

EVENTS AND CURRENT RUMOURS.

Canton: Wednesday, 16th January, 1929.

The Provincial Department of Civil Affairs will hold an important meeting to-day to discuss measures of enforcing new plans for improving district magistrate system and educational administration in this province. Mr. Hsu Chung Chung-ching, the Civil Commissioner, will personally attend the meeting.

The Finance and Civil Departments have drawn up a set of new regulations for prohibiting opium-smoking in this province, which are now ready to be submitted to the Branch Political Council for approval. According to a return worked out by the Anti-opium Bureau, it is interesting to note that the total annual quantity of opium consumed in the whole province is about 5,400,000 taels in weight valued at about \$10,000,000. As the population of this province is 30,000,000, it is calculated on the average that each person spends 30 cents for opium a year.

The ceremony for laying the foundation stone of Sunyatsen's Memorial Hall was held yesterday, the 15th instant. Mr. Feng Chu-wan acted as chairman on behalf of Marshal Li Chai-sum.

It is reported that General Chen Ming-shu, the Provincial Chairman, will start a tour of inspection round the province at the end of the month. He has decided first to visit the districts in Eastern Kwang-tung, where the people suffered great losses from the "Reds" last year.

✓
1
27

Sent to L. G. 17/1/29.

11

settled:-

1. The rank of Chief Delegates to be abolished.
2. A sub-delegate to be elected to preside at every meeting.
3. The sub-delegates to enjoy equal privileges and powers amongst themselves.

It is learned that the Southern Delegates have consulted with their Northern comrades whose consent to the above changes has also been obtained. The two Chief Delegates, however, are said to be objecting strongly to the above decisions. Their reason is that they are appointed to be Chief Delegates by their respective Governments, which alone can remove them from their posts. The sub-delegates have no power in this connection.

Wilson

Acting Commissioner.

Custem House,

Canton, 13th January 1920.