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GERMAN MANOEUVRES IN EAST AND WEST

Hitler's Design Behind Tientsin Blockade

BRITAIN AND GERMANY TURN TOWARDS RUSSIA

By an Indian Looking West

TIENTSIN continues to hold the world-stage. The blockade has entered on its fourth week and how can the incident now be localised? Obviously, it cannot be, for reasons that Hitler and Mussolini know full well. A lull was disturbed by the German occupation of Austria and Czechoslovakia; the shock died down. Then it was the turn of Mussolini; Albania paid the price. There was, then, not even a shock. Now it is the chance of the third partner, Japan, to feather its own nest. Tientsin was intended by Hitler to draw away a portion of British troops and warships from the Mediterranean and Atlantic waters. But the idea has misfired. Far from disturbing the dispositions in the European waters, Britain and France have put their heads together and devised at Singapore a scheme of defence in the Far East that will not impair the strength at home nor necessitate hurried movements to the East. Thus Hitler has been out-Hitlered. But the laugh is still on the side of the Fascist powers. Of course, there has been an open rivalry between the Fascist powers to conduct the front-attack on the democracies so that their particular plans might get the first chance. Will Hitler, therefore, allow the Tientsin blockade so long as to put into shade his designs on the Continent and outside? However, the *chef d'oeuvre* of the Fascists in the Far East has done its trick well so far and the famous "appeasement" policy of the Chamberlain Government has again been in prominence as a result.

Inspired Reports

Who has got the ear of Mr. Chamberlain to-day? Who

keeps the conscience of the "umbrella Government" that has so far persisted in making a record number of blunders and has made the freedom of millions in Europe into a mockery? This honourable distinction of the "conscience keeper" has been earned by Sir Francis Lindley, ex-Ambassador in Tokio, who denounced the negotiations with the Soviet and with whom the Premier spent his Whitsun week-end. Naturally, therefore, gossip was busy. The Strang mission in Moscow was only for spinning out time and to feed the world with the illusion that England meant serious business and was keen in closing up the Russian deal. But while Strang was in Moscow, "appeasement" speeches were doled out in full measure in the Parliament. The "conscience-keeper" did his work well. Inspired reports were splashed in the press that there was a possibility of a "deal" between German and English "big business."

Secret of the Deadlock

The rumour went forth that Chamberlain had promised a new appeasement plan to Germany if only she would bide her time. The Soviets had to be talked out. Mr. Strang knew the Russian psychology, having had a first-hand knowledge of the country and could handle the Russians on their own plane. The "New Munich," in the mean-while is to be hatched, with Russia left out, on the basis of a Five-Power Conference. Herein lies the secret of the deadlock in Anglo-Russian talks

A Colonial Munich?

Dark whispers are heard in the precincts of the Colonial Office and outside that is going
(Continued on Page 6)

APPLIED SCIENCES IN ANCIENT INDIA

II. Metallurgy

By S. R. Muttakumar

(Continued from our issue of 3-7-39)

THAT the ancient Hindus possessed a knowledge of the use of metals from very ancient times is evident from various references in the Rig Veda. One word, *ayas*, occurs very frequently (1). The horse of the Aswamedha ceremony is said to have manes of gold and feet of *ayas* (2). That *ayas* was a metal is certain, but what metal exactly it was seems to be a little doubtful. It is not gold, since it is separately mentioned above with gold itself. It may mean either bronze, or copper, or iron; or again it may be used as a general term for these baser metals. Atharva Veda, however, gives the names of all the reputed seven metals.

We are told of arrows used in war in Rig. 1. 140. 10, in ii. 39. 4; in iii. 53. 2; and in various other places. In ii. 34. 3, we have reference to olden helmets, and in iv. 34. 9, here is mention of armour for the shoulders, probably a shield. In v. 57. 2, mention is made of swords and battle-axes, and sharp-edged swords are spoken of in vi. 47. 10.

The above uses of metals implies their extraction from ores. The exact process of the operation of smelting is not described anywhere in the Rig Veda or the later Brahmanas, but its reference is unmistakable. It occurs in a passage of the Rig Veda (3) in two forms, viz: *dhmata*, meaning a smelter, and *dhmatari*, meaning the furnace where the metal was smelt. The smelter is also described as having the wings of birds for the purpose of fanning the flame. (4)

That the ancient Hindus were well acquainted with the reputed seven metals and their alloys is also apparent from the writings of Sukra who says: "Gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, tin and iron—

these are the seven metals. Others are mixtures (alloys). Bronze is the alloy of zinc and copper, *pitalai* (brass) of copper and tin. (5)

Sukra gives the following relation between the metals in value. (6)

Gold	=	16	Silver
Silver	=	80	Copper
Copper	=	1½	Zinc
Zinc	=	2	Tin
	=	3	Lead
Copper	=	6	Iron

He also says that the knowledge of the analysis and synthesis (combination) of metals is one of the 64 kalas (arts) (7)

Megasthenes writes: "And while the soil bears on its surface all kinds of fruits which are known to cultivation, it has also underground numerous veins of all sorts of metals, for it contains much gold and silver, and copper and iron in no small quantity, and even tin and other metals which are employed in making articles of use and ornaments as well as the implements and accoutrements of war." (8)

The *Arthashastra* of Kautiliya says that during the reign of Chandragupta there was a Superintendent of Land Mines who was equipped with the necessary scientific apparatus. His duty was to pay particular attention to the depths of colour, weight, smell, taste, oiliness, adhesiveness, power of amalgamating with particular metals, and several other mechanical and chemical properties of the ores, in order to ascertain the nature and richness of a mine. The *Arthashastra* also gives an elaborate classification of the properties of the ores of gold, float-gold, silver, bitumen, copper, lead, tin, iron, bronze, etc. (9)

In *Madanapala-Nighantu*, a work on drugs (c. 1374) zinc

(Continued on page 7)

(5) *Sukraniti* IV ii 173-6

(6) *Ibid*, IV ii, 181-4

(7) *Ibid*, IV iii 148

(8) Bk. I. Fragment I. Mc Crindle's trans.

(9) Bk. II. Chapter xii.

(1) Op. cit. i. 57.3; iv. 2.17; vi. 3.5; etc.

(2) Op. cit. i. 163.9.

(3) Op. cit. v. 9.5.

(4) Rig Veda, ix, 112. 2.

PROTEST AGAINST MUNICIPALITY FOR JAFFNA

Memorandum of Rate-Payers' Association

THE following is the full text of the memorandum forwarded to the Minister for Local Administration by the Jaffna Urban Rate-payers' Central Association:—

The announcement by you said to have been recently made to the Government Agent, N. P. and the Chairman, Urban District Council, Jaffna, that a Municipality would be established in Jaffna, as from 1941 has taken the rate-payers completely by surprise. Those of them, who had earlier heard rumours of this matter thought that the idea had been entirely scotched, when the majority of the members of the U. D. C. in 1936 had in strong terms condemned the proposal, when circularised on the subject, by the then Chairman, presumably at your instance. Since then, they had neither been notified of the renewed proposal nor had their wishes on the matter been asked for by you. The elected members now representing them in the Council had not consulted them and some of them even new openly state, that they are not bound to consult the rate-payers even on such a vital issue.

We submit that the matter was prominently brought before us, only after its discussion in the U. D. C. Meeting.

Strong and united opposition against the introduction of a Municipality, based on good and valid reasons has since expressed itself throughout the urban area and we can now confidently say, that between 90 and 95 per cent of the people are opposed to the establishment of Municipality.

Main Reasons of the Opposition

We beg to summarise below the main reasons on which, this opposition is based, and request that you would be pleased to give them their due weight and careful consideration.

In our opinion the result of the voting in the U. D. C.—supposed to represent the rate-payers—was adverse to the proposal. An official Member,—the Medical Officer of Health—with no fixed stake in the Town save his temporary employment was said to have voted for the Municipality. The other official Member—the Provincial Engineer—who though present had properly refrained from voting, had not been counted as having voted against the motion, in spite of a Ruling of the Attorney General which had been observed in this Council all these years.

We fail to see why in such a vital discussion the said Ruling should not have been adhered to and the results of the voting reported to you accordingly.

We therefore submit, that the voting on the above subject was 6 to 6 and in the absence of a casting vote to the contrary, the motion should have been reported rejected.

We further submit that your decision based as it is on the reported carrying of the said resolution in the Urban Council needs revision and should be considered in the light of such

facts as we are able to present before you.

Mass Meetings

We need not reiterate the principle that in Local Government, the wishes of the majority of the people concerned, when expressed, in clear and unmistakable language, both from platform and from the press should be given a favourable hearing and should not be lightly disregarded. On the contrary this should be the decisive factor. This should be all the more so with the residents of Jaffna, the head-quarters of the Tamil Community in Ceylon, which has acquired a name for itself as a progressive Town where the rate-payers and others interested in the welfare of the Town jealously guard their rights and interests and carefully scrutinise the ways and methods in which the taxes levied from them are being spent. The Jaffna myn if convinced that the proposed introduction will benefit him, will joyfully welcome the establishment, but in view of the facts hereinafter set forth, the majority amounting to between 90 and 95 per cent of the rate-payers, whom we have the honour to represent, are firmly opposed to the proposed introduction. This has been shown in the several mass meetings held in the different Wards of the Jaffna Urban area.

Declining Wealth

The wealth of Jaffna has continued to decline during the past many years. The Cigar Industry on which it was mainly based has fallen on evil days. No prospect has appeared in the horizon of improving conditions. Unemployment and poverty prevail among the workers, 80 per cent of whom make up the population of the Urban area.

The enforced retrenchment of our countrymen in public service in the Federated Malay States and Strait Settlements, has stopped the inflow of money in to the country from these parts Landed properties on which their monies had been previously invested have consequently fallen in price, and a property which about ten years ago was valued at Rs. 10,000 would with the best of advertisements fetch only less than one half of the price in the open market now.

The depression which was not felt in Jaffna when at its peak in the South Ceylon has now set in locally. This may be clearly deduced from the fact, that almost all the money lending Chetty Firms in Jaffna had to close their business during recent years and to leave Jaffna as bankrupts.

The Malayalam trade in tobacco, which used to furnish an appreciable income to a portion of the Jaffna residents is threatened with extinction.

No new industry has been started, nor is there any prospect of the financial condition of the Town residents being improved in the near future.

Urgent Necessities

The Urban District Council has

only recently decided upon supplying a limited portion of the Town with pipe borne drinking water. This, we understand, is estimated to cost about Eight and a half lakhs of rupees. The portion of the amount to be borrowed from the Central Government will have to be repaid by instalments, with stipulated interest thereon. The annual recurrent maintenance expenditure has also to be met. The Housing scheme at Katayur talked of for many years, has only been recently started. Finances have to be found to meet the necessary expenditure thereon.

These, along with certain systems of drainage channels for the Town shelved for want of funds are immediate and urgent necessities, which cannot be postponed further in the interests of the Town. Water rate and the increased expenditure will, not to speak of a probable Education Tax, necessitate the increase of the current rate of 12½ per cent to 16 or 17 per cent which rate some years back when a Municipality was not even dreamt of, had been carefully calculated and fixed upon as the maximum taxable capacity of Jaffna.

Increase in Establishment Charges

The rate-payers justly assume, that the introduction of a Municipality will necessarily increase the establishment charges. Salary for the Commissioner has to be found. A separate Medical Officer of Health has to be appointed; a Water-works Engineer and other highly paid departmental Heads have to be provided for, along with the increased Clerical staff and Sanitary Assistants, midwives etc.

The Rate-payers apprehensive as they are of the new inevitable increase in taxation as shown above feel themselves unable to shoulder additional taxation consequent on the establishment of a Municipality. They feel certain that the existing machinery of the U. D. C. improved by the proposed amendments thereto is quite sufficient to meet their demands and requirements. They have not outgrown the possibilities of progress under the present system and feel, they would be in a better position as a progressive Town and foremost among the Urban District Councils than a second rate Municipality into which they would be converted if your pre-

sent proposals are put into effect. The Rate-payers submit that if, as contended by some, economics could be effected in the present expenditure by starving the new constitution without any additional taxation, it would be a case of starving necessary amenities by cutting down routine work and neglecting maintenance for the simple honour of being called a Municipality.

A Plebiscite

The rate-payers submit that if you or your Committee are not convinced about the widespread discontent and protest against the proposed introduction, you would be pleased to have a plebiscite over the matter. If, as we understand, such a course has not been legally provided for, the present Urban Council may be dissolved or the elected members may be asked to resign and seek re-election on the sole plank of the early introduction of a Municipality in Jaffna. We make this suggestion especially in view of the fact that the voting of the present Council on this issue had resulted in a tie as pointed out earlier. It must not be forgotten, that only four out of the eight elected members want a Municipality, whereas the considered opinion of 95 per cent of the people is overwhelmingly against it.

We would therefore in the interests of the rate-payers and in the name of the majority, request you not to foist an unwanted Municipality on an unwilling Jaffna, to reconsider kindly the matter and review your decision and if necessary visit the area for yourself and ascertain in person the wishes of the people, who are to bear the burden of the Municipal taxes.

If you so decide, we will be only too happy to make the necessary arrangements for it and to place our services at your disposal, to help you to meet the tax payers of Jaffna who would consider themselves fortunate to be able to meet you in their own Town and to place their grievances before you.

We request that you would be pleased to give our representation your favourable consideration and to revise your proposal to introduce a Municipality into Jaffna as from January 1941.

The rate-payers of Jaffna Town in their individual capacities and by their different Wards are busy preparing a signed protest against the establishment of a Municipality in Jaffna which we expect to have the honour of forwarding you in the course of a few days.

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ABOLITION OF COMMITTEE SYSTEM

Debate in State Council

LACK OF COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

THE debate on the motion for the abolition of the Committee system was taken up in the State Council on Thursday and continued on Friday.

Mr. Howard moved:—

"That the administration of the groups of subjects and functions specified in the First Schedule to the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council, 1931, shall no longer be entrusted to Executive Committees of the State Council as provided by Article 34 of the said Order and such Executive Committees shall be abolished."

Mr. H. J. Haxham (Financial Secretary) seconded.

Dr. A. P. de Zoysa moved as an amendment the addition of the following words to the motion: "and new Advisory Committees shall be formed to advise each Minister, who will act as the Chairman of each Committee."

Dr. de Zoysa said that from experience they knew that the Executive Committees had done very useful service. They had created a set of Councillors who had specialised in certain works. On the face of that to thrust on them straightaway the British system was not prudent. The Ministers may be bound by the Cabinet but it in no way precluded them from taking the advice of the Advisory Committees. Such Committees would also remove the bickerings of members in the present Executive Committees, who wanted to become Ministers.

Mr. Tambimuttu seconded.

The Council at this stage adjourned for tea.

Mr. S. Natesan (Kankasanturai), speaking on consumption of the Council after the tea interval, said that the Committee system enabled each member to understand how the Government worked and to take a proper share in the Government. It was the very foundation on which the democracies of the East had been built. The Minister of Local Administration had at one time stood for the perpetual continuance of the Committee system but now some mysterious change had come over him. It seemed to be the fashion in that House that whatever was not on the British model of Government should be done away with. When a Cabinet was foisted on the country there would be some sort of Party system, which had no real basis and which would introduce all the abuses of a hotch-potch. Some members seemed to have changed their view because minority members thought that the Committee system was a safeguard. When the demands of the minority communities were not heeded by authorities or the majority of the members it became imperative that there should be at least a safeguard of that kind.

"Dictators in Cabinet"

Mr. H. R. Fresman (Anuradhapura) said that in 1936 the Leader

of the Board of Ministers had boasted about the success of the Board in making itself pan-Sinhalese and homogeneous. That was when that Minister was lasting for power. In 1939 the Board had deplored that fact in their memorandum to the Secretary of State. The objective of the latter move was, he said, for them to become dictators in a Cabinet. Was it possible then to speak further on that subject in parliamentary language, he asked.

The abolition of Executive Committees would, he said, mean consenting to the appointment and the election of Deputy Ministers because the passing of that motion would mean the acceptance of the whole scheme. It would mean the creation of that artificially inflated permanent majority in that House. That was, in his view, one of the most vicious features of the whole scheme, which, he felt, was otherwise to their advantage.

Personally, he did not believe that there was anything inherently bad in the Committee system. On the other hand, he wished to state that, so far as their Executive Committee was concerned, there had been no instance where action had been delayed through lack of co-operation or refusal by the Executive Committee to follow the Minister's lead or help him whenever they could.

Fixing Responsibility

Dr. N. M. Perera (Ruanwella) said that, regarding the statement that Executive Committees had concerned themselves with too much details, if it were so, the Ministers were responsible for it because it was they who were responsible for preparing the Agenda. The Ministers should have concentrated the attention of the Executive Committees on questions of policy. All that trouble, he suggested, had arisen owing to a lack of ideas on the part of the Ministers. They, however, had an exception in the case of the Executive Committee of Agriculture. The Minister of Agriculture had never failed to carry his Executive Committee with him, whenever he had boldly taken a step and come out with his policy.

Referring next to the allegation that the executive Committee system made it difficult to fix responsibility, he said that it was not such a difficult problem in a small assembly like theirs. On the other hand, if they had not had the Executive Committee system of Government during the last few years, the University question, for instance, would have been completely shelved.

So far as the question of appointments was concerned it was true that they could not fix responsibility, but that was not the fault of system but was due to the fact that they had the Officers of State in that House.

He next repudiated the charge that the Executive Committees had interfered with details of administration. Even if that charge was

Planters Assure Estate Labourers

Will Resist Involuntary Repatriation

At a Meeting of the Standing Committee for Labour, Excise and Medical Wants, held on Tuesday, the 27th June, 1949, among other matters discussed the state of anxiety that exists among immigrant labourers on Estates consequent on recent legislation passed regard to certain classes of Non-Ceylonese employed in Government Departments, and they finally decided that the following resolution should be circulated among District Planters' Associations:—

"The Planters' Association of Ceylon is aware of the anxiety that exists amongst Estate Labourers due to the recent action taken by Government against certain classes of non-Ceylonese employed in Government Departments.

The Planters' Association of Ceylon supported by the Ceylon Estates Proprietary Association desires publicly to assure all concerned that Estate Labour is a matter in which it is vitally interested and that it will oppose with all the strength at its command any measures which are likely to affect the well-being of Estate Labourers and will especially resist any section that may be directed towards the involuntary repatriation of Indian labourers on Estates in Ceylon."

true, were they not justified, he asked, in view of the fact that that was the only control they could have over the heads of departments.

Dr. N. M. Perera, continuing his speech, said that the absence of the Committee system would have made absolutely no difference in the composition of the present Board of Ministers because the Ministers had been chosen among themselves even before the Committees had been set up. If it were argued that the Committee system in those circumstances had failed, it was not a condemnation of the Committees but a condemnation of the Congress, the Board of Ministers and of the Leader of the House. If there was corruption under an Executive Committee system, it would be far worse in a Cabinet system in which, if a Minister was corrupt, he could practise corruption without interference from anybody.

The Committee system, Dr. Perera contended, made for the quick dispatch of business and gave opportunities for adjustments in order to accommodate the minority communities. Very little constructive work would be possible for back-bench members under a Cabinet system.

"Main Defect"

Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya (Galle) in supporting the motion, said that as early as in 1928 the Ceylon National Congress and other bodies had vehemently protested against the Donoughmore Constitution because they had felt that the Executive Committee scheme was a novel one, which was not likely to prove a success. However in view of the other advantages of the Constitution, they had agreed to try it as an experiment on the

(Continued on Page 5.)

RECEPTION TO PT. NEHRU

REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTED

TO BE COUNTRY'S GUEST

Colombo, Saturday.

A RECEPTION Committee of nearly two hundred men, representative of all communities in the country, was appointed at a meeting held at Sir Baron Jayatilaka's residence, Colombo, yesterday evening, to welcome Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, who is due to arrive here by air on July 16th.

Sir Baron, who was expected to preside, being ill, the chair was taken by Mr. D. S. Se anayake who explained that the committee was merely to see to the comfort of Mr. Nehru during his stay of a week in the Island. The programme of work would be left entirely to Pundit Nehru.

Mr. A. L. de Witt, Mr. S. Somasunderam and Mr. A. W. H. Abey-sundere were elected Secretaries of the Committee and Mr. E. G. Adamally and Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya, the Treasurers, with Sir Wilfred de Soysa as Chairman.

Pundit Nehru, who is to be the guest of the people, will arrive at 2:30 p.m. at the Ratmalana aerodrome, and a garden party will be held on Monday, July 17th.

A furnished bungalow will be placed at his disposal in Guildford Crescent, Cinnamon Gardens.

Mr. R. Rustomjee stated that Pundit Nehru had written to him to the effect that on the day of his arrival he would have a brief conference with the Indians and that on the following day he would meet the Board of Ministers.

Raj's Blessing

Bangalore, Friday.

"I hope Pundit Nehru will be successful in his mission to Ceylon. It is a good thing he has undertaken it. He goes out not only with the support of the Indian National Congress, but also with the support of the Government of India. If there is to be repatriation, then it should be on a scale agreed to by the two Governments. Unilateral action by Ceylon is indefensible," said Mr. F. E. James, M.L.A. Central, in an interview with the Associated Press today.

Junior Secondary Schools Sports Meet

The Junior Secondary Schools Sports Meet for the Town Division was held at the St. John's College grounds on Saturday, the 8th inst.

The results of the meet were as follows:

- (1) Drieberg English School, 46 points.
- (2) Vaideshwara Vidyalaya 36 points.
- (3) Kokkivil Hindu English School, 30 points.
- (4) Kilner College 14 points.

The final sports meet for the Junior Secondary Schools of the Northern Province will be held on the 14th and 15th July.

Broadcasting

AKASH-VANI,
MYSORE

This Week's Programme

Wavelength: 702 Meters. Frequency: 4265 Kc/S.

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

Monday, the 10th July, 1939

6 p.m. Nadaswaram
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music
7 p.m. Do you know?

Tuesday, the 11th July 1939

6 p.m. Hindusthani Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 p.m. Karnatic instrumental music
7 p.m. Readings from Maha Bharatha by Srimathi Nagamma

Wednesday, the 12th July 1939

6 p.m. Orchestral Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Vidwan K. Venkatasubba Avadhani, accompanied by Vidwan Subramanyam, (Violin) & Vidwan Ramiah, (Mridangan.)

Thursday, the 13th July 1939

6 p.m. Comic Selections arranged by Mr. M. V. Madappa
6-20 p.m. News & Announcements
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Radio Play: "Nirupama" by Sri Saraswathi Prasadika Nataka Sabha, conducted by Mr. M. V. Sivappa

Friday, the 14th July 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-25 p.m. Hindusthani Music
7 p.m. "Qirat"
8 p.m. Recitation—Urdu Poems

Saturday, the 15th July 1939

6 p.m. Veena
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
7 to 8-45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Sriman R. Ramanuja Iyengar, and Party

Sunday, the 16th July 1939

IHIMANA AMAVASYA

6 p.m. Bhajana
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements
6-30 to 8-30 p.m. Harikatha: "Bhuktha Markandeya" by Harikatha Visharada Mirle Subba Rao

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 714.
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Wallippillai wife of Veluppillai of Kaithady

Deceased.

Elaiyathamby Veluppillai of Kaithady

Vs.

Petitioner.

1. Chuppar Kanapathipillai and wife
2. Sinnathangam of Kaithady

Respondents.

This matter of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner coming on for disposal

before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 13th day of March 1939 in the presence of Mr. V. S. Karthigesu, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 6th day of March 1939 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before the 17th day of July 1939 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 15 day of June 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

(O. 16. 10 & 13-7-39.)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1939

THE SINO-JAPANESE
WAR

ON FRIDAY LAST THE Sino-Japanese war entered on its third year and yet there are no signs of an early end. Chinese resistance has not broken down, though there are no major battles. When the War began just two years ago the Japanese War lords hoped that in a few months of whirlwind campaign China would be brought to her knees and they could dictate their own terms. The Japanese War Minister now thinks that Japan must be prepared for a war of five, ten or even twenty years. General Chiang-Kai Shek, China's Commander-in-chief, is confident that victory will be China's finally, and his policy is to sacrifice space for time, to draw the Japanese deeper into the mire and to achieve eventual victory. The casualties on the Chinese side is put by impartial observers at two millions and those on the Japanese side at one million, most of Japanese casualties being due to disease rather than military action. At the beginning of the war, the Chinese losses were to the Japanese in the ratio of five to one. But now by avoidance of general pitched battles and the adoption of guerilla tactics the Chinese losses have become even lower than those of Japan. Even today the Chinese forces are not a match to the Japanese; their equipment in guns and ammunition is far inferior and they cannot get adequate foreign help. Britain and U. S. A. give them some credit and the Soviet sends aeroplanes and pilots.

In the course of the war China has lost most of her big cities and ports. Japan is in part or full control of the main railways and many provinces have been occupied by them. But nowhere is their hold so complete as to obviate the

necessity for a large army of occupation, although they have set up puppet governments at Peiping and Nanking. No Chinese leader of eminence has deserted to the Japanese or agreed to form a government under their control. Chinese terrorism in occupied areas has proved to be a menace to Japan. Many political associations have taken place. The difficulty of garrisoning such a large area will also tax the energies of Japan seriously. Japan has undoubtedly swallowed more than she could digest and may eventually have to disgorge her plunder. If European complications should arise Japan would not be in a position to maintain a war on two fronts against Russia and China. One good result of the war is that it has welded together the two irreconcilable elements, the Kuomintang, the Chinese Nationalist Party, and the Communists and thus brought into the Government fold a number of recalcitrant warriors. That is no small gain. This solidarity of national sentiment which has emerged as a result of foreign invasion will ultimately tell against Japan who will not be able to find Chinese co-operation for the establishment of their dominion over any part of China.

Insult Leads to
Murder?Fatal Stabbing at
Kokuvil

Feeling insulted that his companion had refused his offer of a cigarette, a man named Kandiah Selvadurai of Kokuvil is alleged to have fatally stabbed Sinnappu Selvadurai, cigar roller, of the same village in the abdomen, ripping it wide open.

The incident is stated to have occurred yesterday evening near the railway line at Kokuvil.

It appears that the deceased along with the alleged assailant and two men named Nadarajah and Aiyadurai, on their way from the Jaffna Magistrate's Court after the postponement of a case in which they were involved, went to the house of a woman named Nagamma and had a few drinks of arrack.

After the drinks the accused is said to have offered the deceased a cigarette, which the deceased declined adding that he would not take any cigarette that was offered by the accused. Over this there was an exchange of words between the two, after which the accused left the place.

The deceased and the other two persons then followed the accused, catching him up some distance away from Nagamma's house. At this stage the differences appeared to have been set-

SPOILING GOOD
NAME OF JAFFNAJUDGE'S STRICTURES
ON ACCUSEDWITNESSES SENTENCED
FOR PERJURY

THAT the reputation of the good men of Jaffna was spoiled by a few men like the accused and that in order to reform others of his ways, deterrent punishment should be meted out to him, remarked the Hon. Mr. F. Soeritsz, the acting Chief Justice, in sentencing an accused who was found guilty at the Northern Assizes of attempting to commit murder.

Kandiah Nadesu of Karaveddi North stood charged with attempting to murder Paramu Ramalingam of the same place, by stabbing him with a knife.

The accused was found guilty and sentenced to 8 years' rigorous imprisonment.

Two witnesses for the defence, Alvar Ponniah and Murugesu Nadarajah, were each sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 75 for perjury, in default to 2 months' rigorous imprisonment.

Prof. R. Marrs Leaves
for England

Professor R. Marrs, the retiring Principal of the University College, and Mrs. Marrs left for England on Thursday.

They were accompanied by their children, and all four men walked along the railway line in the direction of the Kokuvil Railway Station.

Nadarajah, who was going ahead with Aiyadurai, hearing the cry "Aiyol" turned round to see the accused stab the deceased on the abdomen and run away, taking with him the knife. Nadarajah informed the headman, who immediately went to the spot and removed the injured man to the hospital. As he was being carried into the ward, the injured man expired.

Mr. G. Muttucumaru, Assistant Superintendent of police, with Inspectors Wijeyesekera and Attygalle, proceeded to the spot last evening and made inquiries.

This morning Inspector Attygalle filed a plaint before Mr. E. V. R. Samarawickrama, the Jaffna Magistrate, against Kandiah Selvadurai, charging him with the murder of Sinnappu Selvadurai.

After recording evidence, the Magistrate issued warrant on the accused, returnable on July 12.

The accused is stated to be absconding.

NO SIGN OF MOVE TOWARDS SOLUTION

The Danzig Situation

POLES ERECTING FORTIFICATIONS ON FRONTIER

Danzig Friday.

THE situation here seems to have improved for the moment, but it can only be described as an armed truce, each side saying in effect: "We are strong and we can wait."

Meantime, there is no sign of a move towards a solution. Herr Albert Foerster, the Nazi Gauleiter (District leader), was to have delivered a speech yesterday. The general belief has been that it will be more constructive than the one in which he declared that Danzig German and was determined to return to Germany, even if war were to ensue.

Fresh Polish labour battalions have arrived on the frontier of the Free City in the neighbourhood of Glaukau where they are engaged in erecting fortifications.

A number of German workmen have been arrested. It is alleged that they were "indiscreet" in regard to work for secret fortifications on Bishopsberg (Bishop's Hill), just behind Danzig, where anti-aircraft guns are now in position.

There have been rumours arising from an article in a Polish provincial paper, that Poland would form a Free Corps against Danzig, but no official confirmation is forthcoming from either the Polish or the German side.

Hitler Calls up Reserves

Berlin, Saturday.

It is estimated that 400,000 men are effected by the calling to colours of a large number of classes of the German army, which is announced by posters appearing on hoardings in Berlin today.

The men are those who have not yet done any form of service and were born in 1906, 1910 and all the years from 1913 to 1920. They must present themselves for examination before September 9th.

The substitute reserve first class, namely, those who have not hitherto been called up and who were born in 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, and 1920 and the last four months of 1919 must also appear. The announcement merely says that the men are being called up for labour service or active army service.

ABOLITION OF COMMITTEE SYSTEM

(Continued from Page 3)

understanding that if the system was found to be defective, a parliamentary system of Government would be asked for. In 1933 the Board of Ministers realised that, owing to the Executive Committee system of Government, they could not

initiate policies and carry out such policies without interference from the Executive Committees. Even the Minister of Agriculture, he said, would admit that he would wish very much to accelerate his program of work without interference from his Committee.

The reference of matters to Executive Committees and the latter's deliberations thereon took a long time.

The main defect in the Executive Committee system of Government was the lack of collective responsibility. Under the present Constitution the Ministers were collectively responsible only in regard to the Budget.

He also argued that the finances of the country would not be in the present parlous condition if they had had a Cabinet system of Government. At present Executive Committees, he suggested, vied with each other in the matter of expenditure.

A further defect in the Executive Committee system was that a Minister could not be removed from office. Even if a vote of "no confidence" were passed against a particular Minister he could take refuge behind his Executive Committee and say that he was not entirely to be blamed. But in the case of the Cabinet system, if a Minister was not in agreement with his leader—the Prime Minister—he would have to resign honourably or else he would be compelled to resign by the leader.

Party System

Mr. T. B. Jayah (Nominated), in opposing the motion, said that the absence of Executive Committees would result in lengthy discussion on all questions in the Council because members, not having had the opportunity of considering the question in Executive Committees, would want to express their views in the Council.

While admitting that the present Executive Committee system of Government was not altogether free from flaws, Mr. Jayah contended that, if experience had shown that the system might be revised to suit local conditions, it could be done without abolishing the system altogether.

The House should remember that the Donoughmore Commissioners had definitely stated that it was difficult for them to suggest any system based on the model of the British Parliamentary system owing to the absence of the party in this country.

The moment responsible Government was established in this country he feared the formation of parties on communal, religious and racial lines.

At this stage (5 p.m.) the Council was adjourned till 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11.

The Ceylon Judicial Service

Appointments Made by Governor

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint the following to be officers of the Ceylon Judicial Service in the Classes and Grades specified with effect from July 1, 1939:—

Special Class

Dr. R. F. Dias, District Judge, Colombo.

Class I., Grade 1

Messrs M.W.H. de Silva, Additional District Judge, Colombo; C. Nagalingam, Additional District Judge, Colombo; G. C. Thambyah, District Judge, Kandy.

Class I., Grade 2

Messrs. R. R. Selvadurai, District Judge, Badulla; M. A. Samarakoon, District Judge, Chilaw and Puttalam; W. Sansoni, District Judge, Kalutara; H. A. de Silva, District Judge, Kegalla; V. Joseph, District Judge, Kurunegala; J. Joseph, District Judge, Matara; T. Weeraratne, District Judge, Negombo; L. H. de Alwis, District Judge, Ratanapura; V. L. St. C. Swan, Commissioner of Requests and Additional Magistrate, Colombo and E. M. C. Joseph, Magistrate and Additional Commissioner of Requests, Colombo; and Additional Municipal Magistrate, Colombo.

Class I., Grade 3

Messrs. *W. Olegasagem, District Judge, Anuradhapura; S. S. J. Goonesekera, District Judge, Avissawella; N. Sivanetamby, District Judge, Batticaloa; H. S. Roberts, District Judge, Nuwara Eliya; J. H. V. S. Jayawickrama, District Judge, Tangalla; J. W. Perera, District Judge, Trincomalee; S. S. Jayawickrama, Additional District Judge, Galle; S. Rodrigo, Additional District Judge, Jaffna and V. E. Rajakarier, Additional District Judge, Kandy.

Class 2., Grade 1

Messrs. *A. L. Jayasuriya, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Galle; D. E. Wijeyewardene, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Gampaha; E. V. R. Samarawickreme, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Jaffna and Kayts; *T. Quentin Fernando, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Kalutara; *M. C. Sansoni, Magistrate and Additional Commissioner of Requests, Kandy; S. Rajaratnam, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Kurunegala; V. H. Wijeyaratne, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Matara; D. A. Leanage, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Panadura; K. D. de Silva, Supernumerary Judge and T. F. C. Roberts, on leave out of the Island.

Class 2., Grade 2

Messrs *L. B. de Silva, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Balapitiya; *C. J. C. Jansz, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Chilaw; *P. Sri Skaada Rajah, Additional Magistrate and Additional Commissioner of Requests, Kurunegala (at Dandagamawa); Ivor S. de Saram, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Gampaha; R. Ramachandran, Additional Magistrate and Additional Commissioner of Requests, Jaffna (at Mallakam); *W. Thal'godapitiya, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Matara and Dumbara; R. de Zoysa, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Negombo and W. R. D. de Silva, Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests, Point Pedro.

*On one year's probation.

AN INTRIGUING PROCEDURE

THE PROPOSED BAN ON NORTHERN PORTS

QUARANTINE DEPT. CANCELS CIRCULAR

THE "Hindu Organ" is now in a position to state definitely that it has been decided by the authorities not to prohibit the import of paddy and other articles from plague infected ports through the Northern Ports, and that facilities for fumigation will be provided at these latter ports.

The procedure adopted in the proposed move to close the Northern Ports seems rather an intriguing one. Dr. S. T. Gunasekara, Director, Quarantine Department, informed Messrs Cherumbin and Bros., Steamer Agents, Jaffna, by a circular dated May, 18/23, 1939, "that in terms of Quarantine Regulations 61 (1) (b) (2) grain, cotton or contact cargo..... arriving from plague infected ports will not be allowed to be landed at the Northern Ports as from 1st September 1939. Such cargoes could be passed through Colombo, where facilities exist for their fumigation."

Ministers Interviewed

Messrs Veeragathipillai and Sons who are one of the chief importers of grain in Jaffna immediately represented matters to Mr. K. Balasingham who, as was reported a few weeks ago in these columns, interviewed the Ministers on the subject and explained to them the great hardship that would be caused to Jaffna by the proposed ban. The Ministers, it was reported, appreciated the reasons urged against the ban and promised to look into the matter.

Minister in the Dark

Mr. A. Mahadeva, M. S. C., who had later come to know of the "rumour" about the ban on the Northern Ports, interviewed Mr. W. A. de Silva, the Minister for Health who is in charge of the subject in question, and wrote to the "Hindu Organ" on 28th June to say, "On inquiry from the Minister of Health, I have his authority to state there has been no such decision, that he will be opposed to a proposal of this nature and that there is not the least possibility of the Board of Ministers approving of such a course".

As a result, perhaps, of the intervention of Mr. K. Balasingham and later of Mr. A. Mahadeva, the Director of the Quarantine Department, wrote to Messrs. Cherubin & Bros., Jaffna on July 4th, cancelling the previous circular dated May 23/23. The letter under reference states:—

"With reference to my letter No. C. 553 of 23rd May, 1939, I have the honour to inform you that in view of the proposal to introduce fumigation at the Northern ports the present practice of landing cargoes at these ports will be allowed to continue until further notice.

Please treat my letter under reference as cancelled."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Hindu College for Girls at Manipay

Sir,—In supporting Mr. C. Thiagarajah's letter which appeared in your valuable journal of the 3rd inst. on the above subject, I wish to point out that a Hindu College for girls at Manipay has become an absolute necessity in view of the daily increasing number of girls seeking English education and the great inconvenience Hindu parents in the Manipay Parish and the surrounding villages have to undergo in sending their girls to Ramanathan College, which is the only Hindu College in the whole of Jaffna peninsula, and that is almost crowded. Besides, poor parents cannot afford to send their girls there.

The majority of the population in Jaffna are Hindus. Yet, there is only one Hindu college to serve them all; while the Non-Hindu colleges are numerous and situated at convenient centres. Some Hindu parents are obliged to send their girls to these colleges, because there is no other Hindu college for girls in Jaffna. We must bear in mind the fact that the girls of today are going to be the mothers of our future generation, and unless they are imparted a sound education based on their own religion, their children are bound to suffer in consequence and become useless citizens. The Hindu girls who received their education in Non-Hindu Colleges are unfit to be ideal house wives and to bring up their children according to Hindu customs and Hindu traditions. Most of them are westernised in their mode of living and thereby the Hindu culture has almost degenerated. Many educated girls and women in this country consider it below their dignity to attend to their kitchen works and other domestic duties. This is entirely due to the defect in the education that was imparted to them. Who is responsible for the present poverty and crime in Jaffna? None, but our mothers. They failed to bring up their children on the right lines. Education which is not based on religious foundation is always dangerous.

If Hindu culture is to be revived there must be a sufficient number of Hindu colleges in Jaffna to accommodate all the Hindu girls. It is a great pity that wealthy men like Mr. A. Sellamuthu, Mr. Rajaratnam broker, and Muhandram Swaminathan did not feel the necessity of establishing a Hindu college for girls at Manipay earlier. It is believed that these gentlemen and others interested in it will not hesitate to come forward and start one at once. Once it is started it is sure to be a success. About 30 years ago few gentlemen of Manipay agitated for the establishment of a Hindu college for boys and as a result of their agitation the Manipay Hindu College was started. Then, many laughed at the idea, but within a few years after it was started, it became a thorough success. Today it has proved to be a great boon to the boys in Manipay and the surrounding villages. Similarly, there is no doubt about the success of a girls' college at Manipay. Many Hindu parents in these villages feel the necessity very badly.

Yours faithfully,
K. S. Sounderanayagam.

Manipay,
7th July, 1939.

The Eastern Province

Economic and Health Conditions in 1938

"The price of paddy was subject to severe fluctuations and at one time went up to Rs 15 per avanam due to the failure of the 1937-38 munmari crop. Export of rice and paddy from the district was prohibited to assure sufficient food supplies and the prohibition was continued till the season for sailing vessels to Jaffna was over," says Mr. M. Prasad Government Agent, Eastern Province, in his Administration Report for 1938. He further says:

Rainfall was heavy in the months of February and March. It damaged the paddy crop which was ripe for harvesting. Rains were deficient in the months of October to December and cultivators were unable to start munmari cultivation.

The price of copra was low, being in the neighbourhood of Rs. 30. The manuring of estates was neglected and the labour force was cut down to the minimum.

The price of tobacco was steady but the quality of the crop was poor owing to the damage by unseasonal rains. A large number of people from Eravur-Koralai pattus are engaged in tobacco cultivation along the banks of the Mahaweliganga near Mannampitiya.

Lagoons and inland waters supply fish for local consumption. A part of the catch is dried and salted for export to Uva.

Sea fishing is carried on by Sinhalese fishermen from the Southern Province. Local fishermen have also taken to sea-fishing.

There was no epidemic during the year. Malaria prevailed throughout the district after the rains but did not assume epidemic form.

Anchylostomiasis is still endemic in the district. Mass treatment is given at hospitals and dispensaries. There are dry-earth latrines in Batticaloa and a few important Sanitary Board Towns. Outside these areas surface pollution is universal. The Medical Department is encouraging construction of latrines in Sanitary Board towns and Village Committee areas.

Infant mortality is high. The Sanitary Board has sanctioned appointment of qualified midwives for all Sanitary Board towns but trained midwives are scarce and midwives are stationed at present in Kalmunai, Sammanturai, and Kattankudi only.

In Batticaloa the Maternity and Child Welfare League is continuing to do very good work at the children's clinics in Puliantivu, Koddaimunai, and Amirthakali. A fine building for the clinic has been completed in Puliantivu at a cost of Rs. 5,000 mainly out of public subscriptions. Three children's clinics have been opened in rural areas at Maha-oya, Padiyatalawa, and Ubana. They are maintained from Government grants sanctioned by the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration. A children's clinic was started in Valaichenai and it is proposed to establish one in Damana in the near future.

Field Medical Officers are doing good work in Valaichenai-Akkaraipattu, and Maha-oya areas. The cottage hospital in Akkaraipattu has been opened. A cot-

tage hospital for the west shore areas is urgently needed at Kovilporativu. A Field Medical Officer should be stationed at Vellaveli to look after the west shore and the northern part of Wewgam pattu. The services of a lady Medical Officer should be available at the Kalmunai Hospital which serves a very populous area.

There are animal breeding centres at Akkaraipattu and Pottavil maintained by the Department of Agriculture. There was no serious outbreak of any disease among livestock.

Free grants of seed paddy were made to selected Land Development Ordinance allottees. Loans of seed paddy were made to needy cultivators under Rugam Vakanneri Schemes, and to cultivators of certain kandams under Manalpidi-aru Scheme and in Bintenne and Wewgam pattus. The shortage of seed paddy was brought about by the failure of the munmari crop. These loans and free grants involved a total expenditure of nearly Rs. 50,000.

Chenas in Bintenne, Eravur-Koralai, Wewgam and Panama pattus failed partially and relief works were continued in these pattus to relieve distress and to assist chena cultivators in attending to their chenas. A special rate of wage—60 cents per day for an adult male—was allowed with the sanction of the Hon. the Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce.

In spite of food shortage in certain areas the health of the people was generally satisfactory. Owing to the failure of rains in the latter part of the year it is feared that distress will be more widespread and relief measures will be necessary in a large part of the district.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 516
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sinnachechipillai wife of Thamboo Sinnadurai of Kopay North.

Deceased
Thangam widow of Vela Elaiyathamby of Kopay North

- Vs. Petitioner
1. Pusparanes daughter of Thamboo Sinnadurai of Kopay North, appearing by her Guardian-ad-litem, the third Respondent.
2. Thamboo Sinnadurai of National Bank, Colombo,
3. Poobalasingham Thamboo of Chavakacheri.

Respondents
This matter of the abovenamed Petitioner praying for letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Sinnachechipillai wife of Thamboo Sinnadurai of Kopay North, coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 15 day of July 1938 in the presence of Mr. C. Subramaniam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 21st day June 1938 having been read, it is declared that the petitioner is the mother of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before the 2nd day of November 1938 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 21st day of October 1938
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Extended for 14th July 1939,
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
D. J.

(O. 25 10-13-7-39.)

German Manoeuvres in East and West

(Continued from page 1)

to be enacted a Colonial Munich. Everything depends on how Comrade Stalin looks upon German intentions and interests. Recent reports about Russo-German trade pacts have come as a disturbing factor to the Moscow talks. The last speech of M. Molotov before the Soviet Parliament showed no special animosity or ill-will towards Germany. On the other hand, the Foreign Minister of the Soviets expressed in unambiguous language his keenness to conclude economic pacts with Germany and Italy, the economic pact with the latter then being actually under negotiation. Then came the news of the German Trade Mission in Russia and now we are told that after all, Stalin had nothing but good-will towards Germany all along, although Herr Hitler had indulged in vandalistic language against communist Russia in his *Mein Kemp*. It is all a hard job for the 10, Downing Street, to resolve this nerve-racking puzzle.

Russia demands her pound of flesh. Why should she not? But she does not put her hands on the flesh-pots. Germany took her pound of flesh, unasked and in contemptuous indifference to the protests from the Democracies. Russia was then a *belo noire*. Her attempts to revitalise the League machinery was sabotaged mercilessly. She stood aloof and stands aloof to this day on her own strength. (Roy's Weekly.)

Auction Sale

No. 12580.

Annamuttu daughter of Valaithur Kasinathar of Vannarponnai East
Vs. Plaintiff,
Sinnappodiar Sinnappoo and wife Rasammah of Vannarponnai East
Kavirril Pathenathar of do
Murugar Pooniah of do

PROPERTY.

All these two allotments of land called 'Ilakady' in extent 4 Lms. V.C. and 1 Lm. V.C. now forming one block of land called Ilakady and found to contain in extent 5 Lms. V.C. and 3½ Kls. as per Survey plan No. 1649 of 15th December 1928 made by V. Sanmugalingam Licensed Surveyor situated at Vannarponnai East and the said extent of 5 Lms. V.C. and 3½ kls with house well and other appurtenances is bounded on the East by Road, North by the property of John Thurai Rajah Herbert, West by channel and South by the properties of Arulampalam Ampalavanar and Sinnappodi Sinnappoo.

In terms of the commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in Case No. 12580, I shall sell the above property by public auction on Monday the 7th August 1939 at about 4 p.m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,
Commissioner, Van. West,
(Mis. 85 10-7-39)

Applied Sciences In Ancient India

(Continued from page 1)

is distinctly mentioned as a separate metal. Paracelsus (1493-1541) was thus anticipated in India by about 200 years. (10)

Purification, Extraction of Metals

We also understand that in ancient India metals were purified by heating them with ingredients most of which were organic. These ingredients were urine, alkalies, cows' bile, urine and dung of buffalo, etc. Metals were made permanently or temporarily malleable by chemically treating them with ashes, honey, sheep's milk, clarified butter, powder of cow's teeth and horns. (11) These methods may appear to us to be novel, but nevertheless they were of service in their day.

Patanjali, the founder of Hindu metallurgy, who lived about the 2nd century B. C., gives elaborate directions for making metallurgic and chemical processes, especially the preparation of metallic salts, alloys, amalgams, etc., and the extraction, purification and assaying of metals

Seal in the *Positive Sciences of the Ancient Hindus* states that by the 6th century A. D. the Hindu Metallurgists were familiar with the processes of extraction, purification, "killing" (formation of oxides, chlorides, and oxychlorides), calcination, incineration, powdering, solution, distillation, precipitation, rinsing, drying, melting, casting, filling, etc. With the help of apparatus and reagents they subjected each of the known minerals to all these processes. Heat was applied in different measures for different ends.

These processes were used to bring about chemical composition and decomposition, e.g.

- (a) In the preparation of
 1. Perchloride of Mercury
 2. Sulphide of Mercury
 3. Vermillion from lead, etc.
- b. In the extraction of
 1. Copper from sulphate of copper
 2. Zinc from calamine
 3. Copper from pyrites, etc.

III. Medicine

Chemistry was the handmaid of Medicine in ancient India. The Hindus were the first in the world to advocate the internal use of mercury and other metallic substances. We are aware that the Saracens are usually credited with the internal application of metallic substances, but in this the Hindus anticipated them, and in fact taught them. The Saracen physicians were surprised at the boldness with which the Hindu practitioners prescribed the internal use of powerful metallic drugs. *Taleef Shareef* (Playfair's translation) is quoted by Udoychand Dutt to indicate the Moslem admiration of the Hindu practice. (12) Royle in his

Antiquity of Hindu Medicine observes that the earliest of the Saracens had access to the writings of Charaka and Susruta, who had given directions for the internal use of numerous metallic substances.

Charaka and Susruta

Now, whatever the date assigned to Susruta by some modern scholars may be, Mookerji says that "there is a clear reference in the *Mahabharata* to Susruta, son of the sage Viswamitra, who learned the science of Medicine from Divodas, King of Kashi, and compiled a medical treatise in his own name. It will not, therefore, be unreasonable to assert that Susruta flourished about 2000 B. C." (13)

Onaraka, who preceded Susruta by many centuries, compiled a *Samhita* on Medicine, which is nothing but a synopsis of the voluminous works of Bhela, Agnivisha, and others. It is, however, difficult to ascertain the exact date of Bhela, but it is certainly prehistoric. He was acquainted with the use of metallic medicines, as is evident from a reference to his work recently published.

Ravana's Madanananda-Modaka

Ravana, King of Lanka, was a noted chemist and physician. He was acquainted with the preparation of "Madanananda-Modaka", an aphrodisiac and tonic which contains *inter alia* mercury, sulphur and mica. This shows that he was aware of the method of incinerating mercury, Vagbhata, the author of *Rasaratna-Samuchaya* compiled about the 12th century A.D. says that his compilation was based on the treatises of many authors among whom he mentions Ravana, King of Lanka. (14)

Rama-Rajiya

Moreover, Rama Chandra, the hero of the *Ramayana*, while in exile in the forest of Dandaka, is said to have learned Chemistry and Medicine from Kalanatha and Lakshmiswara, two Yogis, who were also Siddhas. His book, *Rama-rajya*, is alluded to in the *Rasa-ratna-samuchaya* referred to above and in the famous Hindu work on Medicine, *Bhava-prakasa*. The latter has quoted from the *Rama-rajya* the following two lines which are significant.

"The true process of incinerating metals as experienced by the great Yogis, is now described by King Rama-Chandra, who learnt it, out of curiosity from those Yogis" (15)

Potable Gold

Rev. Maurice says that "one of the most difficult processes in the whole science of Chemistry, that of reducing to powder and rendering potable the golden calf, was known at so early a period as when Moses led out of Egypt into the Desert the children of Israel" (16) There is every reason to believe that this process of reducing gold into powder was carried into Egypt by the ancient Hindus along with many other arts, and that Moses learnt it from the Egyptians. The colonization of Egypt by the ancient

Hindus will be dealt with in a separate contribution.

The above facts prove beyond the shadow of doubt that the ancient Hindus applied to the healing art their knowledge of Chemistry, organic and inorganic, many thousands of years ago.

(To be Continued.)

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Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
No. T. R. 64.

In the matter of an application for a Vesting Order in terms of the Provisions of Trust Ordinance No. 9 of 1917.

Mylvaganam Appasamy Mylvaganam of Vaddukkoddai West

Vs. Petitioner.

Thayalnayagianmah widow of Arumugam Mylvaganam Appasamy of Vaddukkoddai West

—Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 12th day of June 1939, in the presence of Mr. R. Sivagurunather, Proctor for the petitioner, and an affidavit of the petitioner dated the 8th day of June 1939 having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed petitioner be and he is hereby declared to be the sole Trustee and Manager of the Guru Pooja Madam built on the land called "Uluthollai and Puli Meendan" in extent 4 Lms. V. C. and 13 1/4 kullies, with various temporalities belonging thereto all situated at Vaddukkoddai, and more fully described in the schedule hereto annexed; and that a Vesting Order vesting the properties described in the schedule hereto annexed, and other temporalities of the said Madam, on the petitioner be issued to him accordingly, unless the Respondent abovenamed or any person shall on or before the 19th day of July 1939 at 10 a. m. show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the Court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge

The 12th day of June 1939

THE SCHEDULE REFERRED TO ABOVE.

1. All that piece of land situated at Vaddukkoddai West, in the parish of Vaddukkoddai, in the Division of Valikamam West, Jaffna District, Northern Province, called "Uluthollai and Puli Meendan" in extent 4 Lms. V. C. and 13 1/4 kullies with the said Guru Pooja Madam standing thereon, well, cultivated and spontaneous plantations, bounded on the East by Road, North by lane, West by the property of Visuvappah Subramaniam, and on the South by the Temple called Aathiyadi Pillayar Kovil, and registered in E. 17/328.

2. All that piece of land situated at Araly West in the parish of Vaddukkoddai aforesaid, called "Kampirappulam" in extent 16 Lms. P. C. with well, bounded on the East by the property of Murugar Nagalingam, North by the property of David, West by the following 3rd land and South by the property of M. Suntharamoorthy Alalasundram, and registered in E. 26/356.

3. All that piece of land situated at Vaddukkoddai West, in the parish of Vaddukkoddai aforesaid called "Kampirappulam" in extent 8 Lms. P. C. bounded on the East by the 2nd land aforementioned, North by the following 4th land, West by Road, and South by the property of Sinnappah Velupillai.

4. All that piece of land situated at Vaddukkoddai West aforesaid called "Kampirappulam" in extent 8 Lms. P. C. bounded on the East by the property of David, North and West by Road, and South by the 3rd land aforementioned; and registered in E. 74/336.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge

(O. 24, 6 & 10-7-39)

Excellent Arrangements at Jaffna Hindu College

Indian Educationist's Impressions

Trichinopoly, July 1.

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Minister for Public Health, laid the foundation stone this morning of the Valli Achi girls hall and the Alagappa Kannatha Achi water works in the premises of the Sri-rangam High School. In doing so he appealed to the public and the teachers to make the Wardha scheme a success.

The function was held in the Palaniappa-Chinniah hall of the school.

After a programme of national songs, Mr. S. K. Mathurbutham Aiyar, Headmaster of the school, in requesting the Minister to lay the foundation stone, referred to the two acquisitions endowed by Valli Achi of Kothamangalam, the recently bereaved widow of the late Mr. C.A.C.R.M. Raman Chettiar, the donor of a beautiful tank for the benefit of Harijans at Chidambaram. The late Mr. Raman Chettiar had also been a good friend of the school for many years and cheerfully bore the entire expenses of school excursions, to distant places including Ceylon. When he visited the Hindu College in Jaffna last April the Headmaster stated he was struck by the excellent arrangements made in that College for the distribution of water-supply to the hostel, the Science Hall and the gardens and wished for such an amenity in his school. At that time Mr. A. L. P. R. A. L. Alagappa Chettiar of Madagupatti undertook to build it and his good wife Srimati Kannatha Achi whose father K. K. N. K. Velayudam Chettiar had financially helped them, in the past, also helped him cheerfully.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 727.

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Innasimuttu Saverimuttu of Tellippalai West

Deceased.

1. Venasimuttu ThiruselvaRajah and wife
2. Rosaliappillai of Tellippalai West

Vs. Petitioners.

1. Innasimuttu Soosaipillai Alias Joseph of Tellippalai West
2. Innasimuttu Alexander of do
3. Philippachippillai wife of Chelliah Soosaipillai of do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 11th day of April, 1939, in the presence of Mr. S. Nayatambi, Proctor on the part of the Petitioners and the affidavit and Petition of the Petitioners dated 11th day of April 1939, having been read:

It is ordered that Letters of Administration in respect of the estate of the late Innasimuttu Saverimuttu be granted to the Petitioners as brother-in-law and sister respectively and the 2nd named Petitioner as an heir of the said deceased unless the abovenamed Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 26th day of May, 1939, appear before this Court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 25th day of April 1939.

(Sgd.) C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Order Nisi extended for 14-7-39.

(Sgd.) C. C.
D. J.

(O. 22, 6 & 10-7-39.)

(10) Quoted in Sarkar's *Hindu Achievements in Exact Science* p. 41.

(11) *Arthashastra*, Bk II chap. xii.

(12) Sarkar's *Hindu Achievements in Exact Science* p. 51.

(13) *Indian Civilization. Its Antiquity*, p. 81.

(14) Sarkar's *Hindu Achievements in Exact Science*, p. 56.

(15) Quoted in Sarkar's *Hindu Achievements in Exact Science*, p. 67.

(16) *History of Hindoostan*, i. 483.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary No. 690.

In the matter of the estate and effect
of Rasammah wife of Appaswamy
Sivasambu of Karainagar East, pre-
sently of Kuala Lumpur F. M. S.
Deceased.

Appaswamy Sivasambu of Karainagar
East, presently of Kuala Lumpur
F. M. S. by his attorney Appa-
swamy Nagalingam of Karainagar
East
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Sivaneswari daughter of Siva-
sambu
2. Sivasambu Sivalingam
3. Arunasalam Saumugam of Karai-
nagar East. The 1st and 2nd
Respondents minors by their
Guardian-ad-litem the 3rd
respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the
petitioner abovenamed praying that
the abovenamed 3rd respondent be
appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the
minors the 1st and 2nd respondents
for the purpose of representing them
in these Testamentary proceedings
and that letters of administration to
the estate of the abovenamed de-
ceased be granted to the petitioner
coming on for disposal before C.
Coomaraswamy Esquire on the 21st
day of December 1938 in the pre-
sence of Mr. A. Arumugam Proctor
on the part of the petitioner and
the affidavit of the petitioner
and her petition and the Sup-

reme Court order dated the 2nd day
of December 1938 conferring sole
and exclusive Testamentary Juris-
diction of this court in respect of the
property left behind by the deceased
within the Jurisdiction of this court
having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed
3rd respondent be appointed Guardi-
an-ad-litem over the minors, the
abovenamed 1st and 2nd respondents
for the purpose aforesaid and that
the letters of administration to the
estate of the said deceased be granted
to the petitioner as her widower un-
less the respondents shall appear be-
fore this court on the 22nd day of
May 1939 and show sufficient cause
to the satisfaction of this court to
the contrary.

This 27th day of March 1939

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Extended to 31-7-39
Intd. C. C.
D. J.

(O 23. 6 & 10-7-39)

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Y. 131, 1-3-39 to 30-9-39 [M]

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[Y. 103, 22-7-38 to 21-7-39.]

[M.]

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