



NOTICE.

Order Nisi.

THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3842.
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Achchinnu wife of Kanthapper Sumpasivam of Araly West

Deceased.
Kanthapper Sumpasivam of Araly West.
Petitioner.
Respondent.
Regunatha Modilar Vaitalingam and his wife Sithamparam...

Order Nisi.

THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANURADHAPURA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 247.
In the Matter of the Estate of the late P. V. Ramaswamy of Anuradhapura Deceased.
Kandappillai of Anuradhapura.
Petitioner.
Respondent.

Notice Calling for Tenders.

- Sealed tenders marked on the envelope Tender for
Improvements to Madam at Pallavarayakadu
Repairs to Madam at Mulankavil
Improving the sides of Canagabai road
Repairs to Elephantpass Murasumoddi road
Constructing a culvert on Kaithady road
Improvement to the Jetty at Delft
Building side walls to Vannakaney and Villakaney at Delft
Supplying materials
Cementing the floor of the fish market at Chunnakam
Marking out the space set apart at Chunnakam market and
Building temporary shed at Naval market.

Cement and Barbed Wire.
We have now received new shipments. Prices considerably reduced.
THE JAFFNA TRADING CO., LTD.



JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1919.

AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

An Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition was held on the 27th ultimo at Rambukkana, under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor, and under the auspices of the Galboda and Kenikoda Korales Co-operative Credit Society. The President of the Show was Mr. G. F. R. Browning, Assistant Government Agent, Kegalle, and the Vice-Presidents Messrs. E. B. Denham, Director of Education, F. A. Stockdale, Director of Agriculture and C. Driehberg, Secretary of the Agricultural Society, while Mr. Boyagoda was Secretary. His Excellency the Governor opened the Show and in doing so made a notable speech which we reproduce elsewhere.

His Excellency eloquently refers to the importance of these Exhibitions for the improvement of agriculture and village industries and is a firm believer in their usefulness. There is no important Town in Ceylon which has not had its Exhibition, and even rural centres are having them, with the object of giving an incentive to agriculture and industries. Although Jaffna is the second Town in Ceylon in point of population and the District is one of the most important in regard to its agriculture and industries, yet, it is a deplorable fact that no Exhibition worthy of the name has been held here. Preparations were made many years ago in connection with the then expected second visit of Governor Gordon to hold an Exhibition in Jaffna and all arrangements were almost completed and even the medals were struck and ready. But owing to Lady Gordon's sudden illness which compelled Sir Arthur Gordon to leave the Island with his wife, he was unable to pay the expected visit to Jaffna and the Exhibition also collapsed. Sir (then Mr.) W. C. Twyam, the then Government Agent, was the Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, and Mr. John Rudd, late Deputy Fiscal and Superintendent of Police, was the Secretary.

An Exhibition hurriedly organised was held in the District Court House in connection with the Coronation of King Edward VI. when Mr. J. P. Lewis was Government Agent here, the medals which were made for the Exhibition which did not take place being utilised on this occasion. But this Exhibition, as we have stated, was a suddenly got up one, and did not at all represent the agricultural and industrial resources of the District.

Again, when Mr. F. H. Price was Government Agent, the local Agricultural Society which is now defunct, decided to hold an Exhibition, and some funds were collected for the purpose. But owing to the spathy of the local authorities, it did not take place and the subscriptions were returned to those who paid them. It is a well-known fact that in the present condition of this Island, unless the Government Agents or some high officials take some interest in these movements, and the Headmen made to understand that their hearty co-operation is desired, they can never succeed.

We welcomed a move last year on the part of the Jaffna Social Service League to organise an Exhibition worthy of Jaffna's importance. It has also fallen through. We earnestly hope that an earnest attempt will be made for the holding of an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in Jaffna in the early part of next year for which timely steps should be taken as soon as possible. We have no doubt that if the leaders of the Jaffna public will make a move in the matter, they will have the co-operation of the Government Agent and his Headmen.

NOTES & COMMENTS.

This Ordinance which imposes new taxes on all estates left by deceased persons in Ceylon was passed by the Legislative Council on the 26th ultimo. It is our duty to represent to the Government that the permanent population of Ceylon who will be largely affected by the new taxes are deeply dissatisfied with this imposi-

tion. We believe that a greater part of the properties owned by European capitalists in Ceylon are vested in Joint-stock Companies who will not be subject to the new impost. It will be found from a perusal of the speeches delivered by the Government spokesmen, as well as by the Ceylonese Representative in Council, that the Government has not made a good case for the new taxes. First of all, adequate reasons have not been given for the reduction of the rubber duties, causing a loss to the revenue of about Rs. 750,000. The hollowness of the plea put forward by the Government in justification of the reduction was pointed out by the unanimous voice of the Ceylonese press, and by the public meeting held in Colombo to protest against this. This reduction was the originating cause of the new taxes. The elaborate pleading of the Hon. Mr. Senior that the large surplus balance of the Island cannot be utilised to meet the deficit in the Budget has not convinced the public. That Mr. Senior was engaged in supporting the new taxes by something like special pleading should be apparent when he said that he might at any moment be called upon to meet the liabilities over the Widows and Orphans Fund and other similar trusts. We concede that the Government has been actuated by the best of motives, but, we must also point out that, the Government as it is at present constituted, cannot do full justice to Ceylonese claims. It was found to be so in India and the remedy was found chiefly in introducing unofficial majorities in Legislative Councils, and in appointing Indian representatives in the Executive Councils. And now it is proposed to introduce responsible Government in the Provinces of India. The people of Ceylon too would reconcile themselves to all the recent enhancement of taxation, if they are granted the right to control and guide more effectively the expenditure of their revenue.

Almost every nation in the world has a particular day or days set apart for national celebrations.

NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION IN JAFFNA.

This is done with the object of reviving memories of past national achievements which will serve as an incentive to future progress. It is also done to consolidate and strengthen national union by stimulating national consciousness and patriotism in every one. The most ardent dreamer and visionary of national greatness, the calm philosopher, and the cold calculating utilitarian—all are impelled to foregather at such national festivals and join hands and hearts to realise the sweetness of an organic national life. Feasts and festivals, public processions and platform orations, are all well-tryed and effective means to unify and concentrate the national will on a given point. Our Sinhalese brethren have been celebrating their national day for a number of years in the past. They have already begun their preparations for this year's celebration. In Madras they celebrate the national week more methodically and usefully. Mr. Arundale is the chief organizer of the movement, and he has already issued two bulletins to the public in this connection. The national week in Madras, as in Ceylon, commences on the first day of the Hindu New Year which is also the Sinhalese New Year—for the Sinhalese are, as the Tamils, virtually a sub-division of the great Hindu race. But the Madrasis are more practical. They harness the enthusiasm created by the national week to the work of national education. With the Hindus, the new year is pre-eminently a season of Dhana and Dhama, gifts and charities. Realising that the present decadence of the Hindus is principally due to the absence of national education for their children, they have devised means to concentrate the national will and the national purse on the supply of that need. Last year a large sum of money was collected through the organized and voluntary efforts of the Madras young men and boys, and the funds were utilised by the Central Committee to establish the Madras Commercial College and in other useful ways. We have received suggestions that the national week should be celebrated in Jaffna also, as it is done in Madras, and among the Sinhalese in Ceylon. We hope the suggestion will be taken up by our countrymen. If the Hindu students of Jaffna would show the same seriousness and enthusiasm in the holy work of helping national education, as their brethren in Madras or Mysore are showing, we need not entertain the least doubt that, in a few years, every Hindu village in Jaffna could be supplied with a Hindu School, with the proceeds of the national week

collections alone. Would the Y M H A. in every village organize the celebration and take up this work?

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.—We learn that Mr. E. B. Denham, Director of Education, has obtained six months' leave and will be going to England about the 25 of this month.

GOVERNMENT TRAINING COLLEGE, COLOMBO.—The Annual Examination for admission to the courses of training for teachers in English schools will be held at the Training College on October 11, 12, and 13, 1919, at 10 a. m. Forms for admission can be obtained from the Principal of the College from July 1 to August 15, after which date no forms will be issued. These forms must be returned to him duly filled up on or before September 1. Candidates will then be informed whether they have been selected to appear at the examination. —'Gazette'.

LOCAL OPTION.—The polling for the abolition of the Arrack Taverns in the Western Province was completed last week, when the record percentage of 95.9 was gained in favour of the abolition of the arrack tavern at Nugegoda. The polling for the closing or retention of the Passara Arrack Tavern took the Ganabawa Hall, presided over by the Kaecheheri Mudaliyar. The interests of the Temperance Workers were watched by Mr. M. D. D. Wijetunga of Monaragala while Mr. de Kretser represented the Excise Department.—The following was the result. No. of voters on list 334 voted 272, for retention 1, for abolition 271. percentage 81.1.

THE "CEYLON ECONOMIST."—We have received the first issue of this Magazine from the Editor, for review. The name of the magazine speaks for itself. It is declared to be a monthly journal devoted to agriculture, arts, industries, and commerce. The contents of the number before us are (1) Ourselves, (2) The Rubber Industry, (3) Dying with Ohaya Root, (4) Queries and Answers (5) Useful and Scientific Notes, (6) Our Ladies Page (7) The Economic Uses of Indigenous Plants—Margosa, (8) Government Technical School in the Jaffna Peninsula, (9) A Useful Hobby for School Boys: Stamp Collecting. The articles, give valuable information on the subjects they deal with. From the notice column we find that Mr. M. Sabaretnasinghe is the Managing Proprietor of the new journal. The importance of the work undertaken by this journal hardly needs our commendation and we hope it will succeed in directing the attention of our countrymen to new fields of productive enterprises. The new venture has been started under good auspices. It deserves to be encouraged and given a chance to prove its ability.

ROWLATT BILL'S "TIMES" COMMENT.—London, Feb. 21.—The "Times" states that the debates on the new Sedition Bills in the Imperial Legislative Council appear to indicate that India is on the verge of another of those feckless artificial agitations which have repeatedly disturbed the Dependency during the last ten years. The "Times" emphasises that the Bills reduce the Government of India's war-time powers, and if they are not carried there will be a general goal delivery of dangerous characters at a moment when an unprecedented number of soldiers are being disbanded. The revolutionaries are awaiting the release of their leaders. The "Times" does not think that India Members of Council seriously wish to see India again plunged into internal strife, but disarmed in one direction by proposals in the report, they are now trying to find a new stick to belabour the Government. The tone of the debate does not encourage the hope that Indian politicians are seriously trying to utilise the great opportunities for the regeneration of India. The "Times" regrets that the Viceroy and his Executive yielded to pressure so far as to make the first Bill operative for three years, instead of permanently, because the opponents have evidently been led to believe that the Government may be persuaded to yield still further.

MR. GANDHI'S CONDEMNATION.—Bombay, Feb. 23.—A deputation of the most advanced Bombay politicians has recently been visiting Mr. M. K. Gandhi at Ahmedabad, and their return has been followed by Mr. Gandhi's addressing a letter of some length to the Press, condemning the Rowlatt Bills, questioning the wisdom of the Viceroy's recent speech in the Legislative Council and charging the Hon. Sir George Lowndes with flouting public opinion. He says the Rowlatt Bills show deep seated disease in the governing body; and therefore need to be drastically treated. Subterranean violence will be the remedy applied by the impetuous, hot headed youths and the Bills must intensify the hatred and ill-will against the State, of which the Bills are an evidence. He then refers to a pledge, which he enclosed. This bears the signatures of several prominent Extremist politicians of Ahmedabad and Bombay, condemns the Bills and affirms that the signatories will, if the Bills become law, refuse civilly to obey them and such other laws as the Committee, to be hereafter appointed, may think fit, but will in the struggle refrain from violence to life, person or property.



