

# 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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## Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3686.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Mutupillai wife of Murugesar Vaitillingam of Vannarpannai West

Deceased.  
Murugesar Vaitillingam of Vannarpannai West

Petitioner.

Vs.

- 1 Pakkiam daughter of Vaitillingam
- 2 Vaitillingam Mutucommaru
- 3 Pillayinar Murugesar of Vannarpannai West of whom the 1st and 2nd Respondents are minors appearing by their guardian ad litem the 3rd Respondent.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Murugesar Vaitillingam of Vannarpannai West praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased Mutupillai wife of Mr. rug sar Vaitillingam, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Doctor of Letters, District Judge, on October 16, 1918, in the presence of Mr. M. Canapathypillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the petitioner dated October 16, 1918, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before December 10, 1918, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

November 28, 1918.

P. E. Pieris,  
District Judge.

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## NOTICE.

## Order Nisi.

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8678.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Munoo wife of Mohamadu Sultan of Vannarponnai East

Deceased.

Mohamadu Sultan of Vannarponnai West  
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Meydeen Bawa Usupu Sahib of Vannarponnai West
2. Mohamadu Mutalipoo of do.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Mohamadu Sultan of Vannarponnai West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Munoo wife of Mohamadu Sultan of Vannarponnai West, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, District Judge, on September 27, 1918, in the presence of Messrs. Chelvadurai and Ramalingam, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated September 27, 1918, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before December 13, 1918, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pieris,  
District Judge.

November 30, 1918.

## Order Nisi.

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF BADULLA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. B554.

In the Matter of the Intestate Estate of Mookan, late of Haputale

Deceased.

Karuppal of Pita Rajmalie Estate in Haputale

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Bengammah, a minor, by her Guardian-*ad litem* 2. Kadrala of Pita Rajmalie Estate in Haputale

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before John Radley Walters, Esq., District Judge of Badulla, on November 22, 1918, in the presence of Mr. S. Supramaniam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner, and the affidavit of the Petitioner: Karuppal of Pita Rajmalie Estate in Haputale having been read:

It is ordered that the 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-*ad litem* over the 1st Respondent, unless the Respondent abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before December 11, 1918, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the Petitioner is the widow of the abovenamed deceased, and as such she is entitled to have letters of Administration to his estate issued to her accordingly, unless sufficient cause is shown to the contrary.

J. R. Walters,  
District Judge.

November 22, 1918.

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## The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1918.

## HOW TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE PEOPLE.

There is one consoling fact that feeds our hope and sustains our optimism amidst all the troubles and tribulations which the people of India and Ceylon have undergone during the war-period and are likely to undergo for a considerable time to come. It is the assurance of getting freedom, equality of status, and equality of opportunity within the Empire. The most intelligent, educated and capable among the people will be given under proper safeguards and limitations the opportunity to initiate, foster and guide the development of their Motherland and to elevate her to a position of equality among the other units of the empire. And as time passes and as the native statesmen and administrators grow in experience and political capacity,

it is proposed to relax the safeguards and limitations by increasing the number of Government Departments under native control and by providing native candidates increasing facilities to secure for themselves the higher appointments in all Departments of the Government. These political boons have already been promised to India, as our readers know, in the most solemn and binding manner possible. But in the case of our Island there is no reason to suppose that the people here will be denied the same freedom and opportunities to grow and develop into an efficient nation, as will be given to India. In fact, political concessions may be given to the Ceylonese with less caution and reserve by the British Government as the Ceylonese are more advanced in general education and more homogenous in national composition. And, moreover, we expect that, in future, the claims of small and weak nationalities will not suffer, but will receive equal justice and considerate treatment at the hands of the statesmen who are entrusted with the work of Imperial reconstruction.

The assurance of greater freedom to the Ceylonese with the conclusion of peace must naturally lead to the devotion of greater responsibility on the people. The devotion of greater responsibility demands the development of the capacity and efficiency of the people to such a degree as to befit them to discharge that responsibility in a worthy manner. And there is no more effective means to increase the efficiency of the people than by education, under a comprehensive system of the most modern type. In the provision of facilities for education, India is more advantageously placed than Ceylon. The absence of a well-equipped University is a crying want in our country. A National University specially adapted to our local requirements in the literary, scientific, commercial, and industrial lines of study is a long felt want. We are glad to note that the Government too, appear to recognise the justice of our complaint, and are taking steps to supply the want with the least possible delay. Ample provision should also be made for post-graduate studies and research works that will be helpful to national growth and for the expansion of the industries of the country. As it is done in other civilised countries, private munificence should also be forthcoming in the shape of liberal endowments in support of special branches of study that may be undertaken by the University.

The following lines from the Convocation Address delivered by Sir Thomas Holland to the Graduates of the Madras University on the 21st ultimo gives special emphasis to the importance of a University in helping the work of reconstruction, both industrial and political, in the present time. He said:—"The time, as I have said, is now ripe for very special and definite step forward. The great war has cut off the finest among our men who would have been ready to come out and assist in the development of India. We want you young men to take their places in the services, in industry, and in business. Those of our young Englishmen who have come through the great ordeal alive, will be wanted for the task of reconstruction at home. It is for you, therefore, whose security has been purchased by the lives of others, to show that you can undertake a share in that industrial regeneration of India which is necessary to make the political advancement effective, permanent, and secure." It is evident from the foregoing words of Sir Thomas Holland that as a result of the war there will be larger demand placed on the Ceylonese to supply efficient men not only for the work of political, commercial, and industrial reconstruction at home, but also for the needs of the other Asiatic and African possessions of the Empire. The establishment of a University and the encouragement of higher education by other means such as foreign scholarships, etc., are the most important needs of Ceylon for increasing the efficiency of her sons.

Equally important as the establishment of a University is the enlargement of the educational influence of Vernacular Schools in the general progress of the Island. The vernacular literature of the land should be improved by new additions in agricultural, commercial, industrial, scientific, and political subjects. Knowledge on these subjects, even of an elementary character, should be imparted to all students, boys as well as girls, through the medium of the vernaculars. Provisions should be made for the opening of public libraries and reading rooms and for the delivery of

graduated courses of popular lectures which should be open to all people, for enlarging their general education and efficiency in their after life.

The concluding portion of Sir Thomas Holland's Address emphasises the necessity of increasing the efficiency and educational opportunities of our students to meet the requirements of the new era of progress that is now opening before us. Sir Thomas says:—

To make your country richer and stronger is an object worthy of your best effort. We want our students to be assets, not liabilities in the national balance sheet. "Our grand business" as Carlyle said, is not to see what lies dimly at a distance but to do what lies clearly at hand, not to dream political dreams, but qualify for public responsibilities.

The essence of the lessons which I wish to impress on you to-day is this: India is on the eve of a great move forward; the country is about to undertake new political privileges which necessarily carry with them corresponding responsibilities. The most obvious practical need of the country is now young Indians in greater numbers capable of undertaking administrative duties as well as industrial enterprises. Administrative work requires an apprenticeship and training as much as any technical art while all modern industries are based on a foundation of science and technology.

If the Universities retain the mobility that should characterise every healthy organism, they will recognise in time and will arrange to provide the kind of training that is most necessary for young men to serve their country and the Empire efficiently.

The new political privileges foreshadowed will necessarily remain barren and ineffective unless supplemented by equally important industrial reforms. The Universities, recognising this, should provide greater facilities for practical training in science and for post graduate work in scientific research, especially on the raw materials of the country. The taste for science must, however, be formed in the schools and colleges; but there is obviously something wrong with a system which results in the annual presentation, through affiliated colleges, of more than twice as many candidates as the examiners find to be suitable for degrees.

It is the duty of all who are responsible for the education of our young men to meet the new requirements and responsibilities necessitated by the new reforms which every true patriot wishes to make a success.

## LOCAL &amp; GENERAL.

**H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT.**—As previously announced in these columns a public meeting of the inhabitants of Jaffna was held at the Ridgeway Hall on Monday the 2nd instant at 4 p. m. The Government Agent presided. There was a large attendance including leading men from different parts of Jaffna. The meeting unanimously resolved to accord His Excellency the Governor a most hearty and loyal welcome on the occasion of his visit to Jaffna. A strong General Committee with the Hon. Mr. A. Sapapathy as Secretary, M. S. Ramalinga Mudaliar as Joint-Secretary, and Mr. K. Kanagasabai, Proctor, as Treasurer, was appointed to carry out the objects of the meeting. Sub-Committees were also appointed with special functions such as decorations, illumination, presentation of address, reception, finance, &c. As announced already His Excellency arrives here on the 15th January. On that day at 2 p. m. three Addresses will be presented to him at the Ridgeway Memorial Hall—one from the Jaffna Local Board, one from the General Public, and one from the Jaffna Headmen. His Excellency will leave Jaffna on the 18th January and will visit Trinamadu on his way to the metropolis.

**MANIAGAR OF KARACHCHI.**—Mr. M. J. Pillinayagam, assessor of the Jaffna Local Board, has been appointed Maniagar of Karachchi, in place of Mr. Chelliah who has been appointed Maniagar of Pachchilapalai.

**DISTRESS IN JAFFNA AND H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S SYMPATHY.**—We thank the Government Agent for sending us for publication the following telegram received by him from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor:—"H. E. hears with great regret of the damage caused by floods in Jaffna district and wishes me to convey his sympathy with the sufferers. Cheque for your fund follows by post." We are sure that this kind and considerate act of His Excellency will be received with gratitude by the Jaffna public.

**PERSONAL.**—Mr. P. Arulambalam, Apothecary-in-charge, Ochempanattu was transferred to Chavakachcheri Dispensary and now he is acting for the Medical Officer there.

**DISTRESS IN JAFFNA AND THE KANDY TAMILS' ASSOCIATION.**—Pursuant to a notice signed by Mr. V. M. Saravanamuttu, President Kandy Tamils' Association, a meeting of the Kandy public was held at 6 p. m. on Saturday the 30th ultimo, at the Tamil Home, Kandy to consider what steps should be taken to afford relief to the distressed in the Jaffna Peninsula on account of the recent floods. Mr. V. M. Saravanamuttu was voted to the Chair and Mr. A. Vijayaratham was elected Secretary (pro tem). The Chairman briefly explained the hardships that the people of Jaffna are undergoing for want of meals and habitations owing to the floods and urged the necessity for immediate collection of funds for the relief of the distressed. It was unanimously decided to raise subscriptions in Kandy and in its outlying dis-

tricts to be sent to the Government Agent, Northern Province as they are collected to be utilized by him for the purpose. A representative committee of all communities was elected for the purpose and they are:—Messrs E. Baven, J. D. Jonikas, E. L. Wijeyagunawardana, Mudaliyar Abdul Rahimano, J. O. Ratwatte, O. S. Rajaratnam, A. Perera, F. A. Oheyasekara, W. B. Goonawardana, V. O. Da Silva, P. B. Rambuwela, A. V. Perera, E. De Silva, J. S. Nicholas, Dr. N. Ponniah, Messrs K. Thammachampillai, P. Samugathiraman, A. Arudpiragasam, N. K. Kanaganayagam, K. Sanmugam, A. Karapathipillai, S. Periyatamby, S. Seliaturai, Rev. G. D. Lenorollo, Messrs L. H. S. Fiers, J. S. D. Silva, D. James, E. Seliappah, S. Anandasundaram, P. Thambiah, N. Sampanthar, M. Ramalingam, and the Office-bearers and committee of the Kandy Tamils' Association with power to add to their number. A working committee was appointed consisting of Messrs. V. M. Saravanamuttu, Proctor S. C. S. Seliappah, S. Sivagunasundaram, A. Vijayaratham, K. Shanmugam, and M. Ramalingam, with Mr. J. N. Vethavanam, Advocate, as Secretary and Treasurer and Mr. S. Ratnam as Assistant Secretary.

—Cor.

**A CEYLONESE I. O. S.**—Mr. T. O. B. Jayaratnam (University Scholar from the Royal College in 1913, and a brother of Dr. G. F. Cooke), who was recently appointed to the Indian Civil Service, is allotted to the Central Provinces and has been granted permission by the Secretary of State for India to pay a short visit to his home in Ceylon before joining his appointment. He leaves England early this month.

**IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.**—Mr. O. Muttuvelu the Irrigation Superintendent of Kinnedy leaves his station on 1st December on a six weeks' furlough and Mr. I. N. Jayasankara I. S. attached to the Head Office Trincomalee will be acting for him during his absence. —Cor.

**REGULATION OF RICE SUPPLY.**—A "Government Gazette" Extraordinary was issued on the 30th ultimo with regulations made by the Governor forbidding the removal or transport of rice by sea from the Eastern Province and by rail from the Southern Province except under permit to be issued by the Government Agents of those Provinces. Any person who contravenes the provisions this regulation shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment of either description for any term not exceeding six months, or to a fine not exceeding Rs. 1,500, or to both. These regulations came into operation on November 28th.

**LECTURES IN PHILOSOPHY BY MR. W. T. STACE, C.C.S.**—The Education Department has arranged the above in Greek and Modern Philosophy. The lectures will be delivered on Mondays and Thursdays at the Government Training College from Jan. 6th at 5.30 p. m. The lectures will probably occupy one year, i.e. three terms. The fees are fixed at Rs. 10 per term. Names and fees should be sent to the Education Office on or before December 20.

**INDIAN REFORMS.**—London Nov. 22.—Mr. Lloyd George's and Mr. Bonar Law's joint manifesto contained the following reference to India:—"The people of this country are not unmindful to the conspicuous services rendered by the Princes and people of India to the common cause of civilisation during the War. The Cabinet has already defined in unmistakable language the goal of British policy in India to be the development of responsible Government by gradual stages. To the general terms of that declaration we adhere, and propose to give effect."

**THE RICE SITUATION.**—Two more shipments of rice have arrived in Colombo: the "Cacutia" from Calcutta with 40,000 bags and the "Mandalay" from Rangoon with 26,000 bags.

**EUROPE TO INDIA BY AIRPLANE.**—Delhi, Nov. 28.—The long talked of attempt to reach India by aeroplane from England is understood to be maturing and arrangements are being made in New Delhi to receive the aviators.—"M. Mail."

**ENGLAND TO INDIA FLIGHT AND INDIAN AIR MAILS.**—In connection with the recent statement that the Government of India had under consideration the question of establishing the aerial postal service in that country, a representative of a leading firm of aeroplane manufacturers is now in India in connection with this question. An interesting development, which may shortly be expected, is an experimental aeroplane flight from England to India.

**"STRIKE" AT THE COLOMBO OIL MILLS.**—Some slight excitement was caused in Grandpass on the morning of the 2nd instant, when it became known that the workmen of the Colombo Oil Mills had "struck" work and refused to resume unless their "demands" were met. But these were not actually the facts. The men (about 300) did not start work as usual. They represented to the manager that owing to the high cost of rice they were unable to continue on their present wage. After a "talk" the men went back to work. We understand the manager met the men's request very reasonably promising to consider their wages, and as stoppage was made entirely due to the increased cost of rice, they would, like firms, supply them with this commodity at certain rates till the situation had improved. —"Ceylon Observer," Dec.



**Y. M. B. A. CHULIPURAM**—At the week y meeting held on Sunday the 1st instant in the Association hall Mr. S. Banaji, the Treasurer of the Association, delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on "Bakti Mahatvayam of Pottan Sampam" in Tamil. The lecture was highly appreciated by the audience. —Cor.

#### THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER.

#### THE KATARAGAMA PILGRIMAGE.

At Wednesday's Council Meeting the Hon. Mr. Sapapathy in moving that Government be pleased to place the pilgrimage to Kataragama Temple on the same footing as pilgrimages to the other shrines in the Island by the removal of the special restrictions imposed on the former, said that the temple at Kataragama was a most ancient one in Ceylon, held in the highest veneration not only by the Hindus of Ceylon, but also by the Hindus of India. To an orthodox and devout Hindu the most meritorious act of his life was to go on a pilgrimage to Kataragama. It was also a temple held in veneration by Buddhists. The connection of that temple with Buddhism was such that although the vast majority of worshippers and pilgrims were Hindus, its trustees were Buddhists. Till the year 1878 there were no restrictions imposed on those pilgrims. It was a time when Cholera prevailed to an alarming extent in the Island on account of the cool immigration via Mannar. It was also a time when Cholera carried on their way procession from here to Kataragama, and it was accompanied by a vast concourse of people, mostly Indian Coolies from infected parts of Ceylon. The long journey on foot and the insanitary conditions of the stoppages on the way and also the insanitary condition of the surroundings of the temple resulted in outbreaks of cholera and other infectious and contagious diseases on occasion of festivals. That state of affairs necessitated the passing of Ordinance No. 14 of 1878, called 'an Ordinance relating to pilgrimage to Kataragama' imposing restrictions on that pilgrimage. But, thanks to the British rule, the sanitary condition of Ceylon was undergoing a complete change. Cholera or small-pox no longer broke out in epidemic form, and when cases did occur they were stamped out by the prompt measures adopted by Government. That immunity the Island enjoyed was not due to the restrictions placed on the pilgrimage, but to the general sanitary improvement of the Island and the precautionary measures adopted by Government in preventing the introduction of diseases from outside. The Cholera no longer carried their full festival to Kataragama. They now carried it in grand splendour every year from Colombo to Kataragama was also now improved. Passengers now travelled almost the whole way by train and by proper roads except a short distance on the temple side which still remained to be constructed as a proper road. In view of the altered circumstances the Government repealed the present Ordinance and passed in its place 'Ordinance 18 of 1896, entitled 'an Ordinance re-

(Continued on page 172.)

#### UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

#### THE ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

A Convocation for the purpose of conferring degrees was held in the Senate House yesterday at 4.30 p.m. H. E. Lord Pentland, the Chancellor accompanied by his Private Secretary, Military Secretary and Aide-de-Camp drove in state to the Senate House escorted by a detachment of H. E. Body Guard under the command of Lt. Douglas Smith. The Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Fellows assembled in the old Senate Room at about 4 p.m. The Fellows having taken their seats the reports of the examiners were presented to them.

The Graces of the Senate on behalf of the candidates for admission to the several degrees were supplicated and passed. Then the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Fellows proceeded in procession to the Hall in which the degrees were conferred. The candidates wearing the gowns and hoods pertaining to their respective degrees were seated opposite to the Chancellor. On the procession entering the hall, the candidates rose and remained standing until the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Fellows had taken their seats. Then the Chancellor said:—

This Convocation of the Senate of the University of Madras has been called to confer degrees upon the candidates who, in the examinations recently held for the purpose, have been certified to be worthy of the same. Let the candidates stand forward.

The usual questions were then put to the candidates by the Chancellor and answered. The candidates were presented to the Chancellor by the several gentlemen selected for the purpose. The Chancellor admitted them to their respective degrees and authorised them to wear the hood ordained as the insignia of their degree.

After signing the record of degrees the Chancellor called upon Sir Thomas Holland K.C.S.I., F.R.S., to deliver the Convocation Address.

The address being ended, the Chancellor dissolved the Convocation and proposed three cheers to the King-Emperor which was loudly and cheerfully responded to. The Band played National Anthem. The gathering then dispersed.

One thousand two hundred and five candidates in all took their degree at this Convocation: M. L. 6, B. L. 176, M. B. and B. 8, L. M. and L. 20, B. E. 8, L. T. 88, M. A. 74, B. A. (Honours) 86, B. A. 622, Oriental Titles 40, "In Absentia" Degrees—77.

#### LADY GRADUATES.

Twenty lady candidates took their degree amidst the thundering applause of the audience. L.M.S.—1, L.T.—4, B.A. (Hons)—1, and B.A.—14. —The Hindu.

#### THE UP-COUNTRY GENERAL PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION.

#### FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING.

Minutes of the Fourth Annual General Meeting of the above Association held at "Portwood" Office on Saturday the 16th November, 1918, when Mr. K. D. H. Disanayake, the president of

the Association occupied the Chair, and the present were:—Messrs. D. A. Weerakoon, P. B. Bandaranayake, J. P. Ampalavanar, R. Anandaraman, Reg. Wise, A. Adikavathan, T. Sinnathambi, P. B. Mullegama, S. W. C. Coonnanayakam and S. R. Sathaseevan (Secretary).

Notice convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the third Annual General Meeting held on the 15th September, 1917, were read, confirmed and signed.

The next business in the agenda was to receive the Report of the Managing Committee and the Audited Statement of Accounts to end of 30th June, 1918.

In proposing the adoption of the Report and the Audited statement of Accounts as circulated, the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in moving the adoption of the Report which has been in your hands for some time. I consider this to be a most favourable occasion in the history of our Association. We are celebrating the Fourth Annual Meeting of this Association and when I turn back to look behind over the four years we have completed, I see, that our work hitherto was an uphill one. Unfortunately for us with the opening of our Association the great European War, the greatest in the history of the world, broke out. Needless for me, gentlemen, to say how much the War has hindered and obstructed the growth of our Association. In one occasion I was so much depressed and worried over the affairs of the Association that I even suggested to our energetic Secretary that it would be better for us to liquidate and close it. The Secretary being full of hopes my suggestion did not take any shape. Today gentlemen with the dawn of Peace, the prospect of a bright future before us, and with your co-operation and support, it is needless to prophesy that a most prosperous future for the Association with immense possibilities for every success awaits us. I do therefore move that the Report and Statement of Accounts be adopted and passed.

Mr. S. W. C. Coonnanayakam in seconding the resolution said:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I as one of the original promoters of this Association, have great pleasure in getting up at this auspicious time to second the resolution that has been so ably proposed by our Chairman. I call this auspicious time for reasons more than one. Fortunately for us it so happened, gentlemen, to celebrate our anniversary in this day, which is a special public holiday in honour of the victory gained by the British and her Allies over the wicked but powerful enemy. In the ordinary course of events our annual celebration should have taken place somewhere in July or August. But unfortunately for us then, but fortunately as I should think now, owing to the prevalence of Influenza Pandemic which has been spreading in the District, and other minor inconveniences the celebration stood postponed until now. As our Chairman said, this gave us an opportunity of celebrating the occasion along with the Peace Celebration. I should not miss here to express our great joy and united congratulations to His Majesty the King for the splendid success our Army and Navy have had and the magnificent victory achieved. (Loud and continued applause.)

Another point I wish to mention is, that in spite of the disadvantages period we have just completed our Association has done splendid work as may be found by a careful study of the accounts. I may tell you, gentlemen, that today if the Managing Committee choose they can declare a dividend of 5% on the invested capital of the members as profit earned by way of investment &c. But the wisdom of the Managing Committee reserves it for a future time to be dealt with handsomely. Is this not a sure sign of substantial growth, prudent management, and capable investment, for the benefit of all those concerned.

Without tiring you with a lengthy speech, I would now second with pleasure the adoption and confirmation of the Report and accounts. Carried unanimously.

The following the election of Office-bearers and the Managing Committee for the current season and resulted as follows:—

Chairman:—Mr. S. W. C. Coonnanayakam.  
Treasurer:—Mr. P. B. Bandaranayaka, re-elected.  
Secretary:—Mr. S. R. Sathaseevan, re-elected.

#### MANAGING COMMITTEE 1918-1919.

Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Messrs. K. D. H. Disanayake, Everard Bartholomew, R. Arulantham, D. D. B. Ehelanaipe, D. A. Weerakoon, J. P. Ampalavanar, P. B. Mullegama and A. Adikavathan.

HON. AUDITOR.—It was proposed by Mr. S. R. Sathaseevan and seconded by Mr. Reg. Wise, that Mr. A. J. Volam of Court Lodge be elected Honorary Auditor. Carried.

RESOLUTION.—With the unanimous consent of all the members present at the meeting Mr. J. P. Ampalavanar brought forward again the subject amending the existing Application form. This subject was well threshed out, and proposed by Mr. Ampalavanar and seconded by Mr. R. Arulantham and carried unanimously:—That the medical certificate in the existing Application Form A be suspended for a year in the event of members joining the Association being unable to produce one and in such cases to authorise the Managing Committee to accept certificate &/or recommendation from one or more members of the Association and to amend the Application form to suit the purpose.

VOTE OF THANKS.—Votes of thanks to (1) Mr. R. F. Megginson the Honorary Auditor for the valuable services rendered to the Association for the past three successive seasons, (2) to the Retiring Managing Committee and (3) to the Ceylon Press who published the proceedings from time to time were passed; and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

S. R. SATHASEEVAN,  
Hony. Secretary.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO JAFFNA.

Sir,

As one of those present at the public meeting held last Monday to consider the steps to be taken to accord a fitting reception to His Excellency Sir William Manning on his visit

to this District next month, may I be permitted to say that there was a general impression among those present against spending a large sum of money for purely or almost purely ceremonial purposes, such as for decorations and illuminations, when all available money is required to relieve the acute distress being felt in the country.

We have to consider His Excellency's visit in two aspects. He comes to us, in the first place, in the capacity of the sole representative, in this Island, of His Majesty the King. As such representative he is entitled to all marks of honour which can be shown by us, particularly when he makes his first official visit.

In the second place he comes to us as an administrator in whose hands lies much power to promote or retard the welfare of the people. Administrators are concerned with efficient and orderly government. To carry out administrative measures efficiently and so as to promote public welfare requires a first-hand knowledge of the people on the part of the Governing Authorities.

Particularly, as is the case with us in Ceylon, where the ruling Authorities belong to a race which is different in traditions, customs, and modes of life from the races ruled, there is the greater necessity for the ruling Authorities to move among the people and see them as they live their workaday life.

When public welcomes are given to Administrators there is the danger that the festive aspect will take precedence of and even blot out of view the utilitarian aspect. This has to be guarded against. It is to be hoped that when His Excellency makes his visit to us, steps will be taken to acquaint him with the real conditions of the people of this District. As was pointed out by you, Jaffna has suffered more than one disaster in the recent past in the form of the influenza pandemic, heavy floods, and a scarcity of and an unprecedented rise in the price of foodstuffs. There is also the possibility of a virulent malarial epidemic breaking out within the next few weeks.

There is much distress in the country, and hundreds of families are dragging out a miserable existence. If His Excellency makes a personal visit round the District, and sees the people in their every-day life by making a visit to their homes without previous intimation he will be impressed with the hard conditions under which the people live.

It is to be hoped that the public address which is to be presented to His Excellency will give a true picture of local conditions, and draw his attention to such matters as the necessity for improving the drainage of the District, food control &c. &c.

When His Excellency leaves this District after his visit he should carry away with him not only a pleasant memory of his visit but a correct knowledge of local conditions.

Jaffna, 3-12-18. Yours truly,  
C. Arulanbalam.

#### JAFFNA FOOTBALL.

Will you allow me, Sir, to write a few lines about 'Jaffna Football'? I call it 'Jaffna Football' as this game is played in Jaffna in a peculiar and an amusing way. I have had the misfortune to witness some of the matches played at Jaffna in connection with cup competition, and they have impressed me most uncomfortably with their oddities, that I would fain relieve my mind of them by writing.

Shoving a player away from the ball is called 'shouldering' as the shoving is expected to be done with the help of the 'shoulders'. But I saw Jaffna boys 'shouldering' not with their shoulders, but they brought other fleshy parts of their anatomy to bear on the opponents' abdomens, which often resulted in their getting unconsciously into the leap-frog position, thus leaving their victims in an uncertainty as to their intention.

Once I happened to go into the Esplanade after the match started, and found something at the furthest end from me on all fours. As I was short-sighted I was in doubt as to whether that 'something' belonged to the canine species or to the human as it looked half like a boy and half like a scared bitch with its tail between its legs, when that 'something' itself gave proof of its identity by biting the leg of a neighbouring boy. When I looked round in horror for explanation, my nearest neighbour shouted in my ear "that 'crank' has done it again."

Once a boy was most uncomfortably rolled on the ground; but when he sufficiently recovered himself and got on his 'stumps', he landed a tight slap on his opponent's face and coolly gave it as his opinion to the Referee that it was not a 'foul' as the ball was then 'dead'.

On another occasion a boy who was thoroughly 'tugged' out at the close of the game deliberately used his hands to stop the ball and when the Referee pulled him up he said that he would be glad if an opportunity was given to him to use his hands as his legs were stiff as lamp-posts.

I won't take any more space; but, in conclusion, I sincerely hope that such incongruities will be dispensed with in the future. However amusing that may be, one should not sacrifice correctness of play for amusement of spectators.

2nd Dec 1918. COLOMBO FOOTBALL.

#### ELECTIONS FOR THE ROAD COMMITTEES.

Sir,

The Jaffna District Road Committee Elections came off on the 27th instant. The candidates who fought election on 27th appear, all residents within the Jaffna Local Board limits. The Chairman acting under the Ordinance disqualified all the three candidates on the ground that they are residents of the Town. Ever since the District Road Committee came into existence in Jaffna, it has been the practice to elect candidates who are residents of the town. Even after the establishment of the Local Board in 1907 this practice had been followed. Probably the previous Government Agents were not aware of this interpretation of the provisions of the Ordinance relating to the qualification of the candidates and voters.

I understand that the nomination of members for the Provincial Road Committee comes off at the end of the year. Applying the principle followed by the Chairman of the District Road Committee it would be only fair that the members for the Provincial Road Committee also should be sought for from residents outside the Local Board limits. Fortunately there are several respectable, cultured and experienced gentlemen outside the Local Board limits. M. A. like C. M. Chinniah, G. Mudalitar, Mr. T. H. Crossette, Principal Manipay Hindu College, Prof. J. V. Chelliah, Jaffna College, Rev. J. K. Sinnathamby of Chavakachcheri, Fr. S. Subramaniam of Point Pedro, Prof. Allen Abraham of Jaffna College, would I am sure be willing to serve and prove themselves to be acceptable to the Committee.

I also take this opportunity, Sir, to point out to our Government Agent that out of the three nominated members of the Provincial Road Committee, two belong to the same family being close relations living within a few yards of each other within the Local Board limits. I doubt whether this fact was ever brought to the notice of our Government Agent.

It seems also that one of the nominated members has now been in the Committee for several years. If our Government Agent is only apprised of this fact he will be only too pleased to nominate some of our deserving experienced gentlemen from the outlying districts of Jaffna.

Jaffna, 30th November, 1918. I am Sir, Yours,  
"RATE PAYER."

#### LOCAL LORE.

The outlook of the Jaffna road for the rest of this year and next is most disappointing, with damage to crops, cattle and other property caused by the recent floods, the influenza epidemic still on, the prospect of malarial fever as the result of rains, the famine prices of foodstuffs, and a host of other misfortunes. Now these floods could have been avoided had government seen to it that the country was provided with decent drainage, and if there had been no floods we would not have to wait today over many another misfortune. And as regards famine prices the impression is abroad that government could have prevented those bloated prices and prevented scarcity. Government should see that it is no healthy sign to let such impressions get abroad among a peaceful population. If the general belief of the people as to "cornering" of foodstuffs is false it will be to the credit of the government to disabuse their minds of this false belief.

Is there nothing in this place to control persons of unsound mind. I have met three such apparently insane persons in three different localities during the past week and as far as I have seen these unfortunate persons are at liberty. Not all of them are exactly dangerous to the public, indeed, one of them is even entertaining with a stinging, repulsive, if annoying, but another person near Maruthanmadam appears to require control. One day he was seen brandishing a Mamotte belonging to road coolies, and dancing and gesticulating. Now should not this unfortunate man and others of his ilk be under somebody's control?

If I may make a suggestion to the public without consciously offending them I would request them to consider the usefulness of eschewing all pomp and display from the reception to H. E. the Governor next month. To deprive the occasion of all semblance of "show" and make it as simple as possible would be quite in keeping with the times and circumstances, and no one who looks upon such a simple reception with clearness can say that it will be less respectful than if it was attended with all the pomp and circumstance that characterise such functions and for which we of Jaffna have acquired a strange facility, and even fame!

I may be wrong, but I felt on reading about the last fireworks display in Colombo that there was something akin to childlike less in the evident gle with which the effigy of the ex-Kaiser was burnt publicly. One reporter added the remark that the last throes of the burning effigy were in the form of a moon accomplished by some mechanical contrivance. Now this manner of celebrating the signing of the armistice may be peculiar to Europe or America or Africa or Asia or any other part of the world, but, to me, humble me, it looks childish. Perhaps I am mistaken!

It is all very well for the government to raise the railway fares but one would expect them to be at least ordinarily alive to the needs of the travelling public. There may be reasons which nobody not connected with the railway may see, that require that the bulk of the stations on the Northern line should have uncovered platforms, but can the Government give any reasonable reason for leaving such an important Station as Madawachya Junction without a roofed platform. Any ordinary person will see that at a station where passengers have to stay a couple of hours at dead of night should afford shelter, if not as value for money paid at least as an act of charity towards humanity. Should it rain during these two frightful hours at Madawachya where are all the passengers to run to with their luggage if they are minded to have shelter. Would the General Manager and his family with their luggage spend three minutes on the Madawachya platform during a rainy night without wearing at something or somebody.

Jaffna, 2-12-18. LANKA.



—*The Ceylon Observer*; 1891

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