

The Hindu Organ.

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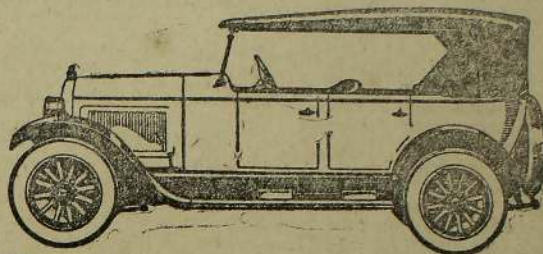
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Jaffna, F. A. STOCKDALE, Director of Agriculture, 28 h Feb. 1927. G. 74.

The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1927

THE NEGOMBO HINDU PROCESSION.

THE REPORT WHICH MR. H. L. DOWBIGGIN, Inspector General of Police, submitted to the Government on the Negombo Hindu procession is an authoritative statement of the events connected with this matter. The report of the events of the evening of the 19th January published in the Colombo daily press, had been attributed by the Catholic newspapers to the bigotry and prejudice of the non Catholic reporters. But the Inspector General of Police not merely confirms the report of the Colombo daily press but he goes further and suggests "that there was a deliberate plan on the part of the Negombo Catholic clergy and the laity to prevent the Hindu procession from passing St. Mary's Church. Now no amount of casuistry can succeed in justifying or palliating the conduct of the clergy on this occasion.

The first event after the grant of license to the Negombo Hindus to take the procession past St. Mary's Church is the appearance of a Catholic deputation before the Inspector-General of Police on the 6th January. The account of the interview is given as follows:—

"On January 6, 1927, the Very Rev. Father Gelaux, Vicar General; Rev. Father Alles, Parish Priest of St. Mary's Church, Negombo; Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasegura, K. O.; and 2 gentlemen of Negombo came to see me to represent that the Hindu procession should not be allowed to pass the Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary's on January 19. I informed the Vicar General and all present that it was the settled and definite policy of the Ceylon Government that, provided the Hindu procession stopped music within 100 yards of St. Mary's Church, the Hindu procession should be allowed to pass the Church. The Vicar General stated that he and the Roman Catholic Priests would not hold themselves responsible for the control of the Roman Catholics at Negombo on this occasion, if the procession was allowed to pass St. Mary's Church. I informed the Vicar-General that we would request the movers of the Hindu procession to abstain from committing any provocative act, such as halting opposite the Roman Catholic Church or making any kind of demonstration while passing any Roman Catholic buildings or premises on the route, and I asked the Vicar-General and all present to do their utmost to induce their adherents not to break the law by committing any provocative act which was likely to provoke or cause a breach of the peace."

The Vicar-General represented the Catholic Church. Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasegura with two other gentlemen represented the Catholic laity. Here is a covert attempt made to over-awe the civil Government in the discharge of its legitimate functions by holding out the threat of the disturbance of public peace and tranquility. It is no wonder that Mr. Sandrasegura was rejected by all Tamil constituencies whenever he sought election to the Legislative Council.

For a few days preceding the procession there were cases of unprovoked assaults on the Hindus by the Negombo Catholics. Having seen the firm attitude of the Government the Catholics of Negombo thought that they could over-awe the Hindu minority by intimidation and assaults. The following is the reference in the report to the assaults on the Hindus:—

"Cases reported from Negombo of assaults committed on Hindus by Roman Catholics because the Hindu procession was going to be conducted past St. Mary's Church indicated that there was a good deal of feeling with regard to the procession at Negombo. Action was immediately taken at Negombo to produce before the Police Magistrate persons who were molesting the Hindus, so that they might be bound over to keep the peace."

As to the events which took place on the evening of the 19th the Inspector General of Police summarises the report of Mr. Bennett, the Superintendent of Police, to whom was entrusted the task of safely conducting the Hindu procession. At 3.50 p. m. the procession was held up in the Main Street at a distance of about two hundred yards from the church. The defiant attitude of the mob and the indiscriminate pelting of

stones from the Catholic quarters made it clear to Mr. Bennett that he could not move the procession without military assistance. Accordingly a message was sent to the military authorities in Colombo to send a detachment of troops to Negombo. The Military did not arrive before 7 p. m. According to the licence the time of the procession expired at 6 p. m. Sharp at 6 p. m. sally forth Rev. Fathers Alles and Guesnon from the vestry of the church and argue with the authorities the legality of the procession after 6 p. m. The account of this incident is thus given in the report:—

"At 6 p. m. an effort was made by the Rev. Fathers at Negombo (Rev. Fathers Alles and Guesnon) to assert the fact that the procession could no longer pass the church as the permit lapsed in view of the fact that it had been mentioned on the permit that the procession should reach the Esplanade at 6 p. m. It was pointed out to Rev. Father Alles that the only reason for this delay was the obstruction caused opposite St. Mary's Church by the Roman Catholics and that the Police Magistrate had extended the time as he is empowered by law to do. The Rev. Father Alles then proceeded to repeat to Mr. Bennett on January 19 the argument that in former years the procession did not pass the church in exactly the same attitude as that depicted by Father Alles in my office on January 6. It had been made clear to the Very Rev. Father Alles on January 6 that it was the definite policy of the Government that the Hindu procession should be permitted to go past St. Mary's Church and the exhortation of His Grace the Archbishop dated January 10 had put the position as far as Catholics were concerned, very clearly and fairly."

The majority of the inhabitants of Negombo town are Catholics. The Chairman of the Urban District Council, Mr. A. E. Rajapakse is a Catholic. It is stated that no assistance was rendered by him either to the Police Magistrate or the Police in this matter. The Chairman's conduct is thus referred to in the report:—

"It will be noted from Mr. Bennett's report that no assistance was rendered to the Police Magistrate or the Police by Mr. A. E. Rajapakse, Chairman of the Urban District Council, and Gate Mudaliyar, in the enforcement of special constables. Mr. Rajapakse was not present at the scene of trouble on January 19, and no steps had been taken by the Urban District Council to light the street lamps after dark although the occasion was one where light was essentially needed."

The conduct of the Hindus and of the Police and the Military had been exemplary. They gave no provocation at all. In fact it is stated that the Police and the Military behaved throughout with great restraint and control and exercised cool judgement in a particularly trying and difficult situation. The conduct of the Hindus is thus described in the report:—

"The Hindus gave no provocation whatever. It is admitted on all sides that the Hindus were particularly silent when passing all Roman Catholic buildings and premises."

On the other hand the Roman Catholic mob was unruly and defiant. It made every attempt to provoke the Police and the Hindus. The following is the account of some of the doings of the Catholic mob:

"All the stones thrown, the obstruction of the road by women, etc., came from the Roman Catholic premises of St. Mary's Church and stones were thrown over the wall of the Convent next to the church and from the houses on the opposite side of the church. In the church market next to the church were found collected heaps of bricks which had been heaped together for ready use. There was no obstruction or trouble at any other place on the route."

It is clear that from the extracts we have given above that there was a deliberate plan on the part both of the clergy and laity at Negombo to prevent the procession passing St. Mary's Church. Authorities themselves have come to the same conclusion. The following is their verdict in this matter:—

"The act of obstruction caused by women kneeling on the road, the presence of very large crowds in the church grounds, the throwing of stones from the church premises, the action of Rev. Father Alles in demanding that the permit had expired directly the clock struck six. I submit, indicate that these events were part of a deliberate plan to prevent the Hindu procession passing St. Mary's Church. The position taken up by the crowd was such that had the Police fired on the unlawful assembly collected, women and children would have suffered most and the shots fired would have entered the church."

The Negombo Hindu Procession is a warning and a lesson to the non-Christian communities in the Island. The activities of the Catholics in Ceylon are fraught with great peril to the security of other religious communities. It has been well stated by a Protestant newspaper in America "that is the settled policy of the Catholic Church to dominate the state wherever she is strong enough numerically and politically. When Catholicism is a minority religion it preaches tolerance and freedom in persuasive tones; but when in the majority it has always been intolerant and domineering. History does not furnish a single exception to this rule." In Jaffna differences between caste and caste, man and man are being exploited for proselytising purposes. Insidious attempts are being made to weaken and disorganise the Hindu Society. Time has come for the Hindus to take united action against this menace.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

We are publishing today the first instalment of a paper read at a meeting of the Mythic Society, Bangalore, by Mr. O. C. Ganguly Editor of "Rupam" on the Cult of Agastya. It will be very instructive to those who are interested in tracing the great influence this Tamilian Saint had exercised in South India and in the islands and countries beyond the sea. In South India there is only one temple dedicated to the worship of this sage. But in the Malayan Archipelago he is even today worshipped as Shiva Guru or Bharat Guru. At one time his worship was very popular in Java. Numerous bronze and stone images of Agastya have been discovered and now preserved in the Leyden Museum. Another note worthy fact of Shiva worship at Java is the worship of Toekkaplar, a disciple of Agastya, under the name of Trima Vindu. He is known there as Bhagawan Trima Vindu Maha Rishi. We only desire that our readers should study this article as it throws great light on the migration of Shiva religion and South Indian culture to Cambodia and Malayan Archipelago.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

AMENDED REGULATIONS FOR GOVT. SCHOOLS.—Last Friday's Gazette publishes for general information certain amendments, which have been approved by the Board of Education, to the Code of Regulation for Government Schools.

NOTARIES IN CEYLON.—The same Gazette publishes for the information of the public the list of Notaries (English and Vernacular) practising and those who have ceased to practise. The total number in the list is 1005 of which there are 113 in the Northern Province. Jaffna District counts 102.

RAILWAY CLERICAL SERVICES.—The following are among the successful candidates who have passed the Railway Clerical Examination held on January 20, 21 and 22 1927 and are eligible to be admitted to Class VI of the Railway Clerical Service:—Messrs. V S Kandiah, V. Oomaraswamy, V. Sinnathambay, K. Sinnadurai, K. Kathiravelu, K. Kanagaratnam and T. Govindapillai.

MAHATMA GANDHI AND STUDENTS' CONGRESS.—We understand that Mahatma Gandhi, who is now on a tour in South India, has been invited to preside at a special session of the Jaffna Students' Congress which will be held shortly in Jaffna.

WOMEN WORLD MOTOR TOURISTS.—One Miss Violet Cordery, who has started from England during the latter part of February on a World Motor Tour accompanied by another lady, a trained nurse, and two men, an official observer, and her mechanic. It is hoped that the distance of the tour would be 11,000 miles and it would be covered in 5 months. The car used is a 197 h. p. 6 cylinder Invicta. Ceylon is included in her itinerary, the Western and the Northern Provinces would most probably be toured.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—The adjourned meeting of the Ceylon Legislative Council was held on Thursday last commencing at 10 a. m. The Council continued its sittings on Friday and Saturday also. The chief motion that was discussed was that brought forward by the Hon. Mr. E. W. Perera, calling for the appointment of a Committee to formulate a land policy in Ceylon. After a lengthy debate the appointment of a Commission in preference to a Committee was accepted by the House.

UMPIRE FOR LABOUR DISPUTE ARBITRATION.—Mr. Justice Scheider has been appointed by the Governor to act as umpire in connection with the arbitration on the matters in dispute regarding stevedore labour in the Colombo Harbour. The Harbour coolies are said to attend to their work regularly. Most of the cargo that was overruled during the strike to ports in the Far East will be brought back to Colombo thus making the consignees incur additional freight charges.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA PARAMAMSHA.—The ninety second birth day of Sri Ramakrishna Paramamsha was celebrated at the Ramakrishna Vaidaswara Vidyalaya, Vannarpoona, yesterday (Sunday) with all piety and religious observance. On Saturday a special poojha was celebrated at the Ramakrishna Ashrama, Vannarpoona, in the forenoon. In the afternoon there were held sports at the Esplanade. On Sunday sports were held at the Vidyalaya from 3-5 p. m. Bhajana was conducted and refreshments were served. For half an hour a poojha was celebrated. These were followed by a Public Meeting and Prize distribution. Srimath Swami Vipulananda and Mr. V. Thamp, Chief Clerk, District Court, Jaffna, were the chief speakers.

PRESIDENT OF THE CHINESE REPUBLIC.—A Political Commission is said to be considering the election of Marshal Chang Tso lin, the Northern War Lord, as President of the Chinese Republic. Chang would not assume the Presidency until the situation in Honan is settled.

Continued up.

The Northern Assizes

FIRST SESSION FOR THE YEAR.

LAST CASE TAKEN UP TO DAY.

The first session of the Northern (Northern) Assizes for the year 1927, which commenced on the 14th ultimo is continuing its sittings presided over by Mr. Justice D. Ibbot.

The thirteen cases in the calendar for the present session were as follows:— 5 of murder, 3 of rape, 2 of abduction, 1 of infanticide, 1 of attempted murder and 1 of unnatural offence. One of these rape cases has been postponed for the second session to be held in July next. The last case in the calendar, one of murder, by being run over by a passing motor car at Kodikamam, will be taken up for trial to day.

The ninth case which was taken up for trial at the assize was one of rape at the parish of Paloppal in the division of Chavakachcheri. The accused was one Mathan who was charged of rape on a girl named Sellamma about 12 years of age, on the 15th of July, 1926. Mr. J. R. M. Chayarakera, O.C., prosecuted. Mr. S. D. Thampoa, Advocate, instructed by Mr. V. S. Karthigean, Prosecutor, defended the accused. After trial the jury returned a verdict of guilty against the accused and the Judge sentenced him to undergo 18 months rigorous imprisonment and to receive 15 cuts.

The tenth case was one of attempted rape from Vaddukottai East. The accused was one Nadarejeb and the complainant was one Sivapakiam, a girl of about 10 years of age. The date of the offence was on the 24th of October, 1926. The accused was defended by Mr. Thampoa with Mr. T. R. Nalliah and instructed by Mr. R. R. Nalliah, Prosecutor. The jury returned a verdict in favour of the accused and he was accordingly acquitted and discharged.

SEQUEL TO CASE FEED.

The eleventh case that came up for trial was one of abduction from Chavakachcheri. There were altogether six accused, all Nalavabs. The first accused Sinnan alias Nagan was charged with abducting a Nalavah woman named Valli. The remaining five accused Pandary, Sinnavan, Kantana, Alvan and Poolaiyan were charged with aiding and abetting the first accused in the commission of the offence. Mr. Thampoa instructed by Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy, Prosecutor, defended the accused. The case for the prosecution was that the said Valli who was married to one Thilan three years before the date of the incident in question was deserted by her husband as the promised dowry was not forthcoming. The first accused, who before the marriage of Thilan and Valli, tried to bring about a marriage settlement between himself and Valli, but was rejected by Valli's parents, became aware of the desertion of Valli by her husband and waited for an opportunity to abduct her and force her to marry him. On a certain day the complainant Valli went to a tank near her house for a bath. The first accused Sinnan alias Nagan met Valli on her way to the tank, caught her by the hand and tried to drag her by force to his house. The complainant resisted but the first accused with the help of the other five accused forced her into his house. The defence maintained that there was no case of abduction but that it was a fabrication invented by some Vellalabs who were hostile towards some of the Nalavabs who were neglecting the time old customs and adapting new customs. After a lengthy trial the jury returned a verdict of not guilty by 5 to 2. The Judge accordingly acquitted and discharged all the accused with a severe warning not to cause any breach of peace in the country but to live in harmony with the Vellalabs.

Continued.

MADRAS NEARER 12 HOURS.—On last Tuesday a conference was held in the Office of the General Manager of Railways, Colombo, when Col. P. Roberts, the Agent of the South Indian Railway conferred with Mr. T. E. Dutton, the General Manager of the local Railways with an object of reducing the route from Colombo to Madras and thereby effecting a reduction of the time occupied by the journey by about 12 hours.

ROYAL VISITORS AT JAMAICA.—H. R. H. the Duke of York and his consort have arrived in Jamaica on their world tour and are the guests of the Governor, Sir Reginald Stubbs, formerly Colonial Secretary of Ceylon and Lady Stubbs.

PUBLIC DINNER TO THE HON. MR. E. B. ALEXANDER.—A public dinner will be given to the Hon. Mr. E. B. Alexander, who is retiring from service shortly, at the G. O. H. on the 26th instant. The arrangements are in the hands of a representative Committee.

A CATHOLIC MARRIAGE BEFORE GOVERNMENT REGISTER.—The marriage took place last week of Mr. Basilian with Miss Mary in St. Mary's Chapel at Palakanni before the Government Registrar, although Catholic. Indian marriages should be held by a Catholic Priest in a Catholic Church. This appears to be the outcome of the resolves made some time ago by the Menkulum Association to make the Bishops reduce their customary demands on marriage occasions.

ORIGIN OF INDIAN COLONIAL ART

The following is a portion of the paper read before the Mythic Society at Bangalore by Mr. O. C. Ganguly, Editor of the Indian Magazine, "Rupam" The same is extracted from the Quarterly Journal of the Mythic Society, January 1927, No. 3.

The new rays of the early Sun love to kiss the tops of the neighbouring hills, and these the nearest trees with the flash of the new rays. But the roses of its first rays do not tarry long on their feet, but soon change into a deep crimson; presently the raven rays, white and copious to a brilliance and effulgence to light up the whole universe, and in a few hours, the seven horses of the chariot run up the mighty vault in its conquering career, and before the day is much over—all the dark continents and tiny islands across the sea have become the rich colonies of the mighty King of Light.

The Vedic Rishis and the Buddhist patriarchs have ever aspired to broadcast the products of their genius—across the 'seven seas' and to share their anrita or tri-ratna with the humblest savage and the lowly barbarian. The 'dasyus' and the 'danavas' who often came to spoil the rituals and ceremonies of the Vedic Rishis in the early Aryan settlements soon softened their opposition and bended their knees before the Aryan fire altar; and the old Rishi, of flowing white beard and stately matted locks, as he gave his benediction to his new convert, never forgot to plant in his heart the seed of Aryan thought as he marked his face and body with the symbols of holy aheas and the black spots of his kama bhaktions.

Among the 23 articles in this year-book the following should interest the indigenous population of the Island. "Paddy seed stations" by Mr. L. Lord, M. A., Economic Botanist; "Notes on some Pests and Diseases of coconuts in the North-Western Division" by Mr. C. N. E. J. de M. I., M. Sc. (London), M. S. A. C., Inspector for Plant Pests and Diseases, N. W. Division; "Leaf-Break Disease of Coconuts" by Mr. C. R. S. R. S. R., Assistant in Mycology, "The Growing of Tobacco as a Non-irrigated crop on the Experiment Station, Jaffna," by Mr. N. S. S. S. S. S., Manager, Experiment Station, Jaffna. (This article is extracted in full and appears elsewhere for the information of our readers); "Notes on some Pests and Diseases of Plantains and Tobacco in the N. W. Division" by Mr. de M. I.; "Cotton cultivation in the Hambantota Division" by Mr. O. H. B. B. B. B., Divisional Agricultural Officer, S. D.; "The Mineral Contents of some cultivated Fodder Grasses in Ceylon," by Messrs. A. W. E. J. J. J., M. Sc., Dip. Agr. (Cantab), Chemist and S. Kandiah, Dip. Agr. (Poona), Asst in Chemistry [In discussing the results of analyses of the different varieties of grasses obtained from different stations in Ceylon the Chemists say "An examination of Table II. would show that Ceylon cultivated grasses with the exception of those from Jaffna are poorer in mineral constituents than the cultivated pasture grasses but richer than the hill pasture grasses of the British Isles generally. In the case of the samples from Jaffna, the soils on which they were grown were highly calcareous, and this would perhaps account for their mineral contents being higher than those of the cultivated pasture grasses of the British Isles" and "Vegetable School Gardens in the N. W. Division" by Mr. G. E. J. J. J. J., Dip. Agricultural (Cantab), Divisional Agricultural Officer, N. W. Div. There are altogether 108 schools with vegetable gardens in this Division. Of these 102 are run by Government and the remaining 7 are under private management receiving grants in aid from the Government. Each garden is generally divided into three sections—An ornamental, vegetable and fruit section. In some schools there are two additional sections for paddy and medicinal plants.

There are no less than twenty illustrations, from blocks made by the Ceylon Survey Department, which add to the attractiveness and usefulness of this Year-Book.

Noted Hindu Hours and Days DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH 1927.

Table with columns for Day, Time, and Event. Includes RAHAU KALAM, Monday 7:30 to 9:00 a.m., Saturday 9:00 to 10:30, etc.

The Dragon's Head (Rahau) eclipses the Sun causing a total light and vitality and therefore important undertakings should not be commenced at the hours stated above.

Table listing Hindu festivals and their dates in March 1927. Includes Pirathosam, Maha Sivarathri, New Moon, Paarkuna Suththam, Karthikai, Nallur-Nalliswamy, Karainagar-South-rathwarar, Moolai-Muthucumaraswamy, Channakkam-Aiyar, Colambo-Ponnambalawaseehwarar, Kandy-Chelva Vorayagar, Trinco-Pleth-Vaidewarar, and Mysore-Festivals commence.

Mahatmaj's Auto-Biography.

AN INTERESTING DOMESTIC INCIDENT.

Can Utricu Mak Accept Gifts? In the latest installment of his auto-biography published in last week's 'Hindu Organ,' Mahatmaj relates an interesting domestic incident.

After he was released from his war duties he wished to return to India. His friends were repeatedly asking him to return and it appeared to him that he would be of greater service if he returned.

"I demanded my release," he continues, "from my commander. With great difficulty I prevailed upon them to grant conditional assent to my request. They stipulated that I should go back to South Africa if they required me there within a year. I gave the planks demanded of me and obtained leave to go home.

I was then intimate only with the Indians in Natal. They showed no me the least of friendship. I received addresses and costly presents everywhere. The gifts began to trouble my conscience greatly. I asked myself: 'Excepting a few gifts from my clients all others were the rewards for my public services. These gifts included a necklace worth 50 guineas meant for my wife.'

I spent a sleepless night. I could find no solution for the dilemma however much I tried to solve it. It was difficult to return the gifts of hundreds and it was more difficult to retain them. I was preaching to others to give up the infatuation for jewellery and tinkers. Now what was I to do with these ornaments and precious stones?

I resolved that I should not keep them. I drafted a letter to Mr. Raveling and some others whom I appointed trustees of these ornaments and decided to relieve myself of my burden in the morning after consulting my wife.

I knew it would be difficult to win over my wife to my views. I was certain there would be no difficulty in explaining my point of view to my children. I decided to ask them to be my pleaders with their mother.

The children understood the situation quickly. They said they did not need these articles and if they wanted them could they not afford to buy them themselves? I asked them to explain it to their mother. But it turned out to be a tougher job than they had expected.

You may have no use for these things. Your children may have no use for them. The children take the cue from you all right. You don't allow me to wear ornaments. Please yourself. But what about my daughters-in-law? They at least can use them. And who knows what the morrow has in store for us? Therefore things once given cannot be returned." Thus flowed the torrent of words. And a torrent of tears followed. The children remained firm. I was certainly not going to waver.

I said slowly, "The boys might certainly marry. When did we want to get them married early? When they are grown up they can do what they like. Besides we are not going to have daughters-in-law who are fond of ornaments. If with all this, ornaments are required, am I not there to get them?"

DESPISER OF WIFE'S ORNAMENTS. "I know you well enough. Aren't you the man who robbed me of my ornaments? How are you going to purchase anything for my daughter-in-law when you did not let me wear my ornaments in peace? You want to turn the boy into Bahadur just now. These ornaments cannot be returned. And what right have you over my necklace?"

"But is this necklace in token of services rendered by you or me?" I asked. "That might be so. But your service is equivalent to my service. When you make me sweat day and night, don't you count it as service? You bring each and every body into the house and make me slave for him. What about my service?"

All these were sharp arrows. Some of them went home. But I had to return the ornaments. Many a time have I secured my wife's approbation somehow or other. I returned the gifts received in '96 and '01. A trust was made about them and they were kept in a bank on condition that they would be used either according to my wishes or according to the wishes of the trustees. I have many times been able to collect funds to save these ornaments from being sold. Even to day they constitute a reserve against emergencies and additions have been made to them.

I have had no occasion to repent having taken this step. After the lapse of time Kuthubal also understood its importance. We have been saved from many temptations. I have reached the conclusion that a publicist ought not to accept gifts."

Coarser Diet—Better Teeth.

CONDITION OF CHILDREN'S TEETH.

A recent survey of the condition of children's teeth confirms the theory that a coarser diet is associated with good teeth. "Soft water is prejudicial and hard water beneficial to the development of good teeth" says a writer in "American Medicine." It suggests the importance of sunshine in assisting the growth of strong and healthy teeth. The use of a toothbrush is a hygienic rite which it is desirable to carry out, but it is of secondary importance in the prevention of dental disease. What is of prime importance is the character of the diet from early infancy. This should be of a much more deterrent character—at any rate at the end of the meal—so that no residue is left behind to undergo decomposition. Coarser meal for bread, crusts, zwieback, raw fruit or raw vegetables, especially of the fibrous sorts, are effective cleansing agents. In areas where the water supply is soft a greater consumption of calcium containing foods, such as milk and cabbage is needed. It would be advantageous probably to add chalk regularly to the diet. The use of small doses of cod liver oil and the greater exposure of the body surface to the sun's rays during the cooler hours of the day would enable the body tissues to make full use of the available lime in the diet. —O P

THE MAILS.

(G P O Colombo)

DESPATCHES

London Mails per a P & O Steamer leaving from Bombay will close on Tuesday (to-morrow); per the R L "Patric" on Thursday, March 10th and per the P & O "Mantua" on Thursday, March 17th.

Straits & China Mails per the P & O "Devanha" will close on Tuesday (to-morrow) and per the NYK "Atsuta Maru" on Wednesday, March 9th.

RECEIPTS.

London Mails per the P & O "Mooltan" will arrive on Tuesday (to-morrow); per the O L "Osterley" on Saturday, March 12th and per the P & O "Malwa" on Saturday March 19th.

Straits & China Mails per the R L "Patric" will arrive on Thursday, March 10th.

NOTICE.

Correspondences relative to Advertisements and Subscriptions should be addressed to the Manager and not to the Editor.

All Remittances should be made payable to the Manager. Money Orders and Postal Orders should be made payable at the Vannarponne Post Office.

Letters, Newspapers and Books for Review intended for the Tamil Editor of the "Hindu Organ" should be addressed to the Editor "Inthu Satharam".

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No 6867. In the Matter of the Testamentary Estate and effect of the late Mollivaganam Kadripillai of Valvettilur. Decreed. Mollivaganam Arunasalam of Valvettilur. Vs. Petitioner. Vallammal widow of Guanumothay of Valvettilur. Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner praying that Letters of Administration to the estate of the late Mollivaganam Kadripillai of Valvettilur be issued to the Petitioner coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna, on February 16 1927, in the presence of Mr. K. Kanappathipillai, Proctor for Petitioner abovesaid and reading the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 3, 1927.

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the late Mollivaganam Kadripillai of Valvettilur be issued to the Petitioner as heir of the abovesaid deceased unless the Respondent abovesaid or any other person or persons interested shall, on or before March 16, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

February 16, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse, District Judge, O. 1217.

Tobacco Growing in Jaffna.
NON IRRIGATED CROP TRIALS.

EFFORTS AT THE EXPERIMENT STATION.
The following is an interesting and instructive article contributed to the Year-book of the Department of Agriculture, Ceylon, 1927, by Mr N. Senathiraja, Manager, Experiment Station, Jaffna:—

Tobacco is the main garden crop of this district. It is grown under irrigation. If irrigation could be eliminated without loss of yield a very great advantage would be obtained to the grower. With this in view several investigations have been conducted on the Experiment Station, Jaffna, for the last four years to find out the adaptability of the crop to the dryland conditions of this district, under all the methods likely to be practised or offering a possibility of success.

METHODS OF GROWING PLANTS IN SEED BEDS FOR A NON IRRIGATED CROP.

The time of sowing the nurseries and the treatment of the plants have a very important bearing upon the crop. To bring about such desirable alterations in the habit of the plant as will help it to adapt itself to, or withstand conditions of drought, considerable modifications in the prevailing methods of growing the plants in the nursery have to be adopted. The production of a vigorous and a well formed plant for setting out is very important and various methods of growing plants in the seed beds have been under trial since 1923. The following method of germinating the seed proved successful on this Station in 1925. Tobacco seed was tied in a piece of cloth and steeped in water for half an hour. The seed was then taken out and suspended for 2 days and again steeped in water on the third day for quarter of an hour. It was again taken out and sun-dried. On the sixth day when the seeds began to sprout they were sown in the seed beds and within four weeks from that time plants suitable for transplanting in the field have been obtained.

The question of shading and watering the beds was carefully considered in 1924 and 1925. After sowing, the seed beds are covered with coir mats to hasten germination. After the seeds have germinated the coir covering is replaced by twigs of some shrubby growth known locally as "Mantha" which protects the young seedlings from the hot sun. When the seedlings are well up they should be exposed to the sun for a short time in the morning. The period of exposure should be gradually increased and when they are sufficiently hardened the covering is no longer necessary.

The seed bed should not be watered very frequently. The object of watering the seed bed is to keep it moist but not wet. The bed should neither be too damp nor too dry—dampness promotes the presence of the "Damping off" disease. It is necessary to water the beds rather copiously at the initial stages to keep the surface moist in order to facilitate the germination of seeds. Later on the quantity of water should be gradually reduced. Plants taken to the fields from beds that were watered sparingly, were stalker, stronger, grew more rapidly and were able to withstand drought better than those set out from seed beds watered both morning and evening. The following methods of growing seedling plants have given satisfactory results in 1924 and 1925. Seeds were sown in beds and some of the plants produced were transferred to a second bed before they were set out in the field. In 1924 striking differences were noticed between plants set out from the original bed and those transferred to the second bed prior to setting out. Plants from the second bed were vigorous and grew more rapidly than those from the first seed bed and were not very much affected by being transplanted but readily established themselves in their positions. Plants taken directly from the original bed to the fields were much slower in taking root and many of them had to be replaced.

TIME OF PLANTING.

If the bed is started about the middle of September the plants should be ready for transplanting by the first week of December. A large portion of this moisture is stored in the soil and is available for the early growth of the crop. The crop avoids of the earliest growing period which advances the ripening period and enables the crop to escape the drought which usually sets in the middle of March. If transplanting is done too early, much difficulty is experienced in establishing the crop owing to heavy rain. Even the crop that survives is uneven. On the other hand too late transplanting is subject to damage by drought. The best time for transplanting a non irrigated crop as experience has shown during the past 3 seasons is the first week of December, if weather conditions are favourable.

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

As stated previously considerable modifications in the prevailing methods of cultivation are necessary. The land must be properly prepared before the setting out of the plant in the field. Thorough preparation of the land before transplanting enables the plants to establish themselves quicker and to grow uniformly. Dry ploughing is done in March or April. Cattle denning is done from July to October.

Ploughing the land in October, when the land is moist is very effective in covering the droppings of the cattle and mixing it well with the soil.

The burying of green leaf is done in November which in addition to increasing the humus and nitrogen content of the soil assists in conserving the moisture to a uniform depth in the soil.

The following mixture of artificial manures were applied:—Nitrate of soda 160 lb, Sulphate of potash 200 lb and Superphosphate 320 lb per acre. Crops manured with cattle manure ripened ten to fifteen days later than the crop grown with fertilizers.

TRANSPLANTING

When the plants are about six inches in height they are fit for transplanting. Only strong and stalky seedlings should be selected for transplanting. The beds from which the seedlings are to be taken should be well soaked by watering so as to soften the soil and to allow of the seedlings being removed with a ball of earth attached to them. Transplanting is done with a pointed wooden pin about 1 1/2 inches in diameter and about 1 foot long. The hole for planting should be made just sufficiently deep to receive the roots. Care should be taken to place the roots of the plants straight in the soil. If the roots are placed cramped together, the growth of the plant is generally affected. If the

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Continued.
roots of the plants are too long they should be cut back until they are 2 to 2 1/2 inches long to ensure their being properly placed in the soil. If the plants were planted in damp weather no watering was found necessary. If the weather was bright and clear pot watering the plants for 8 or 4 days in the morning was found quite sufficient. No watering is necessary after this.
AFTER CULTIVATION.
The crop requires clean cultivation and unremitting care. The tobacco plant has an enormous surface of leaf exposure. Therefore its water requirements are very great. It is easily affected by drought. This can be prevented by repeated shallow cultivation during dry weather. By this means a fine soil mulch is formed which stops evaporation of soil water. The character and amount of cultivation necessary largely depends on the weather conditions. The first cultivation is rather deep and made close to the plant in order to loosen the soil and promote a healthy development of the root system. Later cultivations are usually shallow, the purpose being to kill weeds and to conserve moisture.
The Planet Junior Cultivator is satisfactory at the earlier stages of the crop but when the crop has commenced to grow, the "Dassulu" or the Indian inter cultivating implement may be used with advantage. When the crop is about 1 1/2 feet high the working of the "Dassulu" is injurious to the crop as several leaves get damaged. At this stage the cultivation should be done with mamoty forks. When the plants have 14-15 leaves they are topped. After this all cultivation may cease as topping promotes the development of the remaining leaves. And in growing they bend downward until they touch the ground. Thus a good shade is afforded over the soil by the growing plant, and the evaporation of soil moisture is minimized. To secure a good crop there should be a steady and continuous growth without any check or set back. The rest of the time in the method of cultivation such as suckering and harvesting are the same for unirrigated as for irrigated crops.
The actual records of expenditure incurred in one of the non irrigated crops are as follows:—

CROP GROWN WITHOUT IRRIGATION.

Preparatory cultivation	Rs. 63 86
Manures and manuring	" 164 04
Transplanting	" 23 32
After cultivation	" 87 04
Pot watering	" 7 00
Total	Rs. 352 26 per acre

The yield obtained was 1,340 lbs. per acre.
CROP GROWN WITH IRRIGATION.

Preparatory cultivation	Rs. 29 28
Manures and manuring	" 172 48
Plants and planting	" 26 52
After cultivation	" 71 53
Irrigation	" 218 33
Total	Rs 518 14 per acre.

The yield obtained was 1,069 lb. of cured leaf.
The above statements of costs indicate considerable promise in the direction of growing tobacco without irrigation.

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Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6374.
In the matter of the estate of the late Nagammah wife of Sinnatamby Nagalingam of Siruvilan
Deceased.
Sinnatamby Nagalingam of Siruvilan
Petitioner.
Vs.
Minors { 1. Maheswari daughter of Nagalingam
2. Nagalingam Manadeva of Siruvilan
3. Kasinathar Nagammah of do.
Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, J. J. on February 10, 1927, in the presence of Mr. S. H. Sivasami, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 9, 1927 having been read:
It is ordered that the abovesaid 3d Respondent be appointed Guardian *ad litem* over the minors the 1st and 2nd Respondents for the purpose of representing them in this case and of protecting their interests and that the petitioner be declared entitled to administer the estate as her lawful husband and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on March 15, 1927, and show cause to the contrary.
February 13, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse,
O. 121B. District Judge.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6305.
In the matter of the Estate of the late Sivakkolanthu wife of Kanther Ramalingam of Vannarponnai East
Deceased.
1. Suppar Thamotharampillai of Vannarponnai East
2. his wife Nagammah of do.
Petitioners.
Vs.
1. Kanther Ramalingam of Vannarponnai East
2. Ramalingam Maitiyaganam of do.
3. Ramalingam Somasundaram of do.
Minors. 4. Paakkiam daughter of Ramalingam of do.
Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioners praying that the abovesaid 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian *ad litem* over the minors the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents and that Letters of Administration be granted to them to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna, on November 15, 1926, and also before A. Cathiravelu Esq., Acting District Judge, on January 19, 1927, in the presence of Mr. R. Sivagurunathar, Proctor for Petitioners and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated November 3, 1926, having been read:
It is ordered that the abovesaid 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian *ad litem* over the minors the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Respondents and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased be granted to the Petitioners as creditors of the estate unless the abovesaid Respondents or any others shall on or before March 8, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.
G. W. Woodhouse,
District Judge.
February 5, 1927.
O. 121A.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6370.
In the matter of the Estate of the late Arunachalampillai Nairurgamathambay of Vannarponnai East
Deceased.
Arunachalampillai Chellappapillai of Vannarponnai East
Petitioner.
Vs.
Meenelochchunammah widow of Chellappapillai Arunachalampillai of Vannarponnai East
Respondent.
This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the Estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esq., District Judge, on February 6, 1927, in the presence of Mr. R. Sivagurunathar, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated February 5, 1927, having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the grand father and sole heir of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall, on or before March 15, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.
February 11, 1927. G. W. Woodhouse,
O. 121B. District Judge.

Order Nisi.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 6341.
In the matter of the Estate of the late Vivanachampillai wife of Poanampalam Chethurajah of Araly West
Deceased.
Poanampalam Chethurajah of Araly West
Petitioner.
Vs.
1. Sabapathir Naranappillai
2. and wife Sivagunampillai of Araly West
Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of the abovesaid Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased coming on for disposal before G. W. Woodhouse Esquire, District Judge, on December 23, 1926, in the presence of Messrs. Nagalingam & Nagalingam, Proctors, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated December 16, 1926, having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before February 15, 1927, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.
A. Cathiravelu,
District Judge.
February 21, 1927.
Extended to 8 3 27.
O. 121B.

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