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ESTABLISHED SEPTEMBER 11, 1889.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.)

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY.

VOL. XL—NO. 57.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1929

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CHELLACHIAMMAH OF CHUNNAKAM.

THERE PASSED AWAY AT CHUNNAKAM on the afternoon of Friday, the 18th inst. one of the most saintly women which the present generation has any knowledge of.

Chellachiammah was the eldest daughter of a prominent Vellala of Maitthiy, the late Mr. T. Mutucumar, who was for a long time employed under Government as a revenue officer and was consequently styled "Kanakkar."

Chellachiamma was married to the late Mr. Mudalar Thambu, who was employed as an Apothecary in the Ceylon Government Medical Service. She had by him a son and a daughter.

On the New Moon day in the month of July of the year 1905, just at the time when the Maviddapuram car festival had just come to a close, her husband, the late Mr. Mudalar Thambu breathed his last.

It was while passing through the thuriya stage that her fame as a miracle-worker spread far and wide and hundreds of pilgrims began to pour in from every part of Jaffna.

As time went on, she began to feel a burning sensation all over her body more and more intensely. It looked as if her body was excommunicating for the sins of others. Her body could not tolerate even at a distance the presence of a candle-light.

Such in brief is the outline of the life of one whom we would regard as the greatest woman Jaffna has ever produced. Space forbids us to touch here on her teachings and her message to the women of Jaffna.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

WEATHER.—A light shower fell on Sunday morning. More showers are required to reap a good harvest this time.

MEDICAL.—Dr. Ambalavanar of the Mastota Hospital at Mannar is now at Vaddukottai on two weeks' leave.

—Dr. G. C. Phillips who has been in charge of the Eye, Ear, and Throat Institute, Jaffna, will be going to Galle in charge of the Institute there.

—Dr. R. W. Crossette-Thambiah of the Government Public Health Department has passed the University of London and will be returning to Ceylon shortly.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE.—Sir Stanley Fisher, the Chief Justice, who was away in India on leave, having returned resumed duties on Thursday last.

DEMONSTRATION IN PRACTICAL SANITATION.—We understand that a course in Practical Sanitation organized by the Medical Officer of Health and the School Medical Officer will be held in Jaffna during the Health Week (March 4 to 9, 1929).

CHANGES IN THE FISCAL OFFICE, JAFFNA.—Mr. T. W. Tampiyappa is appointed to act as Head Clerk and Additional Deputy Fiscal, in place of Mr. C. Mutucumar, who is retiring from service after a term of 40 years.

ON THE SICK LIST.—Hon. Mr. S. Rajaratnam, who was down with an attack of influenza is recovering.

—Mr. A. E. Clough is suffering from an attack of influenza and is confined to his rooms.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.—A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ceylon National Congress will be held on Saturday, the 26th instant, at 5.30 p.m. at "Tyaganivasam," in Ward Place, Colombo.

COLOMBO PRINTERS' STRIKE AT AN END.—The newly formed Employers' Federation of Ceylon, the machinery that has been brought into being under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce for amicably settling labour disputes, have offered to arbitrate in connection with the strike at the printing works of the Colombo Apothecaries Co., Ltd., and their offer has been accepted by both parties.

PLYING FOR HIRE WITHOUT LICENSE.—Before Mr. L. J. Senaviratne, Police Magistrate, Point Pedro, Mr. J. O. R. Bartook, Assistant Superintendent of Police, charged a man named Myiyaganam with having plied his car for hire without a hiring license.

CHARITY COMMITTEE OPPOSES LEGISLATION AGAINST USURY.—In the course of their memorandum the "Ceylon Nethukottai Obsteric Association" emphasize their opposition to the revision of the Money Lending Ordinance of 1918 proposed in the report of the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose at the meeting held recently at the Chamber of Commerce.

NEGOMBO HINDU TEMPLE DISPUTES.—With the annual Negombo Hindu Procession near at hand, the Hindus, in and out of Negombo, have represented matters to Government to have the Sri Subramanya Dewala (in Thimbrigaskabawa), which is only a few yards from the newly acquired Sri Pullayar Dewala, opened to them for public worship.

BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR.—At the British Industries Fair, opening on February 18th, Ceylon will not be represented. The Department of Overseas Trade states that although particulars were sent to the Government of Ceylon through the normal official channels, no intimation was received of Ceylon's desire to participate in the Fair.

His Majesty's Business.

GROWING FEELING OF CONFIDENCE, Rugby, Jan. 16th.

It was authoritatively stated that the King is now definitely stronger than at any time since the beginning of his illness. The increase of strength is, however, very gradual. There is a growing feeling of confidence at the Palace.

DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT, Rugby, Jan. 17th.

This morning's bulletin regarding the King is viewed with considerable satisfaction at Buckingham Palace.

For the first time the doctors described the King's progress as satisfactory, and this is an indication that the improvement continues to be of a definite character.

It is stated that it may be assumed that His Majesty is gathering strength.

CONVALESCENCE IS IN SIGHT, Rugby, Jan. 18th.

It is stated today at Buckingham Palace that the King's improvement has now continued without interruption for a sufficiently long period to give rise to hopes that convalescence is almost in sight.

A QUIET DAY, CONDITION UNCHANGED, London Jan. 18th.

A bulletin issued at 8.15 p.m. states:—"The King had had a quiet day."

"His Majesty's condition is unchanged. The next bulletin will be issued tomorrow night."

THE QUEEN'S RECOVERY.

[It is stated that when the weather shows signs of improvement, the Queen, whose cold has almost vanished, will take her usual daily drive from the Palace.

This morning (Jan. 18) the Queen motored from Buckingham Palace to Windsor Castle.]

PRINCE GEORGE IS BETTER [Prince George, who has also been suffering from a cold, is better.] —"Times Cutting".

No Fire But Mere Sparks.

DUE TO ENGINE TROUBLE,

It was reported in some of the Colombo Dailies that an outbreak of fire occurred at the Jaffna Picture Palace on Sunday last during the screening of the Indian Epic "Ramayana".

The further report that if not for Mr. W. C. D. Pentelov's timely action in disconnecting the wires the fire might have spread to the main building, we are informed, is also not at all correct.

Continued.

A NEW CADET.—Mr. R. Smythe having been selected by the Secretary of State for the Colonies for appointment as a Cadet in the Ceylon Civil Service. He is attached to the Secretariat, as from January 13, 1929.

OFFICIAL.—Mr. K. Sivapragasam, Acting Chief Clerk, Jaffna Kachcheri, is to act as Extra Office Assistant to the Government Agent, North Western Provinces from January 19, to 31, 1929, inclusive.

—Mr. A. Ambalavanar, Head Clerk, Puttalam Kachcheri, is to act as Extra Office Assistant to the Assistant Government Agent, Puttalam, from January 15 to 23, 1929.

JUDICIAL.—Mr. W. Ponniah is to act as Commissioner of Requests and Police Magistrate, Point Pedro and Obavakachcheri, from January 14, 1929, during the absence of Mr. L. J. de S. Senaviratne.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST PUBLIC SERVANT.—An old resident of Morawak Korle, Vidane Mahandiram D. A. Abraham Apeyewariens Jayasingha Goosaratne, who was probably the oldest public servant in the Empire, has just passed away under somewhat tragic circumstances. The old gentleman was 98 years of age and had completed 76 years of service under Government.

PERSONAL.—Mr. A. K. Somasundaram, Notary Public of Puttur, will practice from January, 1929 throughout the Jaffna Division in the Tamil language having his office at Kekkavil.

PARCELS ON THE RAILWAY.—A new rule has been framed by Government increasing its liability for loss or damage to any parcel carried on the railway. Under the old rule Government were not liable for loss or damage to any parcel valued at over Rs. 20, unless it had been insured. Under the new rule the value has been increased to Rs. 100.

VISCOUNT GOSCHEN'S ARRIVAL IN COLOMBO.—Viscount Goschen, Governor of Madras, and Lady Goschen arrived in Colombo on Saturday last on board H. M. S. "Edingham" on a brief visit to H. E. the Governor.

