

The Hindu Organ.

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

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ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XLIII—NO. 30. (Phone 56) JAFFNA, THURSDAY OCTOBER 15, 1931. (Registered as a Newspaper.) PRICE 5 CTS.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7879.

In the matter of the estate of the late Chellamma wife of Visuvalingam Navaratnam of Palkias

Deceased.

Ambalavanar Kanapathypillai of Sankanal
Vs.
Petitioner.

- (1) Visuvalingam Navaratnam of Sankanal presently of F.M.S.
- (2) Seethyamma daughter of Navaratnam of Sankanal and
- (3) Sinnakkuttilar Kanthia of D.

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour, Esq., District Judge, on April 27, 1931, in the presence of Mr. M. Vythilingam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated April 7, 1931 having been read, It is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful father of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before October 21, 1931 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.
April 27, 1931
O. 285. 15 & 19.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7883.

In the matter of the estate of the late Alfred Muttiah Richards of Jaffna

Deceased.

Sorosan Ganaparanam Richards widow of A. M. Richards of Jaffna
Petitioner

- Vs.
1. Andrew Vetharanyam Richards
 2. James Rasasingam Richards
 3. Lucy Annamma Richards
 4. Caroline Ramesam Richards
 5. Mabel Pakkirasnam Richards
 6. Florence Ramesam Richards
 7. John Ganaratnam Richards and
 8. W. T. Richards all of Jaffna

This matter coming for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on July 24, 1931 in the presence of Mr. K. R. Nalliah, Proctor for the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated March 21, 1931 having been read:

It is ordered and decreed that the S.H. Respondent be appointed guardian ad-litem over the minors the 2nd to 7th Respondents that she be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed Deceased as his lawful widow and that Letters of Administration be issued to her unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on September 9, 1931, and state objections or show cause to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.
August, 28, 1931.
Time to show cause extended to 21-10-31.
Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
D. J.
O. 286. 15 & 19.

NOTICE.

In order to avoid inconvenience and delay, our friends, who are good enough to send us advertisements, are kindly requested to see that the same are sent to us at least a day earlier than the date of publication.

Manager.

The Hindu Organ.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1931

WHERE A MACDONALD HAS BLUNDERED.

IN SOME QUARTERS THERE IS A TENDENCY to shed profuse tears over the failure of the minorities sub-committee to settle the communal question. The failure is, no doubt, regrettable but neither surprising nor disastrous. The speech of Mr. MacDonald—delivered in a moment of hectic excitement—is partly responsible for giving the affair an appearance of unrelieved gloom. If, however, we analyse the facts of the situation dispassionately, it would be possible for us to appreciate it in its true colours. From the very beginning Mr. Gandhi was insisting on the unrepresentative character of the British Indian Delegation. Every one is painfully aware of the studied exclusion of Dr. Ambedkar

whose presence would have been a tower of strength to both Hindus and Mussalmans: the equally studied inclusion of others who are only capable of obscurantist tactics is also patent to all. This lop-sided composition of the British Indian Delegation has been a stumbling block to the progress of the minorities sub-committee, and it will not be surprising if it proves to be so in the case of other committees too. The chances of this mischief have been largely increased by the prominence given to the communal question over all other questions before the Conference. The serious blunder involved in this course is very well brought out by the following poignant observations of Mr. Gandhi: "You will allow me to say that this was hardly the time to summon the Minorities Committee. It lacks a sense of reality in that we do not know what we are going to get. If we knew in a definite manner what we are going to get and what we want we should hesitate fifty times before we threw it away in sinful wrangle as it would be if we are told that the getting of it would depend upon the ability of the present delegation to produce an agreed solution. The solution can be the crown of a Swaraj Constitution and not its foundation if only because our differences have hardened if they have not arisen by reason of foreign domination. I have not a shadow of doubt that the iceberg of communal differences will melt under the warmth of the sun of freedom". These are golden words and contain the whole truth in a nutshell. Mr. MacDonald is only committing the fallacy of petition principle when on the basis of the failure of the Minorities Committee, he ventures the remark: "You know perfectly well that you could not go six inches without coming to a dead lock". Sir Henry Giddey's improvement of the remark by the interjection of the three words "Not one inch", and Mr. Zafarullah Khan's emphatic approval of it towards the close of his speech, are only tacit acknowledgments of the speakers' indebtedness to the sources from which they have received their clue and their inspiration for the line of conduct they are following. The communal question is, after all, one of the brood of diseased offspring to which the Minto-Morley Reforms gave birth. Its subsequent sponsors have always fought against the true interests of India. Even today it flourishes in an acute form only in parts of Northern India. It, therefore, deserves to perish as quickly and suddenly as it came into existence. That is why the Congress has set its face sternly against communal representation in any form. If some British politicians do not understand this truth, it is because they do not want to. We regret to have to say that Mr. MacDonald's recent association with British politicians of a type has warped his judgement as well as vision. Lord Sankey showed a better appreciation of the truth in his cautious remark that "the immediate question with regard to the Minorities is not what the settlement shall be but the method by which there shall be a settlement." It was because his Lordship had a clearer vision that he was able to add that the Conference might in the course of the next few days, turn its attention "to all these many questions in the document I have circulated to you, which are really not affected to any extent if at all by the communal question". We do not know whether the coming government will take this sensible view of the situation; but, if it does not, it will make itself responsible for a tragedy unparalleled in the annals of mankind. We have, however, every hope that sanity and justice will still rule the counsels of British statesmen and direct the proceedings of the Conference to a happy close. We are not very much disheartened by the prospect of the conservatives coming into office, for constitutional reform has not always been the work of liberals and labourites only. Sometimes a Disraeli has done what a Gladstone was expected to do but did not; and it is quite conceivable that a Baldwin will serve right where a MacDonald has blundered.

Council Adjourns for Fortnight

—O—O—O—
FOR RE EXAMINATION OF
FINANCIAL POSITION.

MOTION AT GOVERNOR'S REQUEST.

The State Council adjourned yesterday till October 27th, to await the decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the question of a cut in the salaries of public officers.

The motion for the adjournment of the House for a fortnight was made on Tuesday by the Leader of the House, Hon. Mr. D. B. Jayatilake, who stated that the question of a cut in the salaries of public officers had been engaging the attention of the Board of Ministers, and that the matter, upon their suggestion to His Excellency the Governor, had been placed before the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It was expected it would be possible to secure the decision of the Secretary of State within the next two weeks. Furthermore, it was necessary to review the financial position in the light of the latest Customs Returns. His Excellency the Governor considered the re-examination of the financial position essential, in fact, he was making this motion at His Excellency's request.

The Council agreed to adjourn till October 27th.

Chief Secretary's Challenge.

M. S. O'S DETERMINED FOR
SALARY CUTS.

The Board of Ministers met on the 12th morning and discussed the position with regard to the Budget in the light of last week's debate, says the "Ceylon Observer."

It is learned that after a two hour talk, the Board decided unanimously to await the issue of the present debate before making any change in their Budget programme.

In the meantime it is known, says the paper, that a majority in the Council are determined to press for a cut in Government Servants' salaries irrespective of the question of Income tax. The feeling appears to be general that Sir Bernard Bourdillon's challenge should be accepted and the onus of refusal to agree to a cut in public servants' salaries should be placed finally on the shoulders of the Government.

North-Ceylon National Association.

THREE SUB-COMMITTEES APPOINTED

The Working Committee of the North Ceylon National Association met on Monday at 5-30 p.m. at "Mahendra," the residence of Mr. W. Darasawamy, the President.

A sub-committee was appointed to draft the constitution of the Association and to present it before the 30th instant.

Another sub-committee was appointed to prepare a memorandum of the work before the Association.

A third sub-committee was appointed to explore possibilities for running a daily paper.

Jaffna Co-operative Central Store.

GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of the original members of the Jaffna Co-operative Central Store will be held on Saturday the 31st instant at the Central College Hall to adopt the by-laws to have the society registered. All intending members are also invited to this meeting.

Lectures at University College

ENDOWMENT BY BUDDHIST WOMAN.

A Communique issued by the Public Trustee states that Don Alphina Wijewardene, wife of Mr. Hendrick Perera Ratanayake of Matara has by a deed of trust created an endowment, the interest of which is to be used for the purpose of a public lecture to be delivered annually in connection with the University College or the future University of Ceylon.

The lecture must deal with some point of Buddhist Philosophy and the lecturer must be a recognized scholar selected by the Public Trustee in consultation with the Director of Education, the Head of the University College or University and a Buddhist layman.

News & Notes.

Mr Ramsay MacDonald is opposed at the Seabam by Mr. William Coxon, the Secretary of the Local Labour Party.

The Matula Urban District Council has resolved to provide a free Ayurvedic Medical Hall in the centre of the town for the use of the poor folk of the town.

Owing to the frequent occurrence of rabies within the Municipal limits of Colombo during the past few weeks, the Mayor of Colombo has declared the whole of Colombo in danger.

Mr. Subash Chandra Bose was arrested on the 11th instant on a charge of violating the order of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Barrackpore, restraining him from entering the Jagatdal area on the alleged ground of the danger of a communal riot.

North Rhodesia has abandoned the gold standard. The export of gold and silver coin from the territory is prohibited except with the written permission of the Government. The buying or selling of British coins above their face value is prohibited.

The fourth criminal sessions for the year of the Supreme Court for the Western Circuit commenced on Monday at Hultsdorf, Mr. E. W. Jayawardene, presiding. There are 92 cases on the Calendar. Of these, in 48 cases the accused stand charged with the capital offence of murder.

Two colonies of bees, each containing about 20,000 bees, are being transported by aeroplane to India by Mr. A. H. Bowen of Cheltenham. This is the first time bees are carried by air for such a long distance. Special precautions are taken to prevent the pilots being stung.

King Nadir Shah is now busy reforming the Afghan Police, says a message. His Majesty intends to make the Police force what it should really be a true servant of the public. It is reported that his Majesty ordered the dismissal from service and imprisonment for one year of a Police constable for having, without cause, improperly spoken to an Afghan village visitor to Kabul.

The establishment of a Womens Students' Hostel at the University College, Colombo, which has been urged by the Women's Political Union, has not found favour with the Executive Committee of Education which considered the question at a meeting last month. The Ministry was of opinion that the financial situation made the present time unopportune to give effect to the proposal.

The "Wichitas Kansas"—Disciples of Christ (an organisation with a membership of a million and half in the United States of America) has resolved to invite Mahatma Gandhi to visit the United States before his return to India. The Ministers of the movement also resolved to assure Mahatmaji that he will not be regarded by the United States as a curiosity but honoured as the great leader he is.

Aeroplanes will play a great part in the coming General Election in England. A fleet of twenty aeroplanes will operate from Heston aerodrome on behalf of the National Labour Party. They are mostly light aeroplanes some piloted by men who were members of the Royal Flying Corps during the War, but several large aeroplanes will be available for carrying literature etc to the constituencies.

No Place to Lay its Head.

JAFFNA U D O'S UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE.

HAD TO HOLD MEETING IN GOVT. BUNGALOW.

The members of the Jaffna Urban District Council were brought to a sense of inconvenience on Saturday, for not having being in possession of a building of their own, and in having to depend on the mercedes of others for a place to lay their heads.

Usually the meetings of the U D O are held in the upper hall of the Jaffna Kachcheri. As usual, last Saturday the U D O was to have held the meeting there. But at the last moment information was sent by the Kachcheri to the city fathers that the Kachcheri hall was not available for them that day, as it had been already arranged for a conference of the Chairmen of Village Committees to be held there. It was suggested to them to hold the meeting in the sales bungalow of the Kachcheri, a building open on all sides and without any furniture inside. All the available chairs and tables in the U D O office had to be lifted to the bungalow and improvised for the unforeseen occasion. The members felt the humiliation of dependence and one member in fact remarked "We are there by sufferance. We can't do anything."

The U D O has now no building of its own. The present office is itself too small for any office worth the name. It was once thought by the Council to get the Ridgeway Hall transferred to the U D O and to put up additional contiguous buildings for the U D O office. A committee too was appointed to go into the question, and the findings of the committee are not known. It is high time the city fathers thought seriously of possessing a building of their own to avoid further unpleasant experiences as they had on Saturday last.

Preference for Ceylonese.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN STATE COUNCIL.

Mr. A. E. Goonesinghe has given notice of the following motion in the State Council:—

This Council desires that in the appointment of men for the Public Service in all branches, including departments that employ daily-paid bands, preference should be given to Ceylonese in the selection of candidates and that outsiders should be sought only if men with the requisite qualifications are not available in the country.

Jaifna Art Teachers' Society.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

The first annual general meeting of the Jaffna Art Teachers' Society, Jaffna, was held on Saturday in St. John's College. Mr. S. R. Kanagasabai, Assistant Inspector of Art, president.

The rules of the Society were passed.

The balance sheet submitted by the Treasurer was adopted.

An address on "Drawing Teachers and their prospects" was delivered by Mr. J. T. Solomons.

The Chairman suggested opening a class in painting and urged the members to join the class when it was formed.

Permanent Work for the Unemployed.

A CONFERENCE TO FIND AVENUES.

The question of providing permanent work for the unemployed is engaging the attention of the Government and it is reported that a conference is to be held next Saturday to discuss certain plans which have been prepared to meet the situation.

The Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, the Controller of Revenue, the Minister of Local Administration, the Mayor of Colombo and the Commissioner of Lands will participate in the conference.

Can it be True?

BRIBES TO PATROL POLICE?

That he had from time to time paid some of money, totalling Rs 1500 to the motor patrol police was stated by a man named, Mathias, who stood charged at the Avelawella Police Court with having carried an overload of goods in his bus.

He also stated that all bus and lorry owners were in the habit of giving monthly bribes to the patrol police in order that the police might not charge them with overloading.

Economy Measures.

MR SANDRASEGARA'S PROPOSALS.

Summarising his proposals for tidying over the present financial difficulties of the Ceylon Government, Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasegara makes the following suggestions in his article on "Reduction of Salaries Retrenchment" to the "Ceylon Daily News":—

(a) Cuts in all salaries above Rs 600 per annum ranging from 5 to 20 per cent. This scale has been adopted in many countries.

(b) The total cut of the £600 per annum recently added to the salaries of the Officers of State in addition to the percentage cut that their normal salaries would be liable to.

(c) A close examination to determine whether educational grants are being spent for strictly educational purposes. Well grounded complaints are made that they are not.

(d) Expenditure on such facts as Health Units to be reduced to normal. Let me take one case. I have before me the Report of the Chairman of the Local Government Board of a visit paid to Panadura.

According to this report the officers functioning on Health Unit work are one Medical Officer of Health, one Clerk, eight Sanitary Inspectors, one Public Health Nurse, one proc, one cooly, five midwives. The Urban Council pays three Sanitary Officers, and three midwives. The Central Government pays for the rest.

The net result of such efforts is summarised in the following words of the Chairman of the L.G.B.—

"Typhoid is endemic in Panadura largely due to the absence of a proper water supply." Why not strike at the root cause?

(e) There is no reason why the whole of the judiciary should not be manned by lawyers on salaries which are far less than Civil Servants are paid. According to report, a number of Civil Servants are retiring taking advantage of the privileges offered by the new Constitution. If they are judicial officers, their places must be filled from the Bar.

(f) There are always cuts available in the spending departments.

(g) The early and quick prosecution of the Hydro Electric Scheme by Government or on contract and not by lease. The country will never consent to create an *imperium in imperio*. Such a lease will arm the Company with a vitality as enduring as that of the British Government. Loans must be raised for the purpose. In this case, velocity of expenditure is the truest economy.

"Prouder Boycotter."

MR H. A. P. SANDRASEGARA'S WARNING TO M. S. O's.

"Much as I miss the fight, I feel prouder today that I am a boycotter," says Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasegara, in concluding an article to the "Daily News" on the question of reduction of salaries of Government servants and criticising the speech of the Chief Secretary on the Budget opposing cuts in salaries.

Mr. Sandrasegara continues:—

The Burgher Knight had charged the Councilors with being chidish. The demand to refer back is a sensible constitutional demand. The State Council demands that Ministerial policy should be shaped according to their mandate. If Ministerial policy is opposed to the popular demand let Ministers resign. But if they are prepared to accept the mandate of the country let them go on. The expenses of a General Election will be but as a flea compared to the surrender of a policy which appears popular in the House. Those who are firm and steadfast to secure retrenchment, in the first place by cuts in salaries, need have no fear that the country will forget their services. I warn the State Council that if they give in to the Officers of State, in this their second fight the whole course of the life of this Council will be "wound up in shoals and reefs."

In the same article he says:—

All the evils the boycotters of the Donoughmore scheme predicted for it are gradually discoloring themselves and chiefly the Government's grim determination to keep the Public Services above all considerations of the well being of the country. Whether it is passenger, pensioners or salaries, the Public Service must not be permitted to take its due share of the burdens imposed by the depression. Never in the history of the British administration have we had a taste of the ruthlessness of the new tyranny than now.

The Minorities Problem.

GANDHIJI EXPLORING NEW METHODS.

London, Oct. 12.

Apart the discussions between Mr. Jayakar and Pandit Malaviya, the Hindu delegate, important conversations took place between Mr. Gandhi and Pandit Malaviya for exploring new methods of a settlement. It is probable Mr. Gandhi will be getting into touch with the Aga Khan on Monday. Mr. Ranga swami Iyengar also had important conversations with Lord Lothian, Sir Denys Bray and Sir Oswald Smeaton on the present position of the Conference work.

The Federal Finance Committee proposals are generally regarded as an important milestone in constructive Federation work, the Princess' agreement betokening a further realisation of the Federation's implications and Lord Peel's agreement securing valuable Conservative progress toward central responsibility.

Liberty Without Human Blood

GANDHIJI ON INDIA'S IDEAL.

London October 13th.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, welcoming Mr. Gandhi at a reception given at the National Labour Club, hoped that the delegates to the Round Table Conference would get down to business after the election and secure a satisfactory termination of the Conference.

Mr. Gandhi said: "I would consider it nothing if we had to pay a million lives for our liberty, but I hope the Congress will conduct the campaign throughout non-violently and truthfully."

"So whether it is with one life or a million that we have to pay, I am hoping and praying it will be possible for the future historian to say that India fought and won her liberty without shedding human blood."

Two Little Messengers to Gandhiji.

INVITATION FROM AMERICA.

Two little Indian girls will sail from New York for London next week to invite Mahatma Gandhi to visit the United States, says the London Correspondent of the "Ceylon Daily News".

The girls are Mariam Ghose and his sister, Lilabati, aged seven and four respectively. They are apparently being sent, says the message, because their father is President of the American Branch of the Indian National Congress is unable to obtain a passport.

General Election in England

EIGHT PARTIES: 1200 CANDIDATES

London, Oct 12th.

With the approach of nomination day, the parties supporting the Government are straining every nerve to secure straight fight's against Labour candidates, who, benefiting by triangular fights during the last election, won 118 seats on a minorities vote.

The response to Mr. Baldwin's unity appeal during the week end is seen by the withdrawal of more prospective Conservative and Liberal candidates, and it can now be said that none of Mr. MacDonald's National Labour group, numbering about 20, or Sir John Simon's Liberal Nationals (about 30) will be opposed by Conservatives.

Considerable hostility is felt by the Conservatives against the Free Trade Liberals, even when the latter support the Government, and there is great unwillingness to withdraw in their favour, despite Mr. Baldwin's appeal to play the game.

The Conservatives of Darwan refuse to withdraw their candidate against Sir Herbert Samuel.

Approximately 1,200 candidates are now in the field, compared with 1,739 in the last election. They represent eight parties, namely, the Conservatives, Labour, National Labour, Independent (Samuel) Liberals, National (Simon) Liberals, Lloyd George Liberals, the New Party (Mosley) and the Communists.

Mr. MacDonald is leaving today for Soham, where his daughter, Jabel, has been valiantly fighting his election.

In view of the Labour bitterness over the "dole" and pay cuts, the election promises to be the most savage and most bitter on record. Many Government candidates possibly will be unable to secure a hearing at all in the poorer districts, and the police will have their work cut out to maintain order.

Bentota Colonisation Scheme.

2500 APPLICANTS.

Applicants for land under a Colonization Scheme which is to be launched shortly in the Bentota Walallaviti Korle, where an area of 2,400 acres has been mapped out for the purpose, number about 2,500 of whom a large percentage is composed of women and old men, says the Galle correspondent of the "Observer".

Mr. P. J. Hudson, Assistant Government Agent (who is in charge of Land Scheme), on being interviewed, told a press representative in Galle that as many as 2,500 applications had been received and that a start would be made with the scheme on Monday, the 19th instant. Of the applicants, about 1,500 are those living within the area itself, while the rest are from various other parts of the Galle District.

Mr. Hudson added that those selected by the Colonization Board would not be allowed to pick and choose blocks of land. They should be satisfied with the blocks allotted them.

Terms and Conditions

No restriction will be placed as to the crops they must raise on the land thus given, but each peasant will be expected to plant one quarter of his block with one of the major permanent products, preferably, coconut. When they have been settled for a reasonable time and proved themselves qualified for registration as permanent occupants, they will be asked to pay the roll value of the land granted.

This will vary from Rs. 80 to 60 per acre and the peasant will be given the concession of payment by instalments. Security varying from Rs. 5 upwards, according to the acreage, will be asked to be credited to soil value if they established themselves, or forfeited if the land was abandoned.

Annamalai University.

A MEETING PLACE OF ARYAN AND DRAVIDIAN CULTURES.

"I contemplate a time not very far, when the highest degree in this University will be available to our young men and women who may not know a word of English but who will have been taught and examined in Tamil with a judicious admixture of Sanskrit is fully capable of expressing all the human thoughts," said Mr. S. Satyamurthi in an address he delivered on the Founder's day of the Annamalai University. Speaking what he hoped the university would develop into he said:

I also look to this University as a place where by right of historical succession a synthesis of Tamil and Sanskrit culture will be achieved. Chidambaram, I believe, had the honour of being the meeting place of Aryan and Dravidian culture in times of old. May Annamalai University reproduce those traditions on a still grander scale.

This University can, and I trust will, do great work in the realms of research in South Indian History and economics. I personally feel that given proper condition, we may build in this University four sound schools of learning, viz., Tamil, Sanskrit, South Indian history and Indian economics. I am also hoping that since the South Indian brain seems to have a great capacity for work in higher mathematics we may also build up a sound school of Mathematics here. I know that when I say this, the enthusiasts for the physical and the natural sciences may feel left out. But limitation of aim is a condition precedent of any achievement. You must have sciences for your degree examinations here. But it is most question whether the limited resources at the disposal of the university need be frittered away on duplicating costly science research laboratory here, when such facilities are easily available in Madras or in Bangalore. Rather may it not be wise on the part of the University to concentrate its resources on those aspects of its work, which can yield results, which other universities may not be able to produce.

"Suriya Flowers" instead of Poppy.

TO HELP CEYLON EX SERVICE MEN.

That out of Rs 95,000 collected by sale of poppies in Ceylon in 1930, Rs 77,000 was packed off to England while only the balance was used in Ceylon, said Mr. Aellian Perera in the course of a lecture on the Suriya Flower at Kalutara. There were many in Ceylon who returned from the battlefield after the Armistice. Some were left jobless and destitute and others were left helpless and deformed in body. Many ex-soldiers in Ceylon received no help at all from the poppy fund and therefore a Ceylonese Association was formed to help deserving Ceylonese ex-Servicemen. Money would be collected by sale of Suriya Flowers. In collected by Mr. Perera said that, in these days of depression, not even a cent should be sent to foreign countries but must be allowed to circulate inside the Island.

The Cultivation of Chillies in the Jaffna District.

Mr N. Senathiraj, Manager, Experiment Station, Jaffna, writes in the Tropical Agriculturist:—

(Continued from our last issue)

On calcareous soils (called in Tamil "Makki Thetti") chillies thrive well and yield a heavy crop. They would seem to have a liking for lime.

Among the crops that are grown in the Jaffna Peninsula the cultivators recognise some as beneficial to the soil and some as exhaustive. Tobacco is regarded as one of the former types of crop. It is liberally manured and is considered a good crop previous to chillies in rotation. The land is thoroughly tilled during the growth of tobacco. Chillies are an exhaustive crop and must be manured well. For manuring the Tamil farmers generally resort to the panning of livestock on the land. If the chilli crop follows paddy sheep panning is necessary. In some places where the crop follows yams or manioc the land is also well manured. The cultivator will not grow a crop of chillies after a crop of Tonal (Italian millet) as the latter is too exhaustive in its action on the soil. "Not even the palmyra palm will grow on land cropped with Italian millet" says the proverb. Chillies are said to do better after yams or manioc. This may be due to the fact that the land is usually well broken up when these crops are lifted and thus it gets a thorough cultivation. On garden lands to plant chillies after tobacco which is liberally manured, to follow this with manioc which stands for ten months and then millet and then to return to chillies after a crop of tobacco is considered a good practice in Vakkam North, one of the great chilli-growing districts in Jaffna. The growing of chillies mixed with a number of other crops is a general practice in some localities. In some places one may frequently see more than one crop being grown on the same land. It is not an infrequent practice while planting a crop of brinjol to put in at intervals a few plants of chillies and at the corners of the beds a few yams. This is a sort of insurance cropping, if one crop fails the other may not. In some localities a system of rotation prevails. Cowpeas are sown while the crop of chillies is being picked for the third or fourth time in the still standing crop in the early part of September. The cowpeas yielding a fair quantity of seed also serve as a good fodder for cattle during the months of January, February and March when there is a general scarcity of green fodder in the district. In the paddy lands chillies follow paddy. Occasionally one may find a few cowpeas, ash pumpkins and water melon grown along the borders—sometimes chillies are grown mixed with onions.

Chilli plants are generally raised in nurseries and then transplanted. Beds three feet by three feet are formed with a mamoli on lands previously ploughed and hoed. The beds are then levelled and well rotten cattle manure or village sweepings which contain a good proportion of ash are applied at the rate of two baskets per bed. About a quarter pound of seed is sown in each bed and well mixed with the soil by means of the fingers so that the seeds may be slightly covered by soil to prevent them from being exposed. Then powdered manure is generally applied after pot watering the beds to cover any seed which may still be lying exposed on the surface. Another method that is in vogue is to tie the seed in a cloth and immerse it in water for two hours and then suspend it for twelve hours. Then steep it again for a quarter of an hour and suspend it for four hours, and sow within eight hours of the last steeping well mixed with sand to ensure even distribution. The beds should be watered every morning with hand till the seedlings are ready for removal. To keep the soil moist and to ensure an even germination it is a general practice to have the beds covered with straw or dried plantain leaves. The beds must be kept continuously moist, but not wet. The plants appear on the seventh day and the first leaves appear on the tenth day. The beds should be weeded once or twice by hand whenever the weeds are of a size to give a sufficient hold to the fingers. On the thirtieth day the seedlings are ready for transplanting. If they are allowed to stand longer in the nurseries they seem to withstand drought, but this is no advantage. Usually plants which have a vigorous growth are topped with a sickle while they are still standing a week previous to the removal from the nursery. They are also topped after removal for planting. The application of green leaves to nurseries is of considerable advantage to the growth of the seedlings. Tulip (*Theopatia*) and Adakholal (*Adhatodai vasica*) leaves are considered the best. The leaves should be buried two or three weeks previous to the formation of the beds. It is quite essential in the cultivation of chillies that the plants should have a good start. To this end the cultivator aims at securing healthy plants in the nursery by good manuring and careful treatment.

In the Jaffna district it is a common practice in the case of land which has carried an early crop to plough it up soon after harvesting in December or January. This is known as cold weather ploughing. The ploughed land is left bare till April or May. These months are usually dry and the land gets thoroughly exposed to the air which is of very great value. During this long interval sheep panning is also done if it can be availed of cheaply. About 4,000 sheep per acre are usually panned. It is considered a good preparation for the crop. The sheep-panned areas are ploughed immediately. Sheep panning is only possible when the land is left bare during the cold weather. In the case of

paddy and tobacco lands they are as a rule ploughed immediately after the harvest of the crops. In some parts of the district if the land becomes foul with weeds such as "Korai" (*Cyperus rotundus*), it is deeply tilled by ploughing and cross ploughing six or seven times. This is done between March and April. The principal object of this system of tillage is to thoroughly dry and aerate the soil during which process the weeds are killed. In the paddy lands it is not an uncommon practice to bury dried palmyra leaves at the rate of 8,000 leaves per acre. These are available in large quantities during certain parts of the year when roofing materials of houses are renewed. They cost 50 cents per 100. These serve as a good manure for chillies and the paddy crop that follows it is always luxuriant and the paddy grates are plump and of good quality. If the land is manured repeatedly with palmyra leaves for two or three years the cultivator applies no manure at all except a few cart loads of village sweepings for the succeeding five years, as the crops will grow well with the residuals. The land is prepared after breaking the clods with mamolies and mallets and thus the soil is reduced to a fine tilth. Then the rows are marked by means of a rope. If the planting is done in furrows the land is formed into furrows and channels and then these are watered and seedlings are planted in bunches of three or four, some three feet by three feet apart. The distance of planting varies according to the nature of the soil. In the red soil garden lands it is 3 feet by 3 feet while in the paddy fields 2½ feet by 2½ feet is the usual distance. If the planting is done in holes they are pot-watered once in a day for about three weeks. During this period some cultivators pen sheep on the land bearing the crop. This is known as "Kandoppadi". The plants are hidden in the soil by bending the plants prostrate and covering them in holes made for them with soil. The plants are also pegged down by twigs. This is a somewhat extraordinary method of intensive cultivation. Heavy yields are obtained where this system of manuring is adopted. On the 18th day when the soil is sufficiently dry, the crop is hoed and the soil is allowed to dry for five days. Then bigger beds are formed with the soil drawn towards the plants so that the water may stand at a distance from the base. The soil at the base of the plant is always kept loose. The crop is irrigated once in three days and the soil is then kept moist. Fifteen days after the first hoeing the second hoeing is done. Well-rotten manure is applied at the rate of ten to twelve cartloads per acre and mixed well with the soil by hoeing. Beds are then formed so that the plants will now be standing in the ridges of the beds while the capacity of the beds to hold water will be increased. Watering should commence about five days after this operation. In South India, in Rannad, Madura, and Tinnevely districts a mixture of dung and earth is given. In about a month after this operation the plants will be well in flower and begin to bear young fruits. The soil should never be allowed to dry at this stage. The first batch of green fruits are picked in about three months after planting. It takes about thirty-eight days for a fruit to mature and ripen. The outstanding feature of cultivation is the great amount of attention given to the soil. It is intensive cultivation of an advanced type, and it pays.

Harvesting and Curing.

The ripe fruits are picked every fortnight. Picking is generally done by women and children. The fruits are kept in gunny bags for about a day before they are spread on the drying floor for curing. This causes unripe fruits to mature. Otherwise owing to the presence of unripe fruits the colour and quality of the cured produce is much affected. Produce cured in the manner prescribed below always gives a uniform quality with a good colour. Clear weather is very essential for a good curing—cloudy and dewy weather is unfavourable for the curing of chillies. A clear sandy spot is usually selected as the drying floor. The fruits are spread on the floor evenly. On the third day the fruits are heaped up in the evening and again spread out on the next morning. After spreading the fruits are trampled. This helps to flatten the berries and also to separate the seeds from the fleshy portion in the ovary. In five or six days, if the weather is clear, the produce will be completely cured. To test the fruits if they are properly cured a handful of the berries is taken and pressed between the hands and shaken to see whether there is any moisture left in the berries. For every one hundred pounds of wet chillies about thirty three pounds of dried chillies are obtained. The dried chillies are stored in gunny bags—the bags must not be stored in moist places as the chillies become mouldy and get discoloured. The best method is in "Oomsl" (palmyra leaf baskets). They are generally stacked on platforms made of wood. The cured produce must not be put in the sun or exposed as it has been found by experience that the berries get discoloured. Traders generally grade the chillies to get a good quality. The grading is done immediately before the sale and is largely based on the colour of the produce. A good glossy colour is always essential to secure higher prices. Some people rub oil on the fruits to give the desired glossiness. This does not in any way affect the quality if it is properly done. The oil extracted from the seeds of *Bassia longifolia*, L. C. "Elupannai", is always preferred. Coconut and gingly oil when applied are said to produce mould and discolour the berries and consequently they are never used. Chillies are often sold in Jaffna as ripe fruits to middlemen who cure them and sell the dried chillies to

Continued up.

AUCTION SALE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Under Mortgage Decree No 505
Under and by virtue of the Commission issued to me in the above case, I shall offer for sale for the amount decreed therein poundage and costs on Saturday October 31st 1931, commencing at 10 a.m. at the spot:—

1 All that piece of land situated at Velanai East called Vaniyanpalam in extent 2½ Lms P. C. and bounded on the East by the property of Arunachalam Sivaguru North by N Arumugam and others West by the property of heirs of the late Ayampillai Karthigesu and on the South by the property of Velanther Vettivelu together with share of well lying on the Southern boundary land.

2 All that piece of land situated at Velanai East called Makandithoddam in extent 22 Lms. V. C. with house well, coconut and palmyras and other cultivated and spontaneous plantations and bounded on the East by the property of Velupillai Ponniah, North by the property of Nagamuttu Arumugam and shareholders West by the property of Annapillai wife of Velupillai and on the South by the properties of Rasammah wife of Thillaiampalam and others.

J. A. SETHUPATHY,
'Sethupathy Vasa', Commissioner.
Jaffna
Mis 283. 15.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7952.

In the Matter of the estate of the late Chellammah wife of Karthigesu Kanapathipillai of Pankuduthivu East.

Deceased
Karthigesu Kanapathipillai of Pankuduthivu East
Vs.
Petitioner,
1. Kanapathipillai Thiruvavukkarasu and
2. Muthupillai widow of Murguen of do
Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner praying that the above-named 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor 1st Respondent and that Letters of Administration be granted to him to the estate of the above-named deceased coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on the 4th day of September 1931, in the presence of Mr. K. V. Rasiah, Proctor, for Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated 21st day of August 1931 having been read; It is ordered that the above-named 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor 1st Respondent and it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the deceased and entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased and that the said Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before October 16, 1931 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge
September 17, 1931.
O. 281. 12 & 15.

Continued

to traders. The cured produce is sold wholesale by the *thulam* (28 lb. = *thulam*). The price varies from Rs. 4 to Rs. 12 per *thulam* according to the state of the market. The local chillies meet with considerable competition in the market with the imported produce from Madras. To secure good prices locally the imports want to be controlled and prices standardised, this would encourage home production of chillies in Ceylon.

Yield.

The average yield of cured chillies per acre is about 1,500 lb. With improved types of chillies yields as high as 2,000 lb. to 2,500 lb. per acre have been secured at the Experiment Station, Jaffna. To secure higher yields thorough preparation of the land with good manuring and a high yielding type are quite essential. The crop would give as much as Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 per acre. The wet weather crops are not very remunerative and in localities where these are grown they are disposed of as green chillies. Rainy weather is prejudicial to the crop. The crop cured during rainy weather is inferior in quality.

Pests and Diseases.

Chillies, like brinjol, are very much subject to fungoid diseases but they are not so subject to insect attacks. "Karam thadi" or black stem disease is prevalent in the district. It is, however, easy to stop this disease from spreading by preventive measures. Plants affected by this disease should be uprooted and burnt. Another disease is leaf curl. The leaves and fruits become distorted and sometimes flowering ceases entirely. Plants affected by this disease rarely recover from it. The damage done by this is not great. It is generally believed by cultivators that continued dry weather coupled with the strong blowing of the South West monsoon causes this disease. The disease was studied by the Bombay Department of Agriculture and it was found that the curling of the leaf is due to an Aphid living on the plant.

R. Papyah.

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Y. 14. 12-11-32.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 7912

In the matter of the estate and effects of Kathirampillai wife of Sasumugam Sinnasamy late of Karaitivu East

Deceased,
Sasumugam Sinnasamy of Karaitivu East
Vs.
Petitioner,

1. Sasamma daughter of Sinnasamy
2. Sellamma daughter of Sinnasamy
3. Sinnasamy Muttiah
4. Sinnasamy Sasumugam and
5. Sinnasampillai widow of Sasumugam all of Karaitivu East

Respondents

The 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents are minors and appear by their guardian ad litem the 5th Respondent

This matter coming on for disposal before D. H. Balfour Esquire, District Judge, on June 17, 1931 in the presence of Mr. A. Kanagasabai, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated June 10, 1931, having been read; It is ordered that the 5th Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents for the purpose of acting on their behalf representing them and protecting their interest in the matter of the administration of the estate of the deceased and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased be issued to him as the husband of the deceased unless the Respondents appear before this Court on July 27, 1931 and show cause to the contrary.

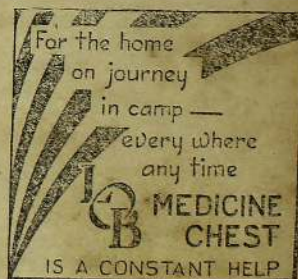
Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.
July 3, 1931.

Order Nisi is extended to 21st September 1931

Sgd. D. H. Balfour,
District Judge.

Extended to 21.11.31.

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Printed & published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Ayanarkovilady, Van West, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, the Saiva Paripalana Sabha, Jaffna, at their Press, the Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannarponnai, Jaffna.