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 10-12-18. **JAFFNA.**

NOTICE.

Applications for the post of Superintendent of Minor Works, Jaffna District, will be received by the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee, Northern Province, up to the 20th of December, 1918. Salary Rs. 2400/- per annum rising to Rs. 3300/- by nine annual increments.
 A travelling allowance of Rs. 100/- per month is made subject to the Chairman being satisfied that such expenses were incurred on account of travelling.
 Applicants will have to satisfy the Committee as to their general education and knowledge of accounts, Surveying and Practical Engineering, Command of Labour and Physical Fitness.
B. HORSBURGH,
 Chairman.
 Provincial Road Committee's Office,
 Jaffna, 6th December, 1918.

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1918.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR ON THE PROPOSED CEYLON UNIVERSITY.

His Excellency the Governor presided at the prize-distribution of the Colombo Royal College and delivered an important address on educational matters which, we are sure, will be widely read with interest by the Ceylonese. Our readers will find this address, as well as the addresses delivered on the occasion by Mr. E. B. Denham and the Hon. Mr. K. Balasingam, published in this issue. What gives special importance to the address of H. E. the Governor is the reference to the proposed Ceylon University which it contains. This is the first pronouncement of the new Governor on education—on University education specially—which is of the most vital importance to the advancement of Ceylonese national interests, in the Imperial reconstruction that is about to take place. Ceylon contributed her quota of help for the achievement of the great victory over German militarism and autocracy and naturally expects to get her share in the fruits of the victory. In the near future, therefore, our Island will be called upon to take, along with India and the other parts of the Empire, her due share of political liberty and administrative responsibility for which she had been continually agitating and praying for a long time. It is of special importance, therefore, that in future, she should have increased facilities for higher education in all departments of knowledge. A University, well equipped to meet every modern requirement in education, is an indispensable institution for the growth of a community. The pronouncement of His Excellency on a subject of such vital importance is sure to be closely scanned and scrutinized by all Ceylonese.

At the outset, it will be seen that the Governor is in deep sympathy with the demand of the Ceylonese for a University. But when it comes to the means for establishing a University the words of His Excellency seem to be somewhat faltering and falling short of popular expectations. In the report of the address published by our daily contemporaries His Excellency is found to invite the generous support of the public for the University. No one can gainsay the force of his words in this connection. But he says further on that: "if we can get them (the public) to come forward and put up a sum which shall be sufficient, first of all for the buildings and then for the endowments, I have no doubt Government will also come forward and do its share." If these words imply that the responsibility of the Government in this question is to be confined only to the extent of supporting private munificence, then, we are sure these words will carry a feeling of sad disappointment throughout Ceylon. This version of His Excellency's words which, we find, is also adopted by our Ceylonese contemporaries, is totally at variance with the past declarations and promises of the Ceylon Government on the subject. We are, therefore, inclined to the belief that this portion of the address may be badly reported. What His Excellency really meant may be that the Ceylon Government while fully accepting its responsibility to provide the people with a University, appeals also at the same time to private munificence, which is to be utilised to supplement the Government's effort by providing endowments for effecting desirable extensions in the University, especially in the direction of post-graduate studies and researches in the history, philosophy and archaeology of the Island as well as in the development of her potential wealth through scientific researches.

We refuse to believe that His Excellency had any intention to shelve the question of a University until private munificence comes to its aid.

No Government of the present day can dispute the proposition that education is one of its primary duties. Whether private benefactions come to its aid or not, the Government is bound to attend to this. As the efficiency of the people in the religious, political, industrial, and commercial sides of their national life depends entirely on their education, no Government which feels its responsibility to the people can afford to neglect this under any pretext. Even the most embarrassing financial burdens and distractions consequent on the most devastating War, did not prevent the British Government enlarging its expenditure on education. The historic Education Act of Mr. H. A. L. Fisher, the Minister for Education, enunciates in the preamble that its aim is "the establishment of a national system of education available for all persons capable of profiting thereby." In introducing the Bill Mr. Fisher is reported to have said:—"The Bill claims the principle of the right of youth. We hold that young people have a right to be educated, and that youth is the period specially set apart for that purpose." It is estimated that when Mr. Fisher's Scheme is in full operation, the total annual outlay on education, out of rates and taxes, will be between £60 and £70 millions. It is held in England that the Educational Highway should be kept open and free for all her citizens. In the British Colonies and in India the same principle is upheld by their respective Governments. Those who have read the addresses of H. E. The Maharaja of Mysore and of Sir Ashutosh Mukerjee at the first Convocation of the Mysore University, which were published in our columns, will remember how highly the Government of that Native State values the higher education of her subjects. It is remarkable that, in Mysore, University education in the Arts course has been made free for all students of that State.

In urging the importance of the Government's responsibility to establish a University, we do not intend to belittle the need of private benefactions for education. In the field of Vernacular education the vast majority of Ceylonese children who are Buddhists and Hindus are obliged to receive their education in schools which are conducted by religious bodies who subject them to their proselytising influence. The growth of religious indifference and scepticism among the students, which is an indirect result of the exercise of this proselytising influence on the immature minds of children in schools, threatens to become a national danger. Private benefactions should come in to rescue the Hindu and Buddhist children from these proselytising schools and to establish insituations for the education of these children without detriment to their faith in their national religions and ideals of life. In Secondary and University education too there will be great need for the munificence of our wealthy men to safeguard the religious interests of their students by establishing hostels and by founding chairs in the University for promoting the study of their ancient literature and philosophy.

We are on the eve of great changes, not the least important of which will be the admission of India as a self-governing unit of the Empire. We earnestly appeal to the Government of Ceylon to champion the cause of the Ceylonese who have been so long under its tutelage, and gain for them the same political rights as may be conceded to India.

Important Notice to Our Subscribers.

As we are reprinting the Addresses of Subscribers, and as we understand that there are some cases in which our paper is sent to wrong addresses owing to the failure of some of our Subscribers to notify to us the change of their address, we invite them to communicate to us instances of such mistakes so that we may amend them.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—The sky is continually overcast and it is drizzling off and on with cold breeze typical of the Karthikai month.
PERSONAL.—Mr. C. T. Rajah of Neuchatel, has been appointed Head Clerk, Putupsala Estate, Néboda. He assumes duties on the 10th inst.

THIRUVEMPAVAI PUJA.—This special religious service which commenced in all Hindu Temples on Tuesday will conclude on Thursday the 19th inst. with the Thiruvattai Darshanam. Many pilgrims have left Jaffna to attend the Darshanam at Chidambaram which takes place on Thursday.

THE RICE MARKET.—There is an appreciable reduction in the price of paddy which is selling at Rs. 3 to Rs. 3.25 per bushel. Rice from Indian paddy locally husked is now largely sold in the market at 34 cents per measure. Rangoon rice which sells at a higher rate is not much in demand.

JAFFNA SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE.—A very interesting lecture on "Temperance" was delivered under the auspices of the league and the College Y. M. C. A. by Rev. J. Bioknell, Mr. N. Seivadurai B.A. occupied the chair. The lecturer ably dealt with the subject discussing the abolition of the liquor traffic through Legislation, and the testimony of Scientists Doctors, Employers and teachers in favour of abolition. Remarks were offered by Messrs. J. H. P. Vijayarathnam and O. Arulambalam, Advocate, who also proposed a vote of thanks to the chair. The chairman after a few remarks seconded the vote of thanks. The meeting terminated with a few words of introduction by the Secretary to his tract on Temperance Reform and a vote of thanks to the chair and the Principal of the College.—Cor.

THE GOVERNOR AT THE ORIENT CLUB.—H. E. the Governor was the guest of the Orient Club, Colombo, at dinner on Saturday last, when about 100 members sat down. The Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando presided and gave the loyal toast and then the health of the Governor which was drunk with great cordiality. His Excellency replied at considerable length, going fully into the several questions that Dr. Fernando had raised and creating a most excellent impression upon his hosts. Both before and after the dinner, a number of members were introduced to the Governor, who chatted pleasantly with all whom he met, manifesting a most encouraging interest in local affairs and delighting everyone who had the privilege of conversing with him. It was quite a late hour when His Excellency left, amid vigorous declarations, musical and otherwise, from the members, that he was "a jolly good fellow."
 —"M. Leader."

ARRIVAL OF POSTAGE STAMPS.—A large consignment of the 6 cents Postage Stamps was received on Saturday from England and was removed to the Treasury. The consignment is said to be worth Rs. 35,000.

ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.—Information has been received that Mr. John Fox, Assistant Postmaster-General, who went on long leave, owing to ill-health, will be returning to the Island next month.

ALLEGED SMUGGLING OF RUBIES INTO COLOMBO.—Inspector Hay de Saram of the C. I. D. produced on the 9th instant M. Mohideen, an Indian Moore trader, before the Police Magistrate, Colombo, on a charge of smuggling rubies and other precious stones into Colombo and thereby cheating the Principal Collector of Customs. The Inspector said proceedings would have to be non-summarily as the amount involved was Rs. 4,600,000 (duty). The stones weighed some 46,000 carats, at Rs. 100 per carat. Mr. Pereira for the accused applied for a postponement till the 16th inst., as he wished to see the Principal Collector of Customs. The accused had been fined Rs. 2,000 by the Principal Collector of Customs, but he had not paid the fine hence this prosecution. Possibly the case might be withdrawn. The case was postponed for the 16th inst. being allowed in Rs. 2,000.

RECEPTION TO A NEW REGISTRAR.—The residents of Kopay, Irupalai, Keliyanadu, Urelu and Urumpirai met at the Kopay Navalar School on the 5th instant to congratulate Mr. V. Thamotherampillai on his appointment as Registrar of the Division. The hall was crowded before the appointed hour and the New Registrar, came in accompanied by the leading residents of the place. Mr. O. Velauthampillai, Government Pensioner, was voted to the chair and Mr. S. Kumarasuriar was appointed Secretary, Srimat V. Kumaraswamy Pulavar spoke on the sterling good qualities of the New Registrar and was followed by Mr. Christian A. Chinnippah, Mr. S. Appapillai of Neervali proposed and Mr. V. Saemogalingam, Surveyor, Irupalai seconded that the Secretary be authorised to convey to the Government Agent and the Maniagar the sincere thanks of the residents for having made such a choice. The proceedings were enlivened with select Indian music at intervals and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair. The New Registrar was then taken in procession with music to his residence where all the visitors were treated to light refreshments. The gathering dispersed at a late hour with serving of batal and sandanam and the sprinkling of rose water.—Cor.

RIOT PRISONERS RELEASED.—In accordance with the announcement made by H. E. the Governor at the last meeting of the Legislative Council about 50 riot prisoners were released from the Welikade Jail on Friday last.

THE REVENUE OF CEYLON.—For the first 10 months of the last financial year has totalled Rs. 63,256,486 compared with Rs. 54,823,123 and 54,236,641 for the same period in the previous two years.

