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JAFFNA, MONDAY AUGUST 14, 1916.

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Jaffoa Kachcheri, July 27, 1916.

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# Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3250.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Suppaiyar Kanagasabai Aiyar of Kal-thady

Deceased.

Manikkamma widow of Suppaiyar Kanaga-bai Aiyar of Kaithady Petitioner.

- Vs.

  1. KanagasabaiAiyar MuttukumarasamyAiyar of Do

  2. Nagammah daughter of KanagasabaiAiyar of Do

  3. Suppaiyar AiyathuraiAiyar of Do. The 1st and 2nd Respondents are minors by their Guardian ad-litem the Brd Respondent

This matter of the Petition of Manikkamma This matter of the Petition of Manikkamma widow of Suppaiyar KanagasabaiAyar, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Suppaiyar Kanagasabai Aiyar of Kaithady, coming on for disposal before P. E. Pieris Esquire, District Judge, on July 25, 1916, in the presence of Mr. K. Kanakasabai, Procetor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the said Petitioner dated May 31, 1916, having been read: I bis ordered that the Petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled, as widow of the said deceased, to administer the estate of the said deceased and that Letters of Administration do issue to him accordingly, unless the Respondent abovenamed or any other person shall, on or before August 15, 1916, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the coutrary.

P. E. Pieris,

July 29, 1916,

P. E. Pieris, District Judge,

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## NOTICE. LAND SALE.

The following lands situated in the Pachchilaippali Division will be put up to auction at Grand Bazaar, Jafins, on Saturday, 7th October, 1916, at 3 P. M.

(1) 31 acros of jungle land with numerous palmyrahs and good firewood in the village of Massar adjoining the Massar coconut Estate belonging to Mr. Sapapathy, about 3½ miles from Pallai Railway Station and within a few chains from the Kandy road.

(2) 15 acres of jungle land with palmyrahs in Tanmakkim village, South of Tachchankadu co-count Estate and within 1½ miles of Pallai Station.

) 58 acres of jungle land with palmyrahs in skachchi village adjoining the Kandy road within 4 miles of Pallai Station.

All the lands are said to be fit for coconut. Private offers also will be received by the undersigned until the day of auction. The lands are well-known 50 Mr. S. Asaippillai, Nallur House, Jaffna.

C. K. SWAMINATHAN, Ramanathan College, JAFFNA.

#### CHANGE OF NAME.

I Suppar Nagar of Tholpuram, (Tha-marappiddy) do hereby give notice that I will hereafter sign my name as Suppra-maniam Naganathar.

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P. S. to H. E. the Governor, Colombo 16 00
Mr. T. Kanagasabai, Tanjong Malim, 15 00
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" William Joshua, Pahang 27-00
" S. Kandayya, Van. West 1.25
R. Vallipuram, Anuradhapura 5-00
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" P. Ramapillai, Matale 8 00
" A. Thuraiappah, Batticaloa 800
W. Weerasingham, Chandilipay 16 00
" C. E. Philips, Maradankadawela ( 300



# Che bindu Organ.

JAPPNA, MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1916.

THE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION AND THE INDUSTRIAL NEEDS OF JAFFNA.—II.

In our last issue we dealt with some of the important local industries that may possibly be improved and expanded with the help of expert knowledge and financial aid under Government auspices. Before proceeding to dilate further on the nature of the State aid required for the industrial development, we will note here a few more local industries, other than agricultural, that have possibilities of development. We have already dealt with weaving, pottery, brick and tile manufacture, dye manufacture, coir manufacture, and basket and mat making.

Jaffna abounds in palmyrah more than

dye manufacture, coir manufacture, and basket and mat making.

Jafina abounds in palmyrah more than any other part of Ceylon. The possibility of extending the manufacture of baskets and mats, ordinary as well as with ornamental designs, out of the leaves of the palmyrah, was already touched upon by us. Panaddu made out of the juce of the fruit, and tubers from the seeds, were extensively utilised as food, mostly by the working classes. Of late, the manufacture of these palmyrah products, especially of Panaddu, has been somewhat neglected. This may be due to the physical degeneracy of the people which demands easily digestible food. It may also be due to the infatuation of "modern fashion" under which old manners and habits are thoughtlessly discarded, simply because they are old and not found among the so-called civilized people. Anyway, the Government will be doing a great service to the northerners if scientific research on the food value of this product is instituted. If it is found the possess a good passentage of nutritious health promoting constituents, its of this product as Instituted. It is found nossess a good passentage of nutritions health promoting constituents, its manufacture should be encouraged by all possible means. An expert in the manufacture of fruit jams or jelly may be able of ind a process to preserve Panaddu in

tins fit for foreign markets. There is a slight rankness in the flavour of Panaddu which may be removed by using a suitable syrup for the preserve. If success should erown this effort, it will prove of immense economic value to the Jaffness.

Coconuts, copra and desiccated coco-conuts to the value of more than 30 million rupees are annually exported from Ceylon to other countries to be used from Ceylon to other countries to be used in manufactures. Since we have the raw material here in abundance in the shape of copra and coconuts it should be more profitable for us to manufacture coconut oil on a larger scale and start connected industries such as candle, soap, stearine, and butter making, if we can procure the required machinery and the technical skill to work them economically.

We will now make a few observations on the capacity of the Ceylonese to un-dertake the industrial development and dertake the industrial development and of the nature of the Government aid that may be given to it. In doing so, we cannot do better than quote the opinion of Sir Thomas Holland, President of the Industries Commission of India which was recently appointed by the Indian Government with objects almost similar to that of the Ceylon Commission. Referring to the capacity of the Indian labourers Sir Thomas Holland observes in his address delivered before the South Indian Chamber of Commerce on the 28th ultimo:—

"One thing he was quite satisfied with in India was that they had the means of obtaining all the expert labour that was necessary. Any one who had ever visited the Tata Iron and Steel Works would have been convinced that with Indian labour they could tackle any industry for which the country was suitable. He had seen the labourers at Satchi who, only a few years ago, had been the inhabitants of jungles without any education. They were now handling the machinery there and turning out rails, wheels, etc., as efficiently as they could get it done by any English labourer. When Indian labour]was organised and properly educated, and led there was not the slightest doubt that they would get the result that would enable them to utilise all the raw materials available in the country."

We need hardly say that the above noted appreciation by the President of the Indian Industries Commission applies with equal, if not greater force to the capacity of Ceylonese labourers. Sir Thomas further observes under this head:

Thomas further observes under this head:

"By scientific knowledge industries had been created under unfavourable conditions in Europe, industries that would thrive better in India. Huge quantities of sugar, for instance, had been imported by India from Austria and Germany although sugar making was a tropical industry. What science was able to do in Europe, it could do in India also. They had to devise a machinery for the distribution of information. There was no use of researches unless some body derived some benefits from them. They had also to develop some form of machinery for financing industrial undertakings and for financing the marketing of products. There was no use of producting articles unles they were able to market them successfully."

On the nature and scene of the Com-

On the nature and scope of the Commission's enquiry Sir Thomas Holland's opinion is practical and worth consideration. Says he:—

opinion is practical and worth consideration. Says he:—

"They would first have an examination of certain witnesses who should be men of experience. They did not want men of views. They wanted men of experience, especially men of the experience of failures. Local Committees would be formed to gather information and then they might have a general conference between the Provincial Committees and the Commission. That might possibly aid them to tackle certain problems on the spot and settle them without waiting for the final report. They had to consider the development of an efficient official machinery to carry out proposals they might leave behind. In some cases it might perhaps be necessary to join together the interests of different provinces and create an Imperial Department. The Commission would like to know whether the present method of collecting information was suitable, whether there was any necessity to establish trade agency abroad, whether commercial museums should be formed in towns, whether they should have periodical Industrial Exhibitions, and whether they should have their representatives in foreign countries to push the sale of their wares. In India the working of the trade marks was very defective and he would like to know whether it could be improved."

On the nature of Government aid required to promote industrial development, the lines on which Sir Thomas proposes to institute inquiry are very practical and the local Commission also may adopt a similar line of enquiry:—

similar line of enquiry:—

"The other points on which he expected people to give information was about the question of Government aid to industries like loans and money grants—whether Government was to supply machinery, whether Government should guarantee dividends for particular manufacturers without a refund of the dividend afterwards; what concessions of railway freights and subsidies the Government should give for Industries, and whether the Government could employ expert advisers to aid private manufacturers. They had also to devise means for furthering research work and for improving the efficiency of labour and management. Then there was the question of finding out the means of generating power, and the Commission had proposed to investigate into the possibilities of generating bydro-electric power."

We may mention here that the Government of Mysore has been carrying out successfully a policy of industrial development on the above lines. Government

grants and loans, and free supply of machinery to nascent industries, conces-sions of railway freights and subsides, research work on the possibilities of new methods, have been adopted by the Mysore Government.

THE RELIGION OF THE ANCIENT TAMILS

(By S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar.)

PART SECOND. Chapter IX.

SERPENT WORSHIP.

SERPENT WORSHIP.

I have already explained the Philosophic aspect of this worship under the head "Naga worship" in Chapter VIII. This aspect of the worship is largely availed of by people when they apprehend any danger from poisonous snakes. The Hindu realizes to a large extent the solemn truth that "not a hair droppeth without the will of God"—and particularly so when he is affected by any agency other than human. When he is bitten by a snake, the Hindu thinks that he has been visited by the displeasure of God through the snake—and in fact, his idea is that there is the will of God in the snake that prompted it to bite him; and this belief leads him ultimately to the idea that God punished him in the shape of a snake. He therefore worships God in the snake, remembering at the same time that the snake represents in form the Kundalini Sakti of God. He thinks that any service done to the Kundalini Sakti that time that the snake represents in form the Kundalini Sakti of God. He thinks that any service done to the snake is a service done to the Kundalini Sakti that abides in it. The serpent worship must therefore be said to have originated from a beautiful ideal which seems to have been lost sight of by the masses in course of time and only the ritual was retained.

been lost sight of by the masses in course of time and only the ritual was retained. It was this ideal that gave birth ultimately to Pantheistic ideas, and it would be interesting in this connection to point out briefly how the one idea led to the other. All religions are agreed that God is omnipresent and that His grace pervades the whole universe in one form or other. According to Hinduism, every species of the mineral, the vegetable and the animal kingdom is pervaded with a distinct shade of Divine grace, and the religion therefore postulates an Athithevatha or a presiding Deity for each of the different species. The Hindu recognizes this Divine influence over the whole Pirapancha, and when he wants to be benefited by any of the various species of creation that are found in the world, he seeks the help of the particular form of Divine Grace that is peculiar to that species, and he tries to appease the Athithevatha of that species in order to be benefited by that species. As I have already said, the Hindu is very susceptible of the spiritual influence over the material plane, and he is able to discriminate the difference between the various forms of the spiritual force that is at the back of every material object. There was a time when this idea grew strong and exceeded its legitimate bounds and it was of the spiritual force that is at the back of every material object. There was a time when this idea grew strong and exceeded its legitimate bounds and it was then, I should say that it assumed a Pantheistic form. The origin of the serpent worship itself must be traced to this ideal which in course of time was forgotten and only the external form was retained. retained.

Rahu and Kethu, the ascending and the descending nodes are counted among the nine planets of the Hindu Astrology, and they are represented in the forms of snakes. The planets have each an Athitheva and they are supposed to have a large share in shaping the destiny of man. They are propitiated at times to ward off any impending danger, and when Rahu and Kethu are so propitiated, they are worshipped in the forms of snakes. This is another form of what is known as serpent worship, and the principle on which it is based has a beautiful meaning.

According to Hindu mythology, Athiseis is the supporter of the Earth—that is to say the material force that keeps her in her orbit. This force is therefore represented in the form of a serpent on which Vishnu the Lord of preservation takes his rest. On the spiritual side, this force represents the Grace of Lord Vishnu, and it is therefore revered in the form of a serpent.

As I have already explained in Chapter VIII, the Kundalini Sakti or the first Rahu and Kethu, the ascending and

form of a serpent.

As I have already explained in Chapter VIII, the Kundatini Sakti or the first principle out of which the universe evolved is of the form of a serpent, and it unfolds itself, with Siva in its centre—that is to say being enlivened by Siva—and it is therefore represented to entwine the Siva Linga in the form of a serpent; and this serpent being the vehicle of the Grace of God, has become an object of veneration.

We could thus see that what is known as serpent worship is based upon beauti-

ful ideals in more than one way. I could dismissed the question of serpent concerned ful ideals in more than one way. I could have dismised the question of serpent worship as one that is not concerned with the genuine form of our religion, but my object in tracing the origin of this worship to its philosophic aspect is to shew the relation that exists between the Philosophic religion and the Popular religion of the Hindus. Not only the critics, but even some of our own young generation are found to attack at random several practices that obtain among us in their ignorance of the sublime truth that underlies such practices. I think they would do well to have a patient enquiry into these practices before attacking them without due investigation.

enquiry into these practices before attacking them without due investigation.

The ancient Tamil literature refers to a race of people known as Nagas, and the inference is therefore drawn by the critics that these people were serpent worshippers, because the word Naga means a serpent. The word not only means a serpent, but it also signifies a mountain, and it is also a name for the heavenly region—and I cannot understand why the Nagas should be said to have been serpent worshippers and not mountain worshippers or worshippers of the heavenly region. It is I think very unsafe to rush into conclusions from the mere similarity of names; and it is very much to be regretted that it has become the fashion of a certain portion of our modern generation to build up big theories on slender arguments, and christen such theories in the name of science. The Sinhalese people—annot be said to be worshippers of lion because their race name has a strong resemblance to that of a lion.

When we refer to the Hirdy Paragraphic contents in the Hirdy Paragraphic stream and the said to be worshippers of the Hirdy Paragraphic contents.

worshippers of lion because their race name has a strong resemblance to that of a lion.

When we refer to the Hindu Puranas and Ithihasas, we find that! the Nagas were worshippers of Siva and that the chiefs among them such as Vasuki, Nahusha, Karkkodaga &c., &c., were great potentates. They belonged to a peculiar species of beings—half human and half serpentine—quite different from the celestials or the human beings. They occupied the lower regions, while men occupied the lower regions, while men occupied the middle and the celestials the upper. These Nagas were very different from the Nagas referred to in literature of the last Sangam, and the latter evidently got their name from the former, because of some connection between them. Science discloses the existence at one time of several species of animals which are extinct now, and it is therefore not improbable that there existed at one time a peculiar species of beings occupying the lower regions of the Earth and that they have become extinct now. We cannot reject the evidence of ancient writers, because we are unable to verify that evidence. The reference made in Chintamani to an aircraft of the shape of a peafowl in which the queen of Rasamapura escaped was considered at one time to be a fabulous story; but the recent aircraft activities of the West have fully removed the doubt that was entertained of the incident referred to. The reference to the occupants of the lower regions will also be similarly accepted when European science makes further progress. Whatever this may be, the Nagas of the Vedic and the Puranic periods were not serpent worshippers as they are represented to be, and there is no evidence in any ancient literature in support of such a gratuitous assumption.

# NOTES & COMMENTS.

Mr. V. S. Sreenivasa Sastry has been elected by the non-official members of the Madras Legislative Council to represent them in the Supreme Legislative Council.

Mr. SreenivasaSastry is the President of the Servants of India Society and is bound by a vow to poverty and self-abnegation in the service of his motherland. He, like the other Members of the Society, gets an allowance of about Rs. 60 or 75 per month for his maintenance from the Servants of India Society and devotes his whole time in the country's service. Can we find such a man in Ceylon?

\*

The proposal of the Indian Government to raise a double Company of infantry from the Bengalis has been hailed with delight in Bengal. Hitherto Bengal was neglected as a recruiting ground as Bengalis were not considered efficient soldiers. For many years, the educated leaders of Bengal had demanded that their Province should be placed on the same footing with other Provinces in the matter of recruiting. Dr. S. K. Mullick and Dr. S. P. Sarbadhikari have proposed to tour the Province and try to make the experiment a success.

# LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE GOVERNMENT AGENT —Mr. B Horsburgh, the Government Agent, loaves today on circuit, accompanied by the Chief Mudaliyar, as far as Mullattivu. He is expected to return here on the 26th instant.

return here on the 26th instant.

THE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION.—The Fisheries Branch of this Commission will meet in Jaffna on the 15th and 16th instant.

PERSONAL.—The Hon'ble Mr. K Balasingham who is a Member of the Industries Commission arrived here this morning to serve on the Fisheries Branch of that Commission.

commission arrived here this months of section on the Fisheries Branch of that Commission.

Compulsory Vernacular Education — At the meeting of the Managers of Schools and the Chief Headmen of the District which was held at the Jaffaa Racheheri under the presidency of the Government Agent, it was unanimously resolved to introduce the Rural Schools Ordinance into the Jaffaa District. Mr. E B Denham, the Director of Education, was present and explained the provisions of the Ordinance and how beneficially it was working in other parts of the Island. The Government Agent called for expression of opinion on the question from the gentlemen present. Both Messrs. Horsburgh and Denham satisfactorily cleared many doubtful points and brought about the decision unanimously arrived at.

The Copra Market.—There was an unitary the copract of the control of the con

THE COPEA MARKET.—There was an unexpected fall in the copra market at Colombo on the 10th instant, the highest price fotched being Rs. 63-50 per candy. It rose to Rs. 64-75 on Saturday last.

IDEALS OF SOCIAL SERVICE.—Under the auspices of the Social Sc vice League, Prof. G. H. Leonard delivered an interesting lecture on this subject on the 10th instant at the Pettah Library, Colombo. Sir P. Arunachalam, presided.

chalam, presided.

Oase Against a Vernacular Journalist.

—Mr. Collett, Assistant Superintendent of Police, obtained a warrant at the Colombo Police Court, on the 11th instant, for the arrest of Vidauelage Marsallis Percira, Publisher of the journal known as the "Kanatatillake" on a charge of publishing observed intervalues.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S DAUGHT-ER.—Mrs. Perkins, wife of Mr. D. Y. Perkins, Advocate and Solicitor, of Messrs. Draw and Napier, Singapore, and daughter of H. E. Sir John Anderson, arrived in Colombo on the Lith instant from Singapore, by P. & O. "Nankin", with infant and ayah. Mrs. Perkins is residing at Queen's House.

Mrs. Perkins is residing at Queen's House.

School Boys on a Route March—A
party of 30 Cadets from Trinity College in
charge of Lieut. K. C. Macpherson and 2nd
Lieut. C. P. Jayawardene, travelled up by
train from Kandy to NanuOya and walked
up to Nuwara Eliya on the 11th instant.
After dinner at the Sanitarium, the party
left the same night for Kandy on foot, via
Ramboda and Pussellawa.

Ramboda and Pussellawa.

The Ceylon Sugar Refinebie's Ltd.—
This Company started the manufacture of sugar at their factory at Valvettiturai, Jaffna, on Tuesday last. The first flow of juice was started by Miss Babs Cox, daughter of Mr. Lionel Cox, Chairman of the Company, who opened the necessary values and allowed the fluid to find its way to the machines. There were also present Mr. E B Danham, Director of Education, Captain Nugent, Mrs. W O S Ingles, wife of the Surveyor General, Mr. D M Weigel, the General Manager of the Company and his staff. The manufacture proved a success and 20 tons or more were manufactured that day.

The Japena Inter Collegiage Formatic

THE JAFFNA INTER COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL
CUF COMPETITION.—In the Sub committee
that was appointed by the Sports Club the
name of the Donor of the Cup Viz: V M
Muttucumaru Mudaliyar, Maniagar, Jaffna,
was not, by an oversight mentioned as a
member of the Sub-Committee. —Cor.

FOOT BALL MATCHES.—The two matches FOOT BALL MATCHES.—The two matches were played—one with the Jaffna Central College Team, one with the Point Pedro Town Club—by the Hartley College team. Both the matches ended in a victory to the Hartleyans, defeating, as they did the former by 4 goals to one, the latter by 8 goals to nil. The Hartley College team was captained by A Murugasu. They intend to challenge the Jaffna Hindu College team and the St. Johnian and the St. Patrician soon. —Cor.

Johnian and the St. Patrician soon. —Cor.

Y. M. H. A. (Vadducodda) —Under the auspices of the above Association a public lecture on "Religious life" was delivered at the Hindu English Institute Hall, Vaddukoddai on Monday the 7th Instant at about 6 30 r. m., by Mrs. E F Emery, late Principal, Ramanathan College. The lecturer handled the subject in an able manner and observed that real religious life could be found everywhere in the world and among all the religionists, that the Egyptian word used for denoting God was very much the same as the Hindu word, Iswara, and that all should strive to attain the supreme goal of life. Remarks were offered by Messrs. Sivapathasundaram, B. A., and Mr. Sabarathasinghe, B. A. Then the chairman, Mr. O Perumalpillai, Proctor, Supreme Court, briefly emphasized the main points brought forward by the lecturer. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. Tillainather to the Chairman and the Lecturer. The meeting opened and closed with Thevaram by Master S. Panchadcharayer. —Cor.

THE TAMILIAN PHYSICAL CULTURE ASSOCIATION, KUALA LUMPUR—The Annual General Meeting of the above Association came off on the 29th instant, there being many members present, though less than the number anticipated. One of the features of the meeting was the absence of many whom we call "big folks". At a time like, this it seems a little puzzling how people could otherwise be busy unmindful of the dictum "Mens sano et corporo sano". The association deserves congratulation for the good work put up by it in spite of the fact that many "old beads" were against it. Some say that the annual meeting ought to have been held many months earlier, though knowing well that it was difficult to be punctual now a days. The meeting ought to have been held many months earlier, though knowing well that it was difficult to be punctual now a days. The resolution adopted to publish a magazine when the Association is financially strong is a fairly good one, but it is to be regretted that the "when" spoils it Whether the levelling of the playground (recently granted by the Government) or the publication of of the magazine is to occur first is to be seen. of the magazine is to occur first is to be seen.

The Chairman protem deserves notice for the business like manner in which be conducted the meeting.

—Cor.

#### THE JAFFNA SPORTS CLUB.

A General Meeting of the Club will be held in the Central College Hall on Friday, 18th instant, at 6 P. M.

Business.

(1) Reading of the minutes, etc.
(2) Passing of accounts.
(3) Election of Office-bearers.
(4) Any other business of which due notice is given.

N. B. A Committee meeting will be held half an hour earlier to pass accounts.

Leffice S. RALABATAM.

Jaffna, S. RAJARATNAM, Hony, Sec.

#### Y. M. H. A. ACTIVITIES.

—On Wednesday the 9th instant there was a Kathaprasangam on the life of 'Somasimara-Nayanar'.

Nayanar.

—On Friday the 11th instant there was a discussion on 'Initiation'.

—Mr. E. K. Sivasubramanialyer will deliver an address on 'Sacrifice' on Friday the 18th insta 17 p. M. in the Head quarters.

LIBRARY.—The following gentlemen have presented some very useful books to the Association. Messrs. S. T. Chittsampalam, S. Shammugam, A. Kandappa Shekaran, and M. Shivaramalinga-Pillay.

#### THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Meeting held on the 9th instant.)

CONTINGENT SERVICES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR. The Hon, the Colonial Secretary—moved the second reading of "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the Financial Year. October, 1916, to September, 1917 and said he had nothing to add to what he said at the last meeting."

Mr. Pagden—seconded.

Mr. Balasingham's Objection.

Mr. Pagden—seconded.

Mr. Balasingham's Objection.

The Hon, Mr. Balasingham said.—He wished to make a few general observation on our revenue and expenditure. The increase in expenditure in the Scientific and Agricultural Departments, and even in the Civil Departments is some indication of the work done by Government for the amelioration of the condition of the people. Parsimony in these departments will lead to stagnation and liberal and wise expenditure is the condition of national progress. But increasing expenditure in most of the departments which are designated "Legal" in the budget, indicates an unsatisfactory state of things. He viewed with apprehension the steady rise of expenditure under the heads, Courts, Prison, Police, Fiscal, etc. He did not for a moment suggest that the increasing expenditure under these heads is not justified under existing conditions. But he could not help thinking that proper steps are not being taken to change the conditions which render the increasing expenditure under these heads necessary. Many Government Officers have in official documents branded the people of this country as very criminal and the increasing expenditure: is justified by the prevalence of orimes. But whose is the responsibility for the existence of the conditions which predispose the people to crime.

There is more serious crime in our country than in most other parts of the Empire. Sir West

me thought, has this concil must take full responsibility for the existence of the conditions which predispose the people to crime.

There is more serious crime in our country than in most other parts of the Empire. Sir West Ridgeway said in his opening address in the Legislative Council in 1896 that the number of murder which took place in Ceylon was six times as great as the number committed, in proportion to population, in Great Britain and Ireland. From the very outset Sir West Ridgeway attempted to put down crime by drastic laws. He noticed that he knife was used in a large proportion in cases of offences against the person. He thought be could put down such crime by empowering Magistrates to inflict lashes in cases where dangerous weapons were used. Sir West Ridgeway summed up the results of this experiment in the review of his administration in the following terms:—"It is a difficult problem to discover whether the remedy of the lash has a materially deterrent effect." Sir West Ridgeway made another attempt to check crime by making it an offence for certain classes of persons to carry knives, but met with no better success. His experiment of quartering punitive police in villages where there was incessant occurrence of serious crime had no lasting results.

Sir Henry Blake made the law as to carrying knives more rigorous. He spent a large sum of money or re-organising the Police Foxee in the hope that the certainty of conviction would reduce crime. He summed up the result of his administration in these terms:—"The eampsia against crime to which my predecessor devoted so much care and attention has been continued by me on generally speaking, the same lines as he adopted................As regards the amount of crime committed in the whole Island I am unable to detect in the figures for 1906 any improvement

ittle or no effect on this class of crime, which seems to be inbred in the Sinhalese nature."

The Government has tried several expedients to put down crime without any success. But the most prolife source of violent crime is drink. And yet Government has not made any serious attempt to reduce the consumption of drink. Bir William Gregory was firmly of opinion that the establishment of a tavern at once led to crime (see Hansard 1879 page 120). That was also the opinion of your unofficial advisers. H. E. would pardon him, if he quoted the opinion of a past member of this house—one who for over forty years held a foremost place in the problic life of this country. He referred to Mr. John Ferguson. He said in the Council in 1908 as follows:—'II think I am correct in saying that the Chief Justice and all the Judges of the Supreme Court, nay every Judge and Magistrate throughout the Island, will be prepared to testify that a large proportion of serious crime of this Island is due to the drinking of arrack and toddy and other spirituous liquors.''

of sorious crime of this Island is due to the drinking of arrack and toddy and other spirituous liquors."

He must also ask indulgence to quote the weighty opinion of a gentleman of ripe age and mature wisdom though he is present at this table today. He wished to quote him as he wished to draw the attention of hon members to the instructive statistics he marshalled. Bir Christoffel Obeyeskere said in 1909 as follow:—"To show, Sir, that orime has increased with the consumption of arrack, we have simply to draw the attention of the Council to the fact that during the time the temperance wave swept over the Island there was a considerable diminution of orime. I am indebted for the figures which I am about to furnish. Sir, to the proceedings that took place in the Social Reform Society, which discussed this matter. Now, in their report I find it stated that in 1904, when the temperance movement was set on foct, there were only 883 cases of grievous hurt, whereas in 1901 there were 607. In 1901 the number of cases of murder was 223; in 1904 it was 145. Now this shows, Sir, what arrack can do, and what abstinence can do. Therefore, it is quite clear that our restricting and controlling the sale of spirits would do what the Courts of Justice are intended to do, i.e., check crime." I might here pause to state for Your Excellency's information that in 1904 there was a remarkable temperance wave which swept over most of the Sinhalese provinces. So great was the success of the temperance movement that several of the arrack retrers succeeded in obtaining from Government some remission of the rents due. Mr. Burrows, when Government Agent of the North-Western Province, said. "As to drink my own conviction is that the legal sale of arrack is a very potent cause of crime and should be reduced."

should be reduced."

His Excellency:—I do not know what bearing this has on the Bill before us.

The Hon. Mr. Balasingham:—I want to show to you that the expenditure under certain heads can be curtailed to a large extent by taking proper measures to check crime. If Your Excellency thinks I am not in order, I will not proceed. I ask for a ruling on that point.

"Out of Order."

His Excellency:—I certainly think it is out of order. It is a question that ought to be raised on a special motion. It appears to me that what you are referring to is the details of the schedule and not the principles of the Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Balasingham:—I understand that

and not the principles of the Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Balasingham:—I understand that only general matters can be taken up at the second reading, not details.

His Excellency:—A general matter affecting expenditure, but you are trayersing into a great social question on drink, which appears to me too wide a question to be dealt with at the second reading of the Finance Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Ramanathan:—I understand my hon. friend to say that the Government is spending too much money under particular heads, but that if they reduced drink they would be able to economise under those heads. I understand the trend of his argument to be that he is not moving anything in particular.

His Excellency:—I understand what he says.

His Excellency:—I understand what he says, but I think that he to be in order he must do so

on a motion.

The Hon, Mr. Balasingham:—Is that your Excellency's ruling? I have no desire to continue on the subject of crime, but I am sure I am in order when I say that it is within our power to reduce the consumption of liquor and at the same time raise the revenue by an equal amount.

The Bill was referred to a Select Committee, onsisting of the members of the Finance Com-

Council then adjourned for August 23rd, at

—The Ceylon Observer.

#### MALAYA LETTER.

MALAYA LETTER.

The Tamil Drama.—This subject has recently begun to engage the attention of our countrymen and it is a good sign of the popular tendency. No doubt the frequent visits of Indian Amateur dramatists have given the fillip to the discussion on the professional phase of the Tamil drama. In a sense the professional companies to which we are all accustomed are not exponents of the drama, they are more or less variety shows, and it is also true that they act only comedies, at least everything is reduced to the comic standard. You may watch Sita in the grip of Ravana or Nallethangai drowning her seven children and yet give full vent to all your risible faculties without seeming to have done anything incongruous or inappropriste, for your professional actor is a man who lives on your hearty laugh. If the ordinary professional troupe is analysed in this way one may find little of anything really useful or desirable. It is a fact that many of those companies run the show with only two scenes called respectively the Durbar and Nanthawanam scenes, for when an act does not take place in the Royal Hall, why it is in the garden or the arbour! Much has been said is condemnation of the professional companies and as to how best to introduce to the people the real Tamil drama. Some persons seem to think that the professional dramatist ought to be wiped off the face of the earth before anything could be done.

but this is a mistake. The amateur dramatist may give you the best of the drama as far as he goes, but he has his limitations. Amateurism can never be a substitute for professionalism, and professionalism, in the very nature of things, can master many things more easily than amateurism. So the best means of improving the Tamil stage is by enlisting the help and sympathy of the professional. The attempt does not appear to have been made but it is sure to be fruitful of remarkable results, of getting together a good professional company and training it to adapt itself to modern ideas and instructive influences. In the ranks of the professionals can be found persons who could be a credit to any theatre if they could be trained to our requirements, and the training will be easily an analysis of the improvements.

our requirements, and the training will be easily done.

Among some of the improvements suggested is that of curtailing the musical part of our plays—some even advocate total abstinence in music! While one may agree that songs should be displaced by prose in some important respects it will be a severe stroke if the pruning is done extensively, because some—of the choicest music will thus be lost to us. There's no denying that either in pain or pleasure music adds to the feeling of the heart. Some argue that where two "characters" who ordinarily are not supposed to "converse in verse" act together they should not "sing out" their parts. The reason underlying this objection will hold good as regards the substitute, viz., prose conversation. Ordinary persons placed in positions of intense pain or pleasure do not pause to peer into the preserves of classical literature to find material to polish their conversation with polysyllabic and plausible phrases. There are again persons who try to judge the Tamil drams by the standered of the English. This will end in disaster.

persons who try to judge the Tamil drama by the standered of the English. This will end in disaster.

My Mail Bag.—"My Dear L.—There seem to be any amount of literary associations in Ceylon. In Jaffoa I think there are more than a score, and two of these have long been asking me for a lecture, the subject to be chosen by me. I have been giving them all sorts of excuses and now I haven't any more left. They wouldn't mind whether I lecture to them on the eccount or the Durian, but I feel they would like to hear something about Malaya and if I decide to satisfy their curiosity it will be on this subject. I have a suspicion that even after so many years people here generally have a low estimate of your down there, and whatever others may say, I feel they are doing us an injustice and I mean to teach them a sound lesson. A "Man of Singapore" seems to them something in the lower orders of society. When the Javanese Sampan man is able to recognise. He Javanese Sampan man is able to recognise able. These stay at home idle fellows in Jaffin despise us but do not stop to think their position will be nowhere without us. (De you mean in the sense of light chining in the dark, Henry' T.) Who gave them the extraoles and horses, and who is going to? Well, they will soon have to find answers to these and many other questions. I shall give them a good time of it when I am ready with the lecture, and as you may know I am dangerous when I begin to speak plainly.

"I met R near Grand Bazzar the other day and he is as fat as ever. He says he hasn't dropped

dangerous when I begin to speak plainly.

"I met R near Grand Bazaar the other day and he is as fat as ever. He says he hasn't dropped the idea of going to the front and is even now vehement in the denunciation of the savages, the brutes, the devils, the Huns of Germany. I wonder such a fat, plumpy chop as this has any courage to go to the front, but R hinted that there's another motive for his desire to go. He wants to offer his services in any capacity and is sure he won't be put on the firing him (unless he has committed some grave criminal offence?—Lipall too suddenly. He will survive the War and live to earn a reputation as one who served "King and country," perhaps get a medal. And this he assure me will place him above others in the East and give him access to all the high appointments. So let him wade in his fanciful hopes.

"Here, please send me a pair of bead work slip-

let him wade in his fanciful hopes,

"Hore, please send me a pair of bead work slippers such as you see Chinese women make. They are very much liked here. Ta Ta

Yours as ever—Henry."

Notes at Random.—The printer gave me a cold shiver the other day when he spelt "Sligapore" with a "k" instead of a "g". To an outsider it matters little but to us who are accustomed to our form of spelling any slight variation is simply intolerable. I remember a printer once made Kolakanja stand for Kuala Kangsar, but a wholesale change does not assail one's temper!

While on this topic I am reminded of an educated gentleman several years ago writing of Kuals Lompur. He certainly saw and know that the Federal Capital with a K, but evidently took it into his head to teach (I think he was a school-master) us some spelling. The deliberate substitution of K with a Q showed that he was either perverse or thought we were fools, and of course as we would not admit the latter it must be the former!

The Ceylon people now complain that the Government wants to disarm the people with the aid of the Fire Arms Ordinance. I fancy they have been already disarmed by the sweet rhetoric of the Attorney-General!

A soldier faces the powder but a lady powders the face, says a wag. This being the difference the fair sex can lay claim to doing something for this War.

The Editor of the Federal Guardian of Kuala Lumpur announces that his infant journal bas survived the teething ordeal and is now thriving. A Japanese dentist used to cry from the bousetop that all ills can be traced to b

A business man who recently advertised for a book-keeper now has the announcement "Unsuccessful applicants thanked." We may add "May their tribe increase!"

"We grarantee to replace any O'Ceda Mo bought from us that may prove uneasistate after Tan Days' Service' advertise a firm. If the mop proves unsatisfactory before ten days, we show, "it's none of our business" cht

Singapore, 26th July 1916,

### TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

## The War.

THE ATTACK ON EGYPT.

Special correspondents, describing the last phase of the Turkish attack on Egypt, say that all the German tricks failed. Turkish officer captured admitted that our machine-guns were terrible and cut down men like reaping corn. He marvelled that any escaped. The Turks were scattered far and wide in small parties. The brunt of the fighting was borne by the mounted Anzacs, who have done splendidly.

London, Aug. 8.

General Murray reports that the mounted troops are in contact with the Turkish rearguards six miles East of Katia, where the enemy entrenched at the beginning of his advance. The work of clearing the battlefield is proceeding. A quantity of rifles and other War material has been brought in. Hitherto 200 enemy dead have been buried in the area over which the counter-attack passed.

Cairo.—H. M. the King has telegraphed to General Murray his appreciation of his brilliant success in the hot season and in desert country.

#### PORT SAID AND SUEZ BOMBED.

On Aug. 4th there was an aeroplane and bomb attack on Port Said and Suez but little damage done. The casualties were light.

THE REVOLT OF ISLAM.

London, Aug. 7.

The Times correspondent at Constanza says the Ulema-ul. Islam attribute the Arab revolt to Enver Pasha's pro-German policy and anti-Islamic tendencies. Their sympathies are with the Grand Sheriff.

#### MULHEIM BOMBED.

London, Aug. 8.
The Admiralty announces that Anglo-French
Naval acroplanes raided Muhleim on July 30th
and successfully bombarded benzol stores and
barracks. Despite heavy anti-sircraft fire all returned.

#### MESOPOTAMIA AND THE I. M. S.

In the Commons Mr. Chambenlain said the Report of the Committee of Enquiry into the station hospital system for Indian troops would be submitted to the Mesopotsania Commission if it was desired. Sir Henry Craig asked:—Did not the Committee recommend certain very important additions to the medical equipment of India, which would be carried out? Mr. Chamberlain said:—I do not think so. I have not read the report, but I am informed that it referred a Peace conditions. Its consideration is suspended owing to the War.

PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR.

Lisbon.—At an extraordinary Session of Congress Sig. Costa, Minister of Finance, and Sig. Soares, Minister for Foreign Affairs, narrated the result of a visit to London from where they had just returned. The Premier in an inclasive speech culogized the Allies and spoke in favour of Portuguese participation in the War. A resolution was adopted approving of what the Ministers had done in London.

#### DEATH OF JAPANESE ADMIRAL

London, Aug. 8.
Tokio.—The death is reported of Admirl Kammimura, Supreme Councillor of the Admiralty and prominent in the Russo-Japanese War.

#### THE EGYPTIAN FIGHTING.

London, Aug. 9.

General Murray reports that the pursuit of the enemy in the Kakia district continues. The Turkish rearguard has been pressed back Northward and Westward, while Southward a dashing attack by the Imperial Camel Corps drove them on from their entrenchments. We took more prisoners. The enemy rearguard has now retired to a line North and South of Birelabd, fifteen miles East of Katia.

London, Aug. 10.

Cairo.—The Turks advanced frem Romani in massed formation at some points calling out "English and Australians surrender." They were met with a devasateing machine you fire. It stated that the Turks suffered so terribly from the thirst that they killed the camels and drank the blood.

## BRITISH SKIRMISH WITH BULGARS.

London, Aug. 9.
Salonika.—A British patrol has surprised and dispersed a Bulgarian detachment at the village South of Doiran with bombs and the bayonet.

#### ITALIANS ENTER GORIZIA.

London, Aug. 9.
Rome (official).—The Italians have entered Gorizia. There are 10,000 prisoners up to the present.

(Official).—The Austrians were completely routed at Gorizia and abandoned large quantities of War material. Cavalry and Bersagleri cyclists pursued the enemy beyond the Isonzo.

pursued the enemy beyond the Isonzo.

London, Aug. 9.

The Italian offensive was carefully prepared for wests. It captured at one stroke positions such as Sabotino, Polgora. San Michele and Oslavia, which have been contested for a year. The Austrians were completely surprised. The summit of Sabotino, 2,000 ft., dominates Gorizia. The Southern superson of the mountain were honeycombed with caverns drilled in the rock by the Italians for months past, each containing a company of Infantry. Moreover a tunnel 550 feet long was secretly bored to within 90 feet of the Austrian treuches. Eight hundred men from the tunnel opened the attack, supported by men pouring out of the caverns. Patches of scruby undergrowth were previously fired to deprive the Austrians of sulpers cover. The Italians crept through the low-lying pall of black smoke and carried three lines of trenches in twenty minutes and a redoubt at the summit and in an hour swept down the at the summit and in an hour swept down the at the summit and in an hour swept down the at the summit and in an hour swept down the

### ANOTHER ZEPPELIN RAID.

(Official)—Hostile airships crossed the East to have visited the South-East coast of Southand and bombed various localities on the coast. Hitherto three women and a child are reported killed and fourteen injured. There was no damage of military importance. Our anti-craft droff them off from several places.

London, Aug. 9. (Official).—The revised casualties in the air raid are killed 1 man, 2 women and 3 children. Injured 5 men, 6 women and 6 children.

London, A London, Aug. 9.
(Official).—It is estimated seven to ten airships purticipated in the raid, operating singly or in pairs. Apparently indiscriminate destruction of property was the main object. A Naval aeroplane pursued one seawards for several miles.

#### GERMAN AIRSHIP SHEDS BOMBED.

London, Aug. 9.

(Official).—Naval aeroplanes dropped bombs from two hundred feet on the airship sheds at Evere near Brussels and returned safely. Eight bombs were observed to hit the shed from which heavy smoke columns issued.

#### CONFISCATION OF GERMAN PROPERTY.

London, Aug. 9.

In the Lords, Lord Lansdowne said Government was conferring with the highest commercial and banking authorities on the question of the confiscation of German property in retaliation for the outrages.

#### GERMAN EAST AFRICA.

London, Aug. 9.

The Belgian General Tembeur reports that the
North-West portion of German East Africa is entirely free of the enemy who are retreating to Tabora. The Belgians are following closely.

#### PORTUGAL TO JOIN IN THE WAR.

Amid cheers for Great Britain and the Allies an extraordinary sitting of the Portuguese Congress resolved to accept the British invitation to participate in the War in Europe.

THE GARBATY

#### THE CAPTAIN FRYATT MURDER.

Viscount Grey, through the United States Embassy in Berlin has protested most strongly at the shooting of Captain Fryatt which is only describable as a judicial murder. He denounces the circumstances in connection with the trial as unparallelled.

#### TROOP TRAIN TRAGEDY.

London, Aug. 10.

London, Aug. 10.

In the Commons Mr. Chamberlain announced by the suggestion of the Raj the issue of rule safe-guarding the movement of troops by rail in hot weather. It is stated the illicit traffic in Cocaine is causing the Raj himself grave anxiety. The drug could be smuggled in ways defeating the best conceived regulations.

#### GERMANY'S RESERVES.

Allahabad, Aug. 9.

Pioneer special cables state:—The Daily Telegraph's Paris correspondent states:—The French success North of Verdun were obtained by noticeably small forces. Even cautious observers are inclined to believe that the German Reserves really have begun to run short. Hence the importance of concerted attacks at Verdun and on the Somme A British correspondent at the front states:—The Germans were told during a lull that the British had done their worst. Our advance at Pozieres was a surprise and it is believed that our casualties were smaller than in any other important action. During the battle of Picardy the enemy's losses were heavy. The prisoners were dazed, nerve-shattered men. Some apparently belonged to Germany's last Reserves.

TURKS REFUISE GERMAN TROOPS

#### TURKS REFUSE GERMAN TROOPS

Allahabad, Aug. 9.

It has been recently reported that Turkish troops are actually helping the Austrians, but the Giornale D'Itatia learns from what it describes as a reliable Turkish source that Turky has refused the German request for 100,009 troops on the ground that Turkey needs all her available forces to oppose Russia in Asia and moreover considers that there is danger of communications between Turkey and the Central Powers being cut, readering the return of her troops impossible. According to the Corriere D'Italia the Tannin was suspended for several day for suggesting that if Germany and Austria needed more troops on the Eastern front, they should withdraw their own forces now on the Balkans and Constantinople. Allahabad, Aug. 9.
eported that Turkish
the Austrians, but the

#### DISCONTENT IN TURKEY.

Allahabad, Aug. 9.

The Balkan correspondent of The Times writes from Constanza:—The movement at Constantinople against Enver Pasha and the Committee of Union and Progress is rapidly gaining strength. The promoters, seeing the ruin of Turkey impending, desire to overthrow the present regime and immediately ask for Peace. They realise, however, that owing to the rigorous precautions taken by the Young Turks and Germans, a revolt at the present moment would be a failure. Therefore many important persons, who recently adhered to the movement, continue to profess loyalty to the Government, while fostering discontent. Mean-while Enver Pasha is master of the situation and spreads terror on every side. Executions, open or secret, are of almost daily occurrence.

#### THE BRITISH OFFENSIVE.

London, Aug. 10.

London, Aug. 10.
General Haig, in a communique, says:—The
Bettish further progressed North. West of Pozieres.
Here we gained all our objectives, which we are
consolidating. We raided a sap South of Arras
and the enemy unsuccessfully attempted to raid
our trenches North-West of Hulluch.

#### GERMAN PLANS TO RETIRE.

Reuter's Headquarters correspondent says:—
We possess evidence that the Germans prepared plans to retreat in the middle of June. It is pointed out this apparently explains the sudden military measures taken by Holland then, as the German would possibly have retreated the shortest way across the Dutch Province of Limburg.

# THE FRENCH FRONT.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, Aug. 10.

Paris.—A communique says:—We progressed in the region of Hem Wood. Except for the bomin that Floury and Chapitre there was quiet on the Mouse. Three German aeroplanes were brought down on the Somme front. French air squadrons dropped 400 bombs on railway stations, a battery and bivouacs on the Somme and at Vordum. A GERMAN ADMISSION.

Copenhagen.—A German official message admits that the Artillery depot at Rothenstein was destroyed by an explosion. 50 were killed and 72 injured.

MORE RUSSIANS FOR FRENCH FRONT. London, Aug. 11. Another detachment of Russians have landed at

#### THE FALL OF GORIZIA.

THE FALL OF GORIZIA.

London, Aug. 10.

Rome.—The capture of Gorizia has renewed the demonstrations of Joy in Italy. The work of the Duke of Aceta's Army is especially praised. It has crossed the Isonzo, preceded by swarns of Cavelry, inflicting heavy losses. It has already taken 2,000 additional prisoners and much booty. The whole of the Austrian-Isonzo line from South of Tolmino to the sea has been captured by the Italians.

London, Aug. 10.

An Italian communique says that hitherto over 12,000 prisoners have been taken at Gorizia. Our Cavalry inflicted heavy losses on the enemy and took prisoner hundred. We occupied Beschini in Carso. Enemy counter attacks elsewhere failed.

#### THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Petrograd (official.)—The Russians have carried the great railway junction Chripline, just South of Stanislau. The enemy is retreating in disorder.

### THE MESOPOTAMIA MUDDLE.

London, Aug. 11.

In the Commons Sir John Jardine asked:—Will the report of the Commission on Medical Supplies and Transport in Mesopotamia be laid on the table before the House rises?

Mr. Roberts pointed out that Mr. Chamberlain had promised to expedite the report. Sir Henry Craik and Sir E. Carson strongly protested at the delay.

an the Commons Mr. Lloyd George stated that he was satisfied there were now sufficient medical supplies in Mesopotamia.

#### BRITISH FINANCE.

London, Aug. 10.

In the Commons Mr. McKenna said that, dedu-ating 800 millions advanced to the Allies and the Dominions, our total indebtedness to March, 1917, was estimated at 2,640 millions, which was less than a year's national income. We would be able to maintain our credit, however long the War STEAMERS SUNK.

#### London, Aug. 9.

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The steamers (British) "Trident" and (Greek)
"Achilleus" and the schoozer "Demaris" have
been sunk—the latter in the Channel. The Danish
steamer "Ydun" has been seized by German torpedo-boats in the Kattegat and taken to Swinemuede.

# OLD INTERNED PRISONERS TO BE EXCHANGED.

In the Commons Lord Robt. Cecil said that Government had agreed to exchange British and German interned prisoners over forty-five on the condition that the remaining interned were exchanged in equal numbers.

AUSTRIANG

#### AUSTRIANS SURPRISED.

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Allahabad, Aug. 11.

A Pioneer special cable states:—A correspondent of The Times at the Italian Headquarters states that the Austrians believed their blow in the Trentine had nipped in the bud any Italian plans for co-operating in the Allied offensive. Thus the Austrians were taken completely by surprise. Very few prisoners had more than a hundred carridges. All the prisoners whom the correspondent has seen were men, over forty or stalwart youths. There were none of the intermediate ages. They were in the worst possible condition with nothing resembling uniform.

### RUSSIANS TAKE STANISLAU.

Eondon, Aug. 11.
Stanislau has been occupied.
Petrograd.—The Russians took Stanislau after
a fight and are now following on the heels of the
beaten enemy in a Westerly direction.

#### RUSSIANS CONTINUE TO ADVANCE.

London, Aug. 11.

A Russian official message records a continued advance on the right bank of the Seroth where over 14,000 prisoners have been captured since Aug. 4th. The enemy loss is enormous.

### AN IMPORTANT CAPTURE.

AN IMPORTANT CAPTURE.

London, Aug. 12.

Stanislau is seventy-five miles from Lemberg and is the centre of five railways, three of which are already in Russian hands. It is only fourteen miles from Halicz whose possession will give the Russians control of the most important artery for the defence of Lemberg. The position of General Bothmer is now precarious. He can only retreat on the Tarnapol-Lemberg railway against which General Sakharoff is advancing from Sereth, while General Letchitzky, South of the Dniester, struck a strewd blow at Bothmer's rear. The Russians North of the Dniester are advancing at a pace which will soon threaten Halicz. A communique mentions that they captured Monasterzyske after a fierce fight and crossed the Zylotalipa.

Fighting on both banks of the tributaries of the Dniester is described in a communique as most fierce. The capture altogether of 28,000 Austro-Germans was recorded yesterday but the slaughter of the enemy was tremendous. The Austro-Germans destroyed the bridges but the Russians fought and won the fords, and advanced overwhelmingly, clearing the woods and villages on

the banks. Russian cavalry were effective, breaking up the enemy counter-attacks in repeated charges, throwing the massed formations into confusion. When Monacterzyska was captured a Russian mounted machine gun detachment got in the rear of a German regiment and annihilated it.

#### THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, Aug. 11.

Paris.—A communique says:—We destructively bombarded enemy organisations North of the Somme. There were only minor operations elsewhere. French air squadrons bombed the Railway Station and barracks at Vouzieres and the Bailway Station at Bazancourt.

#### PORTUGUESE AND THE WAR.

London, Aug. 11.

The Portuguese President, telegraphing to the Paris Journal, says:—We have already sent soldiers to East Africa. Now we are going to fight also on the European front, where we are proud to co-operate with the Allies.

# SCOTCH ESTATE FOR LAND SETTLEMENT FOR SOLLIERS.

Mr. Tennant stated that the Duke of Southerland has offered an estate of 12,000 acres West of the river Naver in the county of Southerland for a land settlement for soldiers and sailors equally.

THE RHODES CO.

Lordon, Aug. 10.

In the Commons Mr. Asquith said there was no reason for recommending the allotment of German Rhodes scholarships to parts of the Empire at present not benefitting. THE ZEPPELIN RAID.

London, Aug. 11.

(Official).—There are now eight deaths in the air raid of August 8th. The total damage is four small houses and a plop wrecked, three houses and three shops damaged and a number of small houses and cottages slightly damaged. Fifty feet of a colliery railway was torn up and a horse killed.

-The Ceylon Observer.

#### NOTICE.

### THE NATIONAL INDIAN LIFE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

# TO POLICY-HOLDERS, AGENTS AND ALL CONCERNED,

Is hereby given that Mr. E. F. Halliwell having resigned his ap-pointment as Resident Secretary at Bombay and severed his connection with the Company the Management have decided for the better working of the Company and to facilitate the transaction of business and avoid unnecessary delays to themselves assume from 1st August 1916 direct centrol from the Head Office in Calcutta of the business, agents and territories hitherto controlled by the Bombay Office.

All Policy-holders and Agents should therefore in future communicate direct with the Managing Agents at the undernoted address.

Policy holders presently paying their premiums to Local Agents may continue to do so until further notice or they may remit to the Calcutta Office direct as they may prefer.

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