

The Jaffna Organ.

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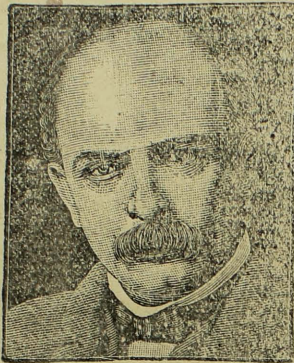
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 8783.

In the Matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Subramaniam Tampiah of Vaddukoddai late of Kuala Lumpur in Federated Malay States

Deceased.

Chinnappu Subramaniam of Vaddukoddai
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Perianahy widow of Subramaniam Tambayah of Malacca
2. Thambayah Thurasirah of Do, a minor by his Guardian ad litem the 1st Respondent
3. S. B. Pillai of Malacca and
4. wife Valliammai of Do.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Chinnappu Subramaniam of Vaddukoddai, Jaffna, praying for orders of Administration with the will annexed of the estate of the abovenamed deceased, Subramaniam Tampiah, coming on for disposal before the late Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on 28.12.1919, in the presence of Mr. M. Cananallai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner, the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated January 1920, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the executor of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration of the will annexed to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before May 22, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai,
District Judge.

April 9, 1919.



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, MAY 5, 1919.

REV. A. G. FRASER ON RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT FOR CEYLON.

The memorials submitted by the Ceylonese to the Imperial Authorities praying for responsible government has received additional support in the memorandum submitted by Rev. A. G. Fraser on this subject. Rev. Fraser has been long connected with Ceylon as an educationist and as a Christian Missionary, and has had such vast opportunities to gain a thorough knowledge of the people as few Government Officials can lay claim to. As our contemporary of the "Ceylon Observer" says in the first sentence of his leading article on this subject—"Few men in or out of Ceylon, are better qualified, from acquaintance with the development of character and learning among its younger generation—with the probable future political needs of the country than "Fraser of Trinity," as he is well known to fame." Being the deliberate opinion of a disinterested and capable Britisher, Rev. Fraser's memorandum must carry great weight. He has no vested interests to protect or considerations of self-interest or expediency to bias his judgment. His only consideration in writing this memorandum on the Reform question must have been the consideration of justice to a subject people, and a proper appreciation of the imperial responsibilities undertaken by his race. Men of this type constitute the real strength of the British Empire and it is a source of sincere gratification to us that since the commencement of the great war, such men have gained a dominating influence in British politics. In support of this we need only quote the Imperial Announcement assuring the grant of Responsible Government to the Indians and the issue of the Montford scheme of Reforms as the first step towards the admission of India as a self-governing unit of the Empire.

The following short quotation from Mr. Fraser's Memorandum will give our readers an idea of the present trend of British political opinion on Imperialism. Mr. Fraser says "First, then, responsible government is coming. There can be no question about that. The great new political Party

at home, that with perhaps the greatest future before it, lays down its Imperial policy in these words:—"With regard to that great Commonwealth of all races, all colours, all religions and all degrees of civilization, that we call the British Empire, the Labour Party stands for its maintenance and its progressive development on the lines of local autonomy and 'Home Rule All Round,' the fullest respect for the rights of each people, whatever its colour, to all the Democratic Self-Government of which it is capable, and to all the proceeds of its own toil upon the resources of its own territorial home; and the closest possible co-operation among all the various members of what has become essentially not an Empire in the old sense, but a *Buttanic Alliance*." Whatever we may think of the policy, any one of us, there it is, as a fact to be reckoned with."

We need not point out that the above lines lay down a just and generous policy of imperial development, and there is a great likelihood that it will be more faithfully followed in the future, as Mr. Fraser thinks. Another point which the Reverend gentleman brings to prominent notice is that Ceylon is in advance of India and has a better claim to be in the forefront of political progress, though we have not such outstanding men like the late Mr. Gokhale or Lord Sinha. He also points out that we have here no such dangerous agitators and plotters as are found in India, and our general average of education is far higher. Our problems are less complicated and the dangers which may arise from bad government can be much more easily corrected. For these and other reasons, Mr. Fraser thinks that we should expect to be far ahead of India. So far as admitting the utter unsuitability of the existing system of Government to meet the spirit of the age and the wants of the progressive political development of the Ceylonese, we are glad to note a general agreement of opinion among the European community of Ceylon. The European Association, as our readers are aware, has already expressed views somewhat similar to those of Mr. Fraser on the need of reform.

It is when we come to the practical question of framing a scheme of constitutional reforms that we notice a divergence of views. Mr. Fraser is here more just to the claims of the Ceylonese than the European Association, though he does not support to the full the scheme of the Ceylonese Conference Memorial. It may also be noted here that Mr. Fraser is no supporter of the system of diarchy elaborated in the Indian Report, with reserved departments in charge of the British Executive and transferred departments in charge of Indian Ministers appointed from the elected majority of the Council. He considers this impractical and unworkable, as many even in India who supported it at the outset now begin to consider it after mature thought. In such a system says Mr. Fraser: "responsibility would not be clearly fixed and your Executive Council would not have one common loyalty, but two. Each section would throw the blame for failures on the other. The electors would only become confused."

Mr. Fraser has framed an alternative scheme in which he suggests the creation of a Legislative Assembly for Ceylon composed entirely of elected members. This Assembly will have an Executive Council composed entirely of Ceylonese Ministers elected by the Assembly, having charge of Departments. All Departments, except Justice and Police with Customs and shipping regulations, should be in charge of Ceylonese Ministers. Mr. Fraser is not in favour of the presence of officials in the Council though at the commencement, at any rate, it would be well to have the Attorney-General, the Colonial Treasurer and possibly a Speaker appointed to the Assembly by the Governor. The Departments of Justice, Police &c. which form the exception should be entirely in the hands of the British official executive, uncontrolled by the Legislative Assembly. The one important point which Mr. Fraser urges in favour of his scheme is that, if responsible government is to be successful, there should be no divided responsibility, and the electors should be able to fix the responsibility in cases of good or bad administration on the particular Minister who should be held responsible to them.

Mr. Fraser has earned the thanks of the Ceylonese by writing this lengthy memorandum which, throughout, breathes the spirit of justice and sympathy towards their aspiration for self-government within the Empire. Though Mr. Fraser's scheme differs in certain respects from the scheme submitted by the Ceylonese Conference and other Ceylonese Representative bodies, it deserves the careful

consideration of the authorities. A careful reading of the memorandum will, we are sure, strongly impress on the official mind the absolute need of a change in the angle of vision in the consideration of Ceylonese questions, both in the interests of the rulers as well as of the ruled. In spite of the late deplorable disturbances that followed the passing of the Rowlatt Act in India, we may be certain that a very liberal and popular scheme of Responsible Government will be passed by the British Parliament for India, in the near future. This Indian Reform Act will be a valuable guide to Ceylon and, let us hope, our Government will adopt a scheme of reform for Ceylon which will be at least as liberal and popular as the Indian scheme.

NOTES & COMMENTS

We have received some communications on this subject which we have decided not to publish. In our opinion no useful purpose will be served by further continuing this controversy. We have said what we felt bound to urge, in the interest of the Jaffna Hindu College and the Hindu community, against the new College being established in such close proximity to the existing one as is the site now chosen. It was Mr. M. S. Eliyatamby's first communication in favour of the proposal which provoked the controversy and he has been allowed to have his full say in these columns in reply to us. Our contemporary of the "Ceylon Patriot" also has said everything that could be said against our view. It is only experience and history which should decide which side has acted in the true interest of the Hindu community.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—The big monsoon has not yet set in. The sky is at times cloudy generally in the evenings. The heat is somewhat moderate. There has been no rain since last Thursday.

RIOT COMPENSATION.—Mr. B. Constantine, our Government Agent, inquired last week into several claims of riot damages in Jaffna, Malakam, Onavakachcheri and other parts, for final assessment.

CEMENT INDUSTRY IN JAFFNA.—We understand that the export was sent here by Messrs. Harrison and Crossfield Ltd. Colombo, to investigate the possibilities of starting cement manufacture in the North, has completed his inquiries and returned to Colombo.

MANIPAL HINDU COLLEGE.—"Supayab's cash prize" has been offered to the successful students of this College who obtain Honours in the Junior and Senior Cambridge Local Examinations. The prizes vary according to the class of Honours obtained. Master G. Rajadurai was the only student in the whole of Jaffna who obtained Honours in the Senior Local of 1918. On the first of this month the Principal, after addressing the students at the College Hall, presented him with the prize. Master Rajadurai was also the recipient of the prize having passed the Junior Local of 1917.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—We acknowledge with thanks the receipt from the Secretariat of the following Administration Reports, viz. Factory, Government Printing Office, and Veterinary.

CAMBRIDGE CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS.—According to the results of these examinations held last December, out of 740 Juniors 358 passed, and out of 407 Seniors 221 passed in the whole island.

HARRY TATE FLYING TO COLOMBO.—Calcutta, April 29.—The following is a special London cablegram, dated the 22nd inst., to the "Eagle" man:—"Harry Tate has bought a Handley Page aeroplane and will carry out a world tour at the end of the summer to Gibraltar, Malta, Colombo, across India, then to China, Japan and San Francisco. He carries a company, and all urgent scenery. M. Mail."

SALARIES OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.—Mr. G. P. Green, G. M. R., prior to his departure, had submitted to Government an elaborate scheme, re the salaries of O. G. R. employees. Government has decided that the whole question must await the expert, who will report on this.

MATRIMONIAL.—The marriage of Mr. K. Kanagasabai, Railway Clerk, Paiping, F. M. S. to Smt. M. Kanagasabai, daughter of Mr. S. Kasipillai of the tutorial staff Jaffna Hindu College, was solemnised according to Hindu rites at the bride's residence at Koluvi on Monday the 23rd ultimo, in the presence of a large assembly of friends and relations of the parties who were all well entertained. Our congratulations and good wishes to the newly married couple.

LANKA SUBHODA VILASA SABAI.—This Amateur dramatic company returned to Colombo on the 27th ultimo. The Jaffna Maniagar, Mr. V. M. Muttukumaru was "At Home" in honour of their visit on the 25th. Messrs. S. Ponnusamy, W. Ratna-Gopal and others also entertained them during their stay here. The Jaffna Sarasavathi Vilasa Sabai had a garden party at the Ridgeway Hall on Thursday the 24th. The troupe had a good time while they were in Jaffna and were very much pleased with the cordiality with which they were received at the various functions.

ADMIRAL JELICOE IN COLOMBO.—Viscount Jellicoe, of Scapa, Admiral of the Fleet, arrived in Colombo on the 3rd inst. from Bombay on board the battleship "New Zealand," accompanied by H. E. Vice Admiral E. F. A. Gaunt, Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Squadron. Lord Jellicoe is on a tour of the Dominions of the Empire, with a view to reorganising its Naval Defences. The visit being a private one there was no official landing, that being deferred for Feb. 14, 1920, when Lord Jellicoe touches here on his return voyage. There will then be a big ceremonial parade. The "New Zealand" will have the distinction of being the largest warship, and the largest vessel as well, to enter the port of Colombo, being a vessel of 22,070 tons, beating both the Hamburg-America Liner "Cleveland" of 16,960 tons and the White Star Liner "Ceramic" of 18,481 tons, which called in Colombo in February and held the record for being the biggest ship to call here. She belongs to the improved "Invincible" class of battle cruiser dreadnought, having been laid down in 1910 and completed two years later. The "New Zealand" was originally laid down for the Colony of that name but was finally presented to the British Navy. She cost £1,547,426 and possesses 8 twelve inch guns, 16 four inch guns, 21 inch torpedo tubes. Her armaments include 8 inch belt (amidships) 4 inch belt (ends) 3 inch deck; 7 inch lower deck side; 10 inch turrets and 6 inch turret bases. The fire control is from the fore turret. She sails for Singapore early on Monday morning.

OPENING OF OPANAKE RAILWAY.—The opening of the Opanake Railway on the 1st inst. by H. E. Sir William Henry Manning marks an epoch in Railway extensions in the Island as this station will remain the terminus of the line and also one of the most important. It is understood that no further extension will be undertaken on this line for some time, but it is hoped that the much needed sections to places beyond will not be left out altogether. It will be remembered that the extension to Dela was opened last year and it was feared that the remaining 14 miles to Opanake would take a long time; the work was, however, completed in good time and today's pleasant function was the outcome. His Excellency, on arrival, was given a warm reception by all present and opened the Railway in the presence of the Planters of the district, visiting and resident Railway officials and visitors. This station, which is built on the most up-to-date lines, is a commodious building with waiting halls for passengers of all classes and with all the conveniences necessary for the travelling public. The goods shed is also a spacious structure, capable of accommodating temporarily the produce of the districts which it serves and also the goods which it will receive. The Railway station, though not having an upper storey, is well planned and built, the booking offices, &c., being erected so as to give the utmost facilities to the passengers. The station will serve the important planting centres of Rakwana, Weyganga Valley and Palmadula. It is hoped that some early date the extension will be carried further onwards. The Ratnapura District is daily growing in importance as a planting and industrial centre as will be seen from the figures given in the P. A. address. In 1897 the acreage (registered in the P. A.) under cultivation was 9,000 while at the present day it was 71,000.—"Ceylon Observer."

TREASURY OF ANCIENT BOOKS FROM THE KANDY ORIENTAL LIBRARY.—Some old Sinhalese books, belonging to the Oriental Library, the oldest of their kind in Ceylon and which once belonged to the Sinhalese Kings, are missing. The Police are making inquiries.—"Ceylon Observer."

MORE ACCOMMODATION FOR O. G. R. SERVANTS.—We learn that the General Manager, C. G. R., has informed Government of the inadequacy of the accommodation for his Department and his Accountants. As a result, it is understood that the Ceylon Technical Schools will be removed to another habitat, and the buildings now occupied by it given over to the Railway. It is likely that the Technical Schools Science Laboratory, where the Telegraph Students are trained, will be extended and given over to the Technical Schools as a permanent habitat.

—"The Ceylon Observer."

THE FUTURE OF COCHIN.—A number of British firms, well known in Madras Presidency, are exhibiting much energy and enterprise in securing business sites in British and Native Cochin. This looks (says a Madras paper) very much like intelligent anticipation of the fact that Cochin harbour scheme has been pulled out of official pigeon-holes to some purpose and that a safe all-the-year-round harbour is now not only within the bounds of possibility, but is likely to be undertaken at no distant date.

PAPER FROM BURMA BAMBOOS—Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co., Managing Agents, India Paper Pulp Company, have submitted a proposal to the Bengal Government asking for an agreement for 21 years to extract bamboos for the manufacture of papers from Chittagong reserve forests, at concession rates.

BRITISH ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION—London, April 23.—A British Imperial Antarctic Expedition has been formed under the leadership of Mr John Cope, Member of the 1914-17 expedition. It is expected that a start will be made in June, 1920, and that return will be effected in 1926. The object of the Expedition is to ascertain the position and extent of the mineralogical deposits in the Antarctic and investigate the distribution and migration of whales, meteorological and magnetic condition of the Ross Sea and Enderby Land and their influence on similar conditions in Australasia and South Africa; and generally to extend the knowledge of the Antarctic with a view to economic development. The famous ship "Terra Nova" is being secured. An aeroplane will accompany the expedition. —"Reuter".

THE CO OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY UDUPPIDY.

The annual general meeting of the above society came off on Wednesday the 16th April 1919, at the Uduppiddy English School Hall, beginning at 7 p.m. The president, Mr. K Sivaprakasam, Proctor S C, occupied the Chair. The annual report and the balance sheet showed the good work done and the efficient aid rendered by the society, yet much remains to be done. The society, started some five years back under the patronage of the late Maniagar Muttoo-comaraswami, is still limited in its sphere of activity, as the public seem to be even to day ignorant of its tremendous power for mutual good. And no wonder—"Know what to do, and do it" seems to be unknown in these parts. This could be remedied if those who are in the know would take pains to inform the less favoured of this useful means of mutual help. The number of members on the list is 91. The Treasurer showed a paid up capital of Rs 927 65 cts, and Reserve Fund of Rs 170 54 cts.

The following were elected Office-bearers for the new year:—

President: Mr. K Sivaprakasam, Proctor, S C; Secretary: Mr. M Muttu, Teacher; Treasurer: Dr. S Kandiah; Auditors: Messrs. K Kandiah and L V Clarence, Teacher.

The above with the following in addition shall form the committee governing the society for the year in progress:—

Messrs. R Hitecock, M Chinnayah, K Ponnambalam, S Arumugam, V Kandanam, V Chinnatambay, K Sivaguru, K Chokkalingam, T Moothathambay, V Veluppillai, A Ephraim, S Selvadurai, P Sapathippillai and S Kumarasooriar.

A bonus of Rs. 18/- was voted for the Secretary, for his services during the preceding year.

Further, speeches were made by Messrs. R Hitecock, A Sinnattambay, and K Ponnambalam, mainly dwelling on the working of the society. Great credit is due to the energetic secretary of the society for the fairly high standard of its efficiency. —Cor.

THE TAMIL UNION, NUWARA ELIYA.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the above "Union" was held at Nuwara Eliya on Saturday the 26th April 1919, at 8 p.m., preceded by a Committee Meeting. In the unexpected absence of Mudaliyar A. Naganathan, the President of the Union, Mr. S. W. C. Coonanayakam, one of the Vice-Presidents was voted to the Chair. In spite of the wet evening a representative gathering of members and well-wishers were present.

The Notice convening the meeting having been taken as read, the minutes of the last Annual Meeting held on the 13th April 1918 were read, confirmed and signed. Messages from absent members regretting their inability to attend the meeting were also read.

Business:—(1) The Secretary presented his report and the Treasurer his audited statement of accounts for the 12 months ending 31st March 1919. The Chairman in proposing the adoption of the report and the accounts as submitted, made convincing remarks as to the various useful activities of the Union and exhorted the members to use their individual influence over their friends who are eligible for membership in order to establish the Union on a stronger and firmer foundation, financially sound. Further he (the Chairman) heartily commended the report for their earnest and sympathetic study, and appealed to them to rally round the Union as a national mouthpiece, burying all sorts of selfish and personal differences for the promotion of the common interest and common culture in the land of our temporary sojourn. Mr. R. Sivagnanam seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

(2) Copies of the rules as revised by the Select Committee appointed for the purpose, was tabled, approved and passed.

Election:—The election of Office-bearers, Managing District, and Select Committees resulted as follows:—

President:—Mudaliyar A. Naganathan. Vice-Presidents:—(1) Messrs. J. A. Aiyadurai, S.W. C. Coonanayakam, S. Valuppillai. Hony. Treasurer and Secretary:—Mr. S. R. Sannasevan, Fortwood. Managing Committee:—President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and Messrs. N. Changanayakam, J. K. Padippanayakam, A. N. Seneecuty and K. Saravanamuttu.

District Committee:—Managing Committee and Mr. K. Naduviltamby.

Standing Committee:—Messrs. R. Sivagnanam (Chairman), M. Sinnathanby (Vice Chairman), S. Thambapillai (Member).

Hony. Auditor:—Mr. S. Thambapillai.

Votes of thanks proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Thambapillai (1) to the retiring Managing Committee for their valuable services and (2) to the Ceylon Press who have ungenerously published the proceedings of the Union from time to time, were carried unanimously with acclamation.

The meeting terminated at about 8 30 p. m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Gentlemen, Your Committee beg to submit their Fourteenth Annual Report and the Audited Statement of Accounts for the season ended the 31st March 1919.

The period under review has been a trying one and the Union has not materially advanced in its aims but, it will be pleasing to note that all questions that came under its scope were given due attention.

MEMBERSHIP.—It is very regrettable to report that the strength of the Union instead of increasing in membership has been reduced to a low level the reason being the indifference exhibited by both full and associate members in spite of repeated calls and the extended time limit given them to pay up their arrears of subscription.

FINANCE.—No improvement has been possible in this direction during the period under review, strictest economy was practiced in every detail of expenditure as will be seen from the Treasurer's audited statement of account submitted to you.

Consequent on the departmental transfer of your Treasurer Mr. D. S. Rasiah from Nuwara Eliya as from 1st March 1919, your Secretary was appointed to act as Treasurer also in addition to his own duties. It is regrettable to lose Mr. Rasiah, a useful member.

MEETINGS.—The Committee met at regular intervals during the year, when steps relating to several matters affecting the interests of the Union were adopted, chief amongst them being:—

- Re: Conclusion of the Armistice with Germany, Re: Collection of funds towards flood relief in Jaffna, Re: The present poor state of the approach road to the Nuwara Eliya General Cemetery, Re: Supporting the disapproval of the proposed new Taxation.

Under the auspices of the Union two public lectures were delivered during the season, one by the Reverend J. Simon de Silva on "The War, its Causes and Aims" and the other by Mr. Eversard Bartholomew on "A conversation with the Members" of the Union. Representative gathering was present at both these meetings.

EUROPEAN WAR.—At the time our last report was written we were in the midst of a very troublous period. Since then matters developed and the end came much more suddenly than most of us expected, in the signing of the Armistice with Germany on the 11th November 1918, which practically amounted to unconditional surrender. On the signing of the Armistice a congratulatory message was sent to His Excellency the Governor asking him that it be transmitted to His Majesty the King George the V. This was done and we received the following communication through the Colonial Secretary:—

Sir, With reference to the message of congratulation sent by the members of your Union on the occasion of the conclusion of an Armistice with Germany, I am directed to inform you that a despatch has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies intimating that your message has been submitted to His Majesty the King who has commanded that an expression of his appreciation of their loyal congratulations be conveyed to the members of your Union.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—Since our last meeting we have had the pleasure of welcoming to our midst Sir William Henry Manning K. C. M. G., K. C. S. I., &c. as our Governor, who assumed duties on the 11th September, 1918. Judging from His Excellency's replies and his speeches at various public occasions he takes a great deal of interest in agriculture and educational prosperity, which need an early and great deal of encouragement.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.—The Union has not been able to take part in the Reform Conference for obvious reasons, but is still of opinion that the proportion of representation adopted in the various memorandums as regards the permanent Tamil population is below the normal and suggests agitation to place their claims before the Government with little delay.

BUILDING.—An appeal was made amongst Nuwara Eliya members with a view to ascertain the probable support, and a sum of Rs 570/- has been promised, but no one has yet paid. The Committee recommends that a sum of Rs 50/- from the balance in hand be added to the Building Fund, and steps may be taken to collect funds from the general public for the purpose of providing a long felt want—a shelter for the Union. And on behalf of the Union a respectful appeal is extended to all for funds to provide the long felt want—a shelter for the Union, that can be utilized to the advantage of all concerned.

INFLUENZA AND COST OF LIVING.—During the past season the visitation of the Influenza Pandemic of an uncommon nature and the extraordinary cost of living brought in its train great hardship to the country.

FLOOD IN JAFFNA.—On receipt of the news of the devastation by the floods in J. J. J. J., your Committee was not slow to adopt the necessary steps in collecting funds for the relief of the distressed, and a sum of Rs 244/75 has been collected and disbursed through the Chairman of the Jaffna Flood Relief Committee, a statement of which appears in the Balance Sheet.

GENERAL.—The Committee desires that members will do all in their power to induce their friends who are eligible for election to apply for membership of the Union, in order to unite our brethren in the land of our sojourn and extend its usefulness in vindicating our many rights and requirements.

It is of the utmost importance that unless the funds of the Union are strengthened no useful work such as agriculture, education, medical aid etc. etc. can be undertaken. In this connection it may be mentioned that the presentation of scholarship to the proposed Technical School in Jaffna and other such institutions was favourably considered, but so far the want of money has crippled our intentions, yet it is confidently expected that many of you will support it by generous donations that will enable the Union to fulfil its pledges.

The thanks of the Committee are due to all who helped them in the discharge of their duties during the period just closed.

I remain Gentlemen, Yours obedient servant, S. R. SATHASEVAN, Hony. Secretary, On behalf of the Committee.

Kandapolla, 28 4 19.

THE INDIAN DISTURBANCES.

Lahore, April 26.—Additional troops are arriving in the affected areas. On the Lyallpur line an outrage was committed on the railway on Tuesday resulting in a delay to traffic and serious material damage, but unvisited by loss of life. A detachment of British Infantry arrived in Lahore on Tuesday evening from Gujranwala in charge of some 20 of the prominent ringleaders in the recent disturbances, there. On Tuesday evening, as a result of Martial Law and prohibition of Indians leaving their houses after the firing of the curfew gun, there was very marked alteration in the condition of the streets, which were practically deserted in the Civil lines and entirely so in the City. The native quarters were patrolled all night to ensure strict observance of the curfew regulation. The inconvenience caused to residents by the strike of tongas has been completely removed as the whole of the horse-drawn vehicles, as well as motors, are now controlled by the Military authorities and parked on the parade ground of the Punjab Light Horse. In view of the drastic steps taken to prevent law-abiding workers from being intimidated by threat and force when proceeding to their business, there was a marked increase in the number of clerks, etc., attending their vocation on Wednesday morning.

On the 14th instant there was an outbreak at Gujranwala, and some anxiety was felt for the European and American residents in the Civil Station. Churches were burnt, as well as a considerable quantity of railway property. The Police, however, behaved admirably. The American Missionaries were all evacuated to Sialkot, and with the assistance of the Police Guard they successfully defended themselves against the mob. An aeroplane was sent out from Lahore, which arrived at about 8 30, and dropped bombs, causing a number of casualties. It went out again on the morning of the 15th instant. It is understood that Col. O'Brien, Deputy Commissioner, has arrested a number of ringleaders. A detachment of troops was sent out on the afternoon of the 15th and brought in about 20 men under arrest to Lahore.

Calcutta, April 23.—A meeting of Calcutta Namasudras was held on Saturday afternoon Mr. S. N. Chowdhury presiding Resolutions were passed, condemning the agitation against the Rowlatt Act, re-asserting their confidence in the Government, expressing their views that Bolshevism in any form is impossible in Bengal villages, asking for a Committee of representatives of local Government to ascertain the nature and extent of the evil forces at work with a view to devise means to eradicate them, and congratulating Dr. Nait, of Madras.

Calcutta, May 1.

Lahore, April 30.—All is quiet. The claims received from the North Western Railway for the damage done at various places in the Punjab Province during the present disturbance total Rs 1,500,000. The list is not yet complete.

On the recommendation of the Commission Sir M. O'Dwyer has commuted the sentences of transportation for life passed on eight persons in the Badshahi Mosque Case. Three men got 14 years' transportation, three 10 years, one 7 years and one 8 years.

The "Independent" of Allahabad has been required by the District Magistrate to deposit Rs 2,500 as security owing to the objectionable nature of the leading articles in the paper of the 12th and 16th April.

Lahore, April 30th.—Judgment was delivered today by the Martial Law Commission, presided over by Lieut.-Col. Irvine, C.I.E., in the Kasur Case, in which 15 persons were charged with giving War against the King, murder and rioting. Eleven persons were sentenced to death. Of these two were recommended for mercy, three were sentenced to transportation for life and one acquitted.

AMERICAN VIEWS: AN UNSCRUPULOUS CAMPAIGN.

London, April 19.—Universal attention is paid to the Indian troubles. Even the "Daily News" New York correspondent remarks that there is an organised and none too scrupulous Indian campaign against England, instigated apparently by the German and Irish groups. We are accused of taking Indian food, leaving the natives to starve; we are denigrating India's her wealth; we run the opium and liquor trade in India in order to have the British taxes. "These are," adds the correspondent, "among the interesting statements made." There were no Englishmen present to reply to the above.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HINDU AND THEIR RIP VAN WINKLES.

Sir, At a time when the whole world is undergoing a revolution, and when the social, political and even the moral fabric of the whole world is undergoing a radical change so as to be better able to meet the changing conditions of the world, some of our senior members of the orthodox class are striving with what strength they can command at this advanced stage of their life, to set the clock to at least two centuries back. It is really amusing to see them panting for breath after every unsuccessfull attempt at this pet pastime of theirs. They look up with horror at every step put forward by the Young Hindu, for every possible fifty of the rest of the world. They view with suspicion, even with horror, at that most important and useful institution—Boys Scout movement. They abhor even the very sight of those people who have anything to do with the Scout movement in the Peninsula. One wonders if they understand what the Boy Scout movement really is. They seem to think that mindless in a man is a disqualification. According to them, when one sees his brother in danger he is to go away conveying his precious life, leaving the other to his fate. Is loyalty to the Crown a disqualification in a Hindu Citizen? Is he not to give up his life, if needs be, for his country and for his King. This is the spirit which the Boy Scout movement instills in the minds of our young men who are our future hopes. Why should some of our venerable old fathers of the Hindu Community view these things with awe and concern.

It is admitted by all in civilized countries that one of the most essential qualifications for a nation to claim its place among the ranks of the forward nations of the world is to see that its national literature and other kindred fine arts are raised to the former high pedestal, instead of being allowed to rust. Sir Rabindranath Tagore the Poet Laureate of Asia was conferred a Knighthood by His King and honored by a grateful countrymen for his attitude in this direction. No one can deny that he was one of the best exponents of Hindu Music, but those whose mental vision is obscured by infirmity can go up to the extent of holding a queer view, viz, to know music, to appreciate music, to have anything to do with music is to commit sin against God. Perhaps they conveniently forget that Lord Siva is a slave to music. Saint Tiruvakarasu captured Siva by his Nectar of sweet music. Shakespeare that great singer of England - and himself an actor has well depicted these beings. Stage, like the other modern mediums such as the News paper, Pulpit, and Platform, is an educator, the influence of which cannot be under-estimated. The Suguna Vilasa Sabah of Madras whose noble attempts in bringing up the stage to that proud eminence which it deserves, we all admire, has done a service to its country which is second to no other undertaking which our brothers across the water have inaugurated for the upliftment of their mother land. But when we in Ceylon try and emulate them by starting Sabahs in a similar line—the Saravasa Vilasa Sabah in Jaffna, and the Lanka Suboda Vilasa Sabah in Colombo are examples—we are confronted by these irreconcilables who have lately gone into hysterics at anything which the young men do for their country's welfare. Even the Y. M. H. A., which has done wonders during the short period of its existence has come up to its share of obloquy from these self sufficient individuals. They seem to be basking in the sunshine of their own self imposed importance, and to take a delight in an undertaking which the younger members of the community might think proper to inaugurate. They cannot do anything themselves nor will they allow anybody else to do. Let not fools rush in where Angels fear to tread.

NAVAM.

THE PRISON REFORM LEAGUE.

A deputation from the Prison Reform League waited on the Home Secretary of the Home Office in London on the 28th ultimo on the subject of prison reform. Associated with the League were some 20 organizations, including the Association of Headmistresses, the Federation of Uniform Women, several Suffrage Societies, the Women's Co-operative Guild, the Royal British Nurses' Association and the National Union of British Nurses. There is now no separate accommodation for unconvicted prisoners, and the very fact of an accused being lodged in a criminal jail carries a taint with it. A separate reception house for unconvicted men was one of the reforms suggested. The Home Secretary, in reply, said that separate accommodation involved a financial difficulty and, for the present, he thought that the more frequent and the ready granting of bail would obviate the need for special reception house. Women governors and women medical officers for women prisons, and trained women nurses for all prisons, the discontinuance of officers punishments, of the rule of silence, of dietary punishment and rigid separate confinement for breaches of discipline, among other things, were requests which the Home Secretary received in a sympathetic spirit. The Indian Jail Commission will doubtless consider these and other suggestions in their task of prison reform in India. The strict silence imposed on prisoners and solitary confinement are features of English and Colonial prisons which should not be permitted anywhere. A convicted person is not necessarily an incorrigible criminal; and silence and solitary confinement are potent influences in driving a prisoner to become one. Reform is the raison d'etre of all punishments and the more humane the treatment of the prisoner the readier the response towards reformation. The conditions in India and English prisons are different and the object of the Jail Commission will be to reject the harsh provisions of prison life in favour of a system calculated to draw out and develop the better instincts of the criminal; for no man is wholly abandoned or entirely virtuous and both kinds react to environment which should be favourable.

—The Hindu.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

London, April 23.

Paris.—The Temps states that the new frontier between Italy, Austria and Germany appears to have been definitely settled in accordance with Italy's demands along the line North of Brenner Pass.

London, April 22.

Copenhagen.—A telegram from Berlin states that the German Note, accepting the Allies conditions as called this morning, says the German Government assumes that the presentation of the Draft of Preliminaries will be followed by negotiations on the contents of the Draft and asks for an assurance that the German Delegates at Versailles will have freedom of movement and the free use of telegraph and telephone for communication with the German Government. It adds that the departure of the Delegates will in any case be delayed for some days.

It is stated in Paris that the German acceptance of the Allies' conditions regarding the German Delegates at Versailles was due to energetic action by an Entente Government who instructed General Modant to inform the German Government that it must reply without delay, definitely, in order to obviate all possible future misunderstanding. It was thus a question of a veritable ultimatum. The Echo de Paris declares that the discussion of the preliminary Peace terms will not be prolonged beyond the 15th May and says that the Allies will demand that the German Delegates shall sign the terms subject to ratification by the German Parliament. The Allies will not agree to the terms being submitted to a plebiscite.

An Associated Press telegram from Washington, dated 22nd April, with regard to President Wilson's attitude to the projected defensive Alliance between Great Britain, France and America, states that the officials have received a cable stating that the President would not take any action jeopardising in the slightest degree the principle of Nations or conflicting with the League's fundamental principles.

London, April 23.

The Report of the Commission on War Responsibilities places the whole responsibility of the war on Austria and Germany. The report contains a list of 82 indictments based on The Hague Conventions 1899 and 1917, of crimes without the excuse of any Military object and gives opinions of the degree of responsibility of members of the enemy forces, including the ex Kaiser. It also examines the question of procedure for the creation of a high tribunal.

Zurich.—A message from Berlin states that the German Peace Delegates will probably leave Berlin on April 28th, arriving in Paris on May 1st.

Paris, April 22.—A decision has been reached regarding Fiume. Mr. Lloyd George conferred with Signor Orlando this morning. It is understood that they are endeavouring to find via media between the hitherto incompatible views of the Italians and Americans (sic).

The Council of Five Foreign Ministers will today discuss the question regarding the drafting of a Treaty regarding the position of the German Colonies. It is understood that the suggestion has been made that the Peace Treaty should contain a general clause by which Germany will renounce all her Colonies, but the Japanese desire the insertion of a special clause concerning Kiaochau.

London, April 23.

The Havas Agency states that the Germans will now use the ruse that a united front must be opposed to them by the Allied nations, including America.

London, April 23.

Paris.—Signor Orlando threatened to leave Paris today unless the Italian claims were met. Mr Lloyd George is trying to induce him to postpone his departure.

London, April 23.

Paris.—The Havas Agency states that the Council of Four have so far not paid much attention to questions of detail concerning the negotiations at Versailles and they have taken no decision concerning the manner in which the Treaty shall be handed over to the German Delegation. President Wilson, M. Clemenceau and Mr. Lloyd George held two sessions almost entirely devoted to the question of Kiaochau. This matter is coming for the first time before the Conference. Japan demands unconditional surrender, while China wishes to get it back direct from Germany. Byron Makino and the Chinese are firm in their demands, insisting that the matter shall be settled before the arrival of the German plenipotentiaries. The Chinese Delegates state that the League Convention is abrogated owing to the declaration of War on Germany; therefore, the concession should be returned to them. The Japanese were heard at the morning session and the Chinese at the afternoon, but no decision was come to.

London, April 23.

Paris, April 24.—Havas Agency states:—In French official circles the view is expressed that France might be forced to adhere to the Pact of London, and not make a separate Peace, to which Italy would be a party. Little progress has been made by the Council of Three in solving the question of the Shantung Peninsula. The present situation is a complete deadlock between the Chinese and Japanese claims. Japan does not seem inclined to recognise the presentation to the Germans of the Peace Treaty until the Peace Conference has definitely accepted the principle that the German rights in Shantung have been finally vested in Japan.

GERMANY.

London, April 23.

Berlin.—Owing to the Spartacists' agitation Martial Law has been proclaimed at Bremen. The publication of newspapers, pamphlets and placards has been forbidden, Restaurants, cinema, theatres and schools have been closed and all public traffic is stopped. People have been ordered to remain indoors from 8 p. m. until 6 a. m. Women and children must be in the streets as little as possible.

London, April 23.

Cologne, April 22.—The strike in Rurb District is said to be practically finished, but the damage, owing to deliberate destruction and flooding of the mines is incalculable, many mines, which were prosperous before the War, are now bankrupt or on the verge of bankruptcy. The insistence of the miners on their impossible demands will result in their ruin.

HUNGARY.

London, April 22.

Berlin, April 22.—A telegram from Vienna states that the Roumanian advance is making the position of the Hungarian Soviet very difficult. The Roumanians have advanced a long way and it is declared possible that the Czechoslovak and South Slav troops will finally march on Budapest to establish a new Karolyi Government.

London, April 23.

Paris.—It is persistently reported in various quarters that the overthrow of Bela Kun is imminent. Telegrams state that Buda-Pesth is the scene of pillage and disorder.

RUSSIA.

London, April 23.

A Bolshevik communique admits the loss of the town of Vibna, but it is not clear whether the Poles or Germans captured it.

Copenhagen.—It is stated that the Bolsheviks' First Army, when it surrendered to the Ukrainian Forces, handed over 20,000 rifles, 35 guns and 200 machine-guns.

Berne, April 22.—An Ukrainian communique states that the first Bolshevik Army, operating along the Pipet marshes, surrendered to the Ukrainian national troops.

BRITISH NAVAL VISIT TO FRANCE.

London, April 22.

At the invitation of the French Government two British Squadrons are visiting France and an elaborate programme for a week's entertainment has been arranged for the officers and crews commanded by Admiral Sir David Beatty. The officers will make a tour of battlefields, including Rheims. On the occasion of the visit leading articles in the French newspapers pay a warm tribute to the British Navy.

Cherbourg, April 22.—The British Squadron, comprising four battleships, one cruiser and eight destroyers, has arrived. The town is profusely decorated.

Brest.—A second Squadron of five cruisers and eight destroyers, commanded by Admiral Sir R. Y. Tyrwhitt has arrived. Enormous crowds welcomed the squadron.

London, April 23.

Paris.—A highly placed personage states that the French Ministry of Marine has communicated the sentiments of the Minister of the Navy, inspired on the occasion of the visit of Admiral Beatty and representatives of the British Navy to Paris. He says that France is happy and proud to pay national homage to the sailors who had been France's Allies since the beginning of the War. The British Navy was the impregnable shield of victory. It had the same part to play in the gigantic struggle by sea as the French Armies had to play in the struggle on land. To the glorious names of the Marne, the Yser and Verdun the British Navy added those of Jutland, Zeebrugge and Ostend. The speaker referred eulogistically to Admiral Beatty as the great trainer of the British Fleet, who understood how to communicate to his own indomitable courage and confidence and whose name would be inscribed on the annals of War alongside with those of Joffre, Foch, Petain and Haig.

Admiral Touchard, who will deliver the address of welcome to the British sailors at Sorbonne, said he would recount the British Fleet's exploits and incessant work by night and day against the German submarines, without which the Allies' victory would have been practically impossible.

JAPAN'S TWENTY-ONE DEMANDS.

Calcutta, April 23.—An "Englishman" cable dated London 22nd says:—"I learn from Paris that China has presented her claims to the Peace Conference in four sections, namely, Shantung, Kiaochau, Twenty-one demands, and desiderata regarding the retrocession of Kiaochau. This is settled, and the only point is whether it should be handed back direct or through Japan, and if the latter, whether there should be conditions attached. As regards Shantung, where there are German concessions, the abrogation of the latter in entirety is demanded. No answer has been given yet by Japan. As regards Japan's demands in the 1913 Treaty, China claims that the Treaty was made under duress. Therefore, like the treaties of Bucharest and Brest, it is non-recognisable. The desiderata are a mere expression of the aims and objects of China, hence they are interesting as indicative of the policy of China. China would cancel all the advantages and claims of enemy Powers arising out of the Boxer troubles, and all commercial treaties with them. She intends to conclude new treaties of commerce on quite a different basis from hitherto, demanding equality, reciprocity and the cancelling of the most favoured nation clause. China demands fiscal freedom, the abolition of extra territoriality and leases, including Wei-hai-wei, but suggests no immediate action with respect to the Allied nations, wishing to prove by experience that the Western Powers can have full confidence in her straightforward methods and fair treatment. The Peace Conference will probably settle sections one and two, possibly three, especially since the League of Nations, whereof Japan is a member, disowns all treaties not consonant with its Constitution.

There is an excellent understanding between China, America and Great Britain. President Wilson last week received the Chinese Delegation. Apparently Japan, too, is more conciliatory, partly, it is believed, due to the internal situation in Japan and Korea, where growing unrest is causing constitutional reforms.—"M. Mail".

—The Ceylon Observer.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3907. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kuppammal daughter of Ponniah of Nalloor

Deceased. Karthikesu Ponniah of Vannarponnai West Petitioner. Vs. 1. Vaitianather Kandiah and wife 2. Sinnakuddy of Nalloor

Respondents. This matter of the Petition of Karthikesu Ponniah of Vannarponnai West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Kuppammal daughter of Ponniah of Nalloor, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on April 10, 1919, in the presence of Mr. K. Sivaprasadam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated April 5, 1919, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the father 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 13, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. April 17, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3908. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Arumugam Vallipuram of Kockuvil

Deceased. Arumugam Rasalingam of Kockuvil East Petitioner. Vs. Arumugam Kanagarajah of Vannarponnai East Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Arumugam Rasalingam of Kockuvil, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Arumugam Vallipuram of Kockuvil, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on April 10, 1919, in the presence of Mr. K. Sivaprasadam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated April 9, 1919, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is an 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 May 13, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. April 17, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3901. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Chellamma wife of Visuvalingam of Makiappiddy

Deceased. Thampar Visuvalingam of Makiappiddy Petitioner. Vs. 1. Visuvalingam Sundaram, Post Office, Kandy 2. Visuvalingam Kanagarajam of Makiappiddy Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Thampar Visuvalingam of Makiappiddy, the above-named Petitioner, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Chellamma wife of Visuvalingam, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir Ampalavanar Kanagasabai, District Judge, on April 7, 1919, in the presence of Mr. M. Vythilingam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated April 6, 1919, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before May 13, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. April 7, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3898. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Amerthavally wife of Murugesu Sithamparappillai of Vannarponnai East

Deceased. Nannittanby Kandasamy of Vannarponnai East Petitioner. Vs. Murugesu Sithamparappillai of Thanankilippu Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Nannittanby Kandasamy of Vannarponnai East, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Amerthavally wife of Sithamparappillai, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on April 3, 1919, in the presence of Mr. V. Manickavasakar, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated April 2, 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 May 15, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai, District Judge. April 9, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANURADHAPURA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 249. In the Matter of Estate of the late Kurunathi Kandappiar of Turuwila in Nuwarsagam Korale

Deceased. 1. Kurunathipillai Weeravalanthampillai and his wife 2. Kandappiar Sinnappillai both of Jaffna Petitioners. Vs. Kandappiar Thangamma by her Guardian ad litem Kandappiar Nakamuttu of Jaffna Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Kurunathipillai Weeravalanthampillai and his wife Kandappiar Sinnappillai of Jaffna, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Kurunathi Kandappiar of Turuwila, coming on for disposal before L. L. Hunter, Esquire, District Judge, on March 25, 1919, in the presence of Mr. V. Kommaswamy, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the said Petitioners, dated March 25, 1919, having been read: It is ordered that the Petitioners be and they are hereby declared entitled, as persons interested in the estate of the said deceased, to administer the estate of the said deceased and that Letters of Administration do issue to them accordingly, unless the Respondent above-named or any other person shall, on or before May 28, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

H. R. Freeman, District Judge. March 25, 1919.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MULLAITIVU.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 150. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kapuralage Kandate of Putuvilankulam

Deceased. Kadiratage Menikke of Putuvilankulam Petitioner. Vs. 1. Kandatage Bathirae 2. Kandatage Kirihamy 3. Kandatage Ukku Banda of Maha Mayilankulam, minors by their Guardian ad litem the 4th Respondent 4. Velate Kumaralage Kapurala Kumarale of Maha Mayilankulam 5. Son Kapurukhamy of Putuvilankulam 6. daughter Kirihamy wife of Kandatage Tikirale of Varahai in N. C. P. 7. Son Ukku Banda of Maha Mayilankulam Respondents.

This matter of the Petitioner of Kadiratage Menikke of Putuvilankulam, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Kapuralage Kandate of Putuvilankulam, coming on for disposal before E. F. Marshall, Esq., District Judge, on April 1, 1919, and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated April 1, 1919, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the wife of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her, unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before May 26, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

E. F. Marshall, District Judge. April 1, 1919.

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