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SINHALESE OPPRESSION

Does It Exist?

By Yahlpadi

Introductory

THERE is so much talk, at the present moment, about the "tyranny of the majority community" that I was tempted to venture forth into the political, social and economic life of Ceylon to discover whether this "oppression" did really exist. I detest "oppression" of every kind. I wanted to see for myself whether the majority community, in Ceylon, were deliberately conspiring to oppress the minorities. I have mixed and conversed with many persons, persons of humble station, of lowly birth, and of little importance—and these constitute the majority of the Ceylonese population. I have interviewed men of wealth and consequence, leading men in public life, the big ones in the Government Service, and men in the independent professions. I have spent hours with friends discussing this vital topic, thrashing out to their logical conclusions various points of interest that arose in our sometimes violent drawing-room debates. I have also spent much time in purely Sinhalese gatherings, both formal and informal, to study this question at first hand. I have patiently listened to views of many Sinhalese individuals and even leaders, carefully cross-examining them at times, with a view of finding out if their only ambition is to exterminate the Tamils and other minorities. And, I have spent many sleepless nights weighing the evidence I had so laboriously collected, nights when my mind was tossed about in a sea of constant agitation by one ever-recurring question, "Is there Sinhalese oppression?"

After my careful investigation and detailed observations I have arrived at a few conclusions which are slowly ripening into convictions. I feel I must no longer keep them to myself.

It Is A Myth

To my mind "Sinhalese oppression" as such seems definitely to be a myth. I do not deny, however, that the Tamils and other minorities have good

cause to imagine and to conjure up this "Loch Ness Monster" of Ceylon—Sinhalese oppression.

I have moved among the Sinhalese masses. To say that they bear the minorities any ill-feelings will be a great travesty of the truth. To say that the Sinhalese people, as such, desire to drive away from Ceylon the Tamils, Muslims and Burghers would constitute one of the greatest falsehoods of modern Ceylon. The Sinhalese masses are indifferent to this question as they are to politics as a whole. Communalism is as distant to them as topics like Death Duties, Income-Tax and Orders-in-Council. I make no exaggeration if I state that over ninety percent of the Sinhalese people are absolutely indifferent towards the major political events of the day (This is true even of the masses of the minorities). Among the Sinhalese people many thousands of persons belonging to minority communities live happily. They are not oppressed in any way, neither economically or socially.

When this vast majority of the Sinhalese do not even desire to oppress the minorities wherein lies this much talked of oppression? Is it the other ten percent? Not exactly. This ten percent contains the educated and semi-educated persons. The majority of them are wise enough to realise that they should entertain only peaceful intentions towards the minorities. I must admit, however, that a small minority of this ten percent are really communal-minded. It is they who cry "Ceylon for the Buddhists." They make a big noise today for some of them hold high political office.....but, so far, they have not made an appreciable influence on the mass of Sinhalese opinion.

If this minority manages to win even a portion of the mass of Sinhalese opinion to its way of thinking the fault will lie entirely with the minorities. If the minorities cannot find leaders who can deal with the

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"GERMANY WILL BE A WORLD POWER"

Hitler Outlines His Foreign Policy

The domination of Austria by the German Reich, effected with such dramatic suddenness, has taken the world by surprise. But according to Hitler it was planned twenty-years ago. He has laid down his foreign policies in his book "Mein Kampf", which throws light on the future policies he has planned to follow.

The following are extracts from this Book:—

IT stands me in good stead to-day that fate decided that Braunau on the Inn should be my birthplace.

That little town lies on the frontier between the two German States, the reunion of which we younger ones regard as a work worthy of accomplishment by all the means in our power.

German-Austria will have to return to the great German mother-land, but not for economic reasons.

Common blood should belong to a common Reich. The German people have no right to dabble in a colonial policy as long as they are unable to gather their own sons into a common State.

When the territory of the Reich contains all Germans [Austria has 6,500,000 German-speaking people, Czechoslovakia 3,300,000, Poland 884,000, Danzig 400,000, Lithuania 29,000, Hungary 478,000, Jugoslavia 513,000, and Denmark 400,000. There are also 300,000 Austria-Germans in Italy] and if the Reich avows itself unable to support them, from that necessity of relations will arise its moral right to acquire foreign territory.

The plough will then give place to the sword and the tears of war will prepare a harvest of the future world.

From my earliest youth I was convinced that [pre-war] Austria's destruction was a necessary condition for the security of the German race, and, moreover, that the feeling of nationality is in no way identical with dynastic patriotism; also that the house of Habs-

burg was set upon doing harm to the German race.

The fate of Austria is so closely bound up with the life and growth of the German people as a whole that a division of history into German history and Austrian history seems to be quite unthinkable.

France

The inexorable enemy of the German nation is and will always be France.

If the German nation wishes to put an end to a state of affairs which threatens to remove it from Europe it must not recommit the error committed before the war and make enemies of the whole world; it must distinguish its most dangerous enemy so as to strike with concentrated force against him.

Every Power is our natural ally which finds French domination of the Continent insupportable.

No road to such a Power must seem too difficult for us and no sacrifice too great if it only provides the final result of the possibility of overthrowing our grimmest hater, France.

Our smaller wound we can leave to the healing influence of time provided we find a way completely to be rid of the greatest....

Russia

The right to land and to till the soil can become a duty when a great people seems vowed to ruin if it does not expand and, more particularly, when it is not a matter of some little Negro people but of Germany, the mother of life, the mother of the whole present-day civilisation.

Germany will be a World Power or she will be nothing. But to become a World Power she has need of that territorial greatness which will give her the necessary importance and which will give to her citizens the means of existence.

But if we speak to-day of new lands in Europe we shall

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N. P. Permanent Relief Fund Society

Annual General Meeting

THE Annual General Meeting of the Northern Province Permanent Relief Fund Society Limited was held on the 8th instant at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

Mr. E. T. Dyson, President, presided and others present were Messrs: S. Kanagasabai, K. Somasundaram, Mudr. V. Ponnampalam, Muhandiram S. Kandiah, R. Subramaniam, C. Muttuvolu, Muhandiram P. Rajagopal, S. Aiyampillai, S. Somasundra Ayer, A. Muttutambay, Mudr. C. Kanapathipillai, M. J. Pillainayagam J. A. J. Tisserasinghe, A. F. Saverimuttu, M. M. Vararajasingham, S. F. X. Annasampillai and the Hony Secretary (Mr. R. R. Nalliah).

The Report

After the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed Mr. R. R. Nalliah, the Hony Secretary, presented the following report:—

"During the period under review the Executive Committee met once. Business was transacted as in previous years with the approval of the Members of the Committee.

The Collection Committee made no attempt to collect any money owing to other calls on the public. Fortunately there were not many cases of acute distress needing relief. The absence of such distress has made us not to touch on the permanent funds. We hope some effort will be made to collect funds during the year.

We have in hand a sum of Rs. 14,683-34 ss against Rs. 14,248 38 the previous year; of this amount a sum of Rs. 9,000 has been invested on Mortgage Bonds, interest being payable quarterly. A sum of Rs. 3,577-64 is in deposit in the Co operative Central Bank, Rs. 1,500 is in deposit in the Ceylon Savings Bank, and Rs. 605-70 is in deposit at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

During the period under review relief was granted in 22 cases and we have expended Rs. 422-50 as against Rs. 462-50 in 21 cases of the previous year.

In conclusion the Committee offers its thanks to all those who have helped them in the work of the Society and hope that they will continue their support."

Mudr. S. Somasundra Iyer on behalf of the Treasurer submitted the statement of accounts which showed a credit balance of Rs. 14,684—34.

The report and statement of accounts were then adopted.

Office-bearers

The Election of Office-bearers resulted as follows:—

President & Treasurer:—Mr. E. T. Dyson

Hony Secretary:—Mr. R. R. Nalliah

Executive Committee

Messrs. C. R. Tambiah, S. Kanagasabai, P. Mortimer, S. Somasundra Ayer, K. Somasundram, R. Subramaniam and Mudr. C. Kanapathipillai and Muhandiram S. Candiah.

The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. S. Kanagasabai.

"Germany will be a World Power"

(Continued from Page 1)

be thinking first of Russia and of the Border State which depend upon her.

We have finished with the pre-War policy of colonies and trade and are going over to the land policy of the future. Fate itself seems to wish to give us our direction.

When fate abandoned Russia to Bolshevism it robbed the Russian people of the educated class which once created and guaranteed their existence as a State....The immense Empire will one day collapse.

Britain

England did not want Germany as a World Power; France did not want Germany to be a Power at all, a very essential difference!

We, however, are not fighting for a place as a World Power, but we have to struggle for our Fatherland's existence, for our national unity, and the daily bread of our children. From this point of view, only two States are left as possible friends for us: Great Britain and Italy.

Foreign Policy

The political testament of the German nation for its attitude to foreign affairs must for ever be as follows: Do not ever permit there to be formed in Europe two Continental Powers.

In any attempt to organise on the frontiers of Germany a second military Power—were it only in the form of a State which might acquire such a power—we would see an attack against Germany.

Consider that it is not only your right but also your duty to prevent by all means and at need by arms the constitution of such a State. If it exists already, destroy it.

The sole hope of success for a territorial policy now-a-days is to confine it to Europe and not to extend it to such places as the cameroons.

The question of recovering territory which a nation and a State have lost is always first and foremost one of recovering political power and Independence for the mother country.

Also, that in such a case, the interests of lost territories must be ruthlessly ignored as against that of regaining the Mother country's freedom.

For the liberation of oppressed and cut off splinters of a race or of the provinces of an empire is not affected by a reason of any desire of the oppressed population or of a protest by those who remain, but by whatever means of power is still possessed by the remainder of the Fatherland which was once common to all.

It is not by flaming protests that oppressed lands are brought back into the embrace of a common Reich, but by a mighty sword.

SINHALESE OPPRESSION

(Continued from page 1.)

majority of Sinhalese in such a way as to create friendly relations, then the minorities must pay dearly for their choice. Our Tamil leaders are daily infuriating the Sinhalese people by foolishly indulging in petty attacks on the majority community, by perversely joining non-Ceyloneses to gain certain personal ends, by adopting most reactionary tactics in regard to the major political questions of the day, in short, by behaving like perfect political idiots. They make only trouble and are making it fast—for us the Tamils. Man, they say, is the master of his fate: so with communities.

To come back to the question of Sinhalese "oppression"

The Government Service, its Nursery

The myth of Sinhalese oppression has arisen in one section of Ceylonese minority population from whence it has gathered force through unscrupulous propaganda and spread its unwholesome tentacles over a vast majority of the minorities. This section which has been the nursery of Ceylon's political Frankenstein is that in which persons earn their daily bread through employment under the Government of Ceylon. To the Tamils, especially, the Government Service constitutes the greatest source of income. Jaffna is a relatively barren land and cannot support even a fraction of Ceylon Tamil population in any degree of comfort. They have for a long time looked upon the Government Services as their legitimate monopoly.

I have pointed out in the fifth article of my series, "The Communal Problem in Ceylon" which appeared in this paper some months ago, that much of the communalism in Ceylon today is dependent on the competition for

Government jobs and that the ultimate solution to the whole problem lay in the adoption of a socialist economy. The economic crisis, as such, is not yet imminent in Ceylon: it only forms the background now. A decade or two hence it will thrust itself in the forefront. It is in this situation of Ceylonese population that communalism is most rampant. It is no exaggeration to state that in the Government Services alone communalism enjoys undisturbed supremacy. Invariably every Government Servant, be he Tamil, Muslim, Burgher or Sinhalese, is very communal-minded. This can be removed as I have indicated, in my earlier article, only by the establishment of a Socialist order and the substitution of constructive Socialist competition for the destructive capitalist competition.

Before 1931 communalism in the public services lay hidden behind the mass of bureaucratic supremacy. The present tension and trouble has its immediate cause in the Order-in-Council 1931, for it is only after that that communalism has managed to come out into the open vitiating the whole atmosphere of Ceylon. Communalism is most marked among the Tamils because the majority of Tamils are dependent on the Government Services for their livelihood.

The Myth is Born

Before the Order-in-Council 1931 ushered in the Committee system the Public Services were beyond the pale of political influence. The Committee system was the medium through which the politicians gained control over the public service. It was no doubt a noble idea of the Donoughmore Commissioners to place such power in the hands of our politicians. They wanted bureaucracy to be definitely subordinate to democracy. All well-meaning attempts, however, do not have happy results. After 1931, the politicians vitiated the Government services of this island. They contaminated the atmosphere of the Public Services with potent forces more deadly than any poison gas i.e. Nepotism, favouritism, bribery and corruption.

To the Government Servant life consists in transfers, promotions, allowances, pensions etc...

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REDUCTION IN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE NECESSARY

Limit of Taxable Capacity Reached

L. C. P. A. CHAIRMAN ON ISLAND'S FINANCIAL POSITION

"THE Government should take speedy measures to appoint a commission to make recommendations for all possible reductions in expenditure, having regard to the present and prospective financial position of the Island", said Mr. J. Tyagarajah, Chairman of the Low-Country-Products Association, at the annual general meeting of the Association held on Monday in Colombo.

Mr. Tyagarajah, in condemning the extravagance of the Government and its consequent recourse to increased taxation, recalled the protest measures adopted by the Association—the first public body to venture out in protest—against increased income tax and petrol duty.

"Subsequent events have amply justified the action taken by the Association," he added.

The re-introduced death duty and the right to levy land tax to be vested in village committees further had added to the heavy burden of taxation, which, since the introduction of the new Constitution, had amounted to nearly 29 million rupees—10 million by way of direct taxation and 19 million by indirect taxation.

The burden of all this taxation was shouldered by some 16,000 income tax payers, who had to finance all the extravagant social schemes of the Government, which were supposed to benefit, but which actually did not always benefit, the six million persons who inhabited this Island.

Limit Reached

The State Council was doubtless faithfully giving effect to the socialist maxim "Government by the poor and payment by the rich."

The limit of taxable capacity had undoubtedly been reached so far as the 16,000 income tax-payers were concerned. To tax the indirect rate-payer, who had no taxable capacity whatsoever, was unthinkable. On the contrary, a reduction of the tax on the articles used by him was desirable.

While they contemplated this threatening financial debacle, the Financial Secretary a fortnight ago made the ominous statement: "The present gap between normal revenue and expenditure is at least four million rupees per annum and will have to be filled sooner or later by additional taxation."

The numerous schemes which the State Council had in view would mean an increase in expenditure on the one hand, and the probable depression of some of the produce markets on the other, would undoubtedly lead to a contraction of revenue. What then were the means to avert this threatening financial crisis? he asked.

The solution was clearly not a further increase of taxation, but a

curtailment of extravagant expenditure.

Need for a Commission

He reiterated the appeal made some time back by the Association, that the Government should take speedy measures to appoint a commission to make recommendations for all possible reductions in expenditure, having regard to the present and prospective financial position of the Island.

Such a step, he said, was imperative in view of the recent ominous forecast of the Island's finances by the Financial Secretary.

Mr. Tyagarajah also condemned the blunder committed in the preparation of the annual budget which contained an under-estimation of revenue and an over-estimation of expenditure, which resulted in needless additional taxation. He hoped that adequate measures would be taken to prevent the recurrence of a blunder of that magnitude.

New Governor

Referring to the welcome which the Association extended to His Excellency and Lady Caldecott on their arrival in Ceylon last October, Mr. Tyagarajah said: "Sir Andrew Caldecott has already endeared himself to the people of this Island, as no previous Governor did by his sincerity of purpose and by his determination to do justice at all costs."

"His Excellency will act fairly by all sections of the people of this Island. Sir Andrew Caldecott's past record in other countries, his liberal outlook and the public utterances he has made so far, justify the belief that he will fulfil the highest expectations entertained of him and before he lays down his reins of office he will not only bring about harmony between conflicting political interests and place a united people securely on the path to full responsible government, but will also help Ceylon to achieve a large measure of economic progress."

Reviewing the progress of the coconut industry he recalled the unfounded South Indian agitation against Ceylon copra being sold there, and urged that the Minister of Labour should take early steps to secure the reduction of the duty on Ceylon copra.

He deplored the decline in the price of copra which, he said, affected the livelihood of a very large

A Taxation Commission

To Report on Financial Position

It is learned that the Board of Ministers will shortly take a decision on the question of appointing a Taxation Commission to report on the Government's existing system of taxation and to recommend a new line of policy if desirable.

The Board of Ministers has already given serious attention to the proposal and it is understood that there is more or less general agreement on the desirability of appointing such a Commission.

The view of many of the Ministers is that the investigation, if undertaken, should be a thorough one, going deeper than a superficial examination of the existing forms of taxation. It is felt by them that any radical alteration of the present taxation policy must be preceded by a searching inquiry into the whole structure of finance and trade of the country, and the capacity of the agricultural and other industries to bear equitable taxation.

The competence of a locally appointed commission to undertake an investigation of the kind envisaged by the Board of Ministers is greatly doubted, and in considering the matter the Board will discuss the feasibility of an expert Commission from abroad.

POLICE PROBATIONERS

To be Trained in London School

If there are vacancies for students at the Hendon Police Training School then Messrs. G. Muttucumare, S. A. Dasanaik and Austin Fernando, recently chosen probationers for posts of Assistant Superintendents of Police will be sent to England for a course of training.

The Executive Committee of Home Affairs has approved of the proposal that recruits for such posts should be given a year's training at the Police School at Hendon which trains probationers selected in England for service with the Metropolitan Police.

The Executive Committee of Home Affairs has also approved that during their course of training in England the men should be paid the same salary paid to the probationers appointed in England.

section of the people of this country.

He urged that new uses of coconut products be introduced to resuscitate the industry and in this connection he hoped that the Research Scheme would do more to justify its existence, not merely by pursuing "production research" but "consumption research" as well.

EDUCATION WEEK IN JAFFNA

21ST TO 25TH MARCH

EXHIBITION OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All schools both big and small in Jaffna District will be humming with activities next week in connection with the Education Week organised by the Inspectors with the co-operation of the various Teachers' Associations. The schools have prepared special programmes covering most of the wide range of extra-curricular activities found in progressive schools all over the world and evidences are not wanting to show that both pupils and teachers have taken up the experiment with keenness.

The Director of Education Mr. L. Mc. D. Robison and Assistant Director Mr. W. R. Watson will both be present in Jaffna throughout the week to visit schools. The Divisional Inspector has in addition enrolled as volunteer visitors about 50 leading gentlemen interested in education. The schools themselves will be inviting the parents to visit them and see their children at work.

Important Functions

The following are some of the more important functions during the week. At 9 a.m. on Monday the Director will confer with Managers and teachers at Parameshwara College on some of their more important problems. At 10-30 he will adjourn to the Hall to declare open an Art and Handwork Exhibition. At 4.30 p.m. on the same day the scene will be shifted to the Police Grounds, Jaffna, where for the first time in Jaffna will be held massed physical exercises and a grand display of Physical Training. Over 1500 children both boys and girls will take part. On Tuesday the Director will visit the schools of Delft and Pungudutivu. On Wednesday afternoon the Vadamadachi schools will muster at Point Pedro for a display. At 6 P. M. on Wednesday will be held at the Town Hall, Jaffna, an all-Jaffna English Schools Concert, at which items both Western and Oriental will be included. On Thursday forenoon the schools of Vaddukkodai Circuit will give a special demonstration and at 6 p.m. on the same day will be held at the Town Hall again an Oriental Music Concert at which will be presented the very best items selected from the various concerts held at different centres in Jaffna.

That schools in Jaffna are merely bookish in their work is a criticism constantly levelled at them. It is hoped that during this week they will demonstrate to the public what they are doing and can do in the way of broadening the minds of their pupils and forming their character.

THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

Wanted immediately a resident Superintendent for the Jaffna Hindu College Hostel. Salary according to qualifications.

Apply to:

The Principal.

[M's. 255, 14 & 17-3-38]



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1938.

THE TRIUMPH OF HITLERISM

AUSTRIA IS DEAD, BUT IT must be said that she died a painless death. Dr. SCHUSNIGG knew full well that he had to fight against the ruthless might of Nazi Germany. Ever since he announced that a plebiscite would be held to decide whether Austria stood for independence or union with Germany, the Nazis were ill at ease in the knowledge that the verdict would prove unfavourable to their position. Hence the ultimatum went forth from HERR HITLER to the movement of German troops to the frontier that the plebiscite should be postponed and that the Chancellor should resign. To impose this unconscionable demand on a helpless people the Nazi leader adopted methods to which there could be no parallel in modern history. German troops paraded on the frontier and later entered Austria; aeroplanes flew over the city threatening to spell ruin and disaster if the Nazi demands were not conceded. No wonder that, in these circumstances, Dr. SCHUSNIGG yielded to brute force, even without a chance to fight in defence.

It is a well-known fact that the Treaty of Versailles which created Austria an independent Federal Republic in 1919 was conceived in the pride of victory and born with the mark of vindictiveness all over. The authors of the Treaty threw all canons of justice and fairplay to the winds and were bent upon enforcing their victorious will on vanquished Germany. The late Dr. ANNIE BESANT—if we remember aright—described it at the time as a Peace that was bound to end peace in the world. Who does not know that since then Europe has not enjoyed peace and that the repercussions of the Treaty have all been to the prejudice of world peace? When the Fuhrer became the unquestioned dictator of Germany and had successfully recouped her armed might, he made it perfectly clear by deeds as well as words that he was bent upon blotting out the humiliating terms of the Treaty and writing a new history of Nazi Germany. The cardinal principle of his foreign policy has all along been the incorporation of Austria in the German Empire. He has laid it down in his *Mein Kampf* that "we demand the union of all Germans to form a great Germany on the basis of the right of the self-determination enjoyed by the nations". But by no

stretch of imagination, however, could one describe the latest Nazi coup as self-determination in action. It is perhaps a convincing illustration of HERR HITLER's technique which is ultra modern! The fact is that he cannot afford again to fail even as the Nazi coup ended in a fiasco in 1934. But then the diminutive Dolfuss dexterously managed to win for Austria the active sympathy and goodwill of the Fascist Dictator; and that accounts for the Nazi failure in 1934. It is an open secret that the Fuhrer "has now realised his life's mission" with the assent, if not the connivance of SIGNOR MUSSOLINI. That makes all the difference in the European situation of today.

If Austria had joined of her free will with Germany nobody could have protested. In fact that would have been the case but for the uncompromising opposition of Italy and France in 1930 to the proposed Customs Union between the two countries. Such a union would have naturally and gradually led to the consummation so devoutly wished for by Germany. The truth is that France has long been subject to a fear complex in her attitude to Germany. In this matter, however, Britain cannot exonerate herself from all blame. She could have at the time brought to bear upon France her undoubted influence in this direction. All impartial observers will admit the Fuhrer could not have realised this ambition but for the weak and vacillating policy of the two Western Democracies in regard to the Dictator Powers. They have for years tolerated and passively encouraged the insolence and ambitions of Italy and Germany. They were willing enough to sacrifice the basic principles of the League of Nations at the altar of the Italo-German Moloch. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN only recently sacrificed Mr. EDEN just to placate the Italian dictator. The Premier's statement in the House of Commons, coming as it does close on the heels of Mr. EDEN's resignation, is apt to leave one rather cold. It would, therefore, be in the best interests of European peace if, as was demanded by Mr. CHURCHILL, Britain made an early declaration of her foreign policy which could be understood for good or ill by all countries and all parties. To borrow the words of Mr. CHURCHILL, if the peace of Europe could not be preserved, let the British Government do their best to preserve the freedom of the nations of Europe.

Shop Hours Ordinance

The decision to introduce a Shop Hours Ordinance will be generally welcomed. Such a measure has been long overdue. The indigence of shop em-

ployees has been, in many instances, exploited mercilessly by employers who looked only to the interests of their business, showing scant regard to the health and wellbeing of the former. There are shops which run from daybreak to midnight, the same employees sweating through these long hours with little good to themselves physically and materially. These are extreme cases, but in the generality of them the hours of work range from twelve to fifteen hours. This is certainly cruelty of a form that needs restriction. The proposal to limit the shop hours to 9 hour-day or to fifty-five-hour week will undoubtedly go a great way to ameliorate the conditions of the hardworked employees. This will, at the same time, remove unhealthy competition between shop-keepers: there are a large number of non-Ceylonese shop-keepers who live in the shop premises and can therefore afford to have their shops open for any number of hours; there are also local men who have to return home daily incurring thereby considerable loss to their business. The restriction of hours will therefore serve to equalise the chances of business between these two classes of merchants and thus eliminate uneven competition. The Ordinance should be so carefully designed as to leave no loopholes for ingenious merchants and lawyers to take advantage of them. The measure should also be such as could be enforced; for there are some measures on the statute book which are observed more in the breach than in their observance and which, in the very nature of their design, are hardly capable of being enforced. While therefore heartily welcoming the proposed Shop Hours Ordinance as a piece of humanitarian measure, we expect the framers of the bill to be so lynx-eyed as to provide against all possible breaches of it.

A CURRENT COMMENTARY

S. A. P.

Prohibition

PROHIBITION has had a chequered career. When prohibition was in force in the U. S. A. it was widely felt that there was a possibility of the idea spreading to other countries. But with the abandoning of prohibition by the U. S. A. the cause suffered a setback. Opponents of prohibition were eloquent that it was killed and buried for ever. Now thanks to the Indian National Congress, interest has been revived. The Congress has been preaching for years that the moral and material welfare of the masses depended on prohibition. So when they came to power, they introduced prohibition in selected areas. Madras set the example by introducing prohibition in the Salem District. That the experiment

in Salem has been a success is admitted on all hands. What the Collector has said about this experiment was published in this paper. It bears eloquent testimony to the benefits of prohibition, specially to the masses.

But what about the future? Will the history of America be repeated in India? These questions will arise in any man's mind. In this connection one thing has to be kept in mind and that is, India is not America. In India law-breaking has not been reduced to a fine art as in America. American law-breakers use all modern inventions for their nefarious purposes. Their crowning achievement was the kidnapping and murdering of the child of Colonel Lindenberg. India is not sufficiently civilized for these heroic deeds.

Further drink is not considered as a respectable thing in India. There it does not form an essential part of either club life or social life. Thanks to the personality of Mahatma Gandhi there are persons in India who are prepared to lay down their lives for the cause of prohibition.

What About Ceylon?

Ceylon is more advanced than India and therefore alcoholic drinks are more popular here. It may be safely stated that beyond Elephant Pass, drinks form an essential part of club and social life. A teetotaler is a misfit in our Metropolitan Society. In this respect, the much maligned Malaya seems to be far ahead of us. Thanks to the work of some pioneers teetotalism has become respectable there.

The prohibitionist in Ceylon has to fight against certain medical men also. An eminent Surgeon of Colombo has publicly advocated the use of toddy. It appeared that if he were a poet, he would have sung the praise of toddy in charming verse. This matter, whether toddy is good for the human system, was once for all settled by Col. Maccarison, the great expert on nutrition. He has stated that greater harm than good is produced by toddy. But our experts do not seem to listen to him.

National Organisations

The national spirit in a country is usually expressed through an organization. Throughout history, we find that the subject peoples have walked to freedom through national organizations. In Ireland, in Egypt and India, there are great national organizations. In Ceylon there are the Sinhalese National Congress (it is a sin to call it a Ceylon National Congress), the Sinhalese Maha Sabha, the Sinhalese Labour Party, the Jaffna Association and the Sama Samajist Party, but one searches in vain for a national organisation. The present state of politics is due to this want.

Rebels Turned Reactionaries

An eminent doctor of Colombo in a recent communication to a Colombo monthly expresses his surprise at rebel Jaffna turning reactionary. From a distance, the learned doctor is not in a position to form a correct opinion of the attitude of the 1931 rebels to the present situation. From the time of the boycott the young men tried to keep the flag of nationalism flying till they found it useless. They co-operated with the now defunct Liberal League in its endeavour to form

(Continued on page 5)

IS EUROPE HEADING TOWARDS A CRISIS?

Repercussions of Austrian Domination

POLISH-LITHUANIAN DISPUTE

Soviet and France to Help Czecho-Slovakia?

Tuesday.

THE Soviet Union will go to the aid of Czecho-Slovakia if she is attacked, provided France did likewise, Reuter was informed yesterday by an authoritative Moscow spokesman.

Asked how such aid could be carried out in the absence of a common frontier, the spokesman replied: "A corridor must be created."

The German minority in Czecho-Slovakia is reported to be growing restive. Herr Frank speaking on behalf of the Sudetan (German) party in the Czech Parliament, stated yesterday: "We most solemnly declare that we have decided to fight together for our political rights, cultural freedom and economic and social security."

Herr Frank added: Our movement has always felt itself to be a movement fighting against the fate which befell our people in 1918-1919. The Sudetan Germans are now roused to a desire for life. Instead of granting the Sudetan Germans their just rights, the Czech Government is practising a policy of making national and political relations more untenable and more strained. We declare very solemnly that we do not accept the goal of the Czecho-Slovak State, nor will we content ourselves with the declaration of February 18th, 1937, (whereby the Government offered the Sudetan Germans certain privileges)

It is announced from Buckingham Palace that King Carol's visit to England has been postponed in view of the recent developments in the international situation.

Vienna, Tuesday.

A MAP, which has attracted crowds of sight-seers, appeared for sale in book-shops in Vienna today. It shows all the German-speaking parts of Europe in red, including Alsace-Lorraine, the German-speaking part of Switzerland as far as Berne, Southern Tyrol (now part of Italy) and parts of Czecho-Slovakia.

Tension Between Poland and Lithuania

Berlin, Tuesday.

There is tension between Poland and Lithuania following a frontier incident in which a Polish soldier is alleged to have been killed by Lithuanian Border Guards.

The dispute is being followed with close attention in Berlin. Some quarters suggest that it is one of the reasons for Herr Hitler's return to Berlin. The situation is recognised to be grave.

London Chamber of Commerce, Certificate Examinations, 1937

Following are the results of the Commercial Tutor, Jaffna, 100% success with distinctions:—

N. E. J. Antony, Distinctions in Arithmetic, English, Shorthand and Typewriting.

C. Sivagnanam, Distinctions in Book-keeping and Shorthand.

N. Coomarasamy, Distinctions in Arithmetic, Shorthand and Typewriting.

E. Flavian, Distinctions in Shorthand & Typewriting.

C. Sivacoomarasooriar, Distinctions in, English, Shorthand and Typewriting.

C. Rajaratnam, Distinctions in English and Shorthand.

K. Subramaniam, Distinctions in Shorthand and Typewriting

Sri Ramakrishna Saiva Vidyasalai

The Sri Ramakrishna Saiva Vidyasalai built and donated to the Ramakrishna Mission by the Koku-vil Seva Sangam was opened by Srimath Swami Vipulananda yesterday in the presence of a large gathering. Following the opening ceremony, there was a public meeting presided over by Srimath Swami Vipulananda when Messrs S. Natesan M. S. C. and V. Veerasingam, Principal, Manipay Hindu College, spoke.

FAREWELL TO DR. & MRS. WM. J. JAMESON

Statement of Income & Expenditure

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| By Collections up till the meeting | Rs.Cts. | 2581 25 |
| By Collections since the meeting | | 67 50 |
| To Secretary's Expenses | 227 50 | |
| To Treasurer's Expenses | 59 59 | |
| To Collectors' expenses and commissions on money orders and cheques | 15 52 | |
| To Cheque presented to Dr. Jameson at the meeting | 2800 00 | |
| To Amount deposited to the credit of Dr. Jameson at Quilon Bank since the meeting | 46 14 | |
| | 2648 75 | 2648 75 |

Sgd. I. P. THURAIRATNAM
Treasurer

The Northern Assizes

Ten Years for Homicide

ONE Velan Sinnathamby of Kodigamam was sentenced to ten years rigorous imprisonment, at the Northern Assizes, having been found guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

The accused was charged with the murder of Sinnathamby Vyravan, by stabbing him with a knife.

After the verdict, the prosecution submitted that the accused had been previously sentenced to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment for stabbing.

Chankanai Case

The next case taken up for trial was one from Chankanai, in which Vally Aiyan, Vally Nagan and Kathiran Murugan stand charged with trespass into the compound of Kanther Murugesu, attempting to murder a woman named Pooranam and theft.

Trial is proceeding.

SIR BARON RETURNS

Ashamed of Scuffle in Council

Sir Baron Jayatilaka returned yesterday morning from his health trip to the Dutch East Indies. He looks very fit and his doctor says he has improved greatly.

"I am ashamed to hear of the scuffle between two members in the State Council building," Sir Baron remarked.

He was glad, he said, that "Down Tools" motion was not accepted by the State Council. Those who supported the motion, he added, had still the opportunity of walking-out if they so desired.

A Current Commentary

(Continued from Page 4.)

a national organisation. The files of the "Hindu Organ" for 1932, 1933 will testify to the noble endeavour of the late editor to stem the tide of communalism.

The turning of the tide came in with the advent of the second State Council. Sir Waithalingam, who was then Mr. Duraiswamy, came out of his seclusion and entered the State Council. It was expected that with his entry into politics, things would take a different turn. But the way in which he was treated by Sir Baron and his party came as an eye-opener to the people of Jaffna. They thought that if a man of his type could not find a place in Baron's Ministry, then there was some-

UNRECOVERED LICENCE-FEES

AUDIT THREAT OF SURCHARGING MEMBERS

JAFFNA U. D. C. AND BARBERS

THE Auditor General has threatened to surcharge the Chairman of the Jaffna U. D. C. and the members to the extent of Rs. 1050, a sum due to the Council on account of licence fees on barber saloons, which the Council had waived on representations made by the barbers.

As a result of this the Chairman, Mr. Sam Sabapathy, and the vice-Chairman, Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai, had a conference on Saturday, with over a hundred barbers of the Town, who have undertaken to pay up the arrears within two months.

Auditor-General's Threat

According to the by-laws framed by the Council some years back a licence fee of Rs. 5 each had to be paid by the barbers for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937. As a result of representations made by the barbers the Council did not recover the fees due.

The Auditor-General has now pointed out that the Council had no power to waive revenue that is recoverable according to law and that unless steps were taken to recover the fees due he would be compelled to surcharge the Chairman and the members to the extent of the sum due as provided in the Local Government Ordinance No. 11 of 1920. The amount due by fees is Rs. 350 for each of the years referred to.

Barbers Agree

The Chairman explained the position to the barbers and requested them to pay up the arrears. The barbers explained their hardship pointing out that they were considered as one of the family employees such as dhobies and that they cannot pay up the arrears at once. They however requested two months time to pay up the fees due.

Acting District Inspector of Schools

Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, B. A. (Hons.), Diploma in Education, has been appointed to act as District Inspector of English Schools vice Mr. V. K. Nathan, who has gone to England on study leave.

thing rotten in the state of affairs.

The tension that set in with the deliberately planned homogenous ministry gradually grew worse with the cry of Ceylon for the Sinhalese and the formation of the Sinhala Maha Sabaha. When the majority community does not think nationally, where is the room for nationalism among the minorities? It is not far wrong to say that the 1931 rebels have allowed the Tamil Communalists to fight the Sinhalese Communalists and are bidding their time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHINESE RED CROSS FUND

Sir,

I am glad to announce that the President of the Jaffna Association and I have jointly sent a HongKong and Shanghai Bank Draft for One Thousand Two hundred Dollars (HongKong currency), the equivalent of Rs. 1,902, to the Chinese Red Cross Fund through the Chinese Consul-General at Singapore. The entire sum collected has been forwarded without any deduction for expenses of collection.

I beg to thank most heartily all those who responded so generously to the appeal on behalf of sufferers in China, and particularly those Schools which spontaneously showed their sympathy by together giving by far the greater portion of the sum collected.

And to you Mr. Editor the thanks of the organizers are due in abundant measure for your willing help, in placing your columns at my disposal for acknowledging subscriptions.

Yours in the Service of Humanity,

K. NESIAH.

Chundicully,
15-3-38.

| | Rs. | Cts. |
|--------------------------|-----|------|
| Previously acknowledged | 981 | 58 |
| Mr. C. Raghunathan | 5 | 00 |
| Mr. J. Lewis Subramaniam | 3 | 00 |
| Mr. Em Tiruchelvam | 2 | 00 |
| Muhandiram S. Candiah | 2 | 00 |
| Mrs. C. Lawrencepuile | 2 | 00 |
| K. Kuvil English School | 2 | 00 |
| Rupce Collections | 4 | 42 |

1002 00

The Debate on the New Order-in-Council

Sir,—The result of the debate in the State Council on the motion moved by Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya regarding the new Order-in-Council is a great disappointment to him and his supporters. If the latter part of the motion "this Council further resolves not to transact any business until the Board of Ministers succeed in getting the said Order-in-Council repealed" had been deleted, the first part of the motion would have been passed; but even that is doubtful as the proposal to put the motion in two parts separately had also been defeated.

From the voting it was found that the Members who voted for the motion were all from the majority community except Mr. Nadesa Iyer, and those who voted against it included all the Members of the Board of Ministers, all the nominated Members and many Members of the majority community—not to speak of the Members of the Minority communities. As soon as the result of the debate was announced, Mr. D. P. R. Gunawardana remarked that it was the nominated block that defeated the motion. Nothing will be more misleading than this statement in view of the fact that 15 Members of the majority community including all the Ministers voted against the motion.

Mr. Amarasuriya himself said at his concluding speech that a rejection

of his motion would give the impression to the authorities that the State Council had considered the new Order-in-Council and had acquiesced in its promulgation. So the motion was rejected and such an impression created.

Reference was made in the debate by Mr. Ponnambalam's dissent where he expressed his opinion that the powers given to the Governor under the new Order-in-Council were absolutely necessary in the interests of the minorities and absolutely essential in the interests of good government. Should not one dissent from others? It is unusual? If a member dissents from others, can it be said that he should be horsewhipped? The ugly incident would not have occurred the other day if the member who said that Mr. Ponnambalam should be horsewhipped had withdrawn his remark at once and apologised or if he was made to do so.

Now what will Mr. Amarasuriya and his supporters do? Several members in Council and out of Council declared that they would resign if the new Order-in-Council had not been rejected. They should now resign according to their dictum. But they will not resign as they will not forego their allowances.

Yours faithfully,
K. Sivapragasam.Sivapragasam Road,
Jaffna.
16th Nov. 1938.

Appointment of J. P. for Mallakam Jurisdiction

Sir,—I may point out to the kind consideration of the Government Agent, Northern Province, that at present owing to the death of Mr. Appaswami, J. P. the Divisions of Valigamam North are without the services of a Justice of the Peace and consequently they are put to a lot of inconvenience and expenses in the transaction of Court and other legal business involving the services of a J. P.

Since Mallakam is the most central place in the divisions and owing to the existence of the Police Courts and Court of Requests in this village, a large number of people having business in the Courts frequent this place every day.

In pursuance of their legal business they have to go frequently to a J. P. for purposes of swearing affidavit, life certificates of pension, etc.

It is submitted that it will be a great convenience to the public if a respectable man of independent means and preferably a resident of Mallakam is appointed a J. P. in place of the late Mr. Appaswami. There are suitable and respected Pensioners at Mallakam who possess qualifications required of a J. P.

The candidate so selected should live close to the Mallakam Courts and should be approachable by anyone at all hours of the day and night.

A Public 'in Service'.

Mallakam,
15-3-38.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA ANNIVERSARY

Celebration in Colombo

The Hundred-and-Third Anniversary of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa will be celebrated at the Sri Ramakrishna Math, 44th Lane, Wellawatte, Colombo, on Sunday the 20th March, 1938.

The Hon'ble Sir Waitialingam Duraiswamy, Speaker, the State Council of Ceylon, will preside over the Public Meeting in this connection. Hon. Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardana, Prof. C. Suntheralingam, Mr. J. R. Jayawardene, Advocate, Mrs. N. P. Pillai and Rev. F. Kingsbury will be the speakers at the meeting.

The feeding of the poor in connection with the celebration with the celebration will be held on Sunday the 27th March, 1938.

A REVIEW

THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF JAPAN BY K. NESIAH M.A.

This capital brochure on the above subject is from the pen of Mr. K. Nesiah who, as our readers may be aware, has devotedly laboured for the cause of the teaching profession through the Northern Province Teachers' Association. The booklet is a result of his visit to Japan as a delegate to the Seventh World Educational Conference. It gives us a conspectus of the system that obtains in Japan and contains many suggestive and stimulating observations to those unacquainted with education in Japan. Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of the system is its ruthless efficiency, the thoroughness of its planning and organisation. Though in its extreme rigidity, apotheosis of the state and its blatant chauvinism, it has dangers which have already manifested themselves in China, yet it has elements which are worthy of imitation by us in Ceylon by reason of its thorough adaptation to the practical needs of the nation. We commend the booklet with great pleasure to the public of Jaffna.

NOTICE

AMENDMENT OF THE THESAWALAMAI

1. A Bill to amend the Jaffna Matrimonial Rights and Inheritance Ordinance, 1911.
2. A Bill to amend and consolidate the Law of Pre-emption relating to lands affected by the Thesawalamai.
3. A Bill to amend Ordinance No. 7 of 1840.

The Select Committee of the State Council to which the above Bills have been referred will hold a session at the Town Hall, Jaffna, on Friday, 25th March, 1938 at 10 a.m. to hear representations that may be made by members of the Bar and the general public on the proposed amendments in the Bills with particular reference to the question of community of property in Thediabeddam.

All persons who desire to make representations are requested to send in their names and addresses to the Government Agent, N. P., or to the undersigned on or before 21st March, 1938, and to appear before the Committee at the time and place aforesaid.

E. W. KANNANGARA,
CLERK OF THE STATE COUNCIL.
The Council Chamber,
Colombo, 12th March, 1938,
[G. 61 17/38]

Magistrate's Strictures on Negombo Catholics

Warned Against Interference With Hindus

Negombo, Monday.

"TELL all your Catholic brethren that this kind of thing must stop. I am surprised nothing more serious happened as a result of your conduct. One scoundrel can spoil a whole procession. I was longing for an opportunity to deal with a case of this nature, because I have heard that in Negombo all of you are behaving most disgracefully.

"I should like the people of Negombo to know that this kind of thing will not be tolerated. That is the only way to foster a better feeling among these two parties.

"The Hindus are entitled to take their procession along any road they like to go. You have no right to stop it or interfere.

"Suppose there was a riot, who could have controlled it? We would have had to shoot down a few of you."

These were the remarks of Mr. W. Richard D. de Silva, the Police Magistrate, Negombo, addressed to B. Theruwan Seba, a man of Sea Street, who stood charged by Sub-Inspector S. Ramswaram of the Town Police with having on January 23 voluntarily caused a disturbance to an assembly lawfully engaged in the performance of religious worship at the Mariamman Hindu Kovil in Sea Street.

Accused Pleaded Guilty

The accused pleaded guilty to the charge on the advice of his Counsel, Mr. S. C. Sansoni, who pleaded in mitigation of sentence.

The Magistrate, sentencing the accused to enter into a bond in Rs. 100 with one surety, to be of good behaviour for six months, ordered him further to go to the Sea Street Church after Mass next Sunday and apologise to the public and to the Rev. Father in the presence of the Interpreter Mudaliyar, Mr. R. S. Dalpadado.



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S. T. NAGALINGAM,

Optician.

[Y. 1. 1-4-37 to 31-3-38.]

SINHALESE OPPRESSION

(Continued from page 2)

just as briefs constitute a lawyer's and patients a doctor's existence. 1931 brought the breed of politicians into one well-ordered system of our Government Servants. A politician is defined as an expert in creating chaos. The Ceylonese politician is no exception to this rule.

Politicians are Perverse

Politicians in every age and in every land have always been most perverse. It is one in a million that is not, and such men as he who figure as the "noble leaders" in the pages of history. Men have known for many centuries that politicians are a very dangerous type...and that is why in the democratic constitutions of the world every attempt is made to keep the public services away from the control of the politicians. This division of power was the greatest constitutional ideal in the last two centuries: where the politicians were given the power to dictate policy and the public servants the duty to carry it out; and where the politicians and public servants were both secured from mutual interference through various constitutional checks. This elaborate and inelastic division resulted in the growth of bureaucratic power...and with it the evils of Red-Tape. It was to minimise the growth of bureaucratic power that the Donoughmore Commissioners gave Ceylon a system which, at least in some little way, placed bureaucracy under democracy. Unfortunately the perversity of politicians has created a big upset.

Since 1931 the politicians have played "havoc" in the Government Service. Favouritism, Bribery and Corruption has broken the morale of our Government employees. Their sense of Justice and fair play received shocks that upset the equilibrium of their minds. It was an accident of history that at this juncture the Tamils had no representatives in Council owing to a foolish boycott. The presence of two minority members in the first Board of Ministers kept minority opinion in check for some time.....but cases of favouritism became so flagrant that public opinion could no longer be held in leash. It broke out with all the virulence of a tropical thunderstorm. Faulty logic created greater mischief. The favouritism that was a direct result of the committee system was laid at the door of the Sinhalese people. It was represented that the Sinhalese politicians "were out" to oppress the minorities, the Tamils especially.

I hold no brief for the Sinhalese politicians but in fairness to logical thinking I must say that the fault is not primarily theirs. It was the Committee system that gave the control to the politicians that was to blame. Politicians are the same the world over. Be he Sinhalese, Abyssinian, Greek, or Jew, a politician is a politician. A monkey should never be given a firebrand, and so too, a politician should never be given the chance to indulge in Favouritism. It is untrue to say that all this injustice in the government service was due to the fact that the politicians in power were Sinhalese. It was

due to the fact that politicians, as such, had the power. I do not hesitate to assert that if the politicians in power at this state had been either Tamils or Burghers there would certainly have grown up either Tamil or Burgher "oppression".

Injustice moreover in the Government service rarely took the form of communalism. It was favouritism based on blood relationships and personal friendships. And in many cases Bribery alone did the trick. The fact that one candidate had more money than the other does not prove Communalism. It is because of this that a great many Sinhalese in the Public Services are as furious as the Tamils in regard to the present state of affairs.

Politicians are indeed a perverse race!

The Myth Grows

The blunder of 1931 had created a genuine grievance. Now comes the saddest part of the whole story.

The men who happen to be leaders of the Tamils at this period did not possess enough political acumen to realise the exact nature of the trouble. They failed to realise that it was the constitution that was to blame. They, without pausing to think, lay the charge against the Sinhalese.

The Sinhalese also had leaders who lacked all statesmanlike qualities. If they did possess even common political intelligence they would have voluntarily placed the public services above party politics. Unfortunately it was not to be. The Sinhalese leaders were as bad as the Tamil leaders—petty, perverse and foolish, short-sighted, personal and selfish.

To trace the growth of this myth of Sinhalese oppression...it is definite that the Tamil leaders went out of their way to create opinion against the Sinhalese. Our leaders kept behind the scenes and fostered among the discontented government servant a hatred for the majority community. With an impulsiveness that should shame a child, with an irrationality that characterises a lunatic the Tamil Government servant went headlong...and placed the fault of the constitution and the perversities of that breed of men known as politicians at the door of the Sinhalese people...and Sinhalese oppression became a nightmare to him. As is inevitable in such things exaggeration is a common affliction that inflames the rising emotions into open hatred.

In this misunderstanding arose the myth of Sinhalese oppression. The sense of injustice in the public services has been the germ that has multiplied into this menace. The machinations of certain people and the utter incompetence of all leaders allowed this germ to survive. The foolishness of the Tamil leaders created out of all this the awe-inspiring and heart-rending myth of Sinhalese oppression.

Election Tactics

Why the Tamil leaders led the Tamil public opinion into this suicidal channel is not clear. I am, however, inclined to think that it was due entirely to the exigencies of the General Elections. Many hold that the pre-

mature granting of adult franchise is chiefly to blame. I am of opinion that the mere prematureness alone is not the entire cause. Even in advanced and 100% literate countries such unwholesome election moves are successful. It is a general rule of mob psychology that a crowd will unite and act violently in such unity against a "common enemy." It has, therefore been the practice of unscrupulous politicians to mobilise mass emotion by creating a common enemy, even though fictitious. Hitler was a success and rose to power because he had the knack of conjuring up a number of "common enemies" (all of them fictitious) and triumphed ultimately with the great and mighty common enemy of the German People the unfortunate Jew. It was against this racial minority who had been persecuted for centuries that the Germans organised...and Hitler thereby gained supreme power.

So, in miniature, our Tamil leaders created the bogey of Sinhalese oppression as the great "common enemy" of the Tamil people. No better cry than this is needed to organize Tamil opinion to support the man who claims to fight Sinhalese oppression. Innumerable instances by innumerable Government Servants of oppression in the Government Services will be forthcoming to lend a sense of justice to this cause (Did not Hitler prove that the Jews were the enemies of the German people and that they were traitors?)

The Tamils are now roused. They all suffer under the delusion and shrink before a dread—a dread before the dark clouds of Sinhalese oppression. That this is a mirage does not prevent them from behaving as if it was there. The Tamils behave as if they are fighting a "common enemy"; and fighting in this case means only vulgar abuse of the majority community: such abuse will naturally arouse the other side to action. Therein lies the danger. If politics in Ceylon is to be freed from communalism this fictitious and imaginary bogey of Sinhalese oppression must be removed. But how?

How?

Abolish the committee system with its peculiar attempt to subordinate bureaucracy to democracy. Let not politicians of any community have a hand in the administration of the Public Services and let them not be given the chance to interfere in the promotions. Let all that be done in the good old way where the "bosses" in each department decided the promotions and other departmental affairs basing their judgment on that old fashioned quality called "merit". No doubt this smells of red tape. And merit is an elastic quality which may vary with the length of each boss's foot.....but in the choice of two evils this certainly is the more preferable. Abolish the political control of the public services and the bogey of Sinhalese oppression will vanish overnight.

Tamils must be careful

At this critical juncture the Tamils must watch their footsteps. They must not lose their political sense and sanity at all costs.

It is retrograde and reactionary to clamour for an increase in the

powers of the Governor. It is disheartening to see the main reason given by Tamils for this servile request is that this increased power alone can secure justice for the minorities in the Government Services. What guarantee is there that such power will be used for this purpose only? What guarantee is there that it will be used for it at all? How is one to be sure that the Governor will not use his extra powers to restrict and limit the progressive Ceylonization of the services? Does it not strike the Tamils that the Governor cannot and will not be able to look into every disputed case of promotion?and whether it is not better to remove the power of interference from politicians rather than clamour for an increase in the powers of an imperial Governor? The Tamils at this moment are acting foolishly and idiotically motivated by fear—fear of Sinhalese oppression which does not exist. The Tamils must act with the courage and sanity for which they are traditionally reputed.

The goal before Ceylon is complete self-Government either as a unit in the British Commonwealth of Nations or in federal union with India. This goal can be achieved only through communal unity in Ceylon. The Tamils must also play their part in the legitimate aspirations of the Ceylonese people. Let them not prolong their quarrels with their brothers. They must arrive at a mutual agreement to solve the whole problem. The Tamil leaders in union with other leaders in the country must solve the vexed communal problem without going a-begging to Whitehall for another Royal Commission.

Tamils must have better

Leaders

As far as the Tamils are concerned they need better negotiators and leaders. The one Tamil leader who might have done something, in this respect, lies muzzled by the traditions of the Speakership. That the others have failed miserably is clearly indicated by the present state of affairs. The Tamils need leaders whom even the rest of the people in Ceylon can trust and respect.

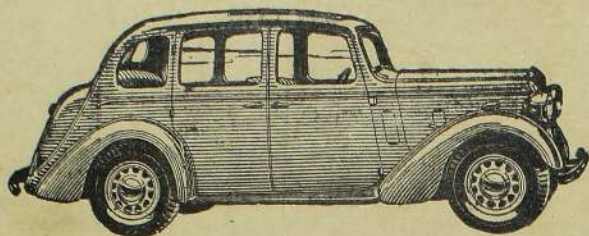
I do not hesitate to say that the Tamils will not be in the straits they are in today if only their leaders have the tact and capacity to deal better with the Sinhalese. You cannot gain anything by vulgar abuse, except hatred; you cannot expect friendship from people whom you daily attack. Our leaders attack the Sinhalese not on any reasonable grounds but for sheer stunt election purposes and to pose as champions for the Tamils. (.....Of course one cannot be a champion unless there is an enemy, even though fictitious).

The Tamils need leaders who know the Sinhalese and can deal with them. Sir P. Ramoathan was a success because he knew the Sinhalese and they knew him and what is more, they respected him. Can we say the same of our present leaders?

The Tamils need leaders, leaders who whilst upholding the rights of the Tamil people will march along with the other communities in the island towards the one and only goal that a subject race can have.

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(Y. 136. 19/8/37 to 18/8/38.)

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S. P. JOSEPH,

Manager, Jaffna Branch.

[Y. 54. 22-6-37 to 21-6-38.]

[T]

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Phone No. 2210 (Colombo)

Y. 65. 1-3 38—31 3-39. (T)

THE LANKA BENEFIT CORPORATION LTD.,

BANKERS.

Vannarponnai, Jaffna

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Authorised Capital | Rs. 500000.00 | Issued Capital | Rs. 300000.00 |
| Reserved Capital | Rs. 200000.00 | Subscribed Capital | Rs. 100000.00 |
| | Value of one share | | Rs. 10.00 |

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 100/-

FIXED DEPOSITS received for periods of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months and interest allowed at 3, 4, 6 and 7% respectively.

LOANS on the security of jewels a speciality. Interest charged at 10% per annum when paid monthly; otherwise 12% (Part payments accepted.)

An Enhanced Rate of Interest on Deposits.

For Particulars Apply to the Manager:

T. SELLATHAMBY,
MANAGER.

[Y. 3. 1-4-37 to 31-3-38.]

Rheumatism Lumbago Sciatica and Backache

All yield to the pain-healing L.O.B.

You can end that aching and stiffness, that pain in the joints and that muscular rheumatism by timely recourse to Little's Oriental Balm.

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(Established 1918)

BANKERS.

Authorised Capital Rs. 800,000.00

Amount of Calls made Rs. 134,367.00

SHARES 8000 shares of Rs. 100/- each. 75 monthly instalments of Re. 1/- per share will earn Rs. 100/- for each at the end of the period. Shares issued all times.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 500/-.

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DRAFTS issued on the National and Imperial Banks to Colombo and the Principal cities of India. Remittances to and from F. M. S. by special arrangements.

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LOANS are also granted against approved securities, such as Landed Properties etc. (Part payments accepted.)

For further particulars apply to

Y. 225. 21-11-37—20-11-38. (T's

S. SELLAPPAH,
Manager.

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