

The Hindu Organ.

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THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON FOR THE HINDUS

HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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Sgd. M. Sinniah.
Sgd. *செளந்தியம்*.
J8th August, 1927.
M.S. 1056.

The Hindu Organ.

JAFNA, MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 1927

WELCOME TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

IT IS OUR DUTY TO EXPRESS OUR cordial welcome to His Excellency Sir Herbert Stanley and Lady Stanley who arrived in Ceylon on Saturday, the 20th instant. The appointment of Sir Herbert was received with gratification by the people as he was no stranger to parliamentary institutions before he entered Colonial Service. He has served the Empire in various capacities and has shown his pre-eminent fitness to undertake the responsibilities of administering the premier Crown Colony in the Empire. It is a matter for congratulation that he comes to us without any pre-conceived notion but with an open mind to learn and to form his conclusions after studying the various problems of the country on the spot. His Excellency has assumed the reins of office at one of the most critical periods of our national history. During his tenure of office questions of far-reaching importance will come up for consideration. His views and opinions thereon will considerably influence the decisions of His Majesty's Government. We hope that His Excellency will bring to bear large-hearted sympathy, breadth of outlook and keen sense of justice in dealing with those questions.

His Excellency in the course of his reply to the addresses presented by the Public Bodies referred to the value of co-operation and said that co-operation was the one thing that he was anxious to have and that it was necessary not only between the Government and the several sections of the people but also among the sections of the people themselves. We are sure that His Excellency cannot find a people more willing to co-operate with the Government than the people of the Island. Co-operation is a bilateral business. The desire for co-operation on the part of the people will not be of any avail unless the Government appreciates the points of view of the people and shape its policy accordingly. It is our fervent wish that under His Excellency's wise administration our country will not only make steady and substantial progress in every direction but also its connection with the Empire will be a source of strength and pride to its people.

VOTE OF NON CONFIDENCE.

At the consideration of the report of the Select Committee on the Supply Bill for the financial year 1927-28 the Hon. Mr. E. W. Perera, the Member for the Kalutara District, moved by way of amendment that the vote for the Civil Service be reduced by rupees five in order to discuss the policy of the Executive Government of which the Civil Service forms the essential part. Mr. Perera

in the course of his long speech made a vigorous and trenchant criticism of the policy of Government and accused it of procrastination, delay and dilatoriness in carrying out the decisions of the Council and of lack of sympathy towards the permanent population of the Island. Member after Member who spoke on the amendment referred to the various acts of commission and omission of the Government which justified the vote of censure.

The successful termination of the Debate is a demonstration that the Members representing the permanent population of the Island can sink their differences and can make a united front whenever the interests of the country are in stake. We are sure that the spirit of unity and harmony which prevailed during this Debate among the Unofficials will be maintained when they come to discuss and press for the grant of a larger and more liberal measure of responsible government for the people.

It is a matter for surprise that the official Members exhibited such lack of courage and resource in handling the situation that came up before them. Almost all of them maintained a grim silence when the unofficial Members were enumerating the sins of the Government and were marshalling facts and figures to substantiate their charges. Perhaps they had no defence to make. That is why they have allowed judgment to go against them by default.

The vote of censure that was passed was inevitable under the circumstances. For sometime past, the Government has been pursuing a policy which is bound to bring it some day or other into collision with the unofficial Members. Year after year large sums of money from the public revenue were voted to carry out works of public utility. Many of these works were either not undertaken or they were left incomplete and consequently the money voted for these works lapsed into the general revenue only to swell up the surplus balances.

In the matter of Land policy Mr. Perera has made out a strong indictment. He has given instances in which attempts were made to transfer extensive blocks of lands to capitalists without the slightest consideration to the needs of the people. The various attempts made to sell a block of 919 acres in the Puttalam District in spite of the assurance given by the Government to the contrary show how the Executive Officials in the outlying districts disregard Government's assurances and unofficial opinion. Construction of new Hospitals is intimately connected with the health of the people. The original estimates contained provision for a number of Hospitals, and many of them were sanctioned by the Public Works Advisory Board. But the Acting Governor with one stroke of pen deleted the hospital programme provided in the original estimates on the ground that Ceylon is having more beds in proportion to its population than any other country. The Excise policy of the Government received scathing criticism at the hands of the Hon. Mr. T. B. Jayah. He referred to many instances in which the Government had gone behind the verdict of the people given in the local option polls. "Although Govt had professed to be the greatest temperance organization in the Island," said Mr. Jayah during the course of his speech, "yet those who had observed the manner in which applications had been pouring in for the opening of foreign liquor shops, were constrained to say that the people felt the Government was not in favour of Temperance. In fact there was reason to view with misgivings, the increasing number of applications for foreign liquor licenses. As was stated by the Member for Negombo an application was made for a tavern in Ward Place and he understood that the license had already been granted to somebody. It was but recently the Maradana Ward was declared dry by local option and by October there would be no taverns in that area. The grant of a new license clearly showed that Government more or less had brushed aside the wishes of the people and the representatives of the people were perfectly justified in ventilating their grievances in open Council."

The amendment of Mr. Perera, was carried by a majority. The vote of the Unofficials represents the opinion of 99% of the people of the Island. We are sure that the Debate would open the eyes of the Government to the realities of the situation and make it realise that it could not afford to ignore the opinion of the Unofficials. We hope that hereafter the Government will mend its ways and pursue a policy which will have their support and co-operation.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

A PUBLIC LECTURE—Srimathi Alamelu Manicku, Lady Magistrate, Madras, delivered an instructive lecture in Tamil on Friday last at the Jaffna Hindu College Hall. The subject of the lecture was "Service for the Country" (*சேவைக்காகம்*). Madaliyar C. Rastayagam, C. S. I., presided.

NO CHEAP TICKETS FOR MUNNEWARA FESTIVAL—The Secretary of the Ceylon Siva Paripalana Sabha, Colombo, has written to the General Manager of the Railway, asking that cheap tickets to pilgrims going to the Shrine at the Munnewara Temple, Ohiaw. The General Manager has replied that as the concession allowed last year was not a success, no cheap tickets will be issued this year.

GAMPALA TRAIN COLLISION—The damage to the Railway rolling stock as a result of the Gampala train collision is estimated to be over a lakh. The cost of altering the signal arrangements which had been recommended to the General Manager at his inspection months before the collision took place is said to be about Rs. 20,000.

NEW MOTOR ORDINANCES—Last Friday's "Gazette" publishes the draft of the new Motor Ordinance which will shortly be brought up before the Legislative Council.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICES—The issue Gazette publishes the draft of a proposed Ordinance to make supplementary provision for the Public Services for the financial year 1925-26.

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL AND SANITARY SERVICES ETC.—The same Gazette publishes the draft of a proposed Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to the Department of Medical and Sanitary Services, the Ceylon Medical College, the Ceylon Medical Council, Medical Practitioners, Dentists, Midwives and Pharmacists.

D. P. W. EXPECTED IN JAFFNA—Mr. D. B. Lees, Director of Public Works, is expected in Jaffna on his first official visit in the course of this week. He is to inspect among others the Civil Hospital and the site there for the new male and female wards, the foundations of which were laid sometime ago, but the work was stopped by the Acting Governor. He will inspect the sites of the proposed Panal and Araly Causeways and of the new building for the Additional District Judge.

EXPORT OF JAFFNA TOBACCO—It is said that forty bales of tobacco from Jaffna were shipped to England recently. Some of this tobacco is from the Experiment Station.

TWO RUPEE BOOKLETS—Hitherto booklets containing one rupee notes have been issued from the General Treasury. Finding the unusual demand for these booklets the Treasury has put in circulation two rupee booklets. Fifty thousand two rupee notes have been put into the form of booklets, each of which consisting of twenty five notes.

REDUCTION OF RAILWAY FARES—The proposal to reduce the first and second class passenger fares in the Railway has received the sanction of the Government. From October all the passenger fares in the Ceylon Government Railway will be the same as those before the war. The third class fares have already been reduced. The present fares to Colombo Port from Jaffna are Rs. 25 35 (1st class) and Rs. 16 88 (2d class). The reduced fares would be Rs. 19 76 and Rs. 13 18 respectively.

TRAINING COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.—An examination for admission to the Government Training College will be held at Colombo on July 25, 26 and 27, 1928.

CANCELLATION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.—It is announced that the registration of the following Co-operative Societies, has been cancelled. The Jaffna Industrial Society (for failing to carry out its work satisfactorily), and the Kolikamam one (for not doing any work).

RAILWAY STATIONS IN LIEU OF SIDINGS.—It is understood that provision has been made for the construction of Stations proper with the usual facilities at Kokavil, Kondavil and Talipalai, which are siding at present.

PERSONAL—Mr. T. P. Manickasingham, the chief Sances Master of St. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia, left for London on the 20th inst. on two years' full pay leave to pursue higher studies in Science in the London University.

MEDICAL—Dr. A. S. Rasasingam of the Ceylon Medical Service left for England on the 3d inst. to obtain British qualifications.

JAFFNA MARKET FUND.—According to the statement of receipts and expenditure of the Market Fund for the half year ending June 30, 1927, issued by the Government Agent, N. P., the receipts amounted to Rs. 51,122 86 cts. and the expenditure to Rs. 3,608 95 cts. thus leaving a balance of Rs. 47,513 40 cts.

TINNIVELY FARM SCHOOL.—The first term at the above school will commence on Monday, the 12th September, arrangements are being made to start a course in the Vernacular. This class will be for the sons of farmers. Special classes for teachers and headmen are being organised. We are glad to learn that one of the minor headmen, the Police Vidhan of Changanallu West, Mr. R. K. Kastinath, has been granted permission by the Government Agent, N. P., to join the above school and go through a course of training in Agriculture. This is the first minor headman in the North, who is to go through a course of training in Agriculture—"M. Star."

INDIAN & FOREIGN.

TEMPERANCE AND LONGEVITY—"All temperance offices recognize the dangers of alcoholic indulgence, and the insuring class represents on the whole the careful, provident, well-doing community. It has been proved that alcohol is unnecessary to healthy men. Further, it has been demonstrated that total drinking habits are productive of injury to health."—"The Record" Scotland.

GIANT FOREST FIRE IN FRANCE.—Twenty thousand acres of Forest in France were destroyed by fire following the prolonged drought in the Alpes Maritimes, many farms being destroyed and whole herds of cattle being roasted alive. Loss of property is reckoned at ten million Francs.

INDIAN PRODUCTS IN SPANISH TERRITORY.—The Spanish Cabinet Council has approved of a decree granting the products of India most favoured nation treatment.

PRESENT SITUATION IN CHINA.—According to newspapers, the war in Shanghai, Chien, continues vigorously; while, the troops sent from India are returning gradually.

EXAMINATION RESULTS OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.—The year's Calcutta University examination results, from Matriculation to B. A., show a marked decline in the percentages of passes.

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT MYSON.—The Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore was celebrated with great pomp on Monday the 8th instant.

TOTAL PROHIBITION IN MADRAS AREA.—The Excise Minister, Madras, will introduce shortly a Bill to amend the Madras Abkari Act, making the introduction of "Total prohibition" possible in selected areas.

THE SEVEREST EARTHQUAKE IN JAPAN.—An earthquake, severe for thirty years, has occurred in North eastern Japan. Railways and telegraphs are interrupted. A number of houses collapsed in Fukushima and Sendai.

NO BRITISH AIRCRAFT OVER PERSIAN TERRITORY.—Sir P. Sivasankar in the House of Commons stated that the Persian Government had not yet given permission for British aeroplanes to fly over Persian territory between Baghdad and Karachi.

ENCOURAGING PHYSICAL TRAINING IN BENGAL SCHOOLS.—In order to give encouragement to physical training in schools the Government of Bengal, it is understood, have sanctioned the appointment of a Director of Physical Training for High Schools.

ENCOURAGING AGRICULTURE IN QUEBEC, AMERICA.—The Province of Quebec has created an Order of Agricultural Merit for the purpose of encouraging agriculturists by honours and rewards and to acknowledge services rendered to agriculture.

DRAMATIC PENALTIES IN IRISH FREE STATE.—Dramatic penalties have been laid down in a new Public Safety Bill which the Irish Free State Government is introducing into the Dail. One of them is death for carrying firearms without special sanction.

PRINCE'S AMERICAN SPEECH BROADCAST IN LONDON.—H. R. H. the Prince of Wales performed the ceremony of dedicating the Peace Bridge between Fort Erie, Canada, and Buffalo, the United States, commemorating a century of Anglo-American peace in the presence of an immense concourse. The Prince's speech on the occasion was heard in London by means of the broadcast.

FIRST BRITISH PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT CANADA.—Mr. Baldwin is the first British Prime Minister to visit Canada.

VICTORY MADE A DOCTOR OF SCIENCE.—The Mysore University conferred the degree of D. Sc. on H. E. London Irelia.

BENGAL LAND DEVELOPMENT BILL.—The Bengal Land Development Bill has for its object the regulation of the development of urban areas so as to secure proper sanitary conditions and public amenities, to provide suitable building sites, and to afford facilities for the development of dwelling houses.

AN ETHNOLOGICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION.—A scientific expedition in Central Asia consisting of Swedish and Chinese scholars under the leadership of Dr. Sven Hedin is making a good headway. The expedition intends to visit Mongolia, Gobi Desert, Tibet and possibly Afghanistan. Its main objects are the ethnological and archaeological study, map making and geological research.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS IN MYSON.—In connection with the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the reign of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore on the 8th August, Government have resolved, as an act of clemency and grace, to release on that auspicious occasion, all prisoners male and female under 21 years of age irrespective of their sentence, and other prisoners on certain conditions. Government have also been pleased to direct that every civil prisoner under confinement on 8th August 1927 for a debt not exceeding Rs. 500 who is through poverty unable to pay his debt and whose debt was not due to fraud on his part, be released on that day and the debt due from him be paid by Government—"Malabar Herald."

Welcome to H.E. the Governor.

SIR P. RAMANATHAN'S ADDRESS.

Columbo on Saturday morning welcomed the Island's new Governor, Sir Herbert Stanley, and Lady Stanley, who had travelled by the P. and O. steamer "Naldara". On the Jetty and to the Customs premises there was a large gathering of the leading citizens, while every house along the Jetty was crowded with people anxious to see His Excellency.

It was about 8.40 a.m. when the Flagstaff Battery fired a full salute. Shortly afterwards His Excellency, wearing a black uniform, Lady Stanley, and Sir Stanley's Private Secretary and Mr. Bygon, Asst. Private Secretary, accompanied by the Hon. Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher and Mrs. Fletcher, came along the Malabar Jetty, in the Governor's barge, and it was about 9 a.m. when His Excellency emerged from the Customs premises into the Jetty Road.

The Jetty and the Customs premises were decorated with flowers, flags, and bunting, while the floor was covered with carpets. His Excellency, who has a rosy complexion, looked exceptionally fit. He impressed all who came into contact with him by his evident pleasant disposition. The somewhat trying experience which a new Governor has to undergo when he arrives in the Island did not appear to perturb him in the slightest.

DRIVE TO QUEEN'S HOUSE.

On leaving the Customs premises His Excellency drove to Queen's House. The route was decorated by the Western Province Chiefs and flanked by the Ceylon Defence Force Troops and Boy Scouts.

On arrival at Queen's House a Guard of Honour furnished by the Ceylon Light Infantry presented arms. After inspection, His Excellency entered Queen's House, passing the Lieutenant-Governor to the accompaniment of Kandyan music.

SWAGGERS IN CEREMONY.

On arrival at the Council Chamber, His Excellency inspected a C. L. L. Guard of Honour. The scene within the Chamber was a most impressive and solemn one. The magnificent costumes of the Kandyan Chiefs, the immaculate white uniforms of the Civil Servants, and the striking garish robes of the Judges combined to form a gorgeous assemblage of colours dazzling in the extreme. The Clerk in the Executive Council read the Commission appointing Sir Herbert Stanley Governor after which the oath of office was administered to His Excellency by the Hon. the Chief Justice.

SIR P. RAMANATHAN'S SPEECH.

Hon. Sir P. Ramanathan addressed His Excellency in the following terms:—May it please Your Excellency on behalf of the Legislative Council of Ceylon, I beg to offer to you, Sir, and to Lady Stanley our cordial welcome to these shores. Permit me also to congratulate you upon your assumption of office today as the Governor of this Island, and to state that your arrival in our midst is very opportune, for the reason that some most difficult problems have arisen for settlement and filled our minds with anxious thoughts. But your qualifications and past services to the Empire make us hope and trust that all will end well, for, born of wise parents and bred in a home which esteems highly the ideals of life, you have had the good fortune of being trained in the best traditions of England at Eton and Balliol Colleges. You entered the diplomatic service, which is concerned with the art of conducting negotiations and arranging treaties between nations, and began your career some thirty years ago as Private Secretary to His Majesty's Minister Resident at Dresden and Coburg and continued to gather strength and experience in the field of work, under the guidance of many other eminent statesmen, like the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Lord President of the Council and the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, as their respective Private Secretaries. Your breadth of view, grasp of affairs and aptitude for studying the different sides of a question were so much appreciated that you rose to be the Resident Commissioner for the Imperial Government in Southern and Northern Rhodesia. You saw how these two territories which were under the Administration of the British South Africa Company as incorporated by the Royal Charter of 1893, passed gradually under other administrations. You took an active part in the conversion of this Company into political status with responsible governments. The constitutional methods by which this wonderful change was effected are of immense interest to the different sections of the people of Ceylon, and your practical knowledge of them all will surely, allay their anxieties about the future welfare of Ceylon. In March, 1921, the Secretary of State appointed a Committee, presided over by Earl Buxton to consider certain questions relating to Southern and Northern Rhodesia. In accordance with its recommendations and in consultation with the Legislative Council of Southern Rhodesia and with the South African Union, Southern Rhodesia was given responsible government. In April, 1924, you were appointed as the first Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Northern Rhodesia. I feel, Sir, that the Royal Commissioners who are expected shortly in Ceylon will have the benefit of your special experience and attainments, and that you will do all you can to settle satisfactorily the manifold questions which face us. We wish you and Lady Stanley good health, long life and prosperity in peace. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

H. E. Sir Herbert Stanley replied:—My first task is a very pleasant one and that is to thank Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan for the very kind words which he has addressed to my wife and myself and to thank you, Hon. Members, for the very kind manner in which you have received these words. I thank you in my wife's name as well as my own. It is, of course, an occasion of great interest and importance in my life to have come here to assume the government of His Majesty's remote Crown Colony. It is an honour of which I am deeply conscious and, though it is not the first time that I have been called upon to preside over the government of a territory, yet I am glad to come to a country with old established institutions and with old customs such as do not exist in Northern Rhodesia. It is very gratifying to any Governor to be called upon to administer the government of the premier Crown Colony. One feels that there are here opportunities such as are not open elsewhere. One knows that Ceylon as the premier

Crown Colony will be proud to take advantage of the privilege in giving the hand to junior members of the Imperial family in all great and good Imperial work. Ceylon has nothing to be ashamed of in her career during the war, but passes her own proud record to her future. I am confident that Ceylon will not be slow to take advantage of the privilege of place which she claims and that it is worthy, so as to set an example to the rest of the Empire.

SIR HERBERT STANLEY.

Now, I come here at a time of some difficulty to myself, because it has taken me a long time to follow in the footsteps of some of the most distinguished Governors in the whole of His Majesty's Empire. You all know Sir Hugh Clifford better than I and can appreciate even better than I how much he has done for his country. He has unrivalled experience of men and affairs in the tropics and he has added to that experience a brilliant literary gift which gives distinction and charm to every word that he writes or speaks. These gifts I can not hope to emulate. All I can hope is that I will do my best to serve this Colony faithfully and well.

It is, of course, difficult for me to come to a perfectly strange environment. All my previous service outside the United Kingdom has been either in Europe or Africa. This is the first time, except for a few days when I passed through Aden on my way here, that I have set foot on the soil of Asia.

AN OPEN MIND.

I have, of course, much to learn. I noticed that one of the newspapers, which were sent to me from here, in writing a leading article on my appointment, advised me to forget everything I have ever learnt or ever known. (Laughter.) I am not quite sure that I choose to follow that advice in its entirety, and to approach you with a mind that is completely empty. I think what the writer meant was that I should endeavour to approach the problem which confront me here with an open mind. That I hope to do. I stand before you with a very little experience of your problems, but at any rate, I stand before you with no preconceptions and no prepossessions. I have come here to learn. I do not propose at this moment to commit myself to any indication of policy or any pronouncement whatsoever upon the various questions which Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan has reminded us are awaiting solution. I propose to study them and learn as much as I can about them before I attempt to do or say anything.

TRIBUTE TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

Now, my task here will not be an easy one. Yet, I think I am fortunate in one thing. I have recently attended a Conference of Governors and representatives of the Crown Colonies and Protectorates throughout the Empire, and I found there to my great satisfaction that Ceylon, which I am sure for many things—the natural beauty, the fertility of its soil, its wonderful historic monuments, and a kindredness and loyalty of its people—is famous also among all the territories of the Crown for the excellence of its Public Service, and that is an advantage of which the Governor of any territory must be deeply sensible, because, more than anybody else, he depends upon the help and advice and support of the Public Service over which he has to preside. I think from all that I have heard that Ceylon must be congratulated on her Public Service, and I hope I shall do nothing during my term of office which will weaken in any respect the prestige which the Service enjoys and the efficiency for which it is renowned.

GOOD INTENTIONS.

I do not propose to say anything more now. I shall have many opportunities I hope of meeting the Hon. Members of this Council, perhaps in a less formal manner, and I do trust that they will give me their confidence fully and that they will tell me what is in their minds and enable me to gauge how I can best work with them for the objects which they equally with myself, have at heart—the good of this island. I am sure that we shall all work together much happier if we trust each other and give each other credit for good intentions. Even if we may not always see eye to eye on all questions, we may at any rate acquit each other of any desire to do anything but what is right, according to our lights, in the territory in which we are privileged to live. If Hon. Members will meet me in that spirit I can assure them that, for my part, I am most ready to give them the fullest credit for the best of intentions in every particular. I hope that as we go to know each other better, the necessarily formal relations which exist at first will become relations of personal friendship, and I hope and trust that opportunity will be taken by Hon. Members, privately or informally, as well as in open Council, to tell me what is in their minds. They will always find my ears open as well as my doors.

Now, Hon. Members, I do not propose to say anything more, but again to thank you most warmly for the welcome to my wife and myself. I look forward with pleasure and interest to my time among you and I look forward to receiving your help and co-operation in the task that lies before us all. (Applause.)

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

Six addresses were then presented to His Excellency. Mr. H. E. Newman read an address on behalf of the Colombo Municipal Council. Mr. J. J. Wall, read an address on behalf of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce. Mr. G. Robert de Zayas, read the address of the L. C. P. A. Colonel T. Y. Wright read the European Association address. Mr. N. D. S. Silva read an address from the Pannabala Mahabants' Union. Mulayyar Walter Ramasinghe read the Chief Headmen's Address.

REPLY TO ADDRESSES.

His Excellency replied to all the addresses at the same time stating:—Ladies and Gentlemen, I desire to thank very cordially the deputations that have attended here this morning and the Residents and Indians on whose behalf they have attended and for the beautiful addresses which they have presented to me. I propose to value and keep these addresses as a most interesting monument of a day, which, as I have already said, is one of the most important in my life. I shall not fail to convey to His Majesty the expressions of loyalty and devotion which were contained in several of the addresses. There is one thing in all the addresses which is very acceptable to me and that is the reference to the co-operation which is promised to me by the various bodies here today. Co-operation is the one thing which I am anxious to have. Co-operation is necessary not only between the Government and the people, but also between the different sections of the people themselves, so that we may all pull together towards a common end. Difference of opinion and immediate and no doubt there may be, but at long last we are all working for the same aim, and it is important that we should try to discover those points on which we agree and lay stress upon them rather than on the points on which we differ. If the spirit of co-operation which is so generously promised today prevails, we shall be able between us all to do some good for this historic island.

Empire of India Life Assur. Co.

At the Thirtieth Annual General Meeting of the shareholders held in Bombay on 27th April 1927, Mr. Rustom K. L. Cama, who presided, in moving the adoption of the Report, said:—

"With your permission we will take the Report as read. The Company has now completed its 30th year, and I think you will agree with me that in all respects the figures and results of that year are evidence of a continued prosperity and successful administration which may well be a source of gratification to us all."

In the first place you will have observed that the Company has issued 6,935 new Policies for Rs. 1,06,44,000, which is an increase of 25 per cent. over the amount of the previous year. Our aim has never been to secure a large amount of business irrespective of cost—so the present large increase is all the more satisfactory.

The Life Assurance Fund increased by Rs. 49,10,865 to Rs. 2,79,12,793. Of this increase over Rs. 40,25,000 represents the balance of profits on Securities realised and matured and on revaluation of Securities as at 28th February last. We have valued the Securities at the market rates of that date but in no case exceeding the redemption value. In order to show clearly the value of the different Securities as they stand in my Books I propose to lay before you a modified Statement showing the market value of each class of Security in the Balance Sheet without changing the aggregate value of our assets or the sum total of the Balance Sheet at all. Had we valued the Securities at the market rates without regard to the ultimate redemption value the appreciation would have been further increased by over Rs. 8,75,000. The total Assets amounted to Rs. 2,95,09,069. To day they exceed Rs. 3,00,00,000.

Our valuation for the five years ending 28th February last is now in progress and we confidently look forward to a good result.

The following statistics appear in the Report:—

The total number of Policies in force in 44,641 amounting to the sum of Rs. 7,92,34,893 including Bonus, and of this amount Rs. 6,69,183 are assured. Claims by death amounting to Rs. 7,61,684, including Bonus, have arisen. The economy in management which distinguished the former reports has been well maintained. The expenses notwithstanding the large increase in New Assurances represented only 22.2 per cent of the Premium Income. The funds of the Company are invested in Government and other Securities authorised by the Indian Trusts Act. The Life Assurance Fund has increased by Rs. 49,10,865.12.10 and now amounts to Rs. 2,79,12,793.8.4. The Assets of the Company in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet are Rs. 2,95,09,069.14.2. Fidelity Guarantees—Bonds for Rs. 4,70,450 have been issued and the Premiums in respect thereof amount to Rs. 4,504.40. Claims for Rs. 2,896.10 have arisen. The Guarantee Assurance Fund, including the Investment Reserve Fund, amounts to Rs. 2,41,037.2.11. The Directors recommend a dividend of 12½ per cent. on the Paid up Capital which, with the Bonus of 17½ per cent, makes a total distribution of 30 per cent for the year. The Directors recommend that a Bonus equal to one month's salary be paid to the Office Staff.

Continued.

and the several sections of the people, but also between the sections of the people themselves, so that we may all pull together towards a common end. Difference of opinion and immediate and no doubt there may be, but at long last we are all working for the same aim, and it is important that we should try to discover those points on which we agree and lay stress upon them rather than on the points on which we differ. If the spirit of co-operation which is so generously promised today prevails, we shall be able between us all to do some good for this historic island.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

I noticed in the address presented on behalf of the Municipal Council a reference to some change in the Constitution of that Council. I understand that this is a question which has been receiving the careful consideration of the Government for some little time, and I hope to study it myself and then to invite Members of the Council to come and discuss it with me. More than that I shall not say at the present moment.

I thank very much the members of the commercial community for their welcome. I appreciate how very important commerce is to this island with its great harbour, its coast shipping and its great import trade.

I thank also the Low Country Producers' Association for their welcome. I heard a good deal about it in England before I came here from Sir William Maunton and others. I am glad to learn of the useful work which they are doing. Up-country producers—the planters Up-country—have not sent a deputation here, but I shall have the opportunity of meeting them when I go to Kandy. I am very glad to meet the Low country producers represented here today, and to assure them of my desire to do everything in my power to facilitate and promote the production and development of the natural resources of this territory by its own people.

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION.

I am glad also to have this opportunity of thanking the European Association as well for their words of welcome. I had the pleasure of meeting the Hon. Secretary of the European Association when I was in London and I had a talk with him about it, and from all he told me I am confident that your assurance of support and co-operation will be made good. I am very glad indeed to have the help of all sections of the community, Europeans as well as Ceylonese, and I hope we shall all pull happily together.

The Ceylon Planters' Union struck a sadder note. They told me that the important industry which they represent is in a very depressed condition. I am sorry to hear it. Planting is a very important product indeed and it should be in the power of Government to do anything to help that industry to re-establish its former prosperity. I may say that any such help will be very gladly given.

CHIEF HEADMEN'S LOYALTY.

I should like to say a special word of thanks to the Chief Headmen of the Western Province, not only for their presence here, but also for the

Ceylon's Temperance Progress.

REVIEW OF A YEAR'S WORK.

According to the annual report of the Temperance Association in Ceylon and which embraces the work done by affiliated Societies in the Empire, the year 1926-27 has been one of steady progress. In this connection due acknowledgment is made of the valuable assistance rendered by the general Press of India and Ceylon, the co-operation of the various newspapers and the publication of news and comments favourable to the temperance cause. "It is significant," says the report, "that practically every newspaper conducted by Indian and Ceylonese publicists gives editorial support to the reforms advocated by the Association."

WORK DONE IN CEYLON.

The following is mentioned in regard to the work done in Ceylon:—

Turning to Ceylon, which comes within the scope of the Association's interest, it is encouraging to note that Prohibition by Local Option has made further progress during the year under review. In November last all the arrack and foreign liquor taverns in Maradana, an important area of Colombo, were closed by popular vote, after a strenuous campaign on the part of the Temperance organisations. In this case the number of eligible voters was about 3,100, of which number 2,201 voted for abolition, which works out at 65 per cent of the poll (14 per cent more than the required minimum). Among other districts in which similar results have been achieved was the Jaffna Peninsula, where the closing of shops was voted by large majorities. But in spite of this, it was soon found that considerable quantities of liquor were being surreptitiously introduced from outside without any effective action being taken by the Government to prevent it.

JAFFNA "DRY" AREA.

Mr. T. M. Sabaratnam therefore moved in the Legislative Council on February 17: "That Government be requested to declare the Jaffna Peninsula and the Islands Division to be a dry area in terms of Section 16 (3) of Ordinance No. 8 of 1912." After some debate it was decided to adjourn the matter, the representative of the Government undertaking to give it his best consideration with a view to the Excise Commission framing a scheme. This scheme was published in due course, the chief feature being a system of permits which are to be granted only to such inhabitants as have been accustomed to consume intoxicating liquors. All liquor for consumption under these permits is to be issued only from a Government depot, and no other arrack or foreign liquor is to be imported into the Jaffna Peninsula or the Islands. This modified proposal, has not, so far, met with public approval in the district, where largely attended meetings have been held to protest against what are regarded as the inadequate recommendations of the Commission. The resolution passed at these meetings requests the Government "to introduce in Jaffna Total Prohibition of all kinds of liquor, foreign and indigenous, except as required for medicinal, sacramental, and industrial purposes."

With reference to the position in Ceylon generally as is known, Mr. D. S. Senanayake moved in February this year the following resolution: "In the opinion of this Council, Government should take more vigorous and effective steps to suppress illicit sales of liquor." This resolution was ultimately accepted by the Government, and the Colonial Secretary undertook to give effect to its terms.

THE FUTURE.

In the concluding portion of the report the future of temperance work is laid forward to with confidence, as is evidenced by the following extract:—

The conclusion to be drawn from this survey of the past year's operations of the Association is that both in India and Ceylon our movement is making steady progress against many obstacles. The substantial results already achieved should give encouragement to all who are working for the Temperance cause among these vast populations of the East, most of whom are still uncontaminated by the vice of intemperance. They welcome with enthusiasm the co-operation of their Western friends in the conservation of principles which have always been well established in their midst, and they, with us, look forward with confidence to the early coming of that day when India's freedom from the curse of alcohol shall be permanently assured.—"Ceylon Daily News."

Continued.

only for the addresses which they have presented but also for the beautiful decorations in the streets through which we drove from the Jetty to Queen's House. I understand that they were good enough to arrange those decorations and I thank them for it in my wife's name as well as my own. I should like also to thank them for the loyalty which for so many generations they have shown to the Government and the help they have given Government in carrying out its duties. I am very glad indeed to see them here and assure them of my appreciation of all that I have heard of their good work. I have spoken at some length and I do not want to say very much more now except to thank again to the ladies who represented here for the welcome given to my wife and myself, and to express the hope that we shall be able to show ourselves worthy of the good wishes and friendliness of the gentlemen which we have received. (Applause.)—T. M. Senanayake.

Ancient Painting in Ceylon.

BY MR. MANINDRA BHUSHAN GUPTA,
OF
Ananda College, Colombo.
(Continued from our last issue)

The constant chirping of the cuckoo was heard. Occasionally the soft shrill of nuth birds rose in the silence of the sky. They were flapping their wings in the vast expanse of the darkness.

So long I have read nothing about the paintings of Sigiriya. The scenic beauty there is so much, that it forms one work of art as it were with the paintings.

The frescoes of Sigiriya are well preserved from the ravages of time and the vandalism of man, for they have been done in a very high place, quite unapproachable by man. The paintings were done inside a chamber, the outer wall of which has collapsed altogether long ago. Very recently the archaeological department has made a rope ladder to reach up to it. Even that is dangerous to climb. One who does not possess strong nerves should not attempt the climb. But once you get to the place, it is quite safe. There is a wooden platform, with a wire netting running along the wall where the fresco is done.

There are altogether 21 figures of women consisting of the queen and the ladies of the court. The figures appear to be about life size and are drawn up to the waist only.

The upper part of the body is uncovered or covered with a light thin jacket. The expression is extremely feminine. Its anatomy is correct and is perhaps more precise than the famous Ajanta frescoes. This precision only shows that Ajanta artists must have studied from life, and that the figures are not merely done from memory and imagination as often we are wont to say with reference to classical art.

The beauty of Sigiriya painting is in powerful and delicate drawing. The artist who did it must have had wonderful control over the brush. There is no indifference or hesitation anywhere. The artist has drawn his lines with free, bold sweeps of the brush. If there is any mistake in drawing, the correction is done in a darker colour. So both the wrong and correct drawing can be seen at once. The calligraphic quality of the drawing is remarkable. The Sigiriya frescoes are very simple in colour, as opposed to Ajanta's richness of colour. Very few colours are used, light red and ochre being the most important. Whenever dark colour has been necessary, as in the hair, brows, the eye-balls, etc., green earth (see note) has been used.

The Sigiriya frescoes have certainly a place in world art. The facsimile of Sigiriya frescoes kept at the Colombo Museum is a very good one.

The traces of the wonderful frescoes of 12th century are to be seen only in the Demala Mahaveya Vihara in Polonnaruwa. In most of the Viharas at Polonnaruwa brick is used, which is less permanent than stone. Hence the frescoes do not last so well.

The frescoes of Demala Mahaveya were at the mercy of sun and rain for centuries, as the roof of the building was destroyed long ago. The paintings have been recovered from the debris of the fallen roof. The archaeological department of Ceylon is at present taking steps for their preservation, but still it is too late.

The painting has become quite indistinct now. The copy of it kept at the Colombo Museum is far from satisfactory. It does not give the beauty and dignity of the original at all. The rhythmic flow of lines in the original is quite lost in the copy. Thus a great treasure of art, which rivals some of the best at the cave temples of Ajanta, is lost.

The archaeological report says: "Probably in no old structural Buddhist temple in Ceylon—certainly in none left to us—was a greater wealth of exquisitely painted scenes from Buddhist legends ever presented than at this medieval Vihara of Polonnaruwa. What the stone carvings at Banchi, at Bharhut, at Amaravati, at Boru Buddar and elsewhere admirably often doubtfully, has been here set out in coloured frescoes with a naturalness, spirit and technique that tell the story with unerring fidelity. There are paintings still left at Demala Mahaveya which rival some of the best at the cave temples of Ajanta.

The painting of the last period, which begins from the 18th century, is very conventional, devoid of force of life. But it retains its decorative sense to the fullest extent. Spacing from floor to roof is distributed well. The human figures are sometimes out of proportion. But it does not take away from the artistic value of the painting, as particular objects in the painting do not have much specific significance of their own, but emerge into a sort of decorative pattern work. When looked at from a distance without attention to details, the artistic sense of decoration and that of the distribution of space become quite apparent.

The painting of this period may be said to be done by craftsmen as opposed to artists, who worked at Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa.

The artists of this period can be compared to the "pote" artists of Bengal. They may be described as folk artists.

The work of these "pote" artists of Bengal is more delicate and soft than that of their Hindu brethren. But they fail to approach them in the field of decorative work and craftsmanship.

The painting of Dambulla temple is the best of this period. Its style is a little different from the painting of the other temples of this time. Kirti Sri, the Kandyan King, had it repainted and repainted. We cannot guess from the existing paintings, what the style was before the 18th century.

The paintings in Kandyan temples, as of other craftsmen of this place, are influenced by South India. The reason is that the Kandyan Kings, under whose patronage the arts and the crafts of this place flourished, were not natives of this place but came from South India. The Kings might have brought craftsmen from their own country.

Some of the Kandyan temples are—The Dalada Maligawa or the Tooth temple, Ascheliya viharu, Malaweti viharu, Gangarama viharu, Abahams-maligawa viharu, Lankakula viharu. The last temple is 8 miles away from the Kandy town, others are inside it.

The paintings of Alu viharu at Maligawa are also a good example of 18th century. This temple has some historical importance. Buddhaghosha, who came from India, lived in this temple; and it is he who wrote the commentary on the three Tripitakas.

The other temples containing paintings of the last period are to be found at Kelani (which is Continued up).

Mahatma's Autobiography.

A SACRED RECOLLECTION.

Tois, the latest instalment of Gandhiji's auto-biography is taken from "Young India":—

In Johannesburg I had at one time as many as four Indian clerks, among whom it is difficult to say whether they were not more like my sons than clerks. But even these were not enough for my work. It was impossible to do without typewriting, which among us, if at all, only I knew. I taught it to two of them, but they were coming up to the mark because of their poor English. And then one of these I wanted to train up as an accountant. I could not get on any one. Nihil for no one could enter the Treasury without permit, and for my own personal convenience, I was not prepared to ask a favour of the Permit Office.

I was at my wit's end. Agents are fast mounting up, so much so that it seemed impossible for me, however much I might try, to cope with professional and public work. I was quite willing to entertain a European clerk, but I was not sure to get a white man or woman to serve a coloured man like me. But I decided to try. I approached a typewriter's agent whom I knew, and asked him to get me a stenographer if he could. There were girls available, and he promised to try to secure the services of one. He came across a Scotch girl called Miss Dick, who had come from fresh from Scotland. She had no objection to earn an honest living, wherever available, and she was in need. So the agent sent her on to me. She immediately prepossessed me.

"Don't you mind serving under an Indian?" I asked her.

"Not at all," was her firm reply.
"What salary do you expect?"
"Would £17/10 be too much?"
"Not too much, if you will give me the work I want from you. When can you start?"
"This moment, if you please."

I was very glad and started dictating letters to her. Before very long she became more a daughter or a sister to me than a mere stenotypist. Scarcely had I reason to find fault with her work. She was often entrusted with the management of funds amounting to thousands of pounds, and she was in charge of accounts books. She won my complete confidence, but what was perhaps more, she confided to me her innermost thoughts and feelings. She sought my advice in the final choice of her husband, and I had the privilege to give her away in marriage. As soon as Miss Dick became Mrs. MacDonald, she had to leave me, but even after her marriage she did not fail to respond whenever under pressure I made a call upon her.

But a permanent stenotypist was needed in her place, and I was fortunate in getting another girl. She was Miss Schlessin introduced to me by Mr. Kallenbach whom the reader will know in due course. She is at present at the head of a girls' school in the Transvaal. She was about seventeen when she came to me. Some of her idiosyncrasies were at times too much for Mr. Kallenbach and me. She had come less to work as a stenotypist than to gain experience. Colour prejudice was foreign to her temperament. She seemed to mind neither age nor experience. She would not hesitate even to the point of insulting a man and telling him to his face what she thought of him. Her impetuosity of mind landed me in difficulties, but her open and guileless temperament removed them as soon as they were created. I have often signed without revision letters typed by her, as I considered her English to be better than mine, and had the fullest confidence in her loyalty.

Her sacrifice was great. For a considerable period she did not draw more than £6, and refused ever to receive more than £10 a month. When I urged her to take more, she would give me a scolding and say, "I am not here to draw a salary from you. I am here because I like to work with you and I like your ideals."

She had once an occasion to take £40 from me, but she insisted on having it as a loan, and repaid the full amount last year. Her courage was equal to her sacrifice. She is one of the few women I have been privileged to come across, with character clear as crystal and courage that would shame a warrior. She is a grown up woman now. I do not quite know her mind as well as when she was with me, but my contact with this young lady will ever be for me a sacred recollection. I would therefore be false to truth if I kept back what I know about her.

She knew neither night nor day in telling for the case. She ventured out on errands in the darkness of the night all by herself, and singly counted any suggestion of an escort. Thousands of awkward Indians looked up to her for guidance. When during the Satyagraha days almost every one of the leaders was in jail, she led the movement singlehandedly. She had the management of thousands, a tremendous amount of correspondence, and Indian Opinion in her hands, but she never wavered.

I could go on thus indefinitely writing about Miss Schlessin, but I shall conclude this chapter with citing Gokhale's estimate of her. Gokhale knew every one of my co-workers. He was pleased with many of them, and would often give his estimates of them. He gave the first place to Miss Schlessin amongst all the Indian and European co-workers. "I have rarely met with the sacrifice, the purity and the fearlessness I have seen in Miss Schlessin," said he. "Amongst your co-workers, she takes the first place in my estimation."

Continued.

8 miles from Colombo) and at Kalchira, Hikkaduwa, Dadandawa, and Abangama, etc., all of which are on the sea coast.

It is a great pity that the people and their priests do not care to preserve these old paintings and are careful to repaint their temples in gorgeous vulgar colours.

I would like to make a few remarks on the modern painting in temples, which has degenerated to its lowest depth in the hands of the modern artists. Buddha appears as an Englishman, with a fleshy body having no spiritual significance. The women appear as match girls, with red cheeks. To judge technically, there is no sense of drawing, colour and harmony. The horrid colour gives a discordant shock. The Buddhist pictures which are hung up in Buddhist homes are horrible German photographs.

The hereditary artists can still be found in Kandyan districts. But they are not called to paint temples, nor is their work appreciated by their own countrymen; so they produce small bits of work to satisfy the demand of the contributors of the West. —"The Modern Review"

Trip to Holy Shrines in India.

By Mr. V. SUBRAMANIAM

(Bala Pandit & Asst. Master, Putney H.E. School)
Concluded from our issue of 14.7.27.

The next morning made me a practical man of the world—and a wanderer from somebody reminded me of the land of birth, of my profession and sense of duty. Away, away from the charms of temples and gods, of rivers and Rights—I found myself into the South Indian Boat Mail as splendid? And the same evening I greeted travellers and bade adieu to Tamil Nadu. What a contrast! The next morning I got down—and my children and friends were there to receive me. Life and work—responsibilities and distractions—And a thousand other little concerns! Why then talk of religious bliss and forgetfulness?

Here stops my journey up and down I should like to proceed and give you an idea of collective life in South India as it presented itself to me during my sojourn.

The civilisation of the Tanjore District—the "Chola Nadu" is sweetness itself, being the result of a synthesis of many cultures all combined into the living of a life to the point of taste. There is abundance of charity—give and take—and all over one finds the proverbial Indian hospitality to excess.

There is no ugliness of the viceroy of "West-ernity". Homes are ideal Hindu Homes, dress, food, language, etc.—and all other domestic surroundings bear witness to the charms of India of old. Brahmins are English educated, and the Tanjore Brahmins have made a mark in the angloised land; but you find him at the same time a Hindu and a Brahmin. So all high caste Hindus.

The South Indian girl in my view is a type of Hindu womanhood. Still, to the 20th century you find them so modest, so graceful, so devoted and so oriental—and why not call them the descendants of Savitri and Sita?

Education is now being rapidly vernacularised. It was a great joy for me to listen to a boy reading in the IVth form at the Tiruvedal-mathur Athanum B.H. School his English History, Indian History, Elementary Science and Geography—all in Tamil. But we here are rapidly anglicising—more and more of it every day.

Let me close up with this prayer that every one of my countrymen should go to India—the land of our forefathers and ancestors. Believe me a trip to India means a hope and a message to Jaffa—and you inwardly rejoice. The End.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6431.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Ganapathiam wife of Sinnamuby of Kuala Lipis

Deceased,
Sabapathy Thamplah of Jaffna

Plaintiff.
Vs.
1. Sabapathy Sinnamuby of Araly East
2. Mahaswari daughter of Sinnamuby of Do
3. Basaswami daughter of Sinnamuby of Do and
4. Arumugam Chellappa Pillai of Do

Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of the above-named Plaintiff praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse, Esq., District Judge, on August 1, 1927, in the presence of Mr. M. Vythilingam, Proctor on the part of the Plaintiff and the affidavit of the Plaintiff having been read, it is declared that the Plaintiff is the lawful brother 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 the August 23, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

August 1, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse,
O. 1802. District Judge.

SWADESHI.

There is much waste over reforms. There is none in Swadeshi. Every yard of yarn spun is so much labour well spent and so much wealth added to the national treasury.

M. E. G.

NOTICE

'Ancient Jaffna'

being a Research into the History of
JAFFNA
from very Early Times to the
PORTUGUESE PERIOD

BY

Mudir. C. Rasanayagam, C.C.S.

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H. 59.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6505.

Class I.
In the matter of the estate of the late Naganatharam wife of Muttusamy of Sandruppy

Deceased,
Naganathar Vythilingam of Sandruppy

Plaintiff.
Vs.
1. Kamadhipillai wife of Vythilingam of Sandruppy
2. Arumugam Muttusamy of Sotthumalay

Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of the above-named Plaintiff praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esq., District Judge, on July 2, 1927, in the presence of Mr. S. Murgesspillai, Proctor on the part of the Plaintiff and the affidavit of the Plaintiff dated July 19, 1927 having been read, it is ordered that the Plaintiff is one of the heirs 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 the Aug 25, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

July 26, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse,
O. 1800. District Judge.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6380.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Karthigasam Kanagasabai of Meenal North

Deceased,
Kanagasabai Subramaniam of Kodigam

Plaintiff.
Vs.
1. Kanagasabai Kamaswamy
2. Muttusamm daughter of Kanagasabai
3. Kanagasabai Ponnuswamy
4. Kanagasabai Kanagaratnam
5. Ponnusamm widow of Kanagasabai

Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of the above-named Plaintiff praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esq., District Judge, on March 8, 1927, in the presence of Mr. V. S. Karthigasam, Proctor, on the part of the Plaintiff and the affidavit of the Plaintiff dated January 18, 1927 having been read, it is declared that the Plaintiff is one of the heirs 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 April 5, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

March 10, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse,
District Judge.

Time extended to 30th August 1927.
G. W. W.
O. 1801. D. J.

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