

The Hindu Organ.

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HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION
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NOTICE.

The Hindu Organ.

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Notice.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

IN 1911 and future years candidates will only be accepted at the Ceylon centres of the above examination who are attending recognised secondary schools, and whose entry papers have been signed by the Principals or Head Masters.

If the Principal of any unregistered school wishes to have his school recognized for this purpose, he should communicate as soon as possible with the Director of Public Instruction.

Cases where students are permanently incapacitated from attending school by ill-health or other causes will be specially dealt with by the Director of Public Instruction, if a full statement of the circumstances is sent to him in good time.

J. HARWARD,
Director.

Office of Public Instruction,
Colombo, February 20, 1911.

The Jaffna Hindu College Magazine.

THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE MAGAZINE published under the auspices of the Old Boys' Association of the College is ready and will be published in the course of the week. It will be issued free to all members of the Old Boys' Association. In the case of non-members the subscription is 75 cts. a year. The price of a single copy is 25 cts.

All Old Boys who are not members of the Association are requested to join the Association as early as possible, paying the annual subscription of Re. 1.

All members who have not yet paid in their subscriptions for the current year are requested to remit them as early as possible to the Treasurer, Mr. S. Kandiah Pillai, "Hindu Organ" Office, Vannarpannai.

C. ARULAMBALAM,
Secretary,
H. C. O. B. A.



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1911.

EDUCATION IN CEYLON.

His Excellency the Governor wrote to the Secretary of State in the Reform despatches that the "educated Ceylonese" had been divorced from the masses, and that the former should be constituted into a special electorate. Subsequently, a change appears to have taken place in the opinion held by His Excellency and his advisers about the educated Ceylonese, as the dropping of the word *educated* from the Franchise Ordinance would show. In India, no class of people is spoken of as having been divorced from the masses. The only cry there in official quarters is that the interests of the educated Indians are not the same as those of the masses, and that the former cannot represent the latter. Talking into consideration the undeniable fact that higher education on Western lines has made greater progress in India than in Ceylon (in fact there is nothing but secondary education in Ceylon), the reason why a class has not come into being in India corresponding to the class of Ceylonese described by His Excellency, Sir Henry McCallum, is not far to seek.

Education in India, is no doubt, founded on the Western or Macaulay system, but the vernacular languages and Sanskrit

occupy an important place in the curriculum of the Universities. As regards language, after English, preference is given to the vernaculars and Sanskrit. In Ceylon, however, the second place is given to Latin, the third to Greek, the fourth to French, and the fifth to some other language, but not to Sinhalese or Tamil.

For this state of things in Ceylon, not only the Department of Public Instruction, but the managers of the aided Schools and Colleges in the South, are responsible. An exception, however, has to be made in the case of the Missionary bodies working in the North and East of the Island, who have, generally speaking, assigned to the Tamil language the position it deserves. The American Missionaries at first, and all the Missionary bodies afterwards, included the Tamil language and literature in their curriculum. The severance of the connection with Madras, a connection which the Department of Public Instruction in Ceylon has been always discouraging, threatens to interfere with the teaching of Tamil literature in the Northern Peninsula. The insistence on the Cambridge course, a course chiefly intended for those students whose mother-tongue is English, is calculated to discourage the study of Tamil. While the local Department of Public Instruction has always set its face against the Indian Universities, Lord Curzon's Universities' Act in India has raised the cost of education and equipment of the Colleges seeking affiliation to the Indian Universities, so that not a single College in Jaffna maintains at present any connection with India. The result is that Tamil is being neglected more and more.

In this stage of things, one would gladly welcome the efforts of His Excellency the Governor to banish the Classical languages of the West from the Ceylon curriculum. The study of Latin and Greek is no doubt useful. In fact, we know of no language the study of which cannot be said to be useful. But the question is, which will be more useful to the average Ceylon student—the study of Latin, Greek and French in addition to English, or of science, technical subjects, and Sinhalese or Tamil in addition to English. We agree with His Excellency the Governor in thinking that after English, the subjects taught must be science, technical subjects, and Sinhalese or Tamil according to the nationality of the students.

English is the language of our rulers and the official language in Ceylon. Besides, it is the store-house of a vast amount of knowledge, past and present. Its study broadens the mind and gives a brighter and wider outlook in life than Sinhalese or Tamil at present does. Sinhalese and Tamil as the mother-tongues of the two most important sections of the Ceylonese, if on no other ground, are as important as English is. If the English-educated classes in Ceylon are not to be "divorced" from the masses, Sinhalese and Tamil must be given an important place in the curriculum of Ceylon colleges. How shameful it is for one not to know one's mother-tongue. Then come science and technical subjects, the study of which is essential to the economic development of the country.

If the sons and daughters of wealthy parents, or those who want to take up the profession of law, medicine or theology, require to be taught Latin or Greek, provision may be made for it. Provision may also be made for French, German, Italian, Russian, or any other language, but the tax-payer should not be made to bear the cost of these luxuries. The Government will have done their duty by the people, if the study of English, Sinhalese, Tamil and technical subjects only, is made obligatory.

Latin was an optional subject for the Local Civil Service Examination last time, but it is made obligatory for the next Examination, and no reason has been given for the change. If desired, Latin may be given a place in the Ceylon curriculum after English and Sinhalese or Tamil, but it should not be made to supersede or take the place of Sinhalese or Tamil.

THE REVISED CODE FOR AIDED SCHOOLS.

Perhaps the most important change introduced by the new Code is that relating to Vernacular Literature in English schools. We believe opinion is not divided on this subject and that all alike will hail the new regulations. Not only will grants be paid hereafter for the lower five standards of instruction in the vernacular, but in the case of pupils of Tamil or Sinhalese extraction pre-

sented in the fifth or any higher standard no grant will be paid after 1912 unless they have passed also in reading and writing in the vernacular. This means that after next year the teaching of the vernacular will be compulsory in all our English schools. This is exactly what we have all along been asking for, and we cannot be too thankful to Government for this due recognition of the importance of the vernacular. We shall no more hear of that educational curiosity of a native of the soil so ignorant of his vernacular as not to be able to write a simple letter to a non-English-knowing relation or friend—there will no longer be any prodigy of a son of the soil brought up without even a tolerable working knowledge of the mother-tongue and practically requiring the services of an interpreter to speak unto his own people. We shall no more hear of native officials unable to read simple vernacular petitions or of lawyers holding vernacular documents upside down. Our national ideals which are so bound up with the vernaculars will no longer be totally neglected, and the process of denationalisation will no longer go on unchecked. The new provision does not certainly meet all our wishes, but all the same we hail it as the happy prelude to a happier consummation when the vernaculars will find a place in the curricula of University courses also. We may point out in this connection that it is perhaps not quite insignificant that Latin has been dropped from the list of "specific subjects", and so also have French and German. This means that after this year no grant will be made in respect of instruction in these languages.

Another important change introduced is that "scholars who have failed to earn result payments in any standard may not be presented for examination in any higher standard except by special permission of the Inspector." This, we hope, will tend to put a stop to undeserved promotions and also to double promotions and other hothed systems of forced and premature development which almost invariably lead to arrested development and the ruin of potential geniuses. It will, we hope, also tend to check the evil of "migration" to some extent; for we fancy that migration is in a large measure due to stringency in promotions. The desired effects of such a regulation, however, will not be fully realised unless and until it is also provided that in a leaving certificate the pupil's Standard should invariably be stated and that in no case should a pupil transferred from a school be placed in a class higher than that in which he would have been placed if he had continued in that school. As the clause stands at present, we are afraid there will be serious difficulties in the matter of the re-classification of pupils after the annual examinations. For since the Inspector's Examination Schedule is likely to become the main factor hereafter in determining the promotions, and this Schedule is issued to heads of institutions only about three months after the Examination, principals and headmasters will hereafter probably have either to revise their re-classification after receipt of the Schedule or to defer the re-classification until receipt of the all-important Schedule. Thus practically the promotions will be determined not by heads of institutions but by the Inspector. We confess we cannot appreciate this kind of interference with the duties and responsibilities of heads of institutions. If the Department thinks that in many cases there is undue laxity in promotions, such laxity can effectively be checked by insisting that heads of institutions should preserve their annual examination papers and submit them to the Inspector together with the results of the examination showing the passes and promotions, and accompanied by a statement showing the principles governing promotions. Such a system, we understand, is in force in South India and works most satisfactorily, and we see no reason why it should not work equally satisfactorily here. It would, while providing adequate checks against possible vagaries, also give heads of institutions a practically unfettered hand.

We understand that this provision about promotions has been interpreted in some quarters as meaning that pupils reading in unregistered schools cannot, either on the registration of the school or when they join a registered school, be presented for examination in any of the higher standards. Such an interpretation is quite contrary to the first part of the clause (35 c) and can only be regarded as meaningless and foolish.

It is rather unfortunate that there should be a large number of schools known as proprietary and often kept more for profit than from any altruistic motive, and that there should be still others so ill-conducted that

the managers are in almost chronic pecuniary difficulties. Teachers in such schools are generally ill-paid and irregularly at that. The new Code, we are glad to note, provides for relief to teachers whose salaries are largely in arrears, for the Director of Public Instruction is empowered either to withhold the grant until the liabilities to the teachers are discharged by the manager, or to utilise either a part or the whole of the grant towards discharging such liabilities.

The next alteration that we shall notice is one calculated to reduce the grants for superior instruction. Under clauses 96 and 101 the grants for Junior and Senior passes in the "classes" will hereafter be for each section instead of for each subject—the result being that the grant is reduced by fully fifty per cent. or even more, for each section is made up of two (or more) subjects. Is this, we are tempted to ask, the first step in the gradual reduction with a view to the final extinction of results grants for superior instruction? If it is only the first step towards abolishing results grants altogether and replacing them by a more rational system of grants, we have nothing to say against the arrangement. But if on the other hand it is only the first step in the gradual withdrawal of grants altogether for higher instruction, we ought certainly to protest against the policy. We hope, however, that it is the former and not the latter, and that the day will soon come when the Department will cease to have anything to do with this trafficking in examination-passes and the money-changers will be driven out of the temple of learning. For we strongly hold the view that the present system of grants-in-aid is out-of-date and has generally a demoralising influence, and that the sooner a system based on teachers' salaries or the average attendance or on both is introduced, the better will it be for the country.

Due provision has been made [we wonder how it failed to be made earlier] for the punishment of any attempt on the part of teachers to give unauthorised assistance to pupils under examination; but we hope that this provision has not been occasioned by any recent discovery of such malpractice anywhere. For malpractice of this kind, for breach of contract with the manager, for conviction under the Penal Code, or for grave personal misconduct, a teacher's certificate or license may not only be suspended but even cancelled.

Among other new provisions are that an additional grant of Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 may be paid in the case of English schools providing suitable instruction in gymnastics; and that a similar grant may be paid to any school having a school-garden of not less than a third of an acre under cultivation. The latter provision will, we are afraid, benefit the richer schools rather than those that are more poorly endowed. We should think the minimum limit of the area under cultivation is too high and may be made a fifth of an acre, the outer limit being half an acre.

The remaining changes are chiefly in the courses of studies which are slightly revised and modified. These alterations will hardly be interesting to the general reader and we therefore refrain from describing them or commenting on them.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER—The heat is unbearable. Measles and chickenpox prevail in some places.

THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE.—Of the six candidates presented from this college for the Cambridge Senior Local Examination, five have passed; namely, V. Nagalingam, C. Tambi alias Kandiah, C. Mayilvahanam, A. Nataraja, and S. Subrahmanyam. C. Tambi who has passed with distinction in Logic, is the son of Mr. P. Carthagasa Pillai, Tamil Editor of the *Hindu Organ*. Of the four candidates presented for the Junior Local, three have passed; namely, A. R. Tambi, V. Chinnadurai, and S. Chinnatambi.

THE JAFFNA INDUSTRIAL COMPANY.—The Annual General Meeting of the above company was held in its registered Office at Vannarpannai on the 13th inst., Mr. V. Casippillai presiding.

THE CLERICAL EXAMINATION.—The following candidates have passed the examination held in January last:—P. Amirthalingam, M. G. Ariyasena, F. J. Bastianaz, F. J. Belling, A. A. Chellappah, M. Chelliah, G. Dahanayaka, C. B. de Mel, D. M. J. de Silva, S. de Silva, K. G. F. de Silva, H. L. D. de Silva, J. G. de Wissa, G. E. P. Fonseka, E. T. Goonewardene, E. de S. Goonawardana, P. D. A. Herat, A. T. M. K. Jayawardana, G. A. Jayawardana, G. A. P. Jayawardana, K. Kanagaratnam, H. B. Kannangara, P. W.

Kaule, M. A. H. Lourensz, W. B. Nonis, V. L. P. Pereira, A. B. Rajapalae, D. J. F. Regis, M. A. L. Salgado, S. K. Sathasivam, B. D. Shokman, T. B. Seneviratne, K. S. Sivapragasam, V. Suppramaniam, S. Thamby, J. R. Weerasakera, P. A. F. A. Weerasinghe, and Wickremasinghe, M. Chelliah and S. Thamby are old students of the Jaffna Hindu College and we congratulate them on their success.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.—We are glad to be able to inform our readers that the educated and intelligent residents of Chunnakam have firmly decided not to slaughter animals in their Iyenar temple in future. We hope that residents in other villages where animal sacrifice is carried on will follow this example and save the country from this sinful practice.

THE CIRCUS.—The Circus company gave their farewell performance yesterday night before a crowded house and they are, we understand, pleased with the success of their visit to Jaffna. The esplanade which was the scene of much activity during the past fortnight, has this morning regained its normal state. The company's mammoth tent with all its paraphernalia, and the menagerie, the booths put up by the tea, confectionary and light refreshment vendors, have all disappeared in the short space of a few hours, a few cadjans and sticks alone remaining to remind the passer-by that the spot was recently the scene of the Circus company's operations.

THE JAFFNA TENNIS CLUB.—The tournament in this Club is progressing from last week. In the singles in the 1st round, Mr. W. Doraiswamy beat Mr. R. R. Nalliah 7-5, 6-4; Mr. S. Katiressu beat Mr. S. Rajaratnam 9-7, 7-5; Mr. P. Vytialingam beat Mr. W. D. Niles 6-1, 6-1; Mr. N. Chelvadurai has to meet Mr. A. Ambalavanar. —Cor.

SCARCITY OF WATER IN COLOMBO.—The inadequate supply of good water is very much felt by the residents of Colombo. The excessive heat now prevailing evaporates a considerable quantity of water, and this accounts for the scarcity of water.

A TIME SAVING MACHINE.—A machine has lately been turned out by the Remington Typewriter Co. which promises to be of great assistance to business men. The machine writes, adds and subtracts without the aid of any mental effort on the part of the operator. The chief excellence of the machine, which is simple in manipulation, is that it makes no mistakes.

THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS.—It is rumoured that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, leader of the English Labour Party, will be invited to preside over the next Indian National Congress to be held in Calcutta. The Hon'ble Mr. Bhupendra Nath Basu has been elected Chairman of the Reception Committee.

EXCISE OFFICER IN NEGOMBO.—Mr. Thurley, the Excise Officer, spent a couple of days in Negombo last week in connection with Excise work. Twenty coconut trees there are being regularly tapped for toddy, and a headman has been deputed to keep an account of the quantity drawn daily.

OBITUARY.—We deeply regret to record the untimely death of Mr. Manikka Mailvaganam, eldest son of the late Mr. A. Mailvaganam, J. P., U. P. M., Copay, which sad event took place on the night of Friday last, at his residence in Vannarponnai West. He was a gentleman of high social position and his death therefore is widely regretted throughout the district. The funeral was largely and respectfully attended. He leaves behind a young widow and an infant daughter with whom much sympathy will be felt.

—We also regret to record the death of Mrs. Ampalavanar, grand-mother of the late Mr. Manikka Mailvaganam, which also took place, on Friday night last, at Copay. She was the mother of the late Mr. A. Mailvaganam and the widow of the late Mr. Ampalavanar. We offer our condolences to Mr. Advocate Ratna Mailvaganam and other members of the bereaved family who bemoan her loss.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Messrs. Silk Pitambar Co's advertisement appears on the first page. This well-known firm of Benares supplies the best and the finest silks at moderate prices. Catalogues will be supplied on application.

—It is with deep regret that we record the death at Valveddy on Thursday night last of Mrs. Kantappillai, widow of the late Mr. Kantappillai of Valveddy and sister of the late Mr. C. W. Cathiravetpillai, C. C. S. The deceased lady was the grandmother of Messrs. S. Katiressu, Proctor, S. C., and S. Rajaratnam, Advocate and aunt of Mr. K. Sivapragasam, Proctor, S. C. We tender our condolence to the bereaved family.

—We also regret to have to record the death of Mr. C. Tambiah, retired Head Clerk, Provincial Engineer's Office, Jaffna, which took place on the 10th inst. at his residence at Vaddukoddai. He was a nephew of the late well-known Ragnathas Mudaliar of Vannarponne and was married to the eldest daughter of the late Mr. C. Visvalingam, Notary Public of Vaddukoddai. The deceased was a pioneer of paddy cultivation at Anuradhapura and was instrumental in getting several well-to-do people to open large farms in the North Central Province. He was fifty-eight years old and leaves behind, besides his widow and two children, numerous friends and relations in several parts of Ceylon to bemoan his loss. The funeral which took place on the 11th inst. was numerously attended. The remains were cremated, the pyre having been set fire to by his only son.

REGISTERS OF VOTERS.

A "Ceylon Government Gazette" Extraordinary, containing registers of voters, prepared in accordance with section 5 of schedule 1 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1910 was issued on Monday last. The lists give the full names and addresses of the voters and are divided into districts, in each district the names of the European (Urban and Rural) Ceylonese electors and Burgher electorate being shown separately. The following is a summary of all the registers:—

		European Urban.	European Rural.	Ceylonese	Burgher.
Colombo District	312	40	1845	1518	
Kalutara "	"	34	129	28	
Kandy "	33	339	246	106	
Matale "	"	31	36	28	
Nuwara Eliya "	"	224	25	23	
Jaffna "	"	3	540	25	
Mannar "	"	1	16	9	
Mullaithivu "	"	"	23	"	
Galle "	9	7	123	82	
Matare "	"	"	46	45	
Mambantota "	"	"	21	26	
Batticaloa "	"	10	85	16	
Trincomalee "	"	"	91	13	
Kurunegala "	"	11	53	33	
Pottalam "	"	1	35	33	
Chilaw "	"	3	64	"	
Anuradhapura "	"	"	37	"	
Badulla "	"	103	34	26	
Ratnapura "	"	"	34	47	7
Kegalla "	"	"	92	33	19
Total		354	933	2984	2017

THE CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES' ORDINANCE.

The draft of an Ordinance to provide for the Constitution and Control of Co-operative Credit Societies is published in the last Gazette.

The statement of objects and reasons of the Ordinance are as follows:—

The object of the Ordinance is to facilitate the organization of co-operative credit societies among agriculturists, artisans, and persons of limited means. Ten or more persons residing in the same town or village or group of villages may, on application to the Registrar appointed for the purpose of the Ordinance, be registered as a co-operative credit society, and become a body corporate capable, under its corporate name, of holding property, entering into contracts, appearing in courts of justice, and doing other things necessary for the promotion of the objects of the society.

Provision is made to enable a registered society to receive deposits from its members and to make loans to them, and, under certain restrictions, to borrow money from persons who are not members, and make loans to other similar societies.

Provision is also made to secure the shares or interests of members in the capital of the society from liability to attachment or sale under any decree of a court in respect of debts and liabilities incurred by such members, and, subject to the prior claims of the Government and of landlords for rent, to give the society priority over other creditors in respect of crops and other agricultural produce raised by means of seed, &c., advanced by the society, and in respect of cattle, agricultural or industrial implements, &c., purchased with money lent by the society.

The Ordinance further provides for the inspection and audit of accounts of registered societies and for the making of rules by the Governor in Executive Council necessary to give effect to its provisions.

Section 29 gives power to the Governor in Executive Council, by special order in each case and subject to such conditions as may be imposed thereby to permit any association of not less than ten persons to be registered as a society under this Ordinance, and, if necessary, to exempt such society from the operation of any particular provision of the Ordinance.

THE "MARCONI" SYSTEM AND "WIRELESS" STATION IN CEYLON.

From London we learn that the enterprising "Marconi" Directors are dissatisfied with the way in which the establishment of a Ceylon "Wireless" station has been postponed. Since the authorities connected with the Colony could not make up their mind on the subject as regards "Wireless" for our Island, the Marconi Company addressed the Colonial Office and offered to erect a station at the Company's own expense and work it for their benefit, provided the Ceylon Government gave them a site. Surely such a public-spirited offer should, at once, have been responded to in a liberal way. We understand that the Governor was advised by cable, of the proposal, in the hope that His Excellency might be able, if so disposed, to recommend the acceptance of the Company's enterprising offer. We would there had been no hesitation in getting this advantage to the Island and its shipping trade; but on enquiring at the Secretariat today we were informed that Government is making its own "wireless" arrangements. —Ceylon Observer.

THE UDUPIDDY SAIVA VIDHIYASALAI

The following contributions have been paid towards aiding the above Vidhiyasalai

	Rs. etc.
Karanavai, Mas. S. Thiyagarajasundram, 100 00	
Dehiowita, Mr. K. Kandiah, 50 00	
Wattegama, S. Anandisundram, 50 00	
Batticaloa, Mr. K. V. Markandapilly, Rs. 10/-	
Messrs. A. S. Arambamorthy, A. Subramaniam, Rs. 5/- each; Messrs. A. Thuraiappah, V. Kanapathipillai, A. Friend, T. S. S. Subramaniam, V. S. Kanapathipillai, S. Muttucumaru and A. L. A. M. Muttiah Chetty, Rs. 2/50 each; Mr. S. K. Vallipuram, Rs. 2/-; Messrs. P. S. Rajaratnam, S. Kumaraguru, N. Ponampalam, M. Subramaniam, M. Chellappah, S. Candiah, V. Manickam, V. Panchararam, R. Canthappah, S. Vaitalingam, A. Friend, N. Sabapathy, S. M. K. Sinnathamby and V. Arambam, Re 1/- each (Collection Lists).	58 50
Total Rs.	253-50

Gentlemen who are willing to contribute towards this undertaking are kindly requested to send in their contributions as soon as possible. "There is no other nobler charity than this in this world".

Yours truly,
S. Sivagunasundram.
28th Feb. 1911.
Hatale, Wattegama.

THE KANDY TAMILS' LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

The weekly meeting of the Association was held on Saturday, 25th ultimo, at Katukelle when Dr. E. T. Hoole presided. Mr. K. Coomarasamy read a paper in Tamil on "Education". Mr. C. Suppiah and the Chairman offered comments. —Cor.

DARLEY STUDENTS' UNION.

The usual weekly meeting of this union was held at "Saravathirasa" 31, Darley Road, Colombo, on Saturday, the 4th inst., when Mr. Subramaniam, the President, occupied the chair. The preliminaries being gone through, Mas. C. Thiyagarajasundram gave a recitation from Shakespeare. Then Mr. S. Manayagaram related two stories in Tamil which were both instructive and interesting. Subsequently Mr. K. S. Nagarathnam read an Essay on "The Elevation of the Depressed Classes". Remarks appropriate to the subject were offered by Messrs. S. Elipphap, K. Somasundaram, K. Rajanayagam, C. Murgasaser, a visitor and the Chairman. The proceedings came to a close at 9 p. m. —Cor.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND SWADESHI.

The following Resolution of the Government of Bombay has been published:—It has been laid down by the Government of India that when stores are purchased for a Government department, articles made in India shall always be preferred to imported articles, provided their quality is satisfactory and their price not unfavourable. This rule is being enforced when tenders on the Store Department of the India Office for the purchase of considerable quantities of European stores are scrutinised. But the Governor-in-Council is inclined to think that it is not strictly observed by Government officers of all classes who have to make petty purchases from contingent and other allowances or in cases in which an indent on the India Office is not necessary under the rules.

The Governor-in-Council therefore desires to call the attention of the officers of all departments, who have to make purchases, to the rule and to request that they will observe it strictly in future. When any purchases have to be made, in small as well as in large quantities, it must first be ascertained whether suitable articles can be had of Indian manufacture; only when these are not procurable should imported articles be purchased. —The "Indian Review."

DISTRICT NOTES.

ANURADHAPURA.

The Anuradhapura Literary Club:—At the usual weekly meeting of this Club held on Saturday, the 11th inst. at the C. M. S. school room, under the presidency of Mr. G. W. Silva, Proctor, S. C. and Notary Public delivered an interesting lecture on "The Hour came", and Messrs. S. Katiressu, V. Ramaswamy, J. A. Dhannapala and the Chairman offered comments. At the next meeting Mr. R. Murgasaser of the Survey office will read a paper on "Life in a Public School".

Personal:—Mr. J. S. DeSaram, Police Magistrate, has gone to Colombo on a fortnight's leave and Mr. H. E. Newnam, Office Assistant, acts for him.

The late Mr. C. Tambiah:—Intelligence has been received here of the sad death of this gentleman which took place at his residence in Vaddukoddai. His death is deeply regretted by men of every race, caste and creed, as he was very popular in this province, having had to work here as the District Engineer's Clerk for the most part of his life. He retired from the Public Service about two years ago and was engaged in agricultural pursuits and contract works. We tender our heart-felt condolence to his widow, his children and others who bemoan his loss. —Cor.

MULLAITIVU.

Weather:—The weather is extremely hot, and well nigh unbearable. Clouds are occasionally seen, but no rain has fallen yet.

Health:—Fever and diarrhoea are rampant throughout the place.

Appointment:—Mr. S. Anthonipillai, Clerk, P. W. D., Colombo, has been appointed Second Clerk of the local Kachcheri, the appointment of Mr. A. Chelliah of the Fiscal's Office, Mannar, for the above post, having been cancelled.

On leave:—Mr. D. S. Muttiah, the capable District Engineer of the Mullaitivu District, has left this for Jaffna on three months' leave owing to ill-health. Prior to his departure he entertained at the Mullaitivu Rest house some of his friends among whom were the acting Dist. Engineer Mr. James Orloff, Dr. Clarence Sittampalam and Postmaster Mr. C. Tambipillai. —Cor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "MORNING LEADER" AND ITS TACTICS.

The Editor,
"Hindu Organ".

Sir,
As a lover of truth and fair play, I beg to appeal to you for the hospitality of your columns, to state a few facts which, in the interest of fair and honest criticism, are necessary. The information I have secured from the members of the Kotahena Association, gives me the opportunity of giving the lie direct to the Editor of the "Morning Leader". My object in asking the aid of your columns in preference to his sheet is to avail of that indulgence which you have with characteristic fairness throughout the present campaign accorded to your readers, be they the supporters of the one candidate or the other, to discuss matters in the matter of the Educated Ceylonese Seat. Knowing as I do that I can expect a fair treatment at your hands, I sit to address you this letter, with the hope of your publishing the same. At the start, allow me to assure you that I do not propose to write of a candidate's merits or demerits, for that is not my purpose. What I am interested in, and annoyed at, is the methods which that man down Canal Row has adopted in regard to the Kotahena Association of which I am a sympathiser and admirer. The "Leader" has been shown up in the public press and on the platform in connection with the Educated Ceylonese Seat that its name has only to be mentioned to let the public know the value to be set on its opinions. I have read with intense disgust the insinuations, the slander, and the untruths which the "Leader" is indulging in, much to the annoyance of the public,—against a harmless association of respectable and intelligent young men, only because they happened to favour Mr. Ramannathan and support his candidature.

A number of youngsters actuated with the best motives get together and decide to invite Mr. Ramannathan to deliver a lecture to them. They or he himself chooses a subject, "Corruption in Politics". It was advertised and arranged to be delivered at the Public Hall. It came off. I was present on the occasion and must admit that it was one of the best, if not the best, of the series delivered by the old politician, the "Sage of Sukhastan". It was a most successful meeting, not only in point of numbers that attended, but also on matters of fact which the lecturer made public after having kept them a secret all this time. The lecture, I say without fear of contradiction, once and for all, silenced his detractors and baffled the sensational "cravings for mad rushes" which the "Leader" so greatly loves to indulge in, much to the disgust and annoyance of its readers who, I am informed on responsible authority, are not many. Then begins the vilification of everybody who took part in the proceedings. The Editor, of course, could not find anything in Mr. Ramannathan's lecture to quarrel with, or in any one of the speeches that were delivered on that occasion. The "Leader" had to attack, for it exists to attack. Silence on its part would show its weakness for battle. The Editor had to say something and keep his paper full of something on the Ceylonese Seat. What then did he do? He began to draw upon his imagination. He tried to make out that there was no such body as the Kotahena Association. I am informed that he himself has been a very painstaking member of this organization, some few years back. I challenge him to deny that he ever presided at its meetings and at its Sham Courts. If he proves this, I will through your paper send Rs. 50/- to the King Edward Memorial fund.

It is very significant that he did not mention that there was no Association before the lecture came off. Weeks before the lecture, an advertisement appeared in his paper. This

paper published news about the lecture, and yet said not a word regarding what now he tries to make out a bogus Association. If he knew that there was no such Association it was his duty to tell the public so. That is what an honest journalist would have done. I will now without taking much of your valuable space prove beyond an atom of doubt the bona fides of the Association. The following letters will speak for themselves. Especially the ones from Mr. L. B. Fernando, M. M. C.

Letters referred to—

Kotahena, July 1908.

To the Hon. Secy.,
Kotahena Association,
Sir,

I beg to acknowledge with thanks your letter of the 15th July, conveying to me a vote of thanks of the Association which was passed at a public meeting in acknowledgment of my services in the matter of The Kotahena Recreation Ground.

Sgd. L. B. Fernando,
Ward Member.
18th July 1908.

To The Hon. Secy.,
Kotahena Association,
Recreation Ground Committee,
Dear Sir,

I regret to inform you that I am unable to attend to-day's meeting as I am indisposed and find unable to be present.

I may however add that the movement has my full sympathy, and beg to express a hope that it will meet with success.

Sgd. Henry A. Perera,
Attapattu Mudaliyar.

Colombo,
11th May 1909.

Hony: Secretary,
Kotahena Association,
Dear Sir,

We shall be much obliged if you will be good enough to have the annexed information brought up-to-date and returned to us by an early post.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Sgd. A. M. & J. Ferguson.

January 1911.

The Hon. Secretary,
Kotahena Association,
Sir,

I have not received your letter which you refer to. Will you please let me know what it is about so that I can give you a reply.

Sgd. L. B. Fernando, M. M. C.,
Ward Member.

On the face of the above documents can any one with an atom of common sense deny that the Kotahena Association exists! Is it not perversion to say that the Association is a "bogus" Association got up to give Mr. Ramathanan an opportunity to make a speech. If the Goanese Editor only cared for truth, he could have without much difficulty obtained his information from that remarkable publication "The Ceylon Directory", in which the particulars of the Association have regularly appeared for the last twelve years.

In concluding I have to thank you for publishing this letter. I enclose my card.

Kotahena, Yours truly,
7-3-11. Credentials of Christianity.

TEMPERANCE.

EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL.

WHENCE COMES THE ENERGY AFTER DRINK?

"Alcohol is used to get strength out of a man, not to put it in." W. M. Coleman.

Famines, as we usually understand, are not of frequent occurrence, but when they appear those only perish who do not have a reserve of grains, property, or money which can be converted into food. But famines in another form are of daily occurrence and from this no one is free, neither the richest Millionaire nor the most helpless microscopio bacteria. These famines appear when the body is diseased and food is rejected. Those forms of life therefore perish which do not have a reserve of food in their body so that it may replace the waste when external food is rejected. The human body which has passed through countless "births" must have been subject to similar famines, has survived them, and must therefore possess a vast store of reserve food in the body itself to be used during fever and other diseases of long duration which reject food. This reserve is said to be so great that it can feed the system for about forty days. This is a fact which we must keep before us while considering the effects of alcohol. Another fact to be remembered in this connection is that when a poison enters the body, all possible means are tried by the body to eject it or weaken it. If it enters the body as is most common, through the mouth, the digestive system through which it honestly passes and the circulatory system into which it steals through epithelial pores, are at first astounded and then driven to wild action, exactly as the inmates of a house that has been set fire

to. First, there is the reflex action of the nerves to produce a movement to eject it wholly by inducing vomiting. If this can be done, there is a great relief to the system. as there is when all the thatch is removed from the roof of the house on fire. Otherwise, the two systems will be very unfortunate, and it is very pathetic to note their wild activity. The digestive system secretes an abnormally large quantity of the various juices, some to dilute the poison and weaken it, and others to drive it down through the other end of the alimentary canal. But there are many poisons which resist these artifices of the digestive system and which force their way to the circulatory system. Thus the poison has two passages to enter this system. Here the work is not so simple as in the alimentary canal. The area is vast and includes the whole body. The circulatory system has even under ordinary circumstances, very hard work to perform, to remove the poisonous waste that is constantly being formed in the body. Added to this usual poison, comes this additional poison. The total poison does not end here. The new poison kills the cells that come to fight with it and heaps corpses of them which are also poisonous. Poor, circulatory system! The house is burning, some of the inmates are scorched and have to be looked after. The fire must be quenched and the master himself gets scorched. How miserable is the poor man. But the circulatory system works, works for its life. The heart beats violently, the blood-vessels are distended, oxidation goes on at a rapid rate, the whole system is in abnormal activity. When there is such a large flow of blood to the limbs and other parts of the body, it is possible to get a good deal of work from them. Thus it happens that when a poison enters the body of a man, it is possible for him to work very hard. And when alcohol enters the body this is what always happens, and the man can work hard without any effort. "So much the better," says the drinker. "So much the worse," says the thinker. The activity of the owner of a house on fire is marvellous. However, weak, infirm, and slow he may naturally be, his strength, energy, and quickness at that moment will be remarkable. Does his activity more than compensate for the burns and perhaps even the death of some inmate and the loss of the house? Will he be considered rich because he spends a large sum of money reserved for his winter, in rebuilding and refurbishing it? Where does the circulatory system get the vast extra energy it puts forth before the poison is removed from the body? Evidently from the reserve store kept in the cells for emergencies. Thus every draught by producing abnormal activity diminishes the reserve store, and makes the man less prepared to withstand disease and other trials. To give an oft-quoted illustration, when a man has deposited a sum of money in a bank, it looks very grand to draw it out with checks and squander it. But it is really, not a matter for happiness but one for extreme regret if he sees the actual fact that every time he draws money he becomes poorer and poorer, will soon become a bankrupt, and be forced to enter the poor-house. So what is usually called increased activity due to drink is loss of vitality and increased liability to succumbing to diseases and starvation. The drinker thus lives in a fool's paradise.

The question may be asked how it is that drinkers do not so soon find their grave. The human body, in the course of a long evolution, has developed power of adapting itself to a great variety of environments, but for which it would have perished long ago. This power of adaptability diminishes the danger slightly. If the danger is diminished, the activity which is due only to the danger is diminished and if more activity is required, more alcohol must be taken and then greater the danger.

But there is a simple and more direct method of proving that the energy observed in a drunken state is not alcohol's but stolen property. The chemical symbol of alcohol is C_2H_6O . This shows that it is a carbohydrate which is the poorest ingredient in food, the substantial parts being proteids and fat. But even this is not taken into the system, but being a poison is oxidised and driven out along with urine. So, if it adds not a grain of tissue to the body, it is evident that it cannot create energy but can only destroy it. No country has been benefited by the invasion of brigands and marauders.

(To be continued.)

S.S.

THE TWO FRIENDS.

A SERIAL STORY.

(By S. P. T.)

It was customary for a writer in days not long since to introduce his work with an account of the circumstances that led up to its publication and, gentle reader, I too propose to follow this time-honoured, though now neglected, custom.

Death unfortunately had deprived my family of one of its oldest members and the depression of my spirits drove me to solitude. It was one day last month when I was taking my usual solitary rambles in one of those not often frequented roads in the south of my fair city. Solitary did I say? Excuse me, I was accompanied by a friend, a friend as per-

haps one never finds more than once in an age. A friend too for whom I felt the greatest reverence, admiration and love. He was one of those gentle spirits that are said to descend down from Heaven to lend a helping hand to erring mortals.

For over half-an-hour there was a complete silence, a silence so solemn that neither my friend nor I ventured to break it. At last my friend broke in that silence by gently chiding me—those who have had such experience can alone comprehend it—upon my silliness, as he put it. He said, indeed rather very unkind things; but at last came to soothe my grief in those terms which friends alone know to use. In a moment of extreme joy he uttered some very telling facts. What these were, I am not at liberty to inform the reader. Suffice it to say that this story which is, in the main, based upon facts, is the result.

Dear friend, if ever you come across these lines it would be to my infinite satisfaction if you can remember the occasion that gave birth to them; if you remember the part you took that evening, a part which chased away completely the noxious humours of my mind and made me feel, as indeed I never felt before, the supreme bliss of having a friend like yourself.

It was an extensive playground attached to the local Missionary school and hundreds of students were cheerfully playing. It was indeed a sight to see so many youngsters, bursts of the cares and anxieties of this cruel world, crying on one side, "man behind" "kick him down" and on the other side, "well taken, my boy" and as one saw those youngsters, again, one cannot help reflecting upon the lack of necessary fields wherein their well-developed muscles might have full play. Vast as was the throng, it being the occasion of a football match, yet there was a young man, who alone and far from his pleasant companions was seated at a distance with 2 Vols. of the North American Review placed before him on a table. Young man, did I say? He was no more than a boy and it would entail one no difficulty to say that he could not be more than 13 years old. Now and then, he turned from the volumes before him to where the match was played and every time he turned, a white kerchief waved in the air, at which our young man was highly pleased. The young man—we shall here call him so—turned to his volume and went on devouring its contents with very great rapidity, when, a hand was laid on his shoulders, and a gruff voice was heard "Well, Swaminathan; busy with your books in the playground too?" Our young man, who was deeply interested in his reading, took no notice of this interruption and went on reading, till at last, an hour later, there went up to him, a young boy who asked him, "Sir, when is our meeting to take place?" At this, he turned aside and in soft tones said unto the boy "Well, is it you, my dear boy? Excuse me, I was busy with this review. I am sorry to say that our masters do not evince much interest in the progress of our society and think you, that a single individual like myself can do anything against their united force?" And as he spoke he patted the boy and caressed him with almost parental solicitude and affection. He again continued:

"Well, how are you getting on with your studies, darling? Just beware how you fall into traps that are nowadays too many when city life has become a waggery." The boy remained mute, with his arms folded across his breast. Mr. Swaminathan—for so our hero was named—went on. "Why do you stand mute, my dear boy? What is the result of the match, have our students won?" The young boy, went away to see the result of the match, while our hero, fell into a deep thought, head over the arm of the chair. The tone of his speech was tinged with melancholy and as one gazed upon that brow upon which knowledge was seated and as one saw the melancholy tone that prevailed in his words and speeches, one cannot but question what reasons there were that one such should be melancholy. Leave we our hero to his thoughts.

Knots of students had formed themselves to see the match, as was but natural. Direct we, our readers, to that little knot of students who are standing a few yards from the goal posts. There were seven students in that knot and their eyes were very often turned towards a far away thing and from the way in which their conversations were carried on, one cannot help thinking that they were admiring, some finding fault with some one about whom they were all talking. Says a bright-eyed young fellow, "I really pity him; how every master shuns him." Another, "But you don't see, how he admirably puts up with all the contempt heaped upon him, directly and indirectly by his enemies". A third, addressing himself to the first speaker: "Nataraj I pity your ignorance. You have not read him yet. He is not in need of your pity. You do not know what stuff he is made of".

Another youngster, who had lately joined the school, "Well Sir, I am sorry, you misjudge him. Quite new as I am to the place and the school, he has helped me a good deal by his timely advice and whatever the masters say about him, I at any rate can't find anything wrong with him." As our young men were airing their views about our hero—for our readers could have understood whom they were about—a general shout of "hurrah! hurrah!" for the High School, dispersed.

sed our students and for a time confusion reigned supreme. At the same time a young boy ran up to our hero and muttered something in his ears at which our hero took up the volumes before him and bent his eyes anxiously in the direction of the crowds that were now dispersing.

Our hero, was about to depart home, when another young man who was running hastily to join him, cried, "Swaminathan, wait a little" and our hero returned and traced his footsteps to where the young man who accosted him was running from. The two friends at last met. The young boy, who was hitherto mute, offered to bring the volumes and after much remonstrance persisted in carrying them himself. Pause we here to describe our new-comer. His face was oval, with aquiline nose; his was a beauty Grecian in its cast; the hair on his head was cropped very close. His coat was unbuttoned, thus showing his white shirt and collar of ivory. His face struck one as being manly and intelligent while a smile that played now and then on his lips showed that in temperament, at any rate, he was far removed from his friend, Mr. Swaminathan. As now and then he turned his eyes towards our hero, for an instant the smile went away and it seemed as if he too caught the infection from his friend's melancholy.

The two friends, accompanied by the boy, darted into a narrow pathway, being a short cut to the road, which was at least 2 furlongs away. Profound silence prevailed, until at last as they reached the highway, our hero addressed his friend, "My dear Varadaraj, how do I like to have you at supper this night! Would you go with me?" Mr. Varadaraj nodded his head in assent and the two friends, walked on, arm in arm. As they two walked arm in arm, with no words escaping either of them, it was a spectacle worthy of the easel. The East main street was crossed and the North main street lay before them. Varadaraj began, "Swaminathan! why are you more melancholy today than ever! Is it some new machination on the part of those devils? Tell me, my good brother", and perceiving that his friend was silent, added, "Think you, my good brother, that I am unworthy of your confidence?" Our hero, who was hitherto full of his thoughts replied, "My dear, mistake not my silence and excuse me, if for a moment, I remained unmindful of your well-meant queries—Nay, offer not an apology—It will be a very long tale to rehearse and could you wait with patience, I will take you through the whole field as we sup." The friends walked on and as they crossed a mosque in the street our hero turned his steps into a lane southward and went a few paces and stopped at a two-storied house, while the young boy knocked at the door. There was a municipal light just opposite the house and from the light, one can readily see that the house was about 50 years of age. Yes, reader, and had you the curiosity to ask of it any story, it will tell you many. It can tell you how, a lady who by birth was entitled to the reverence and veneration of every class of people, how such a lady, a Brahmin lady led a life of dissolution within those walls and more it could tell you if it would test.

The door was answered by a young lad of about 12, who was a Brahmin, as could be seen from the sacred symbol which he wore and our friends entered the house. Our hero addressed the young boy who was accompanying them, "Govind Mr. Varadaraj sups with us" and went upstairs. As our hero is divesting himself of his articles of dress, we shall present our readers with a picture of the upstairs "Studio" as it was called. It was one hall with two rooms, one on the East, the other just opposite in the West. In the centre of the hall was a long round table and around it were arranged 8 chairs. At one extremity there was spread a camp cot at another were 2 tables and a chair, and on those tables books were promiscuously lying, with some magazines and newspapers. Of the two rooms, one was the bedroom and the other was the library. A powerful candelabra shone in the hall itself just over the round table and each of the rooms was well lighted. The friends went into the library, which was, for a student, very large. It had about a 1000 and 500 volumes, containing the works of Burke, the speeches of Sheridan, of Vivekananda and of Surendra Nath, the works of Platt and of James Allen, of Thomson and of Macaulay, of Matthew Arnold and of Morley, of Aveling and of Rosebury. Among recent authors, the volumes of Chesterton, of Hardy, of Wells and of Belloc occupied a very prominent place. The more than 60 volumes of the nationalist press Association also occupied a very prominent position. There were two revolving book cases, which were filled with magazines, notably the Modern Review of Calcutta. The library was a very large one and the volumes of Emerson occupied a separate place together with B. C. Pal's famous "New Spirit". Mill's essays on Liberty, together with Carlyle's Fr. Revolution and numerous Socialists' pamphlets were also to be found there. There were two shelves in the wall which were filled with bound volumes of the Prabuddha Bharata, the North American Review, the Madras Standard and of the Contemporary Review; stray copies of the Illustrated London News were also to be seen. There was a table with 3 chairs, in that room and the table was neatly arranged, more like an Editor's table than that of a student of the Matriculation class, that our hero was.

(to be continued.)