

The Hindu Organ.

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Letter To The Editor.

MAHATMA GANDHI'S VISIT

To The Editor "Hindu Organ." Sir, Will you allow in the courtesy of your columns to invite the attention of the public to the visit of Mahatma Gandhi, which is to take place during the early part of November. As is well known the object of the Mahatma, besides seeing our country and studying its problems first hand, is the promotion of the Khadi Fund.

Every one will realize the great privilege he is conferring on us by his visit. It should therefore be a source of gratification to us to be able to show our appreciation of it in a tangible way by contributing as liberally as we can to the cause so dear to his heart.

Though it is true that he is coming here on the invitation of the Students Congress, the general public's most welcome to associate itself with the reception. No caste, creed or community need hold itself aloof. By the almost unanimous verdict of the world Mahatma Gandhi has come to be regarded as a sectarian figure.

All contributions however great or small will be thankfully accepted. Payments, till the appointment of local collectors are made to the undersigned.

J P ThuraiRasam, (Jaffna College), O. N. G. Sub., (Manipal Hindu College), Joint Secys.

Vital Statistics of the North.

FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1927. In the report of the Registrar General published as Supplement to last Friday's Gazette the following information concern the Northern Province:

JAFFNA. Population, March 18, 1921 census, 42,436; middle of 1927, intercensal 43,740. Marriages, General 24, Muslim 4. Births, males 53, females 70. Deaths, males 57, females 50. Stillbirths, males 4, females 5. Deaths of non-residents 9. Birth rate 34.46. Death-rate 28.80. Mean Temperature 82.9 deg. Rain fall 0.25 inches.

MANNAR. Population, March 18, 1921 census 3,706; middle of 1927, intercensal 3,750. Marriages, General 3. Births, males 7, females 6. Deaths, males 29, females 12. Deaths of non-residents 18. Birth rate 40.82. Death-rate 128.73. Mean temperature 84.2 deg. Rain fall 0.02 inches.

MULLEATTIVU. Population, March 18, 1921 census 1,568; middle of 1927, intercensal 1,681. Marriages, general 1. Births, males 3, females 2. Deaths, males 8, females 7. Still birth 1. Deaths of non-residents 3. Birth rate 36.02. Death-rate 102.06. Rain fall 1.67 inches.

VAVUNIYA. Population, March 18, 1921 census 936; middle of 1927, intercensal 1,027. Births, male 1, female 2. Deaths, male 2, female 4. Deaths of non-residents 3. Birth rate 34.41. Death-rate 68.61. Rain fall 1.43 inches.

OBITUARY.

MRS R. NAMASIVAYAMPILLAI. We regret to record the death which occurred on Sunday the 11th inst. at her residence in Mallekum, of Annammal, wife of Mr. R. Namasivayam Pillai of Mallekum. The deceased lady was ailing for the last one year from throat trouble and succumbed to it finally in spite of the best medical aid. She was fifty seven years of age at the time of her death and belonged to one of the foremost families of Mallekum. She was a sister of the late Mr. K. V. Lingbam, and of Mr. K. Amirthalingam, Pillai, Retired Presidency Court-Masters, Madras. She leaves behind to remain her loss her husband, two sons, Messrs. R. N. Sivaraman, Advertising Consultant of the Modern Publicity Company, Madras, and R. N. Sivaprasadam of the Education Office, Colombo, three daughters and a host of relatives. —Cor.

Continued. prime of life is a great public loss. Nobody feels it more keenly than the people of Moolai and Tholpuram and those who were intimately associated with him in many kinds of public work. Now he is no longer with us. But he leaves behind him an inspiring memory of devoted Siva Theodot and an example of public service which will inspire many a man to dedicate his life for the service of God and of man. The funeral took place on Monday last and was largely attended from various parts of Vallikamam West. Mr. Candish leaves behind him a widow and two daughters, who have settled in life during his life time, and four brothers and a sister to remain his loss. We express our sincere condolence to the bereaved family and to the large circle of his relations at Araly, Vaddukudai, Moolai, Tholpuram and Chulipuram.

Question of Untouchability.

LOLAJI'S FORCEFUL APPEAL

"In foreign countries, when we are asked about the system of Untouchability in our country, we cannot look the inquirer in the face, being overwhelmed with shame, and wish that a gap should occur in the earth to engulf us," said Lala Lajpat Rai when making a forceful appeal against Untouchability on Sept. 10 at the Untouchability Conference convened under the auspices of the Simla Arya Samaj. A very large number of persons attended the Conference. Sir O. Bankaran Nair was in the chair.

Lala Lajpat Rai said there was no such systematic mistreatment of God's beings in any other part of the world. Untouchability was unreligious, and those who followed it had no religion. The time for speech making and passing resolutions on the subject had passed. He exhorted the audience to cast away the horrible practice forthwith. He was not in favour of gradual removal. Every man should spend without removing this system, while still doing so many wrongs not only on our religion but also on our country. He desired amidst appeals that he welcomed foot over from a saviour.

Mr. Chotram (Sind) said there would be no salvation without the removal of Untouchability. If this system was removed, the Hindu Muslim question would also be settled. The followers of H. H. the Aga Khan were converting to Mahomedanism the Untouchables in Gujarat and Sind in large numbers. The removal of Untouchability was not only desirable from the moral and religious points of view. It had also special political significance. He advised the employment of Untouchables as domestic servants in order that the Hindu women might get rid of their prejudice against them.

Sriam Ghansard from Malabar accused the Brahmins and Vaisias of perpetuating Untouchability. It gave them an army of slaves and low paid men. The best course to remove the evil was not to recognize the so called high castes. All God's beings were equal. Lala Roshan Lal (Lahore) quoted from the Ramayan to show that there was no Untouchability in the days of Rama.

SIR O. SANGARAN NAIR. Sir O. Sangaran Nair, in his concluding remarks, said "Until the depressed classes join us, all of us will be slaves, whether we go to South Africa or any other country of the world. In our own country, the Englishmen treat us like slaves. They will not give us more rights, they tell us, because the lower classes hate us and therefore we cannot be trusted to look after their interests. Therefore for Heaven's sake, in our own interest and in the interests of our children, let us be one and work together." (Applause)

Commenting on the above subject, the Madras Hindu has the following editorial in its issue of the 12th inst.:

"The anti untouchability campaign is steadily gaining ground in the country; and we are glad to note that no one perhaps realizes the urgent need for ridding the country of the evil better than Hindu leaders themselves. The movement gains strength by such Conferences as the Simla Untouchability Conference a telegraphic account of which appears in our columns to day. Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, certainly no heterodox Hindu, recognizes the necessity to treat the depressed classes as brethren in fact as well as in public speeches. The evils of the custom, from every point of view, political, social and humanitarian, are serious and some of these were referred by the speakers at the Conference. They are too obvious to need proof. The only obstacle on the path of reform is, not lack of conviction on the part of the leaders as to the vicious nature of the system, but uncontrolled superstition in the villages. This obstacle is being steadily got over, thanks to the work of the Congress and other organizations. Indeed, one may feel confident that ere long, as village reconstruction work progresses, the custom would disappear."

Anti-Untouchability Campaign.

YEOMAL HINDUS' EXAMPLE.

A resolution permitting the "Untouchables" to immerse with their own hands and along with other Hindus, the Ganapati images in the tank adjacent to Yeomal temple, was passed at a meeting of the Hindu Sabha.

A Christian Family Converted.

WORK OF THE ARYA SAMAJ.

The Arya Samajists of Travancora have taken into their fold a Christian family consisting of a father, mother and two children. The father was the District Officer of the Salvation Army for the District of Balaramapuram in South Travancora. Their Christian names have been changed into Hindu names. The father who was called D. B. Isaac is now called Rigunathan, his wife Mathulakshmi, and the children Kamaliam and Vijayam. The Buddhist ceremony was conducted by Prof. Charu Deva Sastri, a professor of the D. A. V. College, Lahore, in the presence of a large number of prominent Hindu leaders of Travancora. The same evening there was a public meeting in the masjid at which the Sastri and Mr. Rigunathan spoke in Suddhi and re-conversion. The Arya Samajists have decided to carry on vigorous suddhi and re-conversion work in South Travancora. A new branch of the Samaj will be opened at Parasala where the Christian missionaries are carrying on their propaganda. —"Hindu."

Jaffna Oriental Studies Society.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

The following are the results of the examinations held by the above Society in May, 1927:

PRAVESA EXAMINATION—TAMIL. Class II. K. Thangapillai and S. K. Nadarajar.

Class III. V. Arumugam, S. K. Ramanathan, P. Karthigesan, V. Karayyasaam, P. Ponnambalam, N. Ponchi, A. Vethivelupillai, A. Ponnambalam, K. Kumaravelupillai, T. Mutukumaraswamy, E. Samesundara Iyer, K. Arumugam, S. Kathiravelu, S. Kurusamy, S. Thangaraja, P. Sadanobara Iyer, P. Kesavaipillai, E. S. Kanaganipillai, S. Rasiah, S. Nalliah, K. Kandappa, S. Sadasaby and S. Sethukavalar.

PRAVESA EXAMINATION—BANSKRIT.

Class III. K. Mangaleswara Iyer and K. Ponnambary Iyer.

BALA PANDIT EXAMINATION—TAMIL.

Class III. A. Kanaga abal, V. Kumalingam, K. Raminamas, S. Mutukumarasamy Iyer, K. Perampalam, A. Nagamayo, E. Suppiramaniam, T. Ratnasabapathy Iyer, E. Balakumary Iyer, V. Ponnambalam, K. Nallasaamy, N. Kadambay Iyer, V. Balayashore, A. Marugesan, S. Senthilthy and P. T. S. Kannappan.

PANDIT EXAMINATION—TAMIL. Class III. S. Poochalapillai.

MATRIMONIAL.

SITTAMPALAM — PARASAKITHY.

The marriage of Mr. M. Sittampalam, Teacher, Muttagam English School and Priesthood, Erisalai Salva Bala Saegam, with Sittampay Parasakithy was solemnized according to Hindu rites with great splendour at 2 p.m. on Monday, the 12th inst., at Erisalai in the bride's residence. —Cor.

Excise Abbreviation Plague.

SUPPOSED DIALOGUE IN A LAW COURT.

The following dialogue, which is alleged to have taken place in an Up country Court, between the Magistrate and an Excise Inspector, is reported in the "Ceylon Independent":

The Inspector: On certain information received by me, I went in a car with two guards to detect an I. S. T.

The Magistrate: What is the full name of the man? Is he a Chetty?

Inspector: Do you want the name of the guard, Sir?

Magistrate: No, the name of the man with the initials, I. S. T.

Inspector (scratching his head): I went to detect an illicit sale of toddy, Sir.

Magistrate: Why don't you say so? Yes, go on, Inspector: I stopped the car near the railway crossing, sent one of the guards ahead and went to the track to see to put in an S. M. T.

Magistrate: Is it a kind of drink like O. T.?

Inspector: I beg your pardon, Sir. I went to put in a short measure test.

Magistrate: Go on.

Inspector: After this, I sent the guard to inform the other not to send the decoy till 12 noon to the house. In the meanwhile I went for an I. S. A.

Magistrate: Why didn't you go in the car?

Inspector: There was no road, Sir.

Magistrate: But, just now you told me, that you went on a B. S. A. I believe that is the name of a bicycle.

Inspector (highly excited): No, Sir, I. S. A. I went to detect an illicit sale of toddy.

Magistrate: Why don't you say so? Go on, Inspector: I met the guard squabbling near a jungle, close to the accused's house at about 11 a.m. I sent one of them to the accused's garden to watch for an I. D. F. T.

Magistrate: What kind of an animal is that?

Inspector (abruptly): Was animal, Sir?

Magistrate: The I. D. F. T.

Inspector (biting his finger): Illicit drawing of fermented toddy.

Magistrate (very seriously): You must be sent to the I. D. E.

Inspector: I beg your pardon, to what, Sir?

Magistrate: To the Intoxicuous Diseases Hospital.

Inspector (with a frightful look): May I know why, Sir?

Magistrate: Because you have contracted E. A. P.

Inspector: I beg your Honour's pardon. What disease, Sir?

Magistrate: You have contracted Excise Abbreviation Plague.

THE MAILS.

(G. P. O. Colombo.)

DESPATCHES.

London Mails per a P & O Steamer leaving from Bombay will close on Tuesday, September 20th and per the R. L. "Patria" on Thursday, September 22nd.

Straits and China Mails per the P & O "Kashmir" and R. L. "Samat" will close on Saturday, September 17th and per the N. Y. K. "Sawa Maru" on Tuesday, September 20th.

RECEIPTS.

London Mails per the P & O "Narkunda" will arrive on Saturday, September 17th per the O. L. "Orvieto" on Saturday, September 24th and per the P & O "Macedonia" on Saturday, October 1st.

Straits and China Mails per the S. M. M. "John De Witt" will arrive today (Thursday) and per the R. L. "Patria" on Thursday, September 22nd.

INDIAN & FOREIGN

ATLANTIC'S HEAVY TOLL:—Aures aeroplane has been swallowed up in the Atlantic during the past week, and with them 19 airmen. In view of the repeated failure (ending in death) of airmen to achieve the Atlantic flight from east to west it has been suggested that further attempts should be legally prohibited. An encouragement is now given to such flights. The prize of 20,000 dollars offered for the first non-stop from Philadelphia to Europe has now been withdrawn. Leava has been refused by the authorities to Lieut. Court who had arranged to fly across the Atlantic with the Frenchman Ponck. Capt. Courtecy has been urged to abandon his attempt in view of the dangerous weather conditions.

RED REVOLT IN LITHUANIA:—Reports received in London on September 10 from Tilsit via Berlin speak of a revolutionary communist outbreak at Turovsk, in Lithuania, now spreading to the Meral district. Firing continued until night time and there were heavy casualties.

FRANCO GERMAN AMITY:—In the Assembly M. Briand (France) paid a tribute to Dr. Stresemann's (Germany) "able" speech and said that French and German delegates now meet and openly discuss more delicate questions in a manner previous to inconceivable.

CRIMINAL LAW BILL IN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:—In the Legislative Assembly the Criminal Law Amendment Bill intended to deal with scurrilous writings against religion, has been referred to a Select Committee.

DR. ANSARI ELECTED PRESIDENT NATIONAL CONGRESS:—The Reception Committee of the forthcoming Indian National Congress having unanimously elected Dr. Ansari, he has signified his consent to preside over the Congress session in Madras.

DISARMAMENT AND LEAGUE OF NATIONS:—The task of achieving disarmament was only accomplished by stages, some of which had already been passed and the League had not failed, declared M. Villages, Chile, presiding over the opening of the League Assembly.

INDIAN TROOPS IN FRENCH MEMORIAL UNVEILING:—A Contingent of Indian Troops sailed from Bombay during last week to represent the Indian section of the Indian Army at the unveiling of the memorial erected in France in honour of Indian soldiers who lost their lives during the Great War.

PROPOSAL TO MAKE LEAGUE A SUPER STATE:—In an eloquent speech at the League of Nations Assembly on Saturday last, the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Austen Chamberlain, is said to have declared that to ask Great Britain to guarantee all the frontiers, as had been done in the case of Germany, France and Belgium, was to "ask us the impossible." He declared that it was "asking nothing less than the disruption of the British Empire." Great Britain could not accept the responsibilities involved in such an undertaking. He also attacked the proposal made by M. Poulos (Greece), that the League should be given the authority of a super State, "giving orders to all the States, not only in the conduct of their external affairs, but as to how they should behave and what they must do within their own boundaries and among their own people." "That was dangerous," he said.

EXPLOSION IN ACETONE RECOVERY STORE:—Smoke and flames 100 feet high followed a terrific explosion in an acetone recovery store, in the danger zone of the Royal Naval Cordite Factory, Holton Heath, near Bourne-mouth. Subsequent investigations showed that workmen had been killed, while several girls were scorched.

LEAGUE WORK IN INDIA:—In the League Assembly Sir Kameswamy Aiyar in opening the debate on the work during the past year congratulated the League on the comprehensiveness and thoroughness of its work. He referred to the way in which India was fulfilling, in practice, the idea of the League.

A SINGAPORE DAILY IN INDIA:—The Associated Press understands that a Sinhales Syndicate is contemplating the establishment of a free-press daily newspaper in some prominent centre in India to advocate the claims of the Ceylonese Buddhists for manning the Boddhagaya Temple—"Justice."

PROHIBITIONIST'S FAMILY TRAGEDY:—The death occurred at Battle Creek on September 6, of Mr. Wayne Wheeler the Prohibition Leader who was chiefly responsible for the passage of the Volstead Law. His wife was fatally burned a few weeks ago as the result of the explosion of an oil stove. Her father seeing his daughter rush into the room with her clothing in flames died of heart attack.

GANDHI'S VISIT TO CEYLON:—Mahatma Gandhi will be travelling to Ceylon in the first fortnight of November.

WORKING OF REFORMS IN BURMA:—In a manifesto, the members of the People's Party, Burma who walked out of the Legislative Council last session, challenge Government to move in Parliament for an immediate enquiry into the working of the reforms, or, as an alternative, to dissolve the present Legislative Council and call for a general election. Government have issued a lengthy Press communication, examining the People's Party's Manifesto, showing that the latter contains numerous misstatements and unwarranted deductions. It concludes:—"The Manifesto contains nothing justifying an immediate enquiry into the working of the Reforms in Burma, or the request for a dissolution of the present Council and general election."

Swami Saradananda.

THE MESSAGE OF HIS LIFE.

(By Mukunda Lal Bose.)

With the passing of the 17th of August, Bengal has witnessed the passing of a great soul—a great social worker—a high priest of our national culture and religion. Of all the great self-sacrificing spirits that mustered round the banner of Sri Ramakrishna and worked heart and soul towards the inauguration of the great order of philanthropic monks known as the Ramakrishna Mission, Swami Saradananda occupies a place of foremost importance. For a long period of 40 years, he served the nation with the unabated zeal and love of a true patriot and held aloft the banner of renunciation and service beckoning the younger generations towards the true methods of nation worship.

To throw into distinct relief how great Saradananda was and what he did to rouse the enormous energies of our nation with his illustrious brother Swami Vivekananda is a task too vast to be put forth within the brief compass of a newspaper column; and history, it is said, will not be loth to pronounce its verdict in process of time. Suffice it to say that without a Swami Saradananda, Vivekananda's laudable system of philanthropic and cultural work would not have reached its high water mark of success it has, during his life-time and after his demise.

Born of a respectable Brahmin family of Calcutta, in the sixties of the last century Saradananda received a sound English education and joined the Medical College, Calcutta, with a view to follow the noble profession of a Medical man. But destiny ordained otherwise and ere long he came in the blessed contract of Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda then also a College man searching after the eternal truth with the heartburnings of a sincere seeker. Great was the intimacy and friendship that ensued between these young Bengalees. The attainment of the ideal of human life, the amelioration of the heart-pangs of an agonising humanity and the fulfilment of their material needs were the objects they set up as their ideal in life. The lives of Sri Krishna, Buddha, Shankar Chakravarty and a host of other saviours of mankind carried their highest appeal and made indelible impressions upon their plastic minds. They resolved to throw aside the sterile path of worldly prosperity and to pursue the path of life-long renunciation. The ideal man to minister solace to their yearning hearts was near at hand in the holy figure of the Saint of Dakshineswar and these friends with a galaxy of other noble spirits began to sit at his feet for the solution of the great mystery of existence. What landmark these young men have left in their maturer years, in the annals of our national history is a matter of common knowledge to day.

A great intellectual giant—a forceful speaker and a powerful organizer, Swami Saradananda went to America and Europe for preaching our religion and culture with Swami Vivekananda and attained there a significant fame and recognition, but he was soon invited to his homeland to shoulder the onerous responsibilities of work in India and he readily responded to the call as a devoted servant. After his return his life became the panorama of multifarious activities and it was under the inspiring and sanctifying pilotage of selfless personalities of the type of Swami Saradananda, Brahmananda, Sivarama, Premaramba and a retinue of other worthy compatriots that the works of the Mission assumed these gigantic proportions. In fact the wonderful personality of Vivekananda was conspicuously shadowed upon the adamant back-ground of those strong laid characters.

Besides the heavy duties of the Secy. of so big an organization as the Rama Krishna Mission, Saradananda had to do much intellectual labour by way of editing and publishing the "Udbohans" and writing various treatises upon different subjects from time to time. Never was a Holy Master's life and teachings put forth with better perceptivity of details, more reverential interpretation and literary skill than Saradananda's "Sri Ram Krishna's Five Prayers" (5 vols). His "Stray Thoughts" and "Bhakti Sakitipuja" (Sakit worship in India) also mark him out as a progressive thinker and literary man. With a heart glow with patriotic fervor he did not fail to contribute his due share of attention towards the successful workings of the Nivedita School, the Saradewari Aaram of Sri Gouri Devi and the holy Mother's Temple at Jalpaiguri. His unwavering solicitude for the holy Mother, the divine consort of Sri Rama Krishna during her life-time also bespeaks, in eloquent terms, the sincerity of devotion of his "Bhakti's" heart. He also wielded a most felicitous pen for a huge daily correspondence with numberless people who came to seek his guidance.

In these days of national upheavals when our leaders are after breaking each other's heads for an ephemeral supremacy to receive the momentary and effervescent encomium of a slavish (Bharvencent) enmity of a slavish nation, Swami Saradananda's life will be a great eye opener. For in him we find the untiring energy of a young enthusiast beneath the silent and unostentatious exterior of a placid gravity that had no ripples but no waves. During the long and arduous and jobless antichamber of a prolonged career of about four decades he never lodged an inch from the Bhakti he set up early in life. The most remarkable and seemingly fantastic of his character was that he never cared for name and renown. With his "noble mind" even fame was not a liability. For not less than twice was he offered the presidency of the Mission and on both the occasions he denied that dignity like a true Sanyasin and expressed his inability of being the Secretary of the Mission a position vacated to him by the great Swami Vivekananda. To the very last breath of his earthly existence he remained the same faithful constancy to his post of duty.

A thought-provoking practically without any feverish fanfare of words and single capacity for working out details without any lingering for recognition and praise—and above all a vigorous organizing ability without the necessity of impulsive declamations, were the lessons he tried to instill upon the minds of his young helpers.

Oh Bengal rejuvenated with the pulsations of a national impetus afford to forget him? Can young Bengal, with its air vibrating with the wondrous shibboleths of renunciation and patriotic service, afford to forget his hearty homage of respect to the hallowed memory of a worthy Sanyasin who was among the fore runners of those national spirits? We think it not.

—A. P. Palit

Ceylon in 1925.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The year 1925 was one of unexampled trade prosperity in Ceylon. Imports and exports recorded record figures. The total trade of the Colony was, in nominal value, double that of 1913, in which the highest pre-war figure of total trade was reached. Even allowing for the fall in the purchasing power of money, the trade of the Colony in 1925 was greater in real value than in any previous year. This trade prosperity was reflected in the revenues for the year, which amounted to Rs. 115,539,699.66 and exceeded that of the previous year, which was the highest figure previously reached, by Rs. 13,176,558.88.

A Prosperous Year. The most satisfactory feature of the year was that prosperity was not confined to one of the three main products of the Colony—tea, coconuts, and rubber—but was spread in varying degrees over all three products. Tea had another excellent year. The crop exceeded that of 1924, though, owing to a fall in prices, the total value was rather less. The incidence of the coconut industry was rather varied. While copra and, in a slightly lesser degree, coconuts oil had a successful year, the rest of the three main branches of the industry—desiccated coconuts—was severely hit by competition from the Philippine Islands, with the result that for part of the year prices barely covered the cost of production. The staple industry which made the greatest relative advance during the year was rubber throughout the year. The percentage of the standard production authorized for export rose, with a rise in prices, from 50 per cent at the beginning of the year to 85 per cent in November. The exports exceeded those of 1924 by 23 per cent, in weight and 167 per cent, in total value.

As regards the minor products, for example coag. citreella, and cinchona, the year was not quite so successful as 1924. The cacao crop was severely affected during the last months of the year by unfavourable weather. The price of yam fell during the year, partly owing to complaints of adulteration with alcohol. The cotton crop in the Hambantota District was badly hit by heavy rain in January. In spite of that, the experiments in cotton growing have good prospects, and the money obtained by the growers of such an has done much to alleviate poverty in one of the poorest districts in the Island. The cultivation of sisal hemp in the North Central Province made a considerable advance. The exports were more than three times those of the previous year, and the prices remained satisfactory.

The paddy crops were only moderate. One more the cultivator suffered from the capriciousness of the rainfall. Serious damage was caused in certain areas by floods, due to excessive rainfall, while in other areas the loss was no less serious owing to drought.

POPULAR HEALTH. The health of the population during the year was, on the whole, satisfactory. The birth rate was 39.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 37.8 in 1924 and 35.4 the average for the two years 1915-1924. The death rate was 25.9 per 1,000, as compared with 25.7 in 1924. It is satisfactory to note that the death rate was the lowest recorded in the Island since 1907. With the exception of the Western Province, the death rate in all Provinces was an improvement on that of the previous year. The highest death rate was again recorded in the North Central Province, but the drop from 68.5 in 1923 to 42.7 per 1,000 in 1925 was satisfactory. There were during the year serious outbreaks of cholera at Trincomalee and in the North Central Province. The results of these outbreaks were serious, but would have been much worse but for the thorough and energetic measures taken by the officers of the Sanitary Branch of the Medical Department, to whom great credit is due. The measures taken against prangal and malaria continued to have good results. Shortage of food was experienced in the Vavuniya district and in the North Central Province. Prompt steps were taken to deal with these cases by relief works in the Vavuniya district and the advance of seed paddy in the North Central Province.

It is impossible to deal with the moral and social condition of this population except on very broad lines. No very marked development was noted during the year, though the improvement in communications effected by the rapid development of motor traffic throughout the Island is reported to be changing the conditions in the more isolated districts to a very considerable extent. Not only has it opened up a market for a number of minor industries, such as fishing in the Eastern Province and vegetable growing in the Central and Western Provinces, but by making travel cheap and fast it affords far greater facilities than were formerly available for the village population to visit the towns, and in certain Provinces urban influences are beginning to be noticeable in the village areas. Educational conditions to make steady progress. The popularity of English education was as pronounced as in former years. The question of developing the Vernacular languages as media of instruction in advanced studies arose during the year, and is at present under consideration by a Committee of the Legislative Council. The temperance movement continued to make progress during the year. The local option rules were considerably amended, and the desirability of still further extending the scope of local option polls has been referred to a Commission for investigation.

The crime figures for the year show an unfortunate increase both in crimes against the person and in offences against property. As regards crimes of violence, the policy adopted in previous years of trying gradually to educate the people to self defence and to warn them from the use of the knife by the teaching of boxing in schools was continued during the year. A sum of Rs. 8,500 was voted with a view to encouraging the practice of boxing in villages. The increase in offences against property is due to a variety of causes, not least among which are the economic development of the country and the improvement in communications. It would appear that the Ceylon criminal is in no way behind his European fellow criminal in his aptness to appreciate the need for the development of motor bus traffic. The works of development in progress in the

Continued up.

NOTICE.

Applications for the post of Superintendent of Minor Works, Jaffna District, will be received by the Chairman of the Provincial Road Committee, Northern Province up to 30th September, 1927. Salary Rs. 4000 per annum, rising to Rs. 6050/- by seven annual increments of Rs. 150/. A travelling allowance of Rs. 1000/- per annum is granted and the Supdt. Minor Works is required to keep a car and perform an amount of travelling sufficient in the opinion of the Chairman, to enable him efficiently to supervise works of construction, repair, and maintenance in connection with Roads, Resthouses, and Markets subject to a minimum average of 800 miles per month. Applicants will have to satisfy the Committee as to their general education and knowledge of Accounts, Surveying, Levelling and Practical Engineering, Command of labour and physical fitness.

T. B. RUSSELL, Chairman, P. R. C., N. P. Provincial Road Committee's Office, Jaffna, 13th September, 1927. G. 804.

WANTED.

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Apply with copies of certificates to Accountant, Ramanathan College, Chunnakam. Mis. 1067.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6485.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Pillayar Venkatasamy of Thumpallai Deceased. Ponnachy widow of Pillayar of Thumpallai Petitioner.

- Vs. 1. Velauther Kaniath of Thumpallai 2. His wife Chempattal of Doand 3. Vallipillai daughter of Pillayar of Do Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased Pillayar Venkatasamy of Thumpallai coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, on June 28, 1927 in the presence of Mr. K. Kanagasabai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavits of the Petitioner dated June 16, 1927 having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is an heir of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the Estate of the said intestate issued to her 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.

G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. Order Nisi extended to September 20, 1927. G. W. W. D. J. O. 1317.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6510.

In the matter of the estate of the late Sellammah widow of Rama Aiyar Ramalinga Kurukal of Vannarponnai East Deceased.

Rama Aiyar Nageshthira Aiyar of Vannarponnai East Petitioner.

Vs. Nageshthira Aiyar Ramasamy Aiyar of Vannarponnai West Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased Sellammah widow of Rama Aiyar Ramalinga Kurukal coming on for disposal before A. Caballero Esquire, District Judge, on August 8, 1927, in the presence of Mr. K. Sivaganesan, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavits of the Petitioner dated August 8, 1927 having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the brother and sole heir of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before September 23, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the Court to the contrary.

G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. August 26, 1927. O. 1316.

Continued. Different Provinces give the criminal the chance of getting a footing in areas where he is unknown, and consequently unwatched. As was stated in a previous report, the general improvement in education and intelligence has had an unfortunate result, in the improved methods adopted by criminals. To counteract the Police have found it necessary to make a corresponding improvement in preventive measures and methods of detection. Prompt steps have been taken to that end by the development of the system of patrolling, the establishment of a photographic and footprint bureau, of a special crime police branch in Colombo, the careful analysis of the modus operandi adopted by known criminals, and the dissemination throughout the Force of the information obtained by these means. It is hoped that the energetic steps taken will have an early effect. During the year the Governor, Sir William Manning, visited, and was succeeded towards the end of the year by His Excellency Sir Hugh Clifford.

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Q. 87.

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H. 59.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6526.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Thamotheeram Ponnampalam of Chulipuram Deceased.

Vallammal widow of Ponnampalam of Chulipuram Petitioner.

Vs. 1. Sansochi widow of Vatsamuttu 2. Kathiresar Saravanamuttu and 3. wife Muttupillai of Chulipuram Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased Thamotheeram Ponnampalam of Chulipuram coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, on August 23, 1927, in the presence of Mr. B. Candiah, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavits of the Petitioner dated August 12, 1927 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before September 29, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

August 31, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge. O. 1315.

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