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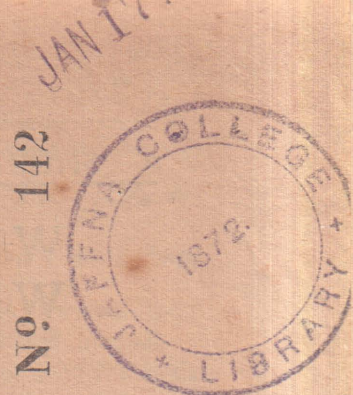
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## WHO WILL WIN THE NEXT WAR?

### Strategic Situations Analysed

#### THE STRATEGIC ADVANTAGES PEACEFUL POWERS HAVE FORFEITED

(By Capt. B. H. Liddell Hart)

CAMOUFLAGED war is the cheapest form of war, since only a very small proportion of your resources are needed to ensure the success of the party you choose to back in a particular small country that is of general strategic importance. The method is indeed a modern development of the traditional strategy which Britain so successfully exploited in the struggle with her Continental rivals during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery"—but the gravest for us.

The direct assistance which Italy gave with aircraft and the indirect assistance which Germany gave with warships, in transporting Franco's troops across from Africa to Spain, were the first operations in a war of this kind. What has followed in that theatre, the Far East, and in Central Europe from the modern equivalent of the familiar phase of manoeuvring for position before the main stroke is delivered. Seen from this point of view, these events fall naturally into place in the combination of strategic moves. That we in this country have failed to see this "war in progress" is due to the fact that we are still thinking politically, whereas the dictatorship States are thinking militarily.

The situation in this new 'Great War' as it stands now, would seem to be that the enemy is within reach of gaining the decisive points without a battle, and in a most vital direction we have made no serious attempt to prevent him. Armament programmes merely belong to the grand tactics of this modern kind of war. They are vain, if you are beaten

strategically. We have been courting this risk.

#### Strategic Effect

Hence we must ask and face the question—what would be the strategic effect upon our chances of success in a war, if Spain was in alliance with our opponents? It is clear, in the first place, that Gibraltar would be untenable as a naval base. The anchorage there is narrow, as the sea-floor shelves sharply, and could not be used by our ships, if it was under fire from hostile guns on the Spanish shore. A few mobile batteries, suddenly brought here, would suffice to make it unusable. We should then be left with no secure naval base of our own between this country and Alexandria, over 3,000 miles distant.

In comparison with this fact it is a secondary question whether our ships would be able to pass through the Straits of Gibraltar into and out of the Mediterranean. None the less, the mere possibility that air and naval bases on the eastern seaboard of Spain and in the Balearic Isles might be available for our opponents' use seriously complicates the problem of maintaining our traffic through, or even our forces in, the Mediterranean. It is at least an equal danger to the communications between France and her African colonies.

Nor does the risk end there. The alternative route to the East round the Cape, and even the sea-approaches to this country, would be jeopardised, if hostile submarines and aircraft were able to operate from the North-western and South-western coasts of Spain. And this threat would be extended by an enemy's use of the Canary Isles. Hence the outcome of the present struggle in Spain

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## THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

### 2. Sectionalisms

By R. C. Procter

THE recommendation that the European and the Moslem Communities should continue to have representatives on the Communal basis would be hailed with satisfaction by the other two minority Communities viz the Thamil and the Moslem.

Should the latter two Communities receive similar consideration, in however small a measure, His Excellency fears that sectionalism would become perpetuated and "the emergence of true political parties in 'true political issues' would be prevented. He is also of the belief that on the communal recruitment to the Council the Board of Ministers 'could never be a consentaneous body' but "would be divided on fundamentals of the Constitution."

The interests of the Thamil and Moslem communities centre round their heritage of language, religion, laws and culture. No self-respecting Community would remain passive when their fundamental rights arising from its heritage are being trampled on. In the west coast districts of the Island the Thamil speaking people are being deprived of facilities to have their children taught in Thamil. Sinhalese Schools have taken the place of Thamil Schools and the process is being pressed on. Buddhism has become aggressive. The Hindus and the Moslems have their shrines in places which are now claimed to belong exclusively to the Buddhists. Pollonaruwa possesses some Hindu temples of medieval Dravidian architecture of exquisite beauty. The most sacred symbols of worship of the Hindus were unearthed there by the late Mr. Bell. The cosmic dance of Siva illustrated in exquisite workmanship in bronze found at Pollonaruwa beats in beauty and delicacy of workmanship a similar symbol placed for worship in the holy of holies of the temple of Sidambram in India. Where there is an old Bud-

dhist Shrine, there also will be found in Ceylon a Moslem Shrine. Thamil inscriptions ancient and medieval are to be found in many places, but their preservation and publication are of no concern to the majority government. The Thamil language is one spoken by about 50 million people. Is it not hard on the children of Thamil-speaking parents to be forced to abandon Thamil and learn Sinhalese, a language which is spoken among about 2½ million people. A dictionary of the Sinhalese language is only now in preparation, the cost for its production, a huge sum, is being met from the public revenue to which the major contribution is made by the minority Communities. It is to ventilate in Council the wrongs that fundamental rights of the minority communities suffer at the hands of the majority communities that special seats on the communal basis are asked for. Not only that, representatives are wanted there to watch their peculiar communal interests.

A balanced Constitution was accounted the great achievement of England. "A constitution of which the ideal was that every class, every interest should have its due share of authority and effective means of asserting itself".

What has happened in the 'homogeneous' Board should, to a large extent, disabuse H. E.'s mind of his fears re sectionalism and consentaneity and faith in the congruity of the present Board. To call it a 'pan Sinhalese' Board is to utter a half-truth and half truths are somewhat difficult to rebut. The true quality of the Board is that it represents a clique. It is a 'cabal' Ministry. There are certain minority communities among the Low-country Sinhalese with leaders of high educational qualifications and accomplishments. These have been excluded. No Kandyan Sinhalese was taken in. Mr. Bandaranaike, Minister for local administration, was right when

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## A SHORT STORY

## WHO WINS?

BY CHELLY

(A Psychological Study)

THE State was in jubilation, the streets were being cleaned and decorated, the preparations for the marriage of the Princess Indira were proceeding. She was to be married to the Ruling Prince of Shripur.

"But the light will fade here—" was the general talk, for Princess Indira was very popular. She was beloved for her deep piety and great learning. She was reputed to be a Sanskrit scholar. She held discussions with Vidwans. She composed poems. She wrote short stories for the children. She had a vivid imagination and gave herself up to studies and writing. Often she taught the little children in schools; this was her recreation, as it were.

"Is the Princess happy?"—That was the whisper started very soon, as Indira became scarce to the public eye. She ceased visiting schools. And those who saw her in the temple of the Goddess thought that she was not happy.

"She hastily dashed away a tear that rose as she was praying. 'I saw it,' was the whisper of a worshipper.

"No wonder—Indira's whole heart and whole soul go to the God when she prays," was the reply.

But the whispers ceased, as it was known that when she went amidst the school boys and girls who went to the palace to bid her adieu, Indira wept like a child and said: "My brothers and sisters, how happy would I be with you?"

And her mother the Maharani had come to console her. The Maharajah Saheb had hastily been summoned, and His Highness had abruptly ended the deputation and ordered Indira inside.

## II

No—on that point Indira was firm. She will not take any maid servants with her to her husband's palace from her father's state.

"What is a palace but a jail, father? Why should more girls be sentenced than I. They are happy with mother. They will not be happy there. Father, bless me that I may be happy with my husband"—And Indira fell at his feet.

Maharaja Madhosinghji was deeply touched, as he raised Indira.

"Girl, you have always been a mystic. Other girls would be happy today, when they marry a Ruling Prince, much greater than I am. It is our family greatness that has drawn Maharaja Amarasinghji to this union. After all you know enough to know that your place is in your own home—who has read more than you? Who has understood so well as you have?"

"My lord and husband, permit me to be simple. I live to serve you. Let me serve. But make me happy by permitting me to be in khaddar and without jewels. I shall be in purdah, so it does not matter: your prestige will not suffer because your Maharani is dressed like a village maid. And if you love me, you will love me best as I am."

"It is all that Sanskrit learning—" Amarasinghji said to her father, "I fear I will have to inject modernism into her—"

And so they parted: Indira leaving

her father's palace with a steel trunk and nothing more.

## III

In the harem! And Indira heard tales.

Amarasinghji drank heavily. He was a fiend at night. He came to sleep often at 2 a. m. Often he was taken on a stretcher to his bed. He ate with his Sardars. He went out shooting with them. He had no domestic life, as it were.

"To night three nautch girls have come from Delhi—" the whispers would spread in the harem. Servants stretched their necks to get a glimpse of them. They discussed their dress and their ways of hair dressing and how they sang and how they danced.

Then suddenly they would hush their voices lest the Maharani heard them: "I hear the Maharajah placed one of the girls on his lap, and that she gave him drink"—and the women would cast eyes on Indira who sat near the window overlooking the lake, with tier over tier of hills, reading a book.

"Mortal or divine?" her companions often asked as they served Indira—or rather as Indira served them! For the Maharani had no need for service. Indira was the first to walk up in the palace. And she had improvised for herself a temple in a part whither she went by 4 a. m. to pray and to read and to commune with her Maker.

"Dancing girls and singing—" one of her companions said. "Wake up early and come to the temple and you will hear singing that thrills you. Indira is the best singer—but she sings of God."

Three a. m.—all silent and dark.

Indira was ready to go to her temple—and then the door was pushed open. Her lord and husband entered leading a girl. Amarasinghji was drunk.

"Maharani! I have brought here the real Maharani of my heart—serve her. I will kill you if you do not serve her. You are a servant maid, not a Maharani. Come press her feet."

Indira's companion was shocked—but not Indira.

"My duty is to obey you—Master, I serve"—and sitting on the floor, this wife of a Ruling Prince and daughter of another Ruling Prince gently took the feet of the woman reeling with drink and pressed them.

"Lovely feet—" Indira said, as she kissed them, "sister, you are tired—come, sleep awhile, while I press your tired limbs and lull you to sleep"—

Indira almost lifted her to her own bed, and, sitting by her, she poured forth her heart in a bhajan to her Maker. The palace vibrated to her voice. The Maharaja lay all in a heap on the cot, next to the dancing girl.

And the Maharani was pressing the feet of a prostitute!

And God was seeing and hearing the word of praise uttered in His name.

## IV

The next day. It was known that His Highness was not well. Doctors came and gave medicine.

"Where is my new Maharani—"

"Mohini, be here—" the Maharani had said to the dancing girl,

"My lord likes you."

And Indira had passed orders that Mohini should be served as if she were a real Maharani. At first her companions had protested. "A girl of the street—to sleep on the Maharani's bed and—"

But Indira had prevailed. Their duty was to obey—she obeyed her husband and pressed another's feet. Can they not obey her and do her behests?

"And Indira told them," Is not Mohini beautiful? Does she not sing well? No wonder my husband loves her. She is born to be loved. Do not be jealous—if she had been born in a palace, she might have been married by a Prince. She is God's own flower, as you or I, she is our sister. Let us love her."

And again the whisper went round: "Mortal or divine?"

And Mohini answered their doubts. "Indira is a Goddess. Her touch cooled my drunken brain. Her bhajan showed me God. Sisters, I shall live here as your servant. Indira's touch has showed me the hell where I live and the heaven that is mine with her. Sisters, I am sure that when she sings of God, she is not herself. Do not hate me—love me as I love Indira and all".

And the Maharaja had his Mohini with him. Only Mohini shuddered when he touched her.

"Now, learn to love him—" Indira used to encourage her, "He will keep you and your people above want. He can make you even wealthy. Who knows, God intends you for some great purpose. You might use the wealth he gives you for good purpose. Remember, God gave you the power over my husband. Use that power well. What are we but instruments in His hand?"

And Mohini wondered at this

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(Continued.)

the Chairman and Mr. C. Thiagarajah.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

1. That this meeting requests the Government to appoint unofficial headmen to help the authorities in the detection of crime and thefts and in the preservation of law and order, such unofficial headmen to be subjected to Government discipline and regulations and their services to be co-ordinated with those of Government officers and rewarded by Government.

2. That a select committee consisting of the Secretary, Udaiyar and 4 others (2 for Manipay and 2 for Navaly) be appointed to make a list of criminal suspects in Manipay and Navaly (including the names of suspects submitted by this meeting by secret ballot) and submit such list to the authorities for the Police and Headmen to watch the movements of such suspects.

3. This meeting resolves to request the owners of lands in this area not to accommodate the suspects in their lands or give them any other help.

4. That an association be formed by those present at this meeting called the Manipay Navaly Social Service League to promote the social welfare of the residents in the area, the chief immediate object shall be the suppression of crime and thefts.

Office-bearers were duly elected.

This meeting was convened by 50 leading residents, and the attendance numbered over 300, all the leading men being present.

## BRAINY MEN AND CRIME

MR. H. A. P.

SANDRASEGARA ON  
LAWLESSNESS IN JAFFNAANTI-CRIME MEETING  
AT MANIPAY

A public meeting of the residents of Manipay and Navaly was held at Vivekananda Vidyasalai, Manipay, in support of the Anti-Crime Movement, on the 7th instant at 3 p.m., presided over by Mohandiram S. K. Swaminathan. Mr. C. Thiagarajah was elected Secretary. Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasegara, K.C., was the chief speaker. He said he wondered why Jaffna which enjoyed a splendid reputation in the past as a peace-loving country was what it was to-day. "When we think about it we have got to look into conditions as they exist to-day and we must diagnose what the causes are for the existence of such conditions. There is no doubt there is a great deal of dissatisfaction at the way people have been brought up. When I was practising in Jaffna 25 or 30 years ago there was no such thing as organised attempt to commit crimes of this kind. People were strong enough to resist and what they did on their own behalf and on behalf of others was quite enough to put down crime. I was thinking of the reason it should be different now. Is it possible that one or two brainy men are at the bottom of the great evil and are doing things to encourage lawlessness? But it is difficult to come to such a conclusion, as we have not enough material before us. But it is up to every one of us to watch and see whether these are people highly placed and in responsible positions engaged in this evil of crime. I was told by certain public men that there is a good deal of encouragement given to crime by people who should know better. For the present I will not disclose to you the names or classes of persons who may be suspected. There was a loud report that in Jaffna town that some of the Proctors were responsible for inciting these robbers and thieves (applause). But it is difficult to conclude that is so. One could hardly believe that educated people in responsible positions would be liable to instigate these offences. There is no doubt that there is a great deal of discontent in Jaffna but as time goes on this increasing wave of crime would pass away and we would come to know the real truth about it. Low castes are in full rebellion against higher castes. They rebel, conspire to overthrow and inflict heavy losses on the country. This should not be allowed. Mr. Sandrasegara then touched on the necessity of a revision of penal clauses and jail life. In conclusion, Mr. Sandrasegara thanked Mr. C. Thiagarajah for organising such a successful meeting at great sacrifice to him. He wished meetings of this sort should be organised frequently say monthly at different centres.

The other speakers were the Assistant Superintendent of Police, the Maniagar, Udaiyar, Mr. S. C. Arnold, Rev. J. M. Singanayagam,

(Continued on Previous Column)

# THE CASTE SYSTEM

## I. General Remarks

By S. R. Muttukumar

IN MY article on *Ancient Hindu Marriage* published serially in the *Hindu Organ*, I mentioned that the Caste System plays an important part in Hindu marriages. It is, therefore, thought that a few remarks on this much discussed subject, will not only be not out of place, but of some interest to the reader.

The word *caste* is derived apparently through the Portuguese *casta* from the Latin *castus*, "pure", and is used in Europe to designate the different tribes or classes into which the people of India are divided (1)

### Definition of Caste

Shama Sastri defines caste thus: "Caste means a social exclusiveness with reference to diet and marriage... Birth and rituals are secondary." (2) Dr. Vincent A. Smith defines it thus: "A caste may be defined as a group of families internally united by peculiar rules for the observance of ceremonial purity, especially in the matters of diet and marriage. The same rules serve to fence it off from all the other groups, each of which has its own set of rules" (3)

These two definitions imply that the caste system in ancient times was not rigidly hereditary, but that it had only a certain defined aspect, e. g. marriage, dining, etc. This is well supported by Sukra who writes: "Not by birth are the Brahmins, Kshatriya, Vaisya, Sudra and Milechhas (outcastes) separated, but by virtues and work (4) Work, character and merit—these three are to be respected—neither caste nor family. Neither by caste nor by family can superiority be asserted. In marriages and dinner parties considerations of family and caste are compulsory." (5)

Sukra thus makes a distinction between spheres of human activity, and remarks that caste considerations apply not to all departments of human life, but only to certain defined aspect, e. g. marriage, dining, etc. Hence much of the so called vices of caste system, is the idle product of men's imagination.

Sir H. Risley attempts a more elaborate definition of caste thus: "A caste may be deemed as a collection of families or groups of families, bearing a common name which usually denotes or is associated with a specific occupation; claiming common descent from a mythical ancestor, human or divine; professing to follow the same calling; and regarded by those who are competent to give an opinion as forming a single homogeneous community. A caste is almost invariably endogamous in the sense that a member of the large circle denoted by the common name may not marry outside that circle; but within this circle there are usually a number of smaller circles, each of which is also endogamous" (6)

The Abbe Dubois says that "caste assigns to each individual his

own profession or calling, and the handing down of this system from father to son, from generation to generation, makes it impossible for any person or his descendants to change the condition of life which the law assigns to him for any other. Such an institution was probably the only means that the most clear-sighted prudence could devise for maintaining a state of civilization amongst a people endowed with the peculiar characteristics of the Hindus". (7)

Dewan Bahadur K. S. Ramaswami Sastri remarks that "the economic basis of the caste system is to replace competition by co-ordination, the struggle for existence by the struggle for the life of others, the social chaos by the social cosmos. India's economic self-sufficiency is the outstanding fact of ancient Indian History, and the co-operative basis of economic life, which is the key to the caste system, secured economic self-sufficiency in relation to the outer world and a sound and happy non-competitive economic condition within the Indian society." (8)

The Abbe Dubois also writes: "I am not less convinced that if the Hindus were not kept within the limits of duty and obedience by the system of caste, and by the penal regulations attached to each phase of it, they would soon become just what the Pariahs are, and probably something still worse. The whole country would necessarily fall into a state of hopeless anarchy, and, before the present generation disappeared, this nation, so polished under present conditions, would have to be reckoned amongst the most uncivilised of the world. The legislators of India, whoever they may have been, were far too wise and too well acquainted with the natural character of the people for whom they prescribed laws to leave it to the discretion of fancy of each individual to cultivate what knowledge he pleased, or to exercise, as seemed best to him, any of the various professions, arts, or industries which are necessary for the preservation and well-being of a State" (9)

### Classification of Caste

Sir Risley classifies caste thus:— "(1) a tribal type of caste where a tribe has gradually assumed the character of a caste, more or less assimilating its own traditions and practices to those of Hindu orthodoxy; (2) a functional type, where all the members of the caste, at any rate in theory, have a common occupation; (3) a sectarian type, where religious fraternities have organised their social arrangements on the same lines as ordinary castes; (4) a type formed by cross-breeding, which tends to coincide with the second class, as the case of Shagvid-peshas; (5) a national type where a nation or section of a nation has an organization on the lines of a caste, like the Hindus and the Buddhists among the Newars of Nepal; (6) a type formed by migration, where a section of a caste in a new home has developed into a new caste; (7) a type of castes

(7) *Hindu Manners* etc, p. 29.  
(8) *Hindu Organ* of 25-5-1936.  
(9) *Hindu Manners*, etc, pp. 29, 30.

## Promissory Note Signed Under Compulsion

### Warrant Issued to Accused

A WARRANT against the accused was issued by the Jaffna Magistrate on a man of Old Store Road, Jaffna, named Vinasitambay Christopher and his wife, Kalistha, who were charged by Inspector John Attygalle with having fraudulently and dishonestly claimed Rs 546, said to be principal and interest on a promissory note alleged to have been given by Mrs. Arasanilai, the wife of a retired Government Servant.

The two accused were also charged with using the promissory note, knowing that the signature of Mrs. Arasanilai was forged on it.

A third accused was charged with aiding and abetting the two accused in the commission of both the offences.

### Given Arrack

Mrs. Rebecca Patrick Arasanilai stated that she knew the accused. The accused lived on a land leased by her.

On the morning of April 29 the third accused came to her house to take her to his house. He told her that the rent money would be paid to her at his house, and asked her to come and be present at an almsgiving which he was giving in memory of his sister's death. The witness' son, Clarence, drove him out of the house.

The same evening the first accused came to the witness' house and pressed her to attend the almsgiving ceremony.

When she went there the first accused offered her a drink, saying it was lemonade. On drinking it, she found that it was arrack, so she put it aside.

Magistrate (to witness). Was this the first time you drank arrack?

Witness: I have done so before.

Magistrate: What happened to the drink left over?

After some hesitation the witness

differentiated from a parent community by their adopting new practices, such as the sections which, after allowing for centuries the marriage of their widows, have suddenly decided to withdraw their license, and have thereby raised themselves in their own estimation, above the level of the parent body". (10)

### Number of Castes

Sir Risley adds that "it would baffle the wisdom of Solomon to find a common denominator for all these varieties of religious—social organization, most of which, as far as can be seen, represent the continuation of processes that have been going on in India since very early times.

At the present day, some 400 castes have been counted; and this number is constantly growing, as new castes branch out from older communities or arise from without. Dr. Vincent A. Smith, however, gives 3000 as the number of hereditary groups basing his statement on an estimate by Ketkar. (11)

### Conclusion

In conclusion, it may be stated that the existing system of caste is (Continued on Page 6.)

(10) *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, new ed. I. 311.  
(11) *Early History of India*, p. 37

## WHY JAPAN FIGHTS

### DECLARATION OF HUNDRED YEARS' WAR

### PLEA FOR CREATION OF NEW WORLD

Tokio, Jan. 8.

JAPAM is standing on the threshold of a hundred years of war launched "for attainment of a renovation of the world in accordance with Japanese imperial way." This is the picture painted by Lieut-Col. Tatsuhiko Takashime of the Army General staff in the first of a series of articles appearing in the "Nichi-nichi Shimbun" chain of newspapers. The article which is headed "Japan's Declaration of Hundred Years' War" has created a great sensation.

Takashima says that the reconstruction of East Asia and renaissance of Asia means the creation of a new world in accordance with the Japanese imperial way by transforming the muddled modern world. The western powers accomplished their present world domination by colonial aggression in the Far East. The settlement of the China incident must inevitably result in an epoch making transformation of the world, for which Takeshimā insists that Japan is fighting by concentrating the entire national resources.

Deploring the political strife in Europe the article says that judging by history and actualities Japan is the only country in the world capable of successfully delivering them (nations) out of their abject misery.

said she drank it.

Continuing, the witness said that feeling uneasy, she expressed a desire to return to her home. The third accused paid her Rs. 6, saying that it was rent. The witness took the money.

### Duress Alleged

After that the first accused asked her to sign on a paper on which something was written. It was dark at that time, and she refused to sign it. The accused then threatened her, upon which she signed it. When she questioned the accused, they said that the paper was a receipt for the Rs. 6 given to her earlier. They got her a rickshaw in which she returned home.

In November, 1936, the witness was sued on a promissory note for Rs 500 alleged to have been made by her in favour of the first two accused on October 16, 1935. She denied having given such a note and the District Judge, Jaffna, dismissed the action.

Mr. Edward Joseph, record-keeper, District Court, Jaffna, produced the record of the case referred to by the last witness. Mr. Joseph referred to certain circulars from the Stamp Office, which showed that the stamp on the promissory note was not in circulation at the time it was stated to have been made out.

The Magistrate ordered a warrant on the accused, returnable on January 31.



## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1939

### THE VISIT TO ROME

THE BRITISH PREMIER'S visit to Rome which began with such fanfare on the 11th inst. has concluded with some sort of abruptness or at least sooner than the parties expected. The vision of European appeasement which the visit might have conjured up in some quarters has receded even before it took shape, just as the previous attempt to placate HITLER at Munich ended in bitterness. The relationship between the democracies and the dictatorships remains just where it stood before the visit. Of the Duce's demands only that about the Suez Canal could have been conceded with honour by Britain. No agreement could be reached on the major issues is Reuter's summing up of the result. MUSSOLINI evinces no desire to tone down his ambitions on the Mediterranean or to withhold his support from Franco as a concession to the British Premier's desire for appeasement. He insists on belligerent rights being granted to General Franco as a condition precedent to the withdrawal of the volunteers. Thus the Anglo-Italian agreement which was hailed by the British Cabinet as a mile-stone on the road to European appeasement has proved a dead letter as far as Spain is concerned. Of the usual exchange of good-wishes and expressions of friendly feelings and of a genuine desire to maintain the status quo on the Mediterranean, there has evidently been no lack. But as a practical step towards appeasement the visit has proved abortive. But the Cabinet and the British public did not expect any real improvement of the European situation as a result of the visit, since in their view the visit was essentially of an exploratory character and intended to bring about a right appreciation of each other's view points. That objective, we may concede, the visit has accomplished.

On one point we may congratulate MR CHAMBERLAIN. The story of Munich has not been repeated here. The fear expressed by MR. LLOYD GEORGE, that MR. CHAMBERLAIN, not being a match in astute diplomacy to the IL DUCE, might commit himself and let down the democracies, has been falsified. The attitude of MUSSOLINI having been uncompromising and unhelpful, no agreement on any of the outstanding issues could be arrived at and the

talks ended abruptly. If as is stated in the press, MR CHAMBERLAIN has made it clear that in the event of an international crisis British sympathy and support would be on the side of France, then that may be also mentioned as a positive result of the visit. The Rome-Berlin axis has stood the strain of the Anglo-Italian talks without any sign of weakening. In the nature of things any attempt at appeasement is bound to fail so long as the ambitions of the Dictators stand unfulfilled. Community of ideals and interests will keep the axis strong. Far from being satisfied with mere scraps, they will constantly be raising their demands. Nothing short of Mediterranean supremacy with an imposing empire around its shores can satisfy MUSSOLINI. For the achievement of this objective, Franco's victory in Spain is a sine qua non, for Spain will serve as a basis of operations against France across the Pyrenees, besides providing aerial and submarine bases against British shipping both on the Mediterranean and on the Atlantic. It is significant that Britain has been mawkishly hugging the policy of non-intervention while MUSSOLINI has been steadily supporting France and doing lip-service to the cause of non-intervention. HITLER has his ambitions in Memel, Danzig and the Ukraine. Unless these and the colonial question are settled to his entire satisfaction he will not desist from creating trouble on the continent. It is no wonder that in this policy of expansion the Dictators have each other's wholehearted sympathy and support and look upon the democracies as their natural enemies, for their growth can only be at the latter's expense. Already arms are being despatched to Africa with all possible speed by both France and Italy and some tension may soon be expected. The Dictators will, as American statesmen fear, take the initiative in the spring of this year and strike possibly at Djibouti or the Ukraine, before the democracies can have time to rearm fully. The superior financial and material resources of the latter when fully organised will be overwhelming against the Dictators. Instead of pursuing the mirage of appeasement they must push on their rearmament with all possible despatch. Only an impressive preparedness for war on the part of the democracies will guarantee the peace of the world under the existing state of things.

#### All-Ceylon Aborigines' Association

We understand that at a meeting held in Jaffna last week under the auspices of the All-Ceylon Aboriginal Inhabitants' Association, a resolution was passed to the effect that

"the Governor had let down the Tamils in his Reform Despatch", thereby forfeiting their confidence, and that Sir Andrew Caldecott be therefore recalled and a Royal Commission appointed". We would not give editorial prominence to the proceedings of the meeting composed of a handful of men with fantastic notions, bearing no relation to the realities of the situation, but for the fact that undue prominence was given to it in the daily papers. To our knowledge we know of no such Association having its headquarters in Jaffna and commanding the respected confidence of any responsible section of the people. All that we know is that one gentleman is so possessed of certain antediluvian notions that he is its President, Secretary, Treasurer and members, all rolled into one, and that he is the life and soul of this wonderful organisation. We daresay that no thinking man or woman in this part of the country subscribes at this time of day to the eccentric views and proposals of this reactionary body. All impartial observers—even those who cannot conscientiously accept the proposals adumbrated in the Governor's Despatch—will admit that he has tried to be fair in regard to all communities and sections of the people, guided by only one consideration—the ultimate well-being of the country. We have ourselves pointed out some of the glaring defects of the Reform scheme outlined in his Despatch. For we feel that those defects will tend to militate against the smooth and efficient working of the reformed Constitution. We have always been of opinion that the Northern and Eastern Provinces have not received a fair share of representation under the Donoughmore Scheme. We are constrained to observe that even the Governor's Despatch fails in this respect. We would revert to the subject in a subsequent issue.

#### STABBING AT ALVAI

##### 18 Months' R. I.

Narayanawami Ramaswami of Alvai North was sentenced by the District Judge, Jaffna, to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment for stabbing and causing grievous hurt to one Ramu Gopalan on August, 29.

#### The Malayan Ceylonese Association

We understand that the Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held on Friday, the 27th instant at 9 a.m. at Keerimalai, a social for the members and their guests will form an important item on the agenda.

## Congress and Minorities

### Gandhiji's Memorandum on the Subject

I LEARN that Gandhiji's draft deals with music before mosques, cow-killing, the National Flag, the Bunde Mataram song, representation in the Services, the protection of the language, culture and religious practices of the minorities, and representation in the Legislatures, local bodies and Congress Cabinets. The general view that prevails here is that no community in India should impose, or seek to impose, its religious obligations or religious views upon any other community and that the free profession and practice of religion should be guaranteed to every person in every community.

The scheme it appears, besides reiterating Congress policy towards the minorities, particularly, Muslims, as defined in the Karachi Fundamental Rights resolution and other Congress resolutions, particularly the resolution passed by the All-India Congress Committee at Calcutta in October 1937, further clarifies and defines Congress policy towards minorities. The scheme proceeds on the basis of what the Congress would have done, had the Bose-Jinnah negotiations fructified and a permanent settlement of the Hindu-Muslim question been reached.

Gandhiji, it is said, has again emphasised the point of view held by the Congress that no force should be employed and that one community should try to win over the other community only by affection or persuasion. The Hindus should be at liberty to take out processions or play music before mosques but should not hold special demonstrations in front of mosques as they are calculated to cause annoyance, and they should guard against any special disturbance or offence to worshippers inside the mosques. Similarly, the Muslims should be at liberty to sacrifice or slaughter cows in exercise of their rights in any town or village, in any place not being a thoroughfare or under the gaze of the Hindus. The draft appeals to the Muslims not to lead cows in processions or hold demonstrations before slaughter. Gandhiji would not like to impose the Congress Flag on the Muslim Leaguers nor the Bunde Mataram song. So far as the Services are concerned, efficiency should be one of the tests to be taken into consideration. At the same time, adequate representation should be given to the minorities.

Gandhiji explained his statement to the Working Committee and as it was time for his evening walk, he left the meeting at half-past five. He will join the Committee to-morrow afternoon.

The Working Committee will meet again to-morrow at 8-30 a.m. and continue its discussions. The Committee is expected to adopt Gandhiji's statement to-morrow afternoon and may release it to the press as advised by Gandhiji.

"Hindu" Cor.)

# PREMIER'S RETURN TO LONDON

## Chamberlain and the Duce Had Frank Exchange of Views

### ITALY AND BRITAIN PROMISE TO WORK FOR PEACE

MR. Chamberlain leaves Rome on Saturday and is expected to reach London tomorrow. Lord Halifax will proceed to Geneva to attend the meeting of the Council of the League of Nations on Monday.

A JOINT communique on the Anglo-Italian talks was issued on Friday night, says Reuter. It declares that the major questions of the moment and the relations between the two Empires were examined and that the conversations were characterised by the greatest cordiality and led to a frank and wide exchange of views.

BOTH nations, it says, reaffirmed their desire to develop the relations between the two countries in that spirit of friendship which animates the Rome agreement of April 16th and also decided to proceed, as early as possible, to the conclusion of the special conventions set forth in that instrument.

During the conversations, it says in conclusion, there emerged once more the firm determination of Italy and Britain to pursue a policy aiming effectively at the maintenance of peace—a policy towards which the efforts of the two Governments have been, and will continue to be directed.

According to the present arrangements, Mr. Chamberlain will not call at Paris on his way to London.

### Italy will Pursue Aspirations

Rome, Friday.

Italy's precise intentions regarding the future still remain undefined, but it is assumed that she will actively pursue her aspirations, relying on the support of her axis partner (Germany). The negative atmosphere of the talks is reflected amongst the public here who do not deny a feeling of disappointment.

In the course of his conversations with the Duce, Mr. Chamberlain doubtless expressed his desire to maintain peace and asserted that the differences in the two regimes need be no bar to friendly relations. The Duce also, it is thought, must have repeated his pledges to maintain the Mediterranean status quo and to seek no special advantages in Spain.

Both sides also, it is believed, regretted the mounting cost of armaments but without being able to offer constructive suggestions.

The question of Jewish refugees also arose. There was no specific discussion on trade matters,

despite the evident desire here for Britain to increase her purchases from Italy. Thus, if the meetings were not as profitable as Mr. Chamberlain hoped, they have at least removed all doubts from the minds of the two statesmen about each other's views.

Mr. Chamberlain and Signor Mussolini seem to have found no fresh meeting ground or reason to hope that the Anglo-Italian agreement might be the prelude to closer collaboration on the wider issues in the interests of peace.

It is understood that the Duce, while leaving Italy's claims against France still unformulated, has not abated in the slightest Italy's "natural aspirations" and has not modified his policy of support for General Franco. If, on the other hand, the Duce expected to find Mr. Chamberlain ready to pave the way for French concessions in the interests of appeasement, he has now been made fully aware of the British attitude.

It is felt that Britain will be willing to use her good offices in helping to bring about an agreement if the Franco-Italian dispute were to take the course of orderly negotiations. The British side, however, considers that the recent anti-French demonstrations have done a disservice to peace and justifies at the present stage the negative attitude adopted by France in a settlement of a dispute of direct interest to France and Italy. There can, therefore, be no question of a Four-Power meeting which Italy might have liked.

While Signor Mussolini stressed his desire for peace, it is understood that he made no specific reference to France in this connexion.

### Broadcasting

AKASH-VANI, MYSORE

### This Week's Programme

Wavelength: 70.2 Meters. Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

CALL SIGN: V. U. 7. M. C.

#### Monday, the 16th January 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Light Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
7 to 8-30 p.m. European Music  
8-30 to 8-45 p.m. What do you Know?

#### Tuesday, the 17th January 1939

6 p.m. Orthestral Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
7 p.m. Readings from Kannada Literature by S. V. Srinivasa Rao, Esq., Secretary, The City Karnataka Sangha, Mysore  
7-30 to 8-45 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music

#### Wednesday, the 18th January 1939

6 p.m. Hindusthani Light Music  
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements  
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Veena Recital by Vidwan R. S. Subrahmanyam, accompanied by Vidwan Ramiah (Mridangam)

#### Thursday, the 19th January 1939

6 p.m. Nadaswaram Music  
6-15 p.m. News and announcements  
7 p.m. Popular Science: "The Talkies" by B. M. Sivaramiah, Esq.  
Nadaswaram Music (Contd.,)  
7-45 p.m. Tamil Drama: "Leela Shankar"  
8-15 p.m. Kannada Drama: "Ramanjaneya"

#### Friday, the 20th January 1939

6 p.m. Hindusthani Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
7 p.m. Readings from Koran by the courtesy of the Lajnat-ul-adab, Mysore  
7-45 to 9-45 p.m. Purandharadasara Punyadinam (Special Programme) Harikatha; "Purandhara Dasara Charithre" by Brahmasri Gamaki Ramakrishna Sastry

#### Saturday, the 21st January 1939

6 p.m. Instrumental Music  
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements  
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Asthana Vidwan Swaramurthy V. N. Rao, accompanied by Vidwan Subrahmanyam (Violin) and Asthana Vidwan Venkatesh Tevar (Mridangam)

#### Sunday, the 22nd Jan. 1939

No Broadcast

### Manager of Kondavil Hindu School

At a meeting of the Hindu residents of Kondavil held yesterday under the Chairmanship of Mr. K. Eliatamby, F.M.S. pensioner, a resolution was passed protesting against the election of a Manager of the said School made at a previous meeting attended by a few residents of the village and presided over by Mr. M. Thambipillai, Inspector of Schools.

The meeting unanimously resolved that Mr. P. Ariaratnam, son of the deceased Manager, Mr. S. N. Ponniah, be appointed Manager of the School. (Cor.)

## DEBATE ON REFORM PROPOSALS

FORMAL MOTION BY LEGAL SECRETARY

MINISTERIAL AMENDMENTS

Colombo, Jan. 14.

It is understood that the Board of Ministers has decided to place the resolution, embodying the Governor's Reform proposals, on the agenda for the next meeting of the State Council, on January 25.

The debate on the motion, however, is not likely to take place before February 7.

The question of the introduction of the Reform Motion was considered yesterday at a conference between the Governor and the Board of Ministers.

It was agreed that the Legal Secretary should introduce the formal motion, setting out separately the Reform proposals embodied in the Governor's despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, so as to enable a vote to be taken on each proposal.

### Ministerial Amendments

The Board of Ministers, it is learned, will introduce amendments to those proposals which they are not prepared to accept in toto.

It is understood that these amendments will concern the following:

(1) The proposals regarding the creation of the offices in Legal and financial Advisers to the Cabinet and the Governor.

(2) The method of selecting the Cabinet.

(3) The Public Services Commission.

The Board of Ministers, it is learned, favours the creation of a Ministry of Law, with the Chief Minister holding one of the nine portfolios.

They are of opinion that the Attorney-General should be the Government's Legal Adviser.

The Ministers, it is learned, propose that the Financial Adviser should be the head of the Treasury and should be in full control of the Treasury staff instead of its being placed under the Public Services Commission.

### Selection of Cabinet

The Ministers further suggest that the Chief Minister should have a greater degree of freedom in selecting the members of the Cabinet than is proposed by the Governor.

The Ministers have decided to reiterate their demand for an independent Public Services Commission.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Insurance Ordinance  
and Agents

Sir,—Please allow me the courtesy of your columns to bring to the notice of the authorities concerned the fact that some Postmasters and Teachers are doing insurance business on the sly apart from their duties. They get the agency in the name of their relations or trusted friends and carry on the business with the mutual arrangement of the insurance companies not to betray them. This is done not only by the abovementioned officers but also by those who are holding lucrative posts in Banks, Mercantile Firms, Estates, etc. The bank shroffs are said to be earning more income than any other officers. Even they, not being content with what they are earning in the banks, are doing insurance business to add to their present fortune. If these wealthy men are so selfish as to amass still more wealth, what will be the condition of the unemployed men? At a time when more than 50 per cent. of the educated men are unemployed and struggling for their existence, is it fair on the part of those in permanent employments to deprive the unemployed men from earning their livelihood? Greed has made them forget the wise saying that one should live and let others also to live.

Inspectors or chief representatives of insurance companies pay regular visits to the planting districts, and have appointed agents in almost every estate from among the Estate Staffs. The agencies are mostly given to Head clerks and dispensers, because these officers can find time to go about the place and canvass insurance business during their off time. The clerks on Estates have more influence among their brother officers, contractors, Kanganies and coolies, and as such, they are able to monopolise the insurance business in the planting districts to the detriment of the unemployed agents. They are doing this work without the knowledge of their superiors.

As the Insurance Ordinance is shortly to come into force, it is up to the Ministers to see that some restrictions are embodied in the ordinance to the effect that those who are holding appointments and others who are doing business at present should not be granted license to do life insurance business. This is very essential in order to safeguard the interest of the unemployed men. The councillors are trying to solve the unemployment problem for a long time without any success. Let them take the number of insurance companies operating in Ceylon. If each company employs 100 agents, how many of the unemployed men would be able to earn their livelihood? But at present, the unemployed men are holding agencies but they are unable to do any business and earn sufficient to make both ends meet, in view of the fact that influential agents such as bank shroffs, chief clerks in mercantile firms,

Anti-Crime Measures  
at Karukampanai

In pursuance of a notice issued by Police Vidhane Mr. V. Chelliah of Tellipallai West division, a largely attended public meeting of the residents of Karukampanai was held at his residence on the 8th to take steps to stop the unusual prevalence of crime in Jaffna spreading in their area.

Mr. M. Superamaniam, a landed proprietor, Karukampanai, was voted to the chair and Mr. M. Ponnampalam Ex.S. M. of F.M.S. was elected Secretary. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting and urged the immediate establishment of a volunteer corps in the village to safeguard the place by patrolling the different lanes at night. This was readily accepted by those assembled. A volunteer corps was immediately formed with the assistance of V.C. Chairman Tellipallai and the Ex-Chairman, Mr. S. Sangarapillai.

## THE CASTE SYSTEM

(Continued from page 3)

peculiar to India, though some other ancient nations of the world too e.g. the Hebrews, the Chaldeans, the Egyptians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Arabs, and the Tartars, had somewhat similar institutions of their own. Dr. Vincent A. Smith says that the caste system of the Hindus is "at least three thousand years old, is the most vital principle of Hinduism, dominating Indian social life, manners, morals and thought, and that it is founded on the intellectual and moral superiority of the Brahmans, which dates from Rig-Vedic times" (12)

(12) *Early History of India*, p. 34.  
(To be Continued.)

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Resale of Toddy Taverns for  
Non-Payment of Instalments

Notice is hereby given that the Assistant Government Agent, Mullaivivu will receive sealed tenders for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling fermented toddy by retail in the under-mentioned taverns for the period 1st February, 1939 to 30th June 1939, on Wednesday, January 25, 1939 at the old Kachechi at Mullaivivu. The sale will be conducted at the risk of the original grantees and on the original conditions.

2. The conditions of sale and any other required information can be obtained at the Vavuniya Kachechi.  
S. S. NAVARATNAM,  
Assistant Government Agent.

AMR

The Kachechi,

Vavuniya, 9th January, 1938.

List of taverns referred to:—

No	Local Area	Division	Time
1	Vadduvakallu	Maritime Pattus	10 a.m.
5	Vattapalai	—do—	10.15 ..
7	Chilavattai	—do—	10.30 ..

(G. 41. 16-1-39.)

wealthy men, etc. are able to monopolise the insurance business at the expense of the others. If the Councillors go into small things carefully and check the monopoly of a few, they would be able to help at least a small percentage of the unemployed men to earn for their living. If the Ministers have the welfare of the unemployed men at heart, they will not hesitate to adopt some restrictions to exclude men in employment and others doing business from doing insurance business.

A CITIZEN.

Manipay,  
11th January, 1939.The Proposed  
Constitutional Reform

(Continued from page 1)

he, addressing his Communal Associations, said that Justice was not being done to follow Sinhalese. It is the verdict of all right thinking people that the double distilled homogeneity as exhibited in the Board has eaten its own head off. Directed and guided by the Board, Sir Baron Jayatileke acted as he did on the faith in so-called collective responsibility. And in the result Sir Baron finds himself left out in the cold. Oh, No. Patriotism cannot be built on self-seeking or on greed of power. Its foundation is well and truly laid on truth and square dealing and honour. On the previous Board of Ministers these were a Thamil, a Moslem and a Kandyan Sinhalese Gentleman. The Board functioned creditably and well. The three gentlemen who were strangers to the Low-country imparted ballast and a wholesome fear to the Board and the State barge smoothly sailed the troubled waters till the end of the term.

Of the two sectionalisms, H. E. prefers the territorial. Europe has little experience in communal representation to lend light for guidance of Ceylon. The joint Committee to report on the constitutional reform for India has, however, laid down an admirable principle for guidance. To quote from the report:—The Committee states that the safest hypothesis on which they can proceed, and one most in accordance with the British constitutional history is that the future Government of India will be successful in proportion as it represents not a new creation but a natural evolution of past tendencies."

Ceylon is *par excellence* a land of sectionalisms territorial, communal and vocational. And communal sectionalism is larger than territorial and for that reason the representative on the former basis is bound to nurse wider sympathies and broader outlook than one who represents a small territorial area. A French statesman has said that "the narrower the constituencies, the narrower the conception which its member has of his functions and the more he thinks when voting in the chamber of the impression his vote will produce *not* on France but upon his electors."

In the opinion of eminent continental jurists the system of artificial territorial divisions and numerical majorities is a sham and a delusion and they have advocated the legal recognition of property, profession, crafts, industry and commerce in the constitution of the representative system.

The late Ramsay MacDonald (Prime Minister) wrote in his book thus: "Many thinkers as well as Parliamentary Labourites are emphasizing with genuine warmth on the substitution of occupational constituencies in place of the antiquated local references."

It is evident that Ceylon attained its highest watermark in efficiency when its government was run on communal and vocational sectionalisms accompanied by Executive devolution.

In no country other than in Great Britain had the two-party

system taken root. Even there, the party line has long since become blurred and faint. The tendency at present is for parties to break into groups.

A thinker such as Bryce who expresses himself with care thinks party Government a necessary evil, but still an evil that should be checked". The people of Great Britain yearn for the continuance of the present form of National Government.

There is no historical back ground in Ceylon for the emergence of two political parties. We know that presence of more than two parties will not be conducive to the efficiency of Cabinet Government.

Even assuming that a two-party government is possible what can be the "true issues" this country can with safety divide itself and continue to do so.

I think the emergence of parties in the true political sense should remain a tantalising vision for a long time yet.

What is possible practicable and at the same time feasible is the association of good and patriotic men of like views and courage of convictions in the guidance to the destiny of Ceylon.

## NOTICE

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(Q. 246 9-1-39—8-4-39) M

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFFNA  
(held at Point Pedro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 69/P.T.

In the matter of the intestate estate  
of the late Mailvaganam Thamo-  
tharampillai of Thunnalai South  
Deceased.Kasinathar Ambikaibakar of Kaithady  
Vs. Petitioner.  
Thangaratnam wife of Kasinathar  
Ambikaibakar of Kaithady  
Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. E. A. Samarakkody, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Jaffna on the 6th day of July, 1938, in the presence of Mr. M. Esurapadham, Proctor S. C. on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioner as son-in-law of the deceased be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 22nd of July, 1938, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 8th day of July, 1938.

Sgd. C. E. A. Samarakkody,

Additional District Judge.

Extended and reissued for 19th

January, 1939.

Sgd. S. Rodrigo,

A. D. J.

(O. 79. 12 &amp; 16-1-39.)

# WHO WILL WIN THE NEXT WAR?

(Continued from page 1)

cannot be a matter of indifference to us. A friendly Spain is desirable, a neutral Spain vital.

### German-Italian Domination

It is clear that a German-Italian domination of Spain would place heavy odds against the success of Britain and France in a war with these Powers. It is far less clear how Franco could shake himself free from such foreign influence, even if he wished. The course of the Civil War in Spain has been governed to an increasing extent by the material help which these Powers have furnished to Franco.

By recognising the fact of the continued breach of non-intervention by Germany and Italy, and allowing Government Spain to purchase on nominal terms enough material resources to restore the balance, they could have averted this dangerous turn of the Mediterranean situation and produced a condition of stalemate favourable to mediation. If Germany and Italy had replied by a large increase in the quantities of material, they had already sent, France and Britain were in a better strategic position for such competition—since the former Powers would be locking up military resources in a potentially isolated theatre. Thus it was unlikely that they would have dared to press their objections to the point of war. If they had, we should have fought with all the advantages of the defensive and under favourable circumstances of strategic geography than we could hope for once Spain was "conquered." For these reasons the risk was less than that presented by any other contingency that could be foreseen.

Let us now turn our eyes Northward to the Franco-German frontier situation. Helped by the predominant tactical factor of the present time, it appears more favourable. A German offensive against the French frontier would be met by the Rhine and the Maginot Line, whose resisting power is enhanced by mechanised rapidity of reinforcement.

### German Offensive in the West

An attempt to make a renewed sidestep through Belgium would have to overcome not only the modern superiority of the defence, but a series of waterlines which are serious obstacles to the mechanised forces on which the chances of a rapid advance would largely depend. The alternative detour through Switzerland would have to overcome still more obstacles and a Swiss defence that is better prepared and quicker to mobilise than in 1914.

The one comparatively easy target in the West is Holland, and the present weakness of her defences forms a temptation. If a land advance in that direction would still have to face the newly developed fortifications of Belgium before reaching other objectives, it would enable Germany to establish air bases within a hundred miles of the English coast.

With this exception, the practicability of a serious German offensive in the West is doubtful. Moreover, even if the bulk of the German army could be concentrated in the West, it would be

far short of a three-to-one superiority unless a great part of the French strength could be drawn away.

Unfortunately, the recent developments on her Southern frontiers complicate the defence problem of France. An Italian invasion may not be a serious danger because of the natural obstacles which face it. More-over, an air counter-stroke would find its most effective target in large forces that try to squeeze through mountain defiles. But the threat would compel the French to maintain a necessary minimum of force to guard against it; and because of the frontier that minimum would come to a considerable amount. Similar reflections apply to the new possibility of a threat from a Francoist Spain. Beyond this is the handicap that France would suffer, in using her available forces, from the presence of Italy, if hostile, in the Mediterranean. Under present conditions Italy's sea and air forces might be kept in check by the combined British and France fleets, with their craft resources. But the possibility would be much diminished if Spain were controlled by a hostile regime.

Such a survey of the military situation in Europe presents a rather gloomy picture. It shows what strategic advantages the peaceful Powers have forfeited, and what a state of insecurity they have reached by their hesitation to take risks in maintaining collective security. But it does not imply that the policy of mutual insurance is better abandoned, nor that it is too late to retrieve the situation.

### Germany's Inadequate Resources

We should not lose sight of the present inadequacy of Germany's resources—and the natural superiority of those which might be opposed to her—for prolonged struggle.

The question that faces Hungary, Roumania and Yugoslavia is whether they will lend themselves to Germany's penetration and domination. Taking account of the ultimate danger to themselves they have good reason to count the cost, and weigh the alternative possibility of a Central European compact for mutual defence—of their interests and independence. The combination of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Roumania and Yugoslavia would be a formidable obstacle, and consequently a powerful deterrent to aggressive designs. It would be sufficiently strong to allay the present doubts of the Great Powers who still adhere to the League, and thus justify support from their still greater forces. But only through the assurance of such support are the States of Central and South-Eastern Europe likely to choose the immediate risk involved in such a compact to the more far-reaching risks of surrender.

If Poland were to join in such an insurance scheme the entry of Italy on the other side would become improbable—for her policy has always been governed by shrewd calculation of comparative odds and prospects. And with that subtraction, a European war would become an improbability.

# A SHORT STORY

(Continued from Page 2)

love for her.

And the companions gaped at each other. And they still asked: "Mortal or divine?"

V

"Did you hear that?" asked Mohini. The Maharaja, who had just entered his bed room leaning on Mohini, paused to hear.

It was the Bhajan of Maharani Indira in her temple—for it was already 4 a.m. when Amarsinghji returned to bed.

The bhajan—praise of God—poured forth from a mind trained to lay it at His invisible feet.

No wonder it thrilled the hearer. No wonder Mohini stood as if she were a stone.

And Amarsinghji also stood still—it seemed as if all the effects of his drink had disappeared at the sound of that voice that was wafted from the farthest end of the palace.

"Shri Maharaj, let us go and watch her pray—come."

And Amarsinghji, usually obstinate and violent, was led like a baby by Mohini.

"No noise—let us not interrupt her—but she cannot be interrupted. She is not of this earth." Mohini corrected herself as, standing a little away, they watched Maharani Indira worship.

"The 'Shivlinga' was dripped with water. Flowers had been thrown on it. Indira was in ecstasy, as it were—she was before her Maker. She sang and she danced the *thandava* dance.

Rooted to the spot Amarsinghji and Mohini looked on.

Indira in her mind had made a God of the stone—and she was before God!

And she was in thrills of beatitude.

Even as they were looking, they saw Indira suddenly stop and, extending both her hands, flung them round the 'Shivlinga' and fell down—in a hypnotic trance. Everything was silent in the room—The stone, the flowers and the woman who lay prostrate.

"Come away—it is too sacred a sight—" Mohini whispered. But Amarsinghji would not move. He stood to the spot. He watched the body that lay, for all practical purposes, dead.

Five minutes—ten—fifteen—twenty—twenty-five—thirty—

And Indira lay still. Motionless.

One of Indira's companions came at this time—she had some rose water in her hand. She stood away in surprise as she saw the Maharaja. Come do not fear—she has been lying like that for half an hour," the Maharaja explained.

"Sometimes she does so, Maharaja Saheb," explained the companion.

"Our instructions are to enter the temple at 5 a.m. and, if she is in a trance, to sprinkle this water. Then she wakes up."

The water was sprinkled—and Indira woke.

"My Lord—" she said as she found her husband and prostrated before him, touching his feet. "May my God bless you."

And Indra drew Mohini to her side and gently pressed her hair and kissed her.

"Sister, may God love you, for

you are making His Highness happy.

And then a strange thing happened.

Amarsinghji went forward near the image and prostrated himself.

"Shri Mahadev, from now I shall not touch drink or woman—make me worthy of my wife."

Saying that the strong man gave way—before the image of stone he wept—wept like a child.

"Mother, from now I am your slave—" and Mohini also fell at Indira's feet.

"What is all this?—" And Indira went and took her husband by his hand.

He rose and followed her.

"You order and I obey—" he simply said to Indira.

"It is God—I saw Him to-day. He has made you His instrument from to-day. Who knows? His ways are mysterious."

"Maharaja Amarsinghji-ki-jai"—

The city was ringing. For they saw that the wild courtiers were gone from the palace. They saw that revenue collections were considerably lowered. They saw that good men and true, hitherto the laughing stock of young men who followed the Maharaj, were now installed in power.

VI

"I do what you ask me to do—help me to follow the ways that lead my people to prosperity and contentment"—His Highness had said.

More than that—Amarsinghji, in open darbar had called on one of the poor spectators standing far away and taking his crown, had given it into his hands. "Place the crown on my head with your hands—and take it away the day you find that I do not deserve it".

Thus Amarsinghji had been recrowned.

"Maharaja Amarsinghji-ki-jai." The Darbar hall threatened to come down. On the terrace, behind the purdah, with Mohini, the prostitute of yesterday but a sanyasini to-day, dressed in yellow robes, Maharani Indira sat watching the scene.

"Do you not see God behind my husband? I see him. He is gilding my husband—He is making my husband His instrument".

(Roy's Weekly)

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Case No. 660 T

In the matter of the estate of the late J. R. Nathaniel of Nalloor

Deceased.

Amirtharetnam Nathaniel widow of J. R. Nathaniel of Nalloor.

and

1. Gladys Alagarajini Nathaniel  
2. Reginald Kulaveera Pragas Nathaniel  
3. Alfred Muttunayagam Nathaniel all of Nalloor

Respondents

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that 3rd Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over 1st and 2nd Respondents and Letters of Administration be granted to the widow coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna in the presence of Mr. C. T. Kumaraswamy Proctor it is ordered that 3rd Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over 1st & 2nd Respondents and Letters of Administration be granted to the widow unless the Respondents shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on the 18th day of January 1939.

This 30 November 1938

Sd. C. COOMARASWAMY,

D. J.

(O. 80, 12 & 16-1-39)

**Order Nisi**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFENA

(held at Point Pedro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 63/PT.

In the matter of the Estate of the  
late Charles Vallipuram Sitham-  
parappillai of Thunnalai South

Deceased.

Ezakkial Vairavanathcr Veeragathy of  
Point Pedro Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Margaret Pakkiam Sitham-  
parappillai

2. Samuel Winfred Nasadurai  
Sithamparappillai both of  
Point Pedro —Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal  
before C. E. A. Samarakkody Esquire,  
Additional District Judge, Jaffna, on  
the 4th day of June, 1938, in the pre-  
sence of Mr. M. Esurapadham,  
Proctor, S. C. on the part of the peti-  
tioner and the petitioner and affidavit  
of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the 1st Respon-  
dent be appointed guardian-ad-litem  
over the minor the 2nd Respondent,  
that the petitioner as the father-in-  
law of the deceased be declared en-  
titled to take out Letters of Adminis-  
tration and that Letters of Adminis-  
tration be issued to him accordingly  
unless the Respondents or any other  
person shall appear before this Court  
on or before the 17th day of June,  
1938, and shew sufficient cause to the  
satisfaction of this Court to the  
contrary.

This 4th day of June, 1938.

Sgd. C. E. A. Samarakkody,  
Additional District Judge.  
Extended and Reissued for 19th  
January, 1939

Sgd S. Rodrigo,  
A. D. J.

(O. 78. 12 & 16-1-39.)

**Order Nisi**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
JAFENA

(held at Point Pedro.)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 79/PT.

In the matter of the Estate of the  
late Sivakamippillai widow of Sin-  
nashamby of Puloly West

Deceased.

Sinnathamby Veluppillai of Puloly  
West Petitioner.

Vs.

Veluppillai Veeragathippillai of do  
Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal  
before C. E. A. Samarakkody, Esquire,  
Additional District Judge on the 18th  
day of October, 1938 in the presence  
of Mr. M. Esurapadham Proctor on  
the part of the Petitioner and the  
Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner  
having been read.

It is hereby ordered that the Peti-  
tioner be and is hereby declared en-  
titled to take out Letters of Adminis-  
tration to the above Estate as the  
son of the deceased and that Letters  
of Administration be issued to him  
accordingly unless the Respondent  
abovenamed or any other persons ap-  
pear and shew cause to the contrary  
on or before the 10th day of Novem-  
ber, 1938.

The 20th day of October 1938.

Sgd. C. E. A. Samarakkody,  
Additional District Judge.

Extended and reissued for 20th  
January 1939.

Sgd. S. Rodrigo,  
A. D. J.

(O. 77. 12 & 16-1-39.)

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(Mis. 236. 26-12-38—16-1-39.)

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[M.]

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