

The Hindu Organ.

"Aisai Avakai and stop not till the goal is reached"

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.)

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XXXV—NO. 62.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1924.

PRICE 6 CENTS

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THE HINDU ORGAN.

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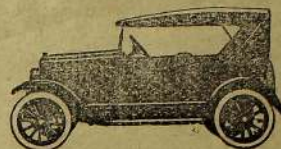
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The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1924

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Legislative Council assembled again on the 7th instant. After the minutes of the meeting held on January 24th were confirmed and the Hon. Mr. T. L. Villiers, the new European Urban Member, and Mr. W. E. Hobbay, clerk to the Council, took their oaths of allegiance, His Excellency the Governor made the disappointing announcement that the Secretary of State had not transmitted to him the Order in Council on the Constitution. The Administration Reports for 1922 were tabled, and petitions, notices of motions and questions and replies occupied some time. The questions and replies were mainly concerned with the conduct of the police, and showed that the discipline exercised over the members of the police force in the Island needs to be more strict and the punishments inflicted on delinquents in the force more deterrent than they generally are. The motion by the Colonial Secretary that Standing Orders be suspended and that a sum of about Rs. 3,000,000 be paid to the Imperial Government as part of the war contribution of Ceylon was vigorously opposed by the Hon. Mr. Thambimuttu. Though attacked in a disconcerting manner by His Excellency the Governor, he stuck to his guns with pertinacity. In conclusion, he said that he knew that His Excellency had very often stepped in to carry out a matter that would be advantageous to the people and he hoped that His Excellency would intervene here and prevent the money from being sent away. He was followed by the Hon. Mr. Daraiswamy, who in the course of his speech dealt with some of the most pressing needs of the Colony on which the money could be expended, mentioning education principally. He made a vigorous appeal on behalf of education pointing out the startling fact that there were 400,000 children who have no educational opportunities. He also referred to the unhappy situation by which many existing schools receive no grants and pleaded that village tanks and the establishment of a technical school for Ceylonese wishing to take up engineering should receive the attention of the Government when there are good surplus balances to meet the expenditure. In conclusion, he moved as an amendment that a Committee should be appointed to ascertain the public requirements before allocating a sum towards paying the War contribution. The Hon. Mr. Kannangara seconded the amendment, and drew the attention of the Government to the unfairness of the distribution of surplus balances available for the fulfilment of public requirements in regard to the Southern Province. He mentioned the postponement of the scheme to open an Agricultural College for the Southern Province for lack of funds and the great want of accommodation experienced in a hospital in the district. The Hon. Mr. Corea spoke earnestly of the necessity of restoring the numerous village tanks in the North Western and North Central

Provinces, on which the prosperity and happiness of the village population depended. The Hon. Mr. James Peiris, Sir P. Ramsathan and the Hon. Mr. Woods also offered remarks on the motion. After His Excellency the Governor's remarks, the Hon. Mr. Daraiswamy's amendment was put to the house and was lost, and the original motion was passed. The motion of the Colonial Secretary that an expenditure of Rs. 1,823,782, be allowed from the Surplus Balances for Sundry Works was accepted by the Council.

The rest of the time of the Council was taken up with a motion regarding Wireless, and a warm discussion in connection with the motion for the second reading of "an ordinance to amend" the Newera Eliya Board of Improvement Ordinance, 1896. After some more business, the Council adjourned *Sine Die* at 7 45 p. m.

The will of the majority in Council in regard to the payment of Rs. 3,000,000 to the Imperial Government has prevailed. The discussion which arose out of the opposition to the Colonial Secretary's motion about the War contribution and the amendment proposed by the Hon. Mr. Daraiswamy, we are of opinion, has done great good in bringing to the notice of the Government some of the pressing public needs of the Island, prominent among which seem to be the expansion and liberal encouragement of education, the restoration of village tanks and the promotion of public health. It is to be earnestly hoped that the above important needs will be sufficiently and sympathetically considered and met in the disposal of the surplus balances available.

LOCAL & GENERAL

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—Mr. Thomas Lister Villiers, of Sienart Place, Colombo, has been duly elected as Member of the Legislative Council for the Constituency of the European Electorate (Urban).

CELEBRATION OF MAHATMA GANDHI'S RELEASE—An open air meeting was held at Telippalai yesterday at about 6 p. m. to celebrate the release of Mahatma Gandhi. The meeting was presided over by Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, Proctor, and speeches eulogising the noble qualities of the Mahatma were delivered in Tamil by Messrs. Navaneetha Krishna Barathi Iyer, Tamil Pandit, Parameshwara College, K. Thambayah, Proctor, and T. A. Thuraiappah Pillai, Principal, Mahajana High School and Assistant Editor of the "Hindu Organ". Appropriate songs were sung on the occasion to the accompaniment of instrumental music. The proceedings were also enlivened by native music.

EXAMINATIONS FOR LAW STUDENTS—The Second and Final Examinations for Law Students will be held in the Law College today and Monday the 18th inst. respectively. The Hon. Mr. M. T. Akbar will preside.

RECONSTRUCTION OF JAPAN—It is reported that a big Japanese Government loan will shortly be issued in London and New York for earthquake reconstruction and other purposes.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS—A meeting of Managers of Elementary schools will be held at St. Joseph's College, Bonjean Memorial Hall, on Wednesday the 13th instant at 5 30 p. m., to consider any further action that may be taken in connection with the refusal of the Director of Education to grant the option of presenting pupils for either the B.S.L.C. or the Junior Examination.

FAREWELL FUNCTION AT MULLAITIVU—Mr. N. Kathiraveloo, Postmaster, Mullaitivu was entertained to a dinner at the rest-house by his many friends and well-wishers last Saturday on the eve of his departure to Kandy Sub-office on transfer. Dr. Jaremath presided on the occasion. Covers were laid for 40. The Chairman, Messrs. Selvadurai, Visuvalingam, Arulampalam, Coomaraswamy, Canepathipillai and others spoke on the occasion on the good qualities of the departing friend. Mr. Kathiraveloo replied feelingly. The function came to a close at 10 p. m. 4 2 24—Cor.

AMERICAN TOURISTS—We learn that information has been received in Colombo from Rangoon to the effect that an American tourist vessel with 1500 passengers will be calling in Colombo on the 15th instant.

THE NEW KING'S COUNSEL—Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasagra, Advocate, who had been appointed a King's Counsel, took his oath on Thursday the 7th instant before Their Lordships, the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Eanis.

MAHATMA GANDHI'S VISIT TO CEYLON—We understand that in reply to a telegram sent by Dr. E. V. Ratnam on receipt of the news of Mr. Gandhi's

visit to Ceylon, Mr. Ali has wired to the Mahatma that the latter is strong enough to travel.

AGRI - HORTICULTURAL SHOW—The Valukamam North and West Agri-Horticultural Show will be held in May 1924, at the Chunnakam market grounds. It is understood that all exhibits entered for competition should be grown, made or bred within the area covered by these two divisions. Schools wishing to compete are expected to get their names registered, since awards are to be made for School Gardens.

REVIEW OF BOOKS.

PENKALVIOR ESSAY ON FEMALE EDUCATION—We are in receipt of a copy of Penkalvi or Essay on Female Education by Vethanayampillai edited with Introduction and Explanatory Notes by Mr. V. T. Sambandhan, Tamil Pandit, the Jaffna Hindu College, and Editor of the Tamil "Hindu Organ". As most of the editions of this book available for readers and students were found to contain errors, the Editor thought it necessary to bring out a thoroughly revised edition of the book. But falling ill before he was able to carry out his object the work of revision has been done at his request with commendable ability by Mr. J. T. Sadasiva Iyer, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Secretary of the Jaffna Oriental Studies Society and Editor of "Asiriyarpathini". The book has been prescribed as Tamil Text for the Cambridge Senior Certificate examination of 1924. The Introduction and Explanatory Notes by the Editor are written so clearly and well that they are sure to be exceedingly useful to students and others who may use the book. The get-up of the book is good, and it is priced at 85 cents a copy. Mr. Sambandhan is well known as a good Tamil scholar and author of a series of Tamil readers. He has edited many other Tamil classical works with conspicuous success, and all the books edited by him with notes have been very popular among students and readers in general. We have no hesitation in saying that the edition under review will be very useful to those for whom it is intended. We thank the Editor for the copy sent to us.

NALADIYAR, FIRST FIFTEEN CHAPTERS—We have also to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of Naladiyar, first fifteen Chapters, edited with explanatory notes and English translation, by the same Editor. The book is a Tamil text for the Cambridge Junior Certificate Examination of 1924. The notes show the same clearness and scholarship as are seen in all books edited by Mr. Sambandhan. The edition is bound to prove an invaluable aid to students taking up Tamil for the Cambridge Junior Certificate examination of 1924. The price of the book is 75 cents a copy. We are of opinion that Mr. Sambandhan has rendered a great service not only to students and readers, but to the cause of Tamil literature by editing these books.

THE LATE SIR PONNAMPALAM ARUNACHALAM.

In response to a notice issued by Mr. K. Ampalavanar, Chief Goods Clerk, Seremban, a meeting of the Ceylonese residing in Negri Sembilan was held at the Railway Institute, Seremban on Tuesday the 22nd, January, 1924 at 7 p. m. having Mr. Sittampalam Chief Post Master in the chair and Mr. Tillampalam Clerk of Works, Railways as Secretary present, to pass and send a message of condolence to Lady Arunachalam on her recent irreparable and unbearable loss sustained by the death of her husband, Sir Ponnampalam Arunachalam.

After the notice for convening the meeting and the letters of sympathy and support that were received from some absent members, were read by the Secretary, the Chairman called upon Mr. F. S. Selvasayagam, Chief Clerk Chattered Bank, Seremban, to give a brief sketch of the life and works of the late Knight. The Chairman, Secretary, and several others also spoke on his vast and varied culture, experience, public spirit and patriotism and appealed to the audience to let it cultivate at least, the spirit of service that was one of the most outstanding qualities of the late Knight of revered memory.

Then with great solemnity befitting the occasion Mr. V. Manickam of the District Railway Engineer's Office, Seremban, got up and proposed the following resolution that was duly seconded by Mr. Arumugam, Government Panachee and land proprietor, Seremban, and passed by the house unanimously, while all members were standing solemnly and reverently. The resolution runs as follows:—

That the Ceylonese of Negri Sembilan assembled at a Public meeting held on 22nd January 1924, express their deep and sincere sorrow at the untimely death of one of their most illustrious countrymen, Sir Ponnampalam Arunachalam, and beg to convey their full and heartfelt sympathy to Lady Arunachalam and family on the great and irreparable loss they have sustained.

It was also proposed by Mr. Ponnampalam, Sanitary Inspector, Seremban, and agreed to by the house unanimously that the following telegraphic message of condolence should be sent the next morning to Lady Arunachalam, Pooklar Colombo. The message referred to is as follows:—

"Permit us to express our fullest and heartfelt sympathy to you on the most grievous and irreparable loss you and your family have sustained. Negri Sembilan, Ceylonese."
The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair at 7 45 p. m.

YOUNG MENS' HINDU ASSOCIATION, KALMUNAI.

The members of the above association met at the Y. M. H. A. Reading Hall to hold their 5th Annual General Meeting on the 14th inst. There was a fairly good number of members and well wishers. After the singing of "Thevaram", the meeting commenced with Mr. S. W. Salliah, Irrigation President, in the chair. The Secretary, Mr. S. P. Ilyyathambay, read his annual report for 1923, and made special mention of the two founders of the Association, viz. Messrs P. Murgusu and V. M. Sivasural, who strenuously worked and laid the foundation of this useful institution in spite of many obstacles.

He then read the congratulatory telegrams and letters received from outstanding members and friends. In the absence of Mr. G. Murgupillai, Treasurer, the Secretary read the statement of receipts and expenditure. There was a balance of Rs. 113/- to the credit of the Association.

The following office bearers were elected for the current year:—P. V. Kadavayappi; Patron; S. W. Salliah, President; K. Kandiah and K. V. Muthiah, Vice Presidents; S. P. Ilyyathambay, Hon. Secretary; K. Thambirajah, Asst. Secretary and Treasurer; V. Thambiyappa, Auditor; and 12 members to form the executive committee. At the close of the meeting, Mr. S. W. Salliah, the new President, donated to the Association piece of land about half an acre in extent at Kalmunai for the purpose of putting up a permanent Hall and library.

With a vote of thanks to the chair and the singing of "Thevaram" the meeting terminated.—Cor.

ALL INDIA AYURVEDIC CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION.

PRESIDENT OF MEDICAL CONFERENCE ELECTED.

FURTHER GOLD MEDALS.

Proceedings of the meeting of the Local Working Committee of the above held at Ananda College, Colombo on 28th instant at 6 P. M. under the presidency of Mr. K. Balasingham, Advocate.

Letters received from Sir. A. Kannasabai, Rev. Fr. S. G. Perera, S. J., Hon. Mr. M. T. Akbar, Principal, Collector of Customs, General Manager of the Railways, Principal, Ananda College and Indo Ceylon Trading Co., were read, also letters to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and Excise Commissioner.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE.

The following additional members were elected: Hon. Mr. James Peiris, Messrs E. R. Sankusayake, Mohamed Moazzam Maricar, K. Saha Veigaswara Aiyer, G. D. Jayasundera, Vaidya K. Mutukumar, M. Subramaniam, Ayurvedic Surgeon and Physician of Nayamakadu Hospital, P. L. S. L. P. L. Alagappa Chetty, A. P. Goparatna, V. E. S. P. L. Letchumanan Chetty, J. S. de Silva, (Peradeniya), Gate Mudaliyar A. E. de Rajapakse, Mr. N. D. A. Silva Padkara, Mudaliyar and Hon. Mr. E. W. Perera.

Finance Committee:—Messrs G. E. de Silva, Henry Amarasekera, G. D. Jayasundera, Vaidya K. Mutukumar were elected to this Committee.

Mr. Manuel Sebastian was elected to the Local Working Committee.

Vaidyotansa (A Treatise on Ayurvedic Specimens as practised in Ceylon) in Sanskrit, just published by J. S. Rajasundera Vada Aratby was received from the author to be placed before the Medical Conference and was accepted with thanks.

Offers of Gold Medals for the best Essay on History of the Ayurvedic Medicine in Ceylon by Ayurvedic Physician W. K. Jindassa of Norrie Road, Colombo and on Nidanapanahayana (Diagnosis of Diseases) by Vaidyanabari S. P. de Silva of Colpatty (in memory of his father late Pamao Vada Mahatmaya) were accepted with thanks.

President of the Ayurvedic Medical Conference:—Seven names submitted by the Ayurvedic Mahasandal at Madras were placed before the Local Committee and Mr. Vaidyaratna Kaviraj Jogindranath Sen, M. A. M. R. A. S. Vidyavashan, of Calcutta was elected President of the Session to be held at Colombo on 25th 26th and 27th April 1924. This decision was conveyed to Mr. Sen by telegram.

Exhibition:—It was unanimously decided to extend a special invitation to His Highness Rama Varma the 7th Prince of Cochin to kindly attend the Conference and to open the Local Exhibition of Ayurvedic Medicines. The Rules of the Conference and Exhibition in Sanskrit, Sinhalese, Tamil and English which are now out of Printers' hands

fers, make the class develop the power of will will be sent to all Vaidiyas and others interested on application to:—B. M. F. Jayaratno, Honorary Secretary, Local Working Committee, Paranawadiya Road, Maradana, Colombo.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUALITY IN THE CHILD.

There is often a misconception among teachers as to the nature of the freedom to be given to the child. The right form of freedom develops individuality and self-respect in the child, while the wrong type tends to make him acquire undesirable mental habits. It is one of the teacher's essential duties to see that the child committed to his care is given every opportunity and encouragement for a healthy development of his individuality. In doing so he should always be on his guard not to let the child form any habits which might prove prejudicial to his welfare later on.

The mind of the child is very pliable when it goes to the teacher for the first time. The instructor's function is not to fill the child's mind with mere facts as is often supposed to be, but to lead it to a harmonious development of its three aspects, namely, the physical, the intellectual and the spiritual. It is not one's uncommon experience that in many schools in Ceylon children are expected to accept on authority what the teacher imparts to them, without giving them a chance of finding out things for themselves. This method of teaching will naturally result in the children's not acquiring any initiative, sense of responsibility or power of organisation. When they go out into the world after leaving school, they are at a loss to know what to do. They are only too ready to be led by others, they have no moral courage to uphold the right, and, above all, they are afraid to give expression to their sincere convictions. This unsatisfactory condition of the training given to our children can be remedied only by a sensible teacher, who clearly understands what his legitimate task is and how he can successfully perform it.

It is proper that the teachers should respect the child's personality and should not train it in such a way as to curb this vital element. But there is always the grave danger that the child may mistake the freedom given to him by the teacher. The child cannot look far ahead, nor can he have a conception of what habits, if formed in early life, will stand it in good stead when it becomes a man. Too much freedom in the wrong direction given by unwise, inexperienced teachers very often tends to make children obstinate. If the teacher has the interest of the child at heart, he should never tolerate obstinacy in a child on any account. It will make the child useless to himself and unfit for society. When a child is obstinate, it foolishly thinks that it is admired by its classmates for its so-called independence. But the fact is otherwise. Children have their own judgement, and this child on account of its childish stubbornness falls very low in the estimation of the teacher and its classmates. Cases are not wanting where children are rightly offended and refuse to obey the teacher on account of his injustice or partiality. This resistance on the part of the child should not be misconstrued as obstinacy.

The teacher should be cautious enough to strike the golden mean. He must do his best to inculcate in the child habits which would be beneficial to him in after life, and he should at the same time be careful not to let the freedom he gives the child deteriorate and be a source of obstinacy. The child should be made to realise that one who obeys only will be able to command and that obedience to true authority adds to one's honour and dignity. It is not what we know or what we do, but what we are that matters. Many eminent educators have told us that we ought to consider a class as an assembly of persons. Each child has in it certain powers which, if rightly directed and developed, will make it become a man in the true sense of the term. There are many men in the world who may be physically qualified to be called men, but intellectually and morally they do not at all deserve to be so called. They are always at the mercy of other men and circumstances. They are unable to adjust themselves to their surroundings, nor are they able to face difficulties. What is this due to? It is undoubtedly due to the false training given them in school.

In view of the above observations, it is clear that the teacher's duty is not merely to equip the child with the information necessary for any particular walk of life, but also to make it imbibe the faculty of adopting itself to circumstances. In order to do this he has to root out certain habits and inclinations to others all the time the child is under his charge. If he does this efficiently, the child is sure to develop its true individuality, which is the noblest possession with the germs of which every man is endowed. When we say that a man has no individuality, we do not mean that he is not provided with it by nature, but that he has not developed it. It is a person's individuality that helps him to be respected in the world and gives him ample opportunity of doing real service to society. The teacher must, there-

fore, make the class develop the power of will will be sent to all Vaidiyas and others interested on application to:—B. M. F. Jayaratno, Honorary Secretary, Local Working Committee, Paranawadiya Road, Maradana, Colombo.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD

Minutes of the thirty second meeting of the above Board held at the Colombo Kachcheri on Thursday, February 7, 1924, at 9.30 a.m.

Present:—
The Hon. Mr. R. N. Thina (President).
The Director of Public Works (The Hon. Mr. J. Strachan).

Mr. A. J. Wickwar, Surveyor-General.
Dr. J. E. E. Bridger, Sanitary Commissioner.

Dr. W. A. de Silva.
Mr. H. A. P. Sanderatnagala, K. C.
The Hon. Mr. H. A. Loka.

1. The minutes of the thirty first meeting having been circulated were confirmed.

2. The following papers were tabled:—

(a) The reply of the Chairman of the Matsale Council intimating that the lease of the Rest House has been cancelled and that the Rest House is now under the supervision of the Council.

(b) Papers (already circulated) regarding the Ratanapara Rest House ruins disapproved by the Attorney General.

3. The Board approved under section 164 by laws made by the Jaffna, Kankesan, Matara and Ratanapara Councils regarding labour tax.

4. The Board sanctioned under section 47 (a) the acquisition by the Matsale Council of land for the protection of the catchment area of its water supply.

5. The Board approved under section 170 (1) (b) the grant by the Matsale Council of Rs. 100.00 in aid of Christ Church Vernacular School. Mr. Wickwar and Dr. de Silva dissenting, did not agree to the grant.

6. Considered an application made by the Ratanapara Council for the construction and maintenance out of Government funds of a deviation of the Main Road which passes through the B-zones. The Board resolved to support the application of the Council but decided first to acquire if the Council are prepared to take over and maintain the present section of the road passing through the hazard after the completion of the proposed deviation.

7. It was resolved that the applications from the Matara and Matsale Councils for loans for the electric lighting of those towns be brought up at the next meeting together with the reports of the Director of Public Works thereon.

8. The Board considered the question of the general policy of Government with regard to Town Surveys and resolved that the matter be deferred, pending a decision with regard to the proposed extension of the operation of the Local Government Ordinance throughout the Island.

9. Considered the recommendation of the Matsale Council for the extension of the limits of the Council. It was resolved to take action under section 9 (2) of Ordinance No. 11 of 1920 and to publish the required notices in the Government Gazette.

10. The Board resolved that the papers regarding the Jaffna Drainage Scheme Nos. 4 to 10 should be circulated to the members.

11. The Rest House rules made by the Matara Council and already circulated and approved were tabled.

(Sgd) J. F. JANSZ,
for Secretary,
Local Government Board.

PROVINCIAL ROAD COMMITTEE'S OFFICE,

Jaffna, 30th January 1924.

Present:—The Government Agent, N. P. Chatterman, J. Cherubim Esqr., W. Mudalier Mud E. Wellopilly Esqr., G. S. Mudalier M. S. Ramalingam, S. Supramaniam Esqr. and M. Muttukumaraswamy Mudalier.

1. Read and confirmed minutes of a meeting held on the 11th September 1923.

2. Read and approved minutes of a meeting of D. R. C. Jaffna held on 11th September 1923.

3. Read and approved minutes of a meeting of D. R. C. Mannar held on 17th December 1923.

4. To approve minutes of a meeting of D. R. C. Millativu held on 17th January 1924.

5. To approve payment of Rs. 30.00 being additional half per cent cost of Audit for 1923.

6. Considered estimated receipts and expenditure for 1924.

7. Considered papers re pension contribution by Officers of the Road Committee. Resolved to ascertain the practice of the Road Committees Galle, Colombo and Kandy before approaching Government.

8. Considered papers re closing up of a lane in Chavakachcheri in Tenmaradiv Division. Proposed to effect an exchange and retain a straight road reservation approved. Recommended that the village path be closed.

C. Ramanayagam,
for Chairman.

DISTRICT ROAD COMMITTEE'S OFFICE,

Jaffna, 30th January 1924.

Present:—The Government Agent, N. P. Chatterman, The District Engineer, Jaffna, S. Supramaniam Esqr., J. V. Chelliah Esqr. and M. Muttukumaraswamy Mudalier.

(Under Road Ordinance.)

1. Read and confirmed minutes of a meeting held on 11th September 1923.

2. To vote Rs. 2250 for repairs to Chavakachcheri Thanakkilpa road. —Passed.

3. To approve payment of Rs. 87.85 on account of extra repairs to Kereela in D. R. C. —Passed.

4. To approve payment of Rs. 43.70 being balance cost of audit fixed at Rs. 750 for 1923.

5. To vote Rs. 830 on account of constructing an Irish drain on Chemmakulam road. —Agreed to.

6. Considered estimated receipts and expenditure for 1924. —Approved.

(Under Markets Ordinance)

1. Read and confirmed minutes of a meeting held on 11th September 1923.

2. To vote Rs. 440 for putting up a shed at Avarangal market. —Agreed to.

3. To vote Rs. 850 for cementing the floor of Chavakachcheri market building. —Agreed to.

4. To vote Rs. 150 as rebate to the Lessee of Chavakachcheri market for 1923. —Passed.

5. Considered estimated receipts and expenditure for 1924. —Approved.

6. Considered papers re Nelliady Market. Resolved that the land be cleared and temporary arrangements made for building market sheds, and Superintendent Minor Works be requested to furnish plans and estimate for a permanent building.

7. To approve payment of Rs. 61.77 being additional half per cent cost of audit for 1923. —Agreed.

C. Ramanayagam,
for Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ASSOCIATIONS AT POINT PEDRO.

Sir,

I have often read with interest in your valuable paper about the work done by Y. M. H. A. in many places, such as Chavakachcheri, Kereelivoo, Nawalapilly, Kandy, etc. But, I have not heard anything about the Y. M. H. A. at Point Pedro for a year or more. It was doing good work for the past six or seven years, and it was like a giant-tree, spreading its wide branches and sheltering everybody under its shade, but what has become of the organisation?

Another association, by the name of Sarawati Vilas Sabha, was started at Thumpalai, Point Pedro, and is flourishing for a time only to share the fate of its contemporary, the Y. M. H. A. at Athlady Point Pedro. The eminent men of Point Pedro and its suburbs have started two Sangams—, one, the Vadamarachi Tamil Sangam and the other, the Vadamarachi Sangam. The latter is political, the former, literary and religious. The former Sangam has not shared the fate of its predecessors, but its life still lingers in the form of religious classes, held at the Sivan Temple, Pa'oly. But it is not conducted well and there is a poor audience. The cause is easily seen in that it is not well-organized. The political Sangam saw the light of this earth at a time when members fought hard to contest the five seats in the Northern Province. The candidate for the Vadamarachi seat being nominated, the Sangam has, it seems, nothing more to see to, and it slept away no more to rise.

Such inconsistencies and failures are most probably due to self interest and want of co-operation. The youngsters as well as the elders should feel this and awake from their torpor, and see that they co-operate for the general good. And it is the bounden duty of the elders to see that the younger generation does not go astray without a guiding hand.

I hope that this humble letter of mine will not go disregarded, that the public of Point Pedro will derive some benefit from Associations started and well organized, and doing good solid work for the general uplift of the country and that it covers the lost space in the advancement of the cultured world.

"Awake, arise, and stop not
Till the goal is reached."
2224. A well wisher.

THE ADVANTAGES OF FOREIGN TRAVELS.

By K. B. Bosu.

Tennyson's Ulysses says, "I cannot rest from travel." Really, Ulysses and men of true mettle like him cannot easily suppress their eagerness for travel; for travelling is one of the needs of our higher nature. The philosopher, the historian, the naturalist and the romantic "lover of picturesque stroll" all alike find travel of immeasurable advantage. It will be an exaggeration to say that in travelling lies the greater, if not the main portion, of a youth's liberal education.

To the philosopher, travelling is the very breath of life. As a student of mankind and a speculator on the great mystery of existence, he finds 'g'cha trotting' indispensable. An observer of life certainly needs wherever marked exist in peculiar manifestations. Consequently, wherever he goes, whatever realms to see, he closely observes men and manners and customs and institutions. King

and clown, trader and artisan, official and soldier all come in for his scrutiny. In the course of his wide travels, he does not content himself with a study of one community of men by nature on a comprehensive scale. His travels over, he comes out at last laden with what is worth learning about the world.

The historian also finds travelling indispensable, and of inestimable value. To fit himself for his office of writing the story of mankind, he should first acquire a thorough knowledge of the events he contemplates narrating in all their aspects and bearings. And knowledge of this kind is procurable from ancient tombs and inscriptions, old books and traditions, and preserved ruins and relics of the past, scattered all over the globe. To drink at the very fountain head, the historian has to resort to the places where he can procure his materials first hand. He cannot then dispense with travelling. Without it, he may of course exercise his imagination. But the product will be poetry or romance or what you will, certainly not history. Herodotus and Thucydides, Polybius and Livy, as also all the historians of the modern world, have all been wide travellers.

Travelling is alike essential to the naturalist. Perhaps he is the most benefited of all people by travelling. Journeying from place to place over the wide world, he comes in contact with all the secrets of nature. He widens and gradually perfects his study of nature. In the course of his world tour he comes across various kinds of animals, birds, insects and plants. He closely studies their features and reaches 'the last line and boundary' to which science has advanced its bidding. He starts bold speculations and establishes great truths. Thus we now have learned books on various animals and plants which we could have no knowledge of if we were not for the travels of the naturalist.

One advantage of foreign travel is the great pleasure which a lover of picturesque stroll derives. He goes about the world visiting places of 'storied and poetical associations'; he treads on classic grounds to behold the accumulated treasure of ages. He travels over Greece for instance, and delights his very soul with the sublimity of the grand relics at Athens, Sparta, and Mycenae. Truly 'uplifted in heart and hope' is he at the very thought that the very ground beneath his feet was once trod to the reverend feet of So'on, the law-giver. Thucydides the historian, Pericles the politician, Socrates, the philosopher and Demosthenes, the orator.

Travelling is useful in a thousand other ways and to thousand other people than those mentioned hitherto. A romantic traveller, for instance, dying to see natural scenery, sees his account solely in foreign travel. True, nature may have lavished her charms profusely over one's own country. But she is vast, and her charms are immeasurably scattered over the whole planet; and a wide travel alone reveals to the naturalist all her varied charms. In one country, she amazes a man with the grandeur of wild and mountain scenes. In another, she strikes him with great awe with the sublimity of a water fall. In yet another, she displays an Amazon or a Mississippi. Elsewhere, she appears in a more subdued form and displays green verdant and vast stretches of golden corn. Surely, to keep at home is consistent with beholding nature in all her freaks and fantasies.

Travelling, further, brings a man into contact with "the mighty minds" of the great. A traveller in India happens to see great men like Gandhi and Tagore. We may see, in Ceylon's style, G. G. P. and Tagore are the greatest things we in Ceylon have yet done; and to see their very persons is a grand achievement. To talk to them is immense soul-pleasure. It is a perfect liberal education in every respect to come into contact with men of real genius and genuine soul-force. That education travelling alone can afford us.

Travelling yields many material gains also to those that resort to it. In general, therefore, is going from place to place and mingling with men of renown, travels become known to a great part of the world and thus escape the gloomy folds of dull obscurity. Secondly, they become, in most cases, a ladder to a variety of languages. They are thus able to enjoy the literary products of different nations. Lastly, most travellers get enriched with substantial pecuniary gains. The opening up of business relations with foreign merchants and producers, the collecting and retailing of curious and many other means of money making are the immediate fruits of foreign travel.

The last but perhaps the greatest advantage that man derives from travel is the building up of character. His experiences in the course of his travels tend to the formation of new virtues, the strengthening of old ones and inevitably the destruction of all vices, if any, in him. Travelling really makes one quite a man, and also makes a man wise. When once the traveller leaves his home he has to depend upon others for help and this necessity teaches him, the policy of 'give and take'. It teaches the atheist God fearing, the self-seeker philanthropy, the egotist sympathy, it brings us into contact with the noble souls of all climes.

"The Mahabandala Megala."

