

The Hindu Organ.

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The Hindu Organ.

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Approximate mileage.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| (a) Point Pedro to Kodikamam | 85 |
| (b) Tallpalai to Batticotta | 80 |
| (c) Pannalai Road | 105 |
| (d) Mannipal to Kalladi | 85 |

2. Only Surveyors holding the Surveyor General's Special License need apply.

3. Copies of the Agreement, Specification, Specimen plans etc. may be seen at the Surveyor General's Office and at the Offices of the Superintendents of Surveys in each Province.

W. C. S. INGLES,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor General's Office,
Colombo, 31st. October 1918.



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1918.

PEACE IN SIGHT.

The news of the capitulation of Turkey, following so soon the surrender of Bulgaria, will be received with the greatest joy in all parts of the British Empire. The surrender of Austria-Hungary is also a matter of hours and this will be followed by the unconditional surrender of Germany also—the power which has disturbed the peace of the world and is responsible for all the human sufferings during the last four years. Retributive Justice will now overtake this power and lay her prostrate at the feet of the victors, making her powerless for mischief for a century at least. The success of the allied arms is a matter of real congratulation and relief to the world at large. And this feeling is enhanced by the fact that it is the British Government and the British nation which have taken a leading part, with the Allies, in bringing about this glorious result. Before the end of this month we hope to hear of the assembling of the Peace Conference.

THE REFORM CONFERENCE.

Invitations have been issued by the Honorary Secretary of the Organising Committee for a Conference on political reforms to be held in Colombo on the 13th and 14th December next. A Conference was held on the 15th December last on the invitation of the Ceylon Reform League and the Ceylon National Association, at which a Memorial to the Secretary of State was adopted asking for certain reforms in our Constitution. Since that Memorial was sent to the Secretary of State, the Montagu-Chelmsford Report on Indian Reforms has been published recommending reforms of a far-reaching character to be granted to India, and this Report has formed the subject of debates in both Houses of Parliament, in the course of which a general feeling of agreement was expressed that the Reforms should be carried out as early as possible in spite of the War.

On the 6th August last, the Ceylon Reform League and the Ceylon National Association jointly sent a telegram to the Secretary of State protesting against the evasive reply of Mr. Hewins in the House of Commons in regard to Ceylon reforms. This was followed by the following telegram from those bodies dated 28th of that month:—

"Our cable 6th instant. We beg invite attention House Commons debate Indian Reforms and principle of self government accepted for India. We request application same principle to Ceylon and grant of reforms not less liberal than granted to India, to which Ceylon is akin in race and culture but conditions more favourable for political development. We beg early declaration of policy and broad outlines of reform, with instructions to new Governor to adjust details. We specially ask enlarged Legislative Council on wide franchise with substantial elected majority, Ceylonese members Executive Council, Ceylonese Ministers in charge of Departments, substantial percentage superior posts for Ceylonese, complete popular control Municipal Councils and other local bodies, urban and rural, with elected Chairman, all which have been conceded to India."

The above telegram contains very reasonable demands which the Imperial Government cannot with any justification refuse, at a time when the war has been more especially waged by the Allies in vindication of the principle of self-determination and emancipation of subject races. Ceylon was granted representative institutions long before India was granted such privileges. But the Indians are now far ahead of us enjoying several political privileges which are denied to the Ceylonese; and further, our brethren and fellow subjects in the neighbouring Continent are within measurable distance of securing self-government on Colonial lines within the Empire. Our Government can well imagine the feeling of dissatisfaction and disappointment which will be caused among His Majesty's loyal subjects in this Island if their legitimate demands for additional political privileges do not receive sympathetic attention at the hands of the authorities.

The success of the Indians in the matter of political advancement is due to their greater organising capacity. The Indian National Congress and the several District Conferences in that Continent have been the means of uniting the leaders of the people together in their demands for constitutional reforms and of securing them. It is not yet 10 years since the Morley-Minto reforms were granted to India; and within so short a time the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms are to be introduced, with such concessions as would lead within another decade or so to complete self-government such as granted to the self-governing Colonies of the British Empire. It is for want of such organisations, Ceylon has been lagging behind in political progress.

There can be no doubt that Ceylon has prospered under the present system of Government. But, as that great Liberal Statesman, the late Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman well said, "good Government cannot be a substitute for Representative Government." There have been so many instances in which the truth of that dictum has been experienced and felt in Ceylon. We would mention one instance and the latest. The Ceylonese have been for several years past asking for the establishment of a University for the development of higher education, to enable them to hold a larger proportion of higher offices in the public services and to take a larger share in the Government of their own country. But under various excuses the Government has hitherto neglected to supply this great want of the people. In India, in addition to the five older Universities, new ones have come into existence during the War, including the Mysore University which has been established in a Native State with half the revenue of

Ceylon. In the course of the debate on the Budget for 1917-18 the Hon. the Colonial Secretary on behalf of the Government gave an assurance that a beginning will be made with the construction of the buildings required for the proposed University College. This having not been done as promised, the Budget for 1918-19 was taken advantage of by the Ceylonese Unofficial Members to press on the Government the necessity of a vote being included in the estimates for the buildings required to inaugurate the University College. The acting Governor who as Colonial Secretary gave the assurance above referred to, directed the acting Colonial Secretary to move for the insertion of Rs. 100,000 for the purpose. Although His Excellency himself voted for the proposal with the Ceylonese Unofficial Members, yet all the other officials with the exception of the acting Colonial Secretary, reinforced by the European Unofficial Members, voted against the motion and disallowed the proposal. Can this happen under a more liberalised form of Government with a Legislature composed of a majority of Unofficial Members chosen by the people themselves?

The proposed Reform Conference is, therefore, a move in the right direction and should be welcomed by all who have the welfare of the people of Ceylon at heart. It is only constitutional agitation and concerted action in the manner proposed, on the part of the Ceylonese leaders, which will secure the privileges asked for. Unless we show that we are united and in earnest, the Government will not concede our requests, however reasonable and just they may be in themselves. The Conference will also afford an excellent opportunity to impress upon the Government, by the calmness and moderation of the utterances of those who take part in its deliberations, how worthy we are to be entrusted with additional powers and privileges.

Without the co-operation and good-will of the different communities which compose the Ceylonese, the movement for constitutional reforms can never succeed. This fact should, we need hardly say, be the ruling consideration of those who are now patriotically organising this Conference. It is to be hoped that the blunder of the last year's Conference will not be repeated, when the predominant majority overruled the feeling and proposals of the minority. If the Hindu majority in India had not consulted the feelings and claims of the Muhammadan minority for larger number of Seats in the Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils than the latter are entitled to by their number, and if an understanding was not come to between the two communities which resulted in what is known as the Congress-League Scheme of R-forms being submitted to the Imperial Government, the announcement of the policy of the Government in the House of Commons on the 20th August 1917, promising self government to India by certain stages would not have taken place, followed by the visit of the Secretary of State to India and the publication of what is known as the Montagu-Chelmsford Report on constitutional reforms in India. We wish the proposed Ceylon Conference every success and hope that its deliberations will be guided by a spirit of compromise, moderation and justice on the part of its leaders and promoters.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—Copious showers of rain fell in all parts of the District since our last issue.

PRICE OF COPRA.—There was a rise in price in the Colombo market the highest price fetched at the sale on the 2nd instant being Rs. 62 75 per catty.

EMPLOYMENT OF CEYLONESSE IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.—A meeting of the Commission appointed by Sir John Anderson in January last, to consider the question of the larger employment of Ceylonese in the higher branches of the Public Service, will be held tomorrow after a long interval of inactivity. The Commission consists of the Hon. Mr. R. E. Stubbs, the Hon. Mr. W. C. S. Ingles, the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando and the Hon. Mr. K. Balasingham.

MATRIMONIAL.—A marriage has been arranged and will take place on the 9th inst. between Miss Arulampalam Nagesvariammal, the eldest daughter of Mr. V. R. Arulampalam, Registrar of Lands, Trincomalee and Mr. K. Ponnusamy, Proctor, S. C., Sandripaya.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—It is understood that Mr. G. W. Logan, Extra Assistant, Director of Public Works, will shortly assume duties as District Engineer, Nuwara Eliya. Mr. O. T. Nettleton, D. E. Nuwara Eliya, will succeed him.

100,000 RICH BAGS COMING.—A further stock of 100,000 bags of Rangoon rice will arrive during the course of the week.

—"Morning Leader", Nov. 1.

THE NEW ROYAL COLLEGE BUILDINGS.—The building of the New Royal College will shortly be taken in hand as the plans have been completed and approved by the Director of Education. They have been sent to His Excellency the Governor for his final approval. The building will consist of a large central hall—the largest in Colombo when completed—with class rooms on either side. The number of class rooms is said to be between 18 and 20. At the rear of the building will be the work shops and science rooms. The whole work will be done in pointed brickwork similar to the Public Works Department buildings. The hall and class rooms will have special decorative features.

SALE OF A VALUABLE COCONUT ESTATE.—A valuable coconut estate, 150 acres in extent, situated at Rajakadalawa, in the N. W. Province, the property of the late Dr. S. Gunasekara, has just changed hands, the purchaser being Mr. A. Baur, who has another estate of 800 acres of the same name in the same District, close to Chilaw. As showing the confidence capitalists have in Coconuts, despite the long depressed state of the Copra market, it may be mentioned that £1700 was paid per acre for this estate, or Rs. 255,000 for the whole. —"Ceylon Observer."

INDIAN TROOPS IN PALESTINE.—London, Oct. 23.—Replying to Sir John Rees, in the House of Commons, Mr. Montagu stated that General Sir Edmund Allenby's forces included over 100,000 Indian troops. All accounts testified to the courage, discipline and endurance of all ranks. It was particularly gratifying that the new Indian units which replaced European troops sent to West front rivalled the conduct of veteran troops and fought in a manner worthy of the high traditions of the Indian Army. Mr. Montagu recalled the fact that General Sir Edmund Allenby himself telegraphed him that Indian cavalry and infantry had taken a leading and brilliant part in the fighting. He was proud to say that Indian cavalry figured prominently in the long distance ride which led to the fall of Damascus.

COMMISSIONS FOR INDIANS.—London, Oct. 22. In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. H. E. Cotton, Mr. Montagu stated that he understood that with a view to the selection of Indians who had rendered distinguished service during the War, for King's Commission, enquiries were being made in the War theatres where Indian troops had been and were being employed, but the recommendations had not yet reached him. The Government of India were selecting candidates for ten Cadetships at Sandhurst, and had up to the present nominated some forty-four probationers for admission to the Special Military College of India for training for temporary commissions.

EXPORTATION OF COCONUT OIL.—The following Notification dated 30th Oct., 1918, has been laid on the Press table at the Secretariat:—It is hereby notified, With reference to the proclamation dated 22nd April, 1918, and published in the "Gazette" of 26th April, 1918, that permits will be issued for the export to South Africa, Canada and the United States of America of limited quantities of coconut oil. Application for permits to export should be addressed to the Colonial Secretary and should be accompanied by a statement of the amount of oil held by the applicant distinguishing between oil held on behalf of His Majesty's Government and oil held on private account.—By H. E.'s Command, R. E. Stubbs, Colonial Secretary.

KOPAY TRAINING SCHOOL EXAMINATION RESULT 1918.

ADMISSION:—Wesleyan Mission—S. Kandiah, V. Muttucumar, V. Sinnadurai. Church Mission—P. Rasiah Hindu Community—S. Kartigasu Iyer, V. Arumugam, A. Kanapathipillai, M. Periatamby, A. Paramasamy, S. Suppiah, P. Kulenthavelu.

FIRST YEAR:—American Mission—O. Nagasudhi, P. Sinnadurai, K. Sinnatamby, S. Tamboe, and V. Visuvalingam. Church Mission, G. Ganapiragasam and K. Sinnadurai. Hindu Community, A. Kandiah, S. Kanapathipillai, V. Kanapathipillai, S. Murgasu, A. Ponniah, E. Sangarapillai, T. Seentamby, V. Suppiah and O. Thillaisampalam.

SECOND YEAR:—American Mission, T. S. Samuel, R. Obelliah, and K. Velupillai. Church Mission, A. David, T. Kandiah, K. Kanagasabai and S. Saravanamuttu. Hindu Community, S. Arulampalam, A. Chinniah, S. Elyappah, V. Kanapathipillai, (1) V. Kanapathipillai, (2) S. Kathiresu, S. Kandiah and V. Mallagadam.

TURKEY SURRENDERS.

ARMISTICE WITH TURKEY.

His Excellency the Governor has received the following official news:—An Armistice between the Allied Powers and the Turkish Government was concluded on the night of the 30th instant and came into force at noon yesterday.

It is not possible as yet to give the full terms of the Armistice, but they include free passage for the Allied Fleets through the Bosphorus to the Black Sea, the occupation of the forts in the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus necessary to secure their passage, and the immediate repatriation of all Allied Prisoners of War.

GENERAL TOWNSEND RELEASED.

The following telegram has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

October 31.—The following announcement will be made in both Houses of Parliament this afternoon:—[Begin:]

Some days ago General Townsend was liberated in order to inform the British Admiral in Command in the Aegean that the Government of Turkey asked that negotiations should be opened immediately for an Armistice between Turkey and the Allies.

A reply was sent that if the Government of Turkey sent fully accredited plenipotentiaries Vice-Admiral Calhoun, was empowered to inform them of the conditions upon which the Allies would agree to a cessation of hostilities and sign an Armistice on those conditions on their behalf.

Turkish plenipotentiaries arrived at Mudros early this week. An Armistice was signed by Admiral Calhoun on behalf of the Allied Governments last night and comes into operation at noon today.

It is not possible to as yet publish the full terms of the Armistice, but they include the free passage for the Allied fleets through the Bosphorus to the Black Sea, the occupation of the Forts on the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus necessary to secure their passage, and the immediate repatriation of Allied prisoners of War. [Ends.]—LONG.

LADIES' CONFERENCE, MYSORE.

Mysore, October 20.—The first Ladies' Conference in Mysore was held on the 18th afternoon in the Maharani's College Hall, Mysore, under the Presidency of Mrs. Chandrasekhara Iyer. About 200 ladies attended. The proceedings began with an invocation song tastefully rendered by four young ladies of the High School classes. Mrs. Chandrasekhara Iyer then delivered her Presidential address emphasising the necessity for the education of women and the necessity of holding Ladies' Conferences at least once a year to discuss and enunciate their views on questions affecting the well being and advancement of women.

The first resolution was moved by Mrs. K. D. Rukmaniamma, B.A., Superintendent of the Maharani's College in a masterly speech. The great obstacle to higher education of women is the custom of early marriage which necessitated the withdrawal of girls at an early age from schools. This custom should be abolished and girls given the same opportunities of education and development as boys. The proposal to educate girls under separate curricula from boys would lead to disastrous results as a girl under 12 could not be fit for the Degree under any scheme of Education. Any new experiments should be first tried in the case of boys and not of girls. The speaker urged that women's education should be as comprehensive as men's and that there should be no deterioration.

Mrs. K. Subbamma, B.A., seconded the proposition and stated that the higher education of women was a necessary condition for India's uplift and that education in English was necessary to give women a broad outlook and urged that their curricula of studies should not in any way be inferior to that of boys. It was unanimously resolved that higher education of girls should be on the same lines as that of boys.

The president then explained that Mrs. Aravamudan Iyengar, who wished to move the next resolution was unfortunately laid up with influenza. In her unavoidable absence, the president explained that the system of early marriages had originated in the troublous times of the 16th and 17th centuries and that there was no justification for the same in these days of peace. The system prevented the higher education of woman and was a great hindrance to the national uplift. She urged that the marriage age of girls be raised.

Mrs. Ranganna in supporting the above resolution also urged that the system of marrying young girls to elderly husbands was a cruel one and that no mother should consent to such an arrangement out of regard to the wealth of the bridegroom.

Mrs. Venkoba Rao explained that the Hindu Shastras were entirely in favour of marriage of adolescent ladies and that the present custom was un-Shastric.

The President in summing up laid stress on the necessity of educated women in all walks of life and urged that the resolutions passed by the conference should be well pondered over and acted upon by the members.

Mrs. K. Subbamma, B.A., thanked the President for her able conduct of the proceedings. Great enthusiasm prevailed and the conference was a striking success. —The Hindu.

INDIAN INDUSTRIES COMMISSION.

SUMMARY OF ITS REPORT.

The report of the Industries Commission which has been sitting for the last two years under the chairmanship of Sir Thomas Holland, K.C.S.I., has been issued, and copies can be obtained in a convenient octavo form at the price of R.1. Before summarising the report it is important to note that the constructive proposals depend on the acceptance of two principles:—(1) that in future Government must play an active part in the industrial development of the country, with the aim of making India more self-contained in respect of men and materials, and (2) that it is impossible for Government to undertake that part, unless provided with adequate administrative equipment and furnished with reliable scientific and technical advice.

With these principles in mind, it will be convenient first to glance at the administrative machinery which the Commission proposes and then to examine the work which it is intended to do. The administrative proposals include the creation of Imperial and provincial departments of industries and of an Imperial Industrial Service. The Imperial department would be in charge of a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, assisted by a Board of three members entitled the Indian Industries Board, and be responsible for the industrial policy of Government and the inauguration and carrying out of a uniform programme of industrial development throughout the country. The actual administrative work would be almost entirely decentralised and would devolve on local Governments. The performance of a large staff of officers whose qualifications would primarily depend upon a knowledge of mechanical

engineering; and the formation of an Imperial Industrial Service is suggested in order to safeguard Government against the dangers and difficulties of casual recruiting. This service would consist mainly of mechanical engineers and engineering technologists, the majority of whom would be employed under the local Governments. The headquarters of the Department and of the Board should be with the Government of India.

The provincial departments would be administered by Directors of Industries, assisted by specialists and technical advisers who would usually be seconded from Imperial services for work under the local Government. A provincial Director would thus be able to develop the industries of his province with the help of competent engineers and scientists. He would be advised by a provincial Board of Industries, composed mainly of non-officials; and he should hold the post of a Secretary to Government to secure expeditious and effective despatch of work.

It now remains to consider the work which this organisation is to carry out and the conditions of India which render essential a policy of active intervention on the part of Government in the industrial affairs of the country. The first chapters of the report deal with India as an industrial country, her present position and her potentialities. They show how little the march of modern industry has affected the great bulk of the Indian population, which remains engrossed in agriculture, winning a bare subsistence from the soil by antiquated methods of cultivation. Such changes as have been wrought in rural areas are the effects of economic rather than of industrial evolution. In certain centres the progress of Western industrial methods is discernible; and a number of these are described in order to present a picture of the conditions under which industries are carried on, attention being drawn to the shortage and to the general inefficiency of Indian labour and to the lack of an indigenous supervising agency. Proposals are made for the better exploitation of the forest and fisheries. In discussing the industrial deficiencies of India, the report shows how unequal the development of our industrial system has been. Money has been invested in commerce rather than industries, and only those industries have been taken up which appeared to offer safe and easy profits. Previous to the War, too, ready reliance was placed on imports from overseas, and this habit was fostered by the Government practice of purchasing stores in England. India produces nearly all the raw materials necessary for the requirements of a modern community; but is unable to manufacture many of the articles and materials essential alike in times of peace and War. For instance, her great textile industries are dependent upon supplies of imported machinery and would have to shut down if command of the seas were lost. It is vital, therefore, for Government to ensure the establishment in India of those industries whose absence exposes us to grave danger in event of War. The report advocates the introduction of modern methods of agriculture, and in particular of labour-saving machinery. Greater efficiency in cultivation, and in preparing produce for the market, would follow, labour now wastefully employed would be set free for industries, and the establishment of shops for the manufacture and repair of machinery would lead to the growth of a huge engineering industry. After examining the resources for generating power, the report says the coal of India is generally of a poor quality and the radius within which it can be economically used is accordingly limited. Moreover, the extension of metallurgical industries already started involves a severe attack on our visible supplies of coking coal. The Commission recommends a special survey of the coal position in India. The oil fields of Burma are being rapidly drained, and no others of equal value have been proved. Wind power is too intermittent for industrial use. Attention should be directed to more economical methods of using wood fuel, and new materials for industrial alcohol should be investigated. The harnessing of water power appears, however, to afford a more reliable source of energy, especially with a view to the development of the hydro-electric industries; and Government is urged to undertake a hydrographic survey in order to determine the places which offer possibilities for the establishment of hydro-electric installations.

The next chapters deal with "The Indian Industries." They discuss measures designed to improve the efficiency of the Indian artisan and to encourage the educated Indian to take part in industrial enterprise. It is shown that the relative lowness of wages paid to Indian labour is counter-balanced by the comparative inefficiency of the individual Indian workman. The Commission assigns three causes for this inefficiency, viz., the absence of education, the prevailing low standard of comfort and the effects of preventable disease. The Commission expresses itself in favour of universal primary education, but considers that it would be unfair and unjust to impose upon employers this duty, which devolves rather upon the State and local authorities. But education of a technical kind is also required, and the method of instruction to be followed will vary for workers in organised and for workers in cottage industries, the latter of whom it may be remarked considerably exceed the former in numbers. For cottage industries the Commission proposes an efficient system of education in industrial schools administered by headmasters with practical knowledge of the industries taught and controlled by the Department of Industries. The extension of marketing facilities must go hand in hand with the teaching of improved processes. In the case of organised industries mechanical engineering is taken as a typical instance, and the proposals include the establishment of a system of organised apprenticeship for a period of four or five years, with practical training in the workshops and theoretical instruction in attached teaching institutions.

The Commission places better housing in the forefront of its recommendations to raise the standard of comfort of the Indian artisan. Subject to certain safeguards, Government should use its powers under the Land Acquisition Act to acquire sites for industrial dwellings, and land so acquired should be leased to employers on easy terms. Special remedies are proposed in the case of Bombay where the problem of congestion is unique. General measures of welfare work among factory employees are also suggested, and special attention should be paid to the improvement of public health. The elimination of such diseases as hookworm and malaria, which are prevalent almost everywhere in India, would add enormously to the productive capacity of the Indian labour.

APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM WANTED.

The general aversion from industrial pursuits of the educated Indian is ascribed to hereditary predisposition accentuated by an unpractical system of education. A complete revolution in the existing methods of training is proposed. For manipulative industries, such as mechanical, engineering, an apprenticeship system, similar to that suggested for artisans should be adopted. The youth who aspires to become a foreman or an engineer, must learn to take off his coat at the start and should serve a term of apprenticeship in the workshops, supplemented by courses of theoretical instruction. At the conclusion of this period of training he may be allowed to specialise in particular subjects. For non-manipulative or operative industries, on the other hand, the teaching institution should be the main training ground, though practical experience is also necessary. Special proposals are made for commercial and mining education; and the future establishment of two Imperial colleges is adumbrated, one for the highest grade of engineering and the other for metallurgy. To ensure the maintenance of close relations between the training institutions and the world of industry, the general control of technical education should be transferred to the Department of Industries.

The remaining chapters of the report deal more specifically with Government intervention in industries. Government clung long to the tradition of *laissez faire* in industrial matters; but when in recent years it attempted to play a more active part in industrial development, its efforts were rendered futile by the absence of scientific and technical advice to assist it in estimating the value of industrial propositions and by the lack of any suitable agency to carry out approved proposals. To remedy the first of these defects, a reorganisation of the existing scientific services is advocated, in such a way as to unite in Imperial services, classified according to science subjects, all the scattered workers now engaged in the provinces on isolated tasks. Rules are suggested to govern the relations between the members of these services and private industrialists seeking advice. The situation of research institutes and the conditions and terms of employment of these services are questions for the decision of which the Commission considers that the appointment of a special committee is necessary.

AN INFORMATION BUREAU.

The administrative machinery with which Government must be equipped and some of the functions which that machinery will enable it to perform have already been described; but there are many other directions in which the development of industries can be stimulated. Useful and up-to-date information on commercial and industrial matters is essential both for Government and for private merchants and industrialists. A scheme is propounded for collecting such information and for making it available to the public through officers of the Department of Industries. The purchase of Government stores in the past has been conducted in such a way as to handicap Indian manufacturers in competing for orders and to retard industrial development in India. The Commissioner proposes that the Department of Industries should be in charge of this work and that orders should not be placed with the stores Department of the Indian Office until the manufacturing capabilities of India have first been exhausted. A chapter is concerned with the law of land acquisition and enunciates principles in accordance with which Government might compulsorily acquire sites for industrial undertakings; in another, the various methods by which Government might render direct technical aid to industries are explained. The Commission considers that ordinarily Government itself should undertake manufacturing operations only for the production of lethal munitions. The administration of the Boiler Acts, the Mining Rules and the Electricity Act, the employment of jail labour, the prevention of adulteration, patents, and the registration of business names, of trade marks and of partnerships, are matters which are specifically dealt with. In the opinion of the Commission the compulsory registration of partnerships is practicable, and the question should be examined by Government with a view to legislation.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION.

Industrial co-operation is discussed with reference to small and cottage industries; and the vexed question of the effects of railway rates on industries is considered. The Commission thinks that reduced rates to and from ports have been prejudicial to industrial development and that the position requires careful examination with a view to the removal of existing anomalies. In particular it should be possible to increase the rates on raw produce for export and on imports other than machinery and stores for industrial use. The addition of a commercial member to the Railway Board and the better representation of commercial and industrial interests at the Railway Conference would help to secure a more equitable system of rating. The improvement of waterways and the formation of a waterways trust at Calcutta are also proposed.

The Commission lays emphasis on the disorganisation of Indian capital and its shyness in coming forward for industrial development. There is no lack of money in the country, yet the industrialist cannot obtain the use of it except on terms so exorbitant as to devour a large part of his profits. There is a crying necessity for the extension of banking facilities in the mofussil. The Commission is disposed to favour the establishment of an industrial bank or banks; but it considers that the appointment of an expert committee is necessary to deal with this subject and asks Government to take action at an early date. As an "interim" measure, a scheme is propounded for the provision of current finance to middle-class industrialists, by which the banks would open cash credits in favour of applicants approved by the Department of Industries on the guarantee of Government. Various other methods of financial assistance by Government are suggested, in particular the provision of plant for small and cottage industries on the hire-purchase system.

THE COST.

To sum up, the Commission finds that India is a country rich in raw materials and in industrial possibilities, but poor in manufacturing accomplishment. The deficiencies in her industrial system are such as to render her liable to foreign penetration in time of peace and to serious dangers in time of war. Her labour is inefficient, but for this reason, capable of vast improvement. She relies almost entirely on foreign sources for foreign men and supervisors; and her intellectual giants have yet to develop a right tradition of industrialism. Her stores of money lie inert and idle. The no-

cessity of securing the economic safety of the country and the inability of the people to secure it without the co-operation and stimulation of Government impose, therefore, on Government a policy of energetic intervention in industrial affairs; and to discharge the multifarious activities which this policy demands. Government must be provided with a suitable industrial equipment in the form of Imperial and provincial departments of industries.

The recurring cost of the proposals is estimated at Rs. 16 lakhs; they involve a capital expenditure of Rs. 150 lakhs, mainly on educational institutions and a further capital outlay of Rs. 66 lakhs is anticipated for future developments. The Commission considers that this expenditure may be worked up to at the end of a period of seven years.

—M. Mail, Oct. 29.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LOCAL OPTION IN JAFFNA.

The Editor,
"Hindu Organ", Jaffna.

Sir,
I am annexing herewith copies of letters exchanged between us and the Government on the above subject for the information of temperance workers within the Local Board area.

Yours faithfully,

J. S. S. League, N. Paramanathan,
25th Oct 1918 Hon. Secretary.

From: The Secretary Social Service League,
Jaffna.

To, The Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary,
Colombo.

LOCAL OPTION.

Sir,
I have the honour to submit for your kind consideration the following:—

1 That this League was established in Jaffna for the purpose of educating and improving the communal life of the masses in the North.

2 That temperance work comes under the legitimate work of this League.

3 That the Government granted the people the privilege of local option for abolishing liquor shops in the various parts of the Island.

4 That according to the conditions fixed, where a tavern is found not necessary by the people of the locality they should forward authentic signatures of at least 25 per cent of the tax-paying population before a fixed date and 75 per cent of those tax payers in an area where a tavern is to be abolished should be present at a fixed place to record their votes.

5 That there are 9 arrack taverns in Jaffna within the Local Board limits as per appendix attached herewith.

6 That all the 9 taverns referred to fall under one area according to the present regulations.

7 That this area is a vast one and it is impracticable to get all the people dissenting against the existence of the taverns aggregating over 10,000 tax payers, at one place at a fixed date.

Therefore this League as being interested in the Social welfare of the people of this District request to point out the advisability of the modification in the existing regulations referred to in para 6 and desire you to arrange:—

1. That each tavern be considered a separate unit according to the divisions in which they are situated and,

2. That their areas may be defined accordingly and votes be collected in each division for the abolition of the particular tavern within the division.

For which act of sympathy in our cause the League shall ever remain greatly indebted.

I remain etc.,

J. S. S. League, N. Paramanathan,
Jaffna, 3rd Sept. 1918. Hon. Secretary.

APPENDIX.

Local Board divisions referred to, where the taverns are situated.

- 1 Chiviatern,
- 2 Columbuturai. Pasaiyoor and Chundi-cull,
- 3 Karaiyoor,
- 4 Town,
- 5 Vannarponne South West,
- 6 do North West,
- 7 do South East,
- 8 do North East,
- 9 Nallur.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 15th Oct. 1918.

LOCAL OPTION.

Sir,
With reference to your letter dated 3rd September 1918, on the subject of Local Option, I am directed to inform you that the Government regrets that the request of the Social Service League, Jaffna, to treat the area served by each tavern within the Jaffna Local Board limits, as a separate "area" for the purposes of Local Option rules cannot be granted, but that the Government is prepared in the case of the Jaffna Local Board, to treat each ward as a separate area for the purpose of these rules.

I am Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. S. Christoffel,
for Colonial Secretary.
The Secretary, Social Service League, Jaffna.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, Oct. 29.

Reuter's Correspondent with the French Army, wiring yesterday, says:—The Hindung line has been broken by a frontal attack from the South and turned by the progress of the first French Army from the West and has been abandoned by the enemy. Tonight our front runs from Vaden-court on the Oise to Mortiers on the Serre, passing a mile West of Guise. The German Army in front of General Dubouey is in retreat, and the whole German line between Chateau Porcien and Argonne is in danger of being turned. General Dubouey's Army obtained a single victory in the last month and the persistent attacks of Dubouey's indefatigable infantry has broken the Three River line which is the last waterline the enemy can command between his present front and the Meuse.

London, Oct. 28.

It is reliably stated that great importance is attached to Austria's desire for a separate Peace. The question will be considered by the Allied Conference sitting in Paris, which includes M. Clemenceau, Marshal Foch, General Petain, Sir D. Haig, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Balfour, Lord Milner, and Col. House. The Conference is surveying the whole situation including the question of an Armistice and its terms; also the alternative, most vigorous prosecution of the War if the necessity arises.

London, Oct. 30.

Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters says a battle is raging on the outskirts of Guise, the fall of which is expected soon.

London, Oct. 30.

An American official despatch says:—Northward of Verdun we occupied Aincreville and established our lines Northward of the village.

An American communiqué records heavy Artillery fire West of the Meuse, especially North of St. Juvit. Aerial activity is increasing. 18 enemy machines were brought down. Five of ours are missing.

A British and Belgian communiqué says:—Between Oct. 14th and 27th we took 18,493 prisoners in operations of which the Belgians took 7,962 and the British Second Army 6,354 and the French 5,177. Since Sept. 28th over 30,000 prisoners were taken with 509 guns, 1,200 machine-guns were captured between 14th and 29th Oct.

The Press Bureau says:—The Independent Air Force on Oct. 10th heavily attacked Morhange aerodrome. 18 hits were observed and a fire resulted. We shot down an enemy aeroplane in flames. We also bombed Freestadt aerodrome and attacked the Badischer Soda Factory, also the railways at Treves and Saarbrücken and railway junctions at Longuyon, Eucles, and Thionville with excellent results. A total of 10 tons was dropped. No British machine is missing. We attacked today the railway junction at Longuyon and the aerodrome at Jametz with good results. Three British machines are not located.

ELECTION ACTIVITY.

London, Oct. 28.

There are signs of increasing activity on the part of Election organisations of all Parties. The "Daily Mail" predicts a General Election before Christmas.

REPORTED SURRENDER OF AUSTRIA.

London, Oct. 29.

Amsterdam.—The Austrian reply to President Wilson accepts all the President's views, and declares her readiness, without awaiting the result of other negotiations, to negotiate Peace and an immediate Armistice on all the Austro-Hungarian fronts.

HUNGARY'S INDEPENDENCE TO BE PROCLAIMED.

London, Oct. 27.

Amsterdam.—The "Vossische Zeitung" states that Count Karolyi will probably be entrusted with the formation of the new Hungarian Reichstag and will solemnly proclaim Hungary's independence. In this connection the reported departure of the Emperor Karl for Hungary for a considerable period is significant. In the Lower House Count Karolyi before Herr Wexler's resignation was accepted outlined his demands, which included immediate Peace negotiations, the residence of the King in Buda Pesth, an independent Foreign Ministry and dissolution of the Alliance with Germany. He declared that if the Government did not act, he would ask himself. The War Minister opposed the recall of the troops from the front as the Czech and South Slav delegates demanded. They declared that they were ready to reconstruct the Monarchy in a spirit of conciliation and true democracy. The political wishes of all the nations are about to be completely fulfilled. He confirmed that everything was quiet at Fiume. The mutinous Regiment had surrendered.

MESOPOTAMIA.

London, Oct. 28.

It is reliably stated that British armoured cars cut the Turks' line of communications from Sherghat to Mosul. The rifle strength of the Turks at Fort Kikrik is about 8,000. The British forces are much larger, but no big coup is expected at present owing to the badness of the communications.

LUDENDORFF.

London, Oct. 28.

Paris.—The French Press regards Ludendorff's resignation as the most striking admission of the German defeat.

The resignation of Ludendorff is tantamount to dismissal, and is a staggering blow to Germany's prestige, making definite the failure of the great offensive upon which Ludendorff staked all. His departure caused a sensation in Germany. It is expected Hindenburg will go next. Hitherto there is no indication of his successor.

THE GERMAN REPLY.

London, Oct. 28.

Copenhagen.—The German reply to President Wilson's Note is as follows:—The German Government has taken cognizance of the answer of the President of the United States. The President is advised of far-reaching changes which have been carried out and are being carried out in the

German constitutional structure. Peace negotiations are being conducted by a People's Government, in whose hands rests both actually and constitutionally the powers to make deciding conclusions. The Military Powers are also subject to it. The German Government now awaits proposals for an Armistice which shall be the first step towards a just Peace as the President has described it in his proclamations. (Signed Solf, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.)

GERMAN SOCIALISTS BECOMING DARING.

London, Oct. 28.

German Socialists are becoming increasingly daring and independent. Herr Lissner, who was recently released from prison, in a speech at Munich, denounced the Hindenburg idol and demanded the abdication of all the Federal Princes. He declared the Germans were wading in a sea of lies. "Armed with a Republic, we would be smothering the pipe of Peace with Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson within 24 hours."

Amsterdam.—The Independent Socialist, Herr Ledebour, speaking in the Reichstag, denounced the Kaiser's famous message to the Tsar. "The Admiral of the Atlantic greets the Admiral of the Pacific," as a direct challenge to England. Herr Ledebour called for the entire abandonment of the monarchical system. He expected the Socialists would get all they wanted in the long run.

THE ITALIAN OFFENSIVE.

London, Oct. 29.

A British Italian official message says:—The Tenth Army's attack is progressing most satisfactorily. On the right the Eleventh Italian Corps reached the line Roncadello-Omelio-Tempio Isai. In the centre the Fourteenth British Corps are in touch in the neighbourhood of Rai, and reached the line Bonetto-Daunian, one kilometre South of Borgovilla and Milanese. On the left the 18th Italian Corps attacked in a Northerly direction and are progressing well. All the Corps report further captures of prisoners and guns.

London, Oct. 28.

A wireless Italian official message says:—Our Army assisted by Allied contingents crossed the Piave despite the enemy's desperate resistance. Although the river was at its highest level the Infantry between Val Dobbiadene and the mouth of the Soligo broke in and carried the enemy's front lines at dawn on Oct. 27th. We repulsed all day counterattacks by a numerically superior enemy. Southward we exploited the advantages gained by the British at Grave Disapadoli and repulsed two counterattacks. We captured yesterday 9,000 prisoners and 51 guns.

London, Oct. 30.

An Italian communiqué says:—Our Eighth and Twelfth Armies attacked the enemy frontally and the Tenth Army threatened his flank. The enemy abandoned positions on the heights of the left bank of the Piave and is retreating hard pressed. We liberated numerous villages. Our parties closely followed up the enemy who blew up bridges on the Montebello. We entered Conegliano. Northward on the right of the Piave we co-operated with troops on the left bank, and passed after a lively and brilliant struggle beyond the Calcinotto torrent. Bitter fighting continues in the region of the Grappa. We took thousands of prisoners and captured over 150 guns of which many are already in action against the enemy.

An Italian official despatch says:—Between the Brenta and the sea, three-quarters of the Italian Army are engaged in conjunction with the Fourteenth British Army Corps, the French Division and an American infantry regiment. The enemy Eastward of the Piave is yielding under formidable pressure. We gained advantages yesterday in the region of Portica and Col-del-Lors. Our operations astride the Piave resulted in the capture of Sguisano and Mount Cosen. We reached the Southern outskirts of Quero. Our Eighth Army reached Vittorio and is now fighting Northward of Conegliano. The Third Army crossed the Alave at San Dona di Piave and Eastward of Zenson. The total prisoners are 38,000 and several hundred guns.

A British Italian official despatch says:—The Tenth Army since the commencement of the operations have taken 11,000 prisoners, of which the Fourteenth British Corps took 6,176. Numbers of guns and material are not counted. The Montello group of Armies made a magnificent advance and took many prisoners.

London, Oct. 29.

Reuter learns that the British and Italian Armies, attacking on a front of 25 miles, are opposed by 45 Austrian Divisions, comprising 600,000 troops. The Allies have crossed the Piave on the whole front from Treviso Ordesio railway to Val Dobbiadene, and have made an average advance of four miles. The Italian Command considers that the battle is going splendidly. All our objectives have been gained.

London, Oct. 30.

A wireless Austrian official despatch says:—On the battle front we evacuated the most strongly attacked sectors.

BALKANS.

London, Oct. 29.

A French Eastern message says:—The Allies continuing to advance occupied Kragujevatz, the coal mines at Lewje and Ravmareka. Serbian Cavalry entered Despotovac.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

London, Oct. 28.

It is reliably stated that an early announcement will be made in the Commons, fixing the date of the dissolution of Parliament and the General Election.

THE AUSTRIAN NOTE.

London, Oct. 28.

Paris.—The Austro-Hungarian Note is regarded as equivalent to capitulation. Furthermore the Vienna Government is breaking away from Germany, while the Mittel Europa and Central Alliance are disappearing.

London, Oct. 29.

The Austrian reply is considered equivalent to complete surrender, dealing a fatal blow to the position of Germany, greatly expediting the inevitable, and Austria's teeming difficulties have been increased by general rebellion and guerrilla warfare in Montenegro which the Austro-Hungarians are evacuating hastily. It is reported that rebels have captured Skutar. The dramatic development in Vienna will enormously enhance the importance of the Allied Conference, which by the irony of history, is meeting at Versailles where the German Emperor was proclaimed in

1871. It is suggested that the Allied terms should be announced in the Hall which was the scene of the proclamation.

PRESIDENT WILSON AND FREE TRADE.

London, Oct. 29.

Washington.—President Wilson, in a letter to the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, replied to Republican contentions that the third of his points, pronouncing in favour of the removal of economic barriers, meant Free Trade. Mr. Wilson explained that he did not mean to suggest any restriction upon internal economic policy, but only that whatever Tariff, high or low any nation might deem necessary, should be applied equally to all foreign nations. Mr. Wilson declares that the weapons of economic discipline and punishment should be left to the joint action of all the nations for the purpose of punishing those who will not submit to a general programme of justice and equality.

THE JAPANESE MISSION.

London, Oct. 29.

Prince Fushimi has handed to the King at Buckingham Palace the insignia and autograph letter from the Emperor of Japan. The King acknowledging the distinction assured the Prince that the insignia would always be preserved as an interesting and important memento.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS ACTIVE.

London, Oct. 28.

Amsterdam.—In the Reichstag the Independent Socialist, Herr Cohn, amid great commotion and applause declared that the alternatives were War with the Hohenzollerns or Peace without the Hohenzollerns. He said our hands should go to our friends beyond the frontiers in this struggle.

The Socialist, Herr Rhule, said the Kaiser must abdicate. He was called to order for this and retorted: "A call to order will not save the Kaiser from a Criminal Court."

THE PEACE OFFENSIVE.

London, Oct. 29.

Melbourne.—The City Council has passed a unanimous resolution that the people of Australia will not be satisfied unless Germany unconditionally surrenders, and requesting Great Britain to insist on an adequate indemnity for the Australian and British Navy, securing that no German flag is on any ocean until an indemnity is paid. The Returned Soldiers' Association is forwarding the resolution to every Municipality in Australia, requesting its adoption.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, Oct. 31.

A British Italian official despatch says:—Our advance continues. In yesterday's operations the Northamptonshire Yeomanry operating in advance of the Infantry took 200 prisoners. The Third Army crossed the Piave to the Southward of the Tenth Army, which with the Eighth and Twelfth Armies advanced rapidly. The Eighth Army occupied Vittorio. Aerodromes at Tansau and Pordene and dumps at Sella are in flames. 10,000 hostile Infantry were attacked from the air near Sella and scattered in all directions. The British under General Pennells, Commander of the Twelfth Italian Corps, entered Asiago.

An Italian communiqué says:—Eastward of the Piave we continue to advance rapidly, sweeping away the enemy who vainly attempts to stem our march. The heads of our columns reached Saravalle, Ursago, Glarina and Haderzo. Our Cavalry has been launched on the plains. Some Squadrons entered Sella. The Third Army is brilliantly overcoming strong resistance between the Piave and Monte Cano. The opening into Ponte-di-Piave was carried after a very fierce action. We occupied Asiago. Thousands of prisoners and many captured guns are still uncounted. We liberated numerous Italian War prisoners whom the enemy heavily worked in the lines of communication.

An Austro-Hungarian official despatch states:—In the Venetian plain the English and Italians thrust further forward and appreciably extended the places at which they have broken through, Northward and Southward of Montello. Taking into account the resolve expressed to conclude an Armistice and Peace ending the struggle of the nations, our troops fighting on Italian soil will evacuate the occupied region. The Eastern wing of our forces operating in Serbia has already crossed to the Northern bank of the Danube. The rearward march on the Save and the Drina continues, the enemy nowhere following.

London, Oct. 30.

Rome.—The Allied offensive on the Piave has hitherto resulted in over 20,000 prisoners. The attacking front is now over 100 kilometres from Grappa to the sea, as the Third Italian Army under Duke Aosta has begun an advance and established bridge-heads on the lower Piave at Salgareda opposite Zenson and Santa-dona di Piave. The advance of the Twelfth and Eighth Armies threaten from two directions Vittorio, the enemy's only outlet to the Venetian plains from the Brenner Pass.

LUDENDORFF'S SUCCESSOR.

London, Oct. 31.

Amsterdam.—A Berlin message says that General Groener is appointed Ludendorff's successor.

PEACE.

London, Oct. 30.

Amsterdam.—According to a telegram from Berlin the Kaiser told a number of members of the Reichstag that the people must not think that he had decided to stay on the Throne. He added that if the moment came when the interests of Germany demanded it, he would abdicate unhesitatingly, but the moment seemed not yet to have come. It is generally admitted that abdication, "when it takes place," will be in favour of the Crown Prince's eldest son, necessitating a Regency Council headed by the Chancellor.

Amsterdam.—A telegram from Vienna states that Austria Hungary has communicated the contents of Herr Andrássy's Note to Mr. Lansing to the Allied Governments, requesting that they will agree to the proposals and support them in Washington. Herr Andrássy on Oct. 29th telegraphed to Mr. Lansing and confirmed Austria Hungary's complete acceptance of President Wilson's declarations. He said he was in complete harmony with the endeavours of Mr. Wilson to create safeguards against future Wars and to create a family of nations. We have already made preparations to enable the races of Austria and Hungary to determine and carry out unimpeded their future

constitution in accordance with their own wishes. He also drew attention to the Emperor Karl's unswerving endeavours towards Peace since his accession. Herr Andrássy concluded by emphasizing that Peace was more than ever desired today by the Monarchy and all races in Austria and Hungary, reiterating a request for an immediate Armistice on all fronts, and the initiation of Peace negotiations in the interests of humanity and of all races in Austria and Hungary.

London, Oct. 31.

Washington.—A supplementary German Note has been delivered. It is stated that it makes no change in the situation. The next step is expected to be an announcement in all the associated capitals to the belligerents, giving the Armistice terms.

Amsterdam.—The "Wezer Zeitung" in a Budapest message says that Count Karolyi and Herr Andrássy have reached an understanding under which Herr Andrássy will be joint Foreign Minister temporarily, Count Karolyi thereafter becoming Hungarian Foreign Minister, "thus completing the separation of Hungary from Austria."

BRITISH DESTROYER SUNK.

London, Oct. 31.

The Admiralty states:—A British destroyer sank without casualties on Tuesday after collision with a merchantman.

WAR RISKS.

London, Oct. 31.

The Press Bureau states:—The Board of Trade announces that War risks on cargo will be decreased fifty per cent in cases where the vessels sail during an armistice between the belligerents.

MORE ELECTION TALK.

London, Oct. 31.

A meeting of fifty Unionist and Liberal M.P.s supporting the Government passed a resolution that to return to the Party system during the reconstruction period would be a national disaster. It urges all the parties to continue the truce. The Labour Party has not yet determined its attitude in the event of dissolution. Elaborate preparations are being made to enable the soldier to vote.

ARMISTICE WITH TURKEY.

London, Oct. 31.

Reuter is informed that Great Britain has officially received definite Peace proposals from Turkey which are regarded as tantamount to an unconditional surrender.

Turkey has agreed to an Armistice.

—The Ceylon Observer.

Notice.

AUCTION SALE OF A COCONUT ESTATE.

Under decree in Case No. 12685 D. C. Jaffna entered in favour of the plaintiff Valupillai Kandiah of Jaffna Town, against the Defendant Christopher Marcus Brito of Colombo, and by virtue of the order issued for the recovery of the amount therein stated the undermentioned five blocks of land forming one coconut Estate situated at Vempodukerni in Pachchilapalai in Jaffna will be sold by public auction at the bungalow situated in block No. 2, commencing at 2 P. M. on Saturday the 16th day of November 1918.

1. An extent of 121 acres, 3 roads and 10 perches, called "Sadaikadu".
2. An extent of 49 acres, 2 roods and 22 perches, called "Kalvalavu" and "Talachhiatoravu".
3. An extent of 71 acres 1 rood and 27 perches, called "Kurudypanaiyilkadu".
4. An extent of 275 Lachams V. C. and 11 and 13/16 kules called "Vinayapunnianthuravadi" and other parcels.
5. An extent of 170 Lachams V. C. called "Palayady".

The above lands are situated about a mile from the Pallai Railway Station and half a mile to the south of the Central road.

For further particulars apply to:—

Messrs. Chelvadurai & Ramalingam,
Proctors, JAFFNA.

Dr. N. Paramanathan, M. B.

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