

The Hindu Organ.

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3688.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Poopathi Ammal wife of Sinnatamby Chel-
liah of Vannarpannai East

Sinnatamby Chelliah of Vannarpannai East
Deceased.
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Thisarajah Kasippillai of Vannarpannai East
2. Bahavathy Ammal daughter of Sinnatamby Chelliah of Do.
3. Chelliah Somanathan of Do.
4. Kumbalampikal daughter of Sinnatamby Chelliah of Do.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Sinnatamby Chelliah of Vannarpannai East, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Poopathi Ammal wife of Sinnatamby Chelliah of Vannarpannai East, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris, Doctor of Letters, District Judge, on October 9, 1918, in the presence of Messrs. Chelvadurai and Ramalingam, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated December 19, 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 Respondents or any other person shall, on or before January 9, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

J. Homer Vanniasingam,
December 12, 1918. Acting District Judge.

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10-12-18.

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R. SIVAGURUNATHAN, Secy., J.H.C.O.B.A.

Jaffna, December 12, 1918

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1919.

THE HISTORIC GREETING.

The deafening clash of arms is over; the stillness of peace has come on earth to reign—such is the fervent wish and hope—for evermore. The rulers of nations, the highest placed in office, the best and cleverest on earth, the statesmen who rule the destinies of hundreds of millions of human beings of diverse races and creeds distributed over a vast area of the world are all met together in common council to devise the best ways and means of securing a most glorious end, Permanent Peace on earth. We are on the way to the consummation of this Grand Purpose. The gloom that had overhung our globe for four long years has vanished, and has given way to the dawn of a new day of rejoicings, of festivities, of cordial greetings, of the claspings of nations in the embrace of brotherhood. In point of world-wide importance, in the promise of things which are to come, never before, perhaps, has history recorded a scene more grand, or more impressive than that which witnessed the historic exchange of greetings, in the Buckingham Palace, between His Majesty King George V. and Mr. Wilson, August President of the United States. As an oration, brief as it is, as was a speech at a banquet, His Majesty's will, by universal consent, be ranked as a classic. There is a full, unreserved opening of the heart towards Mr. Wilson and the great American people. With the happiest of happy phrases, His Majesty has so touched on chords of common ancestry, common traditions, common struggles for constitutional freedom, that they are bound to thrill both Britishers and Americans through and through, and draw them in bonds of union and cooperation closer than they are already existing.

But has the Royal speech no message for us, who are neither Britishers nor Americans? Is there nothing in President Wilson's Response to the Royal Toast to fill us with joy, hope and enthusiasm? He who thinks so has either not read the speeches at all, or, reading them, has not read them aright. There is, in

both the speeches, a Message of a Grand Promise, not only to European, but Asiatic nations as well. For says His Most Gracious Majesty, "Privileged as we have been to be the exponents and examples in the national life of the principles of popular self-government, based upon equal laws, it now falls to both of us alike to see how these principles can be applied beyond our own borders for the good of the world." President Wilson is equally emphatic on the point. "America," says the President, "does not love freedom unselfishly..... We have all of us used the great words right and justice, and now we are to prove whether or not we understand those words and how they are to be applied to particular settlements which must conclude this War. We must not only understand them, but we must have the courage to act upon our understanding. Yet after I have uttered the word courage it comes to my mind that it would take more courage to resist the great moral tide now running in the world than to yield to it and obey it..... Men have never been so conscious of their brotherhood. Men have never before realised how little difference there was between right and justice in one latitude, and in another under one sovereignty, and under another."

Can any one say, after reading the speeches at the historic greeting between His Majesty and the President that they have no message for us? None can say that. For the Message is clearly written thus, "There is little difference between right and justice in one latitude, and in another under one sovereignty." That is the Message of Hope for us in Asiatic countries.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

PUBLIC LECTURES—His Holiness Srimath Swami Sharvasanda, will deliver two lectures on "Dynamic Hinduism" and "Self Sacrifice and Self Attainment" at the Jaffna Hindu College Hall on Saturday and Sunday the 4th and 5th of January 1919, commencing at 3.30 p. m., each day, under the auspices of the Pethah Y. M. H. A.

CHIDAMBARAM SAIVAPRAKASA VIDYASALAI.—In accordance with the instructions left by the late Mr. S Ponnambalappillai, Mr. T Kailassapillai, Manager of the Jaffna Saivaprakasa Vidyasalai, who was present at Chidambaram, has installed Mr. S Viswanathapillai in the management of this school, Mr. Viswanathapillai was born in Jaffna and was an old student of the school and was living with, and studying for a long time under the late Mr. Ponnambalappillai as his favourite disciple.

IMPROVED TRAIN SERVICE.—In all probability, the proposed increased train service and resumption of the Sunday trains will come into operation about March next. For the present it is proposed from about January 15th, to add to the number of trains now run, ten per cent of the normal train service.

PERSONAL.—The Hon. Mr. F Bowes C. M. G., Principal Collector of Customs, has left for Calcutta on a short holiday.

—Mr. T Kailassapillai, Manager, Navalur School, Jaffna, who went to Chidambaram on a visit to Saivaprakasa Vidyasalai, returned to Jaffna on Monday last.

KANDYAN CHIEFS' ARMISTICE DINNER.—The Kandyan Chiefs, per the Diyawadana Nilame, have issued invitations to a dinner to be given in commemoration of the Great Allied Victory at the Queen's Hotel, Kandy, on the 31st instant, at 8 p. m. H. E. the Governor has been pleased to accept the invitation.

"ARMISTICE" PERABERA AT KANDY.—The "Armistice" Perabera at Kandy tonight was one of the grandest ever witnessed in Kandy. In addition to the Dalada Maligawa Perabera and the Perabera of the four Kandy Deities—Nata, Maha, Kataragama and Pattini—the R. M.'s of the Central Provinces Divisions, provided separate processions from the various Devalas in their Divisions, which added much to the occasion. There were extra dancers and musicians, including masked devil dancers, stick-dancers, stilt walkers, whip crackers, etc. One noticeable feature was a large union jack carried on an elephant of the Dalada Maligawa Perabera, immediately followed by the Sinhalese National Flag on another elephant. The Union Jack was carried by all the peraberas. One thing noticed was the Mohammedan stick dancers in fez caps in the Udu Nawara Perabera. The extra lights, dances and musicians added considerably to the beauty of the procession, a very long one. 124 elephants took part in the procession; the number is said to be a record. The route taken was also an unusual one. The procession starting from the Dalada Maligawa turned into Victoria Drive—a route taken for the first time in the history of the perabera. The sight from the Bund or the United Service Library was one never to be forgotten. The lights and other accompaniments mirrored in the lake was gorgeous. Finishing the Victoria Drive the procession entered Trinco-

malle Street and did a complete circuit of the town before finishing. In all 24 peraberas from the various devalas in the Central Province took part. Several parties with transparenies singing songs suitable for the occasion also joined in the procession. The crowd was one the biggest witnessed in Kandy. H. E. the Governor accompanied by the Hon. Mrs. Trefusis and Hon. Robert Trefusis, arrived at the Dalada Maligawa and were accorded special seats in the Octagon from where they witnessed the perabera. All dancers, &c., made a right halt in front of the Octagon and gave their best exhibitions. —Kandy Cor., Dec 30, "Observer."

THE AEROPLANE AND THE RAT.—We are now told more about the rat which entered the Handly Page aeroplane. It was we have heard gnawing, after leaving Obabar and at Karachi, which was the next stopping place, the guard who protected the machine during the night heard the rat continuing its nibbling. The rat could not, however, be located or caught. After leaving Karachi its activities went on and as it was thought it might be gnawing some important part of the machine it was decided to see if cold would have any effect on its energies. The machine was accordingly taken to over 10,000 feet and this was too much for a rat nurtured in the balmy warmth of the Persian Gulf and frozen or benumbed with cold, it could apparently hold on no longer and dropped off into space. —"Englishman."

THE ELECTIONS.—Though the complete results of the British elections are not to hand at the moment of writing, it is pretty clear that the Coalitionists will have a very substantial majority, well over 200, and the Premier can have no more fitting testimonial of the nation's appreciation of his efforts of the strenuous past than the results which have already been announced. He is provided with a clear mandate from the country for the great work of reconstruction which he now proposes to tackle; and though the percentage of electorates voting appears to be small, there is no doubt that, were conditions more favourable to an Election, the results would be even more definite in his favour. One of the sensations of the Election has been the defeat of Mr. Asquith and other ex-Ministers of what has been somewhat vulgarly described as "the old gang" and it is patent that the country is in no mood for Party Government at the present time when stupendous problems such as housing the health of the people, and the reorganisation of industry require to be tackled if Britain is not to lose ground after the War.

OBITUARY.—We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. A Navaratnam, which took place at his residence at Aiyankoviliady, in Vannarponnai West, on Monday last. He was a clerk in the Fiscal's Office, Jaffna, and was the brother of the late Mr. A Chinnappah, who was second clerk in the General Treasury, Colombo. Mr. C. Coomarasamy, District Judge, Batticaloa, is his uncle. He leaves behind three children and a widow to whom and to all others who bemoan his death we tender our heartfelt sympathy.

—We deeply regret to record the untimely death of Miss Packianathan, only daughter of Mr. P Packianathan of Thalaisyaly, Vannarponnai East and niece of P Mudir Eankaiyaya Mudaliar, Retired Interpreter, District Court, Jaffna, which took place at his residence at Thalaisyaly on the 24th ultimo. Our condolences to the parents and others.

—It is with deep regret we have to record the sad untimely death of Mr. Samithamby, the beloved father of Pandit S Mylvaganam, the science lecturer of St Patrick's College, one of the vice presidents of the local Vivekananda Society and a Committee Member of the Pethah Y. M. H. A., on Friday the 27th December 1918 at Kalmussai (Batticaloa). The deceased was aged 47 at the time of his death. In time we lose an ardent worker for the cause of Hinduism and a Tamil Scholar. He fell a victim to the "Influenza" which is raging there now. The deceased leaves behind him besides a widow, two daughters and a son and a large circle of relations, friends, and co-workers to bemoan his loss. His son, who was engaged here in educational and religious work, went by train on Saturday. Our sincere condolences to Pandit Mylvaganam and the other members of the family of the deceased. —Cor.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED BY ME FOR RECEPTION TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes V. Cuspillai, Esqr., Proctor (25 00), G. F. de Livera, Esqr., Assistant-Commissioner of Excise (15 00), W. Duraiswamy, Esqr., Advocate (10 50), M. Samundeen, Esqr., Trader (5 00), E. M. Abdul Gani, Esqr. (5 00), Lord Bishop of Jaffna (50 00), The Chettias Nagaram (275 00), Total (420 50). Signed K. KANAKASABAI, Hon. Treasurer, H. E. the Governor's Reception Committee, 31st Dec. 1918.

ANURADHAPURA.

WEATHER.—It rains but there is heavy dew at nights. The people are suffering from severe attacks of Malaria and the Civil Hospital is full.

LOCAL BOARD.—Messrs S Navaratnam, Advocate, V Ramaswamy Proctor, and D L O Jindasa Appunahy Landed proprietor and merchant were re-elected unofficial members of the Board for the years 1919 and 1920.

Y. M. H. A.—At the usual weekly meeting of this association held on the 22nd instant, under the Presidency of Mr. K Rajasekaram, Mr. S Appucuttty Overseer P W D read a paper on "Saiivism is the Supreme Religion". At the meeting of the Executive Committee held earlier on that day it was decided to celebrate the first anniversary of the association on the 19th January 1919.

—At the usual weekly meeting of the above association held on the 29th December under the presidency of Mr. V Ramaswamy Proctor, Mr. K Rajasekaram of the Post Office delivered a lecture on "Love to God" and remarks were offered by Messrs. A Velupillai, A Ramasamy, S Appucuttty K Eliatambay and the President.

PERSONAL.—Mr. V Manicam, Irrigation Clerk of the Kachcheri has been transferred to the Fiscal's Office, Jaffna and Mr. N Velupillai of Veterinary Surgeon's Office, Colombo will succeed him here. —Cor.

CONSISTENCY IN POLITICS.

(CONTRIBUTED) BY O. ARULAMBALAM, ADVOCATE.

At the Reform Conference held recently at Colombo, Mr. H A P Sandrasegaram when speaking of the resolution re larger employment of Ceylonese in the Public Service, said that the Jaffna Association had, some years back, pledged itself to support the principle of territorial representation. His further remarks conveyed the impression that the Association was wanting in consistency in modifying its former attitude.

What is consistency? What is it that is implied by that term? The great thinker John Stuart Mill, in his essay on "Liberty" calls consistency a doubtful virtue and that for good reasons. If a person holds a particular opinion at a particular time on a particular question and afterwards from change of conviction he changes that opinion he may be charged with inconsistency but his latter opinion may be the more reasonable of the two. If even in private life a man who has the courage of his convictions may change his opinion diametrically opposite to what was held by him previously, on good grounds and with an honest intention, how much so is such a change of opinion allowable in public life where a public man has to look not only to the preservation of his reputation as a man of consistency but to the general good of the community.

If the idea that for fear of being charged with inconsistency no man should ever change his opinion should universally hold good, then we should bid adieu to all progress, individual or communal. This application of the principle of consistency applies not only to individuals but to nations. Let us take a recent case, that of Germany. As Mr. Balfour stated some time back the educated classes in Germany were obsessed by the idea that the achievement of universal dominion should be the aim of every nation which desired to become great. And yet this idea which was at the bottom of the militarist policy pursued by Germany has been seen to be wrong by the cultured classes in that country. Prince Max, the German Ambassador, on the eve of the Armistice being signed, in a proclamation he issued to Germans abroad said that, although the German people had not gained the victory they had hoped for, yet they had gained a greater victory, victory over themselves and their belief in the justice of might. Are the Germans to be charged with inconsistency because of their want of faith in the advantages of militarism, particularly when their change of view benefits the world?

There are instances of great statesmen who have adorned British political life changing their political views at different stages of their careers. Liberals have become Conservatives, Conservatives have turned out Liberals, Free traders have become Protectionists, and Protectionists have become Free traders. Are these statesmen to be treated with contempt as men of inconsistency? When a person or community changes its opinion owing to change of conviction and does not profess a change of opinion merely to please a particular party or person it is unjustifiable to bring a charge of inconsistency against that person or community.

SAIVA PHILOSOPHY.

(The summary of a lecture delivered by Mr. J M Nallaswami Pillai B.A., B.L., at the Jaffna Hindu College on Saturday the 28th December 1918.)

After observing that Sri La Sri Arumuganavalur was the greatest Saiva revivalist of modern times, and that three of the Presidents of the Indian Saiva Samaja Conferences were three Jaffna gentlemen, namely the

Hon'ble Mr. P. Ramanathan, the Hon'ble Sir. A. Kankasabai, and S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar, the lecturer said,

The Saiva Religion is the most hoary religion of India. The first and earliest Veda, the Rig Veda, which makes mention of many Devas, mentions Rudra as 'The Lord of Sacrifice.' He is called Medhapathi in the Rig Veda, and Pasupati in the Yajur Veda. There are people fond of quoting a text of the Chhandogya Upanishad, Ekamevadvititiam Brahma. But they forget the earlier Yajur Vedic text, Ekameva Rudro Nadavititiam. There in the Chhandogya the word is Advititiam, in the Yajus, Nadavititiam, a more emphatic declaration. Rudra-Shiva occupies the foremost place in all the Vedas. The mischief done by some oriental scholars lies in the fact that they explain away the word 'Shiva' in Rudra Shiva by saying that the word 'Shiva' is an adjective meaning 'auspicious' or 'good.' But Sayanaacharya the greatest commentator of the Vedas says that Shiva there means Parameshwara. In the days of the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, Shiva was worshipped as the Supreme God and not Vishnu. In the Ashvamedha sacrifice of Sri Rama, the question arose, 'To whom is sacrifice to be offered?' All except Lakshmana maintained that it was offered to Shiva. In the Mahabharata we read that one of Shri Krishna's performed Tapas to win Shiva's favour. The consequence was named Shambhava. Shri Krishna Himself worshipped Shiva. The great Gramurarian Panini says that a number of names come from Maheshwara or Shiva. The biggest temples of India, from Pasupateswaram temple in Nepal to Cape Comorin are all Shivan temples. Except certain Vaishnavite temples in South India, all Vishnu temples in the North are very small ones and seem to have come into existence very late in India. The genesis of Vaishnavism seems to have been the attitude taken up by people like Lakshmana and Tulasi Das who, carried away by the personalities of Shri Rama and Shri Krishna, surrendered their heart and soul in an all-absorbing adoration to them, without intending any disparagement to any one else.

After saying that the Saiva Religion is the most ancient religion of India, based on the most ancient Vedas, the lecturer, next proceeded to deal exhaustively with the three postulates of saivism, Pathi, Pasu and Pasam. In the course of his exposition of Pathi, he remarked that very often Shiva was confounded with one of the trinity, Brahma, Vishnu, and Rudra, but that Shiva was not any one of these, but was ever mentioned in the Vedas, and even in some of the Vaishnavite Upanishads as the Chaturtham, the Fourth. He had heard of a Swami speaking of 'Shivam Shantam Sundaram' and he had not been able to spot it in the Srutis. The expression he saw there was 'Shivam Shantam Chaturtham.' After dealing with the nature of Pasu and Pasam, he claimed for the Saivites and Saivites alone the titles of 'Vedantists' and 'Advaitists' and, basing his assertion on the opinion of Dr. Thibaut, whose interpretations of Vyasa or Vedanta Sutras, he said, have not been challenged by any one till now, he emphatically declared that Sri Shankara's interpretations of the Vyasa Sutras were not correct and the claim of his followers to be called Vedantists and Advaitists could not stand, as they could not claim the authority of the Sruti, namely, the Vyasa Sutras, which, all had to admit, were simply the teachings of the Upanishads given to the world in a collected form. He concluded his lecture by appealing to the Saivites to stand by Saiva Siddhanta as it was the truth declared by the Vedas.

THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

The annual Indian National Congress met at Delhi on December, 26th. A pavilion to accommodate 12,000 people was put up, of whom 6,000 were expected to be delegates. Among the outstanding features of this year's Congress was the presence of about a thousand peasant delegates, men of the humblest tenant class. Another was the presence of several hundred Indian lady delegates. Visitors were present by the thousand. It is noteworthy that among the delegates to a Ceylonese, Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, who has been sent up by Madras. It is proposed to send a strong delegation to England early to help in winning the requisite reforms, and it is possible that a session of the Congress in London may be arranged.

The President of the Reception Committee, a Usani Medical Practitioner, who speaks no English, delivered his address in Urdu, an English translation being circulated.

The Hon'ble Pundit Madan Mohan Malaviya presided over the Congress, and spoke for a considerable time. He delivered a part of his address in Hindi, growing even more eloquent in that language than in English.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS. A FRANK AND OUT-SPOKEN UTTERANCE.

We take the following extracts from the President's address. He referred to the conclusion of the war and the delight of India at the victory of the Allies. He recited the principles laid down for peace by President Wilson and said:—

I am sure, my countrymen, that you, who are the inheritors of great spiritual civilisations most heartily and reverently welcome these proposals and that you will be willing to undergo any sacrifices to give them your cordial support. I would suggest that as representatives of one-fifth of the human race and of this great and ancient land, we should send to the gentlemen who are engaged in this holy task at Paris our respectful good wishes and our fervent prayers for the success of their noble undertaking. I venture to suggest

that we may also convey to them an humble expression of our willingness to contribute whatever lies in our power to the success of the scheme. We may assure them that thousands of our young men will gratefully and gladly enrol as soldiers of God in any international organisation that may be formed to support the proposed League of Nations.

Coming to the representation of India at the Peace Conference, he complained that the people were not duly represented. He said:—

We are also thankful that the Government have appointed an Indian, our distinguished countryman, Sir S. P. Sinha, to represent her at the Conference, but he has been appointed by the Government of India without any reference to the public. As he has been so appointed presumably he will represent at the Conference views which are in consonance with the views of the Government. It may be that those views, will be in agreement with the views of the Indian public or it may not be so. We do not know what are the conditions under which Sir S. P. Sinha has been appointed, or what instructions the Government of India have given him. Unfortunately the Government of India are not yet responsible to the Indian public and as matters stand, there often is a great divergence of views between them and the public of India. In view of the fact that Canada is going to have as many as six representatives it need not have been apprehended that a request that India should be allowed to have more than one representative would be regarded as unreasonable. The principles and even some of the concrete proposals which will be discussed and settled at the Peace Conference will have a great direct bearing on the interests of our country. This cannot be disputed. If it were not so, there would have been little meaning in appointing an Indian to represent "India's necessities" at the Peace Conference. I am glad H. H. the Maharajah Sahib of Bikaner will be there to represent the views of the Indian States and Ruling Princes whose steadfast loyalty and support of the King-Emperor during this war has been of ten times greater value than their liberal contributions in men and money. But it will remain a matter for regret that British India will not be represented at this great Conference by a person appointed by the Government on the recommendation of the elected representatives of the people. He then proceeded:—

INDIA'S POSITION.

India occupies at present an anomalous and unhappy position. The people of India, Hindus, Mussalman, Parsees and Christians, are inheritors of great and ancient civilisations. About a hundred and fifty years ago the whole of India was under the rule of Indians. At that time she was passing through one of those periods of decay and internal disorder which are not unknown in the history of other nations. By an extraordinary combination of circumstances, which had their origin in the conditions then prevailing, India came to be placed under the rule of a people living six thousand miles beyond the seas and strangers to Indians in race, religion and civilisation. As has often been said India was never conquered by the English in the literal sense of the term. The English became the paramount power in India by a series of events carried on by the help of Indian soldiers and Indian Allies. The people supported them and welcomed them because they promoted order and peace and introduced justice and good administration. In the early days of British rule in India English statesmen regarded it as of a temporary character. They clearly said that it was their duty to so administer India as to help her to take up her own Government and to administer it in her own fashion. But as time rolled on and as vested interests grew up and became strong, a contrary spirit came to dominate British policy in India. The administration came to be conducted less and less in a manner conducive to the development of the people as a nation and more and more so as to perpetuate their subjection. Indians noted it and protested against it. Foreign critics also noted the fact. An eminent Frenchman, M. Challey, wrote in his book published a few years ago, "Had England taken as a motto 'India for the Indians', had she continued following the idea of Elphinstone and Malcolm to consider her rule as temporary, she might without inconsistency grant to the national party gradual and increasing concessions which in time would give entire autonomy to the Indians." But that is not now her aim. For half a century and more Indian and liberal-minded Englishmen had been urging England to adopt the policy of India for the Indians to give Indians the administration and to give power and opportunity to Indians to administer their own affairs. Thirty years before the War the Indian National Congress came into existence and it had ever since its birth urged that a fair measure of self-government should be given to the people. The scheme of reform which the Congress put forward in 1886 was calculated to secure them such power, but they have not got it till now. Take 1908, we had specially stated that self-government on colonial lines was our goal. I draw attention to these facts so that it may be remembered that we had been pressing for a recognition of our right to self-government long before the war. It is not the war, its events and its results, that have led us to ask for self-government for the first time. Even if the war did not come our claim to it should have been granted long ago as a mere matter of right and simple justice. The war no doubt came to help us. The contributions which we were able to make brought about a happy change in the angle of vision of English statesmen. In December, 1916, our two great national institutions, the representatives of sinking Indians, jointly put forward a well considered moderate scheme of reform which would have given to the people a substantial measure of self-government. It is an open secret now that the response which the Government of India suggested to this demand was so poor and inadequate that Mr. Austen Chamberlain returned the proposals and suggested the preparation of a more liberal measure which would give some responsibility to the people. In the meantime agitation in support of the Congress League scheme was growing. The Executive Government in India, Imperial and Provincial, were generally strongly opposed to the proposals. Many of them showed liberty by trying to suppress the agitation by orders of internment and the Defence of India Act and in other ways and created much unnecessary tension in public feeling. On the other hand besides the Indians there were Englishmen and English women who urged that the promise of self-government should not be delayed. That high souled Englishman, the Lord Bishop of Cal-

culty said, in the course of the service to which reference has been made before. "We must now look at our paramount position in the light of our new war ideals. The British rule in India must aim at giving India opportunities of self-development according to the natural bent of its peoples. With this in view the first object of its rulers must be to train Indians in self-government. If we turn away from any such application of our principles to this country it is but hypocritically to come before God with the plea that our cause is the cause of liberty." The situation rendered an early announcement of the intentions of Government necessary. It was in this state of affairs that the Secretary of State for India made the now famous declaration of the 20th August, 1917, in which he definitely stated that the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible government in India as an integral part of the Empire was the policy of His Majesty's Government and that they had decided that substantial steps in this direction should be taken as soon as possible. It was a momentous utterance, but it was unnecessarily cautious and cold. We did not like all the qualifying conditions with which it was weighed, but we looked at it as a whole. It promised that substantial steps in the direction of the goal of responsible government in India would be taken as soon as possible, and that His Majesty's Government had decided that accepting the Viceroy's invitation, the Secretary of State should shortly visit India to consider what those steps should be, and to receive suggestions of representative bodies and others regarding them. It also promised that ample opportunity would be afforded for public discussion of the proposals which would be submitted in due course to Parliament. We therefore welcomed the announcement and were grateful for it. Though dissatisfied with its many qualifying conditions, in the circumstances then existing we accepted it with hope and gratitude. Mr. Montagu came to India with a deputation of distinguished men taking the announcement of the 20th August, as laying down the terms of their reference. He and Lord Chelmsford elaborated proposals as to the first substantial steps which should be taken to give effect to the policy enunciated. In the limitations of the announcement naturally had their effect in determining the nature and extent of their proposals. These proposals have now been before the public for several months. They have been variously criticised by various bodies on the first publication of the proposals. While some of our prominent public men gave them a cordial welcome others condemned them as unsatisfactory and disappointing. Some urged their total rejection. The Congress League scheme, which had been put forward with the unanimous support of the public men of the country, was calculated to transfer control to the representatives of the people both in the Provincial Governments and subject to certain reservations in the Government of India. The official scheme proposed a limited measure of control in the provincial governments, absolutely none over the Imperial Government. The official proposals thus fell very short of the Congress League Scheme. They were therefore generally regarded as inadequate. It was clear that while acknowledging that the proposals constituted an advance on the existing conditions in certain directions the bulk of public opinion in India was not satisfied with the scheme as it stood. Almost every body who was any body wanted more or less important modifications and improvements in the scheme. But the scheme proposed the introduction of a certain measure of Responsible Government in the provincial governments and was in this respect more in conformity with the announcement of the 20th August than the Congress-League Scheme and many of us urged that the official proposals should be accepted subject to the necessary modifications and improvements. This view found general acceptance in the country. When the Special Congress met at Bombay it was apprehended in some quarters that the opinions of those who were in favour of insisting upon the acceptance of the Congress League Scheme and the rejection of the official proposals, might prevail at the Congress. But the proceedings of the Congress lent no support to these apprehensions. While the Congress made its acknowledgments to Mr. Montagu and Lord Chelmsford for the earnest attempt to inaugurate a system of responsible Government in India, it made it clear that it regarded the proposals, as they stood, as unsatisfactory and disappointing. At the same time it recognised that its official scheme was more in consonance with the announcement of the 20th August and, it, therefore, decided to accept that scheme in its outline and to urge modifications and improvements consistent with the outline which in its opinion were absolutely necessary to make it a substantial first step towards responsible Government in India, that is, both in the Central and Provincial Governments. The All-India Muslim League also adopted the same view. Months after, a Conference organised by those of our prominent public men, who had more cordially welcomed the proposals of reform that the great bulk of the public met at Bombay. They, too, agreed with the Congress and the League in asking for certain essential modifications and improvements in the scheme. (To be continued.)

—The Ceylon Morning Leader, Dec. 31.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"REFORM PROPOSALS".

Dear Sir, "People once awakened, and awakened rightly cannot be put down."—Lajpat Rai. While the eloquent voice of our Hon'ble the Ceylonese Member is still ringing in the ears of his countrymen, it seems pre-emptive on my part to try to express my stray thoughts on the same subject. But duty has to be done; it can neither be delayed nor abandoned. I am sure we are all of one mind in expressing our sincere appreciation of the liberal and praiseworthy spirit which has stirred him to make his lengthy speech on "Reforms". His proposal that both Councils (Legislative as well as Executive) should be enlarged on electoral basis by increasing the number of members. In response to his views on this subject of great importance, support was given not only by his colleagues but also by some of the leading brains who have been sent very recently as delegates by the Provincial Associations to the Ceylon Reform Conference which was held in Colombo, some weeks ago.

In addition to what the Ceylonese member and the other representatives have a led for, the rest of our countrymen who have opened their eyes to the great need of the country, urged on the Government to grant them certain privileges to choose their Representatives to advocate their cause in the Council. I don't think that Government will have any objection to grant them what they asked for.

Our countrymen wish to participate in His Majesty's endeavours to uplift his colony. If His Majesty takes them into his confidence, surely they shall try their level best to facilitate his work. It is not the voice of one crying for reforms, but of many. The humble prayer of our countrymen will be listened to by the Secretary of State for Colonies who has been appointed by the crown to rule over our destinies. This land of ours is solely under his control; and any measure asked for to improve its condition is worthy of his consideration. The endeavours of our countrymen are to win for our land a right and position among the Crown Colonies of the Empire.

One of the resolutions of the Ceylon Reform Conference was "Reform of Councils". With regard to this, the presidential address of Sir P. Arunachalam, the organizer of the League, will show how far reforms have affected the minds of our countrymen. His address was one of the masterpieces of oratory never before recorded in the pages of the history of this island. All these things go to show that they are very keen about their work for the country.

As most loyal subjects of the King Emperor, they have every right to put forward their wants and claims. The King Emperor as ruler of the world has a duty to listen to their voice. If the English who have come to our shores as representatives of a new type of civilization are not going to lend their ears; who else shall do so? To whom else shall they convey their grievances? Our President of the conference and our countrymen hope that when their memorial reaches Downing Street, it will be warmly welcomed and be duly considered by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Yannarponnai East, Jaffna, Dec. 27, 1918. Respectfully Yours, S. Shanmugham.

BY THE WAY.

YOUNG DURASINGHAM—of Karaitivu is a member of a respectable Saivite family. He had his early schooling at the Hindu English School under the personal training of Mr. E. K. Sivasubramaniam Iyer. Being desirous of giving his son a science training, the Saivite father moved his son to the St. Patrick's College where he speedily became the pet of the boarding master and other priests. Confidential conversations and earnest persuasion gradually undermined the Saiva faith the boy had imbued at the Hindu School and evidence was not wanting that the boy was passing through the agony of conversion. Plenty of special attentions paid to the boy aroused the suspicions of the guileless father. He promptly intimated the authorities of the College that his son's faith should not be tampered with and on a subsequent occasion emphasised his earnestness on the point by chastising his son in the presence of the teachers and students of the College. The Catholic Fathers assuring the Saivite father that nothing would be done to win over the boy to their faith, the latter returned home in peace. Some time afterwards information reached the father that his son was being rigorously tempted to go over. Thereupon, the terrified Saivite father removed his son from the influence of the Catholic Fathers and put him in the Jaffna Hindu College. It was about this time that Durasingham gave a brief account at the Hindu Students' Camp of the trials and temptation he had to face and exposed to an amused audience of over a thousand Hindu Students the methods by which his mind had been preyed upon. One unlucky morning, after an absence of two months from Jaffna, the father went to the Hindu College to see his son. The son was missing. The father was in rage and he hurried to St. Patrick's College whether he learned his son had gone. The gate of that institution was slammed on his face and admission to see his son was refused. There was no way to see, much less to communicate with his son. He stood on the high road without hope, without inspiration, yet with the grim determination to rescue his son at any cost. When he returned home he found a letter addressed to him by his son in which after the usual good wishes and invocation of blessings the son says "I came of my own accord and begged and prayed the Catholic Fathers here to educate me. They took compassion on me and have undertaken to educate me. Please do not interfere with my proposals. Send through my brother the books belonging to". This letter showed the exact distance the boy had travelled away from the faith. The language of the letter indicated beyond doubt that the boy's individuality had been completely over laid by that of others. The father, in reply begged the son to go over to Karaitivu once at least. This reply elicited the diplomatic and doubtful consolation that he would not see his father till his own father's feelings cooled down. The father renewed his efforts to see his son. He went up to the College and peered himself at the gate in the fond hope of seeing his son. The hope was vain, for he learnt that his son had been sent to the Orphanage at Colombogam where the gate keeper rudely turned him out. Was the boy alive? The father was greatly alarmed. Through the good offices of a Catholic gentleman the father's suspicions were set at rest. The boy was alive, dead only spiritually. He was under order of internment to enable his faith to settle and solidify. Father G. Prakasor had baptised and re-named Durasingham as Christopher. The law could hold out no hope to the disorganised father, friends were agitated and no one could pull him out of the difficulty in which he found himself. The Saivite father thereupon, approached the Hon'ble Mr. P. Ramanathan with his tale of woe and the Honourable gentleman was gracious enough to forward the father's memorial to Government. The prodigal son returned home, shed repentant tears and begged his father to forgive him. It was all made up between the father and his son. The boy was to go back to the Jaffna Hindu College and continue his studies in peace. Lo and behold! the son is again missing. Here ended the first lesson to Hindu parents who send their children to Christian Mission Schools. The second lesson will appear in due course.

26th Dec. 1918. M. S. ELIATANBY.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

BRITAIN MAY SURRENDER GIBRALTAR.

London, Dec. 21. Paris.—The well-known writer, M. Ferlinx, in the 'Echo de Paris,' comments on the discussions at present proceeding between Spain and France, in which Great Britain is also concerned as a guarantor of the Franco-Spanish Agreement regarding Morocco, and as the guardian of Gibraltar. He asserts that the British and French Cabinets are engaged in talking for the Egyptian and Moroccan institutions all the elements of the international regime, which, possibly, indicates the direction being followed. He believes there can be only the question of equivalent advantages, and refers to certain English reports that Great Britain is considering the abandonment of Gibraltar owing to the range of modern guns, by which it largely loses its strategic value. This would heal the Spanish wound and Great Britain might be compensated with Ceuta or some other point on the Moroccan Coast, and also be given pecuniary compensation which would enable her to continue her role in the Mediterranean, but this is only one of the terms of settlement devised to cover a much wider field.

GERMANY.

The situation in Berlin is obscure owing to the meagreness of news, but it is clear that there has been considerable street fighting. Some reports say that several parts of the city are more or less in the hands of the sailors and soldiers, supported by the Spartacus group. They demand that the Ebert-Ansee Government should be replaced by a Ledebour-Liebkecht Ministry. Ledebour and Liebkecht have conferred at length with the Ministers, but the result has not been disclosed, and further trouble is feared.

London, Dec. 26.

Copenhagen.—The Counter-Revolt subdued on Tuesday upon the arrival of the Guard Divisions from Potsdam. These made a demonstration in front of the Sailors' Headquarters, whereupon the sailors it is alleged, opened fire and the Guards replied, doing heavy damage to the Palace, especially the Kaiser's balcony, which was ruined. Herr Ledebour arrived in a motor car and made a speech condemning the summoning of troops from Potsdam and characterising the proceedings as patricidal. He proposed that a Commission should be appointed to discuss the basis of union of the Sailors and Soldiers and this was quickly done, the Sailors meanwhile capitulating. Twenty of their officers, who were temporarily arrested, stated that when they fired they thought the Guards represented Royalist Counter-Revolutionaries.

London, Dec. 27.

Amsterdam.—The situation in Berlin is clearly most unsettled, though it is difficult to gauge the true situation. It seems plain that the Bolshevik elements have not abandoned their attempt to overthrow the Government. The latter apparently feared to exert authority and allowed matters to slide to the point of bloodshed, with the result that many Government troops deserted to the Bolshevik ranks. Liebkecht at present occupies the Kaiser's bed-room at the Palace, while the Kaiser's private dining-room is beset with the corpses of sailors killed in the fighting. The costly carpets are stained with blood. The authorities are incapable of preventing hundreds of sailors, soldiers and men and women of the most doubtful character from over-running the palace.

Copenhagen.—A telegram from Kiel says:—The Sailors and Soldiers have denounced the Berlin outbreak and assured the Government of their support.

It is reported from Switzerland that Hindenburg is commanding the loyal troops in marching towards Berlin with the Entente's consent.

THE MINE DANGER.

London, Dec. 27.

Paris, Dec. 25.—Havas' Agency states that the French Academie des Sciences of the France of Monaco, speaking on the subject of mines, made an interesting statement which holds out rather alarming prospects for sea voyagers, he said, if completely water-tight might float about the Atlantic Ocean for twenty years.

RUSSIA.

London, Dec. 27.

'The Times' learns from Warsaw that the Bolsheviks are preparing to advance on Kovno and Vilna with a view to the absorption of Lithuania and Poland in the Soviet Republic. They have concentrated three divisions, totalling 18,000 men, between Vitebsk and Orsha. The Polish Command has already raised over 60,000 volunteers to oppose them, but these do not possess equipment, for which the Polish Chief of Staff has appealed to the Allies.

'The Times' learns from Stockholm that the situation in the Baltic Provinces is becoming serious. The Estonians' stability and independence are threatened. Bolsheviks and Letts are invading the province, devastating, pillaging and blackmailing. They are within 65 miles of Riga. In view of the menace to Riga the British squadron has now returned. The Estonian Government has asked Sweden to land a force. The Swedish Government has made a guarded reply, but is unlikely to comply. The Estonians hope that Finland will come to the rescue but Finland is threatened by a Bolshevik invasion and is unlikely to assist.

London, Dec. 28.

A wireless message says:—The Bolsheviks have disbanded the Government's militia in the district of Tomaszew in Poland. A regular battle occurred between Bolshevik and Polish troops in the district of Dombrowa.

BOLSHEVIK DESTROYERS CAPTURED.

London, December 27.

The Admiralty announces.—Captain B. S. Theizer, commanding H. M. S. 'Calypro,' reports that he has captured two Bolshevik destroyers, one of which was engaged in bombarding the lighthouse in the vicinity of Riga. Officers and men have been taken prisoners.

THE FRENCH CASUALTIES.

London, Dec. 27.

Paris.—The announcement was made in the Chamber of Deputies that the French losses to November 1st, 1918, were:—Killed: Officers 31,300, men 1,040,000; missing: Officers 3,900, men 311,000; prisoners: Officers 8,300, men 488,000.

THE EX KAISER.

London, Dec. 22.

The Frankfurter Zeitung states that the ex-Empress will scarcely live to see the New Year. She is suffering from apoplexy and heart disease. The ex-Kaiser is also seriously ill. His ear disease is aggravated and it is thought that it may spread to his brain.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

London, Dec. 23.

The French newspapers publish forecasts of the principal articles of the League of Nations which, it is said, include, beside Agreements limiting armaments, compulsory arbitration and a stipulation for a World Conference to regulate the new relations between the people. It is added that Neurath will be admitted to this Conference, but no nation will be regarded as a member of the League of Nations or have equal rights with other nations of the League unless it gives satisfactory guarantees. Germany will be considered equal with other nations when she has discharged her debts.

THE WAR CABINET.

London, Dec. 23.

The Imperial War Cabinet is meeting twice daily. The Premier is presiding. It is understood that it is carefully considering the subjects to be discussed at the Peace Conference, with the object of reaching some definiteness of point of view before Dr. Wilson arrives.

ABBREVIATED TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES.

London, Dec. 27.

The Postmaster-General announces that from January 1st, 1919, registered abbreviated telegraphic addresses towards and outwards may be used.

THE JAPANESE BUDGET.

Tokyo, Dec. 27.

The Budget for 1919-1920 shows that receipts will amount to £101,100,000 and expenditure to £103,400,000 of which sum £24,300,000 on the Army.

PRESIDENT WILSON.

London, Dec. 26.

President Wilson has arrived in London. He was accorded a great reception.

The weather at Dover, like what it was in London, was crisp and frosty for President Wilson's arrival. French cruisers escorted Dr. Wilson to mid Channel, where he was met by Admiral Keyes, Commanding the Dover Patrol, who took over the escort of which aeroplanes and seaplanes formed part. The arrival at Dover was announced by the firing of salutes. A big crowd lining the pier and the crews manning the ships raised hearty cheers. H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, on behalf of H.M. the King, met the President, and the Mayor of Dover presented an address. Forty one guns were fired from the Tower and Hyde Park when President Wilson emerged from Charing Cross Station. The procession route was a blaze of colour, and not only important buildings but private houses were gay with bunting. The crowds had assembled early, the largest being outside Charing Cross Station, in Trafalgar Square, at Hyde Park Corner, and in front of the Palace. The scheme of decoration in the Quadrant, facing the Palace, was especially effective, scores of Union Jacks and Stars and Stripes flying from a row of masts. H.M. the King and other members of the Royal Family, Messrs. Lloyd George and Balfour, Lord Curzon, Lord Robert Cecil, General Botha, Sir Robert Borden, General Smuts, the Lord Chancellor, Messrs. Bonar Law, Austen Chamberlain and George Barnes, Sir Eric Geddes, the Lord Mayor, Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss and General Sir Wm. Robertson, with other Admirals and Generals, Mr. Hughes and the Maharajah of Bikaner were among the distinguished and representative assemblage which greeted the President at the Station. It was noticeable that the meeting with Messrs. Lloyd George and Balfour and Lord Robert Cecil was especially cordial. The Grenadier Guards played the American National Anthem. As the party emerged from the Station in the magnificent royal carriages, such a shout of welcome from tens of thousands of throats rent the air as has rarely been heard in London. Even the thunder of the guns, the pealing of the bells and the noise of the escorting aeroplanes overhead were temporarily drowned. President Wilson was obviously elated as, doffing his hat, he bowed smilingly in response. Four American Pressmen, who travelled in Dr. Wilson's train, expressed themselves as deeply impressed by the memorable spectacle.

All along the route the reception was equally magnificent. As the procession reached Marlborough House Her ex-Majesty Queen Alexandra, who was accompanied by H. M. the Queen of Norway, and T. R. H. Prince Olaf and Princess Victoria, came out on the pavement. The crowd immediately fell back, voluntarily clearing a space for the Queen Mother and party and, as the President's carriage passed, President Wilson, who was on the far side, leaned forward and saluted the Royal group who waved their welcomes. There was continuous cheering from the immense multitude as the President entered the Palace. He appeared shortly afterwards on the balcony with Mrs. Wilson, followed by T. M. the King and Queen, with T. R. H. the Princess Mary and the Duke of Connaught. The President bowed his acknowledgments and waved his hat, standing for some little time bareheaded. The crowd cheered again and again, H. M. the Queen handed him a small Union Jack, which he waved reverently. He then handed it to Mrs. Wilson, who also waved it. President Wilson addressed a few words to the huge throng, expressing great pleasure at the reception. Five aeroplanes, in battle formation, flew over the Palace during the proceedings.

Viscount Grey will head a Deputation of the League of Nations Union to President Wilson on Saturday. The Deputation will include Mr. Bryce, General Smuts and Professor Gilbert Murray.

London, Dec. 27.

The Conference between President Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George at the Palace lasted three hours.

Mr. Balfour was also present. Subsequently President Wilson lunched at 10, Downing Street. The guests included Mr. Asquith, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Lord Basing, Lord Crew, Lord Curzon, Mr. Bonar Law and Mr. Balfour. A big crowd in Downing Street gave the President and Premier a great ovation.

Router is authorized to state that the Conference with President Wilson at Buckingham Palace and Downing Street proved most satisfactory to both sides. The discussion at the Conference extended to a very wide range of subjects, including the President's 14 points. All the statesmen engaged expressed themselves as most pleased with the result of the day's work. One said: "You can certainly say there was no serious difference of opinion."

After luncheon at 10 Downing Street President Wilson unveiled a full-length oil portrait of George Washington which the Earl and Countess of Albemarle have presented to Government to commemorate the entry of America into the War. Beside those already mentioned, Lord and Lady Albemarle attended the ceremony which was entirely informal. There were no speeches. The picture hangs in the Premier's dining-room near the portraits of Burke and Fox. Subsequently President Wilson and the Premier resumed their Conference, at which other members of the War Cabinet were present. The Conference lasted until 4.30. The crowd remained outside 10 Downing Street, all the afternoon in order to see Dr. Wilson as he returned to Buckingham Palace.

London, Dec. 26.

President Wilson, replying to the Mayor of Dover's address, said:—"We have gone through many serious times together. Therefore we can regard each other in a new light as comrades and associates, because nothing brings men together like a common undertaking and a common purpose. Despite all the terrible sufferings and sacrifices of this War, we shall some day, in looking back upon them, realise that they were worth while, not only because of the security which they gave the world against unjust aggression, but also because of the understanding they established between the great nations, which ought to act with each other in permanent maintenance of Justice and Right. It is, therefore, with emotions of peculiar gratification that I find myself here afforded an opportunity of matching my mind with the minds of those who, with like intention, are proposing to do the best they can, and that can be done, in the great settlement of the struggle."

Outside the Berkeley Hotel in London the procession turned into Piccadilly and the President received a welcome from the American Colony. The American Naval and Military officers showered handfuls of flowers on the procession.

London, Dec. 27.

Now that President Wilson has arrived in England, the papers comment on the results likely to accrue from his presence in Europe. Hopefully and almost enthusiastically they dwell on the spirit of mutual confidence and reliance hitherto characterising the Anglo-American relations, and radiating the apprehensions at one time expressed that Dr. Wilson was likely to prove a stiff-necked doctrinaire. They emphasize the fact that it is not a question of removing differences in policy which have come up for discussion between Dr. Wilson and British statesmen, but they hope a concrete plan of Anglo-American co-operation will be formulated, such as opinion on both sides of the Atlantic deems necessary for the future progress of the world. In this connection some of the papers demand the adoption of a clear policy towards Russia.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

London, Dec. 28.

The King, speaking at the State banquet at Buckingham Palace in honour of President Wilson, said:—"This is an historic moment. Your visit marks an historic epoch. Nearly 150 years have passed since your Republic began its independent life, and now for the first time the President of the United States is our guest in London. We welcome you to the country from which came your ancestors and where stand the homes of those from whom they sprang, Washington and Lincoln. We welcome you for yourself as one whose insight, calmness, and dignity in the discharge of his high duties we have watched with admiration. We see in you the happy union of the gifts of the scholar with those of the statesman. You came from a studious, academic quiet, into the full strain of arduous public life. Your deliverances have combined breadth of view and a grasp of world problems with mastery of lofty diction, recalling that of your great orators of the past and of our own. You come as official head and spokesman of a mighty Commonwealth bound to us by the closest ties. Its peoples speak the tongue of Shakespeare and Milton. Our literature is yours, as yours is also ours, and men of letters in both countries have joined in maintaining its incomparable glories. To you, not less than to us, belong memories of our national heroes, from King Alfred down to the days of Philip Sidney, Drake, Raleigh, Blake and Hampden, days when the political life of the English stock in North America was just beginning. You share with us the traditions of free self-government as old as the Magna Charta. We recognise the bond of still deeper significance in the common ideals which our people cherish. First among those ideals you value and we value freedom and Peace. Privileged as we have been to be the exponents and examples in the national life of the principles of popular self-government, based upon equal laws, it now falls to both of us alike to see how those principles can be applied beyond our own borders for the good of the world. It was love of liberty and respect for law, good faith and the sacred rights of humanity that brought you to the old world to join in saving it from the dangers which were thickening around, and that arrayed those citizen soldiers of yours, whose gallantry we have admired, by the side with ours in the War. You have now come to help in building up the new states amid the ruins of those which the War has shattered, and in laying the solid foundation of a settlement that may stand firm because it will rest upon the consent of the emancipated nationalities. You have eloquently expressed the hope of the American people as it is our hope that some plan may be devised to attain the end you have done so much to promote, by which the risk of future Wars may be, if possible, averted, relieving nations of an intolerable burden which the fear of War has laid upon them. The British nation wishes all success to the deliberations on which you and we and the great free nations

allied with us are now to enter, moved by disinterested goodwill and a sense of duty commensurate with the power which we hold as a solemn trust. The American and British people have been crowned with victory. We thank with all our hearts your valiant soldiers and sailors for their splendid part in that victory as we thank the American people for the noble response to the call of civilisation and humanity. May the same brotherly spirit inspire and guide our united efforts to secure for the world the blessings of ordered freedom and an enduring Peace, and in asking you to join with me in drinking the health of the President I wish to say with that pleasure we welcome Madame Wilson to this country, I drink to the health of the President of the United States and Madame Wilson, and to the happiness and prosperity of the great American nation."

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

London, Dec. 28.

Replying to the King at the Buckingham Palace banquet President Wilson said:—"Your Majesty, I am deeply complimented by the gracious words you have uttered. The welcome you have given me and Mrs. Wilson has been so warm, so natural and so evidently from the heart, that we are being more than pleased, we are being touched by it. I believe I correctly interpret that welcome as embodying not only your own generous spirit towards us personally, but also as expressing for yourself and the great nation over which you preside, that same feeling for my people, for the people of the United States. For you and I I embody the spirit of two great nations, and whatever strength I have and whatever authority I possess only so long and so far as I express the spirit and purpose of the American people. Any influence that the American people have over the affairs of the world is derived by their sympathy with the aspirations of good men everywhere. America does not love to be unusefully. I had the privilege of conferring with the leaders of your own Government and with the spokesmen of the Governments of France and Italy. I am glad to say that I have the same conceptions that they have of the significance and scope of the duty upon which we have met. We have all of us used the great words right and justice, and now we are to prove whether or not we understand those words and how they are to be applied to particular settlements which must conclude this War. We must not only understand them but we must have the courage to act upon our understanding. Yet after I have uttered the word courage it comes into my mind that it would take more courage to resist the great moral tide now running in the world than to yield to it and obey it. There is a great tide running in the hearts of men, the hearts of men have never beaten so singularly in unison before. Men have never before been so conscious of their brotherhood. Men have never before realised how little difference there was better right and justice in one latitude, and in another under one sovereignty, and under another. It will be our high privilege I believe not only to apply the moral judgment of the world to particular settlements which we shall attempt, but also to organise the moral force of the world to preserve those settlements, to steady the forces of mankind and to make the right and the justice to which great nations like our own have devoted themselves the predominant and controlling forces of the world. There is something inspiring in knowing that this is the errand that we have come on. Nothing less than this would have justified me in leaving the important tasks which have fallen upon me upon the other side of the sea. Nothing but the consciousness that nothing else compares with this in dignity and importance. Therefore it is the more delightful to find myself in the company of a body of men united in ideal and purpose and to feel that I am privileged to unite my thought with yours in carrying forward those standards which we are so proud to hold high and defend. May I not Sir with a profound sincerity of friendship and sympathy propose your health, the health of the Queen and the prosperity of Britain?"

The Queen and Royal Family were present at the State banquet in honour of Dr. Wilson at Buckingham Palace which was attended by the flower of English public life. Overseas guests included General Botha, General Smuts, General Borden, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Hughes and the Maharajah of Bikaner.

—The Ceylon Observer.

NOTICE.

FOR SALE.

A coconut Estate at Eluthumadaval, 1 1/2 miles from Eluthumadaval siding and three miles from Palsi Station. 10 acres four years old (4) and 20 acres 1 1/2 to two years old. The estate is fenced with five rows of barbed wire and close to Kathiruthan Estate. Apply to: K. V. Sivacollanthu, Opeta Estate, Kabawatte, or to R. Candiah, P. W. D., Bandarawella. Particulars can be known from K. V. Sinnadurai, Proctor, Vannarponnai East.

Wanted

A trained teacher as Headmaster of the Tondaimanar English School, which is a branch school of the Jaffna Hindu College. Tondaimanar is a very healthy village by the sea side. Free quarters will be given. Apply before the end of this month, stating salary required to the Manager of the school

Hon'ble Mr. A. SAPAPATHY

Jaffna, JAFFNA. 16th December, 1918.