

**HARISPATTU VILLAGE SHOW.****W. MOLECODE,***Agricultural Instructor.*

The Harispattu village show was held at the Sri Rahula School, Katugastota, on Saturday April 10th, 1926, and was opened by the Hon. Mr. F. A. Stockdale, C.B.E., Director of Agriculture, before a large gathering.

The show was open to Kulugamma-siya pattu and Medasiya pattu Korales and consisted of only 60 classes being limited to the actual products of the villager and to ordinary produce of the two korales.

*Paddy and Rice.*—This section comprised Pure Line paddies with one class for other paddies. There were 30 exhibits of five types of Pure Line paddy shown by 12 growers. Under other paddies Mutusamba, Molagusamba, Ratawi, Kaluwi, etc. were shewn. The exhibits of rice and paddy earheads were numerous.

*Vegetables and Fruits.*—This section was limited to what are ordinarily grown in the Korales, and was divided into 22 classes. Both the exhibits of vegetables and fruits were generally poor owing to the recent severe drought and no cultivation being possible during the preceding few months. The plantains were good as also wattakka and chillies.

*Currystuffs.*—This class was well represented and there were many exhibits of ginger, turmeric, chillies, onion and garlic. The dried ginger and turmeric were, though not up to the market standard, of a superior type to those hitherto exhibited at village shows. This section was good on the whole, indicating that a fair amount of currystuffs is now locally grown.

*Commercial Products.*—This section was confined to coconuts, coconut oil, arecanut, village rubber, cacao, and pepper. Cacao was very disappointing as also pepper due to being the off season. Village rubber was good. Coconut and coconut oil, and arecanut were very good.

*Pickles and Sinhalese sweets* for which special prizes were offered were good.

*School and Home Garden Produce.*—This section was disappointing considering that the area has some of the best gardens. Idamegama, Haloluwa, Hedeniya and Nugawela Girls School did not send any exhibits.

*Industries.*—This section consisted of only two classes—Lacquer works and country ploughs. The show of lacquer works was of a high standard.

*Propaganda Exhibits.*—The Department of Agriculture had a section of the show on which were shown specimens and illustrations of Plant Pests and Diseases. The preparation of Adlay or Job's Tear for food was also demonstrated by the Department.

The Sanitation Department showed various types of improved latrines, bakeries, model dwellings, wells, cattle sheds, etc., and explained to the visitors with the aid of specimens, diagrams and illustrations how to combat common diseases.

In the evening the Hon. Mr. W. L. Kindersley, Government Agent, distributed the prizes which consisted of silver medals and cash prizes accompanied by certificates of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Nigel K. Jardine, Divisional Agricultural Officer, in addressing the Government Agent, said that this was the first village show conducted solely by the Department of Agriculture and the voluntary assistance and the co-operation of the Ratamahatmaya and the headmen was a feature of the show. He thanked the prize donors and the authorities of the Sri Rahula School for allowing the use of the Hall.

Mr. Kindersley addressed the gathering emphasizing the importance and value of village shows and exhorted every body to grow more food crops and improve agricultural conditions.

Mr. W. Molecode proposed a vote of thanks to the Government Agent.

The show was largely attended and proved a success.

The next Harispattu village show open to Udagampaha and Pallegampaha Korales takes place at the Alawatugoda Sunday market on June 27th, and will also be conducted by the Department of Agriculture.