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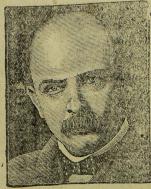
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### Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3852.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Veluppillai Kanapathippillai of Karadivu East

Deceased. apathipillai Ponnampalam of Karadivu East

Petitioner.

Petitioner.

Vs.

ppillai Chellappah of Karadivu East

Respondent.

matter of the Petition of Kanapathibenampalsm of Karadivu East, praying for

s of Administration to the estate of the
enamed deceased, Veluppillai Kanapathipnai of Karadivu East, coming on for disposal
ocfore Hon'ble Sir Ampalavanar Kanagasabai,
District Judge, on February 25, 1919, in
the presence of Mr. K. Arulambalam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the
affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 14,
1919, having been read: It is declared that
the Petitioner is the sole heir 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 March 27,
1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of
this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai,

March 6, 1919.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge.

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## Che bindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1919.

THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS.

The Report of the European Associa-tion on Constitutional Reforms forms a very valuable contribution to the task of formulating a scheme of reforms suitable to the needs of Ceylon. The Report may be roughly divided into two parts— the one dealing with the desirability of changing the present constitution, and the other with formulating a scheme of rethe other with formulating a scheme of reforms that will, in the opinion of the Association, remedy the present defects in the Government. It is for the observations made under the first head that the Report should be more highly prized by the Ceylonese. In dealing with the question whether any change in the constitution is desirable, the Report says:—"There can be no doubt that we have, from time to time, reason to be dissatisfied with the administration of the colony and the causes of dissatisfaction may be classified under three main headings: headings:

- (a) Official mismanagement of Government enterprises.
- Official apathy to the needs of the public.
- Official indifference to the point of view of the public and neglect to enquire how new proposals will be received."

be received."

In tracing the cause of these defects the Report rightly observes that "in so far as the system may be to blame, the defects noted above probably have their origin in the lack of responsibility to the public on the part of permanent officials who cannot be controlled by any adverse vote or censure and are ordinarily supported in their acts by the Colonial Office which has no first hand knowledge of the Island." The Report further admits that educated Ceylonese having become aware of these defects, knowledge of the Island. The Report further admits that educated Ceylonese having become aware of these defects, aspire to responsible Government—an aspiration which has been stimulated by the wave of democratic feeling which has passed over the world during the war. The Report also most justly concedes to the Ceylonese that "the desire to take part in the administration of the affairs of their own country is a natural one, and even should the admission of Ceylonese to a substantial share in the Government, lead to some diminution in the efficiency of the administration, yet, if such admission will make them more contented without substantially prejudicing the prosperity of the Island, we should be prepared to support their demands to whatever extent may be safe and reasonable." The Report also acknowledges what may be regarded as an axiomatic fact that, "whatever enhancement in the power of the public may be effected it will involve a diminution rather than an increase in the power of Europeans." From these and other similar observations which will be found embodied in Sections I to 11 of the Report, one is compelled to come to the conclusion that the Committee of the European Association has approached the question in a liberal and sympathetic spirit.

But in considering those sections in the Report dealing with suggestions for reforms, we regret, we have to differ materially from the framers of this document. In doing so, we must however point out that we attribute no blame to the European Association. For, it must be admitted that, however well disposed and sympathetic the European community may be towards the Ceylonese, it is a psychological impossibility for the former to feel and speak for the wants of the latter, as the latter, or rather the educated and thinking portion of the latter, could do it for their own community. As a general proposition, this is true in all international relations. But in considering those sections in the

nity. As a general proposition, this is true in all international relations.

Now, the cardinal principle for which the great war was fought and for which the Ceylonese in common with the rest of the Empire, have contributed their humble quote of sacrifices, is freedom. It is in vindication of this principle that the famous proclamation of the British Government regarding the grant of responsible Government to India was issued on the 20th of August 1917. It was announced in this that it was the policy of his Majesty's Government to promote the increasing association of Indians in every branch of the administration and the gradual development of self-government in India as an integral part of the British Empire. In referring to this important announcement the Report observes:— "No such announcement has been made with regard to Ceylon and it may well be doubted whether an idential policy is possible in the case of a small colony, but events in India are closely followed by the Ceylonese and have given an immense impetus to their aspirations". We strongly repudiate the suggestion contained in the foregoing quotation that it may not be possible to pursue a policy identical with the one laid down for India, or, in other words, it may not be possible now to graat the same degree of responsible government to Ceylon as may be granted to India, with the view of responsible government to Ceylon as may be granted to India, with the view to the eventual establishment of full resto the eventual establishment of full responsible government in these two countries, and their inclusion as self-governing portions of the British Empire. The chief defect of the Report lies in this, that it does not recognize the fact that the Ceylonese can become a distinct autonomous national unit in the that the Ceylonese can become a distinct autonomous national unit in the Empire, if they are given the opportunity and the freedom to develop. If the Hindus and Mohamedans and the other minor Nationalities in India can coalesce into a nation, there is no reason why a similar national evolution cannot take place among the communities in our Island. It is in the power of the British nation to help or hinder the national evolution of the Ceylonese. After perusing the European Association's scheme of reforms published in this issue, we are sure our Ceylonese readers will find many serious defects in it which make the scheme altogether unacceptable to them. In the condemnation of the scheme, we are glad to note that a section of the European press in Ceylon has also joined the Ceylonese. The following quotation from the editorial article appearing in the "Times of Ceylon" of the 8th instant will be read with considerable interest by our countrymen. The writer here takes a more practical and statesmanlike view of the situation and has not failed to grasp the chief political need of the Ceylonese, namely, some form of responsible Government where the representatives of the people will have the power to direct the government of their country, at least in some of its departments:—

Under this scheme, if it is adopted, we shall have re-created in Ceylon the whole of the machinery, paraphernalla and atmosphere of English party government. We shall have an electoral register, with all the trouble and fuse connected with it, including what is known in England as revising barristers courts; there will be prolonged preparations of the ground by candidates, and finally the excitement of the actual contests. All this elaborate and protracted farce will be gone through to send to the Legislative Councils men who will be mere simulaors, duly elected members of Parliament with but shadows



of the powers of a member of Pavliament. This is the Morley Minto scheme applied to Caylon after having ignominiously falled in India, producing merely an increased sense of irrespensibility in both members and electorates. We do not think any Secretary of State would dream of setting up in Coylon the anadronism of an elected Council with an official majority. What is more likely is that he will take the will of the European community for the dead. The report expresses a keen desire for the elimination of the official majority; but does not believe it is possible. The Secretary of State knows that it is possible, for he already has under his care crown colonies in which it has been achieved. We should not, however, like to see the old-fashioned constitutions of colonies like Jamaica and Mauritius adopted in Ceylon. We should much prefer a graduated scheme for the introduction of public responsibility like that suggested for India—a scheme which would grant opportunities for the exercise of the powers of self government to the people at first 'in those departments which afford most opportunity for local knowledge and social service," and those subjects such as agriculture and education, in which the natives of this country have shown themselves to be most keenly interested and those in which, to, quote again the words of the Montagu Chelmsford report, "the mistakes that may occur, though serious, would not be irremediable." It would be perfectly feat. words of the Montagu Chelmaford report, "the mistakes that may occur, though serious, would not be irremediable." It would be perfectly feasible to instuduce such a scheme in Ceylon, while reserving in the hands of Government the full power of affirmative legislation and the control of all departments vital to the interests of the colony. There is a suggestion in the report that in the case of the provincial governments of India this control is secured by the supervising functions which remain vested in the Central Government. This is entirely erroneous. This safetions which remain vested in the central doverture.

This is entirely erroneous. This safeguard was deliberately rejected, for the reason
that to quote the "Times of India", "the whole
design of the Montagu-Chelmaford reform scheme
is to make provincial autonomy as complete as
possible." The scheme for dividing subjects into possible." The scheme for dividing subjects into "transference" and "reserved" is perfeculy applicable to Ceyion, whether or not the analogy is between the Caylon Government and Provincial governments or the Central Government of India. This scheme avoids the evils, rightly denounced by the drafters of the report, which would attach to the constant use of the yets. by the drafters of the report, which would attach to the constant use of the veto by the Govern-ment.

## NOTES & COMMENTS.

This Report, which has been published, makes recommendations for the larger employment of

THE REPORT Ceylonese in OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES the public ser-COMMISSION. Vices of their Island.

The Commission must have found its work lightened by the study of the Reports issued in India dealing with a similar question. Whatever differences there may be in minor details, we have no doubt that the British Government will apply the same principles of policy in dealing with political concessions to India and Ceylon. The recommendations of the Ceylon Public Services Commission The recommendations of follows in the main the recommendations contained in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report under this head. All racial bars in the recraitment for these services, are to be abolished. In the Civil Service it is recommended that one-third of the posts should be held by Ceylonese and that pro-portion should be gradually raised to one-half. In the other branches of the portion should be gradually raised to one-half. In the other branches of the public services too such as the Police, the P. W. D. Irrigation &c., similar concessions are granted If the recommendations of this Commission are adopted by the Govern-ment in full, and if sufficient educational facilities are granted to deserving Ceylon-ese students by means of scholarships &c, ese students by means of scholarships &c, to acquire the necessary qualifications either locally, or in foreign countries, we may be sure that such a just policy will be received with a hearty welcome by the public. As we conclude in this issue the publication of the European Association's Report on Ceylon Reforms, we hope to publish this Report in our next issue.

### LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—A few welcome showers of rain fell yesterday in the town and in most parts of the District. It has cleared again.

AN EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENT.

We are giad to hear that Mr. K. Kandish, a trained teacher in the Hindu College, Jaffua, and the son of Mr. P. Cartigesa Pillai, Tamii Editor, "Hindu Organ", has been appointed to act as Sub-Inspector of Schools, Northern Province. We nope he will before long, get a permanent appointment in the Educational Service of the Island.

Personal.—The Hon'ble Mr. A. Sapapathy returned to Jaffina on Friday last.

Dr. K Ponniah, Visiting Medical Officer, Kandy, has been transferred to Udugama as District Medical Officer.

—We are glad to learn that Mr. Victor Emmanuel Bushnell Bastiampillal of the Treigation Office, Kurun ga'a, who passed his fical Examination he'd recently, has been appointed as a Sub-Inspector of Irrigation for the North Central Province at Anuradapura. He is the fourth son of Mr. B. S. Bastiampillal of Jaffus.

—Mr. C Suntheram, Chief Appraiser, Colombo Customs, who came here on short leave returned to Colombo on Wednesday.

THE ASIAN COMMERCIAL ASSURANCE COV.
LTD.—We have received with thanks from
Mr. C N Deva Rajan, the Chief Agent in
Ceylon, an artistically got up wall calendar,
issued by this Insurance Company.

THE "OEYLON BUSINESS ADVERTISER"—
This is a unique venture in the field of journalism in Jaffns. It is published monthly in English and Tamil, and is devoted to all sorts of advertisements and the promotion of business knowledge. It will be found in experieuce that almost every one has something to buy, or something to sell. A cheap advertising medium like this with a wide circulation may, therefore, be of immense advantage not only to traders specially, but to the general public as well. We thank Mr. N Ponniah, the Managing Proprietor, for the copy sent to us.

HINDU CALENDAR.—Srimat S Sathasiva-Kurukkal the well known Astrologer of Kon-davii, has issued his Calendar compiled for the year Siddharthi in the form of a wallalmanac. The sheet contains, as usual, several valuable informations of astrological importance, such as auspicious times etc., and being printed in English must be useful to all nationalities interested in astrological predictions. We thank the author for the copy sent to us.

The Railway Cash Shortage—In connection with the big C. G. R. defalcation it is understood that Government has called upon those officers, whose chits and I.O.U.'s were found in the iron safe, to explain why they borrowed money contrary to general orders.

orders.

Medical Inspection of Schools—The Eon. Mr. O C Tillekerathe a short time ago brought forward a motion in Council, asking Government to carry out a medical inspection of schools and Government accepted the motion. For the present the work will be carried on in the Colombo Schools. A full-time Medical Officer is to be appointed as there are nearly a hundred schools to be inspected. The children will be subjected to an examination for diseases of the eyes, ears, mouth and throat.

CIVIL MEDICAL DEPAREMENT — Dr. H.

CIVIL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT — Dr. H. Bawa, F.R.O.S & L.R.O.F., Edinburgh, has been confirmed in the appointment of Inspecting

Medical Officer.

The Education Office. — Mr. Edwin Evans, Assistant Director, will act as Director of Education when Mr. E B Denham goes home shortly on furlough. No date has been decided on; his passage has not been booked. As the accounting work at the office of the Director of Education has increased to a very great extent, Mr. Denham has asked Government for the assistance of an Accountant. A suitable Officer will be appointed shortly. His name has not transpired.

His name has not transpired.

"Tamby Mootoo" of Trincomalee.—It would be interesting if any old residents of Trincomalee could furnish particulars as to the person referred to in the following announcement in the "Unclaimed Money" column of the "News of the World," and the circumstances in which he left his native land;—"Mootoo (Tamby)—Surviving wife or next-of-kin of Tamby Mootoo, formerly of Trincomalee, Ceylon, a naval pensioner, late of Tenterdeu, Kent, who died at St. Leonarde-on-Sea on Nov. 2nd apply Cornwall S Baily, 6, Dane-road, St. Leonards-on-Sea."

V. M. H. A. Kurinnegara — Moetings and

Baily, 6, Dane-road, St. Leonards-on-Sea."

Y. M. H. A., KURUNEGALA.—Meetings are now being held regularly in the Y. M. H. A. Hall under the presidency of Mr. N Muttiab, Postmaster. Arrangements are being made to call the first annual general meeting and a sub-committee consisting of Messre. N Muttiah, Postmaster, M A Masilamani, Advocate, P Tambirajsh, Proctor, S Banmugam, K N Vyramuttu, K M N M Palaniappah Chetty, M K Veluppillai, S Muttiah, S Kailasapiaal, A Nadarajah and P Somasundaram has been appointed for the purpose. —Cor.

A FARRWELL FUNCTION AT KALANG.—The

has been appointed for the purpose. —Cor.

A FARRWELL FUNCTION AT KAJANG.—The friends and well-wishers of Mr. P. Eliathamby, Registration Clerk, Land Office, Kajang, entertained him on the eve of his transfer to Jugra Kuaia Langat as Chief Clerk, Land Office, in the Broadrick Club, Kajang on the 23rd ultimo at 4-30 p. m. A group photo was taken and light refroshments were served. The function was performed spendidiy under the patronage of the president Dr. A. C. Karthigasu who dilated upon the qualities of Mr. P. Eliathamby in his brief presidental speech. After a vote of thanks to the chair amidet applause, it came to a close at 6 p. m. —Cor.

FIRE ON SHIP IN BOMBAY DOCKS —Bombay.

eame to a close at 6 p. m. —Cor.

Fire on Ship in Bombay Docks —Bombay,
March 13th.—A fire broke out in No. 2 hold
of the ss. "Thessolin" berthed in the Alexandra docks. The hold contained hay, lubricating oil, etc. belonging to Government.
The fire Brigade managed to put out the fire
after several hours' hard work. The demage
is believed to be enormous. The cause of
the out-break has not been ascertained.

EUROPEANS AND THE REFORMS.

(Continued from our last issue.)

THE NATURE OF THE FRANCHISE.

The Nature of the Franchise.

The extent of the franchise is from the point of view of the various religions, a matter of peculiar importance in Caylon, where so many of the educated classes are Christians while the majority of the pearantry are Buddhists or Hindus. A narrow franchise, practically confined to educated persons, might result in the return chiefly of Christians while a wide franchise would probably secure a council composed of Buddhists and Hindus. We have not, however, considered the matter from the point of view of religious interests but merely from that of the general capacity of electors to exercise a wise choice and escape the influence of possible corruption, On the one hand it may be argued that the peasantry is not yet capable of appreciating the value of a vote and may be subjected to improper influences. On the other hand the view may be entertained that the average villager is by no means without common sense where his own interests are concerned and will soon learn the importance of a secret ballot, while from the point of view of possible corruption there may be safety in large numbers. As a compromise between these two views we suggest that the proposals of the Reform League in this respect should be adopted with such modifications as will be mentioned below, when we discuss our scheme in detail.

### THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

#### THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

The Colonial Office.

As stated before, the constitution of this Office does not make any provision for the association with the officials in England, of any one having a personal knowledge of the Colony and we believe that in practice no such person is consulted. It appears on the face of it impossible for the affairs of any country to be controlled satisfactorily by men living six thousand miles away who have never seen either the country or the people whom they control. We are of opinion that the blunders which are made from time to time, in important matters, might be avoided, if there were associated with the Secretary of State persons having long personal acquaintance with the Colony. The Secretary of State for India has a council of which nine members must have had long and rocent service or residence in British India. We are further strongly of opinion that it is necessary to press for a reform of the system under which Colonial affairs are handled in London and in particular that the sfairs of this Colony should be directed by a Council, presided over by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, composed of officials and unofficials with experience of Coylon. We are not at present in possession of sufficient information to enable us to make detailed proposals. They may be framed at a 1-far date, after consultation with persons more intimately acquainted with the affairs of the Colonial Office. We would however suggest that subordinate officials in London should be drawn from the various Colonies and that such senior officers as may be recalled from Coylon for service in England should, after five years service there, retire on full colonial pension and so make way for new men. In this manner the Secretary of Seate would be supplied with a staff of officers having an intimate knowledge of the Colony's affairs and needs.

18.

#### SUMMARY OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Summary of General Principles.

Having explained the chief problems which presented themselves for solution and the manner in which we approached them, we think that, before setting out the particulars of our proposals, we should summarize briefly the conclusions at which we have arrived, for unless those conclusions accepted, the scheme detailed below must necessarily fail to meet with approval. The general lines of policy on which we are agreed and which

we put forward for acceptance by the Council may be stated in the following propositions:—

Some reform of our constitution directed towards an increase or popular control is desirable.

Europeans should be prepared to support such demands as are reasonable and should be ready with proposals of their

own.

(c) The Colonial Office should be brought more closely into touch with the Colony which it controls.

(d) There should be unofficial members of the Executive Council, the official members of whith should be reduced in number but no to the extent suggested by the Ceylor Reform League.

(e) The unofficial members of the Executive unofficial members of the Executive uncell must be nominated and not elected.

(f) The unofficial members of the Lecidities.

(f) The unofficial members of the Legislative Council should be elected, except those required to represent particular interests.

(g) The official majority in the Legislative Council must be maintained.

(h) The distribution of seats should be based on full territorial representation.

(i) Special provision must be made for the representation of small communities and important interests.

(j) The franchise should be wide enough to include all those who can reasonably be expected to appreciate the value of a vote and the responsibility involved in exercising it.

### SUGGESTED REFORMS.

(a) The Colonial Office.
We have already indicated the lines on which we think an improvement in the efficiency of this flice should be effected.

(b) The Executive Council.

This should consist of the following members: His Excellency the Governor.

The Officer Commanding the Troops.
The Colonial Secretary.
The Attorney General.

The Treasurer.

Two unofficial members nominated by the ernor of whom one should be a European another a Ceylonese.

(c) The Legislative Council.

(c) The Legislative Council.

The size of the Council is necessarily dependent upon the number of officials who can be spared from their duties to attend its meetings. As it is improbable that government will be able to spare twenty two officials, the number of Unofficials suggested by she Reform League must be reduced. We can see no necessity for the election of several members to represent the views of any one area. We suggest that there should be one member for each of the following provinces, namely the Western Province, the Central Province, the Northern Province, while the North-Central and North-Western Provinces should together return one member, and Uva and Sabaragamuwa another. The following table shows the population, at the last census, of each of these electoral areas and the race which is in numerical preponderance:—
Electoral Areas.

Electoral Areas. Po Total Western Province ... 1,106,321 Low-country Sinhalese Kandyan Sinhalese Central Province ... 672,258 Tamil Northern Province ... 369,651 Southern Province ... 628.817 Eastern Province ... 183,698 North-Central Province North-Western 520,392 Province Kandyan 625,213

Province

Uva

Sabaragamuwa

This division of the country gives a fairly even distribution of seats. The Northern and Eastern Provinces have sufficiently distinct interests to warrant separate representation in spite of their smaller populations and the under representation of the Western Province will be corrected by providing a separate member for Colombo. If, as is highly probable, the predominating race in each electoral area secures the return of one of its own members, there will be two Tamil members, three Kandyan Sibhalese and two Low Country Sinhalese, but all races will be included in the electorates. There is no means of foretelling to what race the Colombo member will belong. As it is highly improbable that a European, or Burgher or Mohammedan will be returned for any of the provincial seats, we recommend that each of these communities should have one member, to be returned by its own electorate for the whole Ialand, or nominated if any community to desire s. There still remain the special claims of communities in the special claims of common and agriculture. We regard it as a serious defect in the present constitution of the Council, and one fraught with real danger to the property of the Island, that there should be dopendent upon the return of a planter for the rural European seat. Interests of this nature should be represented by members selected by bodies which have acknowledged authority. We recommend therefore that there should be three extra members to be nominated respectively by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, the Ceylon Planters' Association, and the Low-Country Products Association. A Council os constituted will provide a substantial beginning for territorial representation to thereby leading to a diminiution of racial distinctions which may in the distant future permit of the total disregard of race and the matural acceptance of each other by all classes of persons as cuizens with the same political needs, in the matural acceptance of each other by all classes of persons as cuizens with

The reduction of the European members in 1919, without any reference to the community has, always been regarded as a serious grievance and one which appears to have had no more valid cause than a weak attempt to give an appearance of system to a reform which had in reality no logical system whatever. The scheme which we suggest is logical in this respect, for while we make no secret of the fact that three Europeans will be elected in all, yet the Planting member and the Commercial member will not be elected as Europeans but as men specially qualified to protect planting and commercial interest. Should the European, at any future time, fail to maintain the lead which thay now have in these spheres of activity then the Ch mber of Commercia and the Plantiers Asseciat will probably nominate Ceylonese. Nor is either of these bodies even now exclusively European. Each of them has some Ceylonese members who will be entitled to take part in the selection of the member to be nominated. We have so far made provision for the protection of communities and interests which obviously require special representation. It is impossible to foresee whether there may not at some time, arise some community or seperate body which is without a voice in the Council yet is of sufficient importance to have a member to speak for it. We think it advisable to make provision for such an eventuality and accordingly recommended that two seats should be placed at the disposal of the Governor, to be filled by him, should occasion axise, with the sanction of the Becretary of State.

The Legislative Council which we propose will then be composed of the following members:

The Legislative Council which we propose will en be composed of the following members:—

Hell oa combosed or ere remain		-
Elected by the provincial areas		7
Elected by the Colombo Mu-		1
nicipal area		1
Elected by the Europeans		
Elected by the Burghers		
Elected by the Mohammedans		1
Nominated by the Ceylon		
Chamber of Commerce	***	1
Nominated by the Ceylon		
Planters' Association		1
Nominated by the Low-Coun-		
Nominated by the Low-Coun-		1
try Products Association		
minated by the Governor		
ish the sanction of the		
ceretary of State if occa-		2
on arises	***	-
tal of Unofficial Members		16
Officials		17
		-
Total of the whole Council		33
		-
If the Governor has not exercised his	pov	ver

If the Governor has not exercised his power of nomination to either of the extra seats, the numbers will be Unofficials 14. Officials 15—total 29. The question then arises whether the Governor should preside at the meetings of the Conneil. In favour of continuation of the present system it may be argued that, although His Excellency represents His Majesty the King his position as the chief executive officer of the administration in Ceylon, ultimately responsible for the Government of the Island, is analogous rather to that of the English Prime Minister and therefore demands his presence in the Legislative Council. On the other hand it has been contended that it is more in accordance with the dignity of his office that the Governor should be above and part from the necessity of keeping order in debate and further that his presence may tend towards a restriction of the freedom of discussion. After a consideration of both these views we recommend that His Excellency should not preside, but that the President should be an official member nominated by him.

Before leaving the subject of the Legislative Council we wisk to refer to a matter which at the present time is a frequent source of public irritation, namely the sudden launching of Government measures, without any attempt to sound public opinion on the principles of the proposed enactments. We believe that the Government frequently courts opposition by its failure to take the unofficial members into its confidence, when previous discussion and explanation of its views would avoid the indignation which a surprised public sometimes exhibits. We think that this mistaken procedure could be prevented by the appointment of standing committees of the Legislative Ouncil, of an advisory insture, to assist the executive on questions relating to various important branches of the administration, and that bills should be discussed in such committees before being submitted to the Council.

(d).

The Franches,

(d).

The Franchise,

As stated before we think that the qualifications for Nactora suggested by the Reform League are, with elight modifications, acceptable. We suggest that the ownership qualification should be Rs. 5,000 of instead of Rs. 1,000,00, which latter sum bears no 1 deal relation either to the income qualification of Ar. 600 00 per annum or to the occupation qualification in a town. We also think that the plural voling provided for in qualification V, of the Reform League? memorandum should be greatly restricted. While there is good reason in allowing a person who has substantial proprietary interests, in an area other than that in which he resides, to have an extra vote in respect of that property, we cannot accept an interest of the value of Rs. 6,000.00 as being sufficiently substantial to justify plurality of voting, which is always recognized as a somewhat undemocratic institution. With a qualification of only Rs. 6,000.00 as moderately wealthy resident of Celembo neight obtain a vote in every province and it is not impossible that, with a restricted electroms throughout the whole Island—a proceeding which would obviously be highly undesirable. We think the fore that the amount should be at the least Rs. 80,000.

We recommend therefore that every elector for a territorial area should be: 1. A male British subject, not less than 21 years old.

years old.

2. Able to read and write English, Sinhalese or Tamil.

Tamil.

3. One who has resided in the electoral area for not less than one year, unless he owns property in the electoral area of the value of not less than Ba. 30,000, in which case he need not have so resided.

4. (a) In receipt of an annu d income or salary of not less than Rs. 600.

of not less than Rs. 600.

or (b) In occupation either as propuletor or tenant of a house in the electoral area of the annual value or rent of Rs. 200 in a rural area, or Rs. 400 in an urban area.

or (c) The owner of landed property in the electoral area in his own right or that of his wife of the value of not less than Rs. 5,000.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

We recommend that a candidate for election for a territorial area should be:—

(1) A male British subject not less than 25 years old.

years old.

(2) On the list of voters for the territorial area to represent which he is nominated as a candidate, provided that he must have resided in such area for not less than three years, whether or not he owns property therein of the value of Rs. 80,000.

area for not less than three years, whether or not he owns property therein of the value of Rs. 30,000.

(3) Able to read, write and speak English.

(4) Not in the service of the Crown.
Qualifications numbered (1) (3) and (4) are the same as those suggested in the memorandum to which we have referred. For No. (2) the memorandum proposes the following:—

"On the list of voters in any electoral area in in the Island." We strongly depresate the adoption of such a proposal, which would render it possible for every seat to be occupied by members of some clique, who would have no special knowledge of the provinces which they were supposed to represent. The authors of the memorandum offer no comment or argument in its favour. If it is intended to reproduce the English system, according to which a Parliamentary candidate can be returned by a constituency with which he has no personal connection, it results from a failure to appreciate the different position of the English elector who casts his vote for the representative of a party rather than for a person who is to advocate his local needs. In Ceylon there are at present no parties other than perhaps the officials on the one head and the unofficial members on the other. The former are sent to the Council without election. The Ceylon elector therefore will have a choice only between candidates of the same party, with rival claims to be specially qualified to represent his views on local requirements. If the members returned have no knowledge of the provinces which they represent, territorial representation is of little value, and is in danger of degenerating into an instrument for furthering the ends of self-seeking demagogues. Those who complain of the present system of nomination and demand a larger Council urge as one of their main contentions that a member who resides, say, in Colombo cannot be expected to know the desires of the Inhabitants of distant provinces. The mere fact that a Colombo man has persuaded the voters of some distant province to alect him will no

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL BOARDS

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LOCAL BOARDS,
We have hitherto made no mention of local
government in as much as it did not directly affect
the general reforms which we have been considering. We think that great importance should be
placed upon the political aducation of the people
by entrusting them with a larger amount of selfgovernment in local areas. We recommend that,
subject to such safeguards as the government may
think requisite for protecting its financial interests, Municipal Councils should be wholly elected
and should elect their own chairman. A commission was appointed in 1916 to consider the question of local government generally exclusive of
the areas dealt with by the Municipal Councils.
We support the recommendations made by the
commission in its report (see Sessional Paper No.
VII. of 1917) and consider that stepe should be
taken to give effect to them.

taken to give effect to them.

16.

General Remarks.

It did not fall within the scope of the matters submitted to use to make suggestions as to the course which the Council or the Association should take with regard to the expression of views or the part to be plaved in the political arena of the present day. We would like to suggest, however, that if the reorganization of the Colonial Office which we have recommended is approved, steps should be taken to communicate with other Crown Colonies with a view to obtaining co-operation in pressing our demand for reform. Should other Colonies be willing to join with us, the advisory board which we wish to see constituted might be enlarged into a general council of members from all the Colonies with separate Committees to deal with the affairs of each several Colony.

We wish to make it clear that in framing a scheme which involves the approval of many of the demands of the Ceylon Reform League, we must not be thought to associate curselves in any way with the extravagant language in which some of the local reformers indulge from time to time. We have not overlooked the fact that proposals, which in themselves seem acceptable, may be supported by persons who are actuated only by motives of self-interest or who obtain satisfaction from any opportunity to get rid of the British. We have endeavoured not to allow the realization of that fact to over-cloud outlook. That the mass of the people are yearning for, or have any understanding of self-government we do not for a moment believe. We are firmly convinced that the prosperity of the Island can be maintained only by a preservation of British rule and by the fostering of the notions of integrity and which constitutes a more vital factor in the capacity of a people to rule either itself or other than mere intellectual progress. Where we have advised reforms which do not specifically affect the interests of our own community, we have done so of the assumption that they are desired by loyal subjects genuinely anxious to furt

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

### The War.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

London, March 11.

Washington.—President Wilson, addressing a Conference of Governors and Mayors, said it was perfectly understood in Paris that the Conference was meeting as the masters of nobody, but the servants of 700 millions. He added:—"If we show that we want to serve any interests but theirs, we become candidates for the most lasting discredit that will ever attach to men in history. We are at last learning that the business of Government is to take counsel for the average man. The whole matter of the prosperity of the peoples runs down into the great body of men and women who do the work of the world, and that process of guidance is not completed by the mere success of great enterprises. For the first time in history there is a quiek and vital international sympathy, not merely dieplaying is self in the contracts of Governments but in the silent intercourse of the great bodies that constitute the nations. The significance of this is the consciousness that we are the servants of this great silent mass of people constituting the United States for whom it is our privilege to find out how we can be to assist in making their lives what they wish them to be. Unless we show we understand the business of our servants, we shell not satisfy them and shall not accomplish the Peace of the world.

Washington.—Senator Lodge has prepared a resolution proposing that the Benate should declare that the League of Nations' draft be not approved, and that the American Commissioners be urged to proceed immediately with the work of concluding Peace with Germany.

#### GERMANY.

London, March 4.
Copenhagen.—A telegram from Berlin states (March 3rd):—A most stormy meeting of the Berlin Soviet, Communists and Independent Socialists by a bare majority over the Majority Socialists passed a resolution in favour of a general strike to enforce the demand for political recognition of the Soviets and overthrow the Scheidemann Ministry. It is anticipated, however, that the Majority Socialist workers will not participate in the strike.

AMERICAN REPUBLICANS AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. MAJORITY SECURED TO DEFEAT RATIFICATION OF PEACE TREATY.

RATIFICATION OF PEACE TREATY.

London, March 4.

Washington.—Senator Lodge today introduced in the Senate a resolution favouring the establishment of a satisfactory. Peace with Germany, prior to the serious consideration of the League of Nations scheme. The Democrats objected to immediate consideration of the resolution which was, therefore, placed on the table. Mr. Lodge then read the names of 37 Sensators of the next Senate who had asserted they favoured the resolutions. The number exceeds one-third of the membership or the Senate, or sufficient to defeat the ratification of the Peace Treaty for which a two thirds vote is required. Mr. Lodge's resolution definitely proposes the rejection of the League of Nations draft in its present form by United States. Congress subsequently adjourned amidst the obstructionist factions of some of the Senate Republicans which provented the passage of a number of important Bills. It is pointed out that the adjournment definitely marks the passing of Democratic control and the failure of the Army and Navy appropriations. President Wilson made a statement, declaring that a group of Senators had deliberately chosen to embarrass the Government.

PRESIDENT WILSON. Government.

New York.—President Wilson has sailed for France. A large crowd greeted his arrival. Strict Police precations were taken. The President Addressed a meeting in the Metropolitan Opera House, in which he declared that he was convinced by unmistakable evidences from all parts of the country that the United States favoured the League of Nations.

BOLSHEVIEC

BOLSHEVIKS AND THE SOCIALISATION OF WOMEN.

SOCIALISATION OF WOMER.

London, March 5.

Paris.—Madame Jules Siegfried, President of the National Council of French women, has appealed to the Peace Conference to take measures to save the Russian women from the shame of socialisation by the Bolsheviks.

—The Coylon Observer.

#### Notice.

### Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8881.
In the Matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Kasipillai Thambyah of Chuthumalai late of Yatiantota

Deceased.

Deceased.

Sinnathamby Kasippillai of Chuthumalai Petitioner.

Vs. Parupathipillai wife of Kasipillai of Do.

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Sinnathamby Kasippillai of Chuthumalai, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Kasipillai Thambyah, coming on for disposal before J. Homer Vanniasingham, Esquire, Acting District Judge, on February 21, 1919, in the presence of Mr. E. Murugesampillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated December 24, 1918, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is one of the heirs 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 March 18, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Pleris,

February 24, 1919,

P. E. Pieris, District Judge.

### TREATMENT.

Treatment of all ailment of whatever description undertaken. Speedy and effective cure guaranteed at the lowest cost. Diabetes, Paralysis, Venereal Diseases, which generally defy the powers of the Medical preparations are successfully cured.

Write at once giving only description of your sufferings and the Medicines will be sent by V. P. Post.

If personal attendance required charges extra.

> W. S. MENDIS, Physician & Chemist, Ayurvedic Medical Hall 4th Cross Street,

10-12-18.

JAFFNA

## **HYPNOTISM**

PERSONAL MAGNETISM, WILL POWER, NERVE FORCE

### Call it what you will-

Is the intangible power that controls human destiny. It is the key to all Lusiness and so-olal success. This power is no special gift of any one. It is latent in every one. We help you how to display it. By our system, you you how to display it. By our own home and not only achieve success yourself, but you can influence the mind, health and actions of others to a remarkable degree.

Write immediately for particulars to-

## THE LATENT LIGHT CULTURE,

Tinnevelly, S. India.

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