

# The Hindu Organ.

"Arise! Awake! and stop not till the goal is reached."

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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### THE HINDU ORGAN.

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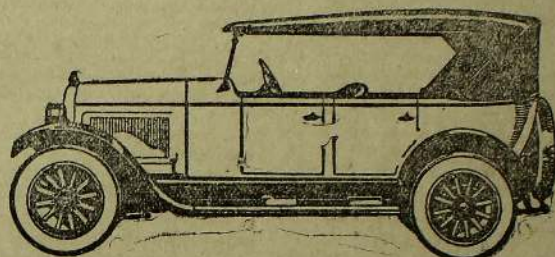
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# The Hindu Organ.



JAFENA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1927

## THE CEYLON EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION.

THE SPEECH OF MR. M. K. CARY, THE retiring President of the European Association, at its annual meeting held on Friday the 11th inst is a notable pronouncement on the present political situation in Ceylon. It is not merely a criticism on the present Legislative Council and its work but it is also an expression of opinion on the European community on the future of the present constitution. The functions of the Legislative Council and its relation to the Executive, the plies of the European personnel in the administration of the country, and the future of the political development in Ceylon are some of the important subjects dealt with in his speech. We entirely agree with Mr. Cary that besides legislation the Council has two other functions to perform, viz. redress of grievances and the control of expenditure. We are glad that Mr. Cary himself pays a well-deserved tribute to the work of the present Council with regard to the redress of grievances. "It is perhaps," says Mr. Cary, "in the voicing of grievances that the enlarged Council has done its most fruitful and effective work. The needs and wants of the poor, the villager and the dweller in town, had been ably and clearly represented and the attention of Government forcibly focused towards the object of ameliorating hardships. It would not be perhaps too much to state that the conditions of the village life are, possibly, only now, for the first time, clearly realised and understood in the Legislative Council, and, through the Press, by the general public". Thus, on the admission of Mr. Cary, for the last one hundred years sufficient attention has been to a very large extent influenced by the European merchant, the planter and the missionary. It is only now the voice of the people is felt in the councils of the country and efforts are being made to improve their lot.

Mr. Cary's criticism on the control of expenditure by the Legislative Council is neither justifiable nor is it warranted by the circumstances of the case. His comparison of the work of the Council in the control of the Budget with the practice that obtains in the House of Commons is not applicable to a system of Crown Colony administration. In England the House of Commons is supreme in every way. The Executive government is responsible to it. The Government of the country in England is really a government of the people by the people for the benefit of the people. But the same cannot be said of the Government of Ceylon. The Executive government here is in the hands of a body of foreign officials, who are least acquainted with the needs and wants of the people. They are neither responsible to the Legislative Council nor are they removable by any adverse vote carried there. The control of the purse is perhaps the chief check that the people's representatives have on the action of the officials. It is by its exercise that the revenues of the Colony can be diverted into channels beneficial to the permanent population. Therefore the criticism of the Budget and allocation of individual grants should be more searching and thorough than in the House of Commons and every item of expenditure should be scrutinised with greater care and attention. The Europeans who have hitherto enjoyed the monopoly of Government favour may chafe under the present practice as they find it difficult to get all that they want, but its utility under the existing political conditions cannot be questioned.

Further Mr. Cary complains that the detailed criticism of individual grants by the Members of the Legislative Council and their interference in the distribution of patronage and in questions of transfer and promotion of Government officials, weaken the efficiency of the administration and impair discipline in the Government departments. Generally speaking Mr. Cary may be right. Ordinarily the Members shall not interfere with the discretion of a Head of a Department in matters of patronage or promotion, but whenever cases are brought to their notice that the just claims of certain individuals are overlooked or patronage

is not distributed on any consideration of merit or justice then it is the bounden duty of the Legislative Council to intervene and put matters aright.

Mr. Cary is not correct when he makes out that criticism weakens executive action. We are all interested in the good and efficient administration of the country. Under the present constitution in spite of the enlargement of the Council the Governor retains responsibility for the good government of the country. Criticism is the very breath of representative government. Criticism rightly offered and rightly accepted so far from weakening the action of the Executive will only help it to understand the points of view of the popular representatives and to shape its policy or action in a way that is acceptable to the people. Under the present constitution the Governor cannot shirk his responsibility for good government by shifting the blame to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Cary complains of group influences in the Legislative Council as tending to weaken the action of the Executive. It is the duty of the Government to see that it does not yield to the importunity of any group of members if they are not actuated by public weal. The Government and Government alone will be responsible for its action if it yields to any such group.

The administration of even-handed justice between man and man and between community and community forms the bulwark of British rule in this country. No people in the world value and appreciate justice more than the people in this island. We are sure that neither the representatives of the people in the Legislative Council nor the people themselves will fail to accord support to any just measure brought forward by the Government.

With regard to Congress proposals for further reforms the views expressed by Mr. Cary deserve careful consideration. Representative government with an Executive responsible to the Legislature thrives best in countries which has a homogeneous population. We cannot forget the fact that Ceylon is inhabited by communities differing in race, religion and language and in certain respects in ideals of life. The present constitution which gives the people real and effective voice in the administration of the country has not been given sufficiently long trial. Radical changes in the constitution are matters of very vital importance affecting the welfare of the country as a whole and therefore it is not safe to take a leap in the dark. We do want progress and the best way to secure it is to proceed slowly but steadily.

### LOCAL & GENERAL

**PERSONAL**—Mr. A. Ohundrampillai, Head Clerk, Ceyte Group, Tehawana and Chairman, the Kalutara Tamil Association, has come over to Jaffna on a holiday and is staying at his residence in Manipay South. He will return to his station on the 1st of March.

—Mr. K. Nagalingam, Assistant Manager, Sangai Blot Rubber Co. Ltd., Rubber, Pabang, is coming over to Jaffna in March with his family on 4 months leave and will stay at Uduville with his brother-in-law, Mr. S. Nagalingam, of the Manipay Hindu College.—Cor.

**THE SUTHUMALI STUDENTS' UNION**—The weekly meeting of the above Union was held on the Sunday the 13th inst. in the Sinmaya Parathy School Hall, with Mr. T. Swaminathan in the chair. Messrs. P. T. Iyer and S. Ramalingam read papers in Tamil on "Our Union", and "Co-operation" respectively. Messrs. S. Shanmugam, R. V. Arumugam, S. Ramalingam and the Secy. passed a few remarks. The meeting terminated with the singing of the Thanavaram.

**GAMBLING ENDS IN GRAVIOUS HURT**—The case came up for trial before the District Judge of Jaffna, in which Palles Vidhan Saravaramuttu of Valvetty, charged 17 Palles of Thanakarakulshy with an awful assembly, rioting, and with having caused grievous hurt to two others and simple hurt to eight others on the 8th of August at Thanakarakulshy. It would appear that the parties, who were all relatives, fell out as a result of cheating in a game of gambling. The accused assaulted them in their quarters. His Honour convicted six of the accused and sentenced them to a year's rigorous imprisonment each. The other accused were bound over to be of good behaviour on a sum of Rs. 500 for a period of one year.

**MALAYA PUNGOOTIVE IYIA SENGAM**—The fifth half yearly General Meeting of the Malaya Pungootive Iyia Sengam will be held at the "Veskananda Ashrama", Kuala Lumpur, on Sunday the 27th instant at 3 p.m. An extension appeal is extended to all members to be present to bring the meeting to a success.—Cor.

Continued up.

## The Northern Assizes.

### FIRST SESSION FOR THE YEAR

The first session of the Northern Assizes as reported in our last issue is continuing its sittings presided over by Mr. Justice L. O. Datta.

The second case that was taken up for trial was one of abduction from the village of Maesal. In this case a young unmarried woman of Maesal was forcibly abducted by four men of the same locality. Mr. S. D. Tampoo appeared for the defence. The trial which began on Tuesday was brought to a close yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty against three of accused, 1st, 2nd and 4th and that of not guilty against the 3rd. The Judge accordingly acquitted the 3rd and discharged the 3rd accused and sentenced the 1st, 2nd and 4th accused, to rigorous imprisonments of 3, 2, and 1 year respectively.

The third case that was taken up for trial yesterday was one of murder from the village of Oosan. The trial is proceeding.

### OBITUARY.

#### MRS KANAGAMMA MANIKKAM.

We regret to record the sad and untimely death on 20th January, 1927, at Seremban, F. M. S., of Kanagamma, wife of Mr. V. Manikkam, Chief Clerk, Labour Office, Seremban, and second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Tamby Rajah of Seremban.

The deceased lady is a grand daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Narasivayam Pillai of Mullakam and a niece of Mr. R. N. Sivasuboo of Madras.

She was 21 years of age at the time of her death, and leaves behind three young children besides her husband, parents, sisters and other relations to whom her loss.—Cor.

#### MR. T. THIRUNAVUKARASU.

It is with deep regret that we record the untimely death of Mr. T. Thirunavukarasu of Thadathuru, Vannarponnai West, at his residence in Thadathuru last evening after a protracted illness.

The late Mr. Thirunavukarasu, who is an old boy of the Jaffna Hindu College, is the eldest brother of Mr. T. Rajaratnam of the F. M. S. Public Works Department and a brother in law of Mr. S. Mallegan of the Jaffna Fiscal's Office. The deceased who was employed in the F. M. S. had to resign his work and return to Jaffna owing to ill health. He was for some time the Police Vidhan of Vannarponnai South West. The funeral takes place to day.

### Bioscope Loving Councillors.

At Saturday's meeting of the Jaffna Urban District Council, Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Proctor, moved: "That taking into consideration the long period during which a bioscope show is being continuously run at the Ridgeway Memorial Hall and in view of the pecuniary drain such show is likely to cause on the people of Jaffna and its other attendant disadvantages this Council instructs the Chairman not to renew the license for the said show at the end of the term for which the present license holds."

Mr. R. Subramaniam seconded.

After a long discussion Mr. Sivagurunathan had to withdraw his motion as there was strong opposition.

### Notice to Correspondent:—

P. N. THIRUNAVUKARASU.—Unsuitable.

Continued.

**GERMAN ENGINEER TO STUDY CEYLON RAILWAYS**—Herr Oscar Von Muller, the well-known German Engineer and Director of German Railways, has arrived in Colombo, having completed his tour in India, the object of which is to study railway development and the progress of machinery and non-machinery industries in this country.

**PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT KONDARIE**—The ninth annual prize distribution of the Kondarive Hindu Vernacular School came off at the school hall last evening (Wednesday). Mr. A. Ponniah, Principal, Training College, Coopey, presided and distributed the prizes to the successful candidates.

**JAFENA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**—The monthly meeting of the Jaffna Urban District Council was held at the Kichaheri on Saturday the 12th inst. presided over by the Chairman, the Hon. Mr. A. Ganagaratnam. In this meeting some important motions were discussed but the majority of them were either lost or were withdrawn. The Minutes of proceedings of the meeting have been unavoidably held over from this issue.

**MEDICAL**—Dr. P. K. Channugam, House Officer, General Hospital, has been appointed Medical Officer, Ki Inoachi.

—Dr. G. Ponnambalam, House Officer, General Hospital, has been appointed to the Laper Asylum, Hundala.

**THE MALAYA POPULAR ASSEMBLY OF TRAVANCORE**.—Among the subjects listed for presentation at the Twenty Third Session of the Sri Malaya Popular Assembly, the most important are: the Creation of an Executive Council; the reformation of the Popular Assembly and the Legislative Council; the broadening of the franchise; the holding of an educational survey; the reform of the Public Service; the needs of the different communities; the encouragement of the Vernacular; National and Economic Development; Unemployment; Development of Agriculture; Judicial Reform; and the establishment of a Road Fund.

## Sequel To A Moting Incident.

### CHATTER CANED BY A PADRE.

#### APOLOGY TENDERED IN COURT

Before Mr. H. P. Kaufman, the Colombo Police Magistrate, the case was concluded, on Tuesday in which the Rev. A. O. Houlder was charged with having caused hurt to a carter, named P. Ediris, by striking him with a stick on the 14th instant.

Mr. N. J. S. Cooray appeared for the complainant, and Mr. E. B. Weerakoon defended.

Mr. E. B. Weerakoon stated that Mr. Houlder admitted having caused the man, and he thought that the circumstances justified his caning. Mr. Houlder was riding his motor cycle. He found the complainant driving his cart very fast down the hill without any lights. Mr. Houlder went a little distance, got down from his cycle and asked the complainant what he meant by driving his cart in that manner. The complainant begged his pardon for having done so. The man agreed to accept any punishment Mr. Houlder would give him instead of prosecuting him. Mr. Houlder sent for a cane. The accused had put his hands down and had readily received the cane.

Mr. Cooray said that the cane was rather serious, and the man bled, and had to go to the hospital. The man had fallen down on his knees at the foot of Mr. Houlder, and had asked the accused to pardon him before caning.

Mr. Cooray further submitted that he would withdraw the case if Mr. Houlder would apologise to the man.

Mr. Houlder said that the caning was an ordinary one, and he could not apologise to this man, but he could apologise to all the citizens of Cotta.

After some discussion, Mr. Houlder said: "I am sorry that I caned him."

The parties then left the Court after a settlement. —"Times of Ceylon."

## All-Ceylon Tamil Conference.

### NON-POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

#### NEED FOR COLONIZATION URGED.

The All Ceylon Tamil Non-Political Conference was held at St. Joseph's College Hall, Wellawatte, on last Saturday afternoon, and was concluded the following day.

Proceedings began with an address of welcome by Mr. R. Sri Pathmanathan, the President of the Tamil Union. Mr. Pathmanathan said that it was his greatest pleasure to find himself President of the Tamil Union of Wellawatte. He welcomed Tamils of education and culture from different parts of the island to work in hearty cooperation in the cause of their countrymen. The President cited many instances from ancient history and records where the Tamil had been praised and appreciated by the foreigner. Sir William Gregory, one of the most renowned Governors of Ceylon, had visited the island in 1877, and this was what he wrote: "I found it a most remarkable place..... I was greatly struck with the civilization of this Peninsula and with the industry of its inhabitants, which made the waste place so many gardens."

#### WELLAWATTE—THE ABODE OF TAMILS.

Mr. Navins Selvadurai next occupied the chair, and Mr. Sandrasagara observed while speaking on "a scheme for the settlement of land on the Pessantury" that the nerve centre of the Tamils was not in Cinnamon Gardens, but was Wellawatte; hence he was quite sure that he was addressing a purely Tamil assembly.

The lecturer also emphasized the need of a conference to study the present political situation of the country and to study other questions relating to the immediate needs of the people. In advocating that Government should give an impetus to the improvement of agriculture and industries, he pointed out facts and methods from European history.

The Chairman dwelt upon the need for the strengthening of the peasantry upon which wholly depended the national wealth. It made him very sad to see the peasant down in the lowest stages of degradation under European planters' rural domination.

Many of those present asked questions on various points, to which the lecturer gave adequate replies.

Mr. J. N. Vethavanam proposed that a Committee with power to add to their number to assist Mr. Sandrasagara to prepare a memorandum to be submitted to Government be appointed.

#### SUNDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

When the conference met Sunday at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Navins Selvadurai delivered a lecture on "Education with special reference to the proposed University." Rev. Kingsbery of the University College occupied the chair. This lecture was to have been delivered by Sri Swami Vipulananda but owing to ill health, the Swami was not able to attend the Conference.

When the session opened after tea at 5.30 p.m., Mr. R. Sri Pathmanathan delivered a lecture on "Our Economic Problems." He observed the value of agriculture and industries in regard to political independence, and warned the young men of Ceylon to take up agriculture.

#### STATE MORTGAGE BANKS.

Mr. V. Valchingham proposed "that the conference is in full support of the establishment of a State Mortgage Bank and requests Government to start the scheme without delay."

Next Dr. S. F. Chellappah delivered a lecture on "Sanitation with special reference to malaria in Jaffna," after which the conference terminated.

Present Situation in China.

BRITISH TROOPS TO CHINESE SHORES.

COMPETING CHINESE AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS. (Times of Ceylon, Feb 16)

It is learned today that the transport "Avery" with the 1st Battalion of the Green Howards, which was expected to disembark on February 20th, has been diverted. Her destination is not revealed, but it is believed she is to take on board her troops for China and may put into Colombo later.

It is learned today that the 2nd Battalion, the Coldstream Guards are on board the "Kilifane Castle," scheduled to arrive at Colombo on February 19th.

The "Kildonan Castle" due in harbour tomorrow, has on board the 1st Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment.

DEPARTURE OF "MAGANTIC"

The White Star liner "Magnetic" sailed from harbour this morning, conveying to China Major-General Duncan, Commander of the Shanghai Defence Force, with the 2nd Battalion the Border Regiment, and the 1st Battalion the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.

NATIONALISTS PRESSURE DECREASING.

The first effect of the arrival of the British troops at Shanghai was a 50 per cent. reduction in the rates for war risks insurance on all property, except the cotton mills. The troops also created a feeling of relief which was accentuated by the news of continually lessening Nationalist military pressures from Chekiang, with the result that the threat from the Nationalists at Chekiang to Shanghai has, for the present, disappeared.

The 4th and 8/14th Punjab have arrived. A message from Peking says that the Co-Director of General Post has replied to the National Government that the Postal Commissioner, who are all foreigners, who were nominated by him for the Peking Government, have nothing to do with the National Government. He therefore cannot agree to the Cantonese proposal.

JAPAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHINA.

Replying to interpellations in the House of Peers, the Foreign Minister, Baron Shidehara, said that Japan's policy of non-interference in China did not mean that she was neglecting to protect her rights and interests in China.

If China attempted to recover the Settlements by force of arms, Japan would reconsider the situation. Great Britain had taken Japan into her confidence as regards two Memoranda submitted to China, but prudence forbade a definite pronouncement at present regarding the nature of the Anglo-Japanese conversations.

NAVAL BELIEFS FOR CHINA GUNBOATS.

The cruiser "Yarmouth" left Portsmouth on February 15 with naval reliefs for the river gunboats in China.

(Ceylon Daily News, Feb. 16)

THE HANKOW AGREEMENT.

The agreement between Mr. O'Malley and Mr. Eugene Chen is not yet signed. It is believed that negotiations have been broken off.

COST OF THE "DEFENCE FORCE" TRANSPORT. Mr. B. McNeill, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said the total cost up to March 31 of the despatch of troops to the Far East was provisionally estimated at £770,000.

ANTI-BRITISH PROPAGANDA.

The Governor at Hongkong has strongly protested through the British Consul General at Canton against the Nationalists organising a farmers' army on the Hongkong border, and inciting the farmers against the British.

With a view to restoring confidence the Governor ordered detachments to make periodic marches along the boundary.

POLICY OF NATIONALIST CHINA.

The Cantonese Government, through Mr. Chen, the Foreign Minister, recently issued a declaration of Chinese Nationalist policy. The following are the points of the statement:—

The leading assumption of England and other Powers that China is unable to look after herself and needs help is now untrue.

Nationalist China is strong and conscious of her power and ability, by economic means, to enforce her will on Chinese soil against any Power.

It is not now a question of what England and other Powers may offer or wish to grant China, but what China may deem it proper to allow them.

"NO PEACE WITH CONQUERORS."

China is not yet independent, since Great Britain, having defeated her in the opium wars, deprived her of independence.

This is the Nationalist view, and unless it is given one of the dominant aims of Chinese nationalism will not be understood.

The effective protection of foreign life and property in China does not stand, and can no longer rest on foreign bayonets and foreign gunboats.

The nation is not dying, and cannot be at peace with conquerors.

Religion and Citizenship.

The following is an extract from the speech, as appearing in the "Ceylon Daily News", of the Hon. Mr. L. B. Eshington, the Attorney General, at the prize distribution, in connection with the annual religious examinations, conducted by the Colombo Young Men's Buddhist Association, held in Colombo on Saturday last:—

"..... Religious instruction was a matter of very great importance. It was the basis of all sound citizenship and to be of the greatest benefit it had to be inculcated in childhood. It was the experience that if a child was well taught in religion he would never forget it all his life. Even if in later life he ceased to practise the outward observance of his faith nevertheless his earlier training would always keep him straight. It was quite clear that mothers could not teach their religion to their children unless they were properly taught themselves. He therefore thought that these examinations were of very great importance in getting the future mothers of Ceylon thoroughly well grounded in religious principles."

CORRESPONDENCE

BATTLE OF THE CAUSEWAYS.

To the Editor "Hindu Organ"

The "Morning Star" of the 21st January is a gem cut with an Editorial on the above subject.

It states that the Catholic paper is for Pannal and that the "Hindu Organ" advocates the Arsy Causeway, whereas the "Morning Star" itself, therefore, prefers a causeway at Pungudotivoa and this probably to have a different view from that of the "Hindu Organ".

I do not think that the "Catholic Guardian" is entirely for a Causeway at Pannal neglecting all co-religionists inhabiting Mathagal, Sitalai, Padateruppu etc. and their institutions.

The Editorial also suspects the estimates made by the professional staff of the Government Public Works Department.

As I mentioned in one of my previous communications, the Pungudotivoa Causeway may be taken up when the Arsy Causeway is complete; the transport of materials such as cement, iron girders etc for the Pungudotivoa Causeway, then, will be facilitated.

The Karaiyoor people if they desired to shift to a place 2 or 3 miles or so from their present sites would have done so long ago—going east, nor h or west to Navatku, Sem puda side or Kalludai. As they have got boats there is no reason why they did not settle in Malluppidy, Mackumpan etc. on the other side of the Lagoon long ago.

Again the Editor states that the route to Valanal via Arsy is 3 miles longer than that via Pannal. He will agree with me that the majority of the inhabitants of the islands do not frequent the Kallucheri. Taking the Grand B as one point and the meeting point of the two roads in question as the other, I doubt if the Editor of the "Morning Star" will still insist that there is a difference of 3 miles in the distance. May I ask him to see the map of Jaffna.

This Causeway topic has however dragged into the battle the Christian League and the Ceylon N. M. O. Congress though they have not so far done anything to Jaffna and have not even set their feet on the islands. They do not know much of the islands and what the needs of the inhabitants thereof are. Their activities are merely retarding the progress on the work rather than saving the islands.

Kua's Lumpur, 4 Feb. 1927. Yours etc 'Neutral'.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN MALAYA.

To The Editor, "Hindu Organ".

Sir, Please excuse me to claim a small space in your valuable journal to put in a few facts about the troubles and worries, the subordinate staffs experience at present in Malaya, and the invariable treatment they receive from their employers.

Owing to the super numerary hands in every department, the question of "increase" in salary is a thing to be entirely given up, and as far as I understand that "word" is now extinct. In spite of the efficient execution of one's duties and one's long and meritorious service, the employer says, "You can go away. I will find another man at a lower salary." This is the outcome of having numerous young men on the unemployment list.

Let our Ceylonese wake up and put their children on agrion rural pursuits or some other industries rather than sending them over to Malaya to make an addition to the unemployment list, and wander through the length and breadth of this country like a ship without in anchor and thus causing a bad stigma to their brethren who are already employed. I appeal to our countrymen to refrain from sending their sons to Malaya, and let their minds be instilled with these five words, "Malayan doors are now closed"

Tebong, Feb 4 1927. Yours etc, K. K. PILLAI.

THE MAILS.

(G P O Colombo.)

DESPATCHES

London Mails per a P & O Steamer leaving from Bombay will close on Tuesday, February 22nd, per the O L "Orsova" on Wednesday, February 23rd and per the R. L. "Insulinde" on Thursday, February 24th.

Straits and China Mails per the P & O "Macedonia" and the R L "Tabanau" will close on Sunday, February 20th, and per the N Y K "Katori Maru" on Wednesday, February 23rd.

RECEIPTS.

London Mails per the P & O "Macedonia" will arrive on Saturday, February 19th per the O L "Orosay" on Saturday, February 25th and per the P & O "Mooltan" on Saturday, March 5th.

Straits & China Mails per the S M N "Rambrandt" and the N Y K "Tajima Maru" will arrive today (Thursday)

INDIAN & FOREIGN

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INDIAN WOMEN.—The Punjab Government will award a State scholarship of the value of £300 a year, this year, to an Indian woman graduate for the study of medicine or some other educational or professional course. The scholarship will be tenable for three years.

MRS. BEHANT'S "HAPPY VALLEY"—Mrs. Annie B. Behant has issued an appeal for £10,000 sterling for the purchase of "A Happy Valley" in California where a seat of higher plane civilization may be prepared for the coming Messiah with Krishnamurti as vehicle. The Ojai Valley near Ventura has been selected for the new colony to be known as the "Happy Valley foundation."

Egyptian Muslims' Marriage Law.—The special committee formed to consider Mohammedan marriage laws in Egypt recommend that the marriage of a man to more than one wife should be made illegal unless sanction is obtained from a religious court judge. The committee also recommend the repeal of the law by which a husband is able to divorce his wife by saying three times "I divorce thee."

MEMORIAL TO SWAMI SHRADDHANAND IN MADRAS.—The Madras Ladies' Sabha, of which Lady Sadasiva Iyer is President, at a meeting has passed a resolution to the effect that the Hindu Ladies of Madras express their deep regret at the tragic death of Swami Shraddhanand and convey their sympathy to the bereaved family and to the members of the Arya Samaj and resolved that an orphanage for girls be started in his memory in the city of Madras. The Sabha has issued an appeal for funds for the orphanage.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN BANGAL.—The report issued by the Public Health Department regarding infectious diseases in Bangal during the week ending the 5th February showed that both cholera and small pox were prevalent in an epidemic form in some districts, but Calcutta showed a decrease in deaths from those causes. In the whole province deaths from cholera number 468 and from small-pox 252.

FUTURE OF INDIAN STATES.—It is understood that an informal meeting of the Ruling Princes and Ministers of some Native States will be held at Patiala from 14th to 18th February, to consider the future of the Indian States with other important matters. The proposal for the formation of an Indian States Association made by Colonel Asgharali will also be considered.

ALLEGED MISERY PRECEDES SUICIDE.—Vienna has, of late, acquired an evil reputation for suicides said to be due to impoverishment and misery brought about by the Great War.

A LADY SOVIET AMBASSADOR.—Mrs. K. I. Iontey, one of the few women diplomats in the world, has been appointed the Soviet Ambassador to Mexico.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AT GUATEMALA.—Señor L. Chacon, who lately became President of Guatemala, has revoked all his predecessor's anti-religious decrees from 4 days after his accession to office.

HIGH COURT VIKLIS AS CHIEF JUSTICE.—In the Council of State, New Delhi, the Government accepted the resolution of Mr. R. Madhav Prasad recommending the amendment of the Government of India Act to permit of the appointment of the High Court Viklis as permanent Chief Justice. The Home Secretary said the Secretary of State was inclined favourably to consider the proposal but could not commit himself regarding the time of the amendment as this was dependent upon the exigencies of parliamentary business.

FOG TROUBLE IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.—Mistaps due to the dense fog in the Channel during the week end bring the number of vessels reported in collision or aground to 16, while over 100 ships are fog bound.

JAPANESE DEFENCE PLANS.—Replying to questions asked in the House of Peers, the Premier of Japan, Baron Wakatsuki, said: "Unless there is a marked change in the Japanese international position or in the world's general condition, Japan must maintain her present strength at land and sea." This reply is said to be particularly interesting in view of the Navy Minister's statement in the Press that Japan favoured the recent American proposals, provided the Agreement was concluded on a fair principle so as not to affect Japan's national defense.

JAPANESE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.—A party of Japanese Commissioners is said to be on tour in India and Burma with a view to make prominent business houses take interest in Japanese industries.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION IN BENGAL.—Women's education in Bengal is about to receive great stimulus in the forthcoming Conference which will be held in Calcutta, between 16th and 19th instant.

WATER SHORTAGE IN MADRAS.—Owing to the failure of last year's monsoon and the consequent shortage of water in Redhills Lake, the Municipal authorities have initiated measures to conserve the storage of water in the Lake and the public have been requested to co-operate by economising in the use of water.

INDIAN AVIATOR'S UNDERTAKING.—Capt. A. D. Patwardhan, the first Indian who has distinguished himself as an aviator, is trying to organize Light Aeroplane Clubs in India, with Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta as centres.

Continued on p.

WANTED.

CORRESPONDENTS—AGENTS

For the "HINDU ORGAN" in the following places:—

Achchnveli, Anuradhapura, Avisawella, Batticaloa, Badulla, Chevalgcherri, Chunnakam, Chuliooram, Chitlaw, C. P. Col mbo, Galle, Hambantote, Kankesanurari, Karaivaddy, Karainagar, Kandy, Kalutara, Masipav, Mannar, Mullaitivu, Matale, Matara, Navaly, Negombe, Nawalapitiya, Nuwara Eliya, Pallai, Point Pedro, Pungudotivo, Ponnery, Pottalam, Ratanpura, Tallipalai, Vaddukkodai, Vallaittirai, Vavuniya and Velaolai.

Please apply stating terms to THE EDITOR, "Hindu Organ".

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6260.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Subramaniam Arumugam of Jaffna. Deceased.

Kamalatambal widow of Arumugam of Jaffna. Petitioner.

- 1. Arumugam Mahalingam and 2. Arumugam Moresogan, The 2nd Respondent a minor appearing by his guardian ad litem Subramaniam Thiruchelampalam of Jaffna Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, on September 30, 1926, in the presence of Mr. M. V. Chinnaiyan, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated September 24, 1926, having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful widow 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 February 22, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. September 30, 1927. O. 1203.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6347.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Annammah wife of Saravananthi Sivasudurai of Katterodai. Deceased.

Saravananthi Nanniamby of Katterodai. Petitioner.

- 1. Kannany Amm-sh daughter of Sivasudurai of Katterodai and 2. V. Jolly Veesalingam of do. Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the Petitioner above-named praying that the above-named 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st Respondent and for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased Annammah wife of Saravananthi Sivasudurai coming on for disposal before A. Cathiravelu Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on January 13, 1927, in the presence of Mr. S. V. Chinnaiyan, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated December 13, 1926 having been read:

It is declared that the 2nd Respondent is appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st Respondent and that the Petitioner is the brother-in-law 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 February 22, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

A. Cathiravelu, District Judge. January 25, 1927. O. 1204.

Continued.

AGE OF CONSENT BILL.—Dr. Goh's Age of Consent Bill will be shortly introduced in the Legislative Assembly and it is said educated women all over the country have accorded their unqualified support to the principles of the Bill.

REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL.—A revolutionary movement is reported from Portugal. The Marines, Republic Guard, Police and Infantry participating, have captured strategic positions in the cities. Practically all civilians are said to be assisting the movement.

CHAMBER OF INDIAN PRINCES.—His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, the Chamberlain of the Chamber of Princes, is convening a conference at Patiala to consider the attitude of the Indian Princes towards the next Statutory Commission and other problems affecting Indian States.

FEDERAL COURTESIES AND ANNETIES.—On the occasion of his father's funeral, which took place during the second week of this month, the Emperor of Japan has donated one and half million yen for charity and has given amnesty to twenty-thousand convicts. Several death sentences have been commuted to life imprisonment and other sentences have been reduced. The only foreigner who attended the funeral was a British military attaché representing British Army of which the late Emperor was Field Marshal.

Religious Troubles in Mexico.

TYRANNY OF CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The following passage is culled from an article by Dr. Zibinora Bose, Lecturer in Political Science, State University of Iowa as appearing in the February Number of the "Modern Review" of Calcutta:

The nationalistic movement has inevitably affected the church, because Mexico is now trying to throw off the yoke of the church. Throughout the greater part of four centuries of Mexican church history, the ecclesiastical authorities have been fanatically intolerant. The present conflict is nothing but the continuation of a state of affairs existing since 1521. Writes Senor Jose Miguel Bujano the well known Mexican publicist:

"The Mexicans then had their own religion, their highly developed arts, their gods, and their temples, and although some time elapsed before a Pope decided that the conquered people were human beings and had a soul, the first act of the Spanish soldiers and the Spanish priests upon taking possession of the land was to demolish the magnificent places of worship in the Mexican towns and to erect upon the debris Roman churches. The idols and icons were destroyed, the religious monuments regard to their foundations, and the Mexicans baptised en masse."

INSTRUMENT OF FANATICISM AND BIGOTRY.

The church in Mexico was an instrument of fanaticism and bigotry. Only fifty years after the Spanish occupation, the Holy Inquisition with its fiendish fire and torture was introduced into Mexico to hunt out the heretics. No one lived at ease. Fear swept over the country like plague. History records that in one day alone, on April 11, 1619, one hundred and seven persons were burned alive or tortured to death by the Inquisition in Mexico.

The church whose sole duty was supposed to be to teach the self denying doctrine of the humble Nazarine Carpenter, became the extractor of most of the gold and silver that went to Rome and to Spain. It took Rs. 71,000,000 in gold in one year. In three centuries it has been estimated that the church grabbed nine billion rupees worth of silver and other metals.

Ten per cent of the product of the land was for the church; the ground had to be blessed by a priest before sowing; processions and religious services were organized to pray for rain in times of drought. Even domestic animals had to be taken to the church once a year to be blessed. The priest was pastor, physician, chief of police, school teacher, and judge."

In the past the church was an instrument of conquest. It is now frequently a handmaid of the exploiting class. Many a rich manufacturer desirous to safeguard against sabotage, finds it profitable to hire Catholic priests in order to bless the machine with "holy water" and prayers before they are used. The idea seems to be that when a priest has mumbled a few Latin words and sprinkled a few drops of Jordan water over a machine it becomes holy, and that the ignorant workmen would not injure it during labor troubles.

To the plea of intelligent, educated, patriotic Mexicans that they are starved, robbed and degraded, the Christian divines have just one answer: "Get Jesus in your hearts, and these questions will take care of themselves." Church a mighty helper indeed! Is it any wonder that religion is already headed for the refrigerator?

CATHOLIC CHURCH ACCUMULATES WEALTH.

The Roman Catholic church in Mexico has accumulated vast property. Professor Ross of the University of Wisconsin states that by the middle of the nineteenth century two thirds of the productive wealth of the country was in the hands of the church. The government has now nationalized all religious property as regards ownership and control. In its attempts to deliver the country from the dominance of a clerical medievalism, Mexico is inspired by the examples of France, Russia, and other progressive nations. Mexican leaders note that even the Asiatic Turkey has disestablished the Islamic ecclesiastical organization.

From a historical and administrative point of view, the church in Mexico is a foreign institution imposed upon the country from outside largely by force of arms. It has not built up a strong native priesthood. The church not only controls large areas of Mexican lands, but its foreign priesthood practically controls the Mexican system of education and encourages the ignorant masses to disobey land laws. The claim is made that the natives are exploited—economically and politically—by foreign bishops and priests, especially Spanish and Italian. The Mexican nationalists, who were distinctly anti foreign, resent this exploitation. The national consciousness is too vigorous and too robust to be bluffed by any religious falsereal.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE OF SAFEGUARD.

Mexico wants the church to renounce temporal power and attend only to the spiritual needs of its charges. To put the church in its place, President Calles issued on July 3, 1926 the famous decree which has inspired the virtual excommunication of Mexico by Pope Pious XI. This epoch making decree, as summarized by the American Foreign Policy Association, provides:

1. No foreigner may exercise the religious profession in Mexico.
2. Education must be given in official schools and be secular. No religious corporation or minister of any creed may establish or direct schools of primary instruction.
3. Religious orders, convents, and monasteries will be dissolved.
4. Any minister who induces the public to refuse to acknowledge public institutions or to obey the laws will be severely punished.
5. No publication, either religious or merely showing marked tendencies in favour of religion, may comment on national political affairs.
6. No organization may be formed whose title has any word or any indication that it is connected with religious ideas.
7. Political meetings may not be held in churches.
8. All religious acts must be held within the walls of a church.
9. No religious order of any creed may possess or administer property or capital.
10. The churches are to the property of the nation. Other ecclesiastical properties, such as

Continued up.

The Maha Raja of Travancore.

PROGRESS IN HIS EDUCATION.

The following is an account of the educational progress of His Highness the Maha Raja of Travancore as appearing in the "Malabar Herald" of Saturday last. His Highness is a Minor and is under the guardianship of the Senior Maha Rani (Regent):—

His Highness the Maha Raja, under the tutorage of Mr. D. W. Dodwell, M.A., B.C.S., has made good progress. His Highness rises very early in the morning and after usual ablutions has his Sanskrit and Malayalam lessons till eight. After bath and breakfast at 9.45 a.m. His Highness and his sister play chess or read weekly papers or magazines till 12 noon when he would begin his English lessons under Mr. Dodwell, which will last till 2.30 p.m. when His Highness will lunch, spend a few minutes with his visitors, and then go out in the evening for a drive. Though His Highness spends only 8 1/2 hours for his daily lessons, His Highness gets through as much work in the shorter time as many boys do in their longer hours. In this connection it has to be remembered that His Highness does not enjoy any long holidays. Moreover, he has to find time for many things besides his studies, such as, religious and ceremonial duties and interviews with visitors. Yet, within a short period of two years, His Highness has made good progress in his study. His Highness' knowledge of English is surprisingly good and he talks freely and correctly. His Highness is also able to read and appreciate great masterpieces of English literature without too much in the way of notes and detailed explanation. His Highness is also reading a brief outline of world's history with special reference to the study of Indian and English histories. His Highness is very fond of riding. During his stay in Ootacamund last year, an excellent pony was purchased for him and he made such rapid strides that he was soon able to ride with confidence in the open Downs. As regards the various interests and diversions that occupy His Highness' leisure time, it may be said that he prefers books of adventure and travel. He enjoys equally well a modern classic like Scott's "Ivanhoe" or Kinglake's "Hateward the Wake". His Highness has a great interest in them. Recently His Highness has added photography to his hobby. He has taken good photographs of landscape scenery and has developed them himself without extraneous help. His Highness evinces great interest in the Scout movement in the State of which he is the Chief Scout.

THIRUMADAMPU CEREMONY.

The Upanayadam (Thirumadampu) ceremony of His Highness the Maha Raja took place on the 4th instant during the auspicious period between 7.10 a.m. and 8.40 a.m. when the Royal Salute and Feu de Joie were fired. This was followed by the distribution of Prathigrahams and Sarvach and Sadyas with Natch performance and Attam in the night. There were special religious ceremonies the same evening and on 8th day, Sunday and Monday. On Tuesday the 9th inst. after going through certain religious rites, His Highness paid respects to their Highnesses the Maha Rani Regent and the Junior Maha Rani and other relations of the Royal Family presented rings to His Highness who, in turn, presented cloths. The ceremonies in connection with the Thirumadampu conclude on Sunday the 13th instant with Padayatan and worshipping Brahma, Vishnu, and other Deities. His Highness will offer an Elephant to the Temple and put on a ring in the Kanakkamattapam.

Continued.

bishops, pastors, monks, somnambules, asylums, colleges, convents, and all buildings constructed for religious purposes, pass into the possession of the nation, the use to which they are to be put to be determined by the Government.

11. Heavy penalties may be imposed upon ministerial or other authorities who fail to enforce the above provisions.

FOREIGN ECCLESIASTICS EXPELLED.

The church authorities instead of submitting to the laws of the country have openly defied the government by resorting to their ancient weapons of excommunication, the interdict, the boycott, and the terrorizing of people of weak conscience. This is flat rebellion. Religious bigotry has gone to seed. The Mexican government was compelled under the circumstances to expel some twenty foreign ecclesiastics. Who shall say that a nation has no right to throw out undesirable aliens in self defence?

The leading Roman Catholics in the United States have been urging the Washington government for some form of interference. They would doubtless be pleased if America would intervene, and gobble up the southern neighbour by annexation. Fortunately there is not yet a substantial body of public sentiment favouring annexation. And unless the government in Mexico City weakens under pressure, all undesirable "key pilots" will have to get out and keep out of Mexico.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No 6206.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Sinnammah wife of Saravannamm Sathapathippillai of Vaddukoddai West.

Decedent. Sinnadi Veluppillai of Vaddukoddai West Positioner.

1. Saravannamm Sathapathippillai Minor 2. and Sasangam daughter of Saravannamm Sathapathippillai of do. Respondents. This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying that the abovesaid 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 2nd Respondent and for grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on November 15, 1926, in the presence of Messrs. Nagalingam & Nagalingam, Proctors for Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated November 18, 1926, having been read:

It is ordered that the abovesaid 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 2nd Respondent for the purpose of this case and it is declared that the Petitioner is a brother of the said deceased and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased issued to him accordingly, unless the abovesaid Respondents or any other person shall, on or before December 15, 1926, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge, November 18, 1926. Time to show cause extended to 8.8.27. O 1207.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6350.

In the matter of the estate of the late Florence Rosammah wife of Samuel Marathejoh John of Mahippiddy.

Decedent. Samuel Pararajalingam J-han of Changanvely the attorney of Samuel Marathejoh John of Changanvely presently of Kuala Lumpur, F. M. S. Positioner.

1. Thavamany daughter of Samuel Marathejoh John of Mahippiddy. 2. Isaac Chellappah Mann of do. Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the Petitioner abovesaid praying that the abovesaid 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st Respondent abovesaid and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased Florence Rosammah wife of Samuel Marathejoh John coming on for disposal before A. Chathavel Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on January 25, 1927, in the presence of Mr. S. V. Chivithal, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated January 21, 1927, having been read:

It is ordered that the abovesaid 2nd Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 1st Respondent abovesaid for the purpose of representing her in these Testamentary proceedings and that the Petitioner the attorney of the lawful husband of the deceased be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the said deceased's estate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other persons shall, on or before February 24, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

February 3, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. O. 1205.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No 6304.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Vairammattu Subramaniam of Vaddukoddai West.

Decedent. Subramaniam Vairammattu of Vaddukoddai West. Positioner.

1. Subramaniam Ampalavanar of Vaddukoddai West presently, Meqquico Inspector, Penang. 2. Subramaniam Veluppillai of do, presently Hospital Assistant, Fort Swettenham, F. M. S. 3. Subramaniam Venkateshamby of do, presently Clerk, Forest Office, Klang, F. M. S.

Minor 4. Theyyanappillai daughter of Vairammattu Subramaniam of Vaddukoddai West. Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the petitioner abovesaid praying that the abovesaid 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 4th Respondent and for grant of Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on November 15, 1926, in the presence of Messrs. Nagalingam & Nagalingam, Proctors, for Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated October 25, 1926 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovesaid 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minor the 4th Respondent for the purpose of this case and it is declared that the Petitioner is a son and an heir of the deceased and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased issued to him accordingly, unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before December 15, 1926, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

November 18, 1926. G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. Extended to February 24, 1927. O. 1208.

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