

The Hindu Organ.

"Arise! Awake! and stop not till the goal is reached."

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS
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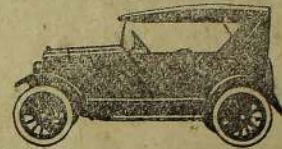
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Y. 24.

Y. 25.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 5418

In the Matter of the estate of the late
Kathiravelu Vaithilingam of Vadduk-
koddai West

Deceased.
Wieladuchy widow of Kathiravelu Vaithi-
lingam of Vaddukkoddai West

Petitioner.

vs.

- 1. Sinnathamby Nagamuthu and
2. wife Rasamimah of Vaddukkoddai west
3. Thelvanairillai daughter of Kathira-
velu Vaithilingam of do
4. Vaithilingam Nadarajah of do
5. Vaithilingam Sthanuparanillai of do
6. Sivakolundu daughter of Kathiravelu
Vaithilingam of do
7. Sivasankiam daughter of Kathiravelu
Vaithilingam of do
8. Vaithilingam Nallabamby of do

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid
Petitioner praying that the abovesaid 1st Re-
spondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the
minors 4th 5th 6th 7th and 8th Respondents and
that Letters of Administration be granted to the
Petitioner to the estate of the abovesaid de-
ceased, coming on for disposal before G. W.
Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on
March 11, 1924, in the presence of Mr. P. Cana-
pally Pillai, Proctor, for Petitioner and the affidavits
and Petition of the Petitioner having been read.
It is ordered that the 1st Respondent be appointed
guardian ad litem over the minors 4, 5, 6, 7,
and 8th Respondents and that Letters of Adminis-
tration to the said intestate be granted to the Peti-
tioner as the lawful husband of the deceased unless
the Respondents or any other person shall, on or
before April 1, 1924, show sufficient cause to the
satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

G. W. Woodhouse,
District Judge.

The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1924.

THE PROPAGATION OF SAIVA KNOWLEDGE.

If Saivism is to be the great power it
ought to be in Saiva lands, Saiva know-
ledge should be propagated among the
people. It is regrettable to find that
great ignorance prevails among the people
even in the most important things per-
taining to our religion, and the dispelling
of this ignorance is a matter of the utmost
importance in the advancement of the
true welfare of our people. When we
consider the fact that within the past four
or five centuries there never was a time
when circumstances were so favourable to
the spread of Saiva knowledge among our
people as they are today, our regret in-
creases. General education and the
means and conveniences for the propaga-
tion of religious knowledge among the
people are today in a much better and
more favourable condition for the work
than ever before in the period we have
mentioned. It must be admitted that
unlike the Portuguese and Dutch rulers,
the British rulers have by the great priv-
ilege of religious liberty they have
granted to us allowed us perfect freedom
to cultivate and spread among the people
knowledge concerning our religion, which
is the highest and most glorious among
our heritages. Though the British Gov-
ernment by allowing the various Chris-
tian Missions to establish schools in this
country with its full sympathy and sup-
port has been indirectly responsible for
the anti-Saiva work of the Missions and
the harm which such work has in-
retrievably done to our great religion, yet
it must be mentioned to its credit that it
has never directly done anything to under-
mine our religion. It must, however, be
mentioned that the slowness which the
Education Department has shown in
helping indigenous efforts to start and
conduct schools for the propagation of
religious knowledge among Hindu boys
and girls and the prevention of their
falling under the proselytizing influences
of Christian agencies has to some extent
discouraged those who are eager to carry
on Saiva educational work. But apart
from work which can be done through
educational institutions, there is much
scope for the spreading of Saiva know-
ledge in other ways among our people
which is not efficiently and satisfactorily
utilised. The late Sreea Sree Arumuga
Nayalar, the greatest reformer and benef-
actor in the cause of the propagation of
Saiva knowledge among our people of all
classes and conditions, used every possible
means of spreading Saiva knowledge
among them. The undying inspiration
and example of his great work and the
single-minded devotion with which he
carried on his remarkable and many-sided
activities for the propagation of pure
Saiva knowledge among our people should

stimulate all educated Saivaites of this
country to endeavour to follow in the
footsteps of that divinely ordained, peer-
less religious teacher in however humble
a way they may be able to do so.

We think it our duty to emphasise the
important truth that it is the want of
genuine feeling of the great need there is
for the propagation of Saiva knowledge
among the people which is mainly res-
ponsible for the utterly unsatisfactory
state of such work in this country. Feeling
and thought must precede action of any
kind in this as in other matters, and it is
our settled conviction that if the great
work of spreading Saiva knowledge among
the people is to be carried on with any-
thing like the success such work should
command, those who are interested in it
must feel about it earnestly. Their hearts
must burn with the zeal for the great
work, and we are sure they will then be
able to do marvellous things in enlighten-
ing the people in knowledge of Saivism
and making them fully endowed with that
power which Saiva knowledge alone can
give them.

It, therefore, becomes clearly the first
duty of those who are interested in the
propagation of Saiva knowledge among
the people to cause a real awakening
among the Saivaites in regard to the
great necessity of propagating such know-
ledge among them. If all Saivaites
honestly feel that the greatest blessing
in their lives is their having been born as
Saivaites as the result of their punniam
in previous births, they are also bound to
feel that it is their sacred and bounden
duty to secure for themselves and others
the fullest benefit of their being born as
Saivaites by the propagation of Saiva
knowledge. If it is true that "Knowledge
is power," then Saiva knowledge should
mean to every Saivaite power which is
beyond description, which is transcen-
dental, and which is calculated to pro-
duce in those who acquire it changes of
the highest spiritual nature. We would
also wish to impress on all Saivaites the
inexpressible joy which Saiva knowledge
is sure to give to those who possess it.
We are of opinion that one great reason
why Saiva knowledge is not sought or
propagated as it should be among the
Saivaites of this country, is that the peo-
ple in general are so sunk in worldly
pursuits and in affairs pertaining to the
transitory joys of this transient life that
they do not think of the highest duty in
life which they owe to themselves and
others, the duty of propagating true and
full knowledge of Saivism by means of
the knowledge with which they are
blessed, or by providing the facilities and
conveniences necessary for its propaga-
tion by others competent to do so. We think
our country will be a heaven on earth if
all Saivaites feel truly the great need of
Saiva knowledge and propagate it with
every possible means in their power.

LOCAL & GENERAL

THE WEATHER.—Light showers of rain
have continued to fall in many places.
When the sun shines, the heat is op-
pressive. There is also occasional cloudi-
ness of the sky.

HEALTH.—The diseases such as mea-
sles, mumps, Chicken-pox, etc, which
broke out in various places in the penin-
sula owing to the great heat which pre-
vailed before the rains are dying out
slowly.

A WELL DESERVED RECEPTION.—The
friends, admirers and well-wishers of Mr.
V. Sivasappiramaniam Pandithar, the well-
known physician of the Ayurveda Hospi-
tal at Nayanmarasadan, gave him a grand
reception on the 21st instant in honour of
the conferment of the title of Vaidya-
pathy on him by the Ayurveda Society of
Madras for his distinguished services in
the cause of the Ayurvedic system of
Medicine. The function was held in the
Ridgeway Hall under the presidency of
the Hon. Sir A. Kanagasabai, and the
vast assembly which met together to do
honour to the great physician contained
the leading residents of all parts of Jaffna,
and testified to his wide popularity and
the regard, esteem and love in which he is
held by the public owing to the profound
knowledge he possesses of the Ayurvedic
system of medicine and the remarkable
success with which he has practised it in
his hospital for many years. An address
was read to him congratulating him on
the great honour which has been con-
ferred on him and expressing the ap-
preciation of the public of that honour.
Speeches were also delivered eulogising
the great qualities of the physician and
testifying to his marked skill and success
in the practice of his profession. Refresh-
ments were lavishly served to those pro-

sent. We wish the famous physician
many long years of useful service yet in
the cause of suffering humanity and the
Ayurvedic system of medicine.

SALE OF ARRACK RENTS.—We under-
stand that the Government has decided
to sell the arrack rents in all parts of the
Island to prospective renters for three
years and not for one year as has been
hitherto done. The extension of the term
will take effect from the next financial
year. The Government hopes, by this
means, to ascertain who among the ren-
ters will be reliable in the fulfilment of
the conditions.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP.—We
understand that Mr. C. Amirthalingam,
an old boy of St. Joseph's College, Col-
ombo, has been awarded the Agricultural
Scholarship which the Government had
decided not to award this year. Mr.
Amirthalingam is at present at the Uni-
versity College, and his educational career
has been all through very successful.

DEPUTATION OF SCHOOL MANAGERS.—
A deputation of school managers waited
on the Colonial Secretary on Friday the
21st instant at 11 a. m. to discuss matters
connected with the introduction of the
Cambridge examinations in Elementary
schools. The deputation was headed by
the Rev. W. A. Stone, Warden of St.
Thomas College, and it consisted of the
Rev. F. L. Baven, the Rev. J. A. Ewing,
Messrs J. C. V. Ratnam and J. E. Goo-
nessekera. The Hon. Mr. L. Macrae,
Director of Education, was also present.

MEDICAL COLLEGE COUNCIL.—Dr. E.
A. Coorey, L. M. S. (Ceylon), M. R. C. S.
(England), L. R. C. P. (London), M. D.,
(Brussels) has been nominated a member
of the Council of the Ceylon Medical Col-
lege in place of Dr. E. Roberts who has
resigned.

THE NORTHERN PROVINCE ELECTOR-
ATE.—At a conference held on the 21st
instant in Jaffna to consider what steps
should be taken to secure the election of
Sir Ambalavanar Kanagasabai for the
premier Division of the Northern Pro-
vince, Mr. M. Asaipillai, Proctor, who
stood as one of the candidates for the
Division, announced his withdrawal from
the contest in favour of Sir Ambalavanar.
His withdrawal was received with great
satisfaction.

PHYSICAL TRAINING COMPETITION.—
The annual physical training competition
for English schools in the Western Pro-
vince was held at the Barracks Square,
Colombo, on Friday the 21st inst. Thirty
schools consisting of seventy different
teams took part in the drill competition.
More boys took part in the competition
this year than ever before, the number of
boys being over 2000. The Silver Chal-
lenge Cup for the A Division schools was
won by the Prince of Wales' College and
the Silver Challenge Cup for the B Divi-
sion Schools was won by the Government
Training College Practising school.

NEW ORDINANCE.—The draft of a pro-
posed ordinance is published in the
Gazette of the 14th instant, according to
which provision is to be made for the
registration of dispensing chemists and
druggists and the law regarding the pos-
session and sale of poisons is to be
amended.

JAFFNA FRIENDS SCHOOL VOLLEY BALL
TOURNAMENT.—This year's tournament
will commence on Saturday the 29th
instant. Two schools, namely, Mann's
School, Udawal and St. Henry's School,
Ilavelai, are entering the tournament for
the first time this year, and a few more
entries are likely to be had. There is
bound to be a keen contest for the Cham-
pionship this year, as the teams are almost
equally balanced.

A. D. C. TO THE KING.—Colonel White-
head of the Indian army is reported to
have been appointed Aide-de-Camp to His
Majesty the King.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.—The Sec-
retary of State for the Colonies has not yet
sanctioned the Hydro-Electric Scheme,
although the scheme was passed some
time ago by the Legislative Council. The
delay has caused much dissatisfaction and
uneasiness.

RAILWAY DISASTER IN BURMA.—An
Engine and nine wagons of a goods train
were smashed to pieces on the 14th inst.,
while crossing a bridge between Panwagon
and Tangywe on the Mandalay-Rangoon
line. This was caused by the falling of
the train into the bed of a river.

REVIEW OF BOOKS.

"Rajah's Picture Lessons in English
Book I" A copy of this book has been sent
to us for review. The author of the book
is Mr. V. T. S. Sivagurunathan, Head Master,
Ananda College, Colombo. The book contains
a series of Picture Lessons well designed to
teach the difficult subject of English Com-
position to children in an effective manner,
and has the distinction of dealing with scenes
and events familiar to Ceylon children.
It is written in clear and faultless English
and is well got up. We sincerely hope that
the book will be widely used in the English
schools of Ceylon and that it will meet with
enough success to ensure the feasibility of its
having coloured illustrations in its succeeding
editions, which is sure to add considerably
to its attractiveness, usefulness and popu-
larity.

COMPANY.

A man is generally known by the com-
pany he keeps. If he associates with liars,
ruffians, or drunkards, he will be taken as
one belonging to their class. But if he keeps
company with good men mixes with the
virtuous or converses with the wise, he will
be considered as a good or virtuous or wise
man. Such persons should therefore be
selected as our companions as have the repu-
tation of being good men.

Man is a creature of tendencies. In his
youth the tendency of Imitation predominates
over others. So when he is a boy, he quickly
imitates the inclination of those whom he
sees around him. He becomes a spoiled
child, if these men, his companions, are wicked
in their disposition, and vicious in their
motives. His character is lowered down to
their level. But if he is fortunate enough to
fall into the company of good men, his boyish
froaks are softened down, and his character
is ennobled, so as to be even with his
fellow-associates. In the selection of com-
panions, young men should not be allowed
to make their own choice, for they are apt
to have such men as their associates as lead
them to the path of pleasure. Their guard-
ians and teachers should, therefore, take
care and see that they always live in the
society of good companions.

Specially our Hindu Young Men should
try to live in the society of good and virtuous
men, for that would have the effect of ele-
vating their character. It is said that
"Growing Natures find their best nourish-
ment in the company of Good Men" So
also good examples have the power of
calling forth the best feelings of our mind.
They would also do well to remember that
"bad Company destroys a hundred good
qualities"

Pandit S. Ratnasamy Aiyar
Rosmead place,
Colombo.

THE NOMENCLATURE OF TAMIL POETS AND THEIR WORKS.

(By S. T. BHARATHA NESAN).

Continued from our last issue.

Various are the accounts given as regards
the history of Agasthyar. Nothing can be
said as to his name except that he was also
called "Kuru Muni" as he was a short man.
With regard to Tholkapiar, his actual
parental name was Thiruvana Thumakial but
he was called Tholkapiar after his village,
Tholkapiakudi, (the ancient family of litera-
ture) to the South of Madura. The name
Tholkapiar suggests "an ancient man of
letters," and it was after his name that
"Tholkapiyam", a mine of Tamil Grammar
got its name through its author. Besides
Tholkapiar, the other students of Agasthyar
were eleven in number. Those twelve sacred
disciples were Tholkapiar, Tapir, Vannanar,
Theriar, Athankottaiyan, Pannambanar, Avi-
nayanar, Kakkapadiyan, Nattathayan, Thura-
lingar, Vaidigal, Kalambanar and Sembuthal.
Little is known of the nomenclature of this
band of twelve except that of Tholkapiar as
already suggested, and Therer the learned
medical student of Agasthyar. The story is
told that Therer's original name was Therer,
but that he got his name Therer after the
following incident:—"Agasthyar had been
treating a certain patient for a long time and
effected no cure. The rows of this failure
reached Therer. He took the patient under
his treatment and exerted his great medical
talent to heal the sick man. All remedies
proved fruitless, and Therer was in despair.
Suddenly and luckily, too, a thought flashed
on his mind and he resolved to make surgical
operations on him. He put the patient
under the influence of a substance similar in
virtue to chloroform, broke open his skull
and discovered to his great surprise a
"lithal" (a kind of frog) formed in his brain,
impinging it and giving him incessant pain
and mental vexation. At once he set before
it a tumbler of water into which it suddenly
leapt, giving to the invalid immediate relief
and instant recovery. Instances of similar
wonderful medical feats throw a halo of
glory round his name." Of the names of

our saints there is no difficulty. Maniokavargar, "The Hammer of the gates" denotes "one who made rocky-like utterances," and after his birthplace Vathavur he is known also as Thiruvathavurar. His reputation as a great scholar reached the ears of King Arimathana Pandyan who on making him Prime Minister called him "Thonnavan Balamuroyan. Saint Tirugnansam bandar—the man connected with divine wisdom is known as Arudya Pilaiyar and Dravida Sisu. It was he who called saint Thiruvankarasa as Appar (father) when he met him at Shiyali, Appar's parental name was Maru'nekkir—the Dispeller of Darkness, and the name that met with divine sanction was Thiruvankarasa or Vakisa, which implies, "the king of the tongue" or "master of the faculty of speech." Besides he is also known as "Sol Ko"—the king of speech. Sundaramoorthynayanar was named by his parents Sathayanar and Isayanar as Nambi Arur, but was called as "Van-Thosar" as a result of his persistent devotion to God. The Periya Purenam is full of the accounts of all Hindu saints, and one would be able to have a knowledge of the nomenclature of these saints after a careful study of the Periya Purenam. How saint Kanappan got his name is not far to seek. So also would there be no difficulty in tracing out the origin of the names of such saints as Arivadandanayanar, Kalivanayanar, Kanathayanar, etc., and numerous other devotees. Sakkilar Thevar's actual name was Arul Moiti Thevar, but he retained this name "as the distinction of the Sakkilar section of the Vellalars" and at least for is nominal survival. Poets there are who have such names of self-praise as Oppilaman Pulavar. The incomparable gem cheraman Paruman, the son of King Chingoo Parayan's actual name is Ma-Kobbar. With regard to the Alwar, Nam-Alwar—the Lord's chosen had other names as Parankusar, Alwarthirumastri, Tirumangal Alwar, as he was a master in extempore verses has the title of Narkavi Perumal. In recent times we cannot omit Padikappalar the author of Thandiyar Sathkam and Thandimandala Sathkam. How he got this name we would be able to infer from the following lines:—

Observing the distracted condition of his master, Kamban made a slight alteration in the line of his stanza the dead horse got up. The news of his vivification reached Tangaia a Chola king, who immediately sent for the gifted boy. The boy with a stick in hand appeared before the king who wondered whether that boy (with a stick in hand Kamban) had wrought the miracle. This circumstance coupled with his watch over the kamba fixed formed the basis of the fourth account of the origin of his name". (To be continued)

EDUCATION THROUGH MUSIC.

By SHELMOITH F. FLAUM.

"He is striking his lute, His heart is singing."

—Rabindranath Tagore.

With little children musical activities are usually limited to the singing of ready-made songs, rhythmic movements, and folk-dances planned by the teacher; but there yet remains a large field of musical expression unexplored by many. This neglected field embraces phases of music which are more developmental than the former, and includes such activities as the making up of songs, interlocking music through rhythmic movements, hand, music, dramatizations and evolving little music games and folk dances. The child can do all this in a perfectly free, natural way, for music is indeed a language. Again, he may receive tone work and ear training by musical devices.

Psychology teaches that the child's experience controls his interpretation. Experience has shown clearly that a child's power of expression through music is commensurate with his powers in other directions that he can express himself just as readily through music by little games and making melodies as in other arts, building, etc. Why should it not be just as natural for him to find a ready means of expression in creative work through this medium as by any other, especially as no field of child activity offers a better opportunity for expression through play than does music?

Music can furnish the basis for pedagogical and aesthetic work. At first it may seem that this wide application of music is impracticable, but it will be seen from what follows that it is within an easy possibility. It has been thought that music is too intangible and difficult a medium for a child to express himself and so the teacher has resorted to ready-made material which the child merely repeats. It is true that imitation is one of the early factors in human development, but it should not be made the basis of pedagogical processes. The child gladly follows the direction of an adult because he delights in any activity, but by so doing he is not developing his own powers. In fact development is arrested by continued imitation and mechanical repetitions. Nothing must destroy spontaneity, imagination, the power to create, real joy, and the play element. The deepest and most satisfying enjoyment always comes with the ability and means to express one's own ideas and feelings, no matter how crude these may be. And so it is with the child; better one who brings in his efforts toward self-expression, than the obedient patient imitator.

Children enthusiastically enter into the spirit of making up something, either in original material or in original interpretation. They can and should create little songs and musical games in the same spontaneous way that they make pretty things to take home. The element of play, of make-believe, must be the working basis, and free, spontaneous expression, unhampered by criticism, must be allowed. Any efforts of the child in creating a song or music game, no matter how crude or inaccurately expressed, should receive encouragement, not because of any value in the result, but because the efforts are a developing process. Only later should little hints of criticism be used as helps to better and clearer music conceptions.

A child naturally appreciates what is appropriate in music. If he hears a selection, such as "Flying Butterflies," played entirely in the bass, he knows intuitively that the music played in this way does not represent "butterflies." It is by comparisons in loud and soft, fast and slow, high and low, in musical efforts with stories, pictures, dramatizations, toys, gestures, that a key to interpret music can be given, the interpretation to be expressed through physical activity, i. e. rhythmic movements, hand, songs, dramatizations. For instance, the growl can be represented by loud, heavy, possibly slow efforts, the howl by light, quick music. A lullaby would be expressed in a quivering, rhythmic, sensitive in comparison to the rickety music about a sailor lad. A story told to a piano or other accompaniment will unconsciously call attention to definite likenesses between actions, characters, moods in the story, and the corresponding effects in the music.

Imaginative rhythmic movements, this new art form of impressionistic expression, hand rhythms to appropriate music or the playing of short selections to illustrate varied pictures, are also means to the development of musical imagination. Children can recognize the difference in musical content of

one selection from another, and when a back ground for imagination has been prepared, they find themselves in possession of material through which ideas may be expressed in original songs, music, games or original interpretations.

Children love action, and the joy of moving with the music will cause them to listen, that they may help with the music and so begin a conscious hearing. With conscious hearing comes the beginning of discrimination. No better means can be devised than by appeal to the play instinct of the child. To step as high horses step, to fly as birds fly, rocking a cradle—all these devices are pure play to the child, but to the teacher they are the development of rhythmic ideas and their co-ordination with bodily expression.

First, children listen to a portion of the music, thinking what the music tells them to do. Secondly, all children express in bodily activity anything the music says to them. There is nothing so universal in its appeal as music.

Rhythm is the one fundamental, innate, universal element of music—fundamental because it is basic, innate because it manifests itself without training, universal because it is everywhere. The crudest phases of primitive peoples preceded organized vocal effort. No people, however remote in time or place, have ever lacked the sense of rhythm. It is akin to the emotions, the universality of its response. We see it in all nature in the beat of the waves on the shore, in the flight of the birds across the sky, in the swaying of the trees in the wind.

We hear it in industry in the throbbing of the engine, in the clicking of the train wheels, in the purr of the aeroplane. In human life it is evident in the heart-beat. As the pulse means life to the human body, so rhythm means life to music. Rhythm occupies a unique place in the life of the child. A child must be led to feel it, hear it, see it and express it.

Rhythmic movements are play, not drill. They should be free and spontaneous and should be, as far as possible, the interpretation of music according to the children's ideas. With perhaps a hint here and there from the teacher, children can easily recognize the differences in music suggesting running, hopping, walking, high stepping, etc. Music accompanying little finger-plays (some going upstairs or downstairs, slowly or fast, on tiptoes, etc.) hand rhythms, stories, pictures, stanzas, can be introduced preparatory to interpreting music for rhythmic movements. Such little exercises would show that music means something, and after the attention is once called to this fact, children will be genuinely interested in interpreting music through some physical expression. In fact they will ask for all kinds of stories on the piano and organ.

To avoid mechanical repetitions and imitation, many different movements can be evolved by the class. Children become so original and efficient and courageous through the varied angles, the repetitions in new forms and the ever-new combinations, that these exercises may be not only play, but may become a great help in other school work.

(To be continued.)

—"The Modern Review."

ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN OF VILLAGE COMMITTEES.

The following is an account of the discussion and its result in regard to the Election of Chairmen of Village Committees, taken from the proceedings of the meeting of the Legislative Council of the 20th instant:—

CHAIRMEN OF VILLAGE COMMITTEES.

The Attorney-General moved the Council to consider the Bill intitled "An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Village Committees, together with the report of the Select Committee thereon.

The Attorney-General said that before moving the House into Committee he liked to assure the House that this very important Bill had received the most careful consideration at the hands of the Select Committee. Except in regard to one section they had been able to present practically an unanimous report.

The Bill was then taken clause by clause.

Who is an Overseer?

Mr. KINDERSLEY'S EYES OPENED. There was considerable discussion on Section 16 dealing with the "Chairman of Village Committee." The Attorney-General moved the following amendment to the Select Committee's recommendation:— "In the case of subdivisions situated wholly within the administrative limits of any District Council constituted under the provisions of the Local Government Ordinance No. 11 of 1920 or in the case of subdivisions the inhabitants of which shall by resolution duly proposed and carried at a meeting held to elect a Committee under section 15 of this Ordinance have declared that the Chairman of such Committee should be elected by the members of the Village Committee by this Ordinance as if they had been constituted under the provisions of this Ordinance." The Select Committee's recommendation had 1921 in place of 1920 and did not include the other words in italics.

Mr. Henry Gillan said that that section had been closely considered by the Select Committee and by a margin of 4 to 3 that amendment which appeared in the margin of section one was carried by a majority. Government thought that to allow

the Village Committees to elect their own Chairman would be going a little too far. It was proposed by the amendment that recognition should be made of the fact that certain areas were more advanced than others.

UNOFFICIALS OPEN IT.

Mr. Duraiswamy said that this clause came in for a lot of discussion in the Select Committee. The members of the Select Committee who were in a majority felt very strongly that the amendment should be made as provided in this draft in order to enable the Village Committees to work for the good of the village. He felt that if this amendment which was passed by a majority of the Select Committee was not accepted by the House the work of the Village Committees would be greatly handicapped. These Committees had not so far done the work that was expected of them for this was because they were not given full liberty to exercise their rights. At present they were guided by a who was an official Chairman. Unless that handicap was removed then they could not expect the Committee to do what was expected of them. Another reason why there should be unofficial Chairmen was because in certain districts people were not anxious to get themselves elected because they knew that under the law they had to serve under the presidency of the Chief Headman. If they wanted to attract the right sort of men to these Committees they must remove the official Chairmen. They should give more power and latitude to the Village Committees to select their own Chairmen.

Mr. MARTIN.

Mr. Martin said that having watched the working of that Ordinance from its very inception he was in a position to assume the House that the Ordinance was not functioning properly and had been a disappointment to those who had watched its working. It was unpopular. The reason was due chiefly to the want of the right to elect their own Chairmen. Men of standing in the village should be made to come forward. At present the Chief Headman and his Minor Headman chiefly comprised the Committees. If the right of electing their Chairmen was not granted he did not think any good would be done by the amending Ordinance. What the Committees were anxious to have was the right to elect their own Chairmen. If this was granted the Ordinance would work more satisfactorily.

Mr. TAMBRICHTTU.

Mr. Tambricchtu opposed the amendment proposed by the Attorney-General. He took it that Government wished to give the people the right to manage their own affairs. He asked Government to carry out what is recently maintained, "the will of the people must prevail." Government should not take with one hand what had been given with the other.

Mr. JAMES PERIS.

Mr. Peris said that a great obstacle in the working of the Ordinance was that the Committees were not allowed to elect their own chairmen. Very likely they might choose the Chief Headman but the chief must be with the Committees. He heartily supported the motion to let the clause remain as it stood.

OFFICIAL ATTITUDE.

Mr. ALEXANDER.

Mr. Alexander said that he had not had time to consider the matter very fully. He thought it was sounder policy to go slow and let the matter be decided by the Governor in Executive Council. Very often they found that there was a considerable amount of jealousy and faction and it might happen that some most undesirable character might come up against the Headman or R. M. to persuade the villagers to elect him as Chairman. That might cause a considerable amount of unpleasantness, and it might not be good for the welfare of that part of one's province. He thought that if the villagers expressed a desire to elect their own Chairmen the matter would be very sympathetically received by the Government Agent and reported to the Governor. It might be necessary nevertheless for the good order and satisfactory administration of a certain district to refuse such a request.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Mr. Henry Gillan said that he was impressed by several of the arguments which had been used but even if he was unable on behalf of Government to agree to the suggestions made by the member for the Northern Province and the Member for the North-Western Province, he thought the difference was not a matter of words but of effect. So far as the question of local self-government was concerned he thought that they might have a little more liberty than some Members of the House desired. With regard to the Bill which had been before the House a few months ago, when he introduced that Bill he called attention to the fact that although it was highly desirable that local self-government should be introduced all over the island he thought it might be found difficult to get a proper authority to carry it out in certain places. He proposed that in such cases Committees should be appointed. He was sorry Government could not agree fully with the proposal made by the Unofficial side but even if the Government motion was carried very careful consideration would be given to places where good work was being done to allow such places to elect their own Chairmen. Even in some District Councils there had been difficulty in finding somebody to attend the necessary times and take the trouble to act as Chairmen. It would be well for the House to go slowly in the matter.

Mr. KINDERSLEY.

Mr. Kindersley, the Government Agent of the Central Province, said that if a man was elected as Chairman, and was proposed by some members they might have as Chairmen in certain places people without the necessary experience to manage the Committee. The Headman was more fit to take charge of the work of the Committee. The Chief Headman was rarely as good as any of their neighbors in the village and he could see no reason why any people should say that they would not serve in Committees just because the Chief Headman was Chairman of the Committee. Then again in dealing with the question it was easier to deal with the Headman as the R. M. chooses than to deal with committees who might be elected Chairmen of the Committees. It was a wrong thing for the Chief Headman to remain de officio Chairman of the Committee.

MR. KINDERSLEY TAKEN TO TASK.

Mr. Tambimuttu said that he must by an emphatic protest...

MR. DURAISWAMY.

Mr. Duraiswamy said that the objection he had to the Chief Headmen being Chairman was not because they were Chief Headmen but because they were Government officers.

They did not want to be unduly influenced by Government officials. Amongst the Chief Headmen he had a number of good friends but he objected to their being appointed Chairman because they would exercise their influence as Government officials.

MR. PERERA'S VIGOROUS PROTEST.

Mr. E. W. Perera said that he was one of the majority who had recommended the amendment that was opposed by the Attorney General. He was to a certain extent impressed by the attitude of the Attorney General that the principle which they urged had been accepted by the Government...

The motion of the Attorney General which sought not to give the Village Committees the right to elect their own Chairmen was then put to the House and the Chairman declared that the Noes had it. But the Attorney General called for a division. The Noes were in the Majority by 18 to 13 and the Attorney General's motion was lost.

Table with 2 columns: Ayes and Noes. Lists names of members and their counts.

EUROPEANS AND POLITICS.

WANTED A EUROPEAN MINISTER.

The annual general meeting of the Madras branch of the European Association was held on Monday evening at the Imperial Bank of India, Mount Road. There was a large attendance of members and Mr. A. M. MacDonnell, the Chairman, presided.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Chairman in moving that the report be adopted referred to the increase in membership and said: There is a great necessity, gentlemen, for improving your organization. In the past you officials kept aloof from politics and on the Government of the country was in the hands of our own kind, we had no reason to interfere and change, however, has taken place in the country, and it is, therefore, necessary for you officials and it is, therefore, necessary for you officials to take an interest and a prominent part in politics. The work of the officials has been to bring into prominence the Swarth party who entered into alliance with the avowed intention of wrecking the Council. I do not suppose they would be able to bring them, but the attempt to carry this wicked policy to a conclusion will only mean a setback to the reforms European representatives have in the past given their best to the country and had in mind to complete their duty.

We have, gentlemen, generally been engaged in business and were quite content to limit our con-

tributions to business and contented as we were convinced that through these means we could best help India. We were no average Indians, being forward to our Government. A prominent Indian has expressed the opinion that the British and Dutch capital were necessary to India, but that they did not want the British or Dutch capital to govern the country alone but their principal aim should be to help and advise. Madras has taken a lead in most things in recent years and this opinion is, I am sure, the opinion of the real India.

PAID SECRETARIES.

Mr. F. B. Byles, in responding, referred to his having been sent to represent the Association at the annual Conference held in Calcutta in December last and said that he could not reach Calcutta in time to be present at the Conference owing to the branches on the M. and S. M. Railway. His visit to that place was not, however, altogether a waste because he was able to get first hand information as to what took place at the Conference. An important item discussed at this Conference was the suggestion for reorganizing the European Association and for appointing the paid Secretary at each provincial branch. Proposals regarding financial particulars were circulated to the branches but nothing definite could be done owing to a difference of opinion on the point as to whether the paid secretaries should be members of the Legislative Council or whether they should merely collect information for the members of the Association.

Mr. B. A. Burridge, in supporting, referred to the increase in membership and said that a great deal more could be done in that direction. What the Association wanted now more than anything else was publicity. If one was asked to join the association one asked what it did generally. They should be able to explain what the Association stood for.

WAIT AND SEE.

Mr. F. W. Partridge who was next called upon to speak, referred to the attitude taken up by the Association when the reforms were first proposed. He said that the Europeans had given a pledge to work the reforms and it was their duty to help the Government in carrying out the reform—in the best possible manner. A new element had now been introduced in the Council, namely the Swarth party, with a great programme of obstruction. The position now created by the advent of this party was very delicate. It was absolutely impossible to take an active and intelligent part in the debates in the Council owing to want of time. It was essential for getting into touch with the different parties to spend more time in the Council than the average man engaged in business could afford. It was, therefore, proposed to appoint paid secretaries for all provincial branches and this matter had already been considered.

The speaker then replied to the criticisms made by Mr. Burridge and said that it was impossible for the committee to do anything more than to approach people to join the Association. Anyone could easily ascertain what it was standing for.

The office-bearers for the current year were then elected.

Mr. F. Barley proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and Mr. F. W. Partridge proposed another vote of thanks to the retiring Vice Chairman Mr. R. P. White and the Secretary Mr. J. B. Crawford, for the splendid work they had done last year.

A EUROPEAN MINISTER.

The Chairman in winding up the proceedings referred to the remarks made by Mr. Burridge in connection with publicity which, he said, formed the bone of contention between him and the Committee. The European press could create a public opinion and thus induce many persons to join the Association. The members of the Association at the annual meeting ought also to give voice to the opinions they held so that the Committee might be in touch with the views of the general body. It had been suggested in Committee it could be good thing if prominent Indian politicians were invited to address meetings in order that the two communities could get to know each other and find a platform on which they both could stand. There were planks in Indian platforms on which both parties could meet and the speaker was sure that if this way adopted it would be for the good of the country. When a further instalment of the reforms was given and the Executive Council were abolished and a larger Cabinet was appointed to be responsible for the policy of the country, the European Community through their influence, power, interest, industry, commerce and trade ought to have a European Minister. This would be acceptable to the people of the country as well as the politicians and was a goal that they all should strive for.

The meeting then terminated. — C. M. L.

Order nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 544.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kanayathippillai Ponnampalam of Thailayyidai of Malacca

Deceased. Kanayathippillai Vaidhilingam of Myliddy Pottaneri.

- 1. anayathippillai Kandiah of Myliddy
2. Chellammal widow of Kanayathippillai of Vaddukkaddai

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Kanayathippillai Ponnampalam of Thailayyidai, coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, on March 16, 1924, in the presence of Mr. M. Subramaniam, Pleader, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 27, 1924, having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the heir of the said late testator and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said late testator issued to him, unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before April 5, 1924, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. March 12, 1924. O. 647.

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