

The Hindu Organ.

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HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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X. 62.

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X. 60, 4

Katukurunda Railway Accident

The payment of compensation, as an act of grace, to those injured and to the relatives of those killed in the above accident on 13th March, 1928, is being considered by a Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor.

All claims in this connection must reach the undersigned before the 20th instanc.

O. E. GOONETILLEKE,
Chairman.
Compensation Committee,
Katukurunda Railway Accident.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 5th May, 1928.
G. 895.

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Principal.

The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1928.

UNIVERSITIES IN TAMIL LAND.

HUEN TSANG, THE FAMOUS CHINESE traveller who visited Kanchi in the middle of the seventh century, noted that the Tamils were fond of learning and that they always held the learned in high esteem. The first literary academy in the world for the promotion of learning was founded in the Tamil country. The Pallava dynasty established three Sangams in various epochs of its history which proved effective instruments for the promotion of Tamil learning. In the 7th, 8th and 9th centuries Kanchi became famous as the seat of learning. Scholars from far and wide flocked to his city to learn at the many monasteries situated there. Notwithstanding loss of political power and the unsettled nature of political conditions in the eighteenth century the Tamils have not given up their innate partiality for learning. At the beginning of the nineteenth century there were over 11,000 primary schools and 750 schools of higher grade in the Madras Presidency which imparted Vernacular education to the children of the country. Vernacular education was so diffuse at this time that one authority states that Madras was more literate than many of the European countries. With the establishment and consolidation of British rule in India English has become the language of the State. It has also been adopted as the medium of instruction in the secondary schools and in the universities. The Vernacular schools referred to above which depended on the support of the Native Princes gradually disappeared on account of lack of encouragement on the part of the new rulers.

Development of higher education necessitated the establishment of universities. In the fifties of the last century the Government founded a university at each of the three presidency capitals. Three universities were insufficient to meet the needs of a large country like India. Other universities were founded. But university development in the North has been more rapid than in the South. Today there are ten universities in the North while there are only four in the South. The three new universities in the South are intended to serve the needs of particular linguistic areas. The Madras University though situated in the Tamil country cannot be claimed as a Tamil university. Its jurisdiction embraces Malayalam, Kanarese, and even Telugu districts. The establishment of a Tamil university in the heart of the Tamil land which will be a centre for the promotion of Tamil language and literature has been the ambition of many patriotic Tamils in South India. Committees were appointed to report on the subject. But lack of funds was a serious barrier to the realisation of their ambition.

At this juncture, it is a matter for rejoicing for all lovers of Tamil learning to hear that two wealthy members of the Natunesttal Chetty community have come forward to render generous financial support to the development of universities in the Tamil land. Hitherto renovation and re-building of Hindu temples claimed the exclusive attention of this community. The preservation of

Tamilian art and architecture is mainly due to its generous patronage. But it has taken little interest in education. The princely offers made to the Madras Government by the Hon. Sir Annamalai Chetty and by another Chetty gentleman for the establishment of universities at Chidambaram and Madura respectively are an evidence that the Chetty community realises the importance of education in the national life of the country. Sir Annamalai is the first member of this community to strike out this new path. He founded the Shri Meenatchi College at Chidambaram about a decade ago. He has now erected for this College buildings at a cost of several thousands of rupees. It is said that its Science laboratory is one of the finest in South India. If Sir Annamalai's offer should be accepted by the Madras Government and if it should agree to sanction the annual recurring expenditure of two lakhs for the maintenance of the university, we may be sure that before long at Chidambaram a unitary teaching university will be inaugurated where the youths of the Tamil land will receive their training in the higher branch of knowledge amidst the inspiring and elevating religious atmosphere of this sacred shrine.

The second offer is a sum of thirty-five lakhs for the establishment of a similar university at Madura. Here too if the Government should accept and contribute its share by sanctioning the vote of fifteen lakhs a university at Madura will soon be an accomplished fact. It is very appropriate that Madura which is so imperishably associated with the past glories of Tamil learning should again become a centre from which will radiate the rays of new learning reviving and reinvigorating the intellectual life of the country.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

A CORRECTION:—In the news columns of our last issue under the heading "Registration of Marriage" the name of the Bride groom has been mispublished "Chinnadurai" instead of "Chelladurai".

MEDICAL:—Dr. S. Carthigasan has taken up duties as House Surgeon, Jaffna Civil Hospital.

—Dr. C. Somaundaram, Medical Officer of Vavuniya, is transferred to Vaddukkottai.

AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE:—The annual Agricultural Conference at Peradeniya began on Monday and will be continued till today (Thursday).

PERSONAL:—Mr. K. Nagalingam of Sungei Bilut Estate, who came to Udaville on leave in March 1927 and was employed in Singapore on his return has gone back to Sungei Bilut Estate as he was seriously ill and underwent an operation. —Cor.

EQUAL TREATMENT IN SCHOOLS:—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Students' Congress held on the 4th inst. at the Vidyalaya School the following resolution was passed and it was decided to communicate the same to the Director of Education:—"That the Executive Committee of the Students' Congress heartily appreciates the attempt of the Education Department to secure equal treatment for children of all castes in the schools of the Island."

STRIKING A POLICE VIDANE WITH A SANDAL:—The case was taken up for trial, before Mr. J. Light, Police Magistrate of Mallakam, in which a man named Marimuth Kandiah was charged with having on April 25th last assaulted the Police Vidane of Elalai with a sandal, near the Court house. It transpired during the course of the trial that a case in which the accused's uncle, Sangarapillai, had charged two persons, Chelliah, and Vynlingam, has been settled, and the Magistrate asked the Vidane what the trouble was between the parties. The Vidane replied that they had quarrelled after drinking toddy. The accused resented the remarks, and lay in wait for the Vidane some distance from the Court-house. When the Vidane approached, he struck him on the face with a sandal. The Magistrate found the accused guilty and sentenced him to four months' rigorous imprisonment. The accused has appealed.

GANJA FOR AYURVEDIC PHYSICIANS:—At the monthly meeting of the Gaupaha Ayurvedic Association, a resolution was passed to the effect that the Government should permit Ayurvedic physicians to obtain ganja was unanimously passed. Before this resolution was sent to the Government it was agreed that some of the office-bearers of the Association should consult the Hon. Mr. K. Balasingam.

MATRIMONIAL.

SUBRAMANIAM—RAMAMANY AMMAL. The marriage of Dr. S. Subramaniam of the Medical Department, Penang, son of Mr. Sinalah of Kookvil, with Miss Ramamany Ammal, eldest daughter of Mr. P. S. Saravanamuttu (Pana Sona Aiyah), Merchant of Kalady, Vannarponnai East, was solemnised on last Friday night at the bride's residence. A reception was held on the following two days. Both the marriage ceremony and the reception were well attended. We wish all happiness to the newly married couple.

WESAK CELEBRATIONS IN JAFFNA:—The Buddhist residents of Jaffna celebrated the Wesak Festival at the Naga Vihara at Ariakulam, Vannarponnai East, on Thursday and Friday last. The celebrations, it is said, did not equal in splendour those of previous years, when there were in Jaffna several officials who were Buddhists.

MOTOR ACCIDENTS IN JAFFNA:—On Thursday, the 3rd instanc, there were two motor accidents in Jaffna town within one hour. At about 3 p. m., a Rugby car travelling from Jaffna towards Manipay when nearing Moor Street junction suddenly cut to the wrong side and collided with a Chevrolet car. It appears that the latter car, which was undergoing repairs at a garage, was on its way back from Navauthurai where it had been taken on a trial trip. The passengers in the Rugby car included two nautch girls who made good their escape as soon they were able to do so. The Rugby was the more damaged of the two—its axle was bent, the mudguards smashed, and the buffer broken. The other accident was at 4 p. m. It appears that a car coming from Tharakulam Road collided with another car travelling from Palah Road, damaging the latter's right foot board, running board and front mudguard. The passengers were unhurt. The scene of the collision was the Vembadi Girls' College Junction.

MATALE U. D. C.—It is reported that Mr. C. Ariyanayagam, Proctor, Chairman of the Matale Urban District Council has sent in his resignation as Chairman and member for the Western Ward of the Council. Mr. Ariyanayagam has not been in the best of health for sometime. He returned to Matale recently after a change in Jaffna.

APPOINTMENT OF A STENOGRAPHER:—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. M. Sivasubba of the Department of Electrical Undertakings as Stenographer at the Secretariat to fill the vacancy which was recently advertised.—(Press Communication)

ANOTHER MOTOR CAR ACCIDENT:—A motor car accident which would have resulted with serious consequences both to the motorists and to the vehicles but for the prompt application of brakes by both the drivers occurred this morning (Thursday) at about 10.30 a. m. in the junction of the College Cross Road with the Jaffna Kankesanthurai Road. It appears a Bulok car No. H. 401 which was travelling along Kankesanthurai Road towards the Town collided with an Overland Waipeet car No. H. 538 emerging from the College Cross Road. The Bulok car sustained few damages while the other car had the windscreens smashed and one of the head lights damaged. On information being given to the Jaffna Police Station, a Sub Inspector and a Constable arrived on the scene after the lapse of half an hour, held a formal inquiry, took the necessary measurements of the spots and had a photograph taken of the two cars.

SOVIET PRESS ON BRITISH ASPIRATIONS:—The insolent Soviet Press declares that unlike Great Britain, "the arch robber who flaunted her military power before King Amanullah, the Soviet will show her culture. King Amanullah has left the land of tyrants who are endeavouring to make Soviet Russia a British Colony, and he has come to the land of the free."

INDIA AND DOMINION STATUS:—The object of her trip to England was to persuade England to grant Dominion status to India, thus preventing the repatriation of the fully trained to the United States to England, declared Dr. Bose, in an interview with the "Associated Press" of India.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. A. CANAGARATNAM.

We regret to record the untimely death of Parvathavarthabai Ammal, beloved wife of the Hon. Mr. A. Canagaratnam on Monday last at "Kamalayam" Kandy Road, Jaffna. The deceased lady who was in her forties years at the time of her death was suffering from a protracted illness for sometime past. Symptoms grew worse and on Monday last at about midnight she passed away peacefully surrounded by her closest relations. The funeral took place the following day (Tuesday) at about 11 p. m. and was largely and respectably attended. As Mr. Canagaratnam was suffering an attack of influenza the last night both at the house and the crematorium were performed by Mr. C. Ponnampalam, his nephew. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Canagaratnam and the other members of the bereaved family.

The Agricultural Conference.

PADDY'S FLIGHT.

H. E. The Governor opened the Agricultural Conference at Peradeniya on Monday last. The following are extracted from the address of H. E. the Governor as appearing in the "Ceylon Daily News":—

THE STAPLE INDUSTRY.

There was, however, one industry which was not highly organised, and which he always felt was not as prosperous as it might be and that was the great staple industry of paddy. The Government had a strong duty towards the cultivators of paddy. Paddy was the traditional industry of the East and the predominantly staple food of the people. It was a surprise and a disappointment to him, therefore, when he first arrived in Ceylon to be told that the paddy growers of this country did not produce more than half the paddy consumed, and that it was necessary for them to import large quantities. He knew that paddy growing was not so simple in practice as it was in theory, and he did not wish to say anything on the subject, except that it was the duty of the Government to do what it could to help the paddy grower, who was greatly in need of help because he was less highly organised and less prosperous than the great planting industries. In this connection he was glad to note that the Director of Agriculture took a similar view and was in many directions endeavouring to help the poor cultivator to share in the general prosperity of the country in as large a measure as was desirable.

The Governor added that he himself had taken a little interest in this question and had availed himself of every opportunity of seeing something of the conditions under which the cultivator carried on his work. He had also seen something of the great irrigation works which were completed or were in course of completion as well as some of the seed stations established with a view to experimenting with the best type of seeds for particular localities. He thought that all these experiments, if they did not produce striking and immediate results, would ultimately redound to the benefit of the paddy grower, and would make it ultimately easier for him to produce his paddy economically and with reasonable profit.

WHERE HELP IS NEEDED.

One heard views of all kinds expressed as to the reasons for the comparative lack of prosperity of the paddy grower. It was, according to some, due to the conditions of land tenure. By others it was said so be due to the relations between the landlord and the tenant. By others, that it was a question of the lack of a water supply. Others said that what was really needed an improvement in the type of seed and improvement in the methods of agriculture. There might be some truth in all these observations, and it was the function of the Government, so far as it was possible for it to interfere, to consider any suggestions that might be put before them and to give a helping hand where it could.

Of course, one had to be careful before one attempted to interfere with established customs. It had been found in other countries that in regard to customs embedded in the habits of the people one must be careful how one interfered. One must not interfere with improvements that were too drastic. Sometimes one heard criticisms of landlords being unduly exacting and insisting on half the produce being given to them, and that this was a bar to the enterprise of a cultivator. There might be some truth in that criticism. Yet one should not endeavour to sweep away by one stroke of the pen the system on which this had arisen.

THE SMALL FARMER.

Another matter which the Government had had under consideration during the past year were proposals for the extension of the work of the Department of Agriculture with special reference to giving further assistance to the small grower. They had sanctioned seven further Experiment Stations and they had made further provision for the distribution of agricultural literature in the vernaculars. They had decided upon the establishment of Agricultural Schools for vocational training. They were making a start with two schools one in the neighbourhood of Galle, where the buildings were either completed or in the course of completion. The other was to be in the North-Western Province.

AGRICULTURAL BIAS IN EDUCATION.

That brought him to their old friend, the question of an agricultural bias in education. He never lost an opportunity of talking about it and though he knew it was a pitiable and a truen he did think it a matter of such importance that it should be brought to the notice of the people at every opportunity. It was a very easy thing to talk about an agricultural bias in education; but it was a very difficult thing to carry it out in practice. They must so train up teachers that they might be able to impart proper training to their pupils. A Conference like that might be able to give them some suggestions on that point.

The Governor then passed on to a consideration of the need of oil in the island, and said that there was plenty of room for improvements in the respect. He pointed out that, the question was of transcendent importance to the small grower.

Oriental Life Assurance Co.

PROGRESS MADE IN 1927.

The annual report, issued by the Board of Directors of the Oriental Government Security Assurance Co., Ltd., for the year 1927 and adopted at the fifty-third annual general meeting...

THE CHAIRMAN'S PROGRESS REVIEW.

Mr. Sorabjee E. Warden Chairman, in the course of his speech at the meeting said:— Gentlemen,—Before I address you on the business before the meeting I desire to refer to the great loss the Company has sustained...

NEW BUSINESS.

The increase in the amount of new business written on the books from 17,371 policies assuring over 291 lakhs in 1926 to 21,418 policies assuring over 468 lakhs in the year of account...

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

I now come to the revenue account and dealing first with the income side you will observe that this discloses a total income from all sources of over 262 lakhs...

Turning now to the other side of the revenue account, the claims by death are at 29½ lakhs show a reduction of 2½ lakhs in comparison with the claims of the year 1926 and, as pointed out in the report, are practically of the same amount as the claims for the three years previous to that...

NET RESULT OF OPERATIONS.

The net result of the operations of the year is an increase in the total funds of the Company of over 62½ lakhs as compared with the increase shown in the previous year of 42 lakhs...

Hygienic Aspects of Cremation.

Numerous and extensive investigations have demonstrated that bacteria present in a body at the time of its burial will live in the soil for years and may at any time escape into the water supply...

In addition to this, ptomaines and other soiled and gaseous products of decomposition may and undoubtedly do escape, not only into neighbouring water supplies but also into the air...

Thus it appears that cremation, especially of the bodies of those who have died of any contagious or infectious disease, is a hygienic measure of great importance. This is especially true in the large centers of population which are constantly increasing in number...

Continued.

You may be interested to learn that during the course of last year the Mortality experience of the Company during the period from 1905 to 1925 was investigated by the Company's Actuary and the Assistant Actuary...

Another point which I may refer to as of interest particularly to Agents and prospective policy-holders is that sanction has been given to the adoption of reduced rates of premium under the Company's ordinary Without Profit T-bills...

TRAINING OF YOUNG INDIANS.

There is one other subject which I think it desirable to refer to, and that is the steps which are being taken by your Company to train up young Indians to take with credit to themselves and to the Company the places in future of the Company's Officers at the Branches and at the Head Office...

CONCLUSION.

I have already referred to the fact that last year was the closing of the triennium, the results of which from all appearances give promise of being even more satisfactory than the results of the previous triennium. The valuation is now in progress and I hope that in the course of a few months we will be in a position to submit to you the valuation report...

FOR SALE.

An extent of 8 Lachchams V. C. at Nallur (Vannarponnam East) near Arasadi bounded on the East by Road, on the North by the land belonging to Mr. C. M. Chellappa...

2. Paddy Field at Marayanpalam Kaithady Navatkuly about 2½ miles from Railway Station on the Thanankilappu Road, extent 82 Lachchams P. C., bounded on the West by large water-channel, South by Road and Coconut garden...

3. Coconut Garden 32 Lachchams on the South of the land referred to in No. 2 above bordering on the Road.

Offers are invited:— Apply to V. Sanmugalingam, Surveyor, Jaffna.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6732. In the matter of the Estate of the late Palar Supprianamiam of Tirunelvely West, Jaffna.

- 1. Parupathy widow of Palar Supprianamiam of Tirunelvely West and
2. Sinnavi Nannithamby of Vannarponnam East

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased Palar Supprianamiam of Tirunelvely West coming on for disposal before J. C. W. Rock Esquire, District Judge, on March 30, 1928...

J. C. W. Rock, District Judge.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6705. In the matter of the Estate of the late Vairamuttu Ellithamby of Changamal, Jaffna, late of Johore Bahru, F. M. S.

- 1. Vairamuttu Amalavaanar
2. Perampalam Veithilingam and wife
3. Sinnasanganam
4. Sinnathambay Sabapathippillai and wife
5. Achchupillai
6. Perampalam Nannithamby
7. Nallamuttu daughter of Ponnampalam
8. Annammah of Do.
9. Sinnasanganam widow of Vairamuttu Ponnampalam all of Changamal

This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying that the abovesaid 9th Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minors 6th, 7th and 8th Respondents and that Letters of Administration be granted to her...

It is ordered that the abovesaid 9th Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem over the minors 6th, 7th and 8th Respondents and it is declared that the Petitioner as the lawful widow of the deceased is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before J. C. W. Rock Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on March 8, 1928...

J. C. W. Rock, District Judge. March 13, 1928. Time extended to 15th May, 1928. M. A. Arulanandam, D. J.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6736. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kallaiyagampillai wife of Ampalavana Mudalliar Veluppillai of Vaddukoddai East

- 1. Veluppillai Sivakumaran and
2. Sivakumarnthupillai daughter of Veluppillai of Vaddukoddai East and
3. Perumiyalar Kunmarasamy of Vaddukoddai West.

This matter of the Petition of the Petitioner praying that the abovesaid 3rd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor 2nd Respondent and for the purpose of protecting her interest and of representing her in this case...

It is ordered that the 3rd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor 2nd Respondent and that Petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate as her lawful husband unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on May 15, 1928, and state objection or show cause to the contrary.

FOR SALE.

Works by the Hon'ble Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan. Chen Thamil Iakkannam, part 1, calico Rs. 3, paper cover Rs. 2-50. Thirukkural Payiram, commentary in Thamil for four chapters Re.1 Bagavath Githa with commentary in Thamil Rs. 2. The Spirit of the East as contrasted with the Spirit of the West, 50 cts. The culture of the soul among Western Nations Rs. 5. Exposition of St. Matthew and St. John Rs. 5 each. Riots and Martial Law in Ceylon, 1915, Rs. 5. Western Pictures for Eastern students, by Lady Ramanathan, Rs. 2. Mother India, A Rejoinder by K. Nadarajah 75 cts. Postage extra, and discount 20% on a dozen or more copies. Apply to the Manager, Book Depot, Ramanathan College, H. 63, Chunnakam.

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