

The Jaffna Organ.

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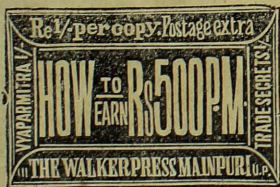
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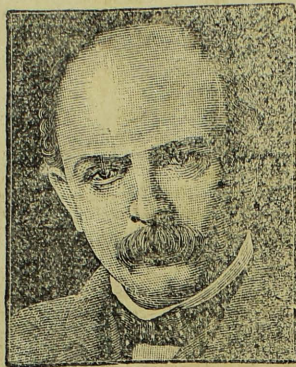
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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1919.

THE HINDU NEW YEAR.

The Hindu New Year "Siddhanti" begins on Sunday afternoon, and we take this occasion to wish our subscribers, correspondents, and our countrymen generally, a Happy and Prosperous New Year. By the Grace of the Almighty and All-benevolent Ruler of our destinies we have been privileged to contribute our humble mite to the happy ending of the great war. Let us now fervently pray that the Great God who vouchsafed to us the victory may also guide the deliberations of the Peace Conference so that it may be enabled to establish permanent peace in the world on the firm basis of International Justice and Equality. Though the war has come to a happy end, yet the immediate prospects are not quite pleasing. Owing to the war, partly economic, and partly political, there is a sort of unrest prevailing in every country. But even here, we have to be thankful to God that our dear Island is comparatively free from these unsettling influences. Though the people here are not blind to the bright vista of national life and progress opened by the great victory, yet, they are sober and sensible enough to work for its gradual realization with moderation and self-control. They have implicit confidence in the Justice of God and they know full well that the path of Justice and Love alone is the path to national greatness. They have been persistent and even insistent in pressing for the concession of as much civic freedom, and as great a share in the government of their country, as are justly due to them, or as may be conceded to their fellow subjects in the neighbouring Continent. But, with all their ardour for reform, they have always tried their best not to be insolent, or rabid, or provoking in criticising the defects of the present form of administration. For this happy result, the liberal and sympathetic attitude of the European community of this Island towards the reform question has contributed not a little. In pointing out the unsuitability of the present constitution to the progressive condition of the people, the European Association Memorial has not minced in the least. In our national festival of the New Year week, we should not forget to extend to them, especially to our British and American fellow citizens in Ceylon, the warmest expression of our cordial good wishes.

The New Year is generally regarded as the most favourable time to make forecasts for the future and to provide for new schemes and projects. As it has been declared by every thoughtful man in every civilised country, humanity is now at the threshold of a new age, and has been inspired by a new spirit of brotherhood and co-operative life. There is a revival and a reawakening of the spirit in every civilised nation in the world, and the great Indian Nation (of which Ceylonese too, whether Hindus, Buddhists, Mohamedans or Christians, must form an integral part) has not been slow to be moved by this new spirit. The attainment of national manhood through the progressive realisation of responsible government has been set down as the definite goal of Indian aspiration. And in the realisation of this aspiration, the British Nation which has been India's benevolent guardian and guide in the days of her national decadence, has generously promised its support. If India stands steadfast to her spiritual traditions, without being dragged into the whirl pool of modern materialism there can be no doubt that she will soon regain her place as the spiritual guide and exemplar of the world. The Hindu New Year is a national festival which affords a common platform from which all sections of Ceylonese can work in harmony for the upliftment of their motherland. Unlike many other festivals which are associated with particular religious events and customs, the

Hindu New Year is founded on an astronomical fact—the entry of the Sun into the first sign of the Zodiac. This astronomical event is common to all religions and all may therefore accept this national festival. The slight variations in the calculation of the exact time of the sun's entry into Aris, and the particular religious ceremonies with which each religionist in our country observes the event, are minor matters which need not interfere with the National observance of this festival by all sections of the people. An occasion like this will give us a splendid opportunity to promote union, and the growth of national *esprit de corps* among all sections of the Ceylonese.

As we have often advocated in these columns, the New Year week should not be observed merely as a season of social enjoyment, but should also be utilised, as it is done in India, to collect funds for and to promote national education. First of all, every religionist in Ceylon should be enabled to educate his child without injury to his or her religious faith which is caused by the proselytising educational institutions. The different communities of Ceylon, should make a determined effort, and should help each other in attaining the privilege of Swaraj and self-determination in the matter of religious education. No national greatness can be attained so long as the Hindus and Buddhists and Mohamedans of Ceylon do not establish a sufficient number of schools which can educate their children in their respective faith. We are glad to note that our Mohamedan countrymen have launched a comprehensive, practical and business like scheme to supply Mohamedan education to their children. We have published an out-line of the scheme in our last issue, and we wish speedy success to our Mohamedan friends in their laudable endeavour. We urge that the question should be viewed from the national standpoint, and non-Mohamedan Ceylonese too should subscribe to the fund.

Once more, we wish all our subscribers a Happy and Prosperous New Year. With their liberal support we were enabled to tide over the financial strain of the war period, and for this we owe our thanks to them. We confidently hope that our subscribers will extend to us an increasing measure of support in the future, and enable the conductors to enlarge this journal and to effect some much needed extension in the Editorial Department. The "Hindu Organ" has continued to keep pace with the progressive growth of the Hindu Community, and may we hope, that, with the support of our constituents, the time for taking another forward pace is not far off.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

OURSELVES.—On account of the Hindu New Year holidays the next issue of the "Hindu Organ" will be on Monday the 21st instant.

THE HINDU STUDENTS' CAMP.—The Hon. Mr. P. Ramasathan opened the Camp at Keerimalai on Sunday evening with the distribution of prizes in connection with the Religious Examination recently held by the Central Y. M. H. A. This was followed by his opening address on the Aims of National Education. With his magnetic personality and mellifluous speech the speaker elevated the audience to higher regions of thought and aspirations, and above all impressed on them the need of religious education. On Sunday night lectures were delivered by Mr. S. Sivapadasundaram of the Victoria College and Mr. Thambiah, Proctor. On Monday morning Mr. S. Subramania Aiyer B. A. B. Sc. (London) of the Jaffna Hindu College, delivered a very thoughtful address to the students on "The destiny of man in the light of Hindu Philosophy". In the evening Mr. B. Sanjiva Rao M. A. (Cantab) who was specially invited to the Camp by the Y. M. H. A., delivered an address on National Education. It was highly suggestive and very eloquent and set many a student to look on education in a new perspective. Mr. Sanjiva Rao also performed the important function of unveiling the photo of the late Mr. K. Vytialingampillai, a leading philanthropist and liberal supporter of the Hindu Students' Camp at Keerimalai. A Koladham performance was given by the students of the Kankesanthurai Hindu English School. The boys were dressed in bright uniforms conforming to national usages. Their action and songs were highly admired and appreciated. On Monday night a Kathaparanangam was given by Nagalinga Swamikal. Before retiring to sleep this night, Mr. Sanjiva Rao took a select company of students to the beach and in the bright moonlight had informal talks with them on religious and educational topics. On Tuesday morning Mr. Sanjiva Rao delivered an address on Hindu Culture. This was followed by an address from Mr. Proctor Pasupathy on Our Pedigree. The Camp broke in the evening and Mr. Sanjiva Rao left by Car to the Jaffna Hindu College at 3 p. m.

THE KANDERODAI ENGLISH INSTITUTE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.—It is proposed to organise an Association for the Old Boys of the Kanderodai Institute on Monday, 21st April, 1919, at 2 P. M., in the Institute Hall. All the Past Students of the Institute are therefore kindly requested to be present. —Cor.

THE GOVERNOR'S PRIVATE SECRETARY.—The Hon. Robert Trefusis, Private Secretary to H. E. the Governor, left for England by the R. M. S. "Osterley" on the 7th instant. He is expected to return in October. Lieut. Commander G. F. Hole, R. N., acts as Private Secretary.

THE LOCAL MANUFACTURE OF GLASS.—We understand that a syndicate of Ceylonese gentlemen has got out a gentleman with vast experience in the manufacture of glass to report on the possibilities of manufacturing glass in Ceylon. The expert is at present touring the different parts of the Island and on conclusion will send in a report.

TROUBLE IN COREA.—New York, March 17. —The Washington correspondent of the New York "Times" states that the Korea National Association has asked President Wilson to initiate action at the Peace Congress towards obtaining the independence of Korea. New York despatches from Shanghai says that the disorders in Korea are more widespread than are admitted by the Japanese authorities. In one instance thirty rioters were killed and forty wounded.

COLLEGE OF PROCTORORS.—Mr. S. G. Lee, M. A., who introduced these examinations into Ceylon in 1897 received the following communication from London, "The Dean has again considered the subject of your letter of the 4th October last and has decided to allow the examination in Sinhalese to take place on Friday from 9.30 to 11.30 a. m.". According to the last time table, Tamil and Sinhalese were subjects of Examination held simultaneously on Tuesday. Now these languages will be held on different days. In the Cambridge Examinations Tamil and Sinhalese come simultaneously. It is desirable that citizens of Ceylon should have a working knowledge of Tamil and Sinhalese and English. Such men will be more useful in the legal, medical, commercial and official missionary departments.

INTERNEED JAVA VESSELS. FOR THE B. I. S. N. Co.—It is proposed to hand over the German steamers which are now lying interned in Java to the British India Company. Their total number is said to be between 30 and 40. These vessels will be employed in carrying foodstuffs to Germany. It is understood that they will also be utilised to carry passengers from India to the United Kingdom, and thereby relieve the present traffic congestion. A representative of the B. I. Company has sailed for Java in this connection. —"M. Mail" April, 4.

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES.—New rules under the Public Performances Ordinance, No. 7 of 1912, applicable to areas other than municipal, are promulgated in last Friday's "Gazette". The term "public performance" includes every public dramatic representation; every exhibition of pictures or optical effects by means of a cinematograph, magic lantern, or other similar apparatus; and every exhibition of dancing, conjuring, juggling, acrobatic performances, boxing contest, circus, concert, or other stage entertainment. No building or erection can be used for a public performance without a license, the cost of which is Rs. 60 for a year (terminating on Decr 31st), Rs. 15 for a month and Rs. 2 for a day. Licenses will be granted by Chairmen of Local or Sanitary Boards and by G. A.'s or A. G. A.'s.

MR. GANDHI'S MESSAGE.—Bombay, April 3. —"Just arrived having missed connection at Secunderabad. Regarding the meeting at Delhi, hope the Delhi tragedy will make Satyagrahis steel their hearts and the waverers to reconsider their position. I have no shadow of doubt that by remaining true to the pledge we shall not only secure the withdrawal of Rowlatt Legislation but we shall kill the spirit of terrorism lying behind. I hope the speeches on Sunday will be free from anger or unworthy passion. The cause is too great and sacred to be damaged by the exhibition of passion. We have no right to cry out against sufferings self-invited. Undoubtedly there should be no coercion for the suspension of business or fast." —GANDHI. —"M. Times".

NATIONAL PROTEST DAY.—Bombay, April 5.—The "Satyagraha" Sabha, Bombay, has issued a notice that tomorrow (Sunday) is to be observed as a day of humiliation and prayer and also of mourning owing to the Delhi tragedy. Demonstrators have been enjoined that the behaviour of the mourners should be worthy of the occasion. There should be no talking, no noise, and absolute silence should prevail when the demonstrators have their bath in the sea between 7 and 8 in the morning, and then form a procession to go to Madhav Baug to attend the meeting. At the meeting, there should be no demonstration made by cheers, applause, etc. No pressure of any kind whatsoever should be put upon those who do not fast or suspend work, and those not participating in national mourning, should be left absolutely undisturbed. The notice further points out that it is the duty of the demonstrators to obey and carry out all police instructions, as it is as yet no part of the movement to offer civil disobedience against police orders that may

be given in connection with the demonstrations and processions organised by the Satyagraha Association. —"M. Times".

RECEPTION TO MR. B. SANJIVA RAO
AT THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE.

On Tuesday evening, there was given a brilliant reception to Mr. B. Sanjiva Rao by the students and staff of the Hindu College. The hall was tastefully decorated with flower garlands and festoons. There were also present, besides the students, a large number of Hindu gentlemen, at the invitation of the Reception Committee. The Hon. Mr. A. Sapapathy was proposed to take the chair. The proceedings commenced with the singing of Devaram to the accompaniment of the flute and other instruments. The chairman and Mr. B. Sanjiva Rao, who were seated on the platform, were then garlanded by Mr. M. S. R. Singhe, the Headmaster. The chairman then stood up amidst applause and delivered a concise speech reminding the audience of Mr. Sanjiva Rao's past connection with the College for about a year, and of the zeal with which he worked for the advancement of the College. He also said that the land at Kokuvil, now belonging to the College, was purchased by the College Authorities for the extension of the institution, chiefly at the instance of Mr. Sanjiva Rao. Within the last five years since his departure, the College had made rapid strides in progress. The number on the roll had doubled, the income and the expenditure had proportionately increased, and the efficiency of the Staff was kept at a high level. He also announced that it was the intention of the authorities to collect sufficient funds to further expand the College. The chairman then called upon Master S. C. Thillainathan, student of the London Matric. Class, to read the following address:

To
B. SANJIVA RAO, Esqr., M. A., (Cantab.)
Beloved Sir,

It is with feelings of delight, and devotion to a true spiritual guide and teacher, that we welcome you to this College as our temporary guest, to accept this offer as an expression of the goodwill and love which we bear to you.

We welcome you, not in expectation of any favours which you may confer on us, but urged by a spontaneous feeling of affection, not unmixed with reverence, towards you. You loved us with such gentleness and with such truth, that you bore with our juvenile errors; and yet, feeling that we are young, tender and sensitive and that we are mischievous not out of malice, but out of an excess of youthful activity, you brought the stray ones among us back to the fold, by gentle persuasion and by oft repeated appeals to our innate good sense.

The unfading smile on your face which would cheer us everyday at school even as the bright gleam of a glad morning sun, the gentle kind words that wrought more influence than a thousand codes of discipline—the memory of such things makes us look back with fondness and delight to the days you were with us.

The noble example of the life which you led like the Parson in Chaucer's prologue, of whom it is said,

"This noble ensample to his sheepe he gaf

That first he wrought and afterward he taught," The firmness with which you remained steadfast to truth and to your principles, undimmed by pecuniary loss, or loss of name, or falling away of friends, were a source of inspiration to us, and brought home to us more lessons than a number of sermons.

May God give you strength to stand by your noble ideals and do good to humanity so that you may continue, however distant you may be, to inspire us to lead such lives as would make us worthy heirs of a mighty civilization.

We beg to remain,
Beloved Sir,
Your affectionate and loving
Pupils of the Jaffna Hindu College.
Jaffna Hindu College,
8.4.1919.

The address was printed in gold letters in light blue silk. Mr. Sanjiva Rao rose amidst loud applause and in a modest way expressed how unworthy he was of the encomiums showered on him in the address and by the Chairman. He felt that the persons who really deserved credit for the advancement of the College were those who did the spade work at the outset in the midst of discouraging circumstances. The Chairman and the present Principal deserved their praise in this respect. He commended the zeal with which the Chairman always defended the interests of the institution and the intense love he bore to it, and concluded his speech by wishing the institution continued success and prosperity. He also spoke briefly on the question of National Education. The Principal, Mr. N. Salvadorat, then delivered a speech touching on Mr. Sanjiva Rao's good qualities and his work for the welfare of the College. He also made a passing reference to past history of the institution and of the trials and difficulties it had to contend with. At the conclusion of the speech, the Chairman rose and in the midst of thundering applause, and presented the address to Mr. Sanjiva Rao placed in a silver tray which bore an appropriate inscription. The proceedings terminated with the singing of Devaram. Mr. Sanjiva Rao was next taken round the College by the Principal and was also shown the Laboratory in which he was much interested. He spent about half an hour in informal talk with the students and left the College at 6 p. m., to the Railway Station, where he took train to Madras.

THE VIVEKANANDA SOCIETY, COLOMBO.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Vivekananda Society was held on Saturday the 8th instant at No. 95, Dam Street, Colombo, to consider what steps should be taken to give effect to the proposal to purchase a house property for the Society.

The President, Mr. C. Namasivayam, J. P., arrived punctually to time. There were present Messrs. C. Namasivayam, J. P., C. Perumalpillai, Proctor, S. Vaidhalingam, A. A. G. Sivapragasam, A. Ponnaiya, V. Ramaswamy, A. Saravanantham, S. Arunasalam, K. E. Chellappa, C. Navaratnam, S. Somasundaram, A. Kandiah, S. Kanagaratnam, K. Anandaram, V. Karthigesu, V. Arulampalam, V. Chelliah, K. C. Nathan, V. Thangarasu, S. Periatthambi, S. A. P. V. Mutulingaswamy, T. Kaandiah, C. Thillainathan, A. Chellappa, K. Rasanayagam, N. Chelliah, T. Ramathani, V. Thampi, M. Thambiah, A. Mustutamb, T. Sivaatamb, and T. Thiagarajah. The meeting began with the singing of Thevaram. The notice convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed. The Chairman then explained the object of the meeting in a short lucid speech and called upon Mr. C. Perumalpillai to supplement it with any further remarks which the meeting may require. This over, the proposition that Mr. H. Thiruvallugam, Proctor, Colombo be elected an honorary member of the Society was proposed by Mr. S. Vaidhalingam, S. A., and seconded by Mr. Ponnaiya and carried unanimously. Then the following resolutions were brought forward:

The first resolution that this meeting approves of the arrangements made by the Managing Committee to acquire by purchase premises No. 61, called "Warala Walaava" at Hill Street, Colombo for the sum of Rs. 38,500/- was proposed by Mr. K. C. Nathan and seconded by Mr. G. Sivapragasam and carried nem con.

The second resolution that this meeting authorizes the Managing Committee to appoint Trustees who shall not be less than 3 in number in whose favour the premises No. 61 shall be bought and held in Trust for the Society and to create an instrument of Trust defining the powers of such Trustees or any future Trustees and to get executed and to sign and perfect all documents that shall be necessary for the purpose was proposed by Mr. C. Perumalpillai and seconded by Mr. G. Sivapragasam. Mr. S. Periatthambi, S. A., proposed an amendment that the words "provided however that it shall not be competent for the Managing Committee to do anything that is likely to deprive the General Body of the members of the Society duly assembled at a general meeting of any powers such members possess under the existing constitution with regard to the management and control of the property belonging to the Society" be added to the original proposition which was seconded by Mr. P. V. Mutulingaswamy. After a long discussion the amendment was put to the vote and lost. Then the original proposition was put to the house and carried by a majority.

The third resolution that this meeting authorizes the Managing Committee to make use for the purpose of the purchase the money now known as the Building Fund as well as the accumulated surplus balances of the Society was proposed by Mr. K. Rasanayagam and seconded by Mr. C. Thillainathan and carried unanimously.

The fourth resolution that this meeting considers that the registration of the Society under Ordinance No. 16 of 1891 is preferable to the present arrangements, and therefore requests the Managing Committee to amend the rules with a view to registration and submit the same to a General Meeting before the 15th January 1919 was proposed by Mr. V. Thampi with his usual eloquence and seconded by Mr. C. Thillainathan, Mr. K. C. Nathan proposed an amendment that steps be taken to have the Society incorporated by a special ordinance which was seconded by Mr. C. Navaratnam. After some discussion it was put to the house and lost. Then the original proposition was carried with a vote of thanks to the chair and singing of Thevaram.

TAMIL TEACHERS' CONFERENCE
AT JAFFNA, 1919.PHYSICAL DRILL AND GAMES COMPETITION AND
DEMONSTRATION.

At the suggestion of the Director of Education and the Inspector of Schools, Northern Province, a special feature of the first Vernacular Teachers' Conference to be held in Jaffna from June 2nd to June 4th will be the demonstration of physical drill and games for school children. The preliminary conference of managers of vernacular schools held at King's House, on February 22nd, appointed a sports committee to arrange a suitable programme of competitions and demonstrations to be given at the Vernacular Teachers' Conference. A meeting of this committee was held at the Central College Hall on Saturday, the 15th instant, and the following arrangements were made for the carrying out of the sports programme.

MONDAY, JUNE 2ND 9 A. M.

In Wesleyan Mission compound, Vembady. Opportunity will be given for Vernacular Girls' schools to compete in a demonstration of drill and native games. Prizes will be offered for this competition separately.

MONDAY, JUNE 2ND 4 30 P. M.

Esplanade.

Competition of village, vernacular and A. V. schools in drill and native games. A special prize of Rs. 25 is offered by the Director of Education for the best demonstration by any school of a native game. A prize of Rs. 15 is also offered for the best drill.

The prize-winning teams will give their demonstrations at the sports on Tuesday afternoon.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3RD 4 30 TO 6 P. M.

King's Birthday.

Esplanade.

Demonstrations by the prize-winning teams of the previous afternoon.

Physical drill demonstrations by English School students.

Rally of the Jaffna Boy Scouts.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3RD, 6 30 P. M.

Public Meeting.

Presentation of prizes won in the above competitions.

JUSTICE SIR J. WOODROFFE ON
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

SIR JOHN WOODROFFE SENT THE FOLLOWING
NOTE IN REPLY TO A QUESTION RAISED
BY THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION 1917-18

Not being an Educational expert I will not attempt to deal with the technical details involved in the questions submitted to me. I wish only to say a few words on a radical matter namely the general attitude we should adopt as regards Indian Education. We cannot separate the question of University Education from that of Education in general. The undergraduate has already been made or spoiled in the family school or College. Nor if we pursue the subject to the end can we avoid an enquiry into political, religious, and cultural questions in general. The fundamental fact is that a Government alien in race, habits, thoughts, feelings, religion and general culture controls the Education (more and more strictly in recent years) and essays to teach the people of this country. It has been well said that probably in the whole world there are not two more dissimilar persons than an Englishman and a Hindu. The position is unnatural, and injurious to the true interests of this country. This control may be and I think has been directed by self-regarding political motives. But even if the point of view be one which primarily regards the interests of the Indian people, there is still place for conflicting theories and practice. There are some (the foremost of whom may be called missionaries of Race) who sincerely believing in the superiority of Western Civilization think that it will be for the benefit of India to impose it on East. The product of this system is Macaulay's "Coloured Englishman." The drift of Education has been in this direction. As my friend, Mr. Havell (formerly Principal of the Calcutta School of Art) has rightly said the fault of the Anglo-Educational System is that instead of harmonizing with, and supplementing, national culture it is antagonistic to, and destructive of it. Sir George Birdwood says of the system that it "has destroyed in Indians the love of their own literature, the quickening soul of a people, and their delight in their own arts, and worst of all their repose in their own traditional and national religion, has disgusted them with their own homes, their parents, and their sisters, their very wives, brought discontent into every family so far as its baneful influences have reached."

Since writing the above I have read a speech recently addressed by Sir Subramania Aiyar to the law students at Madras in which pointing out that it seems to be thought that the aim and end of British tutelage in India is to westernise its children says that the fulfilment of that aim must in the very nature of things tend to sap all true life and initiative natural to the people as a distinctly Eastern race destined to evolve on lines of its own. He also refers to a recent issue of the Journal, "The Statist," to the effect that the object of the present rule seems intended to metamorphose the Indian into a "quasi-English breed." Such a breed I may add is likely to lead to half thinking, inefficient action and worse.

As nothing is wholly evil I personally believe that some benefits have been gained through the Education given, but looking upon the matter as a whole I concur in thinking that this Education has had baneful effects. What else can be expected from a position so unnatural? Wrong Education is the cause of physical and mental strain and sapping of moral strength. It is productive of instability leading in the case of some to violence, in the case of others to a paralyzing inner conflict or a large number of ordinary and inferior natures to imitation, automatism, and subservience. The influences working on the student have been deracializing (if I may use the word to denote destruction of racial characteristics) devitalizing, and deforming.

If they have not worked their full evil it is due to the resistance of the racial spirit defending itself against the assaults, increasing in number and strength, made upon it in recent years.

Personally I should like to see the education of the Indian people in the hands of Indians themselves without any interference from Government as at present constituted. But if Government must control Education, the principle on which it now proceeds should be changed.

Let us recognise the strength, persistence, and value of the racial characteristics of the Indian people, who have survived, in a way, and to a degree which is not seen in the case of any other country in the world. It is not necessary to enquire into the question of the respective superiority of the civilization of East and West. It is sufficient to hold that Indian Civilization is the best for the people whose forefathers have evolved it. Let us stop all attempts direct or indirect, whether political or religious, to impose our beliefs and practices on a people to whom they are foreign. Let us admit and give effect to the claim of the true Indian patriot that his language, history, literature, art, philosophy, religion, general culture and ideals should be given the primary place in the prescribed courses of study.

Each manager of Vernacular Schools is requested to submit at an early date the names of schools which are taking part in the above competitions. Entries must be in the hands of the Inspector of Schools, N. P. before May 17th.

In making entries please state clearly:

1. Name of school and name of manager.

2. For which competition entered, drill or games.

(In case the school is a girls' school and is entering the special competition held for girls' schools, please indicate.)

The importance of drill and games in our vernacular schools will be at once recognized by all who have the true education of our children at heart. The Vernacular Teachers' Conference will afford an opportunity to give from our own experiences and to learn from the experiences of others in this valuable discipline. It is hoped that all managers will encourage their teachers to enter heartily into the spirit of the sports programme.

THE SPORTS COMMITTEE:

C. W. Miller, Esq. Rev. H. Bullough
W. S. Ratnasagayal Esq. Rev. C. S. Mathews
S. Rajaratnam, Esq. Rev. K. Macpherson
M. Sabaratnasagayal, Esq. The Inspector of Schools, N. P.

Office of the Inspector of Schools, N. P.,
Uduvil, Chunnakam,
March 20th, 1919.

T. S. TILLAINAYAKAM,

Inspector of Schools, N. P.

SATYAGRAHA DAY
PROGRAMME IN MADRAS.

The Satyagraha Day is to be observed in Madras by all citizens tomorrow, 8th April in accordance with the Message of Mahatma Gandhi. The following programme of events has been so far arranged to take place throughout the city:—

1. After the morning bath all Satyagrahis as well as those who observe the Satyagraha day are enjoined to spend the morning in meditation and prayer for the repeal of the Rowlett Legislation and the happiness of their fellow countrymen. They will close their shops and places of business.

2. Wherever arrangements are made for Bhajana parties, they are commended to join them and help, as far as possible, in their orderly and successful conduct.

3. At 11 a. m. arrangements have been made at all the important temples for the performance of Archana and Abhihekana, and members of the City Committee have been severally placed in charge of them. All those observing the Satyagraha day are requested to attend the temples at this time (11 a. m.) for worship.

4. From noon till evening when all people are expected to assemble at the Beach for the great meetings that will take place there, arrangements have been made for the holding of Kalakshepams in the following parts of the city:—

There will be a musical discourse on "some ideals of Satyagraha" by Vidwan C. R. Srinivasa Iyengar, B. A. of the Mysore Sanskrit College, in "Farm House" Mowbray's Road, Royapettah, the residence of Mr. S. Kasturiranga Iyengar, Vice-President of the Satyagraha Sabha.

A Kalakshepam on "Prahlada," the Satyagraha prince, by Chettur Narasimhaachariar at Purasawalkam.

Harikatha Kalakshepams will take place at Triplicane, Georgetown and other places.

These Kalakshepams are free and open to all who participate in the Satyagraha observance tomorrow.

It is requested that other prominent Satyagrahis will arrange for similar Harikathas in other parts of the city and notify the same for the benefit of all their friends and citizens in the neighbourhood.

5. In the evening the public meetings will be held at the Triplicane Beach on five separate platforms, one being if necessary, specially reserved ladies. At all the meetings, messages from Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. S. Subramania Aiyar will be read, both in English and in the Vernacular, and a Resolution will be moved and passed praying for the withdrawal of the Rowlett Legislation. It is expected that the proceedings will commence with national songs and end with a prayer.

6. All Satyagrahis and others partaking in the observances of tomorrow are requested:—(a) to bear in mind the necessity to fast during the day right up to the time of supper, counting twenty-four hours from the last previous meal; (b) to cease from all work and close their business; (c) to spend their time in the day in prayer, meditation, religious or Satyagrahi discourses or discussions.

—"The Hindu", April. 5.

If Education be to educe, what can be educed, from the Indian mind and character but inherited racial impressions. Is it Education to neglect or suppress these and to cram it with foreign stuff? This observation does not exclude any form of knowledge Western or otherwise. Knowledge is knowledge whether it comes from East or West. An Indian student is none the less true to his type because his own cultural inheritance has been enriched by what of worth the West can give. It is directed to the positive cultivation of Indian culture, and in other matters the adoption of an attitude favourable to it. The 17th question asks whether the conditions under which students live undermine traditional morality. "Condition" (if I understand the question rightly) indicates that the question has in view only some superficial features of the student's life. Where morality (I use the term in its general sense) has been undermined it is due to an immense degree to the alleged "novelty" of the State as regards religion, its teaching, which ignores religion, the past attacks on the Indian religions, Hindu and Muslim, westernizing influences and the general atmosphere produced by these and other causes.

How can traditional morality be preserved when the whole course of education is to ignore it and thus leave it the easier prey of sectarian attack and secular scepticism? How can the Indian student present an effective attitude to life if the source of his vitality is neglected or suppressed and his movements are cramped by foreign vestures? It is true that an increasing national consciousness has been to some extent remedying the evils of an English education on English principles by English teachers, but the necessity to remove the causes of these evils still remains.

It follows from the above views that in my opinion education should be such as a true and not a denationalised, Indian would desire to see given and would himself if an educator, give. Such an education can only be probably given by an Indian able in his subject and inspired by great ideals who has not been denationalised under the English system of education which has hitherto prevailed. The class here excepted may be less competent to teach than the English original of which they are a copy. All intriguers for posts of teachers and professors should be rigorously suppressed. As a result of this it follows that distinctions in the educational service should be abolished and Indians should be employed in every case except those in which the expert knowledge of a European (and not necessarily an Englishman) justifies his appointment. The educational curriculum should give Indian culture and the Indian standpoint the primary place. Art should be recognised and not as it now ignored by the University. India being an agricultural country there should be courses of agriculture, professorship and travelling agricultural lectureships (Q 13). Law is at present too much encouraged. All the public opinion with which I am acquainted is against the further multiplication of lawyers. Teaching should be in the vernacular as much as possible. Students are greatly strained by having to learn in a foreign tongue. The University should be as free of Government interference and have as much independence of action as is possible. There should certainly be a large degree of freedom of teaching and study. In short I would claim for the University every freedom to follow those ideals which the past history of India, and its past and present Indian culture, present to it.

—"The Mahavandana Magazine."

THE CEYLON REFORMS.

INFLUENCE OF THE INDIAN SCHEME.

MR. COTTON DEMANDS EARLY SETTLEMENT.
Mr. H. E. A. Cotton writes in the "Manchester Guardian" of February 27th:—

The Island of Ceylon is apt to be overshadowed by its mighty neighbour. But the movement towards self government there is as vocal and as ably directed as in India, and it has received a powerful impetus from the publication and favourable reception of Mr. Montagu's proposals.

In many respects the problem which awaits the new Colonial Secretary in Ceylon is comparatively simple of solution. Under the British kings, who reigned uninterruptedly for two thousand three hundred years, local institutions of a representative character obtained a firm hold. The conditions at the advent of the British were, in fact, so promising that as early as 1809, Sir Alexander Johnston, the then Chief Justice, recommended to the Secretary of State, after conducting a careful enquiry at the request of the Governor, that a Legislative Assembly should forthwith be created, with elected members from each province. The recommendation was accepted, and effect would have been given to it but for a change of Government in this country.

Again, in 1831, a Royal Commission (composed of Lieutenant-Colonel Colebrooke and Mr. C. H. Cameron, the disciple of Bentham and successor of Macaulay as Law Member at Calcutta) reported that "the peculiar circumstances of Ceylon, both physical and moral, seem to point it out to the British Government as the fittest spot in our Eastern dominions in which to plant the germ of European civilisation, whence we may not unreasonably hope that it will spread over the whole of these vast territories." Unhappily, the opportunity was once more lost, and the narrowest form of Crown Colony Government was chosen. An Executive Council of nominated members at 1833, and the only subsequent change of importance took place in 1910, when, in response to urgent and insistent appeals, the elective principle was introduced in respect of four seats in Legislative Council.

THE PRESENT LEGISLATURE AND EXECUTIVE

As at present constituted, the Legislative Council consists of 22 members, including the Governor, who is ex-officio President. Twelve officials and are all European; while of the non-officials six are nominated from the various communities in the island, such as the low country Sinhalese (two), the Kandyan Sinhalese (one), the Tamils (two), and the Moors or Mohammedans (one). The remaining four seats are filled by election, and of these two are assigned to the Europeans, who number less than 7,000, and one to the Burghers (descendants of the early Portuguese and Dutch settlers), who total about 27,000. The fourth member, who is known as the Ceylonese member, is elected by the educated native population, whose qualification for voting is the attainment of a certain standard of proficiency in English and who comprise about 4,000 out of an aggregate of over four millions.

As for the Executive Council, it remains exactly what it was 85 years ago when it was established, and is entirely composed of European officials.

These arrangements have long been condemned as inadequate and unsatisfactory, and various schemes for reform were submitted to the Colonial Office during the year 1917. Put shortly, these schemes, which do not differ materially from one another, demand a substantial increase in the number of elected members of the Legislative Council, the establishment of a non-official majority, and the introduction of two Ceylonese members into the Executive Council, which would then consist of four, instead of eight, members (exclusive of the Governor). Due provision is made for the protection of the minorities represented by the Europeans, Burghers, and "Moors," who would retain the same proportion of membership as at present and retain their separate electorates. The franchise for the general constituencies, which would, roughly speaking, be equivalent to the present provisions, would be based upon literacy in English, Sinhalese, or Tamil, with a small property qualification varying in accordance with local conditions.

The principles underlying these proposals were affirmed in a series of resolutions adopted at a thoroughly representative National Conference held at Colombo on December 14 and 15 last under the presidency of Sir Ponnampalam Arunachalam, a retired member of the Ceylon Civil Service, who filled the responsible office of Registrar General with distinction from 1905 to 1913. But the influence of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report has proved irresistible, and it is now asked in addition that the reforms shall follow the lines which are recommended for India. This can easily be effected by assigning the supervision of certain specified departments to the two Ceylonese members of the Executive Council.

THE CIVIL SERVICE GRIEVANCE.

Closely connected with the demand for political reform is the grievance arising from exclusion from the higher administrative posts. To take one example out of many, of 44 appointments in the Civil Service, of the annual value of £900 to £2,000 three only are held by Ceylonese (including Burghers), of whom the highest draws £1,160. The position is frankly intolerable, for there can be no question of the intellectual capacity of the educated Ceylonese.

It is time that the broom was applied to this dark corner of our Empire. A deputaion is shortly to visit England, and it is hoped that Lord Milner will receive them with something more than expressions of sympathy. Much mischief has already been caused by the policy of postponement until "a more opportune time," which found favour with Mr. Long and Mr. Hovins.

The claims of the people of Ceylon to a share in the management of their own affairs call for instant settlement on lines as generous as at least as those which govern the Montagu-Chelmsford Report. The arguments in their favour are many. Their problems are far less complicated than those which are deemed to be so baffling in India, the proportion of literacy is sensibly higher, and vested interests are jealously safeguarded in the proposal. Last, but by no means least, satisfaction can be given to each one of the demands by the medium of a Royal Charter, without the necessity of recourse to Parliamentary legislation.

—"The Hindu."

The War.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

Paris.—President Wilson today issued the following statement:—In view of the very surprising impression, which seems to exist in some quarters, that it is the discussions of the Commission on the League of Nations that are delaying the final formalities of Peace, I am very glad to take the opportunity of reporting that the conclusions of this Commission were the first to be laid before the Plenary Conference. They were reported on Feb. 14th and the world has had a full month in which to discuss every feature of the Draft Covenant then submitted. During the last few days the Commission has been engaged in an effort to take advantage of the criticisms which the publication of the Covenant has fortunately drawn out. A Committee of the Commission has also had the advantage of a Conference with representatives of the Neutral Nations, who are giving evidence of deep interest and a practically unanimous desire to alien themselves with the League. The revised Covenant is now practically finished. It is in the hands of the Committee for the final process of drafting, and will almost immediately be presented a second time to the public. Conferences of the Commission have been invariably held at times when they could not interfere with the consultations of those who have undertaken to formulate the general conclusions of the Conference with regard to the many other complicated problems of Peace, so that members of the Commission can congratulate themselves on the fact that no part of their Conferences has ever interposed any form of delay.

London, April 5. The "Echo de Paris" asserts that the Council of Four has decided that Germany shall immediately pay six billion francs in cash and also hand over various securities, raw materials and merchandise, which is optimistically estimated to aggregate thirty billion francs. The Preliminary Peace Terms will not specify the total indemnity, but will include lists of creditors whom Germany must satisfy and provide the Allied Commission annually with fixed amount payable.

London, April 3. The Drafting Committee of the League of Nations has completed the Draft of the new text of the Covenant, while reserving French amendments to Articles VIII and IX, suggesting the organisation for the control of armaments, and the creation of an International Military Force to enforce the decisions of the League, and the American amendments relating to the Monroe Doctrine, and the Japanese amendment claiming equal rights for Japanese with the subjects of other nations.

Paris, April 3.—It is believed in French Diplomatic circles that the left bank of the Rhine will be "neutralised" and occupied by French and Belgian troops until the payment of an indemnity.

London, April 3. Paris.—Most of the Dominions' and Indian representatives breakfasted with Mr. Lloyd George on April 3rd, including Mr. Hughes, Sir Robert Borden, Messrs. Cook and Massey, the Maharajah of Bikanir and Lord Sinha. Subsequently a long conference was held which will be resumed this evening.

London, April 6. The British and French have not quite made up their minds about the exact amount to be demanded from Germany. It is hinted the eventual total will be much lower than the figures popularly quoted. The American Delegation is said to take the position that it is better to ask what can be obtained than fix a punitive figure never to be realised. The French papers say it is likely an agreement will be reached more speedily on the question of indemnities than on the question of the new frontiers in Poland, a notable vexed point, including three million Germans in the Danzig corridor. News has reached the French Foreign Office that the Mission of Polish Officers, sent to Danzig to ascertain local resources and supplies, has been kept under the closest observation by the German authorities.

London, April 8. It was stated yesterday that the Allies hope to have the Treaty ready by April 14th and to summon the German delegates to Versailles on April 20th.

Paris, April 5.—Havas' Agency states that President Wilson has been ordered by his physician to take a rest, being very much overworked. Colonel House took his place in the Council of Four today.

There is no indication that either the French Government or French public opinion will let itself be bluffed by the German threats of going Bolshevik. If the German delegates coming to Versailles adopt an attitude of resistance, France will insist upon Germany receiving a peremptory rebuff, remembering Bismarck's threats to bombard Paris unless the Peace preliminaries were signed within a specified time. News is expected in Paris that Herr Erzberger has accepted the terms communicated by Marshal Foch concerning the landing of General Haller and troops at Danzig.

Paris, April 6.—Havas' Agency states that a long communication issued by the Chinese Peace delegation in Paris calls for the nullification of the famous 21 demands and the abrogation of the Treaty of 1915 as being incompatible with the principles of the League of Nations. China claims complete autonomy to direct her own destiny, and points to Irredentism raising its head in Korea, Manchuria and Shantung.

GERMANY.

Berlin.—Almost the entire Labour force of Germany are out as a result of the Spartacist agitation everywhere. The situation is serious in Berlin, which is momentarily expecting a big outbreak. The Lokal Anzeiger states that Government has declared that it will be ruthlessly suppressed, adding that coquetting with the Spartacists now is frequently observed in bourgeois circles.

EGYPT.

Cairo, March 22.—It is officially announced that order is being rapidly restored in consequence of the cessation of Military occupation.

London, March 27. The Foreign Affairs group of the House of Commons are urging Government to appoint a Royal Commission, not a Departmental Committee, to enquire into the conditions in Egypt.

London, April 3. Telegrams from General Allanby, dated April 1st, show a real improvement in the situation in Egypt. General Allanby reports that Cairo is quiet and Fayum cleared of raiding Bedouins. Upper Egypt is still more or less disturbed, but an improvement occurred between March 28th and April 1st. Twelve mobile columns are operating in Upper and Lower Egypt and troops from the Sudan have reached Luxor.

AUSTRIAN FLEET.

Rome, March 20.—The Austrian fleet was handed over to Italy at Venice on Sunday, King Victor Emmanuel was present, and there was an impressive ceremony. The warships arrived in single file, with no flags flying, and manned by Italian sailors. Venice was *en fête*.

A SENATOR'S THREAT.

New York, March 19.—The Washington correspondent of the New York "Times" states that Senator Lenroot, in the course of a speech, said: "If President Wilson does not negotiate a Peace Treaty satisfactory to the American people, Congress undoubtedly will independently declare that the War with Germany is terminated."

THE EGYPTIAN RIOTS.

Cairo.—At a meeting of the Egyptian notables the Commander-in Chief declared that he was now faced with the necessity of employing measures of active repression which must bring tremendous suffering upon the people. The result would be a great loss of public and private property. It had been found impossible to restore order merely by defensive measures. It was the duty of every patriotic Egyptian to do his utmost in order that the measures he was forced to take might achieve the desired results at the earliest possible moment with the minimum of suffering. The Commander in Chief concluded with a solemn warning:—"I intend to do my duty. It is for you to do yours."

—The Ceylon Observer.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3884.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Rasamani daughter of Bastiampillai Gnana-pragasam of Usan

Deceased.

Gregory Bastiampillai of Jaffna Town

Petitioner.

Vs.

Marypillai widow of Savirumuttu Bastiampillai of 4th Cross Street, Jaffna

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Gregory Bastiampillai of Jaffna Town, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Rasamani daughter of Bastiampillai Gnana-pragasam, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on March 26, 1919, in the presence of Messrs. Sivapragasam and Katreer, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated March 11, 1919 having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is a brother of the deceased's mother 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 April 29, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai,
District Judge.

April 3, 1919

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Advocate, Jaffna.

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3815.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Pakavathippillai wife of Vettivelu Ponnambalam of Colombogam

Deceased.

Vettivelu Ponnambalam of Colombogam

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Subramaniam Kartigesu and wife
2. Valliammal of Navakuly
3. Chellappah Eshambaram of Colombogam
- Minor 4. Kamachi daughter of Eshambaram of Do. The 4th Respondent is a minor appearing by his Guardian ad litem the 3rd Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Pakavathippillai wife of Vettivelu Ponnambalam, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on March 8, 1919; in the presence of Mr. K. Soma-daram, Proctor, 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 May 1, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai,
District Judge.

March 26, 1919.

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