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LAND QUESTIONS IN JAFFNA DISTRICT

The Karachchi Scheme And Other Matters

DIFFICULTY IN ALLOTING LANDS TO APPLICANTS

Land questions in the Jaffna District divide themselves roughly into matters relating to the Karachchi Scheme and matters relating to the remainder of the District, says Mr. R. B. Naish, Government Agent, Northern Province, in his administration report for 1938. The report further states:

As regards the second category of questions referred to above conditions vary in the several parts of the District. The habitable portions of the Peninsula and of the inner islands are thickly populated, and the lands in private ownership are intensively cultivated so far as they are cultivable. This is shown by the very small local units of land, which are, 1/16 of an acre in the case of high lands and 1/24 of an acre in the case of low lands and which incidentally indicate the intensity of the local "land hunger." Apart from the lagoon areas and the lands adjoining them, the Crown lands are usually of small extent and are often so rocky that elsewhere in Ceylon it would be impossible to induce applicants for land to undertake to develop them.

In Delft, which has within the last two years become much more readily accessible and which is in consequence getting a much fairer share of attention than formerly, the position is rather different. In this island there are relatively large extents of Crown land. Although the land is of poor quality from an agricultural point of view, there is a considerable local demand for it.

In the Pooneryn area there are substantial extents of privately owned land, and towards the Kalmunai peninsula a good deal of this land has been developed in coconut estates. There still remain, however,

considerable areas of Crown land other than land still in forest, and there is a definite demand for such land on the part of the landless villagers of the locality.

In the Pachchilaippali-Karachchi Division, south of Elephant Pass, there are considerable extents of Crown land under scrub or high jungle, but these lands appear to be of poor quality and there is little or no local demand for them. If they are to be developed at all, they will probably have to be developed by colonist allottees.

Very few of the Crown lands outside the Karachchi Scheme area have been surveyed, and this fact has constituted one substantial difficulty in the way of systematic allotment of them in response to applications from landless persons or persons who own extents of land insufficient to meet their reasonable requirements.

As regards the Karachchi Scheme the position is different. The lands under this scheme have been surveyed and lotted in accordance with the possibility of giving them irrigation facilities and probable demands. The disposal of these lands has followed more or less *pari passu* on the survey of them. The survey is still in progress, and will be finished only when all the lands capable of being irrigated from the Iranamadu Tank have been included in it. The lands disposed under the scheme are held on various forms of tenure, which range from permits giving a bare right of occupation and cultivation, with a contingent right to a settlement, to outright grants.

As regards lands other than lands under the Karachchi Scheme, 95 allotments, including 70 allotments, amounting

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FINDING EMPLOYMENT FOR INDIGENOUS POPULATION

Sinhalese Labour Does not Take Kindly to Estate Life

CONTROLLER OF LABOUR ON LABOUR PROBLEMS

WITH the increase of population in Ceylon and the reaction of this increase on the economic condition of the people, the problem of finding employment for the indigenous population who are in need of it has become more insistent, and this Department has been endeavouring by all possible means to extend the avenues for employment, says the Controller of Labour in his Administration Report for 1938. He further says:—

The labour recruiting agency opened at Akmeemana in November, 1937, was transferred to Akuressa in December, 1938, as this locality was considered more suitable for recruitment of labour and as the supply of labour from the surrounding areas would be more plentiful.

Another Agency was opened at Katugastota in Kandy District on May 10, 1938, to serve the need of estates in Kandy District and those of higher elevation.

The number of labourers supplied to the various estates from these agencies during the year were—

Akmeemana	708
Akuressa	—
Katugastota	306

Arrangements were made to give due publicity by leaflets, posters, and other means to the existence of these agencies and to the desirability of employers of labours utilizing the free services rendered by the officers in charge of these agencies for replenishing their labour forces. Propaganda was conducted so that villagers may be advised on the advantages of permanent employment on estates. Apart from other advantages the existence of the agencies serves a useful purpose in bringing to the notice of the villagers the possibility of obtaining suitable employment on estates.

The Planters' Association, it must be mentioned to their

credit, was not behind in encouraging as far as circumstances permitted the recruitment of indigenous labour and giving every support to the agencies established by Government.

Sinhalese Labour

A census obtained by the Planters' Association showed that on September 1, 1937, 21,248 resident Sinhalese labourers were employed on estates, and that on February 1, 1938, the number had increased to 22,727. A survey carried out by this Department showed that there were 27,882 Sinhalese labourers resident on 1,270 estates on July 1, 1938.

These figures show that the planting community has implemented the pledge given in regard to the increased employment of Sinhalese labourers on estates. These figures refer only to estates where Indian labour has long been employed and do not take into account a very considerable number of estates particularly in Galle, Matara, and Kalutara Districts where indigenous labourers alone are employed. Separate statistics of these labourers have not been compiled.

It cannot be said that all the new recruits to the estates have taken kindly to estate life, and to its conditions of service and discipline. During the year as many as 72 estates applied direct to the Agencies at Katugastota and Akmeemana and when the labourers were despatched the majority of them were reported to have left the estate within a few days of their arrival. It is not surprising that a peasantry unused to estate life finds the discipline irksome, and prefer the free life, though hard, which they lead in their villages. It is possible that, when direct recruitment to estates is established by means of labourers

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Health Communique

SOME PERSONAL PREDISPOSING CAUSES OF MALARIA

It has been long recognised that the diseases of mankind showed some preference to the economic and environmental life of man. At certain ages, certain diseases appeared more frequently, for example, the contagious and infectious diseases of measles, mumps etc. of children; in early adolescent life, the onset of Tuberculosis is not uncommon, in later years, the occurrence of Tumours in the body.

It will be seen, therefore, that in the study of so widespread and protean a disease as malaria, it is necessary to adopt certain focal points from which to survey the disease in its relationship to man.

First and foremost in our consideration, age must be taken in. The prevalence of malaria in children, from as young as one year old (sometimes less) to about 12 years has been noticed in any country where malaria is of a disturbing quantity. Children not only suffer more from the disease, but frequently pay the heaviest penalty inflicted by disease. As age advances, and as more malaria attacks are registered in the body, some attempt is made to declare a truce between man and the malaria parasites in his body, and they live together in some degree of harmony. Such state of affairs do not often remain stationary and it is frequently observed that in epidemics of malaria, the degree of tolerance and terms of the truce are violated, and old age pays the heaviest penalty as well. During adolescence and early maturity, when the body is at its highest bloom, the resistance to malaria is in proportion to the environment of the human being and the relative abundance of malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

Following upon age, the next focal point of consideration would be sex. Apart from certain physical differences, giving rise to diseases peculiar to such differences, both sexes of mankind are prone more or less to the same amount of disease. Malaria in very highly infected areas, shows no preference to males over females when very young. But, as age advances and man plays a more prominent part in his environment, demanding long exposure to inclement weather associated with cultivation or other occupation, the male suffers more from the disease. Certain occupations, however, confer a favour on the male—e.g. fishermen, who go out to sea at night and return in the morning, display remarkable, but understandable, freedom from the disease.

A survey of mankind in any aspect of its life would be incomplete without a consideration of that important feature known as Race. Race is a by-product of the long effects of civilisation and culture, influenced by environment, heredity and economic status. Certain races enjoy absolute freedom from certain diseases for countless generations, but when exposed to a possible contamination of such diseases, their reaction to the attack and

tolerance to the prolonged course of the disease, very often instil fear as to their chances of survival. In many parts of Europe, malaria is non-existent, and people of such countries living in any malaria-ridden part of the Tropics is called upon to pay a heavy bill of ill-health and, often chronic invalidism. In those who have been torn and natured side by side with malaria carrying mosquitoes, malaria, though proving fatal often, graciously endows the survivors and their progeny with a passport through life.

We have discussed briefly the three lowest common multiples of mankind on earth, and now a brief outline could be embarked upon the environment and economic life of man in relation to malaria.

Poor hygiene not only helps to make malaria but gives aid to the maintenance of the disease. Houses in malarious districts are usually of such poor construction that mosquitoes delight in obtaining free board and lodging at the expense of the poor landlord. Rooms that are dark, damp, ill-ventilated, with walls of mud and wattle, are the finest residential quarters for mosquitoes. Large houses with lofty rooms, plenty of light, walls of good material, are uninviting to the greatest slum-dweller, the mosquito. It needs no Euclidean deduction to demonstrate the conclusion that good housing is absolutely necessary to fight malaria in existing areas of human occupation or in areas coveted by man for industrial or agricultural exploitation. To fight malaria man must put his own house in order first. Cleanliness, prevention of breeding-places, good food and medical aid being the fundamentals of prevention.

Education.

A gift so precious as that which equips man to understand his life and its problems, can scarcely be omitted from the armaments piled against the inroads of malaria. Poverty, defective hygiene and starvation of education forms the tripod on which malaria basks and thrives. If only one leg of that tripod could be amputated, the other two would follow the same fate, but of the three, it might be said that imaginative spark of inquiry in the young mind as to what I am, how I can be well and how I can be best equipped to make success of life. To teach the capital cities and their railways to children eaten alive by malaria mosquitoes is to put the cart before the horse. To force down knowledge in a body that has its hands full fighting a disease does not meet with success. Educationists should aim at a sound body and a sound mind will crown that body and sound mind will crown that body in time.

Lowered Resistance.

The human body maintains a tonic condition of its entire system, which acts as a defensive mechanism against infection by microorganisms. Anything, that tends to reduce the forces of that mechanism, helps the entry and further development of the invading forces. Such lowering

agencies are excessive heat, exposure to rain, injudicious eating or drinking alcohol, severe physical fatigue, mental strain or worry. It is not uncommon to see villagers working during the initial stages of cultivation, go down with relapses of malaria fever.

Alcoholism

The precise mechanism of how any excessive outbursts of drinking produces relapses of malaria fever has not been fully understood. Moderate doses of alcohol in fact, prove beneficial during a period of convalescence, but there seems no grounds to justify the popular notion that a couple of drinks every evening at sunset wards off malaria.

Change of Residence

Many instances can be cited of persons who have developed malaria for the first time upon leaving an area where malaria prevails to some degree. It is well known that exposure to severe cold weather in the hills would provoke a severe attack of malaria in some of those who prematurely congratulated themselves on having been free of malaria in the unhealthy districts. Similarly, residents in malarious countries for many years, have gone down for the first time with fever when preparing themselves to have good time on boardship. There are instances of persons suffering from malaria soon after their taking up residence by the sea-side after a prolonged stay in a malarious area.

Occupation.

It is not to be supposed that occupation is primarily responsible for malaria in some people but it must be realised that the various factors associated with certain occupations favour infections with malaria. For example, during railroad construction, camp sites, unless chosen with much care, and the labour force recruited with great discrimination, present a spectacle of more ill than healthy labourers. In addition to the favourable conditions created for Anopheline breeding, hard work, exposure to the Sun and defective diet contribute to the added danger of malarial fever. Work in rice-fields, de forested lands, newly reclaimed lands all afford the same easy chances of being bitten by infected mosquitoes in the evening. Certain occupations, as brick-making, quarrying for road metal act in the same way, by affording breeding grounds and easy transmission from one to another. Certain occupations at night e.g. Railway official working at night on their premises, police patrol parties etc. are definitely more liable to contract malaria than those who finish

their duties in the early evening and retire home for the night.

Immunity

If all the factors that contribute towards the subtle mechanism of immunity in malaria could be laid bare, a great deal would have been achieved towards the greater rationalisation of the treatment of the disease. At the moment, speculative hypothesis and, after all, most of the sciences have owed their development to the everlasting query mark in the human mind—hold the field in the realm of malaria immunity.

True immunity or parasite proofness does not seem to exist in malaria, but, what is universally recognised is the definite acquisition of immunity through repeated attacks of fever. But, here, the term immunity is a misnomer and the condition should be regarded as one of tolerance between man and the malaria parasites. Further, such a happy condition of tolerance would not grant the bearer a passport for residence in any malarious part of the world without fear of contracting the disease, as the various strains of malaria parasites appear to be as fastidious as to demand a visa for their own particular type.

There is no one born with immunity to malaria, but some form of racial immunity does exist in very malarious regions of the world. This racial immunity is not a pure immunity in the strictest sense of the term, but it is to be regarded as some form of defensive mechanism set up in certain races which overcome malaria more readily than other races. Immunity is not transferred from mother to child, but children born in very malarious tracts soon begin their struggle to acquire immunity and by the time early adolescence is reached, they have succeeded in putting up a defensive barrier to further inroads of the disease.

A disease which has such complexities as malaria and which has such a variety of complications and clinical manifestations in the human body must necessarily be difficult to understand in relation to its mechanism to produce the various features outlined.

Preventive medicine is faced with one of the greatest problems which causes untold sickness, invalidism and loss of wealth, and by its magnitude, it emphasises the absolute necessity and forces the truth that the fight against malaria must be waged on all fronts by every responsible member of the community.

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WHAT INCREASED DUTY ON TOBACCO COSTS JAFFNA

27,000 People Faced with Economic Ruin

MINISTER ASKED TO GET ENHANCED DUTY REPEALED

A Memorandum on the subject of increased import duty on Ceylon Tobacco in Travancore, has been forwarded to the Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce, calling upon the Minister to adopt prompt measures to secure the repeal of the enhanced duty. (from Rs. 185 to Rs. 200)

The Memorandum says:—

Jaffna is not only the premier tobacco growing district in Ceylon, but tobacco is also the staple product of Jaffna and the mainstay of its inhabitants. Successive Government Agents of the Northern Province have referred to the tobacco industry as the most important industry of the Province and urged on the Government the necessity of encouraging it.

As early as 1893, the late Mr. R. W. Iwers, C. M. G. referred to the tobacco industry in his Administration Report in the following terms, 'I would again add that tobacco is the backbone of the Northern Province and the improvement of this industry is of more importance than any administrative or legislative measures'.

The tobacco trade between Jaffna and Travancore has been going on uninterruptedly for some centuries and Jaffna has for so long received an equitable and just treatment in the hands of Travancore.

Of the total quantity of tobacco produced in this province, the whole tobacco sent to Travancore where it is used for chewing purposes, and the chewing variety consumed in different parts of Ceylon, and more than half the smoking tobacco converted into cigars and consumed in this Island, are grown in the Jaffna District. The area under tobacco cultivation in the Jaffna District, is nearly 7500 acres.

It is out of the proceeds of the tobacco industry, the vast majority of the people of Jaffna purchase their necessities of life, pay their taxes to Government and educate their children. They, in short, depend on this industry for their livelihood. It cannot, therefore, be denied that the prosperity and well-being of the District depend almost entirely on this industry.

The Only Market

The only market for this tobacco outside Ceylon is Travancore which consumes annually about 4000 candies or 32,000 bales of tobacco of the value of nearly 12 lakhs of rupees. There were also times when Jaffna exported 6000 candies annually.

It would thus be seen that but for Travancore, the tobacco industry of this District would not have grown to its present dimensions, and that, if this market is closed against Jaffna tobacco, this industry would be vitally affected, and the results will be disastrous to the interests of Jaffna.

It may be pointed out that tobacco cultivation in Jaffna would not have assumed its present dimensions, but for the encouragement at one time directly given to it by the Travancore Government themselves

The first impetus to its cultivation was given when the Government of Travancore holding the monopoly of the tobacco trade in their hands continued to send for years their own agents to Jaffna to purchase the whole quantity of tobacco required to meet the demands of the people of the State. The abolition of the monopoly about 75 years ago gave greater incentive to tobacco cultivation in Jaffna, the cultivators being no more at the mercy of the monopolist, but being free to sell their goods to the highest bidder among the many exporters of tobacco to Travancore.

The variety of tobacco grown in Jaffna and the mode of its curing are specially intended for Travancore. The tobacco is purchased by merchants in Jaffna from the cultivators in the months of August, September and October. The tobacco intended for export is sorted out into various grades and soaked in sea water to suit the peculiar taste of consumers in Travancore, before being bundled and baled. The tobacco so prepared cannot be sold in any other place than Travancore.

Jaffna Discriminated Agent

Travancore has been since late discriminating against Jaffna tobacco in preference to British Indian tobacco, in spite of the Proclamation of the Maharajah of Travancore in 1864 abolishing the monopoly of the tobacco trade and throwing it open to people of all countries subject only to a uniform rate of duty on the tobacco imported into that State irrespective of the quality or the place of origin.

Till 1910 the duty on Ceylon tobacco and British Indian tobacco in Travancore was Rs 90- per candy. In 1910 the duty on Ceylon tobacco was suddenly raised to Rs. 900- per candy, while the duty on British Indian tobacco remained at Rs. 90 per candy. But thanks to the intervention of the Ceylon Government which adduced sufficient reasons to the Government of India and the Secretary of State for Colonies the duty on Ceylon tobacco was brought down to the old level of Rs. 90/- (vide Sessional papers No 22 of 1910)

Later, Travancore gave a preference of Rs 25/- per candy to the British Indian tobacco, the rates being Rs 135/- per candy on Ceylon tobacco and Rs 110/- per Candy of British Indian tobacco

The present action of the Travancore Durbar raising the duty payable per candy by Ceylon tobacco to Rs 200/- may be taken as a retaliatory measure against the discontinuance of Indian labourers in the employ of the Ceylon Government

Out of last year's purchase there are about 1800 candies to the value of 5½ lakhs of rupees still remaining in Jaffna ready for shipment. Another 1000 candies valued about 3 lakhs of rupees are at the Government Bunkshalls in Travancore yet

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SIDE LIGHTS AND LIGHT SIDES

(By Squint Eye)

The cause of the explosion given by an official of the gas company is that the water in the main burst, probably owing to heavy rains causing its bed to sink. The water fractured the gas main and undermined the building which in its full smash the fire alarm causing a short circuit which ignited the gas.

That's the long circuit of the rains that sank the ground, that burst the main, that fractured the pipe, that mined the house, that smashed the alarm, that caused the short circuit, that ignited the gas. Very methodical, indeed!

A young man in North India who attempted to commit suicide by taking poison has been acquitted of the charge for want of sufficient evidence. His counsel argued in the case that he was violently infatuated with a film star whom he had seen on the screen, and he took a small quantity of poison, which was not sufficient to kill him, merely to impress on his parents the depth of his feelings for the film star and the necessity of their securing a wife for him of equal beauty and grade.

He may now write a book for the benefit of other star-gazers, about the Fine Art of Attempting Suicide for Star Bride.

A Lancashire cricketer recently found his trousers were on fire as he was hitting a ball, a box of matches in the trouser-pocket having been ignited by the impact of the ball.

The times are such, a conflagration is expected from the least unexpected quarters.

A few weeks back the rumour was that Japan was to join the Rome-Berlin Axis.

Now you see the result. If an axis tries to have more than two ends a break only can result.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES:

The great ones of the world have taken to speaking in terms of numbers and thinking of numerology. Wilson led the way with his fourteen points. In India Jinnah had his seven points. We have heard of the nine-power pact. In Palestine they talked of a two-point programme to fight the British proposals. Sir Andrew Caldecott indulged in a twelve-point statement. Numerology is great, indeed.

Another sign of the times is the craze for great persons to shelter under the cloak of "spokesmanship" when statements are issued. This craze started somewhere about the time the Italo-Abyssinian affair broke out. On either side it was a "spokesman" that issued or authorised statements. Then in China Japanese and Chinese "spokesmen" alternately gave stories of their encounters. It is good that personalities are shrinking thus. I wonder if when our Ministers have something to say important they will get under this "spokesmanship" shelter. Ima-

gine a speech of some rabid Sinhalese patriot being reported as from a "Goonesinhalese spokesman", or a biting retort from a Northern member being attributed to a "Panangkottai spokesman." It's worth giving a trial, this stunt.

Marshal Chiang-kai-shek has urged the Chinese to build a spiritual fortress against the Japanese propaganda.

A sort of moral re-arming, against improper-ganda.

Writing of the war of the future (looks like the present) a German military expert has stated that the hostile attack will be directed against the large cities and their populations, and that the war will frequently have the appearance of a destruction en masse of the civil population rather than a combat of armed men.

Safety, then, seems to be for civilians to enrol for the front in large numbers and take up their positions in the battlefield, leaving the Regulars in the towns and cities. The fighting lines will be crowded, while the homesters will be few and far between. The enemy can bomb them or gas them as they please. In Ceylon all we have to do is to put our Ponnampalams and Goonesinghes and Bandaranaiques, and Perinbanayagams and Pereras to remain in the homes and send all the others to the front. Can't we afford to sacrifice these doughty fighters for the sake of the country?

Is that the reason for their having sent Pandit Jawaharal to the Chinese battlefield leaving Sriput Subhas Chandra Bose in the home country?

Over three thousand persons in Bombay have obtained certificates from some medical officer or other to state that their (the persons, not the doctors) health will be permanently and seriously affected if they do not use liquor, which is now under prohibition.

This number seems to be growing steadily and therefore the Prohibition authorities are going to scrutinize this wholesale weakness..... for liquor.

Love scenes in films will in future be "air-conditioned", states an American news item. The idea is that love is kindled best under certain temperatures according to the personal reactions of the parties concerned. The temperature obtaining in front of glaring electric lamps of huge power and artificial settings is too trying for love of the proper intensity to develop. Air-conditioning comes in handy at just those places where a Romeo is at the feet of a Juliet.

In the Film boosts to some we may read something like this: "The Thrillingest, thunderous, electric human drama of the minute. Air-conditioned lovers pour forth their thrills....."

Send your Grams by Phone: says
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Change of Name

I Veerakathy Amirtham of Alaveddy do hereby bring to the notice of the Government of Ceylon, the general public and those who are concerned that I shall from this day forward be known and called as Veerakathypillai Sinna Thangam and shall sign my name as

V. S. THANGAM.

Alaveddy,
21-8-39.

(Mis 128. 24-31-8-39)



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1939

STATE FARM FOR UNEMPLOYED

FROM THE REPORT FOR 1938 of the Controller of Labour we find that the volume of unemployment in Ceylon though fairly large is not so severe as in Europe or in India. A census conducted in September 1938 reveals that the unemployed in Colombo form less than 4 per cent of the total estimated population of the city. "This proportion", Mr. GIMSON observes, "is not considered to be a cause of alarm". No figures are available as to the volume of unemployment in rural areas, but it may be safely assumed that whatever unemployment there exists is mostly among the educated or the semi-educated and that the situation as a whole is not disconcerting. In the year 1937-38, Rs. 275,000 was voted for unemployment relief works of which Rs. 225,000 was spent. But the total amount spent during the year on relief work was about Rs. 500,000. The way in which this money was spent has led to much criticism. The total vote for unemployment relief was spent in such constructive works as levelling of land and paid to the unemployed in the form of wages for services rendered and not as doles. In so far as the scheme made them realise that they must work for getting relief, it is commendable. But this project places the unemployed in continuous dependence on State aid without teaching them self-reliance. To remedy this defect a scheme has been drawn up for the establishment of a State Farm in the Puttalam District. A Committee composed of the Director of Agriculture and the Controller of Labour under the chairman-

ship of the Commissioner of Lands have gone into the matter and have drawn up a proposal for the cultivation of 500 acres of irrigable land in the Puttalam District by a band of colonists. The men will be provided with suitable houses and proper attention will be paid to their health. They will be given adequate facilities for carrying on agriculture and poultry farming. There will also be a cattle farm to meet the demands of the cultivation. We believe that the scheme will confer much benefit on those taking to it provided the State gives the colonists suitable instruction and training. We are aware that a few educated young men proceeded to Minneriya for purposes of colonisation and returned disappointed by failure and disease. To put young men on the Farm without adequate previous training will only lead to disappointment and waste. The authorities should take particular care to instruct them how to tackle their difficulties, what to expect from their enterprise and what is in store for them. They must be made self-reliant and not placed in the position of hired labourers who depend on Government for everything. The scheme, if put into effect with vision and foresight, will provide an excellent training ground for our young men in self-reliance and resource and will make them efficient peasant proprietors and rural reconstruction workers with lands of their own. If our educated young men take to the scheme, they can in their own way become estimable citizens and leaders in their own village and can live an independent and useful life. At the present day it is schemes such as these that can open some scope for our educated youth.

Jaffna Association Bars Its Doors

No Further Enrolment of New Members

THE question of placing a ban on entry of new members to the Jaffna Association was discussed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association held on Monday.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai presided.

Of those who had resigned Messrs. C. Ponnambalam and R. F. Nalliah attended the meeting.

Both of them, it is learned, attended in order to find out whether any compromise was possible between the two sections.

Mr. Appadurai, the Organising Secretary, in reading the minutes of the last committee meeting

Collection of Rents by U. D. C.

Auditor General's Remarks

REMARKS that the collection of rents and electricity dues still continues to be unsatisfactory are made by the Auditor-General in his report on the working of the Jaffna Urban District Council for 1938 which was tabled at the Council's monthly meeting. Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy (Chairman) presiding.

At the end of the year there were arrears of revenue under the following principal items of revenue, he states:

Property Rate	Rs. 28,994.00
Rent of Markets, etc., previous years	Rs. 5,930.00
1938	Rs. 633.00
Electricity Dues, previous years	Rs. 4,126.00
1938	Rs. 15,741.00

Of these arrears the following amounts have since been collected:

	Rs. c
Property Rate	17,428 00
Rent of Lands, etc.	295 00
Electricity Dues	13,540 00

"The arrears on these accounts in previous years show no indication of improvement. More stringent steps should be taken towards the early recovery of the arrears of revenue," emphasises the Auditor-General.

Referring to the expenditure of Rs. 100 for an address and a casket to the Acting Governor on his proposed visit to the town last year, the Auditor-General states: "As all expenditure on public ceremonies, entertainments etc., required the specific sanction of the Local Government Board I enquired whether the requisite authority had been obtained. The Chairman stated in reply that the matter was not submitted for the approval of the Local Government Board as the arrangement was cancelled on hearing that the proposed visit was not official.

"The Secretary who had in the meantime spent Rs. 52.44 in preparing the address settled the advance by debiting a vote with the amount and by refunding the balance. I pointed out that the debit to the vote in the absence of the specific

stated that it had been decided that there should be no further enrolment of members besides the 58 already enrolled at the last meeting till the general meeting is held.

Mr. K. V. Rasiah said that such a resolution was never carried at the last meeting and moved the deletion of the paragraph. Mr. Nalliah seconded.

Mr. N. Selvadurai observed that some members were attempting to injure the Association by enrolling new members. It was desirable that at this stage all further enrolments should be stopped.

A discussion then ensued, at the end of which the Chairman put Mr. Rasiah's resolution to the House. The resolution was defeated, only the mover, the seconder and Mr. Ponnambalam voting for the resolution.

authority of the Local Government Board for the expenditure was illegal and was subject to surcharge by this Department.

Sanction Obtained

"The President, Local Government Board, to whom the Council applied for the necessary authority inquired from me what action I proposed to take in the matter and forwarded a statement from the ex-chairman of the Council to the effect that an attempt was made to recover even a portion of the advance made to the various parties but without success.

"I reported that the expenditure of Rs. 52.44 as it stood in the books of the Council was illegal and that I would have no alternative but to surcharge it.

"If however the Local Government Board would grant covering sanction to the expenditure in the special circumstances of the case as it has done in somewhat similar cases in the past, the charge to the vote would be passed.

"Covering authority was accordingly granted by the Local Government Board for the expenditure in question."

Temple and Market Dues

Mr. C. Ponnambalam moved that in future the right to collect dues at the Colanbutturai market be sold to the Manager of Sri Chandrasekera Pillayar Kovil, Colanbutturai, at a fixed rate without calling for tenders.

Mr. V. A. Durayappah seconded.

Mr. R. R. Nalliah remarked that the Council ought to advertise for tenders and that when the tenders were considered the application of the manager of temple might also be considered.

Mr. K. V. Sinnadurai remarked that he could not understand how a fish market rent was to be given to a temple manager.

The Chairman agreed with the views expressed by Mr. Nalliah and the mover withdrew his motion on the understanding that the question would be considered along with the tenders when the time came.

On the motion of Mr. C. P. Thambiah it was resolved to fold the meetings of the Council in future on the second Monday of every month at 4.30 p.m.

Draft bylaws regarding firewood and timber depots and stores were adopted. The Chairman said that the firewood and timber depots were being opened indiscriminately everywhere in the town and disfigured the area, besides being breeding places for snakes.

Reception to School Inspector

The Valigamam West Teachers' Association, the Musical Society, and others interested in education will entertain Mr. A. Saravanamuttu, Asst Inspector of Schools, on 29-39 in the evening at a public meeting at the St. Anthony's English School, Kayts on the eve of his transfer, in recognition of the useful services rendered by him in that division towards the cause of education. Sir W. Duraiswamy, Speaker of the State Council, will preside over the function.

(Cor)

GERMAN REPLY TO BRITISH NOTE

Situation Remains Serious, Says German Paper

HITLER'S REPLY TO FRENCH PREMIER'S APPEAL

Wednesday.

ALTHOUGH details regarding the nature of the German reply to the British Note are not available, Press comment in Germany affords some indication of what Herr Hitler is trying to achieve.

The possibility and the desirability of an Anglo-German understanding on a wide basis is discussed by the papers following Mr. Chamberlain's statement in the house of Commons yesterday and the exchange of communications between Herr Hitler and Mr. Chamberlain.

The "Deutsche Allgemeine", for example, says: "Herr Hitler aims at peace in Europe by the removal of the injustice of Versailles and a genuine Anglo-German understanding, but Mr. Chamberlain's speech shows that the unsolved German-Polish question stands in the way of the attainment of this."

Commenting on the exchange of Notes between Berlin and London the "National Zeitung" of Essen, which is associated with Field-Marshal Goering, says: "The Fuehrer's preparedness to examine, even partially, bearable and reasonable proposals and to make an effort to approach a necessary solution is exemplary for any statesman. Even if the diplomatic conversations between Berlin and London continue, the situation remains, as before, very serious, and it must be added that it will remain serious until the hour when the just German demands are fulfilled."

It is learned that the German reply was of a detailed character and was handed over in German and that the translation into English took some time. Further details were added by oral explanations to Sir Nevile Henderson, the British Ambassador in Berlin, who was alone when he visited the Fuehrer yesterday.

HITLER EXPLAINS HIS DEMANDS

THE full text of the important letters that passed between Herr Hitler and Monsieur Daladier, the French Prime Minister, on August 26th on the burning question of the day is published in the Times.

In his reply to M. Daladier's letter Herr Hitler says:—

I am sincerely convinced that if especially on the part of England, instead of at the time releasing a wild press campaign against Germany, launching rumours about a German mobilization Poland some how had been persuaded to be reasonable, Europe today and for 25 years could have the benefit of the deepest peace.

But now, owing to lies about

German aggression, Polish public opinion has been excited, it has been made more difficult for the Polish Government to make their own necessary and clear decisions, and above all, by the promise of guarantee which then followed, the capacity on the part of the Polish Government, of realising the limits of actual possibilities, has been impaired.

The Polish Government turned down my proposals. In the firm conviction that both England and France would now fight for them Polish public opinion began to make demands which, were they not so frightfully dangerous, one could perhaps describe as ridiculous mental aberrations. At that time an intolerable terror began, a physical and economic oppression of more than 1½ million Germans living in ceded territories.

I do not want to speak in this letter of horrors that have happened. But Danzig too, owing to the continued encroachments on her citizens by the Polish authorities, was more and more forced to realize that Danzig was apparently, without hope of escape handed over to an arbitrary power of reign to the national character of the town and population.

"Had it been France"

May I, Mr. Daladier, now be permitted to ask how you as a Frenchman would act if (after the unhappy end of a war bravely fought) one of your provinces were separated by the corridor occupied by a foreign power and a large town, say, Marseilles, were prevented from calling itself French and the Frenchmen living in that territory were beaten, ill treated and even bestially murdered?

Would you then understand it, Mr. Daladier, if Germany, without any cause whatsoever, were to insist that the corridor through France should remain, that the stolen province should not be returned and that the return of Marseilles to France should be forbidden?

I, at any rate, Mr. Daladier, cannot imagine that Germany would fight you for this reason, for I and all of us have renounced Alsace-Lorraine in order to avoid further bloodshed. Still less would we shed blood in order to maintain an injustice intolerable to you, and of no importance to us

In everything you say in your letter, Mr. Daladier, I feel exactly like you do. Perhaps just you and I as Front line veterans of the World War, can understand each other better in certain respects. But I ask you also to understand that for a nation of honour, it is impossible to renounce her claims on nearly two million people and to see

TO PROMOTE INTERESTS OF MARITIME PEOPLE

An Association to be Formed

Valvettiturai, 30.8.39.

A meeting of the residents of the Maritime Districts of Jaffna will be held at Valvettiturai English School at 6 p. m. today to consider the advisability of forming an Association to promote the social and economic interests of the sea-faring people.

SIDE LIGHTS

And LIGHT SIDES

(Continued from page 3)

an advertisement by the Indian Postal Dept.

That reminds me of a story of the early days of the telephone. Someone rang up an office in Singapore and said that some oil was being sent on immediately. The boss was away, so the Malay attender hurried to the back room and brought an empty kerosene tin and was seen holding it under the telephone receiver when the boss returned. The oil had not yet come through, tuu.

them ill-treated on her own borders. "Danzig Must Return"

I have, therefore, made a clear demand: Danzig and the Corridor must return to Germany. The Macedonian conditions on our Eastern frontier must cease. I see no way of being able to induce Poland (which now under the protection of her guarantors considers herself unassailable) to come to a peaceful solution. I would, however, despair of the honourable future of my country if in the circumstances we were not determined to solve the question one way or another.

If Fate then compels our two nations once more to fight each other, there would yet be a difference in the motives. I, Mr. Daladier, would then fight with my people for the reparation of an injustice, the others for its retention. This is all the more tragic since many prominent men, also of your own country, saw the nonsense of the solution at the time as clearly as the impossibility of its continued application.

I am fully aware of the dreadful consequences which such a conflict entails. The worst consequences, however, would be borne by Poland, for no matter how a war over this question ends, the Polish State of today would be lost one way or the other.

That our two people are to engage in a new and bloodstained war, is not only very painful to you, but also to me, Mr. Daladier. But as mentioned before, I see no possibility of influencing Poland from our side to come to reason and rectify a situation which is intolerable for the German people and the German Reich.

(Continued.)

by the Food Controller with the railway for the transport of rice to some of the outstation towns. Certain days of the week have been fixed for the transport of rice to different outstation towns when the quantity decided upon as sufficient for the needs of the town in question will be conveyed from the Granaries.

PROFITEERING TO BE CHECKED

MAXIMUM PRICES FIXED FOR RICE

MINISTER'S ORDER GAZETTED

Colombo, Wednesday.

A Gazette Extraordinary issued late last night contained an order by the Minister fixing the maximum price of all grades of rice in the Colombo Municipal area, and the principal Urban Council areas.

Prices for the Sanitary Board towns will be fixed today.

The question of prices for the Village Committee areas of which there are about 450, will be taken up immediately.

Control Prices

The maximum prices fixed by the Minister and appearing in yesterday's Gazette Extraordinary and the prices prevalent in the Colombo market yesterday were as follows:—

Muttusamba No. 1, wholesale per bag Rs. 11.25, retail per bag Rs. 11.55 and retail per measure 15½ cents. The ruling price of this variety of rice yesterday in Colombo was Rs. 13.90 per bag.

Muttusamba, No. 2, wholesale per bag Rs. 10.75, retail per bag Rs. 11.05, per measure, 15 cents. The price of this rice per bag yesterday in Colombo was Rs. 13.27.

Muttusamba No. 3, wholesale per bag, Rs. 10.25; retail per bag, Rs. 10.55, per measure 14½ cents. A price of Rs. 11.88 per bag was charged for this rice yesterday in Colombo.

Kora, wholesale per bag Rs. 10.25, retail per bag, Rs. 10.55, per measure 14½ cents. The price of this rice yesterday was Rs. 12 per bag.

Calcutta Samba, wholesale per bag, Rs. 10.31, retail per bag, Rs. 10.61 per measure, 14½ cents. The local price yesterday of this variety was not available to the Food Controller.

Broken raw rice, wholesale per bag, Rs. 10, retail per bag, Rs. 10.30, per measure, 14½ cents. The price of this variety yesterday was not certain and there were few sales.

Milchard, No. 1, wholesale per bag, Rs. 9, retail per bag, Rs. 9.30, per measure 13 cents. This rice sold in Colombo yesterday for Rs. 11.50 per bag.

Milchard No. 2, wholesale per bag, Rs. 8.62, retail per bag, Rs. 8.92, per measure 12½ cents. The price of this rice yesterday was Rs. 10.40 per bag.

Milchard No. 3, wholesale per bag, Rs. 8.30, retail per bag, Rs. 8.60, per measure, 12 cents. The lowest price charged for this rice yesterday in Colombo was Rs. 9.38 per bag.

The increase over the maximum retail price fixed for the Colombo Municipal Council area in Urban Council areas is as follows: Kalutara U.D.C. 50 cents per bag, ½ cent per measure; Panadura U.D.C. 42 cents per bag, ½ cent per measure; Chilaw U.D.C. 70 cents per bag, one cent per measure; Puttalam U.D.C. 90 cents per bag, 1½ cents per measure; Matale U.D.C. 60 cents per bag, ½ cent per measure; Jaffna U.D.C. Rs. 1.25 per bag, 1½ cents per measure; Batticaloa U.D.C. 50 cents per bag, ½ cent per measure; Anuradhapura U.D.C. Rs. 1.25 per bag, 1½ cents per measure; Kegalla U.D.C. Rs. 1 per bag, 1½ cents per measure.

For the purposes of the order a bag of any rice, other than Broken Raw Rice shall contain not less than 80 measures and a bag of Broken Raw Rice not less than 93 measures.

The Food Controller was confident yesterday that there was no cause for anxiety as regards the adequacy of rice supplies.

Arrangements have also been made

(Continued on previous Col.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"ONE THING AND ANOTHER"

Sir,—(1) It is good, nay best, to indulge in a logical discussion, with a view to arriving at truths. But, to chew an illogical end is bitter. The opening sentence of "Panangkoddai" is a repetition in different words of an unsubstantiated statement he made in his article, which I challenged in my former letter. "If half the number of Government servants in the island" he says, "are of the calibre of my opponent Pilakkoddai,....then, the other half could be sent home, without detriment to the country." This sentence is of much logical interest, since it reveals the nature of Panangkoddai's Induction on the one hand, and his attempt at verbal quibble on the other. Let us take the Protasis, first, of this hypothetical proposition: If half the number of Government servants in the island are of the calibre of my opponent Pilakkoddai. What does he understand by "the calibre of my opponent Pilakkoddai." Does he know me to write of my "calibre"? He had read a few lines I wrote to your valuable journal, criticising his article. Beyond that he knows nothing of me. The lines I wrote do not reveal my person in the least. Yet, he speaks of my "calibre". May I frankly ask him the connotation of the term "calibre", in the context. If A speaks of the calibre of B, A should know B very well. The calibre is a class, the connotation of which is, if not fully, at least to a very great extent, revealed to the individual cited. Here is a person who does not know the individual at all, and, still has the illogical impudence to make him represent a class. The validity of Panangkoddai's induction is quite apparent.

Again, let me take the full proposition to expose the linguistic quibble of Panangkoddai. For the sake of criticism, I am forced to assume "calibre" a connotative of "efficiency," although it is materially fallacious, as explained in the foregoing paragraph. Therefore, if the hypothetical proposition is written, without reference to me, it will read, "If half the number of Government servants in the island are efficient.....then, the.....country." It is, therefore, inferable from the proposition that not even half the number of Government servants are efficient. In other words, the categorical proposition, except a few select persons, the other Government servants are good for nothing fellows, which Panangkoddai wrote formerly, is expressed in a hypothetical proposition, a grand quibble. I have challenged him to prove his categorical proposition in my former letter. Instead of proving it, he takes umbrage under a Petitio Principii, assuming the very thing I wanted him to prove.

(2) Panangkoddai professes to know much of Government Departments in and outside the island. After a couple of sentences he says, "Let my friend take the views of the average public in this matter. If he has any knowledge of Government Departments, I cannot understand why he should take shelter

under the views of the average public in this matter. Why can't he discuss the matter in the light of reason, armed as he is with the knowledge he professes to possess? When Smith is asked why he thinks that Charles Lamb is the best essayist in English Literature, his reply is, "Master tells me so." The reply reveals that Smith does not know anything of Lamb, but has taken shelter under the estimate of "Master", a veritable argumentum ad verecundiam. The mere fact that Panangkoddai calls to his assistance the average public reveals that he knows very little of Government Departments, and his professed knowledge is a mere imagination. I may incidentally ask him whether the views of the average public are authoritative?

(3) Panangkoddai gives us something interesting in the following sentence:—"The good people who are obliged to stay after office hours are themselves proof of general inefficiency in Government offices." Is the inefficiency in Government Offices or in Government servants? A Government Office simply is: it cannot be efficient or inefficient. Then, the allegation must be against the Government servant. Let us take the most efficient man. If he has work for nine hours, when he has only seven working hours, the urgency of the work compels him to stay back and finish it. Surely he cannot, therefore, be called inefficient. If an officer stays back after office hours and works, it can never be to prove that he is inefficient; it shows that there is heavy work in Office.

(4) "The Railway is a Government Department. Can Pilakkoddai state that it is efficient?" This question is what is called, "Interrogation" with a negative answer. Panangkoddai's statement is that the Railway is inefficient. The onus probandi rests with the man who makes a statement. One cannot make a statement and ask the opponent to refute it by proving the opposite. There is no such debate or discussion. So long as Panangkoddai fails to prove his statement, there is no necessity for me to refute it. But, I venture to say this much: The fall in revenue is one thing and efficiency another. If the Railway shows an annual deficit, it does not logically reveal a want of efficiency in the Department, unless all other conditions are eliminated and a causal connexion established. Merely to create a causal connexion between the fall in revenue and the want of efficiency in the Railway Department, in a mood of reveries, is a striking instance of post hoc ergo propter hoc. Let Panangkoddai establish the causal connection inductively, without indulging in fallacious generalisations.

I have taken a few points from Panangkoddai's letter for criticism. I am not able to discuss the whole letter, since it is neither logically arranged nor coherently placed. The entire discussion is in a chaotic condition. It is one where form and material are not respected. In my last

letter, I challenged Panangkoddai to substantiate his statements—in Government Offices Work is slack, and, excepting a few select persons, the other Government servants are good for nothing fellows. I thought his reply would have the substantiation. He has completely ignored my letter and has written very many irrelevant things, which I don't care to take notice of. If he wants to continue the discussion, let him reply my former letter, in a logical manner. If, on the other hand, he allows his pen to run riot I may not find it necessary to reply his fallacies.

Colombo Cordially yours
28 8-39 "PILAKODDAI"

Wanted a D. R. C. Road at Pungudutivu

Sir,

The islands comprising part of the Kayts constituency have often been disregarded, perhaps unconsciously by the authorities in charge of local communications and transport. As a result the inhabitants of these islands find it very difficult to adopt themselves to modern environments both cultural and administrative. The inhabitants of these islands are shut out from the peninsula by the antiquated and extremely slow system of communication that is at present functioning in these areas.

The most record-breaking of all the impediments that hinder and almost mar the progress of the inhabitants of these islands is the system of communication that exists within them.

In the island of Pungudutivu there exists a D. R. C. road that runs from the pilgrim haunted Kandasamy Temple to Kaluthaipiddy and Kalliaru.

This pathway is entirely made up of loose earth and the farmers have to convey the manure, paddy and straw by this very pathway to the adjoining fields. Moreover this is the only pathway by which cattle are driven to the pastures at Kertiva.

During the rainy season this pathway is rendered unfit for the use of pedestrians, carts and cattle owing to the boginess of the ground caused by the stagnation of un-healthy and disease-breeding water. This is a source of great inconvenience to the farmers as well as the inhabitants of the place.

The pathway is more than a century old and is the main line of communication from a port of primary importance to Pungudutivu. The neglected condition of this pathway does not permit the use of this port. As a consequence vessels have to take a roundabout and an extremely rocky course to reach another spot where they could discharge their cargo and passengers.

Again this is the only pathway to the burial and cremation grounds at Kertiva. So it is extremely essential on the part of the authorities who are in charge of the communications of this island to take adequate steps to redress this long-standing grievance.

Trappidy, Yours etc.,
Pungudutivu, V. Caithigesu.
30-8-39

What Increased Duty on Tobacco Costs Jaffna

(Continued from page 3)

to be sold.

Duty on the Present Stock

The long established practice of the Travancore Customs authorities has been not to recover import duty on tobacco in the Customs as soon as its arrival, but to remove it to Government Bankshalls and keep it in charge of Government officers, till the time of its sale and removal by the owners, when duty is recovered according to the weight then found.

Therefore tobacco landed in Travancore long before the new tariffs came into operation and the tobacco cured specially for the consumer in Travancore and remaining in Jaffna ready for shipment will also have to pay this enhanced duty.

The tariff preference to British Indian tobacco has gradually ousted the Jaffna merchant from the trade. At the time when the import duty was the same for Ceylon and British Indian tobacco, there were about a hundred Ceylon merchants operating in Travancore. But when preference was given to British Indian tobacco, at the expense of Ceylon tobacco, the market for Ceylon tobacco dwindled and the number of Ceylon merchants has been reduced to a fifteen. The total of exports has also been nearly halved. The present enhanced duty will still make the number of traders go down. From this one can judge the economic dislocation and the consequent sufferings that will be brought about in Jaffna society by the increased tariffs.

More than the traders, the tobacco cultivators will be crushed beyond redemption by this enhanced duty. The exporters will buy from the cultivators at such prices as would enable them to pay the enhanced duty and still compete with the British Indian tobacco. On an approximate estimate, the number of people belonging to tobacco cultivators, families aggregates to 27,000. By the action of the Travancore Government these 27,000 people are suddenly faced with economic ruin.

Thus it will be seen that the action of Travancore irrespective of the Indo-Ceylon Trade will not only bring hardship to Jaffna peasants, but will also upset in a way the exchange machinery between Ceylon and India.

The favourable trade position of India as against Ceylon, deems it necessary on the part of India (Travancore including) to take in as much of exportable surplus from Ceylon to wipe out the disequilibrium between imports and exports.

The unfavourable position of Ceylon is partly responsible for the large number of Indians coming to the Island as traders, wage-earners etc.

This state of things will continue to increase unless Ceylon is in a position to export all her exportable surplus and make direct payments by goods for the imports from India.

It is imperative that the Government of Ceylon should interfere in this matter and adopt prompt measures to secure the repeal of this enhanced duty. The situation is grave and at a time of unparalleled crisis, Jaffna looks up to you to interfere in the matter and use your influence with the Travancore Government and the Indian Government to secure the necessary relief.

Finding Employment for Indigenous Population

(Continued from page 1)

who already work on estates and by the introduction of men and women who have already previous connection on estates that desertion will be few. In order to encourage this method of procedure I instructed the Superintendents of estates that it was desirable to send to the agencies, as far as possible Sinhalese recruiters or other estate officials who are able to speak Sinhalese fluently so that with the assistance of the Agents they might get in touch with the labourers, inform them of the actual conditions and so avoid extending false hopes which cannot be fulfilled. It seems therefore essential that every estate recruiter should carry a document printed in Sinhalese and English so that he can disclose its contents to the would-be recruits and their relatives in the village and so that the Depot Agent, to whom the recruits will be brought to arrange transport, &c, will be able to inform them from the document what they may expect and thus minimize deceit. Certain recommendations which were made in this connection by the Ceylon Emigration Commissioner are being examined and a special officer has since been delegated to study the working of the agencies and make a report.

Replacement of Indians by Ceylonese

The replacement of Indians by Ceylonese can, under the most favourable circumstances be only gradual and in some spheres to limited extent and it is undesirable to interfere with the free flow of Indian estate labour. If this flow of labour is stopped a very large number of Indians will become stabilized in Ceylon estates. They will rapidly increase owing to the attention which is being paid to the general question of sanitation as well as the better provision of maternity hospitals, and in a few years the addition by natural increase alone will be sufficient to provide sufficient labour for estates regardless of the presence of any Sinhalese.

The problem of the employment of Sinhalese labour is one to which much attention has been devoted. In the neighbourhood of estates there are always numbers of villagers who are prepared to supplement the income derived from the cultivation of their fields by working on estates when able to do so. The large majority however, are reluctant to abandon a holding however small to take up permanent residence in the lines situated on the estates. The time does not yet seem to have arrived when the standards of living of the Sinhalese villager has been reduced to such a marked degree as to drive him by sheer economic necessity to take up regular industrial employment.

On the other hand there are densely populated rural areas when a surplus of agricultural labourers exists who are ignorant

LAND QUESTIONS IN JAFFNA DISTRICT

(Continued from page 1)

in all to 119 acres 1 rood and 3 perches, made during the year under review and distributed between the Valikamam north and east, Vadamaradchi, Pachchilappali-Karachchi, Pooneryn-Tunukkai and Delft Divisions, have already been made under the Land Development Ordinance. The total acreage of these allotments is 162 acres and 19 perches. They are rather sporadically distributed and there have hitherto been no exact records of their positions and boundaries. The appointment of a District Surveyor attached to the Kachcheri during the year under review has made it possible to make a beginning with rough surveys, and the compilation of graphic records, of these existing allotments, with view to—

(a) adequate control of their development up to the point at which grants will be issued in respect of them, and

(b) systematic development of the other Crown lands adjoining them.

It has also been possible—thanks to the fact that the services of a District Surveyor are available—to initiate a policy of preparing rough outline surveys of Crown lands available elsewhere for allotment under the Land Development Ordinance, with a view to systematic development of such lands in accordance with the policy underlying the Ordinance, pending mapping out of the areas in which they are

of the requirements necessary for work on estates. Superintendents cannot afford in these days of keen economic rivalry to engage a large number of inexperienced labourers and at the best villagers ignorant of estate life can only be absorbed in small numbers into the tea and rubber industries. How far vocational training could overcome the reluctance of the Sinhalese villager, however indigent his circumstances, to the loss of his independence as a cultivator of his own land and to become a member of a disciplined labour force is a matter of conjecture.

Where Sinhalese are to be found in large numbers resident on estates they are reported to have proved a success and to have worked amicably with their Indian fellow labourers. It is presumed that these Sinhalese had acquired a tradition for estate employment and had prior to leaving their own holdings been thoroughly familiar with estate life. On the other hand villagers despatched from the agencies with no such previous experience have shown that in spite of care taken to accustom them to a new environment they cannot as yet accept a life of regular daily toil under conditions in which other Sinhalese are living in contentment and happiness. The problem therefore presented would appear to be one of slow growth which no intensive measures are likely to accelerate.

comprised. Action had been taken, or was in contemplation, on these lines at the end of these lines at the end of the year under review in respect of areas in Delft East, at Kaithady, at Sarasalai, at Elephant Pass, and in the Pooneryn area; and Land Kachcheries in respect of areas so surveyed at Kaithady and at Sarasalai had already been fixed.

The acreage under the Karachchi Scheme alienated during the year under review (not taking account of lands leased on short term leases) was 317 acres and 1 rood. Out of this total acreage an extent of 317 acres and 28 perches was allotted at two Land Kachcheries, held respectively on February 26, and April 9, and the remainder 54 acres and 12 perches was allotted piecemeal. The number of individual allottees was forty. All allotments were made under the Land Development Ordinance. No allotments were made during the year under review within the colonization area.

The acreage in respect of which permit-holders were allowed during the year under review to enter into agreements to purchase in view of contingent rights to settlements which had accrued under their permits was 203 acres 1 rood and 20 perches. The total amount paid and payable on account of this extent is Rs. 4,705-99.

The position as regards lands alienated, or occupied under the Crown, under the Karachchi Scheme at the end of the year under review was as follows:—

	A. R. P.
Total surveyed acreage under the Scheme	12,562 1 26.7
Lands in respect of which outright grants have been issued	6,299 0 0
Lands in respect of which agreements to sell outright have been entered into, but for which grants have not yet been issued	597 1 31
Lands leased on long term leases	81 2 26
Lands occupied on permits giving a contingent right to settlement	1,199 0 37
Lands occupied on other permits (other than permits under the Land Development Ordinance)	100 3 38
Lands occupied on permits under the Land Development Ordinance (other than colonization lands)	1,812 2 8
Lands occupied on permits under the Land Development Ordinance (colonization lands)	221 0 21
Total	10,312 0 4

The total amount due and outstanding on account of settlements at the end of the year under review was Rs. 4,966-02. Of this sum Rs. 401-26 represented instalments or portions of instalments which were more than one year overdue.

Thirty allotments had been made in the colonization area up to the end of the year under re-

view. The colony can be said to be making progress, if only slowly. During the year under review the morale of the colonist allottees has shown a decided improvement. They appear to be more hopeful than formerly, and less inclined to abandon their allotments. From the material point of view the progress made is most definite, as is shown by the following statement of the value of the produce obtained by the allottees from their lands during each of the last two calendar years:—

	1938.	1937.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Paddy land	4,224 0	668 0
High land	389 0	22 0

An attempt was made during the year under review to provide each colonist allottee with a mosquito-proof room in his house. It soon, however, became evident that the attempt was ill-timed. The allottees had no objection to the Government's providing them with well built rooms in their houses, but took little or no interest in the matter of the mosquito-proofing. On the other hand, an offer of paid work on the roads which have to be constructed through the colonization area met with a fairly ready response.

The health of the colony has been fairly good. During the year there were two cases of dysentery, one case of mumps, and five cases of measles. There were six births and four deaths during the year. Of the four persons who died two were adults and two were infants. Both the infants died of debility. One of the adults died of cerebral malaria and the other died of pneumonia.

Irrigation

The total acreage in respect of which irrigation rate is payable under the Karachchi Scheme is 9,008 acres 2 roods and 7 perches made up as follows:—

	A. R. P.
Newly opened lands	7,614 1 4
Parathan old fields	1,394 1 3

The standard rate, as recommended by the Karachchi Scheme Committee in Sessional Paper No. V. of 1926, is Rs. 2 per acre; but in view of representations by the non resident proprietors that they could hope to make little or no profit with the yields obtained, and on the basis of the then current price of paddy, the rate for the year under review was reduced to Re. 1 per acre. Of the total sum of Rs. 9,017.39 due, Rs. 6,602.78 was recovered on demand and Rs. 1,602-99 was recovered on threat of distraint. The amount due and outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 811-62.

Nothing was due and outstanding on account of irrigation rate in respect of previous years at the end of the year under review.

In the Tunukkai area the construction work which was begun by the Irrigation Department on the Mallavi and Tunukkai tanks in the year 1937 was completed during the year under review. Investigation of the other tanks in the Tunukkai area and of three abandoned tanks in the Punakari area was also completed. The Mallavi tank breached in March and was repaired during the year by the proprietors.

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