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ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.)

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XXX—NO. 88.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY JUNE 26, 1919.

PRICE 5 CENTS

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Notice.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
 Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3848.
 In the Matter of the Estate of the late
 O. S. N. Muhamadu Sadakkuthamby late
 of Jaffna and Cocanada Deceased.
 O. S. N. Sabul Hamid of Jaffna Petitioner.

1. Muhamadu Ibrahim Ummah of Keelakoral
 2. Mariammah widow of O. S. N. Muhamadu Sadakkuthamby of Do.
 3. Muhamadu Ibrahim Ummah of Do.
 4. Asai Ummah of Do.
 5. Kanna Beeboe of Do.
 6. O. S. N. Saeni Muhamadu of Do.
 7. O. S. N. Muhamadu Muthappa of Do.
 8. O. S. N. Muhamadu Ibrahim Saibu of Do.
 9. Muhamadu Ibrahim Mahulathmby of Do. and wife
 10. Muhamadu Meera Ummah of Do.
 11. M. K. S. Muhamadu Segu Naina and wife
 12. Zanathammah of Do. The 4th and 5th Respondents are minors by their Guardian ad litem the Secretary of the District Court of Jaffna, Nena Ahamed Sahib of Keelakoral added Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of O. S. N. Sabul Hamid of Jaffna, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased, O. S. N. Muhamadu Sadakkuthamby, coming on for disposal before Hon'ble Sir A. Kanagasabai, District Judge, on June 13, 1919, in the presence of Mr. K. Kanagasabai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 22, 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 Respondents or any other person shall, on or before July 4, 1919, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Kanagasabai,
 District Judge.

June 16, 1919.

Auction Sale of Land at Mannithalai in the District of Poonakary.

The undermentioned land belonging to the Estate of the late Alfred Nicholas Santiago of Jaffna Town and administered in Testamentary Case No. 3648 D. C. Jaffna will be sold by public auction on Monday the 21st day of July 1919 in the District Court of Jaffna at 9 30 A. M.

All that land called Sangalodai and Kottukinattady in two parcels, commonly known as Mannithalai Estate in extent 23 acres, 3 Roods, 20 Perches situated at Mannithalai in Poonakary bounded on the North and North-East by Road, and Crown land, on the West and South by Crown land and on the North-West by Road and Crown land.

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The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1919.

"THE GERMANS HAVE AGREED TO SIGN THE TREATY OF PEACE UNCONDITIONALLY."

The above was the tidings of great joy which was flashed officially throughout the length and breadth of Ceylon on Tuesday morning last, as surely it was done in regard to all parts of the British Empire. Immediately on the receipt of this joyful news, we issued an Extraordinary Edition of the *Hindu Organ* and circulated it locally. We need hardly say that this final termination of the greatest war in history in the glorious triumph of the British arms and of her allies and in the vindication of right over might and justice over wickedness has been received here with unbounded enthusiasm, jubilation, and relief, and thankfulness to God for having brought about this result. It is not only a great triumph to us but also a great relief to humanity in general. The world can now live in peace for at least another century.

To be a British subject has been a privilege. This privilege and prestige have been now enhanced immeasurably by the result of this war. We should feel proud that we are the subjects of a power which is not only just and righteous in its dealings with all nations and the millions subject to her rule, but is so powerful as to crush, with the help of its allies, the greatest military power in the world and to reduce the latter to a state of utter helplessness compelling it, as it deserved, to accept the humiliating terms contained in the Treaty of Peace.

If the Germans had refused to sign, although the ultimate result would be the same, the world would be for some time longer denied the blessings of peace and the Allies would be obliged to occupy

the whole of Germany under most unpleasant circumstances and at enormous further expenditure. It is beneficial to all alike, much more to the Germans themselves, that the latter have agreed to sign the Treaty of Peace.

The Germans deserve no sympathy at the plight in which they are now placed. They systematically prepared for this war for about half a century with the object of overlording Europe and enslaving the whole world. They are the aggressors in this war which is the greatest mankind has ever known and plunged the world for well-nigh five years in unspeakable misery and sufferings from which it has not yet recovered. At one time it was thought, and people trembled to think, that Germany was within measurable distance of achieving her object. We must seriously consider what the fate of the world would be if Germany had won this war and the Allies were defeated. The stringent conditions of the Treaty of Peace are laid down not only in self-defence in the interest of the Allies but also for the benefit of humanity at large.

NOTES & COMMENTS

A letter from Mr. Arthur Capper, Governor of Kansas, U. S. A. appears in the current number of the "Indian Temperance Record" conveying a message to the people of India on the drink evil. It concludes as follows:—"And so I hope you will convey to the people of India the warm greetings of the people of Kansas and say to them that we are anxious to do everything in our power to the end that India may speedily come to know the blessings of a saloonless country." Mr. Capper writes that Kansas has been "bone dry" for over thirty years, so that the law for total abolition and suppression of the drink evil in that State is not an experiment, but is a well-tried and established institution. Something like 60,000,000 dollars were spent in that state last year on municipal improvements, but not a dollar was contributed by the liquor traffic. The Governor quotes facts to show that labour is more regular and efficient, crime has lessened, personal credit is sound, that homes are much happier, that there is less family trouble and fewer divorces, and that 72 per cent of the married labourers have their own homes. From July next all the States in the American Union will become "bone dry" and abolish drink altogether from among the people. When will India and Ceylon attain this happy state? From the alarming growth of the drink evil as revealed by the last rent sales, one cannot but fear that our people are practically committing race-suicide. We are going down, degenerating, fast. We call upon all our countrymen who are educated and influential, to wake up and do the needful to check this growing evil. The Local Option campaign recently started in our country affords them a fine opportunity for work in this direction.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

FOOD CONTROL IN JAFFNA.—By virtue of the powers conferred by His Excellency the Governor, Mr B. Constantines, our Government Agent, as Assistant Food Controller for the District of Jaffna, at a meeting held at the Jaffna Customs on Tuesday the 24th instant, fixed the maximum price of a bag of Akyab paddy of not less than 34 bushels at Rs. 11.37 and the price of a bushel of paddy at Rs. 3/45. He also ordered that no one should sell at a time to one person more than five bags, and larger quantities would be allowed to be removed on special permits issued by the Government Agent. Kurakkan and other food grains are also now prohibited from being removed from Jaffna. This measure of fixing the maximum price for paddy was necessitated by the dealers suddenly increasing the price of paddy from Rs. 11 to about Rs. 12 a bag. If this was not done the price might even go up to Rs. 15. The meeting which was presided over by the Government Agent was attended by the unofficial members of the Local Board and some leading members of the Food Production Committee, besides almost all the paddy merchants.

To our SUBSCRIBERS.—We invite the special attention of our subscribers to the circular sent to them calling for advance payment of subscriptions for the next volume which begins from the 1st proximo. Those of our subscribers who are in arrears are particularly requested to remit their dues noted in the bill along with their subscription for the next volume.

THE TRUNELVELY HINDU SCHOOL ASSOCIATION, JAFFNA.—The members and others interested in the above Association will be glad to note that at the meeting of its Managing Committee held on the 9th instant at the school hall, it was decided to accept the kind offer as donation by the generous lady Mrs. Subrahmanyam, mother of Mr. S. Kanagasabai, Advocate, Jaffna, of a plot of land 2 iachams in extent, situated at the north-west corner of the Trunelvely junction. Also it was decided to lend a portion of the land to the Local Y. M. H. A. to put up a building for a Library and Reading room which is urgently required for the advancement of the youngsters. May the Almighty enlighten others to follow the footsteps of Mrs. Subrahmanyam and set examples of such religious benevolence.

SPECIAL BANK HOLIDAY.—It is notified that Monday, June 30th, will be observed as special Bank Holiday, instead of Tuesday, July 1st.

CONFERENCE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.—The Conference of Co-operative Credit Societies of the Island will be held at the Council Chamber on July 2. Morning Session 9 a. m. to 12 noon. Afternoon 2 to 5 p. m. H. E. the Governor will preside over the morning session.

PEACE CELEBRATIONS.—To carry out the proposed Peace Celebrations programme in Selangor will require a large expenditure. The F. M. S. Government have granted a sum of \$115,000 for Selangor, and it has been decided that after allocating certain sums to the out-districts for local celebrations, the balance shall be devoted to the expenses connected with the entertainment of the children, sports, illuminations, etc.—"S. Times," June 10.

PEACE CELEBRATIONS IN CEYLON.—The following was tabled at the Secretariat on the 24th instant:—It is proposed to hold celebrations in all parts of the Colony to commemorate the declaration of Peace. The official celebrations will probably not take place till early in August. A Committee is being formed to organise the celebrations in Colombo and the Government Agents have been written to prepare programmes for the celebrations in the Provinces.

PEACE CELEBRATIONS.—Sim's, June 20.—The Military authorities in India are now engaged in selecting a body of several hundred men, representing all arms of the Service, who will proceed at once to England to take part in the forthcoming Peace demonstrations.—"M. Mail."

RAILWAY DEFALCATION SEQUEL.—After some delay we have obtained official authority for stating that as a result of the inquiry into recent defalcations in the Railway Mr. Henry Thorpe, Assistant G. M. R. and Accountant, has been interdicted from duty. As per the Colonial Regulations, the minutes of the Executive Council, the report of the Investigating Committee, the written statement and all material documents on the case will now be transmitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation, or otherwise. During the period of interdicted the Regulations provide that the officer shall be allowed to receive such proportions of the salary of his office, not being less than one-half, as the Governor shall think fit. In the case of Mr. Thorpe, half salary, namely, £450, is allowed. It is understood that the matter was one of defective supervision.—"Ceylon Observer."

KANDY EXHIBITION NEXT YEAR.—A meeting of the Subscribers and Executive Committee of the last Exhibition held in Kandy was held on Friday evening at the Kandy Club. Mr. J. O. Ratwatte, who presided, made a long statement in submitting the balance sheet, which showed that Rs. 517 had been spent by the Chairman and Secretary over and above contributions and collections. It was agreed to hold the next Exhibition in 1920, probably during the Perahera.

SCHOOL OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE, KANDY.—The annual prize-giving of the School of Tropical Agriculture took place on the 21st instant on the Irene Hostel grounds at 4-15 p. m. The Hon. Mr. C. S. Vaeghae, Government Agent, C. P., presided. The other speakers included; the Hon. Mr. H. O. Gollan, Attorney-General, the Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, M. L. C., Mr. T. Y. Wright, Chairman, P. A., and Mr. H. L. de Mel, C. B. S. Mr. Vaeghae distributed the awards. Mr. F. A. Stockdale, Director of Agriculture, read the report.

CEYLONESE ON WAR SERVICE.—Mr. Lionel Wijesinghe, former clerk, *Ceylon Observer*, who left last year for Mesopotamia, writes on 6th June from Mosul that he is now relieving clerk in the Deputy S. T. Post Office, Trains and Establishment Sections. Temperature was 118° in the shade. His superiors were

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Forest Department Tenders 1919-20.

Tenders are invited for the supply of firewood to Railway during 1919-20 in the following Divisions, viz:—

Jaffna
 Kurunegala and
 Galle.

Tenders in regard to Jaffna and Kurunegala are due in the office of the Controller of Revenue not later than mid-day on July 1, 1919, and in regard to Galle on July 8, 1919, in terms of notices appearing in Government Gazette No. 7019 of June 13, 1919.

Further particulars can be ascertained on application at the respective Forest Offices.

J. D. SARGENT,
 Acting Conservator of Forests.

Office of the Conservator of Forests, Kandy, June 21, 1919.

very good and cordial. He had abandoned the idea of going to Siam and hopes to return to the island shortly. Mr. K. S. Suppiah, eldest son of Mr. M. S. Kandasamy, of "Norman Villa," Nikape, Dabivala, who went home with the Mechanical Contingent, writes on 11th May that he is now at Landis, Kotal, fully engaged in Motor Transport Work of the A. S. Corps, since the Afghan trouble began. He was expecting to go to his Depot at Peshawar shortly. He had applied for the discharge and hoped shortly to be demobilised.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASSISTANT ENTOMOLOGIST.—Mr. D. P. Jepson, who has been appointed Assistant Entomologist, Peradeniya, arrived on the 20th instant from Sydney by the ss. "Carda," with Mrs. Jepson, child and infant.

LONDON ESTATE SOLD FOR £5,000,000.—London, May 27.—Sir Marcus Samuel, Bart., (an ex-Lord-Mayor of London), has purchased Lord Berkeley's Mayfair (London) Estate of 20 acres. It is believed that the price is about £5,000,000. The property includes Berkeley-square, Hill-street, Brunton street, and other historic spots.—Australian paper.

REGISTRATION OF BUSINESS NAMES.—The Ordinance relating to the above is to be amended. The Registrar-General having pointed out that in several cases persons have offended against Section 3 of the Ordinance by not furnishing the statement required, without deliberate intention, and that it would be well to give him power to accept compositions. This recommendation is given effect to in the amendment Ordinance.

VITICULTURE IN CEYLON.—The experimental stage in the cultivation of grapes in Ceylon has passed and experience has shown that grapes of a superior quality can be grown in several parts of the Island. Jaffna, Puttalam and Kalpenty have long been known as grape growing centres, but not till lately was a "good job" popularised. In Kalpenty a superior variety is now being grown with decided success. At Bandarawela, where the late Dr. Muttukumar devoted special attention to grape culture, grapes quite up to the standard of imported ones were produced. In Batticaloa very good success with grape vines introduced from France, has been obtained. There are other districts suited to grapes. It is possible to establish fine vineyards in Bandarawela. Every compound of the larger residences in Puttalam, Jaffna, and Kalpenty has its grape vine. What must now be aimed at is to grow a superior variety. Full results of the Agricultural Society's work in this direction will be interesting, and, it has been reported, such good results have been obtained, it may be possible to establish an important industry. —"Ceylon Observer."

SEVEN ROGUE ELEPHANTS.—The G. A., Anuradhapura, offers to issue free licenses for the destruction of seven rogue elephants. The 1st is consuming paddy stacks at Kirigollawa; the 2nd is damaging crops and harassing people at Ratmalalagahawewa; the 3rd is a leader of a herd destroying crops at Ambagahawewa, etc., near Ratmalalagahawewa—these villages are on the Madawachchi Horowapota road, and are easily reached from Madawachchi Resthouse by motor car, being on or near the minor road; the 4th is a rogue elephant and the 5th the leader of a herd damaging crops at Hiralgama, half-a-mile from the minor road to Kebitigollawa and easily reached by car from Madawachchi Resthouse; the 6th is a male rogue elephant with white spots on ears and neck and about 9½ feet in height, fore footprint measuring 1½ feet in diameter; and the 7th is damaging fields at Mahakappulgollawa, 9 miles from Horowapota, its footprint being 1ft. 1in by 1ft. 2in.

INDIAN JAILS COMMITTEE.—London, June 14th.—The Indian Jails Committee has arrived in England, and today watched the proceedings at the Children's Court attached to the London Police Court. The Committee's itinerary includes a tour through England, Scotland, America, and Japan.

OBITUARY.—We deeply regret to record the death, at the early age of 25, of Mr. K. Navaratnam, son of Mr. S. K. Lawton, the well-known Photographer of Manipal, at his residence, on Friday night. The deceased was the Manager of Messrs. S. K. Lawton & Co. Photographers, and was himself a great artist and business man. Our sympathies are with the aged fathers and other relatives in their sad bereavement.

THE RICE SITUATION. GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

The following shall be inserted as Regulation 1 B in "The Defence of the Colony Regulations, 1919":—

1 B. (1) The Food Controller or any Government Agent or Assistant G. A. authorised by him may, by order under his hand, require any person named in such order to deliver to him or to some person named by the Food Controller or such G. A. or A. G. A. any rice in the possession of the person named in such order, and may, by the same or another order, authorise any person

named therein, or any officer of Police not below the rank of a sergeant, to enter, if need be by force, upon the premises of the person named in the order and remove any rice found on such premises to such place as the Food Controller or such G. A. or A. G. A. may direct.

(2) For the purpose of ascertaining whether any rice is in the possession of any person, the Food Controller or such G. A. or A. G. A. may authorise any person named in an authority to be signed by the Food Controller or by such G. A. or A. G. A. to enter, if need be by force, upon any premises, and examine the same with a view to ascertaining whether any rice is being kept on such premises, and if any rice is found thereon, to remove it to such place as the Food Controller or such G. A. or A. G. A. may direct.

(3) Any rice removed as aforesaid may be disposed of as the Food Controller or such Government Agent or A. G. A. may direct.

(4) The Food Controller or such G. A. or A. G. A. shall pay to the owner of any rice removed under the provisions of this regulation such price as may at the time of such removal be fixed by any order fixing prices under regulation 1.

(5) If any person acts in contravention of, or fails to comply with, any provision of any order made under this regulation, or hinders or prevents anybody from exercising the powers conferred upon him by any order or authority made or given under this regulation, such person shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable on summary conviction by a Police Magistrate to imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months, or to a fine not exceeding Rs. 500, or to both.

(6) No rice which has been sold in the Granaries shall be removed from the Granaries or loaded into trains without an Outwards Pass obtained from the Deputy Food Controller, or in respect of estate supplies, from the Controller of Estate Supplies.

(7) The Outward Pass shall be delivered up at the gate (opposite North Road), or to the Railway Officer.

(8) No person other than employees of the rice Merchants' Granary Department, Railway Department and carters shall be admitted into the Granaries unless he produces a permit to purchase or to apply for the purchase of rice.

COLOMBO.

For the past few days rice has been arriving in Colombo, but the situation continues unchanged.

At the Chalmers Granary there was a fair quantity of rice and rice was only issued to permit holders from the Customs.

At Manning Market there was rice stored and those who had permits from the M. O. H. were given it.

The Municipality still continues selling rice in the wards. Several depots have been opened and the work is carried out in a systematic way.

INDIAN DEPUTATION LEAVING FOR INDIA.

The deputation from the Ceylon Indian Association will be leaving tomorrow evening for India to interview the authorities there and urge the case of the distressed Indian populations, not specifically provided for as the Indian labourers on estates are now provided. It consists of Messrs. H. M. H. Aboo, V. P. Somasunderam and Lawrie Muttukrishna. The members bear credentials from the local Government to the Indian authorities and a letter of introduction from H. E. the Governor. They have been provided with free first class passes for their journey. They will return in a fortnight.

—The "Ceylon Observer," June 21.

The "Kathamba," which arrived yesterday from Calcutta, brought 4,089 bags, while the "Derbyshire," which arrived yesterday from Rangoon, brought 5,754 bags.

It is stated that a bag of Bangkok rice is heavier than a bag of Indian or Burma rice. The former weighs 240 lb. while the latter is only 160 lb. That is to say two bags of Bangkok rice are equal to three bags of Indian or Burma rice.

DEPARTURE OF THE CEYLON-INDIAN DEPUTATION.

At the Tower Hall yesterday a function was arranged by the South Indian United Association of Ceylon to bid au revoir and wish success to the deputation proceeding to India. The members Messrs. H. M. H. Aboo, V. P. Somasunderam and L. Muttukrishna, were received by the Chairman, Mr. S. P. Gopalanisamy, Mr. J. R. Dawson Secretary, and Mr. Sam John, and conducted to the stage. Oriental music greeted them. Dr. R. Saravanamuttu presided. With him were Mr. N. G. Power, the three of the deputation and S. I. U. A. members.

The Chairman—said the Indian residents in Ceylon had risen to the occasion and collected several thousand rupees for relief work, and, finding there was not sufficient rice to provide for all, had arranged a deputation to interview the Viceroy and get a special concession.

Mr. Power—said that the Natucottai Chetty Nagarathars had generously come forward to help and were giving five bags of rice a day for relief work. They had promised to continue the contribution, even for six months more, were the stringency to continue. The deputation to India would interview the Viceroy and try to obtain a larger supply, for even the Mayor of Colombo found it difficult to cope with the situation. The deputation was authorised to wire to Ceylon for money to the extent of Rs. 20,000 immediately they succeeded in obtaining permits to obtain rice. The local Indian community were prepared with the money to meet the demand.

Mr. Sam John—wished the deputation every success and garlanded Dr. Saravanamuttu, who in turn garlanded the deputation, for whom Mr. Muttukrishna acknowledged the compliment.

The deputation left for Talaimannar last evening, seen off by a large gathering, at Maradana.

THE KACHCHERI.

Hundreds of people flocked in at the Kachcheri today to obtain permits from the G. A. to the M. O. H. to buy rice for outstations.

—The "Ceylon Observer," June 23.

This morning rice was issued to boutique-keepers who had permits at the Chalmers Granary and Manning Market. The Municipality still sells rice at reduced rates.

Members of the Railway Co operative Society, who had been receiving a proportionate quantity

of rice according to the size of each of their families, are hereafter to receive reduced supplies.

The first shipment of Bangkok rice is due on Thursday by the "Kyodo Maru," which brings 2,300 tons.

The next shipment of 1,800 tons is due about July 1st by the "Phraingrah."

There has been a great rush on the flour market. Although stocks are steadily coming in the consumption is daily increasing. Mr. P. N. Kapadia, a large dealer in flour in the Pettah has obtained a permit to import 6,000 bags from Bombay. He added instructions to Bombay to ship that quantity by the "Dilwara," which was expected in Colombo on the 23rd June, but received the reply that the "Dilwara" was fully loaded. The flour will be shipped by the "Oolcoobaria" due early in July. This consignment will be sold only to bona fide consumers and not to the trade. Mr. Kapadia is still selling flour at 18 cents a pound.

A deputation of the members of the Post and Telegraphic Association waited on H. E. the Governor yesterday at 1 p. m. at Queen's House. Mr. F. J. Smith, P. N. G., introduced the deputation which consisted of the head clerks of each branch of the Department. The deputation asked that some provision be made for them to obtain supplies of rice. His Excellency, in reply, was understood to say that no special arrangements could be made for Government Clerks. They should put up with the same hardships as the general public. His Excellency, however, agreed to make some provision for the telegraphists, telephonists and night duty officers of the Mail Branch. The conference lasted till 1.30 p. m. —The "Ceylon Observer," June 24.

NATIONAL COLLEGE, TRICHINOPOLY.

Trichinopoly, June 11.—The opening ceremony of the National College, Trichinopoly, took place this afternoon. There was a special puja shortly before 2 p. m. conducted according to religious principles and fruits and flowers were distributed to the gathering assembled. The regular meeting commenced at 3 p. m. in a special pandal put up for the occasion. Among those present were the Hon'ble Mr. K. V. Rangaswamy Aiyangar, Rao Bahadur K. S. Ganeshachari Aiyar, Messrs. N. D. Subba Rama Aiyar, K. S. Sarabaiya Aiyar, Professors Ramanuja Charis, and Rev. Father B. B. Mann.

Mr. R. Srinivasa Aiyar, B.A., B.L., the Asst. Secretary to the Board of Management, read out a number of letters and telegrams, among others, from Principal Statheem, Rao Bahadur Annamalai Chettiyar, Dewan Bahadur Dasika Chari and Mr. M. Ramaswamy Aiyangar, Asst. Inspector of Schools regretting their inability to attend and wishing the new college every success. Special poems composed for the occasion in Sanskrit and Tamil were recited invoking the blessings of Almighty for the success.

Referring to the munificent donations which had been promised in aid of the institution, he said he had a letter from a gentleman who had spoken to Mr. Pethachi Chettiyar saying that he promised to give Rs. 1,000 for the college. Mr. Pethachi belonged to a family who had spent money very largely upon educational institutions; he had given about Rs. 13,000 to the Rama Krishna Mission, he had given largely to the Karur Municipality and the speaker had a letter from the District Magistrate of Karur asking as to how a certain sum of money which Mr. Pethachi intended to endow in the University should be used. All this showed that Mr. Pethachi was anxious to spend as much as possible on education and it was their good fortune that they were able to get Rs. 1,000 and the thanks of the public were due to him for this generous contribution. Reference was also made to the late Dewan Bahadur Rangaswamy Chettiyar who gave Rs. 10,000 and other donors. —The "Hindu."

MYSORE ECONOMIC CONFERENCE.

Mysore, June 11.—Since last year the question of making the Mysore Economic Conference permanent received great attention both from the officials and non officials and opinions varied considerably on the question. At the birthday session last year the matter was discussed but His Highness the Maharaja announced that it would be made permanent in one form or another, the details of the constitution being left to the conference itself. Since then at various committee meetings the matter was discussed but arrived at no decision. The Government instead of committing to any scheme formulated certain proposals as basis for reorganisation of the constitution of the conference. These proposals were discussed the whole of to-day. The draft proposals include having a general conference meeting as at present once a year during the birthday week for reviewing the year's work, making specific recommendations to the Government on matter of economic development and also regarding the programme of work and budget estimates for the year. But the general conference should derive its constitution from another permanent organisations which work through the year and should not be constituted as independent unit with no constitutional relationship with the other component parts of the different working bodies. At the top of the entire organisation there will be an economic development board with the Dewan (President) and members of the Council, heads of Department concerned with the development of agriculture, industries and commerce, education, forests, mines and geology and co-operation of Revenue Commissioner, Financial Secretary, education and Agriculture Secretary and members elected from constituent Central Boards for agriculture, industries and Commerce, education and chemical advice, industrial research and scientific board. The Board to meet once in 4 months. The proposals advocate important changes for abolition of district taluk and village progress committees which exist at present for economic work and suggest transfer of the work to the district boards, village panchayats and taluk boards. The question of transfer to districts and taluk boards came up for discussion and in the end found general favour with the conference and resolutions were framed more or less generally on the lines of the proposals. It is estimated that the annual expenditure on the establishment of the conference will be Rs. 1,00,000 and the scale of expenditure for future may be fixed at 75,000 per annum. —Ibid.

PRIZE-DAY AT ANANDA COLLEGE.

The distribution of prizes at Ananda College the 21st instant at 3.30 o'clock, at the Olcott Memorial Hall, in the presence of a large gathering.

The chair was taken by the Most Rev. Sri Dhanuppa Ratansjothi, the Mahanayaka Thero of Angiyala, who was accompanied by an attendant priest and the Ven. Sri Nanisara, Principal of Vidyodaya College.

The prizes were given away by Dr. Paul E. Pieris, District Judge of Colombo. In the hall where the distribution took place the school motto "Apparado Amatapadana" was displayed prominently.

Besides the Chairman, the others accommodated on the platform were—Dr. Paul E. Pieris, D. Litt., C.S.S., Mr. F. Dornhorst, C.C., Ven. Sri Nanisara, Dr. C. A. Hewavitarne, Mr. G. K. W. Perera and Dr. W. A. de Silva.

Proceedings commenced with pansil being administered by the Chairman.

The Principal, Mr. P. de S. Kularatne, B.A., B.Sc., LL.B., next read the reports of the year work and the distribution of prizes followed.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

The Rt. Rev. Chairman then addressed the gathering in Sinhalese. He expressed his thanks for the great honour that had been done him that day in being asked to preside over that function. All Sinhalese, he said, should remember that they were Aryans and, realising the truth of that fact, they should always act and work unidely for the general weal. He next referred to ancient history and the divisions Ceylon was subjected to and the invidious distinctions that were often noticed among the people. He was sure that the day was nigh when all Sinhalese would join and march onward hand in hand in the way of progress and enlightenment. The speaker next made a grateful reference to Col. H. S. Olcott, the founder of the Buddhist Theosophical Society who, he said, had done so much for Buddhism in Ceylon. It was encouraging to see that an effort was being made at the institution to teach English to members of the Sangha. That was a praiseworthy effort which was bound to be fruitful in good results, mainly in respect of the Dharma. Biologicistic references were next made to the past of the school. Finally, the speaker earnestly hoped that the Sinhalese would continue with aid and support the really good work that was being done at the Buddhist College for the well being and advancement of the island.

DR. PIERIS' ADDRESS.

Rising amidst loud applause Dr. Paul Pieris spoke as follows.—Most Rev. Sir, it is very gratifying to see you here this evening presiding at this gathering in the chief Buddhist educational institution of the island. We can never forget that it is the yellow robe which has throughout the history of this country protected the torch of knowledge from the fierce blast which time and again threatened it with extinction. (Applause). We must never forget that it was the labour of the Sangharaja Saranankara who is responsible for the development of such literary culture as the last two centuries have produced, and while it is pleasant to see you coming here from our ancient capital, we can well regard your presence here today as a proof that the priesthood is alive to necessities of the times and prepared to take the share which were expected from it in the forward movement of our people. (Applause). Mr. Principal, ladies and gentlemen, it is equally gratifying to me to be with you this day. As you know I have a little weakness for historical dabbling (laughter) and I can never forget that after all it was a Buddhist king who received and sheltered the first Christian missionaries; (applause) and we Christians are anxious that our Buddhist brothers should realise that difference of religion need not necessarily mean cleavage and disruption. To me it is a source of joy to learn from your principal that the number of boys in this school has nearly doubled since he has been in charge. (Hear, hear). That is a most hopeful sign. Many years ago when I was less of the world and of men I was inclined to scoff at the idea of educating the village boy. Now I sing a different tune. (Laughter). Educate every boy and every girl to his or her highest capacity. Spend every cent you can scrape together on education. That is our one chance of salvation. The example of India in respect of education is not a bad one for us to follow. There is no reason to think that we are intellectually inferior to the Indians. Lord Sinha takes his cue in the councils of the British Empire. (Applause). Those counsels will not be closed against the boy from Ceylon (hear, hear) and to you boys I have one word to say. The great war has decided that in future every man will be given a fair chance. So it is for you to prepare to take the full opportunity of that chance which is held out to you. No doubt we in Ceylon start hardly handicapped, but do not add to the handicap by your own act. Remember, that it is not book learning that is going to carry the day, but character. You have got to be men, honourable, self-respecting and self-reliant, and here I would strongly join in your principal's appeal for a proper playground and a proper boarding house. Often the worst place a boy can be brought up in is in his home. Parents are poor disciplinarians and it is in the playground that you will get what our boys usually lack. You will not only have a good many stupid ideas knocked out of you and learn how to bear defeat, but you will learn to work with others for a common end. You will learn to show consideration to every one. If we are to progress we must act together, throwing overboard those shackles which are natural in a small community and which so long have weighed us down. Remember that the Englishman has for a century dinned into our ears a true saying: that a man should be taken for what he is and not for what someone else was. (Hear, hear). At last we are appreciating that truth. The day of small races is only dawning. You boys will start life with a much better chance than we older ever had. It is for you to prepare yourselves properly to take advantage of these opportunities do each one his real best to advance the well-being of our country. (Loud and prolonged applause).

—The "Ceylon Daily News."

