

The Hindu Organ.

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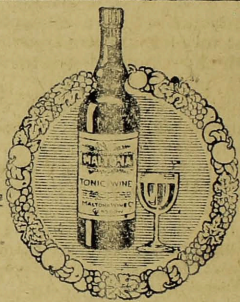
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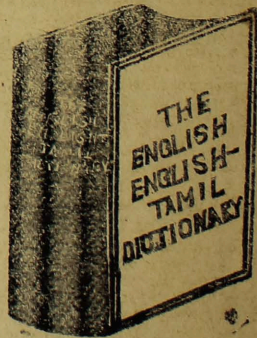
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NOTICE.

A general meeting of the Jaffna Saiva Paribhalana Sabha will be held in the Jaffna Hindu College Hall on Saturday the 25th November, 1916 at 3 P. M.

V. CASIPILLAI,
Hon. Secretary.
Jaffna, 20th November, 1916.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3301.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Robert Henry Muttiah Philips of Jaffna

Deceased.

Sophia Sornam Philips widow of Robert Henry Muttiah Philips of Jaffna

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. John Henry Philips Wijayaratham of Jaffna

2. Albert Philips Selvaratham of do

Minors. 3. Hazel Navaratnam Philips of do

4. Melvine Thuraiatnam Philips of do.

The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents are minors by their Guardian ad litem the 1st Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Sophia Sornam Philips widow of Robert Henry Muttiah Philips of Jaffna, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Robert Henry Muttiah Philips of Jaffna, coming on for disposal before P. E. Peiris, Esq., District Judge, on November 8, 1916, in the presence of Messrs. Sivapragasam and Katreasa, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated August 29, 1916, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the 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 November 28, 1916, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Peiris,
District Judge.

November 8/18, 1916.



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1916.

STUDENTS AND POLITICS.

We condemn as strongly as any other the ill-advised action of the students of the Madras Law College and of those in the College at Patna in refusing to attend their classes because the Principals in both extended the hours of work in them. In matters of School and College management, the students should obey their Teachers and Professors and, if they have any grievance or fancy that they have, they should respectfully represent matters to the Principals of their Colleges, and if even then they do not get what they want, they should put up with things in patience and not go on a strike. We understand that the Madras Law College Students got but scant sympathy from the public in their attitude. Nay, all the people to whom they went for sympathy pointed out to them the foolishness of their ways and urged them to go back and attend their classes. This is as it should be.

Apart from these incidents of student strikes, the question whether students should care about political matters assumes importance. On this question we shall give the views of Prof. Jadunath Sarkar who, as chairman of the eleventh session of the Behari Students' Conference held on the 30th September last, delivered himself as follows:—

"Students are men in a state of training, in a state of preparation. With them, therefore, everything else should be subordinated to the supreme end of completing and perfecting this preparation. Everything that interferes with their training, everything that calls them away from their workshop into the outer world of pleasure or action, is a deflection from their true goal; it is evil. To take a concrete example, a two-days' strike means to you the loss of many more than two days; its after-effects drag on for weeks and weeks together, during which your minds are too unsettled to pursue your regular work. It and similar sources of excitement should be rigorously avoided by all thoughtful students and carefully averted by all wise guardians and teachers. In this connection I deprecate the prevailing custom of appealing to the students as if they were the saviours of Society and must act as drudges at every work of social utility. Social service of

the type I shall describe later, is allowable in a student, and is indeed necessary for the completion of his education; but it should normally be restricted to his leisure hours and should not be out of proportion to his period of necessary toil for school or college.

"For we must never lose sight of the fact that the Indian College student today must work at high pressure if he is to pass. The standards have been raised all round; specialisation has been carried out in every branch of study, and an attempt has to be made to bring a graduate's knowledge broadly abreast of the latest research. In my time a pass B. A. had to answer only six papers; now he must answer ten; a similar expansion has taken place in other examinations too. From this you can judge of the strain put upon the average college student of the present day; and of the necessity of guarding him against every possible disturbance of his studies and giving him every possible aid in doing his duty as a student.

"If, therefore, a student is truly patriotic, it is his duty no less than his personal interest, to make himself as good a student as he can, to make himself most efficient for his life's work. Our great Mother calls for service from each one of her sons. Should we not feel ashamed to present ourselves before her with incomplete intellectual and moral training, as worthless labourers and unreliable tools for her work? Every student should realise in his heart of hearts that he is not a patriot, that he has signally failed in his special duty, if he has not laboured to complete and perfect his education, to make himself most efficient in that branch which he studies, so that he might be a centre of light and a safe and sure guide to a hundred others. In proportion as he has neglected his legitimate business by attending to distractions, in that proportion has he failed in his duty to self and his duty to the Mother, who nurses him on her green bosom."

We endorse every word of the Professor; his words, to use his own phrase, convey "a counsel of perfection." Our own experience of Jaffna students has been that very few of them trouble themselves with any political distractions, as in the first place the "Higher Education" of Indian universities which drives Indian students "furiously to think" on many matters is conspicuous by its absence here, and as, in the second place, the course of political life here runs so smooth as scarcely to attract any attention in Jaffna. The probability of Ceylon students dabbling in active politics is so remote that it need disturb no one's equanimity at present. But, then, there is the broad question whether to be interested in politics without taking part in active political movements is in itself undesirable in a student. Now no student will be interested in politics unless he has reached an age when he has begun to think a little independently, or when the words of politicians have begun to influence him. Should this awakening interest in politics be nipped in the bud by the adoption of stern measures? On this point, Mr. G. F. Paddison, M. A., I. C. S., the Collector of the Madura District is said to have given the following advice to students on the occasion of a meeting of the Young Men's Progressive Union of Madura held on November 3rd:

It was said that students ought not to take part in politics and that no young man should care about political matters. He would say that while they were under discipline in schools and colleges their business was not to take an active part but their thought should be directed to teach themselves in all these things to be ready when the time came for them to be in a position to give useful information and to contribute to the progress of the country. He exhorted them to study politics before they could take part in politics. They should particularly study those things with which they were likely to disagree. He asked them to study newspapers and pamphlets by all means, and to read every other thing, but they must be prepared to weigh all that they read in their minds and find out what there was really in all their studies. Constructive statesmanship is a hard thing. They should appreciate the difficulties in any course of action and be ready to find out the real step which should be taken. For this one must carefully study and he must carefully think it out.

Here we have a ruler of one of the biggest districts of the Madras Presidency giving students the most sage advice that has ever been given or can ever be given on the subject of students and politics. We entirely agree with Mr. Paddison in the view that the business of students is not to take "an active part" in politics while under "discipline in schools and colleges" but "to teach themselves in all these things to be ready when the

time comes" for an active part in politics. Not to be ready "when the time comes" is, to use Prof. Jadunath Sarkar's words, to present oneself "as a worthless labourer and an unreliable tool in her (Mother-country's) work."

THE RELIGION OF THE ANCIENT TAMILS.

(By S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar.)

PART SECOND.

CHAPTER XXI.

CASTE SYSTEM (Continued.)

ITS RELATION TO RELIGION.

The position of caste in the plane of religion has very much confused the critics whose idea of religion itself is not quite exact. Religion is mistaken by them for a factor in the spiritual plane, while, in fact, it belongs to the material plane—being our guide in that plane to the spiritual region. Caste is intended as a help to this guide, and the main object of caste is to regulate our social life in the material plane consistently with, and subversively to, the training that we receive from religion for our progress towards the spiritual plane. Religion is our instructor that educates us for the spiritual plane, and the instruction has to be imparted according to our natural capacity—and it is this capacity that forms the basic principle of the caste system. Spirituality has to be attained through materiality, and our activities in the material plane have to be so regulated according to our capacity as they may best serve the object of religion.

The caste system has very much in common with the principle of division of labour—and this principle, according to our religion, is based on the natural propensity of the souls, and that propensity is the result of their previous Karma. The previous Karmas regulate the proportion of the *Satvic*, *Rajasic* and the *Tamasic* qualities in a soul, and these qualities are responsible for its natural propensity or instinct. This instinct of a soul has a large influence on its work, and the work contributes materially to its progress. The work has therefore to be allotted according to the natural propensity of the respective souls, and in a manner that may best serve their progress. Heredity is the best criterion to decide this instinct—and caste division is based mainly on this principle. We know that the son inherits a good deal of his father's instinct, and it is in consideration of the affinity between father and son, the law has been made that the son should inherit the father's property. The critics who advocate the equality of all men would not contend that the property one leaves behind should be divided equally among all human beings. This clearly shows the exclusive law of heredity, and this law cannot be overlooked in the regulation of labour, and in our progress towards the spiritual plane through labour (work).

God who knows our respective instinctive capacity places us in a certain caste as the best suited for our progress, and we must proceed on the lines of that caste if we are really earnest of our progress. Simply because we are born as human beings, we cannot say that God has nothing to do with our progress, and that we need not pay any consideration to the position in which God has placed us. This, I say, is the great difference between the East and the West. The East realizes the influence of God at every step, whereas the West thinks that God has nothing to do after a certain stage. It is therefore I say that caste distinction is observed by the spiritualized East and not by the materialized West.

According to our religion, the various souls are placed in the various planes of the animal, the vegetable and the mineral kingdoms according to their capacity; and in each plane they are given different bodies of different species to suit their capacity in the respective planes. When they become fully qualified to exercise the faculty of discrimination, they are given a human body—and even then, they are placed in different castes according to their capacity again. When by observing the caste rules they become more qualified and take a religious turn, they have to observe the rules of the four *Asramas*, viz., *Bramachariam*, *Vanappirastam*, *Grihastam* and *Sannyasam*; and when they become further qualified, they have to observe the rules of the *Samaya* castes known as *Samayi*, *Puttiran*, *Jatakan* and

Asaryan, and here they have to practise the *Sathurpatha* of *Sarai*, *Kiriai*, *Yogam* and *Gnanam*; and it is only when they attain the stage of *Gnanam* all rules of *Varuna*, *Asrama* and *Samaya* are said to become inoperative with them. That is the gradation prescribed by our religion, and the details of these gradations have to be carefully studied before one takes upon himself to attack the caste system.

Caste system being based on the instinctive difference of human nature, we cannot progress if we act against this nature. Caste duties are assigned according to this nature; and if we ignore the importance of this nature, there will certainly be a clash between our nature and our action, and our progress will be greatly retarded. Every Varuna, according to our religion, has its own *Athithavatha*, and this clearly indicates the marked difference between the instinct of each Varuna:—

அந்தணர் காதிநிசேனையோர் க்கரியேவோதா இத்திரமென் றுவைதமிமபினி.

Our progress must therefore be on the lines of this natural instinct so long as we are in the material plane.

But once we get over the material plane, and divest ourselves of all our material instinct and attain perfection in the spiritual plane and become pure *Gnanis*, we have no caste rules to be observed, and we have not even a religion to be practised.

இந்தைப்பயலமிலச்ச்சைமருவருப்பு அந்தைதவிதிஞ்சார் திருவமர்சாரம்—இந்தைகை எட்டுஞ்செய்யே—சுகதிசெய்யென மாமனகை எட்டிமெபெருமுரசுத் தான்.

காமாதிவிட்டுக்காரமேகலமாகிப் பூமிதெக்கைநாலைபேர் துறங்கி—நாமருணம் சாதிசுருமெனும்காதனையிற்றுக்கற்றுக தேதுசமயமெனலாம்.

Can we pretend to have attained this stage of non-differentiation in our present position? Certainly we cannot. So long as we are in the material plane, we must observe the caste rules which are intended to regulate that plane.

Caste may be said to affect only our body and not our soul. This is perfectly true; and it is therefore I say that so long as we are attached to this body—and so long as we are unable to overcome that attachment—we have to observe the rules of caste, all our activities being through this body.

Every rule has of course its exception, and there have been instances where men borne in low castes have exhibited spiritual instinct of a much higher order than that of the caste to which they belonged. These exceptions have to be attributed to their exceptional previous Karmas, and these exceptions cannot be taken to militate in any way the general rule.

Our moral codes, of course lay great stress on the importance of character. It is needless to point out that every caste-man must be well fortified in his character before he observes his caste rules. A school boy must carefully observe the general rules of the school before he observes the class rules. This will not go to show that only the general rules are to be observed and not the class rules. It is by observing both the rules we have to rise as a nation. It is a pity that no consideration is paid to this important point in the big question of our national progress. (VOL. 2, NO. 40)

I know many of the educated Hindus of the present day are very much confused by what other nations are doing; but they do not realize the fact that Hindus, as a nation, are very different from the other nations of the world as regards their spiritual development and that they cannot progress at all unless they proceed on their own lines. A tiger may live on flesh; but an elephant cannot. The more advanced we are in the plane of spirituality, the more minute shall be our duty. The duties of a child are very different from the duties of an adult. 23.11.1916 H.O.

NOTES & COMMENTS.

Says a correspondent in an Indian Daily:

Probably no other subject offers such opportunities for both mental and moral education as history. It has a great disciplinary advantage. When such is the value of history, and more of the history of one's own land, it is regrettable to see that this subject is not allowed prominence in the school curriculum. Indian history periods in almost all schools are thought of as leisure periods, and the poor boys learn little. The History of India, if carefully written, would grow more voluminous than any other history. It contains more facts and information which are

not only interesting, but also instructive. It is a great dis honour done to us, Indians, that little attention is paid to our Motherland's history by the authorities."

We know that, as a matter of fact, Indian History in Tamil forms the subject of study in the lower classes of Indian schools. Indian History is studied in English from the second form upwards to the end of the Matriculation course. And Indian Students may, if they choose, take History as a special subject in their B. A. course in which the detailed study of Indian History is included. Of course there is a great room for improvement in the way in which the facts of Indian History are presented to Indian students. Almost all the text books of Indian History are compiled by those who are not Indians, but by those who cannot wholly get rid of their religious and racial bias. But still, Indian History has ever been the subject of study in Indian schools.

But what of Ceylon? Is Ceylon History being studied in the vernaculars of the Island first in the lower classes and then in English in the higher? Since Ceylon History is given an optional place in the school curriculum, no teacher cares to teach it to boys, and boys grow up in entire ignorance of it. The teachers, not having been taught Ceylon History themselves, are unable to teach it to others. One other question. Are not the Ceylon Tamils, and especially the Hindu portion of them, interested to know the ancient history of their Mother country India and have it taught to their children?

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER—is clear today. It was very chilly the whole of yesterday. Although it has rained off and on for the last fortnight or so, yet the fields have not been flooded.

THE GOVERNMENT AGENT—returns from circuit tomorrow.

THE UNITED TRAINING SCHOOL, KOPAY.—Mr. V. Cooomaraswamy Pulavar of Puloli, lately Tamil Pundit, Jaffna Hindu College, has been appointed Tamil Pundit, of this School. As we have already announced this School starts work at Kopay on the 1st proximo.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S LEAVE.—Sir Anton Bertram, who had arranged to go to England next month has deferred his leave.

MATRIMONIAL.—A pretty wedding was celebrated according to Hindu rites at Moolai on Saturday the 11th instant, the contracting parties being Mr. M. Sellappah, Apothecary, Agrapatta, and Srimathi Kamadehi Ammal, daughter of Mr. M. Marimuttu Sothedar of Moolai. A large number of friends and relations were present on the occasion. We wish the newly married couple long life, happiness and prosperity.

PERSONAL.—Mr. M. Chelliah, Chief Clerk, Delta Group, has come to Manipay his native place having resigned his post. He is the son of Mr. S. Mootatamby, landed proprietor, and a nephew of Messrs. S. Cootitambay, Atale Group and S. Arumugam of Pitakande Group and a cousin of Messrs. A. Swaminathapillai of Le Vallon Group, A. Elaiatamby of Neuchatel Estate and A. Sudrampillai of Clyde Estate. —Cor.

—Mr. M. Paramanather of Nawalapitiya Post Office has been transferred to Kandy.

A CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.—An accident of a serious nature is reported from Grand Bazaar. A carriage which was being driven knocked a woman down. It is said that the wheels passed over her causing severe injury to her. The driver and the carriage are in Police custody. The injured woman is in the hospital.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.—Consequent on the transfer to the Manipay Hindu College, of Mr. T. H. Crossette M. A., the following appointments have been made:—*Headmaster*, Secondary Department, Mr. E. H. V. Gulsagarum B. A.; *Dean*, (in residence) Rev. S. S. Somasundaram B. A. —Cor.

THE CEYLON CUSTOMS RETURNS FOR SEPTEMBER—show that, for the first nine months this year there is a net increase of Rs 6,975, 488 in the revenue, compared with the same period last year.

THE BETHESDA DISPENSARY.—A useful addition has been made to this dispensary in the employment of a trained and certificated midwife.

BUDDHIST RELICS FOR CEYLON.—Arrangements have been made by the Government of India to present some of the relics discovered in Taxila site to the Buddhists in Ceylon. These relics will be conveyed to Ceylon by Sir John Marshall, Director General of Archaeology, in January next, and they will be there presented by him to the authorities of the Temple of the Tooth at Kandy to whom he will afford the necessary information regarding the circumstances of the finding. Sir John Marshall will be at the same opportunity visiting some of the best known Buddhist sites in Ceylon, the monuments at which are closely connected with those of India. —"Ceylon Observer".

NEGOMBO LAND ACQUISITION CASE.—It is stated that owing to the impasse which arose in the Negombo land acquisition case, trial will not be possible till some time in January, the District Court calendar being filled with cases up to that time. The Government Acquisition Department, too, will be unable to find time earlier, a full programme being already fixed for next month.

THE KANDY TAMILS' LITERARY ASSOCIATION.—The sixteenth half yearly general meeting and social function of the Kandy Tamils' Literary Association will be held at the "Tamil Home" Kandy, on Saturday the 25th instant at 5 P. M.

—The weekly meeting of the Kandy Tamils' Literary Association was held at the "Tamil Home" Kandy, on Saturday the 18th instant at 6-45 P. M. with Mr. K. Cooomarasamy in the Chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, Mr. L. S. Dorairajah delivered a lecture on "The East and the West." Comments were offered by Dr. J. M. Somasundaram, Messrs. J. S. Rajaratnam, J. A. J. Ondatje, T. O. Rajaratnam, (a visitor), and the Chairman. The meeting terminated at about 8.30 P. M. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

YOUNG MEN'S LITERARY ASSOCIATION, PULOLI WEST.—At the meeting of the above Association held on Saturday the 18th instant with Mr. N. Saravanamuttu in the chair, Mr. K. Kandiah of Hartley College, delivered a lecture on "Temperance". The lecturer began by comparing our ancestors with the moderns, the virtuous lives they led and the intemperate life of ours. He contended that he was no believer in the theory propounded in certain quarters that drink evil can be decreased by the enhancement of the price of liquor. He pointed out that unless the Government take measures and co-operate with the people to curtail the facilities for obtaining it, the people will be hopelessly left alone to fight this hydra-headed monster. Great enthusiasm prevailed amongst the youngsters testifying to the evil effects which they have begun to realize. Remarks were offered by Messrs. K. Alvappillai, S. S. Kanagasabai, M. S. Ponnich, M. Manicam, S. Manicam, K. Usay, a visitor, and Masters:—K. S. Nagalingam and V. Govindapillai. The President, who rose amidst great applause instanced the Karativu Temperance League and the yeoman service rendered to the temperance cause by Mr. E. K. SivaSubrahmanya Ayer and exhorted the members to cast away once for all the slur thrown upon the good name of the once virtuous Tamils. The meeting began and ended with the singing of Devaram. At the next meeting to be held on Saturday the 25th instant, Mr. M. Manicam will read an essay on, "An Appeal to Young Jaffna."—Cor.

OBITUARY.—The death occurred in Colombo on Friday last of Mr. S. Chelliah, late of the Registrar General's Department and of the P. W. D. The deceased belonged to a respectable family in Avaragal, and was 51 years old at the time of his death. By his death Ceylon loses a Tamil Poet and Author, a lucid prose writer in Tamil and a Tamil orator. He leaves behind his wife, a daughter and two sons, the eldest of whom is Mr. C. Velauthan of the Land Settlement Department, Colombo, with all of whom much sympathy will be felt. The funeral was largely attended and the services were performed according to Hindu rites.

CASE vs. SINHALESE EDITOR FOR FAILING TO MAKE THE DECLARATION.

POLICE COURT HAD NO JURISDICTION TO TRY IT SUMMARILY.

Mr. Justice Ennis delivered judgment today in the Colombo P. C. case: Mr. H. A. Collett, A. S. P., v. K. O. B. Adikaram of Mollegodde, for knowingly and wilfully printing and publishing a monthly newspaper called "The Sri Lanka Kawataya" without having made the declaration required by Section 1 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1893, before the District Judge, and delivering it to the Colonial Secretary.

The accused pleaded guilty and he was fined Rs. 20.

The Solicitor-General appealed contending that the Police Court had no jurisdiction to try this case summarily as the Ordinance provided a forfeiture of Rs. 500 for each day of publication.

His Lordship in his judgment says:—

This is an appeal by the Solicitor-General on the ground that the Magistrate had no jurisdiction to try the case. The accused was charged under the Ordinance No. 5 of 1893 for failing to sign and file, as required, a declaration relating to the newspaper "Sri Lanka Kawataya." The complaint was made under Section 2 of the Ordinance. Under that Section an offence under Section 1 is liable to forfeit £50 for each day during which the failure continues. Section 11 of the Criminal Procedure Code gives jurisdiction to the Police Court, where the offence is under a law other than the Penal Code, and is punishable with imprisonment not exceeding six months or with a fine not exceeding Rs. 100; and by Section 3 "fine" includes a "pecuniary forfeiture." In these cases the Police Court had no jurisdiction, and I set aside the conviction. —Ceylon Observer, Nov. 21.

CORRESPONDENCE.

VERNAACULAR EDUCATION.

Sir,
The "Hindu Organ" being greatly interested in Vernacular Education, as is evident from the several articles which have recently appeared in it, it is hoped that the following few lines on that subject will not be unwelcome to its learned editor.

The object of Government in voting yearly a large sum of money for education is to make the people advance morally and materially and thereby become happy and contented citizens. But the present system of education has signally failed in realizing that object. I say it has failed, because it has helped the students only to learn to read and nothing more. The several passes secured in Examinations have been obtained through mere cram; and the little knowledge, if any, thus gained by the students, goes out of their minds, when they quit the school and enter life. This sad state of things is actually due to their failure in assimilating as their own the knowledge they gained while at School and this failure is due to their method of learning being only mechanical.

For securing peace and prosperity to this country, not only secular education, but also religious education becomes absolutely necessary; for instruction imparted in the three Rs. only is apt to produce another R—Rascality.

The moral and material advancement of a country does not depend upon the smattering knowledge of a language gained only by a few persons of that country. It actually depends on the spread of education amongst the masses of that country. It is a well-known fact that Japan has risen to its present position owing to the education of the masses. Educating the masses by means of a language foreign to their country, to their traditions and to their ideals is not at all a successful method. The language used by the Ceylon boys at their homes not being English, it is unfair to make them learn English as a primary language, as is done at present. Even in enlightened England, Latin, a foreign language to the English boys, is not taught as a primary language but as a secondary one. It is therefore fair that English should be taught in Ceylon not as a primary language as is now done, but as a secondary one. If one has learned his own language correctly and becomes a perfect master of it then, he can learn English or any other foreign language without much waste of time, money and energy. For, to learn a secondary language, one has only to learn its grammar and words. As an instance in support of my view, I quote the case of Mr. Allen Abraham, B. A., F. R. A. S., who is now a very successful professor in the Jaffna College. He began to learn English only after graduating from the American Mission Vernacular School at Tellipalai. His progress in the study of English was very quick and his mastery of that language is very good.

In view of the above circumstances, it is evident that education should be imparted to all students through their own language; not only the three Rs. but also other useful subjects, such as, Physiology, Hygiene, Agriculture, Mensuration &c., should be taught in all Vernacular Schools. Of course, this could not be done at present for want of suitable text books on these subjects. It therefore becomes necessary that steps should be taken by the Tamil and Sinhalese Communities to get suitable text books on these subjects written and published for early introduction in all Vernacular Schools to be used at least as Readers.

As regards religious instruction, I have to point out that, according to the existing state of things, a Hindu has to begin the study of Religion only after he becomes a thorough master of the Tamil Grammar, its classics, Rhetoric and Logic. This course becomes necessary because all books on Religion are written in very high Tamil. This state of things is very undesirable. Every student should be made to understand at least the main tenets of his religion before he quits his school. This, of course, cannot be done, at present, for want of suitable books. Books on Religion should be so graduated as to suit the various grades of students. It therefore becomes the bounden duty of the intelligent section of the Hindu Community to get suitable books on religious knowledge written and published for early introduction into all schools as Readers. If each student who goes out from the school into the world knows well the object of his birth in this world, we may be quite hopeful of peace and prosperity amongst the people in the near future. If steps are not taken to give religious instruction to all students, the present misery must stand.

C. M. SINNAYAH
Mudaliyar, G. G.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN JAFFNA.

Sir,
I do not want to enter into a controversy on this subject.

My object is not to exhibit my erudition on Physiology or Medicine; I only wanted to point out that the present state of public health in Jaffna is largely owing to what I may call the "occidentalism" of the people.

I leave it to the people to say

- (1) Whether oil and ghee are not articles of substantial food,
- (2) Whether they do not contribute to the formation of flesh, fat and other vitalities of the body, and
- (3) Whether quinine is not condemned even by Western Doctors?

I am afraid I will be considered childish if I waste my time on technicalities.

20-11-16. VERITAS.

II.

Sir,
Please allow me a little space in your valuable journal to thank the "Veterin" and the other correspondent for eliciting each other's views on the above subject and to insert my humble opinion on the same. It is very astonishing that your correspondents while discussing the subject should raise questions about quinine, sports, diet etc., ignoring the simple truth, and with great prejudice to Western civilization. It would have been more

gratifying if your correspondents had taken the trouble to find out the actual causes that lead for the prevalence of ill health without wasting their time in discovering a better medicine than quinine, for true prevention is better than cure. Western civilization has got absolutely nothing to do with the present state of health.

It is an admitted fact that the chief cause for the prevalence of malaria is want of proper drainage system. In addition to this there are other causes which contribute largely to ill health. Want of proper drainage causes the water to stagnate in compounds and surroundings of the houses. These surroundings on the other hand are not kept clean. To improve the surroundings and keep them clean first and foremost a water closet is essential, second a pit to either burn or bury all the other dirt, weeds and sweepings, third the present thatched fences must be destroyed or substituted with barbed wire fences if necessary keeping the boundary in level with the ground in and out to prevent stagnation of water and allow free circulation of air. These three things can conveniently be done by every house holder without much expense, and contributing a great deal for the maintenance of good health and prevention of fever. If the first one is put into force by every owner of the house the third is quite easy and possible.

Any one can imagine the disastrous results that will ensue when the surroundings and premises are polluted during wet weather with all kinds of dirt, night soil etc., and when this dirt soaks into the soil and mixes with the drinking water in the well.

With regard to quinine, my humble opinion is that there is no better medicine than quinine for the prevention and cure of malaria although the after effects of it can be easily felt and can be overcome by regular habits and proper nourishment—I have come across so many cases where well known physicians with utter failure to stop fever have resorted to quinine for help.

Western sports, such as cricket, football, tennis etc., as recreations give as much exercise as our national games, if not more. In recreation there must be a certain amount of pleasure as well—when we see our national games, such as Padiolai, Killishadymarital, Kygymisally etc. are injurious to the health for generally they are played on sandy places. When the sand is disturbed it sticks on to our body and clothes and we are breathing the foul atmosphere all through, the consequences are unfavourable.

Before crying in condemnation of things, let us do what is simple and best possible, and reason out and select what is best without prejudice whether it is from the East or West.

Angulana, Yours obediently,
20-11-16. JAFFNA.

A CLEVER EVANGELICAL WORK AT URUMPIRAY.

Sir,
I have read in the "Ceylon Morning Leader" of last Monday a reprint of a report from the "Jaffna Catholic Guardian" headed "An Amicable Settlement" between the Vellalas and the Pallas of Urumpiray. It is not true that some Pallas, who wanted to become Christians were molested by some Hindu Vellalas and that the molestations continued till last week. The charge itself, without its antecedent circumstances would cast a black mark on the Hindus of Urumpiray in particular, and on the Hindu religious world in general. Therefore, I beg to send this to you.

The trouble between the Vellalas and the Pallas, who were for a very long time getting on very well arose out of the latter's refusing or neglecting their allegiance to the former in agrarian matters. A Native Catholic Missionary, lost to or ignorant of the communal system of village life, who tries to upset the harmony of the rural society mostly built on the division of labour, for the sake of advertising his "converting" deftness, impressed on a section of the thrifless Pallas the doctrine of "independence" and "equality". Thereupon, they taking advantage of the company of a European-dressed personality with them, suddenly sprang out and put in an indolent front to the Vellalas, their employers and care-takers. They (the Pallas) clung firm to the situation more for its novelty, which they thought was going to benefit their stomach than for their religious thirst. The Brother too was evidently enjoying the fun or was justifying his unwisdom not by the means but by the net result—an increase to the number of Catholics on his roll, whatever their religious convictions. No wonder action and counter action between the two factions began. The Pallas, increasing in number, were daily growing more hopeful of the leadership of the Missionary, while the higher sections in their turn retaliated on the former by attempts to recover their dues and to have no connection whatever with them. It was perhaps easy at this stage for the angry Missionary and his followers to move the law-courts to have the so called offending Vellalas—all otherwise harmless farmers—arrested, handcuffed and locked up on the ground of having used physical force on the Pallas. A European Catholic priest with whom I had a talk on the subject expressed himself in terms of disapprobation of this kind of religious propaganda.

However, in the present circumstances, the Vellalas acted wisely in yielding themselves to be bound down by the agreement of good conduct, the credit of which goes chiefly to the great tact and foresight of Mr. Advocate T. R. Nalliah & Co., their counsel. All this unpleasantness and the unnecessary waste of time and loss of hard-earned money would have been saved both to the Vellalas and the Pallas, had the Missionary, who saw their dove-tailed relation, the good sense and courtesy to act in deference to the wishes of the residents of Urumpiray generally.

If the Catholic Missionaries desire to do their work peaceably at Urumpiray they must adopt a less anti-Vellala policy or they must go on on the lines of the C. M. S. Missionaries. Let us have by all means the growth of religious sentiment amongst us without injury to the people mutually advantageous *cultivative unity*, would be just as well for the Catholic workers concentrate their attention upon their own field, the major portion of which needs a deal of unselfish and religious uplift, before they could win us to their faith.

Colombo, Yours truly,
16-9-1916. S. THANBIAH

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

7,000 PRISONERS FROM THE LATEST ATTACK.

London, Nov. 17. Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters says 7,000 prisoners have now been collected from the latest attack. There was a successful little enterprize when Australians and others captured 300 yards of trenches south-east of Butte-de-Warlen, coult.

MORE SHIPS SUNK.

London, Nov. 17. The following steamers have been sunk:—(British) "Matarazzo," (American) "A. D. Davidson," (Norwegian) "Ulvang," "Torridal," and "Vega," (Greek) "St. Ylanbeis," and "Joannis," (Italian) "Giovanni." The Danish barge "Vilak" was burnt by a submarine. 32 of the crew and 16 passengers of the "Vega" have been landed. The Dutch steamer "Midland" bound for Newcastle was taken to Zeebrugge by a German submarine.

BETHMANN HOLLWEG REPLIES TO SIR EDWARD GREY.

London, Nov. 18. Amsterdam.—In the Reichstag Committee Herr von Bethmann Hollweg replying to Sir Edward Grey, reiterated the claim that the act which made the War inevitable was the Russian mobilisation. England knew this step and it made further waiting impossible for Germany. Russia would never have decided on mobilisation unless encouraged by England. Referring to the projected establishment of an international league to preserve peace after the War, Bethmann Hollweg said the cry of the world for agreement to prevent a repetition of this catastrophe would be so strong that it must lead to a result. Germany would honourably co-operate in seeking a practical solution but the principle of free development must prevail on sea as well as on the continent before an international peace union could be formed. He reiterated that Germany was waging a defensive War against a policy of isolation. The War would limit England's strength. Whatever England's strength is, it is predestined to fall before Germany's unconquerable will.

THE BRITISH FRONT.

London, Nov. 18. General Sir D. Haig reports:—Our position was advanced North-East of Beaumont Hamel and North of Bapaume. The enemy heavily shelled Beaumont Hamel and Hebuterne. We successfully raided a Redoubt North of Ypres.

London, Nov. 19. General Sir D. Haig reports that despite storms we advanced on the front North and South of the Ancre, chiefly on the South where we reached the outskirts of Grandcourt, taking prisoner 258. Eight enemy aeroplanes were driven down. Three of ours are missing.

ANOTHER OFFENSIVE DEVELOPING.

London, Nov. 19. Reuter's Headquarters correspondent at the Somme says:—Yesterday a most spirited attack gave further valuable gains South of the Ancre on a front of 5,000 yards. We advanced to a mean depth of 500 yards and penetrated the Western outskirts of Grandcourt where bomb fighting is progressing. On the extreme right of the main line an attack captured high ground due South of Miraumont from which patrols were pushed forward to the village and captured prisoners. North of the Ancre a corresponding advance was made. Already 600 prisoners have been taken in the Southern attack.

ANOTHER BATCH OF PRISONERS.

London, Nov. 19. General Sir D. Haig says:—The situation is unchanged. We took prisoner on Saturday on the Ancre 742 totalling 6,962 since Nov. 18th.

ENGLISH CAVALRY IN ACTION IN FRANCE.

London, Nov. 19. A German official report mentions the appearance of English Cavalry on the Ancre. It admits they were pressed back South East of Ferre and at Grandcourt and at a few points Southward. It acknowledges the evacuation of Monastir.

London, Nov. 21.

General Sir D. Haig says:—We further took 40 prisoners.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, Nov. 18. Paris.—A communique reports that on the Somme front there has been bad weather. The night was calm. Six aeroplanes were brought down there.

GREAT AERIAL ACTIVITY.

London, Nov. 19. Paris.—A communique reports:—A German attack East of Bony, South of the Somme was repulsed by Artillery and grenades. An air squadron dropped 157 bombs on German aerodromes at Golancourt and Griselles. 22 British seaplanes dropped 180 bombs on the electricity and Naval works at Ostend on Nov. 17th. Zeebrugge was also bombed.

London, Nov. 20. Paris (official).—There is nothing to report beyond a violent bombardment of the fort and region of Douaumont.

London, Nov. 21. Paris (official).—There was considerable hostile Artillery fire North of the Somme and at Douaumont.

IN MESOPOTAMIA.

BRITISH AIR RAID.

London, Nov. 18. Mesopotamia (official).—British aeroplanes bombed a hostile gathering at Alsin and an enemy aerodrome in the neighbourhood of Kut-el-Amara.

AN EGYPTIAN AIR RAID.

London, Nov. 18. Egypt.—An official report states that our aircraft surprised and attacked an enemy camp at Masad yesterday morning. 40 lb. of explosives were dropped effectively. The machines returned.

ANOTHER SUPER ZEPPELIN DOWNED.

London, Nov. 19. Petrograd.—Near Sarney the Russians brought down a super-Zeppelin, capturing the crew of six, two, three guns, two machine-guns and six hundred weight of bombs.

ENTHUSIASM IN RUSSIAN DUMA.

London, Nov. 18. Petrograd.—In the Duma amid great enthusiasm the Minister of War detailed the enormous increase in Russia's output of munitions since 1st January 1915. He declared we must and shall conquer. No power on earth was capable of conquering Russia. The Minister of Marine repeated that the War would be waged to the end. He took his place by the side of the Minister of War whereupon the members rushed from their seats and surrounded the Ministers, cheering frantically. M. Rodicheff said such profound and useful words had rarely been spoken. The Army will fight to the end. The Duma desires nothing else than only to assemble for further that object.

EMPHATIC RUSSIAN COUNTER TO ENEMY INTRIGUE.

London, Nov. 18. Paris.—The Russian Premier, telegraphing to the Ambassador in Paris denies "The absurd rumours of secret Russo-German negotiations with the view to a separate Peace." He says that Russia intends to fight the common enemy beside her brave Allies unflinchingly till final victory. No hostile intrigue will weaken Russia's irrevocable decision.

THE BULKANS.

ENEMY RETREATING NORTHWARD.

London, Nov. 19. A French communique says:—The Allied troops entered Monastir this morning. Desperate Bulgarian counter-attacks in the Cerna loop were repulsed by the Serbians. The enemy is retreating in disorder Northward.

A Salonika official despatch states:—We consolidated the ground gained in the Struma Valley and pushed forward advanced posts successfully. We bombed an encampment North-East of Seros.

SERBIANS TAKE MUCH BOOTY.

London, Nov. 18. A Serbian official report states:—The fleeing enemy on the Cerna front left all their equipment and numerous machine-guns, rifles and enormous quantities of cartridges and stores.

London, Nov. 19. A Roumanian communique reports that the Roumanians in Dragoslavl region attacked and drove back the enemy centre and right wing, making appreciable progress and taking 300 prisoners. Fierce fighting continued in the Alt and Jiu Valleys. The Roumanians yielded a little ground. There was no change elsewhere.

London, Nov. 18. A Russian communique reports that persistent enemy attacks continue in the Alt and Jiu Valleys. We are continuing to progress on the Danube front.

PROGRESS AGAINST THE BULGAR GERMAN.

London, Nov. 18. On the left bank of the Struma the British repulsed at Barskii a violent Bulgarian counter-attack. East of the Cerna the Serbians captured trenches to a depth of eight hundred metres. In the bend of the river the Serbians stormed a high North-West of Yven, the Bulgar-Germans losing heavily. In the Monastir Plain we progressed towards Monastir, reaching the approaches of Kanina.

London, Nov. 19. A Roumanian communique reports:—Enemy attacks on the Moldavian and Northern Frontiers were repulsed. We continued our advance at Dragoslavl, capturing 4 officers and 80 men and two guns. Fighting in the Alt, Jiu and Glort Valleys continues. The firing has slackened on the Danube and Dobrudja Fronts.

VENIZELIST TROOPS CO-OPERATING WITH THE BETHISH.

London, Nov. 18. Athens.—The Greek Nationalist troops co-operated with the British in the occupation of Damouma. They captured 400 Bulgarians.

SERBIAN SUCCESSES CONTINUE.

London, Nov. 20. A Reuter Salonika correspondent says:—The Serbian communique says:—The Serbians scored fresh victories yesterday in the Cerna region, the enemy retreating in disorder to Prilep. The Serbians captured the villages of Grunista, Brnik, Garatok and Hill 1,378 with numerous prisoners and booty. They continue the pursuit. Great conflagrations were observed at Monastir. Violent explosions were heard. The Allies today entered Monastir.

London, Nov. 19. A Russian communique says:—The enemy attacked in considerable forces in Jiu Valleys and pushed back the Roumanians slightly Southward. The Roumanians assumed the offensive in Tirlu Valley and carried a series of heights.

BRITISH SEAPLANES ACTIVE.

London, Nov. 20. The Admiralty states that British seaplanes and aeroplanes on Nov. 18th on the Bulgarian coast successfully bombarded Karjani, Praviata and Senullos.

ROUMANIAN RETIREMENT CONTINUES.

London, Nov. 20. A Russian official despatch says:—Roumanian attacks in the region of Kimpulung were unsuccessful. The Roumanians advanced Northward in the region of Aloeshi, taking prisoner 100. The enemy attacks South of Kotertun Pass were repulsed. The Roumanians continue to retire in Jiu Valley owing to pressure by superior forces.

Paris.—A communique says:—The Western front was relatively calm. The battle, which is proceeding since Nov. 10th from the Cerna River to Lake Prespa ended in a complete Allied victory. Yesterday witnessed the conclusion of a vast enveloping movement of Germano-Bulgars defending the region of Monastir. It was a bold Serbian advance that forced the enemy to evacuate the last positions before Monastir. French Cavalry entered the town on the heels of the enemy's rearguard. Franco-Russian Infantry followed. We pushed on North of Monastir and are pursuing the enemy without respite. We took over 600 prisoners and considerable material.

ACTION FOR DAMAGES AGAINST "DEUTSCHLAND."

London, Nov. 19. Newhaven (Connecticut).—The owners of the sunken tug have instituted an action for \$2,000

dollars damages against the "Deutschland" for colliding.

ORGANISING BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLIES.

London, Nov. 15.

In the House of Commons in the debate on the food question, Mr. Runciman stated that the strain upon Britain in 1917 would be primarily as regards food, but the strain from the same source on Austria-Germany would be more severe. He fore-shadowed drastic action against the use of sugar for luxurious purposes and the preventing of unreasonable profit-making from potatoes; also the appointment of a food controller to co-ordinate the activities of the departments and Committees on the subject. Tomorrow an Order-in-Council would enable Government to proceed against persons who wasted or destroyed food. This would prevent some farmers giving milk to pigs. Government would decide which articles of food should and which should not be used; also it would have power as regards the sale and distribution of articles and market operations preventing concerning, like the recent attempt on the tea market. British shipping losses since the War were 2½ million tons. He saw no reason why we should not produce half-a-million in the six months ending December. Government was largely buying Australian wheat. We were giving wheat and shipping assistance to France and Italy. The War Office would specially consider the demand for labour by English farmers who were planting wheat. Mr. Runciman said the new foodstuff regulations would be particularly applicable to flour. Whole white would not be milled in future but much of the so-called offal would be retained. The debate on Mr. Runciman's proposals was adjourned. The scheme was most favourably received.

Sir Edward Carson remarked that the House expected even more drastic proposals. Mr. G. J. Wardle, representing the Labourites, welcomed the proposals and criticised Government for not organising the food supplies earlier. Sir Stephen Collins demanded drastic treatment of the drink question. Mr. Bathurst thought the proposals would terrorise Germany more than anything since the military compulsion and suggested the prohibition of fancy bread, cakes, and puddings. Sir L. G. Chiozza Money said it was urgent that shipping should be rigidly restricted to the transport of food and necessities.

THE BELGIAN DEPORTATIONS.

London, Nov. 19. Tuesday morning's *Chicago News* contains a correspondent's interview with an American business-man who describes the heart-rending deportation scenes in Belgium. The American Relief Commission had given 100,000 Belgians protection certificates, but this was a small part of the total subject to impressment. He saw a long train of cattle-trucks with deportees. Many resisted only to feel German bayonets. Women fought desperately for their menfolk. When the train was departing a huge crowd of women and children ran on the line in front of the locomotive, and threw themselves of the rails and clung there. The soldiers prised them loose with their bayonets. Frenchmen from the occupied provinces are now forced to work in Belgium to replace the deported Belgians.

WHY SIR SAM HUGHES RESIGNED.

London, Nov. 15. Ottawa.—Sir Sam Hughes resigned at the request of Sir R. Borden, who considered *inter alia* Sir S. Hughes was assuming functions which ought to be exercised by the Government collectively. The ex-Minister says that he continues his military work, especially recruiting.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FALL OF MONASTIR.

London, Nov. 20. The fall of Monastir is the topic in the clubs and newspapers. It is a heavy blow to the Bulgarians, representing the defeat of their main ambition to possess Macedonia. The failure of the Central Powers to support them marks, perhaps, the beginning of the end. The German Bulgarian coalition was undoubtedly to relieve General Falkenhayn's pressure in Roumania. The extraordinary bravery and skill of the Serbians is warmly appreciated. Monastir is an important railway and road centre and is the key to the Monastir Plain where the Allied Cavalry will now probably be able to operate. Its fall seriously menaces Ochrida, a score of miles Northwards to which the Bulgarians attached extraordinary importance. They will probably reinforce the garrison, weakening their forces against the Roumanians. It will now be more difficult for any Greeks to molest the Allies' communications with the sea. The Allies will now be able to pursue a more resolute offensive along the main railway, ascending the Vardar, though the losses in the recent desperate fighting may necessitate a rest.

BULGARIAN FALSEHOOD REFUTED.

London, Nov. 20. A Petrograd semi-official statement, denying the Bulgarian falsehood that the Russo-Roumanians massacred the Bulgarian inhabitants in Dobrudja, says that Russia would not demean herself to avenge on a defenceless population the black treachery of the Bulgarian Government towards Bulgaria's invariable protector. Russia was firmly resolved to punish the treacherous Bulgarian statesmen and to hold Bulgaria as a sovereign unit responsible for an unprecedented crime.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, Nov. 20. An Italian Official despatch says:—The enemy attacked the positions Northwards of Mount Volkovjak on the Carso and occupied a trench. Otherwise he was repulsed with heavy losses. The Italians co-operated at Monastir, taking prisoner 200 on the Eastern slopes of the Baba Mountains.

STEAMERS SUNK.

London, Nov. 20. The following steamers have been sunk:—(British) "Lady Carrington" and "Vasco," (Portuguese) "Sannicola," (Italian) "Lela."

SNOW GENERAL IN EUROPE.

London, Nov. 19. Snow is general. There are 3 feet drifts in Wales. Trains in Germany are snowbound. There was a heavy snow fall in Florence. Snow is hindering operations in the Balkans.

FOOD REGULATIONS.

London, Nov. 21. The Board of Trade has issued a regulation the general effect of which is to prohibit an increase in the price of milk above the present prices. It does not apply to condensed milk. A second regulation requires that flour shall contain 72 per cent. to 78 per cent. of wheat milled according to variety.

FRENCH WAR MINISTER AT ITALIAN FRONT.

London, Nov. 20. Rome.—The French War Minister M. Rogues has gone to the Italian front. He previously had luncheon with the Premier and Ministers. Glowing speeches were made referring to the Franco-Italian fraternity of arms and confidence in the victory of the Allies.

HUGE LONDON FIRE.

London, Nov. 19. Messrs. Stafford Northcote's huge warehouse in St. Paul's Churchyard was gutted yesterday evening. Searchlights played on the flames assisting the firemen who were hampered by the darkness. Thousands motored from the West End, thinking the glare meant a Zeppelin brought down.

—The Ceylon Observer.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3808.

In the Matter of the Estate of Sithamparam wife of Veluppillai of Araly West

Deceased. Kanapathiar Veeravaku of Araly West Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Nagammah wife of Kanapathiar Veeravaku of Araly West

2. Thilakammah daughter of Veluppillai of Nalloru

Respondents. The matter of the Petition of Kanapathiar Veeravaku of Araly West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Sithamparam wife of Veluppillai of Araly West, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esq., District Judge, on October 10, 1916, in the presence of Messrs. Sivapragasam & Katirai, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the said Petitioner, dated October 4, 1916, having been read: It is ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled, as husband of one of the heirs of the said deceased, to administer the estate of the said deceased and that Letters of Administration do issue to him accordingly, unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person shall, on or before October 1916, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris, District Judge.

Time to show cause extended for Nov. 30, 1916.

P. E. Pieris, D. J.