

The Ceylon Government Gazette,

PART I.

No. 6,077 — FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1905.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Talahena subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale North, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Udugaha pattu subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Salpiti korale, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

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4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

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sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

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SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

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41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

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42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

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43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

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SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Mampe-Kesbewa sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Salpiti korale, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been of shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kital or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section.1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Kotte-Galkissa subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Salpiti korale (Colombo Division), in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

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36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kital or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Kelaniya sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale West, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1890."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Mahara subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale West, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall be foul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Henaratgoda sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale West, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &c.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

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29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall be foul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

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31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

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36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

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38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

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39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

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41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

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42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

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45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

(20)

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

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53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

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54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

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SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Bemmulla subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale West, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocconut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Alutgama sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale West, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &C.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alufkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Kprale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Egoda Potha subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale East, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

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11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

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18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

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21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

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24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

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sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

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31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

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35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

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38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

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40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

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43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

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45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

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51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Megoda Potha sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale East, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

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20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

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SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Mapitigama subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale East, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village cila, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Weke sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale East, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or *amuna* for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

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SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

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37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

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41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &C.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

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45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

^a From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Dompe subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Siyane Korale East, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

By His Excellency's command,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 p.m. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Aturugiriya sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Hewagam korale, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &C.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulú, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Haniwella subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Hewagam korale, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

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36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kital or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

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42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Kaduwela sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Hewagam korale, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &C.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Wattala subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale South, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &c.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

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33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

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35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocóanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Kanuwana sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale South, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55; and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been of shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

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18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

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19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

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20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

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24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

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sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

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36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

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38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

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40. *Sealing bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the sealing stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

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42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

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46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

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51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Gampaha subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale South, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

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- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Ambatalenpahala sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale South, in the District of Colombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalam, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Udugaha Pattu North subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Hapitigam korale, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list, prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcase, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcase without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

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26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kital or a cocoonut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Udugaha Pattu South subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Hapitigam korale, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall be foul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE NO. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitagam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Yatigaha Pattu North subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Hapitigam korale, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arecanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

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36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kital or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.* No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Yatigaha Pattu South subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Hapitigam korale, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

27. *Boundaries to private lands.*—Boundaries of private lands within the subdivision shall be marked by fences, ditches, or stones, according to the local custom. Such boundaries shall be put up at the joint expense of the joint owners on both

sides thereof. Any person ordered in writing by the Committee to mark his boundary shall do so. Such notice shall specify how the boundaries should be defined and the time within which such works shall be completed.

28. *Injury to boundaries.*—No person shall alter, deface, or wilfully injure any such boundary.

SUB-SECTION 8.—NUISANCES.

29. *Befouling wells, &c.*—No person shall befoul a village ela, village well, or spring of water used for drinking purposes by the inhabitants of any village.

30. *Infected persons bathing in public wells.*—No person affected with a contagious or infectious disease shall bathe at any public well, spring, or bathing place, or wash clothes, or in any way foul the water of such well, spring, or bathing place.

31. *Removal of dangerous trees overhanging houses.*—If upon due complaint the Committee is satisfied that any tree is likely to fall upon any house or other building, or is in a condition dangerous to the occupants or to other property, the Committee shall give notice in writing to the owner of such tree to cut it down within such reasonable time as the Committee may allow. In case such owner shall neglect or delay to obey such order, the Committee shall cause the work to be done at his expense, and may recover the amount by way of penalty as for a breach of the rule.

32. *Removal of dangerous trees along public thoroughfares.*—The Committee may in like manner direct the removal, without payment of compensation, of any tree dangerous to the safety of passengers along any public road or street.

33. *Putting dirt on public roads.*—No person shall put any dirt, rubbish, timber, mats, copra, arécanut, or other commodity (or keep carts) on any village road or path, nor allow children too young to take care of themselves to be thereon, unless in charge of some person competent to take care of them.

34. *Pelting stones at houses.*—No person shall throw stones at houses, draw caricatures or indecent figures, or write insulting expressions on any buildings, place, or thing, or do any other act by which any individual is insulted or public decency outraged.

35. *Disturbing public repose.*—No person shall disturb the public repose at night by making any noise or singing indecent songs.

36. *Giving shelter to persons whose character is open to grave suspicions.*—It shall not be lawful for any resident to harbour any criminal or vagabond.

37. *Gardens to be cleared of filth.*—All houses and compounds shall be kept clean and gardens free from filth, rubbish, and unnecessary wild vegetation by the owner or occupant. It shall be the duty of all Police Vidanes to see that this rule is carried out.

SUB-SECTION 9.—ABUSIVE LANGUAGE.

38. *Abusive language.*—No person shall use abusive or indecent language in any place where it is likely to annoy any person, or to provoke a breach of the peace.

SUB-SECTION 10.—PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS)CONNECTED WITH TODDY-DRAWING.

39. *Ropes to be used.*—Every person on whose account toddy is drawn shall be bound, in coupling trees, to use or cause to be used four distinct good and sound ropes for the feet and three ropes for the hands. Each rope when fixed shall consist of four strands, and shall be entirely new. At the end of every four months two new ropes shall be added to the line of ropes used for the feet.

40. *Scaling bamboos.*—The tapper of a kitul or a cocoanut flower shall renew the scaling stick at intervals after six months.

41. *Headmen to inspect couplings.*—It shall be the duty of the village headman to inspect the coupling and bamboos within his jurisdiction once a month, and to prosecute offenders under the preceding rules.

SUB-SECTION 11.—ACCIDENTS FROM SPRING GUNS, &c.

42. *Setting spring guns.*—No spring guns shall be set without the permission in writing of the Committee. Such permission shall be proclaimed by the Committee by beat of tom-tom, and the applicant shall pay fifty cents to the Committee for the expense of the proclamation.

SUB-SECTION 12.—PREVENTION OF GAMBLING AND COCK-FIGHTING.

43. *Gambling.*—No person shall engage in gambling or cock-fighting, or abet these offences by his presence or by allowing the use of his house or land for such purposes. (Any person who organizes or takes part in a lottery shall be deemed to have engaged in gambling within the meaning of this rule.)

44. *Cart-racing.*—No cart-racing shall be permitted in any public thoroughfare within the division.

45. *Furious driving.*—No person shall drive any vehicle or animal on a public thoroughfare in a furious or careless manner.

SUB-SECTION 13.—CONSTRUCTION OF VILLAGE TRIBUNAL COURT-HOUSES.

46. *Construction of Village Tribunal court-houses.*—The construction and repair of Village Tribunal court-houses shall be carried out by communal labour, under the provisions of rules Nos. 4 to 9, sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 14.—PENALTY ON OFFICERS FOR BREACH OF DUTY.

47. *Penalty on officers.*—Any person appointed to an office created under the 11th section of the principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, shall, on being convicted of neglect or breach of duty, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 15.—COLLECTION OF TOLLS.

48. *Tolls.*—The rent of any tolls established by the Committee, subject to the approval of the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, under the 24th section of the Principal Ordinance, No. 24 of 1889, may be sold annually and proceeds credited to the communal funds.

49. *Toll collectors.*—Where the rent of such tolls has not been sold the Committee may appoint toll collectors to levy the rates imposed, a schedule of which rates shall be duly published.

SUB-SECTION 16.—VILLAGE ROADS NOT EXCEEDING 12 FEET IN WIDTH.

50. *Defacing village paths.*—No person shall deface a village path or cause any damage to such paths. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

51. *Village paths through paddy fields.*—The proprietor of paddy lands shall see that all the public paths leading through their paddy fields are not less than 3 feet in breadth. No person shall cut any such path with the intention of narrowing or defacing it. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

52. *Roads 12 feet in width.*—The construction and maintenance of village roads not exceeding 12 feet in width shall be carried out by communal labour, under the rules Nos. 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 17.—VILLAGE CANALS.

53. *Village canals.*—Any repair, protection, and maintenance necessary for any village canals shall be carried out by communal labour, under rules 4 to 9 under sub-section 1.

SUB-SECTION 18.—LOITERING ON THOROUGHFARES.

54. *Loitering.*—No person shall loiter without a light on any road or about any hamlet after 9 P.M. on dark nights without being able to show sufficient reason for so doing. An infringement of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 19.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 10 OF 1891.)

SUB-SECTION 20.—SELLING SPIRITS TO FEMALES.

55. *Sale of intoxicating liquor to females.*—No person shall sell intoxicating liquor to females. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 21.—NIL. (See ORDINANCE No. 23 OF 1889.)

SUB-SECTION 22.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. *Slaughter of sheep, goats, or pigs.*—It shall not be lawful for any person to slaughter sheep, goats, or swine without information previously given to the village headman, nor shall such animals be slaughtered during the night. Should the headman be absent, it shall be competent for the headman of any adjoining village to grant a permit to do so. Any person infringing any of the provisions of this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, NO. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Doonagaha Pattu subdivision of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale North, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep, or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work, and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair of the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking coccanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake, or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &c.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

SUB-SECTION 7.—BOUNDARIES AND FENCES.

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57. *Houses to be whitewashed.*—The villagers shall whitewash their houses either with makulu, lime, or any other suitable substance whenever they receive orders from the Committee.

From and after the date of publication of the above rules in the *Government Gazette* all previous rules, that is to say, Colombo District rules under the provisions of "The Village Communities' Ordinance, 1871," dated 13th June, 1889, and Alutkuru Korale North rules dated 8th June, 1888, and Hapitigam Korale rules dated 4th June, 1888, Siyane Korale East rules under the Ordinance No. 24 of 1889, dated 29th December, 1902, are cancelled, provided that such cancellation shall not affect—

- (a) The past operation of such rules.
- (b) Any right, obligation, or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred therein.
- (c) Any punishment or penalty incurred in respect of any breach of the said rules.
- (d) Any investigation or legal proceedings or remedy in respect of any such right, obligation, liability, penalty, or punishment, and every such investigation, legal proceeding, and remedy may be carried on as if the above rules had not been published.

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITIES' ORDINANCE, No. 24 OF 1889.

IT is hereby notified that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in exercise of the powers vested in him by section 7 of the above-named Ordinance, and with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following rules which have been made under the provisions of section 16 of the said Ordinance by the Committee elected by the inhabitants of the Dasiya Pattu sub-division of the Chief Headman's division called Alutkuru Korale North, in the District of Negombo, Western Province, and the same are published for general information.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, September 29, 1905.

By His Excellency's command,
G. M. FOWLER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Rules referred to.

SUB-SECTION 1.—FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PROTECTION OF VILLAGE WORKS.

1. *Charge of village properties.*—All village paths, bridges, edandas, ambalams, minor outlets for flood water, spouts, wells, watering and bathing places, fords and ferries, markets, places for slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, and all other village properties, shall be in charge of the headman of the village, and also all places for the burial or cremation of the dead, unless they have been placed in charge of some other person by by-law made under "The Cemeteries and Burials Ordinance, 1899."

2. *List of persons liable to labour.*—The village headman of each division shall prepare annually, before the 1st February, a list of names of all males residing within his division, between the ages of 18 and 55, and shall forward before the 1st February, a copy of the list to the Chairman of the Village Committee of the korale of which his division forms a part.

3. *Village works.*—On receiving information either from a headman, or any other person, that any village work should be constructed or repaired, the Village Committee shall make an inquiry, and, if it approves of the work, shall prepare a list setting out the nature of the work and the names of the villages interested in it, and make such subsequent alterations in the list as may be deemed expedient. The decision of the Committee as set forth in such lists or amended lists shall be final on the question as to "what villages are interested."

4. *Liability and exemption.*—Every male inhabitant between the ages of 18 and 55 residing in any of the villages interested shall be liable to contribute labour towards the works specified in the list prepared by the Committee, provided that priests of all religions, immigrant coolies from India, Volunteers, Government servants permanently employed in Postal, Telegraph, and Railway Departments, and persons exempted as unable to work by the Chairman of the Committee, shall be exempted from performing work under these rules.

5. *Labour.*—The Committee shall specify the extent of the work to be performed, the time when it shall be performed, and the number of days' labour that each person liable under the preceding rule shall contribute towards it. The headmen of the respective villages shall order out the labour in such manner as the Committee shall direct.

6. *Commutation of labour.*—If any person is unwilling to work he may commute his labour by a payment to the Chairman of the Committee of a sum fixed by the Committee, which amount is not to exceed 35 cents for each day.

7. *Neglecting to contribute labour.*—Every person liable to contribute labour under these rules for any of the purposes mentioned herein, who fails to contribute such labour or to pay its commuted value when duly noticed by the headman of his village to attend and perform such labour or pay its commuted value, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

8. *Neglect to contribute labour.*—Every person in charge of a communal work shall report to the Committee completion of the work and shall furnish to the Committee a list of persons who fail to attend and work, or to make a payment in money.

9. *Prosecution.*—The Committee shall direct that such defaulter be prosecuted, but prosecution may be withdrawn prior to day of work on payment by the defaulter of double the amount of commutation due by the defaulter.

10. *Damaging village property.*—Any person obstructing any village path, road, water-course, lake, or ela, or through malice injuring any of the above-mentioned or other village property, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 2.—CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SCHOOLROOMS, AND SECURING ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS.

11. *Erection and repairing of school-houses.*—Whenever a school has been or shall hereafter be established by the Government the construction and repair or the necessary schoolrooms shall be carried out under the provisions of rules 4 to 9 in sub-section 1.

12. *Attendance.*—The Committee shall from time to time determine the ages between which children shall attend school and the maximum distance that they shall be required to travel from their homes to attend such schools. Any parent or guardian who, without reasonable cause, fails or neglects to send any of his children to school, in accordance with the directions given by the Committee under this rule, shall be liable to a fine.

13. *Exemption.*—These rules shall not apply to children for whose education other provision to the satisfaction of the Committee has been made by the parents.

SUB-SECTION 3.—REGULATION OF FISHERIES AND FISH KRAALS.

14. *Fisheries.*—Any person who shall kill or take fish by means of poison, dynamite, or other explosive, or any other means not in accordance with local custom, shall be guilty of an offence.

15. *Fishing in paddy lands.*—It shall not be lawful for any person other than the proprietor or proprietors of paddy fields or their agents to fish therein without the permission of such proprietors or their agents.

16. *Fishing in canals.*—No person shall make or close any opening in any canal, embankment, lake, tank, pond, or amuna for the purpose of catching fish without first obtaining the permission of the persons whose interests are affected thereby. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

17. *Kraals.*—No kraal, stockade, or enclosure of any kind, whether intended to be used for catching fish or for soaking cocoanut husks, or for any other purpose, shall be erected, nor shall any existing kraal be continued in any river, lake or canal, or other piece of water without the previous permission of the Committee and payment of such fees as the Committee may determine. Any person infringing this rule shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine.

SUB-SECTION 4.—COMMUNAL LANDS.

18. *Communal grounds.*—The Committee shall apply to the Government Agent for such lands as it may consider requisite for communal purposes. These lands shall be maintained as provided by rules 4 to 9 by the inhabitants of the villages interested in them.

SUB-SECTION 5.—CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS.

19. *Cultivation of industrial products.*—The Committee shall, from time to time, obtain seeds and plants of such industrial products as it may consider desirable, and distribute the same amongst cultivators who may apply for the same either for payment or free of charge. Expenses in connection with such supplies to be met from the communal funds.

SUB-SECTION 6.—CATTLE TRESPASS, DISEASE, &C.

20. *Prevention of cattle trespass.*—No cattle shall be allowed to stray on a public thoroughfare or to be loose outside the owner's premises unless they are in the charge of a herdsman.

21. *Tethering on roadside.*—No animal shall be tethered upon any cart road or in such manner as will allow it to stray on the road.

22. *Quarantine during the time of cattle disease.*—No cattle shall be removed from any village in the subdivision where there is cattle disease to or through any other village of the subdivision.

23. *Segregation of diseased cattle.*—Every proprietor of cattle shall separate every sick head of cattle belonging to him from the common herd, and shall put it into such secluded place as may be determined by the village headman, and he shall disinfect the place by fire, or otherwise, as the Committee may direct.

24. *Burial of sick cattle.*—When a sick head of cattle shall die the proprietor or herdsman shall bury the carcass, without loss of time, not less than six feet deep. If the proprietor or herdsman neglect to do so, the village headman shall forthwith proceed to bury the carcass without loss of time, and shall recover the expenses of doing so from the proprietor.

25. *Report of cattle murrain.*—Every proprietor of cattle or herdsman who has a case of murrain or contagious disease amongst his cattle shall forthwith report the circumstance to the village headman, who shall forthwith report the same to the President of the Village Tribunals or Chairman of the Village Committee.

26. *Loss of cattle.*—The owner of any cattle which may have been lost or stolen shall forthwith give information thereof to the Police Vidane of the village, and such Police Vidane shall report the theft, with as little delay as possible, to the Chairman of the Village Committee and to the President of the Village Tribunals.

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