

# The Hindu Organ.

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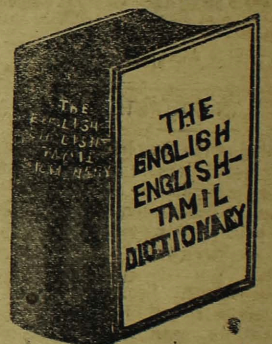
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## NOTICE OF SALE OF LANDS.

Notice is hereby given that under and by virtue of a Decree passed in case No. 11347 of the District Court of Jaffna the undermentioned properties will be sold by Public Auction at the spot on Monday, the 19th March 1917, in the afternoon at 5 o'clock for the recovery of a sum of Rs. 6395/- together with interest on Rs. 6000/- at the rate of 7 per cent per annum from 16th June 1916, till payment in full and taxed costs of suit, viz. Rs. 220/19.

## LAND REFERRED TO:

(1) All those parcels of Land situated at Vannarponnai-East called "Kamparupulam" containing in extent 17 Lms. V. C. and do called "Kamparupaiyal" containing in extent 5 Lms. P. C. and 1 Kaly both aggregating to a total extent of twenty-two Lms. (22) V. C. and P. C. and one Kaly with stone built house, portico, kitchen, wells, palm-ways and other cultivated and spontaneous plants and bounded on the East and North by road, on the West by the property of the heirs of the late Ramanathan Vallipuram, and on the South by the property of Nagamuttu widow of Vairavy.

(2) All that piece of land situated at do called "Kaladdy Mailan Valavu and Olaimailan Valavu" containing in extent 5 Lms. V. C. with godown, building, well, and cultivated plants, and bounded on the East by the property of the heirs of the late Comarasamy Kathiravelpillai and the Crown land where the Lirioide stands, on the North by road and on the West and South by the property of Paramasamy Kurukkal Chella Kurukkal.

For further particulars, please apply to:

MR. M. VAITILINGAM,  
Proctor, Jaffna.



## The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, MARCH 12, 1917.

## IN COUNCIL.

The sitting of the Legislative Council on the 5th instant was an important one, Jaffna being particularly to the fore at this meeting. The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. A. Sapapathy in regard to the night mail service elicited a full discussion. It will be seen from the speeches of the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary and the Hon'ble the Controller of Revenue that their sympathies were for granting the request made in the motion and that, owing to the attitude taken up by the General Manager of Railways, the Government were unable to afford the relief asked for. It will also be seen by the pronouncements of our Metropolitan daily contemporaries that public opinion as the result of the discussion in Council is unanimous in holding that a strong case has been made out for the resumption of the night train service between Colombo and Jaffna.

The only reason for the cancellation of the night train in question, with other trains in other parts of the Island, was the coal difficulty. As pointed out by the mover of the motion, the inconveniences caused to other parts of the Island, on account of this measure, are not so great or of vital importance as those now experienced by the people of the North, in consequence of the cancellation of the night train. Every Provincial Capital connected by train is even now allowed not less than two up and down trains. Even Anuradhapura which enjoys the benefit of railway communication on account of its extension to Jaffna which was secured by the people of that place by continuous agitation for over fifteen years, has been allowed three through trains daily. If the proposal of the mover to cut down the third train between Polgahawella and Anuradhapura—a distance of 81 miles—together with two local trains in Jaffna between Kankasanturai and Pallai—a distance of 35 miles—232 miles could be saved, instead of 228 miles which is the saving effected by the cancellation of the night train service between Madawachchi and Kankasanturai.

The excuse of the General Manager, for not accepting this proposal cannot hold water for a moment as forcibly and eloquently pointed out by the Hon'ble

Mr. Ramanathan. What is the huge goods traffic between Colombo and Anuradhapura which requires a third train to be run? In his estimation one train can cope with the goods as well as the passenger traffic between Colombo and Jaffna, but three trains are required to do justice to those traffic between Colombo and Anuradhapura! We earnestly hope that Government will soon reconsider their decision and restore the night train service in question, setting aside, if necessary, the unreasonable and unwarranted opposition of their expert adviser, the General Manager.

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Bala-singam, seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. Sapapathy, in regard to the necessity of a drainage survey of the Jaffna Peninsula, dealt with a matter of very urgent and permanent interest. It has had also the support of the Hon'ble Dr. H. M. Fernando. Although the Government did not oppose the motion, yet they did not express their readiness to undertake the work as soon as possible. The facts and figures stated by the mover of this motion are appalling enough to move the Government to prompt action to prevent the abnormal mortality in the District of Jaffna and the immense suffering of the people on account of malaria. Sanitation is of greater importance to the people than anything else. It would be of no avail to adopt sanitary measures after the population of the District is annually decimated by preventable diseases. It is, in our humble opinion, the bounden duty of the Government to adopt prompt measures to restore most of the old drainage channels in the Peninsula which are not now serving the purpose they were intended for, having been allowed to be silted up or encroached upon by the adjoining land owners.

The Hon'ble Mr. Creasy's motion asking for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the means available in the Colombo and other ports for rendering assistance to ships in distress off our coasts was remarkable for the solid votes of all the unofficial members present given for the motion. If the Hon'ble Mr. Abdul Cader who left the meeting a few minutes before the taking of votes on this motion to keep up an important appointment been present and given his vote on the side of his unofficial colleagues, as he was sure to do, there would have been an equal number of votes for and against the motion, and the Major-General who presided on the occasion would have been obliged to give, in addition to his own vote, his casting vote as President.

## NOTES &amp; COMMENTS.

Small-pox, as every one knows, is an infectious disease. That is why when an inmate of a house is attacked with it, all the inmates are removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. We cannot understand the action of the authorities in removing small-pox patients early in the night, when the roads are full of passers by. In a former issue we protested against this practice. We are sorry that no attention was taken of it by the authorities. We understand that on Saturday night a patient was removed by the public road at about 9 P. M., when the road was full of people passing and repassing. It is good and safe to remove small-pox patients late in the night, when there are no people in the road. We earnestly hope that the authorities will pay immediate attention to this and put a stop at once to the practice of removing small-pox patients early in the night.

Education is an indispensable factor in the uplift of any people. It is the duty of every benevolent Government to pay special attention to the imparting of education to its people. Our benign Government is no doubt alive to it. But as matters stand at present, the cost of education has been made so excessive that except those who can afford to meet it, the others are obliged to go without it. Thus, while only a portion of the people are being benefited by the present system of education the rest are not. For the progress of a people education is imperative to all the individuals composing them. This cannot be accomplished, unless free and compulsory education is given to all. If, perhaps, it may not be found possible to give higher education in this way, arrangements must be made to give primary education to all.

The Gaikwar of Baroda is fully convinced of this fact, and he has made education free and compulsory in his State. Consequently, Baroda is now far ahead of the rest of India in the matter of free and compulsory education. Apart from free and compulsory education in schools, the Gaikwar has opened over 500 libraries in different towns and villages in his State, and the poor and the rich alike make free use of them. Lecturers have been engaged to go about in the villages and to speak to the people about current events, foreign countries &c. The lectures are rendered attractive by means of cinema and magic lantern pictures. With all these sincere endeavours by the Gaikwar to uplift his people, it is no wonder that Baroda occupies the premier position in the matter of education and literacy of the masses. In the United States, education is free and compulsory, except in five of the states. About 80 per cent of the population there are literate.

In Ceylon about 80 per cent of the population are illiterate, even after a century of British rule. There is always a good surplus in the annual revenue of this island, and it is really a pity that an adequately proportionate amount is not being spent for the education of its people. Though a common place saying, it is none the less true that nothing can be counted of more importance than the education of a people. Unless free and compulsory education is given, there cannot be any possibility of the people as a whole becoming literate. If it is impracticable to give higher education free to us on a large scale, primary education at least may be given free and made compulsory. We hope that our benign Government will give this vital question the importance it deserves, and endeavour to make all its people literate and uplift them to the level of those in advanced countries. If the present time is inopportune, we appeal to the Government to take up the question seriously, as soon as the war is over.

## LOCAL &amp; GENERAL.

THE GOVERNOR'S ILLNESS.—His Excellency the Governor, we are glad, is gradually recovering from his illness.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S SON.—Mr. S. L. Anderson, son of H. E. the Governor, arrived in Colombo from Bombay on Saturday last.

LANDING OF PADDY.—A schooner from Akyab landed last Monday about 1,315 bags of paddy consigned to a local Chetty firm. Another schooner is expected soon with a consignment of over 1,400 bags.

SMALL-POX.—A fresh case is reported in the Goldsmith street at vannarponnai and another in the Moor street. Several fresh cases are reported at Karatur.

THE LIBEL ACTION AGAINST THE EDITOR OF THE "CEYLON LANCET".—The libel action brought against Mr. Lawrie Muttukrishna, Editor of the "Ceylonese" before Mr. Martensz, Additional District Judge, Colombo, charging him with having published a defamatory article in his paper against Mr. Forest, Deputy Inspector of Police ended in a conviction of the accused. The learned Judge after reviewing the case at length fined the accused Rs. 250. The case is likely to be brought up in appeal before the Supreme Court.

A SUSPECTED DRATH.—An oil-monger at Vannarponnai met with a sudden death on the 8th instant. As there were some bruises on his body it was suspected to be a case of murder. But the doctor who conducted the post mortem examination finding his stomach to be full of fermented toddy held that death was due to excessive drink.

BANK OF COLOMBO, LTD.—Mr. A. S. Cooray Bulathsinghala, Mathematical Lecturer of Wesley College, Colombo, has been appointed a sub-accountant of the above Bank.

THE NEW RAILWAY TIME TABLE.—We acknowledge with thanks copy of the new Railway time table which came into force on and after March 4th, 1917, with the opening of the new Port Station. The 4.05 P. M. train from Kankasanturai has been altered to 5.40 P. M. and the corresponding train leaves Pallai at 3.15 P. M. The trains that are temporarily discontinued are left out.

THE REVENUE OF CEYLON.—For December, 1916—has amounted to Rs. 950,735 against Rs. 1,069,908 in Dec., 1915, and Rs. 1,164,600 in 1914. The total for the first quarter of the current financial year is Rs. 1,735,063 against Rs. 1,449,758 in the first quarter of 1915 and Rs. 1,145,862 in the first quarter of 1914.

THE CUSTOMS RETURNS FOR JANUARY 1917.—The revenue collected at the several ports in January 1917 total Rs. 396,534, showing an increase of Rs. 84,018.78 over Jan. 1916.

KANDY TAMILS' LITERARY ASSOCIATION.—The weekly meeting of the Kandy Tamils' Literary Association was held at the Associ-

ation Hall on Saturday the 3rd instant at about 6.30 P. M., when the President, Mr. V. M. Saravananth, Proctor S. C. M. M. O., occupied the chair. The chief business for the day was a lecture in Tamil on "Great Men" by Mr. K. Kanapathipillai, Notary Public. The lecturer ably treated the subject. Comments were offered by Messrs. K. Coomarasamy, P. Kandiah, K. Kanapathipillai, M. Nagamuttu, M. Ramanathan, Barrister-at-law, (a visitor), S. Arumugam, L. S. Dorai Rajah and the Chairman. The meeting terminated at about 8.45 P. M. with a vote of thanks to the lecturer and another to the chair. —Cor.

## REVIEW.

THE KURAL OR THE MAXIMS OF THIRUVALLUVAR.

This is a new translation into English of the great work of Saint Thiruvalluvar by Mr. V. S. S. Aiyer of Pondicherry.

The Kural of Thiruvalluvar is a non-sectarian moral code that is acceptable to the whole human race. The book has been greatly admired even by foreigners, and as an evidence of this admiration, it has been translated into several Western languages, Latin, English, French and German—in some of which it has more than two translations. The latest English translation was by Dr. Pope, published by him some thirty years ago. Although the Tamil world is under great obligation to Dr. Pope for his labour in the field of Tamil Classics, yet his translation cannot be said to convey the import of the original as clearly and forcibly as interpreted by Tamil Pundits. This is no reflection on the reverend gentleman, because, a stranger as he was, he cannot be expected to have done full justice to the work.

Mr. V. S. S. Aiyer of Pondicherry has done a signal service to the Tamil world by giving a new translation which is no doubt far superior to the previous translations in many respects. Although it is very difficult to convey exactly the import of originals in translations, Mr. Aiyer has made a great improvement on the previous translations and he richly deserves encouragement. The get up of the book is very attractive and it is priced at Rs. 2 Ans. 12 per copy. Copies may be had of the Translator at 89 Dharmaraja Coll Street, Pondicherry, South India.

Y. M. H. A., JAFFNA.

BRANCHES—have been opened at Trincomalee, Chiviteru and Keerimalai.

LECTURES.—The Secretary delivered a stirring address on the 8th instant at Keerimalai on "The Awakening", Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, Proctor, presiding.

—Mr. E. K. Sivasubramania Aiyer, addressed the Kockuvil branch on the 10th instant.

—Mr. V. Kandiah is giving a series of discourses on Kural to the Vaddu branch.

READING ROOM.—"The London Times" (weekly) and the "Swadhesamitran" have been added to the Reading room.

INITIATION.—An initiation function will be held at Keerimalai in Mr. Vythilingam's Madam on Sunday the 18th instant. All branch Secretaries are requested to send up members for initiation. —Cor.

## "SHAM TRIAL"

Under the auspices of the Kandy Tamil's Literary Association, a "Sham Trial" was held at the Tamil Home, Kandy on Friday the 2nd instant, commencing at 8.30 P. M.

Mr. A. M. Thevathasan was the Judge and Mr. S. P. Rajinayakam, Private Secretary.

Mr. V. Kathirithamby acted as the Crown Council and Mr. S. Sabaretam as the defending Council. The Councils did their part well.

Mr. S. Nagaretam took the part of the accused, a lady. Mr. A. Vijayarathnam acted as Interpreter. Muthaiyar, Mr. C. Jnanapragasam as Registrar and Dr. A. Suppiah as Superintendent of Police.

There was a variety of witnesses:—

Mr. V. Nadarajah gave evidence as a lady friend of the accused, Mr. V. O. M. Ayaturai as a Moorman, Mr. M. Alexander as father of the accused and a Moorman, Mr. C. T. Solomon as father of the deceased and Inspector of Police, Master L. Theddasamoorthy as servant boy, Mr. M. Nagamuttu as a farmer, Mr. M. Ramalingam as physician and Nalavannan, Mr. S. Retnam as physician and Chetty, Mr. P. P. Kanaganayakam as friend of the deceased, Mr. S. Sivasubramanian as Manager, Mr. K. Kanapathipillai as Police Vidhan, Mr. E. Vincent as Medical Officer and Dr. J. M. Somasundaram as Government Analyst.

The trial was noted a success.

Great credit is due to Mr. J. N. Vethavanam, who was responsible for the training of the members. —Cor.

## IDEALS.

The following summary of a lecture delivered by Mr. P. Sahapathipillai, B. A. L. T., Professor, Victoria College, on Thursday last under the auspices of the Y. M. H. A., Chulipuram, is sent to us



for publication by the Assistant Secretary of the Association:—

It is accepted by all that man is depraved, that he has a tendency towards evil. It is also accepted by all that there is in him a divine nature. The degree to which the divine nature is developed and the evil nature is crushed differs in different persons. But there is ever a struggle going on between the devil and the god in man. This central thought of the devil fighting with god runs through our epics and puranas. In all cases it is the victory of righteousness over unrighteousness that is impressed.

The cause of the existence of the evil nature and divine nature in man side by side is explained in different ways by different religions. The Christians believe that god created man in the likeness of himself, but the first man and wife, Adam and Eve plucked and ate the fruit of the forbidden tree in the garden of Eden, and so they and all their descendants became sinners. This explanation is easy but not convincing. The Saivites say that the soul of man is intrinsically pure and the evil nature in him is due to the Maja bondage which bound it from time without beginning and which is being weakened and separated birth after birth, and so the degree of divine nature in him is the degree to which he has purified the soul.

Whatever may be the cause, what is important is how to crush this evil tendency and develop the divine nature. Education rightly so called should undertake primarily this duty. But unfortunately in the educational system we have, this most important duty is sadly neglected. What the educational authorities have so deplorably failed to do, it is the intention of the Y. M. H. A. movement to accomplish. It is also considered that the future of our religion and of our civilization and our very existence as a people depends upon the degree to which young men throughout the Hindu world organize themselves into associations of this kind and take upon their shoulders the sacred duty of preserving what indeed is their noblest heritage.

Let us come back to the subject. Man is more an imitative creature than a rational being. When he acts he remembers how others acted on similar occasions and does like them. Even thinking men mostly select some good example for imitation. But no man is perfect and the danger is that the defects would be imitated along with the virtues. Therefore a better class of thinking men create an ideal man and imitate him.

An ideal man is a man full of ideals. An ideal is the highest conception of anything. An ideal student frames the best programme and adheres to it most strictly. Such a student may not exist but we may conceive of him. Similarly we may conceive of an ideal barber, an ideal carpenter &c. Poets for purposes of comparison create ideal beauties. Shakespeare for comparing Rosalind creates a beauty composed of all the best attributes of all the most beautiful ladies of the world. This gives us a clue to the creation of the ideal man. The ideal man must have no vice but all the virtues each in the highest conceivable form. The ideal created by any person depends upon his experience and education. So it will be improving from day to day. In any case it will be the highest he can conceive. The chief aim of young men in all their education and intercourse with the world should be to build up and improve from day to day their ideal man. Hindu civilization and Hindu religion present the highest ideals. Let us take some for example.

**TEMPERANCE.**—In the West drinking in moderation is considered harmless. Owing to Western influence many here also now think so. But eminent Doctors even of the West consider even touching liquor is harmful. What the eminent Doctors now discover Hinduism discovered 40 centuries back, and if it was considered a great shame and dishonour to drink till very recently in Jaffna, and if it is even now in India it is due to the high ideal presented by our religion in this matter of temperance, and it is a great shame we don't profit by the ideal.

**ABSTINENCE.**—Or doing no injury to sentient creatures. In the West killing for eating is allowed by this ideal. Our ideal prohibits even harbouring a thought of injury or even killing trees. Trees have consciousness and the latest discoveries of Dr. J. C. Bose are to the point.

Let us consider a new ideal,—the Swadeshi ideal. Swa means ones own and deshi means belonging to country. Swadeshi ideal is the ideal of encouraging the trades and industries of one's own country by boycotting foreign goods as far as possible. Although our own national costume is more beautiful and more suited to our climate, people following a false ideal adopted the European costume even when official decorum does not want it. Further they indiscriminately buy foreign goods. A little thought will tell how important it is for the strength of a nation to preserve and develop its own industries. Here a little of self sacrifice is necessary. The ideal way of acting must be conceived.

It is not possible to exhaust all ideals. There are so many that should find places in the ideal man—the ideal of truthfulness, of renunciation, of self sacrifice, of love, of religion &c. The ideal man must be created by patient endeavour and must be thought of again and again. Every effort must be made to live up to the ideal. Great men have done so. It is not impossible. Earnestness will enable a man to become the ideal itself.

## THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

### JAFFNA DISTRICT SURVEY.

The Hon Mr. Balasingham moved the following resolution:—That an estimate of the cost of making a survey of the District of Jaffna, with a view to the drainage of the District be prepared.

Bringing the matter up he said: I rise, Sir, to move the motion that stands in my name. But before doing so, I wish to amend the motion by indicating the particular portions of the Jaffna District which are in urgent need of drainage. I must ask your permission, Sir, for leave to amend the motion thus:—That an estimate be prepared of the cost of making a survey of the undrainage divisions of the Jaffna District with a view to the drainage of the place—Jaffna Division, Valigamam, Teemuratchy, Vadamuratchy, Weel. These are the most densely populated portions of the district. This will reduce the extent to be surveyed to about one fourth of the extent referred to in my original motion.

The permission to amend the motion having been given, Mr. Balasingham proceeded: The peninsula of Jaffna which formerly had the reputation of being one of the healthiest parts of the Island, has now gained a notoriety for unhealthiness. The following figures taken from the Registrar General's Report speak for themselves. The death-rate per thousand persons living was in

1882	...	...	18.8
1892	...	...	22.6
1902	...	...	25.7
1912	...	...	38.0

Let me take another set of years. The death-rate in

1884	...	...	18.0
1894	...	...	23.1
1904	...	...	35.09
1914	...	...	38.3

The death rate doubled itself in about 25 years. Whether the Registrar General's figures are correct or not, this much is certain that there is a consensus of opinion that during the north-east monsoon there is very much more sickness now than there used to be about 25 years ago. The unhealthiness of the district is largely due to malaria. According to the report of the Registrar General for 1915 the most malarial district in all Ceylon is Jaffna with the exception of Anuradhapura and Hambantota. Jaffna holds the third place, judging by the number of deaths from fever. Whereas Anuradhapura and Hambantota are very sparsely populated, Jaffna is very densely populated. The cause of malaria in Jaffna cannot be adequately measured by the number of deaths from malaria, for malaria is not a disease which suddenly and mercilessly cuts off its victims. It is a disease that saps the vitality of an entire population. Mr. Horsburgh in his Administration Report for 1914, speaking of Jaffna, says:—“The annual fever season towards the close and at the beginning of the year claimed many victims. There are no indications: notwithstanding free quinine and increased medical attention that the severity of the annual outbreak has in any way decreased. The steady increase of malaria in the Peninsula of Jaffna is attributed mainly to the blocking up of the rain water channels. Some channels have silted up. In other cases people have built across them; in some other channels drains for agricultural purposes have been built across. Owing perhaps to the absence of a survey, Government has not been as vigilant in the past as it might have been in preventing the blocking up of the water courses. The least that might be done is to arrest this process of obstruction before all the water courses are blocked up. Water courses that have already been blocked up may have to be opened up if need be on payment of compensation. It may also be necessary to open up new channels for the drainage of the peninsula. The Local Board of Jaffna has recently got a survey of the town for drainage purposes, and I understand that it was discovered that many old water courses had in the process of time been blocked up by private people. The population in the Jaffna Peninsula except in the extreme east is so dense that the western portion of the peninsula is really and truly one big town. Some idea of the density of the population in the peninsula may be obtained from the fact that in the census for 1911 there were in Jaffna 51 villages and towns having a population between 2,000 and 5,000, whereas there were only 16 such villages and towns in the Colombo District and one such town in the Galle District and 3 such villages or towns in the Kandy District. In spite of the floods from which the Colombo District periodically suffers the death rate in the Colombo District is much lower than the death rate in Jaffna. The free distribution of quinine is hardly of any use. Steps must be taken to remove the cause of the disease. Sanitary Reform about which the Hon. Mr. Fraser is so enthusiastic is urgently wanted all over the Island but it is especially so in the Jaffna Peninsula. It would also be useful if along with a drainage survey a malarial survey of Jaffna is undertaken by an expert. I understand from the Hon. Dr. Fernando that such an expert is even now in the public service. In any case existing water courses should be kept open and those which have been blocked should, if necessary, be reopened. I am only asking to day for an estimate of the cost of a survey of a very small portion of the district. If the cost appears to be prohibitive I have got other suggestions to make.

Mr. Sapapathy, who seconded the motion, said that he did so with great pleasure. The insatiable condition of Jaffna was becoming a burning question. In every public address presented to successive Governors from the time of Sir Henry Blake, the subject had been prominently mentioned. It was becoming very malarial during the last quarter of the year. The trouble was due to want of proper drainage. There was a time when Jaffna abounded with a network of drainage channels and water courses. Most of them were not now serving the purpose they were constructed for. In fact they were silted up or encroached upon by adjoining land owners. During the rainy season, when the rains were heavy, and there were floods, water stagnated in the compounds because there were no outlets to the fields and thence to the sea. The result was an outbreak of malarial fever, causing immense suffering. When rainfall was scanty there was little sickness in the country. In 1915 and 1916 the rainfall was scanty, 80 and 88 respectively for the two years, there was no outbreak of malarial fever. He referred to this matter to show that if the ancient channels were maintained in their original condition Jaffna would still be very healthy, as it was in times gone by. The people of Jaffna did not ask for expensive flood outlets or drainage works. They would be satisfied if their Ancient Channels were restored by annual small works. He knew some channels which were in working order about ten or 15 years ago. Even those channels were now silted up for want of repairs and improvements. There was no responsible body to maintain these channels or to look after sanitation. It was only in the early part of this year that something was done in regard to sanitation. It was the duty of Government to restore these channels and give them in charge of some responsible local body. They were now only asking for an estimate. He hoped that Government would be pleased to grant their request.

Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando—was strongly of opinion that the cause was malaria. The conditions of health in the Jaffna Peninsula were simply appalling. In the last few years the death rate had gone up very much, with the rainfall,

He suggested adding the words “and a malarial survey” after the word “survey.”

Hon. Mr. Vanderwall—seconded.  
It was ultimately decided to leave the matter to be talked over between Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, Hon. Dr. Rutherford and Hon. Mr. Balasingham.  
—The Ceylon Morning Leader.

## MONDAY'S MEETING OF COUNCIL.

### SOME INCIDENTS.

The unexpected happened at Monday's meeting of the Legislative Council. The agenda hardly foreshadowed anything extraordinary taking place; but there were remarkable developments. At one time there appeared to be some doubt as to whether the meeting would at all be held. Only the Attorney General, Mr. Senior and Mr. Vaughan were present when the clock pointed to 2.25 p.m. But in a moment all the unofficials filed in through the Secretariat, followed by the rest of the officials. It then became known that the General would preside in the absence of the Governor. After the General's reference to His Excellency's illness, Mr. Ramaratnam read and commented on the contents of two petitions having reference to the action of the Government Agent of the Western Province in some village matters. Mr. Pagden was interested and smiled, and Mr. Fraser explained the position to him causing Mr. Pagden to nod frequently in acquiescence. Then came Mr. Creasy's first question and Mr. Bowes's obviously inadequate answer. Everybody seemed disappointed with the official attitude, but there was no help for it. So far the meeting proved quite uninteresting. But the Tamil member from Jaffna attracted some attention by a speech not wholly void of rhetoric though it was in regard to a simple application for the resumption of the night train between Madawachchi and Jaffna. Now Mr. Sapapathy is an old man well versed in history and he is also a journalist. So there was nothing surprising in his giving what Mr. Stubbs later described as a dissertation on the Northern Railway. He told his hearers that the railway was the result of 15 years' agitation. Governor Sir Arthur Gordon had dismissed the project as a fantasising vision. Sir Arthur Havelock regarded it as impracticable, but Sir West Ridgeway chose to construct the line not on the will it pay test, but as part of a broad and benevolent policy. Mr. Sapapathy proceeded to make out a good case in favour of the train in question being put on again, and Mr. Balasingham seconded.

Mr. Stubbs was quite stiff in his reply. He said some nice things about Mr. Sapapathy; but pointed out that the request of the Tamil member could not be granted. Mr. Greene was an expert in these matters and he had acted with good advice. However, he was prepared to ask Mr. Greene to take the Advisory Board into his confidence in regard to these matters.

One imagined that this was the end of the incident, but Mr. Ramaratnam rose leisurely to his feet. Though Mr. Sapapathy had made the motion he knew all about it. He related an interview with Mr. Greene, and roused himself up into making a long speech showing a good deal of heat towards the end. The gallery looked as if they wished to cheer. Mr. Ramaratnam was in his very best form. He “went for” the Government and Mr. Greene. It was disgraceful, he said, that instead of acting on its own responsibility in a matter of this kind the Government should surrender its judgment to a person who professed to be an expert, but who could not understand a small question of finance. Mr. Ramaratnam sat down amidst silence, and on being asked if he pressed for a division, Mr. Sapapathy calmly replied that he withdrew his motion, and that he left the matter with confidence in the hands of the Government.

### A MEMBER'S FALL.

Jaffna was a good deal to the fore at this particular meeting, for Mr. Balasingham moved for a survey of the district of Jaffna with a view to a proper drainage being established. The drainage it turned out was in connection with the prevalence of malaria in the Peninsula. Mr. Balasingham made a long speech, Mr. Sapapathy supported the motion and Dr. Fernando asked for a malarial survey. The Government expressed its sympathy with the motion. The discussion was not exactly any palpitating interest, but was relieved by an unusual incident. While Mr. Balasingham was speaking, the Hon. member leant back in his chair. The movement caused the floor, and Mr. Vanderwall fell on his haunches, happily without hurting himself in any way or being any the worse for the accident. The incident recalls another which took place at the Kandy District Court some years ago. Mr. E. B. Alexander giving evidence in a case leant forward on the witness box, when the front of the box gave way and Mr. Alexander fell. This led to the remark *softo voce* by the advocate who was cross-examining the well-known Ceylon Civil Servant: “Great was the fall of Alexander,” but Mr. Vanderwall, who was appearing in this particular case, rose to the occasion by telling the Judge that it was the first time he remembered one of his witnesses breaking down under the cross examination of his learned friend!

### WHY DID MR. ABDUL CADER LEAVE?

Then came Mr. Creasy's motion. He had no prepared speech; but he made capital of Mr. Bowes's reply to his original question, and, considering everything, handled the subject moderately well. Mr. Bowes made a good attempt at looking unruled d, but exchanged notes with Mr. S. Subbs, and gave the impression during his reply that he spoke on the spur of the moment, not having expected that it would be necessary for him to go into a lengthy explanation. In fact the turn of the discussion had hardly been expected. Then followed the most noteworthy incident of the afternoon. It was about 4.30 p.m., and, before the debate terminated, Mr. Abdul Cader, the Mohammedan member, was noticed to leave the chamber. His departure was all important in the light of subsequent happenings, for had he been present the unofficials would have had a majority of one in the voting for Mr. Creasy's motion. Mr. Abdul Cader it appears left early as he had to preside at a meeting at 5 o'clock at which Mr. E. B. D. Nam was delivering a lecture to Muslims. But what an opportunity lost of making history. The rest of the meeting was devoted to a consideration of some Ordinances, the proceedings being uneventful.

—The Times of Ceylon.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### GRAVE MISREPRESENTATIONS.

Dear Sir,

No Hindu can, without high indignation, peruse the grossly malevolent insult, thrown on his places of worship by the leading article in the issue of the *Star* of the 28th February. It contains statements calculated to bring contempt on our religion among unthinking Hindus, and among outsiders who take for granted statements given in the *Star*—which levelled at any other community would have brought about serious consequences. It is the duty of every Hindu to protect his religion from scandalous insinuations. The Hindus have been contributing to the building and endowments of Christian Schools, and Churches, Christian delegates who went to Singapore and the Straits Settlements on a collecting tour were hospitably received by Hindus and liberally supported, but the result is that the kindness is not at all appreciated. Insults on Hinduism have been appearing in the *Star* for the last ten years or so and it is time to wake up and take the defensive.

In all Jaffna there are several hundreds of temples where daily pujahs are done generally three times. Can the Editor point out one in which the dancing girls' attendance is seen in daily pujahs. There are about ten or twelve dancing girls at present in the whole of Jaffna trained to sing and dance. These are professionals and belong to the musician caste.

During the annual festivals which occupy from ten to about twenty days, these girls are invited to sing sacred songs and exhibit their skill in dancing in very few temples, for a few hours and this too on rare occasions. The girls dress themselves decently. They never have any communication with worshippers and their conduct is decorous. They are paid by those who bear the expense of the festival and the temple authorities have no concern with them. The doors of temples with the exception of about ten out of several hundreds are rigidly closed against them. They are tolerated only for their proficiency in the arts of music and dancing for the few hours annually and their character in their private lives has no connection with the temples. The State of Mysore, and most temples in South India do not admit their services. “Married to the Gods” is the phrase used in missionary literature in describing all girls trained to dancing and singing. This is done with the object of connecting these with temples so as to bring reproach on them. These girls are styled Alankara Kannikayar—girls who decorate themselves. Those whose services are accepted in temples are as described in *Suprapothum* called *Brahmacharanis*, *Rudra Kannika*, *Deva Adyal*, meaning celibates devoted to service of Siva. There are such in South Indian temples who have renounced the world. They have to clothe themselves in ochre coloured clothes, dress their hair on the top of the head, and wear beads, as signs of their monastic life. They have to partake of only a single meal a day, sleep on the bare floor and their work is to light the lamps, sweep the floor and do such other services.

The dancing of females in public is universal—from the African savage to the most enlightened Westerners. The Indian natch girl dances alone and dresses herself decently. The Western ball costume does not fully cover the figure and the association of men and women dancing in couples will never be tolerated among the Easterns.

As regards professional dancers and singers in the West, these girls appear in music halls, theatres and other gatherings and display their skill. Their extremely narrow skirts and scanty upper garments are grossly indecent. The sort of reveal that fill three fourths of the stages are marked by indecent and lewd suggestions. The dance is a foul display of legs and strict police supervision and licensing systems are kept to keep these within bounds of tolerable decency. When off the stage the conduct of some of these as depicted in some cheap illustrated papers is thoroughly reprehensible. “Little girls trained to prostitution” are seen in the West and the work is styled “white slavery.”

The *Star* asks “who is there that does not know that some of the best known exponents of the Salva philosophy are men in whose moral character no one pretends to have any confidence.” There are many exponents and preachers in Jaffna and all of them are highly respected for their extensive learning and good moral character. They work in most cases without remuneration and only a few receive modest payment. There are also those among these who have devoted a major portion of their worldly possessions to founding schools and charitable institutions.

Then as to the wrong statement that the Hindus walk by the other side to avoid the poor and suffering humanity, does he not know that all over India there are numerous chattrams to feed the poor? We have no public hospitals because the majority of our native physicians give relief to the poor without fee—and we have no founding hospitals and rescue homes for fallen females simply because there is no need for them in India and Ceylon.

I am Sir Yours,

DEVOTEE.



## TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

## The War.

## AMERICA AND THE WAR.

London, March 8.

Washington.—President Wilson, in a statement yesterday evening, informed the country he was without power to arm merchantmen and take other steps to meet the submarine menace without the authority of Congress. An extra session would be required to give him authority, but it was useless while the Senate works under the present rule permitting a small minority to keep an overwhelming majority at bay. He proposes to call a special session of the Senate today to revise the rules of supply and means for acting to save the country from disaster.

## "MOST REPREHENSIBLE FILIBUSTERERS."

London, March 5.

Washington.—The opponents of the armed Neutrality Bill number twelve and are denounced as the most reprehensible filibusterers in history.

Washington.—Dr. Wilson has signed the Naval Appropriation Bill and likewise a measure for the issue of 150 million dollars of bonds to be expended on Naval construction.

## GOVERNMENT HELPLESS AND CONTEMPTIBLE.

Washington.—The Senate meets today under extraordinary circumstances. President Wilson delivers in the morning his Inaugural Message from the steps of the Capitol, but meanwhile the nation is stirred up to the core by a manifesto, denouncing "the little group of wilful men representing only their own opinion" who have withstood the 500 supporters of the Government policy at a crisis fraught with more far reaching possibilities of national danger than any Government had ever experienced. Dr. Wilson emphasizes that the whole nation supports the Government with unprecedented unanimity. The impression will be created that other Governments may do as they please, without fear of America doing anything. The great Government of the United States has been rendered helpless and contemptible. The only remedy is to alter the Rules of the Senate. The country can be relied upon to draw the needful moral.

## FEELING NOW UP TO "BOILING POINT."

London, March 5.

The fact that the armed Neutrality Bill was talked out by the American Senate by filibusterers in no wise affects President Wilson's position, since it merely means that a handful of obstructionists talked against the clock until noon when Congress automatically expired. President Wilson then took the oath for the new term and inaugurated addresses the new Senate today. A most important pronouncement is expected. Meanwhile "German insolence" as exemplified in the Mexican intrigue is stirring up American feeling to boiling point. Attention is drawn to the fact that Germany calmly bartered the American States, of which Texas alone is larger than the whole of Germany.

## U. S. A. TO STAND FIRM.

London, March 6.

Washington.—President Wilson's eloquent inaugural address from the steps of the Capitol dealt at length with the present situation. He said we had been deeply wronged on the seas and some of the injuries done us had become intolerable. We wished for fair dealing, justice and freedom to live and be at ease against organised wrong. With this thought we had grown more and more certain of the part we wished to play. It was the part of those who mean to vindicate and to fortify Peace. We had been obliged to arm ourselves and make good our claim to a certain minimum of right and freedom of action. We stand firm in armed Neutrality. We may even be drawn on by circumstances to an immediate association in the great struggle itself.

## THE ARMED NEUTRALITY BILL AGAIN.

London, March 7.

Washington.—In the Senate Mr. Lodge introduced the Armed Neutrality Bill at an extra session. Notice was given of intention to amend the rules. It is proposed to hold a Senatorial Conference of the opposing parties to discuss measures for the prevention of unlimited debates.

## THE BRITISH FRONT.

London, March 5.

A wireless German official despatch says:—The English attacked Southward of S. Pierre Vaast Wood and captured a trench sector on the Bouchavesne-Moislains road.

Communications reveal that the British line now extends as far south as Roze, near Noyon, which is the nearest point in the German line towards Paris, while the British line from Ypres to Roze is 130 miles. Specialists describe the appalling state of the evacuated German ground. Every possible gun and stores have been removed, but the whole battlefield is matted with bodies unburied for months. Many had been drowned in mud through which they were unable to wade.

## MUCH AERIAL ACTIVITY.

London, March 5.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—An enemy's attack Eastward of Bouchavesne was repulsed. We strengthened our positions Eastward of Gommecourt. We carried out raids near Arras and the enemy had many casualties, 43 being taken prisoner. We entered the trenches South Eastward of Cuneby and took prisoners. There were many air fights. Six German aeroplanes were brought down and eight driven down damaged. Two of ours were brought down and five are missing.

London, March 6.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—We further progressed North-Westward of Poisieux-au Mont. We raided trenches Eastward of Bouchavesne. Later Artillery dispersed the enemy massing for a counter attack on the trenches recently captured there.

London, March 6.

Belin (official).—There has been most violent Artillery work on the right bank of the Somme.

London, March 7.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—The situation is unchanged. We silenced batteries shelling Ypres and bombarded trenches Westward of Messines.

There was much successful aerial reconnaissance photography and Artillery work.

## FACING THE FLOWER OF THE ENEMY ARMY.

London, March 8.

Reuter's Headquarters correspondent says the British are now confronted with double the number of German divisions compared with a year ago, including what remains of the flower of the German Army.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports:—We advanced slightly on both sides of the Ancre Valley. We entered the trenches near Blaches and brought back prisoners. The enemy raided our front line South East of Chaville, Southward of Arras. A few British are missing. There was active reciprocal Artillery work on various points of the whole front.

## THE FRENCH FRONTS.

London, March 5.

A French *communiqué* says:—After an intense bombardment in the region of Caucieres Wood on the right bank of the Meuse the enemy violently attacked on a front of three kilometres between Chambrailles Farm and Bezonvaux. Repeated assaults between Caucieres and Bezonvaux failed. The enemy gained a footing in our advanced elements North of Caucieres Wood, but our fire smashed all attempts to penetrate the wood with heavy enemy losses.

## MANY BOMBING RAIDS.

London, March 6.

A French *communiqué* says:—Our fire and counter-attacks smashed up German attempts to drive us out from portions of the trenches we recaptured yesterday North of Caucieres Wood. British Naval aeroplanes dropped forty bombs on the Railway Stations at Brebach and Stavold, respectively, South-East and South West of Sarrubek, most of which bombs struck their objectives. French airmen bombed the Railway Station and Military establishments at Fribourg in Brisgau and the mills at Kehl near Strassburg. They also dropped three tons of bombs on the aerodrome at Varenne in the Oise, seriously damaging the sheds.

A French *communiqué* says:—On the right of the Meuse a vigorous counter-attack ejected the enemy from part of the line he occupied yesterday North of Caucieres Wood. An enemy attempt North of Fleury completely failed. Our fire wrecked works at Bezainge Wood. Three enemy aeroplanes were brought down.

London, March 7.

A French *communiqué* says:—Between the Oise and the Aisne our destructive fire wrecked enemy organisations North West of Moulin sous-Touvent and demolished casemates and dug-outs North of Autrech. There were violent Artillery actions North of the Meuse along the Chambrailles Bezonvaux front but no Infantry action.

London, March 7.

A French *communiqué* says:—We made a *coup-de-main* at Quenneviers between the Oise and the Aisne and brought back prisoners. We blew up a mine in the region of Four de Paris in Argonne and occupied the crater. The enemy attempted a *coup-de-main* North East of Flerey and Bois Bussot North of S. Mihiel and in the direction of Ammerzwiller. Our barrage stopped him dead and inflicted losses. Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down.

London, March 8.

A French *communiqué* reports lively Artillery fire and patrol encounters in the region of Moulins-Touvent, between the Oise and the Aisne. Detachments penetrated the German trenches North East of Embermeil in Lorraine and inflicted severe damage and brought back prisoners. An enemy attack near Seppois le Haut in Alsace completely failed, leaving prisoners. Our reconnaissances inflicted losses on the enemy in the direction of Hilsenfirst.

London, March 9.

A French *communiqué* says:—In Champagne, after intense Artillery preparation we carried the greater part of the salient which the enemy had occupied on Feb 15th between Butte-du-Mesnil and Maisons-de-Champagne and took prisoner 100. On the left of the Meuse Artillery work wrecked the German organisations between Hill 304 and Avoourt Wood. In Alsace the batteries caught and dispersed strong enemy detachments South of Cernay.

## THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, March 5.

A wireless Italian official despatch says:—We brilliantly attacked and occupied a strong position, 2,700 metres in altitude, in the Costabella group in the Avisio sector.

London, March 6.

An Italian official despatch says:—We repulsed repeated attacks on Costabella, capturing one gun. We drove off with heavy losses renewed attacks South East of Vertoba on the Julian front.

London, March 7.

A wireless Italian official despatch says:—We repulsed with heavy losses a night attack at Costobella, and penetrated the lines at Mosciagli on the Asiago plateau.

## FLEMISH SUPPORT FOR THE GERMANS.

London, March 4.

Amsterdam.—A Berlin telegram says: Bethmann-Hollweg received a deputation of the so-called active Flemish group from Flanders, who dwell on the affinities of the Germans and the Flemings. He said he would be glad to help the latter in the struggle against the penetration of the French customs and aid the Kaiser approved of the Governor-General's measures aiming at the free development of the Flemish nation. This policy must be carried out during occupation in order to secure complete administrative separation of the two parts of Belgium, but both had to be united under a Governor-General.

## SPY SENTENCED TO DEATH.

London, March 5.

The Press Bureau states that a prisoner was court-martialed in London and sentenced to death for espionage. The finding was confirmed but the sentence commuted to life service.

## BOMB CONSPIRACIES IN AMERICA.

London, March 6.

New York.—The Police at Hoboken have arrested Fritz K. who confessed he was implicated in a plot to blow up Dr. Wilson. Kolb's confession led to the arrest of two accomplices.

ated in a plot to blow up Dr. Wilson. Kolb's confession led to the arrest of two accomplices.

## AN IMPORTANT ARREST.

New York.—Kolb confessed he was concerned in the explosions in New York Harbour. Two complete bombs were found in his room at a hotel opposite the piers, where German steamers were laid up. The bombs were to have been sent to Dr. Wilson today. The Police believe they are on the track of an extensive plot for the destruction of the Tamplow oil works and ammunition plants in the United States.

## THE SALONIKA FORCE.

London, March 5.

In the Commons, Mr. Bonar Law, replying on the Army Estimates debate, said it was quite impossible for Government to indicate its intentions regarding the forces in Salonika. He declined to assist the enemy by saying whether the forces were intended to be offensive or defensive.

## GERMANS AND PRISONERS IN THE WAR ZONE.

London, March 6.

Amsterdam.—In the Reichstag the War Minister alleged the prisoners in the hands of the Allies were exposed to fire. He announced they would institute similar reprisals and other restrictions on prisoners. The Press Bureau exposes many of the Ministers' misstatements and demonstrates that the allegation was made to disguise the fact that prisoners in German hands were employed in the danger zone long before the French employed German prisoners on their front.

## THE ALLIED CONFERENCE.

London, March 6.

Lord Milner interviewed by Reuter, said the results of the Allied Conference in Petrograd exceeded his expectations. The results were largely owing to the support of the Tsar who was particularly gracious. Lord Milner insisted that the War spirit in Russia was unanimous, the only controversy being regarding the waging of the War being dealt effectively from the administration.

## THE SUBMARINE WAR.

## THE WEEK'S TOLL.

London, March 7.

The Press Bureau states that arrivals for the week were 2,528 and sailings 2,477. There was sunk—1,600 tons and upwards fourteen, under 1,600 tons. Unsuccessfully attacked, twelve. Fisherboats sunk three.

## "APPAM" A BRITISH SHIP.

London, March 7.

The Supreme Court has finally confirmed the British ownership of the steamer "Appam" captured by the Germans and taken to America last year.

## ITALIAN ANTI-SUBMARINE DEPARTMENT.

London, March 7.

Rome.—A new Anti-Submarine Department under an Admiral has been created. Its functions include the arming of merchantmen and rewarding those sinking or disabling submarines.

## AUSTRALIAN POLITICS.

London, March 6.

Melbourne.—Two Senators among the supporters of the Government declined to vote for the prolongation of Parliament until the charges of corruption in connection with the Senate vacancies were cleared up. Government, thus finding itself in a minority, decided to dissolve the House of Representatives, enabling the Elections thereto to be held simultaneously with the elections for the eighteen Senate vacancies due to effluxion of time.

## MESOPOTAMIA.

London, March 7.

Mesopotamia (official).—Cavalry engaged the Turkish rearguards on March 5th at Lejj near Chasiphon. Enemy booty was strewn over eighty miles of country. It is impossible to give accurate figures for the captures. Thirty eight guns are counted up to the present.

## EGYPT.

London, March 7.

Egypt (official).—The Turks abandoned a strong position at Sheikhnupur, Westward of Shellal, on which they spent two months constructing defences. Yesterday our aircraft dropped a ton of high explosive on troops and Railway trains.

## SUBMARINE FRIGHTFULNESS.

London, March 8.

Paris.—The Captain of the "Cassini" perished. The survivors state that they were struggling in the sea in darkness, striving to reach floating rafts, when they heard voices shouting in French: "This way, comrades." Then a submarine appeared and fired at them with rifles or machine-guns, while a shell missed the raft.

## AMERICA AND AUSTRIA.

London, March 7.

New York.—The newspapers comment scathingly on the Austrian Note. *The Times* says the reasoning in it surpasses in hardness the most daring exploits of the German mind in the whole War. *The Herald* says: Austria has been given an opportunity to choose between Prussianism and decency. They chose Prussianism. Therefore relations must immediately be broken off.

## AUSTRIA SUPPORTS HER POLICY WITH "PAINED HEARTS."

London, March 6.

Amsterdam.—The Austrian reply to the United States' request for a statement on the submarine policy amounts to 3,500 words. The substance is that she associates herself with Germany's new submarine policy and declares that the British blockade is illegal and aims at establishing the British tyranny of the sea, while the Central Powers' blockade, which is imposed with "pained hearts," will incline the Allies to make an honourable Peace. Therefore they will really secure the freedom of the seas.

## GERMANY AND MEXICO.

London, March 8.

The revelation of the German overtures in Mexico has occasioned considerable heart searching in Germany and there have been numerous

questions on the subject in the Reichstag. Herr Zimmermann said the despatch had been sent in secret code. He was not aware how the Americans had obtained and deciphered it. It was a misfortune that they did, but he was not sorry the overtures had become known to Japan through the publication in America.

## THE GREEK SITUATION.

London, March 7.

In the House of Commons Mr. Balfour stated that the evacuation of the Greek troops and Artillery from North Greece was proceeding satisfactorily. About 6,000 regulars and 3,000 gendarmes were still in North Ploionnesse. The Greek Government had released the Venizelists and promised to abandon proceedings against them.

## GERMANS STOP BELGIAN INDUSTRIES.

London, March 7.

Amsterdam.—Telegrams state that the Germans have ordered the complete stoppage of the Belgian industries, practically rendering unemployed the whole population, alleging the inadequacy of coal and transport. The storehouses at Hasselt, containing 20,000 kilograms of coffee, beside other foodstuffs belonging to the Belgo-American Relief Committee, have been destroyed by fire.

## LATEST NEWS.

London, March 8.

A French *communiqué* says:—On the Verdun front our batteries caught the enemy detachments on the Northern outskirts of Maucourt Wood. German organisations in Eparges Wood were effectively bombarded. There was lively Artillery fire in the Maisons de Champagne and Embermeil sectors.

Paris (Official).—The destroyer "Castini" was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on Feb. 28th. The magazine exploded and she sank in two minutes. 7 officers and 100 men perished and 2 officers and 82 men were saved.

London, March 7.

Paris.—The Deputy, M. Chappe de Laine, who was sent on a mission to Salonika by the Foreign Affairs Committee states that if General Sarrail had two more Divisions when Monastir fell he could have gone to Uskub, liberating half Serbia and threatening the high road to Constantinople. However a gigantic work has been accomplished and the Army is now reinforced. He urges that the blockade of Otranto channel should be gripped, thus enabling the troops and material to be brought up quickly. He concludes "A tremendous task confronts the Eastern Army."

London, March 8.

Paris (Official).—859 merchantmen have arrived in French ports in the week ending March 4th. Sunk were one over and one under 1,600 tons. Unsuccessfully attacked, sixteen. French fisher boats were sunk.

—The Ceylon Observer.

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## Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3379.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sinnachchi wife of Kandar Ponniah of Columbuturai

Deceased.  
Kandar Vaitianather of Columbuturai  
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Manikkam wife of Kandiah of Columbuturai,  
2. Thillainayagi widow of Sivasivapillai of do  
3. Kandar Ponniah of do  
4. Sammandar Kandiah of do.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Kandar Vaitianather, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Sinnachchi wife of Kandar Ponniah, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Esq., District Judge, on February 15, 1917, in the presence of Mr. K. Somasundaram, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the said Petitioner, dated January 18, 1917, having been read: It is ordered that the Petitioner is the father of the intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration do issue to him accordingly, unless the Respondents above-named or any other person shall, on or before March 22, 1917, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,  
District Judge.

February 28, 1917.