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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF BATTICALOA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 895.

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Thankamma, wife of S. R. Muttukumaru of Koddaimunai

Siva Ramalingam Muttukumaru of Koddaimunai Petitioner,
and

1. Chellammattu, widow of V. Vayittilingam
2. Muttukumaru Vyittianathan
3. Muttukumaru Nallamma
4. Muttukumaru Rasamma and
5. Muttukumaru Sivayoganathan all of Koddaimunai

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before T. B. Russell, Esquire, District Judge, of Batticaloa, on July 5, 1916, in the presence of the Petitioner abovesigned and the affidavit of the said Petitioner dated July 5, 1916, having been read:

It is ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled, as the husband of the abovesigned deceased, to have letters of Administration to her estate issued to him, unless the Respondents abovesigned or any other person or persons interested shall, on or before August 10, 1916, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the first Respondent be appointed Guardian ad litem of the Minors the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Respondents, unless the Respondents shall, on or before August 10, 1916, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

T. B. Russell,
District Judge.
July 5, 1916.

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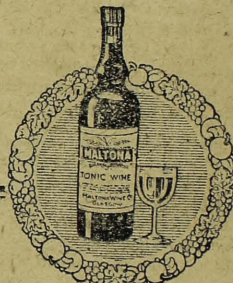
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when Brahama Sri V. Canagawapathiyer of Nallur gave an instructive and interesting lecture on Bakli.

THE TAMIL SEAT IN COUNCIL—A public meeting of the Tamils of Colombo was held at the Public Hall on Friday last in support of Mr. H. A. P. Sanderagala's candidature for the Tamila Seat which will fall vacant at the end of this year.

LIST OF JURORS AND ASSESSORS—The last Gazette contains the list of persons in the Northern, Southern and Central Provinces, qualified to serve as Jurors and Assessors for the year July 1916 to June 1917.

FISHERS' RELIEF FUND—A sum of Rs. 2,978-25 has been collected till yesterday.

TEMPERANCE WORK IN CEYLON—We hear that there is a possibility of a Planters' Deputation to His Excellency the Governor on the question of total prohibition to estate coolies in the near future. If so, the result of the deputation will be awaited with a good deal of interest, for the subject has excited the widest interest among the planting community.

THE CEYLON SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE—The Social Service League which is doing excellent work in Colombo, has extended its activities by forming a branch organization in Slave Island, the local organizer being Mr. H. L. de Mel. The meeting for that purpose was held on the 26th instant at the Booth Memorial Hall under the Chairmanship of Mr. H. L. de Mel.

THE BATTICALOA PADDY GROWERS' ASSOCIATION—A largely attended meeting of this body was held at the Victoria Hall, on the 26th instant. It was decided that management of paddy cultivation, including the distribution of water be placed under the control of the Government Agent. It was also suggested that the present procedure of assessment be reformed, by fixing a uniform rate not exceeding one rupee per annum for the older works as the lands under those works, in extent 40,000 acres, have repaid the first cost of construction. Several other important resolutions affecting paddy cultivation and irrigation in the Eastern Province, were also adopted.

ANCHYLOSTOMIASIS CAMPAIGN—Dr. Barnes and Dr. Winsor who were sent by the Rockefeller International Health Commission of New York to learn the work and method of the Anchylostomiasis Campaign and who were attending to the work at Matale for the last 3 months are to leave the Island shortly to take up work in other centres.

BATTICALOA POPULAR LECTURE—A lecture was delivered by Reverend W. T. Garrett, B.A. in the Court House at 5.30 p.m., on Saturday the 22nd instant, upon the late Lord Kitobener. Mr. R. A. G. Festing the President of the Committee occupied the chair. There was a crowded house of ladies and gentlemen. A collection was made at the close of the lecture in aid of the Queen Mary's Needlework Guild.

A DESERVING SHROFF APPOINTMENT—Mr. S. Velupillai, Assistant Shroff of the General Treasury, Colombo, has been appointed Shroff Mudaliyar of the Badulla Kachcheri. He has now acted for over two months for Thambiah Mudaliyar, the Chief Shroff there, who was away on medical leave before his retirement on pension from to-morrow. Mr. Velupillai served Government in the Shroff's Dept. C. G. R. Colombo, for 11 years and has worked at the Treasury for 5 years, proving his ability and capacity for positions of trust and responsibility. He comes of a respected family at Karubampalai, and is much liked by all classes of people for his many qualities of head and heart and especially for his humble and obliging ways. He is an old boy of the Jaffna Hindu College. He assumes work at Badulla to-morrow. We offer Mr. Velupillai our congratulations on his appointment.

PERSONAL—Dr. E. Coomaraswamy, House Officer, General Hospital, Colombo, has been transferred to Balangoda as D.M.O., of that station.

The appointment of Mr. Tiyyagarayapillai Appadurai as Registrar of Births and Deaths of Uduville division, and of Marriages (General) of Valikamam North Division has been confirmed.

Mr. E. Ponniab, Clerk of Works, F.M.S. Rlys., Ipoh, has come to Jaffna on leave and is staying at his residence in Copay South.

THE SUGAR REFINERIES LTD.—An extraordinary general meeting of this Company was held at the office of Messrs. Carson & Co., Colombo, Agents and Secretaries, on Friday last. Mr. G. Lionel Cox, (Chairman) Mr. D. M. Weigel and about 15 other shareholders were present. The Chairman ably reviewed the situation and stated that two more years should elapse before the undertaking becomes profitable. He held out bright prospects for the future of the Company. The Resolution to increase the capital to two million rupees was passed.

TUTICORIN HARBOUR SCHEME—The Collector of Tinnevely, the Presidency Poff Officer, and Mr. Dillon, the Engineer, arrived at Tuticorin on the 25th instant and inspected the harbour. The Oporadai, a river which issues from Kadambur, and supplies Tuticorin with drinking water, and empties into the harbour, carrying large quantities of silt with it and making the harbour shallow, is to be diverted in another direction. The

island near the harbour called the Devil's Point is to be cut away, thus allowing sea water to enter the harbour freely. It is stated that Tuticorin will be like Colombo when the proposed scheme is executed.

PROSPEROUS INDIAN INDUSTRIES—All parts of India, says the financial correspondent of the "Times of India", appear keen on sending funds for investment to Bombay. It is stated that if 200 lakhs or more are required, as proposed, for the extension of the Tata Iron Works the new capital will be easily underwritten. It is also reported that the 209 lakhs capital, required for starting a new Hydro Electric Co. has been fully subscribed and that late applicants to the extent of 59 lakhs have been put on a waiting list. The Bombay Port Trust has advertised a Rs. 25,00,000 4½ per cent debenture loan with a currency of 20 years, tenders for which are to be sent in on or before the 10th proximo. The situation on the local stock exchange is bright and there is a continuous demand for iron, manganese and cotton mill shares. The banks supply cheap and ready finance to all responsible parties, and the feeling is that after the war huge construction programmes are to be carried out.

THE TANJORE VARNASHRAMA CONFERENCE—At the Second Tanjore Varnashrama Conference, His Holiness Sri Sankaracharya Swami delivered special lectures last Wednesday and Thursday nights. The first lecture surveyed modern science and culture, dealt with world religions, showed the unique greatness of Hinduism, dwelt on the divine origin of the Vedas and Dharma, the keynote of Hinduism. The second lecture justified Varnashrama Dharma from national and Shastraic standpoints and showed how it best satisfied intellect and conduced to the perfect well-being of humanity. The Swami's matchless eloquence, deep erudition and marvellous exposition impressed the audience much. The Varnashrama Conference gave great impetus. Arrangements have been begun already for the Conference at Trichinopoly, the strong students' centre, next only to Madras.

ARRIVAL OF AN INDIAN ELEPHANT—The ss. "Kasambi", which arrived from India last night, brought the seven-foot tusker from Kalinga, belonging to the Maharajah of Talichchhari, to fill the gap caused by the death of the famous tusker, "Horatals", which had carried the shrine from the Dalada Maligawa for the last 34 years. As the sacred tooth relic originally came from Kalinga, it is a happy coincidence that the elephant, that is to bear it in procession in future, should also hail from Kalinga. The animal was landed this morning; large crowds gathered at the Jetty and Wharf to see it.

—Ceylon Observer, July 30

NEW PATTERN LAUNDER-BRUNTON SNAKE LANCET—A new and improved pattern of the Brunton snake bite lancet that has been prepared has been specially approved by Sir Lauder Brunton. The only differences between the old and the new forms are that the lancet blade in the new pattern is slightly longer and stronger than in the old and that the sheath of the lancet is flattened so that it may be used to rub the permanganate well into the wound and bring it into thorough contact with any venom there. The War interferes with the production of new lancets and no supply of them will be available during the continuance of hostilities.

MARRIAGE OF MILLIONS—It is announced in New York that Mrs. John Jacob Astor is shortly to be married to Mr. William D. Dick, Vice-President of the Manufacturer's Trust Company, of Brooklyn. Mrs. Astor was left by her husband who perished in the Titanic, the sum of £340,000, most of which she relinquishes by marrying again. The bulk of this sum will revert to Mr. Vincent Astor, who received over £17,000,000 under his father's will. Under her marriage settlement, however, Mrs. Astor will retain between £40,000 and £50,000. Mr. Dick is a young man, himself a millionaire, is one of the rising businessmen of the younger generation. Colonel Astor's posthumous son John Jacob who was born in 1912, received under his father's will a very large fortune in trust.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. TILAK—Poona, July 27.—The hearing of the notice issued against Mr. B. G. Tilak on a charge of orally disseminating seditious which was likely to bring contempt or hatred or excite disaffection towards Government by the District Magistrate of Poona which was fixed for hearing to-morrow has been postponed to Wednesday, the 2nd August. It is understood that Mr. M. A. Jinnah and Mr. Joseph Baptista from Bombay will defend Mr. Tilak. —"Hindu".

SARASWATI LITERARY ASSOCIATION, COLOMBO—The usual weekly meeting of the above Association came off on Saturday the 22nd inst. Mr. V. Thampi, Vice-President, occupied the chair. Dr. S. K. Chinniah delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on "Female Education". Comments on the lecture were made by the following: Messrs. S. Vydia Ingam, S. Subramaniam, K. A. Veerabasu, N. Velupillai, M. Thambiah and the Chairman. The meeting terminated with votes of thanks to the Lecturer and the Chairman. —Cor.

OBITUARY—We regret to record the death of Mr. S. Namasivayam, late Superintendent of Works under the Local Board, Jaffna, which event took place at his residence in Vannarponnai West, on the 30th instant.

The deceased gentleman was a son-in-law of the late Dr. Vaitalingam and brother in law of Mr. V. Ramaswami of Vannarponnai West and Mr. V. Nagalingam, Excise Inspector, Kays. The funeral was largely attended. Our condolences to the bereaved.

It is with regret we record the death of the infant son of Mr. S. Arunachalam, which sad event took place last night at the residence of the child's maternal grandfather, Mr. S. Thambiah Pillai, Proctor, S. O., and Treasurer, Jaffna Hindu College, in Vannarponnai West. Mr. A. Chellappahpillai, Sub-Collector of Customs, Valvettiturai, is the paternal grandfather of the child. We offer our condolences to the bereaved.

We also regret to record the death of an one year old son of Mr. S. T. Chittambalam of the Jaffna Customs which took place on Wednesday last at Mr. Chittambalam's residence in Vannarponnai West. Our condolences with the bereaved.

Y. M. H. A. ACTIVITIES.

LECTURE—Mr. S. Kandasamy, Proctor, will deliver an address in the Head Quarters on Friday 4th August 1916 at 7 p.m., Subject: "Sadhana".

DISCUSSION—On Wednesday 2nd August at 7 p.m., a discussion on "Mantrams" will be held.

LIBRARY—The following journals have been added, "Indian Review" and "Tropical Agriculturist".

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME IN MYSORE.

A Mysore Government order states that the number of village Committees reported to be working in the several districts during the quarter was 8,023 as against 8,193 in the previous quarter. The decrease is stated to be due to a discrepancy in the number reported for the Bangalore Taluk for the previous quarter, viz., 393 for 88. The explanation is not considered satisfactory and the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District is requested to verify and reconcile the figures and submit a report to Government. The number of additional Committees formed during the quarter in all the other districts except Kader which remained stationary, was 140. The total number of villages served by the Committees rose to 14,257 thus bringing 84 per cent. of populated villages in the State under the operation of the Scheme as 88 per cent in the previous quarter. As regards the (Essential Duties under the Scheme), it is stated that during the quarter 3,629 Committees held weekly meetings of villagers for carrying out ordinary village improvement works by joint labour, as against 3,740 in the previous quarter. The decrease occurred in the Bangalore, Kolar, Mysore and Hassan Districts. Government expect that every village Committee will, in course of time, be made to engage itself in performing the essential duties under the scheme. There was some improvement in the number of Committees that subscribed for one or more newspapers and those that held weekly meetings for recreation and instruction, which rose during the quarter under review to 3,548 and 2,881 from 3,408 and 2,540 respectively in the previous quarter. —The Hindu.

SOME COMMON-SENSE DIETETIC SUGGESTIONS.

By DAVID PAULSON, M. D.

First, eat more natural food. Early summer, says Dr. Evans, is the time of year when many people have a "touch of scurvy." They have lived all winter on heavy foods. He advises that we turn our attention to green vegetables to cleanse the blood, such as lettuce, spinach, and carrots.

Genuine, old-fashioned wheateal flour is better for the health than white flour, because God has put the "vitamines" and much of the mineral in the covering of the grain. The same is true of natural brown rice. When fowls were fed exclusively on polished rice for three weeks they began to be paralyzed and suffered other symptoms of disease. When they were fed on whole rice they were soon restored.

Second, do not fry starchy foods in grease. In frying them the grease percolates through and covers every little particle of starch with a coating of fat so that it is proof against both mouth and stomach digestion. The digestive juices cannot get at it until the food reaches the small intestine and the bile cuts off the grease.

Some folks say they like fried foods. That is no sign it is good for them. Some people steal because they like to. The thing to do is to add the fat to the food when we eat it, instead of soaking it in fat while it is being cooked.

Third, do not eat blistering, burning condiments. God never intended such substances to come in contact with the delicate mucous membrane of the digestive organs. I have occasionally put a mustard plaster on the outside of the stomach, but then I took it off when it began to raise blisters. Those who put it on the inside must leave it there. And remember that a blister on the inside means a gastric ulcer.

Mustard, pepper, artificial sauces, and the rest of that family, have no business in the human system. God has put a fragrance in every food just as He has put a fragrance in every flower. What is the use of spoiling good food by adding to it such crude, coarse, blistering, burning substances as fiery spices and stinging condiments?

If food tastes flat without these things try it for a few weeks until you get back your normal tastes so that you can appreciate normal foods. Common table salts used moderately, is an exception, for it is a substance which naturally exists in the blood, which is not true of these other wretched things.

Fourth, do not eat large quantities of protein food. The body can only use advantageously a moderate amount for building and repair material. The waste products that result from it are virulent poisons and pave the way for Bright's disease, high blood pressure, nervous prostration, and many other disorders.

Modern medical science has learned how to conquer practically every disease except those that result from overeating, and especially eating too much of the beef steak line of food. You will find ten percent of this kind of food in grains; and that is the right proportion.

Many people have deluded themselves into thinking that they must eat meat in order to be strong. That is a mistake. The ox does not get its strength by eating another ox. Corn is not made into better food by being changed into pork; in fact it may have trichina or tape worm added to it. There is no advantage in eating second hand food any more than there is in wearing second hand clothes.

Fifth, do not eat between meals. Nature does everything in regular rhythm. When we persist in breaking into that we speedily break down the digestive system. We should consult principle instead of inclination. Those who persist in munching between meals will in the end pay penalty.

Sixth, Fletcherize. Someone has said if you chew long you will live long. Some people seem to think they do not have time to eat. They merely chop their food up enough so that they can swallow it without choking.

If we insist that the stomach shall do the work that was intended for the teeth, we are laying the foundation for gastric ulcer, hyperacidity, and many other unpleasant disorders. We owe a debt of gratitude to Horace Fletcher for helping us to discover the importance of chewing.

Seventh, do not indulge in light stimulants at meal time. Dr. Evans, formerly health commissioner of the City of Chicago, wrote recently in the Chicago "Tribune": "In order to misunderstand any man, I should say that physiologists regard coffee, tea, tobacco, and whisky as drugs in the same sense that opium and cocaine are." And Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, Commissioner of Health of the state of Pennsylvania, wrote recently: "Neither coffee nor tea is to be considered as food. Both are stimulants in which there is a continual tendency to over-indulgence, because a moderate allowance after time fails to give the necessary incitement to the nervous system. While the mind is often stimulated to good work for a short time by coffee or tea, any stimulus which they give is transitory for there is a period of depression following the use of all stimulants. Hot water or the 'cambric tea' (hot water, whole milk and sugar) of our childhood days is far better."

Eighth, after you have bowed your head and thanked the Lord for the meal which he provides you, do not forget to be thankful during the entire meal. It is good for the digestion. Fletcher said: "Do not eat when you are bad, or mad, or sad; only when you are glad." Cheer up before you eat and be cheerful when you do eat.

We have made marvellous advancement in thousand different directions during these recent years, but most people have as yet learned little or nothing as to how to eat, or drink, or to lift Glory of God." —Health and Happiness.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A JAFFNA SURGEON IN MALAYA.

Sir, It is gratifying to the Jaffna Community resident in F. M. S. to see one of them elevated to the high appointment of Acting Medical Officer.

The election of Dr. S. Manickam, Senior Assistant Surgeon, Perak, as acting Medical Officer of Krian, is a recognition of his abilities, as appointments of this nature have been to far restricted to persons of pure European descent; and it is a more gratifying to see that the Government selected the most suitable candidate for the post in Dr. Manickam.

This appointment has met with the universal approval and support of the different communities of the people in the F. M. S. especially in Perak where Dr. Manickam has spent most of his official life. He gained the confidence of the Government by his conscientious and honest work and the good will of the public by his sympathetic and kind treatment of all patients who sought his professional advice.

Unlike many others, "work for work's sake" has been the motto of Dr. Manickam and he has been the reward of his unselfish work in his recent promotion which he richly deserved. He was given a fitting farewell by the Staff of the Medical Department, Bagin Seral, on the eve of his departure to Parit Bunkar to take up his new appointment.

Dr. Manickam is the eldest son of the late lamented Dr. S. Simeyap of Mellisgam. He would meet with more and more success in his new sphere of life as he has had in his career. Senior Assistant Surgeon is the sincere wish of "Admirer."

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

DESTROYER ACTION.

London, July 24.
The Admiralty announces that some of our light forces at midnight on July 22nd sighted three enemy destroyers near the Northumberland Lightship. The enemy were repeatedly hit, but succeeded in reaching the Belgian coast. Our casualties were an officer and man slightly wounded. Subsequently we had a running fight with six enemy destroyers off Schevenbank. There was no damage and no casualty.

THE BRITISH OFFENSIVE.

General Sir D. Haig, in a *communiqué*, says:—Some ground were gained near Highwood and towards Guillemont. A large portion of Pozieres is now in our possession.

General Sir D. Haig, in a *communiqué*, says:—Apart from continuous shelling by both sides a night of comparative calm followed yesterday's fighting. Reported counter attacks by the enemy between Highwood and Guillemont yesterday gained no advantage. Our Artillery and machine guns inflicted very heavy casualties.

Our troops secured important advantages in the neighbourhood of Pozieres. Despite a stubborn defence a large portion of the village is in our hands. We captured here two guns and sixty prisoners.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Petrograd.—After four days' uninterrupted fighting on the Riga positions the struggle has abated, the Russians requiring to consolidate the ground gained and the Germans needing reinforcements from other sectors. The Russians repelled the Germans from Ik-skull to the Gulf of Riga. There was a success of much importance in the Memei region where the Russians advanced twelve miles Westward.

GERMAN REFINEMENT.

A report signed by the American Ambassador in Berlin on the housing of the Rubleben prisoners constitutes another indictment of German cruelty. "It is intolerable that educated people should be herded six in a horse-stall. The conditions of lots were worse, there being a floor space 25 feet by 30 feet for 64 prisoners. The roof sloped to 66 inches from the floor. Semi darkness is probably the cause of the depression and mental trouble of the prisoners who have nowhere to dry their wet clothes, and are not provided with soap. The present conditions will be impossible during another winter."

NEW WAR SECRETARY SNUBB MR. CHURCHILL.

In the Commons Mr. Churchill complained that Mr. A. quith had not reviewed the military situation.

Mr. Lloyd George:—You cannot review the military prospect in the middle of a battle. The prospects are good. Our Generals are more than satisfied at the progress and proud of the valour of the men. Great as the British Infantry were, they were never greater than now. One thrills with pride to belong to the same race as our citizen Army hurling back the most formidable foes. Whatever happens in this battle I am confident victory will be assured us.

Mr. Lloyd George said he felt beyond everything confident because numbers and all other resources were on our side, and the soldiers proved that British resourcefulness and intelligence was going to snatch a victory in a few months, over what appeared at one time to be an invincible Military Power.

AFTER THE WAR PROBLEMS.

In the Commons, replying to a series of questions put by Sir Oswald Phillips and others regarding representation on the Dominions Committee on our industrial and commercial policy after the War, Mr. Asquith read a telegram sent by Mr. Bonar Law to the Dominions in May, stating that Government desired as soon as practicable to convene an Imperial Conference, including representatives of India, to consider the commercial policy to be adopted after the War, intimating the intention, prior to the Conference, of forming a Committee in England to discover an agreement among British Parties on the fiscal question was possible under the changed conditions caused by the War, assuring the Dominions that the appointment of this committee, whatever the results, would not unduly delay holding the Imperial Conference or interfere with the free discussion of problems with Oversea Representatives. The Dominions' Government concurred and the Committee was accordingly appointed.

Mr. D. Macmaster asked:—In view of the fact that the principle of representation of the Dominions was recognised at the Paris Conference, was it not possible in working out the details of the scheme, that the Dominions should be represented.

Mr. Asquith replied:—Mr. Hughes went to the Paris Conference to represent the Empire and not any particular Dominion.

OUR DAILY WAR BILL.

In the Commons Mr. Asquith moving a vote of credit of 450 millions, stated that the average daily War expenditure was £4 950,000. The six millions mentioned by Mr. McKenna represented all the outlay. The total expenditure from April 1st to July 22nd was 539 millions. We had 41 millions in hand. Navy and Army contributions cost 379 millions, loans to the Allies and the Dominions 157, food supply, railways, etc., 23 millions.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

Mr. A. quith's announcement was a reply to Mr. Redmond who asked if Government intended to depart from the terms of the agreement based on Mr. Lloyd George's proposals, or to insert proposals at variance with the agreement without consulting the Nationalists. Mr. Asquith pointed out that the agreement was subject to the approval and revision of the Cabinet. In this connection

two questions emerged: firstly the form in which Ulster exclusion should be provided. All parties agreed that inclusion should not be automatic. Government would not do more than make that sure. Secondly after full examination Government felt they could not themselves agree that the full number of Irish Members should be retained in the Commons after an election, except where the consideration of Home Rule or an amending Bill was concerned. Mr. Asquith then stated that Government did not intend introducing any Home Rule Bill unless there was a substantial agreement by all parties.

CASEMENT REFUSED LEAVE TO APPEAL.

The Attorney-General has refused to allow Caseement to appeal to the Lords.

THE BRITISH OFFENSIVE.

General Sir D. Haig, in a *communiqué*, says:—An attempt to attack on our right flank yesterday afternoon was frustrated. Two Infantry attacks against the centre of our line were fruitless. Further ground was gained North of Pozieres despite strong opposition.

Throughout the day there was fierce hand-to-hand and bomb fighting at various places all along the battle-front. Between the Ancre and the sea there was nothing of importance. The enemy recently further reinforced the Somme front with Infantry and guns. The bombardment continues, occasionally very heavy. Yesterday's Infantry attacks, which were preceded by a specially violent bombardment, were stopped by concentrated fire, the enemy nowhere reaching the trenches. His casualties must be severe. There was much hand-to-hand fighting in other parts of the line where our Infantry in places worked their way forward. The greater part of Pozieres is now ours. The prisoners here included two battalion Commanders.

DAYS OF ERZINJAN NUMBERED.

Petrograd.—The days of Erzincan are numbered. The Russians are steadily advancing thither from the South and from the North, while Eastward the van guards are only fifteen miles off. A Russian *communiqué* says:—The Turkish Armies in Armenia are retreating in disorder. We are ten miles from Erzincan.

COMPULSORY HARVEST WORK IN PRUSSIA.

Amsterdam.—Compulsory Service in the harvest fields for women and children has been introduced in West Prussia. Refusal is punishable by a year of imprisonment and a £75 sterling fine.

ALLIES AND COCONUT PURCHASERS.

In the House of Commons Mr. Bonar Law announced that he was inquiring into the alleged purchases of coconut estates in various parts of the Empire by an alien firm.

THE DOVER PATROL.

A despatch from Vice-Admiral Bacon regarding the operations of the Dover patrol since Dec. 31st, 1915, pays a tribute to the unremitting energy of the officers and men of his command. 21,000 merchantmen, beside warships and auxiliaries, passed the patrol in six months of which only 21 were lost or seriously damaged by the enemy, while 4 per cent. of the patrol-boats were sunk with the loss of 77 lives. The patrol assists in guarding the flank of cross-Channel transport in which not a single life was lost, beside reconnaissance. Naval airmen carried out eleven raids on enemy aerodromes in Belgium. There were thirteen attacks on enemy vessels and we destroyed nine. Enemy aeroplanes and the submarine service of Naval airmen in Flanders was most valuable. The patrol-boats destroyed several submarines and some surface-boats, much reducing the activity of submarines from the Belgian coast.

SWEDES AND SUBMARINES.

Stockholm.—A General Order has been issued to the Swedish forces that foreign submarines in Swedish waters should be attacked immediately unless they are recognised to be neutrals or merchantmen.

BRITISH STEAMERS SUNK.

The British steamers "Wolf," "Longwen" and "Knutsford" have been sunk and the crews saved.

AMERICA BUYS DANISH WEST INDIES.

Washington. (Official).—The United States has practically concluded the purchase of the Danish West Indies for £5,000,000 sterling. The Treaty confirming the sale will probably be signed today and go immediately to the Senate.

THE BRITISH OFFENSIVE.

General Haig, in a *communiqué*, says:—The whole of Pozieres is in our hands. West of the village a further advance has been made and two strong trenches have been captured. The Territorials carried out this advance, in which a number of prisoners including five officers were captured. There is no change elsewhere.

FRENCH AIRMAN FLIES OVER BERLIN.

Pioneer special cables state:—It is officially announced in Paris that sub Lieutenant Merchal left Nancy at 9.30 on Thursday evening on a special type of Nieuport monoplane with provisions and petrol sufficient for fourteen hours' flight. His mission was to fly across Germany and drop proclamations beginning: "We could have bombarded the open town of Berlin, and thus killed innocent women and children, but content ourselves with dropping the following proclamation." He continued his flight and accomplished 800 miles. He was then obliged to alight owing to trouble with the sparking plugs. He changed two and re-started the motor, but found it necessary to change two more. While doing so he was taken prisoner at Cholm, 65 miles from the Russian lines, eleven hours after his start from Nancy.

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In the Commons Mr. Asquith announced that Government did not propose to introduce an Irish Bill on which there did not appear to be the prospect of a substantial agreement between all parties.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Petrograd.—A *communiqué* reports the Russians close on the heels of the Turks who are fleeing in disorder towards Erzincan, abandoning guns, rifles and stores.

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Petrograd.—General Sakharoff took prisoner 4,000 at Slonivka, on the right affluent of the Styx. Fighting is proceeding in Galicia, ten miles North of Brody.

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In the Commons Mr. Asquith announced that the personnel of the Mesopotamia Commission would be: Lords George Hamilton (Chairman), Dromoghmore, Hugh Cecil and Messrs. Williamson and Hodge, M.P.s. The Dardanelles Commission would be: Lord Cromer (Chairman), Mr. Andrew Fisher, Sir Thomas Mackenzie and Messrs. Cawley, Clyde and S. Gwynn, M.P.s.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Mr. Asquith emphasized the difficulties of the selection of the Commissioners and thought it desirable to give the Commissions a Parliamentary complexion while excluding members, who would show bias or partiality. He was prepared to accept suggestions amplifying or strengthening the Commissions. The names of the Commissioners have been favourably received.

Guard advanced under heavy fire half-a-mile and took prisoner eight terrified Hunns and killed forty. They dismounted in a hollow and crawled to a wheat field full of dead Germans. On the top of a Hill they were held up by heavy fire, to which they replied with Hotchkiss guns and retired a short distance. They dug themselves in and held on till day-break, enabling the Infantry to come up and take the position. The Divisional General and Army Commander subsequently congratulated the Cavalry who were "all very bucked and proud."

THE FRENCH FRONT.

Parla.—A *communiqué* says the night was quiet on the Somme. We took 117 prisoners South of Estrees on July 24th. We brought in three guns and much material found on the ground captured on July 20th North of Soyecourt, making six guns captured on that day. There is great Artillery fire at Flunoy. A French air-squadron bombed military establishments at Thionville and Romach and an important munition-store at Dun, also railway stations at Vilosnes and Brioules and bivouacs at Dannovous.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE ERZINGAN.

(Official).—The Russians have captured Erzincan.

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GERMAN IRON STEAMER SUNK.

Amsterdam.—The Norddeutscher-Lloyd steamer "Gordeny" from Sweden with a cargo of iron ore has been sunk in the Baltic. The Captain and three of the crew were drowned.

COMPULSORY SERVICE.

It is understood that the non-enforcement of the Military Service acts against Britishers residing in Colonies and Colonies Protectorates is due to the fact that they are inapplicable to Ireland.

NATIONAL FETE IN BELGIUM.

Amsterdam.—The *Echo Belge* says that an impressive sermon was preached by Cardinal Mercier on the occasion of the National Fete. Thousands frantically applauded when the Brabanconne was sung. Cardinal Mercier was followed to the station by a large crowd singing the Brabanconne. German troops charged with the bayonet. There was a terrible scuffling. The Germans struck the women and children with rifles near the Bourse. The crowd in the public squares shouted "Long Live the King," "Down with Germany," and "Down with the Kaiser." Many arrests were made.

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MR. REDMOND'S PROTEST.

In moving the adjournment Mr. Redmond reviewed the negotiations leading to the agreement with Sir Edward Carson and himself and its approval by the respective supporters. In returning to London he was faced with an entirely new proposal propounded by Lord Lansdowne. He received on July 20th an extraordinary notification that the Cabinet had postponed the consideration of the Draft Bill and were considering a number of new proposals. "I asked for particulars and was informed that the Cabinet did not desire to consult me or communicate with me till a settlement had been reached. On Saturday Mr. Lloyd George informed me that the Cabinet had decided to insert in the Bill a provision for the permanent exclusion of the Ulster Counties and to omit the agreement for the retention of the Irish members at Westminster during the transitory period. The decision was final and not open to discussion. I and my colleagues adhere to every word of the agreement, but we cannot agree to the new proposals, which would mean a disgraceful breach of faith on my part towards my supporters in Ireland. We warn the Government that we will oppose such a Bill at every stage."

Mr. Lloyd George argued that the difference over the reference to Ulster was a matter of phrasology. He admitted that there had been a departure in the agreement with reference to representation at Westminster, due to the opposition of the Unionists who argued that if after discussion, the Irishmen at Westminster were undiminished, it might make a difference between a Liberal and Unionist Government on any general question of the Government of the Empire.

Mr. Lloyd George had said that no agreement was possible without modifications. Therefore it was idle to introduce the Bill.

SETTLEMENT FINALLY BROKEN DOWN.

Mr. Dillon, following Sir Edward Carson, declared that the settlement had finally broken down. Mr. Asquith strongly appealed to the Nationalists to acquiesce their decision. The motion was talked out.

THE TORPEDOED "LLONGWEN."

Naples.—Seventeen of the crew of the torpedoed steamer "Longwen" have been landed. Fourteen were drowned owing to the capsizing of a boat.

ITALIAN AEROPLANE BOMBS DURAZZO.

Rome.—An Italian aeroplane bombed Durazzo.

SUBMARINES FOR THE DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Rotterdam.—The Feye Noord shipyard is constructing four large submarines for the Dutch East Indies.

THE BRITISH OFFENSIVE.

General Sir D. Haig reports that throughout the night our Artillery was active. We continued at various points to press the enemy with hand-to-hand encounters. The enemy is using large numbers of gas and tear shells. Elsewhere on the British front there was no incident of importance in the last 48 hours.

"DEUTSCHLAND" TO DEPART.

Daltimore.—Clearance papers have been granted to the "Deutschland."

THE VALUE OF ERZINGAN.

Petrograd.—The capture of Erzincan is most important. It secures the Trebizond-Erzincan road and gives the Russians the unfettered use of the sea base at Trebizond which is most useful if the Grand Duke means to strike at the Turkish main positions at Sivas, 120 miles from Erzincan, and enter the Anatolian plains, the heart of the Turkish Empire.

PETROGRAD. (Official).—We continue to pursue the retreating Turkish Army in Armenia. We seized the depot and War stores at Erzincan.

A LONG DELAYED ACT.

In the Commons Mr. Asquith announced that the King would be advised to take steps to deprive the Dukes of Cumberland and Albany and the Princes Albert and Schleswig-Holstein of their honours and titles.

STEAMERS CAPTURED.

Copenhagen.—German destroyers have seized a Norwegian and two British steamers in the Sound. A German cruiser captured the Wilson liner "Eskimo" in the Skager Rack.

NORWEGIAN STEAMER SUNK.

The Norwegian "Kontigern" has been sunk in the North Sea.

FOODSTUFFS FOR STARVING CONQUERED.

(Official).—The Imperial Government proposes to admit food stuffs into territories occupied by the enemy, provided that the enemy reserve wholly to civilians all food stuffs to those territories, and allow neutrals selected by the President of the United States to control the distribution. If the offer is refused, or not answered will hold the Central Powers responsible, and Allied arms or enforced by the public opinion of occupied territories.

—The Ceylon Observer.