to keep the register of a district in the language of the majority of the persons in the district; where, however, in any district a linguistic minority exceeds 20 per cent of the total population the register is kept in the language of that minority also.

Your Committee recommend that this rule be applied in the production of registers in the national languages in Ceylon.

The practical measures necessary for the production of registers in the national language have received your Committees' careful consideration. They find that the Government Press will be unable without very considerable expansion in many directions, to cope with the work of printing the registers annually in Sinhalese and Tamil. Again, the existing format of electoral registers will require alteration in order to meet the requirements of registers that have to be maintained in more than one language. At present, the names of electors resident in areas other than in municipal towns are entered in the registers in alphabetical order grouped under polling districts. In future, it will be necessary for registers to contain the names of voters grouped under households. This alteration of format will involve the scrapping of all existing registers and the preparation of completely new ones commencing with a fresh enumeration throughout the country.

Your Committee have studied an experiment that is at present being conducted by the Commissioner of Parliamentary Elections in which the difficulties arising from printing registers in the national languages are sought to be avoided by producing cyclostyled transliterations of the registers. The results achieved in this experiment are considered by Your Committee to be eminently satisfactory. They are satisfied that cyclostyled copies will meet all requirements and be far less expensive to produce. They accordingly recommend that the printing difficulties above referred to should be overcome by having resort to the cyclostyling of registers.

Your Committee realize that it is unlikely that effect can be given to their recommendation to produce registers in both English and the

national languages before the next General Elections in view of the fact that the recommendation involves a complete enumeration of electors throughout the country. They therefore recommend, as an interim measure, that at each revision of the registers until the next General Elections the list of names to be added to and deleted from the registers should be transliterated into the prevailing languages of the various electoral districts in accordance with the rule set out earlier and that when the English lists with the English register are exhibited for claims and objections to be made the transliterations of the lists as well as the transliterated copy of the main register which the Commissioner of Parliamentary Elections is having prepared should also be made available for inspection. Your Committee further recommended that, in order to secure more uniform and accurate transliteration of Sinhalese and Tamil names into English, the Elections Commissioner should prepare for the use of enumerators a list of Sinhalese and Tamil names with their appropriate transliterations.

Use of Flags, Posters, &c.—It has been brought to Your Committee's notice that a high proportion of incidents during an election campaign are occasioned by persons pulling down flags or tearing off posters. Your Committee recommend that the display of flags or the exhibition of posters, notices or signs for the purpose of promoting the election of a candidate should be prohibited on any thoroughfare or vehicle used for public transport, or on any building or other property belonging to

Thai Pongal day at Thiruketheeshvaram

Special Abishekam and Pooja were performed at Thiruketheeshvaram Temple on Thai Pongal Day. Devotees from different parts of Ceylon assembled for worship. Contributions towards the Temple Building Fund were received. Members for the Temple Restoration Society were enlisted. Mr. K. N. K. R.M. J. Kannappa Chettiar contributed a sum of Rupees One Thousand and One (Rs1 001-) towards the Temple Restoration Fund. Sir Kanthiah Vaithianathan, the President and other Members of the Temple Society were present.

or held by the Crown or by any local authority; provided that the display of flags during an election meeting held in such premises should be permitted. Power should be granted to a police officer to remove an offending poster, sign or notice.

Use of Loudspeakers.—The use of loudspeakers is controlled by a system of permits issued by the Police under Section 76 (b) of the Police Ordinance as amended by Ordinance No. 22 of 1947. The permits are of two kinds, special permits being issued by Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents for their particular areas and island wide permits, issued generally to political parties by the Inspector-General.

Your Committee are aware of occasions when the holders of island wide permits have availed themselves of their ability to operate anywhere to disturb the meetings of holders of special permits. They are, however, informed by the Inspector General that he proposes to discontinue the issue of island wide permits.

THE JAFFNA MUTUAL BENEFIT FUND Ltd.

(Established 1918)

BANKERS.

Authorised Capital Rs. 800,000.00
Amount of Calls made Rs. 616,313.00

SHARES: 8000 shares of Rs. 100/- each. 80 monthly instalments of Re. 1/- per share will earn Rs. 100/- for each at the end of the period. Shares issued all times.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 500/-.

FIXED DEPOSITS received for periods of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months and interest allowed at 1, 2, 4 and 6 % respectively.

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LOANS on the security of Jewels a speciality. Part payments accepted.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

S. KANAGASABAI,
Shroff.

A TRIBUTE TO.....

(Continued from page 1)

the distinction of giving quite a distinguished son that barren Jaffna had produced. Such in short was the nature of Brown's brilliant grand son, who was lawyer and leader, patriot and philanthropist, sage and saint, who bestrode life like a colossus adorning every point he touched.

He was a man of wisdom, but it was not the wisdom of the intellect; it was the wisdom of the heart, of compassion and of understanding. He was a man of marked courage; but it was not the courage of a bravado, it was the courage of honesty the courage that comes forth from sincerity of purpose and stead-fastness. He was a practical man, not a dreamer who made dreams his master, methodical in his ways and systematic in his dealings. He had unobtrusively succeeded where men of more spectacular virtues had failed; his methods had been not those of the strong man but of the persuasive pleader and ardent adviser.

Behind his austere, shapeless exterior was a tender man, though somewhat shy, yet sincere, suave, almost French in his politeness and possessed of a genial sense of humour. He greeted friend and foe alike with a gracious friendly urbanity that one associated with culture. He disarmed those he met with his frank and warm-hearted welcome. He was always cheerful and his genial winsome smile invited confidence and friendship. He put at ease even a stranger and charmed him with the offer of his scented cheeroot of the choicest variety.

As a speaker he was impressive without being oratorical, frank without being homely and convincing without the aid of too much argument. As President of many an Organisation, whilst being courteous to all, he used to be quite firm in his rulings from the Chair, whenever such firmness seemed justified. His residence, though antiquated, yet served as a modern laboratory where his concepts of society, religion, education and even political moves were brought up, tried, tested and passed as practicable.

Personally speaking, he was my immediate neighbour, nay 'Guide, Philosopher and Friend'; his silent help to me and to the members of my family was undefinable and unmanifest, neither visible nor conspicuous, yet substantial. We would all truly feel the void created at Van-North-East by his demise and would miss his familiar shouts of "Pettai" and "You".

Contemporary opinion may not always be the safest or correct criteria in appraising the work or assessing the value particularly of a character so complex, a life so full and a personality so dominant as Sivagurunathar's; but whatever difference of opinion there may have been even among his contemporaries with regard to certain views he may have held, one ventures to think, that almost by universal acclaim he will go down to history as

quite a distinguished son that barren Jaffna had produced. Such in short was the nature of Brown's brilliant grand son, who was lawyer and leader, patriot and philanthropist, sage and saint, who bestrode life like a colossus adorning every point he touched.

The Saiva Paripalana Sabai and its Savaprakasa Press, which were nearest his heart, laid two wreaths on the coffin. Most of the members and employees pulled the hearse from the gate of the crematorium—the greatest honour that these two Institutions could tender to their retired President. To us Hindus, Death preludes re-birth and the spark of life goes on living, hence, the being whom we knew as Sivagurunathar may have already been flushed into existence on a distant plane as a purified Avatar. Om Shanthi! Shanthi!! Shanthi!!!

Let me conclude this my humble tribute to the departed soul, offering my heartfelt condolences to Mrs. V Sivagurunathar, Mr. & Mrs. Rajavarothayar, Mr. & Mrs. Sivaramalingam, Dr. & Mrs. Rajanayagam and Dr. & Mrs. Vamadeva.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 112

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Yettivelu Arumugaswamy of Vannarponnai Jaffna late of Batticaloa.

Arumugaswamy Segarajasingham of Vannarponnai Jaffna
Petitioner.

Vs.
Thangaratnam widow of Arumugaswamy of Vannarponnai Jaffna.
Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before P. SriSkanda Raja Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 12th day of December 1955 in the presence of Mr. K V Navaretnam Proctor for the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner filed of record having been read;

It is ordered that the petitioner is declared entitled to have letters of administration of the estate of the abovenamed deceased and the same issued to him accordingly unless the respondent or others interested shall on or before the 20th day of January 1956 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 12th day of December 1955

Sgd P. SriSkandaRajah
District Judge.

(O 189, 13 & 20)

Astrological

WEEKLY FORECASTS

'SRI PATHY'

FROM 22-1-56 TO 28-1-56

ARIES Aswini, Barani, Karikai 1st part [Medhakarasi]

Work will be heavier this week. Be careful in all your dealings as there are possibilities of plotting against you by your subordinates. Health too will not be very satisfactory. One consolation is you will come out unscathed.

TAURUS Kartikai 2, 3, 4, Rohini, Mirugasirisha 1, 2 [Idapa Rasi]

You will find it very difficult to lead a trouble free life at home. Either sickness or misunderstanding will be upsetting you. But, friends will be very helpful. Financial gains also promised.

GEMINI Mirugasirisha 3, 4, Thiruvathirai, Punarpusam 1, 2, 3 [Mithuna Rasi]

Opposition will melt away. You will find many new avenues opened to carry out your schemes to success. Fame and success in litigation also promised.

CANCER Funarpoosa 4, Poosa, Ayilya [Kataka Rasi]

Financially a good week. You will be getting back some money that you gave up as lost. But you will have no mental peace. Children's health likely to be affected.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 12.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Bastampillai Selvanathan of 5/3 Nicodemus Lane, Press Road, Chundikkuly, Jaffna
Deceased

Ascervathamah widow of Bastampillai Selvanathan of No. 5/3, Nicodemus Lane, Press Road Chundikkuly, Jaffna
Petitioner

Vs

1. Anton Selvanathan
2. Edward Selvanathan
3. Mary Therasa Selvanathan and

Minor 4. Joseph Selvanathan all of 5/3 Nicodemus Lane, Press Road Chundikkuly, Jaffna

5. Swampillai R. Saminathan

LEO Maha, Poora, Ullira 1, [Singha Rasi]

Clashes with friends and relatives likely. It is advisable for you to postpone important deals for some time to come. Domestic affairs also will be far from satisfactory.

VIRGO Ullira 2, 3, 4, Attira, Chittirai 1, 2 [Kanni Rasi]

The first day of the week will be slightly upsetting. But rest of the week will be quite favourable. Financial gains promised. Brothers and sisters will be of much help to you week end.

LIBRA Chittirai 3, 4, Swati, Visaka 1, 2, 3, [Thula Rasi]

Your subordinates will be upsetting you much this week. You will earn a bad name unnecessarily. Sunday evening Monday and Tuesday must be spent with care. Second half will turn favourable again.

SCORPION Visaka 4, Anusha, Kettai [Vrischika Rasi]

Work will be very heavy this week and you will have no mental peace. Consult friends before making vital decisions. Some changes in your routine work possible. Spend Tuesday afternoon Wednesday and Thursday with care.

SAGITTARIUS Moolam, Pooradam, Ulliradam 1. [Thanu Rasi]

Financial gains promised. Some old investments will yield good results. Friends especially those of the opposite sex and sisters will be very helpful. Spend two days with care.

CAPRICORNUS Ulliradam 2, 3, 4, Thiruvonam, Avittam 1, 2. [Makara Rasi]

A good week except for minor upsets which will prove to be storms in tea cups. Business or profession will prosper. Go ahead with your ventures.

AQUARIUS Avittam 3, 4, Satayam, Pooraddati 1, 2, 3 [Kumbha Rasi]

You will find that things are negotiated with much ease this week. Success in new ventures promised. Friends of the opposite sex will be very helpful and you will be enjoying yourself well.

PISCES Pooraddati 4, Ulliraddati, Revati. [Meena Rasi]

An unsettled week. You will have to rely much on your friends to help you out of difficulties. Do not come it yourself in any affairs or shoulder any new responsibilities.

of St. Thomas Lane Mathagal Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before P. SriSkanda Raja Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 17th day of December 1955 in the presence of Mr. C. Thillampalam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 5th respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the abovenamed 4th respondents and Letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner as the lawful

widow of the abovenamed, unless the abovenamed respondents or any other interested person shall appear before this court on or before the 23rd day of January 1956 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 5th respondent do produce the said minor 4th respondent in court on the said date.

This 17th December 1955
Sgd. P. Sri Skanda Rajah
District Judge
23-12-55

Drawn by
Sgd C. Thillaiampalam
Proctor for Petitioner
(O 138 13 & 20)

வாஸ்துவிக் வழாது பெய்க மலிவாக்கு காகக் மணன்
கோணுரை யரசு செய்க குறைவினா, தயர்ச்சி வாழ்க
சான்மறை யறங்க கோங்க சுற்றலம் வேண்டி மங்க
மேனமைகொன் னசை நீதி விசைஞ்ச ளைக மேல்வாம்.

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