

Mr. Raju's service as his Personal Assistant, the appointment was gazetted about 3 months ago, but he was unable to join, on account of illness which unfortunately ended in his death. His appointment as Personal Assistant to the Director was hailed with joy by every one in the Department for a number of reasons. First he had formerly served both under the present Commissioner and Director of Agriculture and had earned their complete confidence. Second, he was competent, by his previous experience in the Revenue Department, to help the Director and the officers of the Agricultural Department to steer in the march of progress in suitable directions. Third, he was an enthusiast in agricultural improvements and was of opinion that the help of Revenue officers was essential to bring these improvements to the notice of cultivators; and would have helped in carrying these improvements to the doors of the ryots, if the ryots would not come to see them in the Government Farms. Last, though not least, he was an Agricultural College student. That the officers of the Department deeply mourn his loss is no wonder and they consider it a piece of misfortune that he was not spared, even for a short period, to help in guiding the administration of this Department. We beg to add that we have personally lost an invaluable guide in life, having been the recipient of his affection and regard all along.

The Government, recognising his meritorious services, granted him the title of Rao Bahadur in 1908.

The late Hon'ble Vengail K. Raman Nayanar.

The extremely sudden death which took place in the Legislative Council, of the Hon'ble Mr. Vengail Raman Nayanar deprives the Madras Presidency of one of its level headed public men, the district of Malabar of one of its foremost citizens and the Madras Agricultural Students' Union of one of its first Benefactors.

Mr. Nayanar made an eloquent speech in the local Legislative Council conveying to His Majesty's Government the sense of devotion and loyalty of the Indian people in the present crisis. Immediately after the speech he collapsed and, though attended by no less a doctor than the Hon'ble Surgeon-General Bannerman, expired in a very short time, and His Excellency the Governor expressed great regret at the sudden occurrence and closed the Council meeting.

It is a coincidence that we have to write this obituary notice of the Hon'ble Mr. Nayanar, immediately after we have had to report the death of Rao Bahadur Dharmaranga Raju. Both of them were class mates in the Agricultural College at Saidapet and they had a warm attachment to each other. In the inaugural address delivered by the late Rao Bahadur Dharmaranga Raju, at the 1st Agricultural Conference held in 1911, he referred to an incident which occurred during their College days in the following words:—"When H. E. Lord Connemara visited the College in 1886 and questioned me and the several students assembled in front of the College as to what we intended to do after the completion of our course of study, every one of us, with one rare exception, said that we intended to enter the Revenue Department. The only man who gave a different answer and replied that he intended to supervise the farming of his own vast estates was Mr. Vengail Kunhi Raman Nayanar." To the end he took a very keen interest in farming his lands and in applying himself to the improvement of the economic conditions of his tenants and cultivators to whom he was very sympathetic. Quite recently he had the pleasure of meeting His Excellency Lord Pentland, along with his tenants, labourers and hill tribes, at the Taliparamba Agricultural station, in the working and popularising of which he evinced much genuine interest. He was an erudite Malayalam scholar and contributed largely to the Kerala Patrika, whose

editor, Mr. Kunhi Raman Menon, has often declared him his right hand.

He was highly respected wherever he was known. Possessed of a large fund of humour and ready wit, he was a brilliant conversationalist and was known amongst his colleagues as "Mark Twain" of the Legislative Council. That he was elected by the jemmies and landholders of Malabar and South Canara to represent their interests in the local Legislative Council is sufficient proof that he had the confidence of his constituents, especially if it is remembered that Rajah Vasudeva Rajah of Kollengode who had already sat with distinction for 2 terms in the Council was his rival competitor for the seat. The late Hon'ble Mr. Nayanar was one of the first Vice-Presidents of the Union and presided at its first General meeting. He was an Honorary visitor to the College and one of the first Benefactors of the Union.

We offer our heartfelt condolence to his son, Mr. M. A. Kandeth, Professor of History in the Presidency College, to his cousin Mr. Krishnan Nayanar and all the members of his family.

The late Mr. S. Raghunatha Rao.

We have to express our heartfelt condolence with the widow and children of the late Mr. Raghunatha Rao who went on furlough about 18 months ago. He was another Saidapet first class graduate and one of the Agricultural Inspectors entertained by Mr. Benson. He was Farm Manager, First grade, at Nandyal when he took furlough and was one of the first members of the Students' Union. A quiet-going man, of a somewhat reserved nature, he did his work conscientiously and we are sorry that he did not live to enjoy his pension.
