

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus
PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. LI.

Phone 56,

JAFFNA,

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1939.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 39.

CEYLON GETTING READY FOR EMERGENCY

Precautions Against Air Raid And Food Shortage

LEAVE OF OFFICES CANCELLED CONTROLLER'S COMMUNNIQUES

Colombo, Saturday.

ALL the necessary precautions which should be taken locally in the event of an outbreak of war are being adopted.

The Imperial authorities have commanded the P. and O. Cathay and the Bibby Liner Cheshire due in Colombo next week, as well as certain other regular liners in Colombo.

All necessary arrangements with regard to air raid precautions and for the introduction of food control are understood to be ready.

The Food Controller issued two communiques yesterday on the measures contemplated.

Food Production

It is understood that the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce has addressed a communication on the subject of emergency food production to the Minister of Agriculture and Lands.

The Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce is keeping a watch on prices of commodities in the local market.

There was a rise yesterday in the price of sugar, rice and potatoes.

Measures for the prevention of profiteering will be taken if the situation demands it.

The following communique was issued yesterday by the Food Controller:—

Controller's Communiques

In the event of an emergency it may be necessary to introduce rationing of supplies of beef and mutton, bacon and ham, sugar, flour, cheese, butter and milk, and in order to assist the Food Controller all those who are normally dependent on these articles of food are re-

quested to take notice as follows:—

(a) Every importer is requested to keep in a suitable register the names and addresses and approximate monthly requirements of the wholesale dealers who normally purchase supplies from him.

(b) Every wholesale dealer is requested to keep in a suitable register the names and addresses and the approximate monthly requirements of all retailers who normally purchase supplies from him.

(c) Every retailer is requested to prepare a register giving the names and addresses and the approximate monthly requirements of customers who normally purchase supplies from him.

(d) Every consumer of the above mentioned articles is requested to take immediate action to register with the retailer from whom supplies are normally obtained. It is essential that a consumer be "tied to" one retailer only for each article of food and should not register himself with more than one such retailer. (In the case of firms who deal in more than one of the above mentioned commodities a customer may register with that firm for all the commodities concerned).

Later the Food Controller issued the following communique:—

The Food Controller has prepared schemes to meet any food crisis that may arise as a result of the declaration of war. These measures would ensure an equal supply of rice to all those who are dependent on imported supplies. Changing circumstances may, however, cause variations in the measures adopted, but it is empha-

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MUSICAL PILLARS IN SOUTH INDIA

Marvels Of Architectural Skill

By P. Sambamurti

INDIA is a land of marvels.

One sees here things which are not ordinarily to be seen in other countries. The architects here have not only built colossal buildings, temples, mosques and mausoleums but have also decorated them with an art which is at once the delight and pride of India.

During the glorious days of the mighty Vizianagar Empire, there arose a school of architects who discovered and made the fullest use of the resonant variety of granite stones. Resonant granites are found in many places in South India. Some of them are dimly resonant and others highly resonant. The musical sounds given by these stones can be compared in quality to the notes given by Jalatarangam cups. In a few cases the notes given are as bright and clear as those of metal gongs.

Pillars made of these resonant granites are found in many South Indian temples. Best specimens of these pillars are to be seen in the Vittala and Pampapati temples at Hampi, Minakshiamman and Alagar temples at Madura, Nelliappar temple in Tinnevely and in the Suchindram temple. In the Venkateswalar temple at Krishnapuram, Tinnevely District, there are whole images made of these resonant granites. Verily these are marvels of South Indian architectural skill. One gets inspired when he listens to notes of different pitch emanating from the different parts of a stone image.

Earliest pillars to be made

The earliest musical pillars to be carved out were those at Hampi. Encouraged by the success that attended their maiden efforts, the architects proceeded southwards to direct their genius at other great temples. The experience they gradually gained in the art of carving musical pillars led them to make more and more improved models. This is proved by the fact that as we proceed further south, we see best specimens of these pillars. The

pillars adorning the Nelliappar and the Suchindram temples are the most perfect musical pillars that we have in South India. They are remarkable both for their workmanship and artistic finish. In the temples built during the last three centuries we do not come across these pillars. Probably the race of stone masons who succeeded in squeezing music out of hard stones has ceased to exist.

From the picture of a musical pillar found in the Madura Minakshiamman temple, the reader can easily form an idea of the pillar's size. These pillars (five of them) once formed part of the Karia Manicka Perumal temple, but are now kept as exhibits near the entrance to the north gopuram of the Minakshiamman temple. Even as a sculptor discovers a statue within a block of marble, the stone mason likewise discovers the musical pillar (or for that matter, a series of small pillars) from a huge block of granite by chiselling off the unwanted parts. The small pillars (3 at each corner) in the picture, when struck with a stone gives musical notes.

When a pillar is struck one can physically feel with his fingers, that it is in a state of vibration. The central massive cylindrical pillar served to give stability to the entire structure. Whenever a pillar did not give the note of the required pitch, the workman chiselled off some fragments and continued the process till the correct note was reached. This accounts for the fact that the cylindrical faces of a few pillars appear irregular. The diameter as well as the height (i.e. the vibrating length) of the musical pillar is almost the same in all the temples. This clearly establishes beyond doubt that the same school of architects have been working at them.

Number of Pillars in a Structure

In the Vittala temple at Hampi however, the height of the pillars is slightly less, but it should be re-

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THE HINDU BOARD OF EDUCATION

Educational Activities

(Continued from our last issue) t

Orphanage

THERE are in the orphanage 63 students as compared with 81 last year. It is having a separate Boarding establishment now. Many applications of deserving orphans had to be rejected for lack of funds.

Classical School

This School which was started by Pandit S. Kanapathipillai of the staff of the Saiva Training Institute is doing very good work. Higher Tamil, Sanskrit and Sinhalese are taught by Pandit Kanapathipillai and three other Pandits who are his old students. Sinhalese is taught by the Buddhist Priest of the Sri Naga Vihare. Sanskrit is taught by a highly qualified Brahmin Priest. We are proud that this institution has during the short time of its existence passed out nine Pandits, 50 Bala Pandits and 91 Pravasa Pandits. One of these passes is in Sanskrit. 27 other students took Sanskrit as one of their subjects and they were successful. The thanks of the Board and of the lovers of Tamil Literature are due to Pandit S. Kanapathipillai who has organized this school and is carrying on this institution without much aid from the Board or any from Government.

Saiva Training Institute

The quota allowed for our Training school is 51. By this restriction of our number, Hindu students are forced to seek admission to the Christian Training schools and they are made to embrace Christianity either before they enter such schools or at least before they pass out.

The Poetical work of the life of St. Joseph is being continued to be prescribed as a Tamil text to the entire disgust of the Hindu Students. It is wounding the religious susceptibilities of the Hindus. We would appeal to the Minister of Education to stop this or at least to make Periyapuranam the lives of Hindu Saints in verse an alternative text book.

The Board notes with regret that though the 1st and 2nd year examinations are to be conducted by the school authorities yet in the case of the Tamil papers the students are forced to answer questions from the Text Books prescribed for the 1st and 2nd years, when they sit for the final examination. This has a two fold disadvantage besides showing that the department does not trust the teachers of the Training school. The first defect is that the students by being compelled to carry in their heads the knowledge of text books prescribed for three examinations are prevented from paying proper attention to their other subjects. The second point is that our Training school which enabled all students to take up at least the Bala Pandit Examination during their Training is unable to do so, lest the preparation for this examination may handicap them in their other studies.

Bilingual Schools

The Board has six Bilingual schools. They were worked as free Bilingual schools as each teacher gave back the Manager's contribution. From the beginning of this year the Board has requested

the different Head-masters to collect fees. During the early part of 1938 the department first wrote to the Board that the practice of getting Manager's contribution from the teachers must stop. On representation to the Minister of Education by the teachers, the Department ruled that we could get the Manager's contribution from the teachers. This was done previously too with the knowledge of the Director of Education.

The Head master who was transferred to Punkudutivu because he was unable to get on with the villagers of Kaddaively got dissatisfied with his transfer and ceased to give the Manager's contribution. The Board discontinued him as fee collection too was not forth coming from the Punkudutivu Bilingual school. The Department wants the Board to give up all English teachers at one and the same time if this teacher is to be given up. The Board and the teachers have appealed to the Minister of Education against this decision of the Director of Education.

Nawalapitiya English School

Owing to the Board's inability to pay the salaries of the teachers of this school regularly, the Board lost heavily. The Department wanted to cancel the registration of this school. We are taking steps along with the Y. M. H. A. at Nawalapitiya and four of the Trustees of the school to continue the registration of this school. Though the Department would not allow Mr. C. Subramaniam of Rambakupitya to be the Manager of the School, yet the Minister of Education and his Committee have agreed to recognize him as Manager. There are yet some difficulties which have to be surmounted before we could say that there is no anxiety about this school.

Education Week

The present Divisional Inspector of Schools, Jaffna has introduced what is known as an Education week as from last year. Whether a Cyclonic rush during a week and forced expenses of the parents and teachers without any lasting benefit to the children is in the best interest of the country is a question which has to be considered by our Committee. It is proposed to appoint a sub-Committee to go into these questions more fully and to report on the steps to be taken in order to improve our children in practical agriculture and industrial education.

Hindu Ladies' College and Girls' Orphanage

Mrs. R. Sivagurunathan has donated 1½ acres of land at Vannarponnai. Adjoining lands can be bought and a compact block of 15 to 20 acres in a healthy locality where good water is available can be secured. Money is wanted. Our President has subscribed Rs. 10,000 on certain conditions. The Hindus of Jaffna have realized that if Jaffna is to be made safe for the future generation more Hindu Girls Orphanages are necessary. We appeal to all lovers of Hindu culture to help us to realize this magnum opus of the Board.

Collection by Sale of Tickets or Flags

During the early part of this

year we organized a sale of tickets of the value of ten cents, twenty-five cents and fifty cents in many of the villages. The work was a partial success. It brought in nearly Rs. 1000/. We propose to appeal to every Hindu in Jaffna during "Navarathri" week, our Agents would go to every house with tickets ranging in value from Rs. 5/- to 10 cents. May we appeal to every Hindu in the name of Lord Shiva to help the cause of Hindu Culture. The Board unlike any other organization has done the most to benefit the Hindu children to be brought up in a Hindu atmosphere by catering to their moral, mental and physical wants.

Religion in our Schools

Some years ago initiation ceremony was given to the students in our different schools. This does not seem to have been attended to of late. It is proposed to carry on an intensive campaign in the future. Most of the pupils in our schools take up the Vivekananda Society Examinations in Religious subjects. There are yet a few schools which do not do it. We trust they too will fall in line. Though religious instruction during the 1st period of the day's work is compulsory in the case of all Hindu Children, yet we are sorry that some head masters are not careful about the religious education in their schools. We appeal to them to improve this vital part of education. The art of Purana Reading as done in our Temples must be learned by our teachers so that their services may be available to the Hindus in the different villages of Ceylon.

The Hindu Board of Education has completed 15 years of useful and meritorious service to Hindu Ceylon. It has grown from strength to strength. Almost every wage-earning Hindu has sometime or other contributed his or her quota towards the success of the Board. Today it has 93 Institutions including the Saiva Training Institute and the Orphanage catering to the Educational needs of 15,000 Hindu children. There are yet over 60,000 children receiving their education in an alien atmosphere or receiving no education whatever. The earlier this Board provides for the education of these Hindu children, especially girls in a Hindu atmosphere the better it would be for the Common weal of the Hindus. May we make our earnest appeal to all Hindus to take up the work that lies before us. The Heart of the Hindu race is sound and we are confident that all Hindus would as usual show their keen interest for the work of this board. Every Hindu becoming a Member would hasten the day when every Hindu child would receive its education in a Hindu atmosphere thus realizing the ideal of the great Sri La Sri Arumuganavalar.

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status of Tamilians in the eyes of the foreigners.

In the celebrations, lectures were delivered by Swami Vipulananda, Vidwan Rajamanikam, Mr. S. K. Govindaswami and Pandit Venkatasami Nattar and others. On Saturday night, the Sangham students put on boards a Tamil drama "Vellal Kandeerakkap-perunnalli".

History of the Tamils

Mr. Natesa Pillai's Advice to Scholars

Tanjore, Aug. 21.

MR. S. Natesa Pillai, Member, State Council, Ceylon and the Principal of the Parameswara College, Jaffna, presided over the annual celebrations of the Karanthai Tamil Sangham which came off at the Sangham school premises on Saturday and Sunday.

There was a big audience which among others included Lady Ramanathan of Ceylon and Mrs. Natesa Pillai.

On behalf of the Sangham an address was presented to Mr. Natesa Pillai and Rao Sahib T. V. Umamaheswaram Pillai, President of the Sangham, welcomed Mr. Pillai and other assembled guests in a short speech. Mr. J. M. Soma-sundaram Pillai, Secretary of the Sangham, read the report.

The Sangham school is 540 strong and to it are attached an orphanage, a library, a hostel and a dispensary. The report also solicited contributions to make the work of the Sangham a success.

Mr. Natesa Pillai, in the course of his address in Tamil, paid a tribute to the work that the Sangham had been doing in the cause of the Tamil language and referred to the earnest work and selfless activities of its President who had been taking a keen interest in the development of Tamil education and culture. The history of the Tamils and their culture and civilisation had been given a new orientation after the Indus Valley discoveries by Sir John Marshall. Formerly it was a practice of the Indian historians to neglect altogether South Indian history or to give it only a passing reference and in the words of Prof. Sundaram Pillai, Indian history should begin on the banks of the Tambaraparani and not on the Indus.

On the question of language he said he expected that after the advent of the popular Government of the Congress party greater prominence would be given to the Tamil language, but to his regret he saw the reverse of it. He hoped that the Congress Government would do all in its power to develop the Tamil language and give it great prominence. He told the audience that western scholars were on the tip-toe to learn all about the ancient Tamil culture, government, arts and literature and it should be the task of every English knowing Tamil scholar to exert himself in this direction and try to raise the

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WAR SCARE AND PROFITEERING BY TRADERS

'Prices Of Rice And Paddy Increased

AUTHORITIES WARN DEALERS

Rush on the Market to Stock Foodstuffs

THERE has been a rise in the price of rice during the last few days. The increased profits have varied from Re 1 to 2 per bag and today perhaps due to warning by the authorities, the additional profits made by the retail dealers have been cut down which now range from Re 1 to 50 cts. per bag.

IT IS understood that Headmen have been instructed to warn dealers against profiteering.

THERE is a rush for the purchase of rice and paddy, and a system of quota is being enforced in the case of importers and large scale dealers in these food stuffs.

Colombo August 23 against those who attempt to gain undue profits."

DESPITE the fact that the Government has stated that there is a rice reserve in Island to last three months, at least there has been a rise in the price today ranging from 75 cents to a rupee per bag.

The international situation has had no direct effect so far on trade conditions here. So that the increase in prices is difficult to understand and can only be translated as an attempt at profiteering.

The attention of the Food Controller was called by "The Times of Ceylon" to this rice price increase, and, in a special communique, the Controller states that the legislation is now being rushed through, containing heavy penalties for profiteering.

Mr. J. C. W. Rock, Director of Industries and Commerce and Food Controller, in an interview said to a "Times of Ceylon" reporter today:—

"In the absence of legislation to control prices, my Department can take no action.

Mr. Rock pointed out that this could be done by a person refusing to buy the commodity on which the price had been raised and purchasing a substitute.

"In a situation such as the present, the public must protect itself."

Minister's Warning

The Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, (Mr. G. C. S. Corea) told a "Times of Ceylon" reporter, "I have issued instructions to the Food Control Department to take notice of any tendency to increase prices and I will take steps to put them down."

The following press communique was issued by the Food Controller: "Information has been received by the Food Controller that prices of certain commodities have been raised and a warning is issued to all traders not to resort to excessive raising of prices and profiteering.

"Simultaneously the public are warned to report to the Food Controller all cases of undue rise in prices. Special mention should be made of the prices previously paid and the prices now being charged.

"Legislation is now being passed with heavy penalties to prevent the public from being exploited and such penalties will be strictly enforced.

Reserve of Rice

The Essential Commodities Reserves Ordinance which recently came into operation, has enabled the Food Controller to create a reserve of rice which, it is hoped, will assist the country in tiding over such difficulties as may be caused by interruption of sea borne traffic.

If war is declared it will become necessary to close the granaries so that a complete check may be taken of the actual stocks in hand and in order that the Food Controller may be in a position to keep a close watch on the quantities of imported rice which are brought into and removed from the granaries. This action is necessary in order to make sure that existing stocks are distributed to the best advantage.

The public are therefore advised that such closure of the granaries should not be considered as an indication of any shortage of rice in the country or of an intention to introduce rationing.

Supplies of beef and mutton, bacon and ham, sugar, flour, cheese, butter and milk may be rationed, should it become necessary, in the event of an emergency, according to a communique issued by the Food Controller.

In order to assist the Food Controller all those who are normally dependent on these articles of food are requested to take notice as follows:—

Every importer is requested to keep in a suitable register the names and addresses and approximate monthly requirements of the wholesale dealers who normally purchase supplies from him.

Dealers Informed

Every wholesale dealer is requested to keep in a suitable register the names and addresses and the approximate monthly requirements of all retailers who normally purchase supplies from him.

Every retailer is requested to prepare a register giving the names and addresses and the approximate monthly requirements of all customers who normally purchase supplies from him.

Every consumer of these articles

A Plea for Opening Northern Ports

Madawachchi—Talaimannar Line Superfluous

Mr. A. Thedchanamoorthy of Jaffna has addressed the following letter to the Chairman of the Retrenchment Commission:—

I have the honour to bring to your notice that the stoppage of the immigration of labour into Ceylon by India has made the Madawachchi-Talaimannar Railway line Superfluous, nonpaying and ruining, and to suggest that this Line may be closed forthwith. The few passengers and the goods could pass via Tuticurin from Colombo by steamer that is now plying between these stations.

As there is no fear of immigration of Indians into Ceylon the Northern Ports could be reopened. This route effects a saving of nine hours in the time and the most natural route.

The Railway Line in South India has been extended to Point Calimere with a view to linking it with Kankasanturai which is very close to India and which is the Northern Railway Terminus.

PAMPHLET STIRRING ILL-WILL

Petition Drawer Charged Before Magistrate

Badulla, Friday.

Arthur de S. Weerakkody, a petition drawer of Badulla, pleaded not guilty before Mr. T. P. P. Goonetilleke, Additional Magistrate, of Badulla, to a charge of having attempted to promote ill-will, and the Magistrate postponed the trial. Inspector W. B. Perkins of Badulla, who prosecuted pressed for heavy bail. This was fixed at Rs. 250.

The charge against Weerakkody is that on June 13th, by words intended to be read, he had attempted to promote feelings of ill-will and hostility between the Sinhalese and Tamils and that he published a pamphlet calculated to promote ill-will and hostility among a certain section of His Majesty's subjects.

is requested to take immediate action to register with the retailer from whom supplies are normally obtained. It is essential that a consumer be "tied to" one retailer only for each article of food, and should not register himself with more than one such retailer. In the case of firms who deal in more than one of these commodities a customer may register with that firm for all the commodities concerned.

Mr. E. H. R. Tenison, Assistant Food Controller, told a "Times of Ceylon" reporter that the supplies in the country at the moment were quite good and that the main idea of rationing was to see that equal treatment was meted out to all classes of people.

JAFFNA U. D. C. VOTES FOR MUNICIPALITY

MOTION FOR POSTPONEMENT TURNED DOWN

DEPUTATION MEETS MINISTER

THE Jaffna Urban District Council turned down a motion asking the Minister of Local Administration to delay the establishment of a Municipality.

All the members were present except the Provincial Engineer, Mr. Thuraiappah.

Mr. M. Jacob moved: "This Council resolves to postpone the introduction of a Municipality."

Mr. S. Patanjali said that according to the Local Government Ordinance, they had no right to pass that resolution.

The Chairman, Mr. Sam Sabapathy, said that according to the Ordinance they had no right to impose a Municipality. They could only recommend.

Mr. S. M. Aboobucker moved as an amendment: "This Council respectfully requests the Minister of Local Administration to postpone the Municipality for five years."

Mr. R. R. Nalliah rose to a point of order but the Chairman allowed the amendment, which Mr. V. A. Durayappah seconded. The amendment was lost by five votes to six.

Those for were Messrs. M. Jacob, S. M. Aboobucker, C. Ponnambalam, V. A. Durayappah and K. Aiyadurai. Those against were Messrs. R. R. Nalliah, C. R. Thambayah, S. Patanjali, K. V. Sinnathurai, the M. O. H. and the Chairman.

Minister to go to Jaffna

A deputation of the Jaffna Urban Ratepayers' Central Association, consisting of Messrs. C. Nadarajah, M. Ramanathan, V. M. Velauthapillai and K. Thuraiappah, interviewed the Minister for Local Administration, asking him to postpone the establishment of a Municipality.

The deputation was introduced to the Minister and his Committee by Mr. A. Mahadeva, M. S. C. for Jaffna. Mr. Mahadeva explained the poverty of the people of Jaffna today, and the deputation submitted a memorial signed by 3,578 ratepayers, objecting to the establishment of a Municipality. This list was supplementary to the memorial signed by 4,640 ratepayers and submitted previously.

It is understood that after some discussion Mr. Mahadeva suggested a compromise that the establishment of the Municipality be postponed for a further period of four years, till 1944, after another U. D. C. had functioned. The deputation, on being asked by the Minister whether they were agreeable to this, said that they could not commit themselves without further consultation with the Ratepayers' Association.

"The Minister said that he and his Committee would go to Jaffna, where the deputation could tell him the result of their consultation with their Association. The Minister further said that it had been his intention to bring up a draft ordinance during next week in Council, but after listening to the deputation had decided to hold up any action in the matter, pending his visit to Jaffna."



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1939

A RAY OF HOPE

THE NEWS THAT HERR HITLER has sent SIR NEVILLE HENDERSON with some demands to the British Premier and that the latter has sent some reply gives some reason to hope that war may yet be averted at the eleventh hour by some concession on either side. As our readers are aware, the Russo-German Non-Aggression Pact just signed contains no escape clause applicable to any act of aggression by either of the signatories, so that Russia is keen on pursuing a policy of isolation and has no desire to be involved in a European War, unless her own vital interests are directly threatened. The Pact has been considered to be the greatest diplomatic triumph since the Great War and a severe blow to the cause of peace. It alters completely the balance of forces in Europe. But then the Japanese reaction to the Pact seems to be favourable to the Peace Bloc. Japan not too pleased at the *volte face* which HERR HITLER has made by throwing overboard the Anti-Comintern Pact and clutching the right hand of Soviet friendship. Both Germany and Britain will watch with interest the future developments in Japanese policy, and if things are favourable Britain might reach a rapprochement by recognising Japan's new role in the East. Now that Soviet Russia has made up her mind on remaining neutral, she can use her influence to bring about settlement of the differences between the Reich and Poland. President ROOSEVELT has once again made plain his sympathy with the cause of peace and democracy and has counselled HERR HITLER to pursue the path of negotiation rather than unilateral treaty revision. MUSSOLINI himself, in spite of his bluster, will be a moderating influence on HITLER, who himself would achieve his purpose by bluff rather than by a resort to arms, and who is fully alive to the devastation and carnage in which his own country will have to be involved along with the rest of the world. The Democracies have once more

made plain their determination to resist with all the force at their command any attempt direct or indirect made by Germany to alter the status of Danzig which would threaten the independence of Poland. Whatever opposition the democracies may offer to German aggression cannot save Poland from destruction by Germany, for without Russian help there is no way of dispatching troops or materials to that country. This consideration may chasten Poland a bit and make her disposed to be more accommodating to Germany by consenting to the incorporation of Danzig into the Reich with the necessary safeguards for Poland's vital economic interests. If Poland can be induced to accept such a settlement, then the democracies are automatically released from their obligation to stand by her, for, it is only in case where Poland determines to resist, Britain and France have to go to her rescue. Danzig, said MUSSOLINI on a former occasion, is not worth a world war. Why should it be worth that just now? It is only on such a basis that a world war may be averted.

War Scare and Profiteering

We would draw the immediate attention of the Government Agent of this Province to the profiteering that is being carried on by retail dealers in rice and paddy who have availed themselves of the war scare to raise the prices of these foodstuffs abruptly. The story has gone abroad that in the event of a war that is almost inevitable, foodstuffs would be appreciably raised. The poor credulous people rush to the dealers who do not scruple to trade on the ignorance of the poor. The profits range from 50 cents to Rs. 2/- on a bag of rice over and above the normal prices. We have received stories of credulous poor people pawning their jewels to buy and stock rice to face the exigencies of a gloomy and uncertain future. The retail dealers have seized this opportunity to make as much profit as possible. We would therefore call upon the authorities to check this profiteering in the interest of the people.

Personal

Mr. Sam. Seevaretnam, Senior Assistant Master, Jaffna Central College, has been appointed Headmaster of the Methodist Boys' English School, Hatton. He will assume duties on the 6th of September. He has been on the staff of Central for nearly twenty years.

RUSSO-GERMAN PACT

A PROFOUND CHANGE IN POLICY

WILL RUSSIA INFLUENCE HITLER TO PEACEFUL METHODS?

GERMANY has given the statesmen of the world one more lesson in the value of quick decisions says the Madras "Hindu" in its editorial on Thursday. The lightning rapidity with which the Russo-German Pact has been concluded, after a mere three-hour meeting compared to the five months taken over the Three-Power negotiations, bears out the confident remarks made in Berlin yesterday that the agreement would be signed at once. As the events of this strange drama unfold themselves we find that the German versions were nearer the truth than the convenient inferences that were drawn from the short statements made by tight-lipped Soviet officials. A Berlin spokesman predicted yesterday that the disclosure of the terms of the pact would show that it was a historic event. Is this borne out by the details available to-day? It is too early yet to say but it can be confidently stated that it is something more far-reaching than the previous non-aggression pacts signed by the Soviet with her neighbours. The most important difference is the absence of what has been called the "escape clause", whereby the contracting parties were freed from their obligations under the pact when any one of them committed an act of aggression against a third party. This is a notable omission. Even more important is the fact that it is clearly stated in Article Four that "neither of the two parties will join any other group of Powers which directly is directed against one of the two". The effect of this provision is to prevent Soviet Russia from joining the "Peace Front", while, on her part, Germany will have to bury the Anti-Comintern Pact. When this is so, what did the Soviet spokesman mean yesterday when he asserted that the new move need not be contrary to the negotiations that are going on in Moscow? Moscow's effort to minimise the scope of the new move is really not easy to understand, especially when it is stated in the preamble to the new pact that the treaty will be in consonance with the agreement of 1926. A return to the Rapallo policy of friendship reverses the entire trend of European and world politics, by putting an end to the division of Powers on ideological grounds.

The Soviets, of course, will claim that the war panic created on the basis of the so-called ideological cleavage was a false cry deliberately raised to embroil them in war and its elimination helps to clear the atmosphere. This is implicit in two statements made by the Soviet leaders. M. Stalin, speaking in March, said, "The Anti-Comintern Pact is aimed less at the Soviet Union

than at the great democracies." Again, he said that so far as the Ukraine is concerned Germany had no plans of conquest. "All this suspicious hubbub about a future Greater Ukraine is only being created in order to rouse the anger of the Soviet Union against Germany and kindle a conflict for which there are no visible grounds." This suspicion that the ideological cleavage was being fomented and used by the Western Powers was expressed most emphatically by M. Molotov as late as June last. "It is not yet clear," he said, "whether these countries (Britain and France) are seriously desirous of abandoning their policy of non-resistance to the further development of aggression. We must therefore be vigilant....we must remember Comrade Stalin's precept to be 'cautious and not to allow our country to be drawn into conflicts by war-mongers who are accustomed to have others pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for them'." This may explain why the Soviet leaders have decided on such a profound change in policy implicit in the new pact. Having tried to collaborate in achieving collective security and failed, having found that even in the limited task of building a non-aggression front their would-be partners showed all the old hesitancy and aloofness, the Soviets have come to the conclusion that there is perhaps more to be gained by a policy of isolation and neutrality. To the question whether Russia can secure real peace, if not for Europe, at least for herself by this method, Moscow will perhaps point to the clauses of the pact as an answer. There is provision for consultation between the two countries on common interests and disputes and conflicts. These obviously refer to the Baltic States and other countries which are on the Russian border. If it is said that Hitler's word is no bond, Moscow may as reasonably retort that neither are those of the Western Powers and Poland. There is also an additional gain for Russia in the fact that in the Far East, Japan has received a severe blow by the dissolution of the Anti-Comintern Pact. These are powerful considerations which could not but weigh with a country which has found that in spite of her sincere efforts on behalf of peace all that she gained was either bitter enmity or humiliating coldness.

A sympathetic understanding of Russia's decision to withdraw herself from Europe will be tempered by regret that the new move has given Germany a weapon with which to beat Europe to its knees. The tone of the German Press is different, the tempo of German preparations has become faster since Monday night. Herr Hitler spurns the British warning and no amount of demonstrative preparedness in Britain, France and Poland has made any impression on the Nazis. The British mood is earnest and serious at the moment. There are two possibilities. One is that Herr Hitler himself, with the Russian Pact in his pocket, may not precipitate matters just yet, since he has everything to gain by testing the nerves of the democracies and Poland in the new context. The second possibility is that Russia may use her new-found influence to persuade Hitler to pursue peaceful methods. If that takes place the new move will have justified itself. The situation is tense, but a war is not yet the only way out.

PEACE HANGS ON BRITAIN'S REPLY TO HITLER

British Ambassador takes Message from Hitler

LONDON DISCUSSIONS AWAITED WITH EXTREME TENSION

Berlin, Saturday.

THE outcome of the London discussions on the message which Sir Neville Henderson took from Hitler is awaited here with extreme tension. Deputies of the Reichstag, regional leaders and all other high Party officials are in Berlin and can be summoned at a moment's notice to an extraordinary session of the Reichstag if that should be deemed desirable.

Should Sir Neville Henderson bring back a negative reply it is surmised in foreign circles here that Hitler may make an immediate pronouncement. If the reply is in the affirmative it is believed that discussions may continue.

The German public, although unaware of these reports and speculations, nevertheless senses that something is in the air.

Meanwhile preparations for all eventualities are progressing calmly and according to plan. Streets and railway stations in Berlin and other towns bear quite a military appearance.

Cabinet Discusses Plan

Sir Neville Henderson, who arrived at 12-15 p. m. lunched with Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Halifax, and Lord Cadogan at No. 10, Downing Street, and reported on yesterday's talk with Hitler. It is understood that a Cabinet meeting will later hear an account of Sir Neville's report.

A Rome message states that, commenting on recent diplomatic activity, "Messagere" says Sir Neville Henderson had gone to London carrying a plan for a peaceful solution, given him by Herr Hitler. "In a few hours we shall know if reason finally prevails."

After lunching with Sir Neville Henderson, the conversation lasting three hours, Lord Halifax left No. 10 Downing Street and walked across to the Foreign Office. He was cheered by a large crowd and smiled in return.

Sir Neville had an audience with the King at Buckingham Palace.

Sir Neville left Buckingham Palace after a stay of an hour and 25 minutes.

A meeting of the Cabinet began at 8-30 p. m. Each Minister was greeted with a round of applause as he entered No. 10, Downing Street. Earlier, Sir Neville crossed

over from the Foreign Office and entered No. 10.

When Lord Halifax, accompanied by Mr. R. A. Butler (Foreign Under-Secretary), walked from the Foreign Office they received an ovation from the huge crowd.

News of Sir Neville's return has brought political circles hope that there is perhaps some move afoot which may break the deadlock and the now accelerating drift towards disaster. It is clear that Sir Neville Henderson is bringing proposals or questions requiring an answer from Britain.

Rome, Saturday.

It is officially revealed that Hitler sent a message to Mussolini yesterday afternoon. Mussolini has replied and received a further communication from Hitler last night.

Navalyur Somasundra Pulavar Fund

The Reception Committee begs to thank all subscribers and particularly those in Malaya who responded so readily when Mr. S. Saravanamuttu approached them recently in connection with the above fund.

By Order
C. Tillaiambalam,
Hony. Secretary.

Hindu English School,
Vaddukodai
25-8-39.

(Mis. 129. 28-8-39)

The Mee Seed

Continued from Column 4)

all foreign matter the mixture is allowed to cool for two days. It then has the consistency of butter. It is next poured into large moulds and allowed to set. From the mould mammoth rectangular blocks of gleaming pale yellow soap emerge. These are sliced up into the familiar bar sizes, the cutting up being done by fine wire.

Then stamped, wrapped and attractively boxed, the finished article comes via the shops and boutiques to Ceylon homes, where it is little realised that it is, in fact, mainly a product of Ceylon forests, utilising a raw material that has been going to waste all these years.

The Mee Seed

A New Source of Income for Villagers

SCATTERED throughout the forests of the North-Central, Central and Northern Provinces is a tree known to botanists as *Bassia Longifolia*. To others it is known as the Mee tree, and provides a profitable source of income to the villager living on the forest's edge, writes E. M. W. in the "Sunday Observer".

The oil-bearing seed of the mee tree has been known to the Ceylon villager from the days of long ago, but its use has been mainly confined to medicinal purposes and as such was considered rare and valuable. Small quantities of the seed were gathered as required and by a process of crushing and boiling the oil was extracted.

Now, however, gathering mee seeds in quantities has become a profitable sideline in outlying villages, for it has become a commercial proposition. Mee oil has become the base for the manufacture of locally made fully boiled soap, i.e., laundry soap of a superior quality, and, so far as much as has been offered in Colombo has been readily absorbed for the purpose.

The manufacture of soap began locally about one and a half years ago, and this has opened out this new avenue for Ceylon villager to add to his meagre income.

During the last fifteen months, over three hundred tons of mee seed have been purchased at a cost of over Rs. 25 000. It indicates the extent to which the villager has already benefited by this new industry. None of this money has gone into a middleman's pocket, for all purchases are made direct from the villagers.

The mee tree is prolific in productivity and has two seasons, the large crop being garnered in October and November and the smaller in May. The forest floor where the mee tree thrives is covered during these seasons with the seed shed by the tree and all the villager has to do is to go out and gather it.

Result of Research

The choice of mee oil for soap making in Ceylon was the result of careful investigation carried out by the British Ceylon Corporation. A suitable oil that could be produced locally was sought as the importation of palm oil, the customary base would make the cost of production excessive, and since coconut oil could not form the major base for the manufacture of a fully boiled soap.

Agents went out into outlying districts looking for a suitable oil-bearing seed which could be obtained in a sufficient quantity to make its oil extraction a commercial proposition. Two varieties of seed "kekuna" and "mee" were eventually brought in for laboratory tests and the latter was found to be eminently suitable.

The average content of oil in the seed is 50 to 55 per cent. and the

NORTHERN ASSIZES

2½ YEARS FOR MANSLAUGHTER

CAR DRIVER ACQUITTED

Mr. Justice Nihill sentenced Velan Nalliah, of Araly West, at the Northern Assizes, to two-and-a-half years' hard labour for manslaughter of Murugan Kathiran, with the murder of whom he was charged.

The case for the prosecution was that on Deepawali Day Kathiran and three others were in a lane at Araly West and when Nalliah passed them, Kathiran struck him with a stick. Nalliah then stabbed Kathiran, who died on the way to the hospital.

Nalliah stated that his brother was roughly handled by Kathiran and his companions, and he ran up with a knife and saw his brother fallen injured and Kathiran holding him down. He thought that his brother's life was in danger and stabbed Kathiran.

Mr. R. R. Crossettee Thambiah, Crown Counsel, prosecuted. Mr. S. Thambiturai, instructed by Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy, defended.

Driver Acquitted

Mr. Justice Nihill who presided over the Northern Assizes acquitted Vythilingam Ponniah of a charge of culpable homicide. The man was said to have caused the death of Thangam (70) by reversing a car in Carpenter's Lane, Vannarponnai, in a negligent manner.

After the evidence of two witnesses the judge said that it was useless to go on with the case. He asked the jury to bring in a verdict and verdict of not guilty was brought. Mr. W. G. Spencer instructed by Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy defended.

yield is 40 per cent, and this compares very favourably with other oil bearing seed. Moreover it was found that the seed was easily gathered and a continuous supply assured. Thus villagers were asked to collect the seed and thus a thriving industry was inaugurated.

Used in India

Mee oil is used in India, too, for the manufacture of laundry soap, the oil there being extracted from the seed of a slightly different variety of the same species, known botanically as *Bassia Latifolia*. It is not unknown in Europe either, where, in addition to being used in the manufacture of candles, it is used for the preparation of chocolate fat and margarine.

The extraction of the oil is now carried out by up-to-date methods. The thin shells of the seeds are removed. They are then desiccated and subjected to pressure in huge oil expellers, which extract the maximum quantity of oil from the seed.

The oil is then refined and pumped up into a large vat, technically known as the soap boiling kettle, together with the other ingredients and the mixture is boiled for no less than four days—hence the term fully boiled.

Thoroughly refined and free from
(Continued on Column 2)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Is Mr. Natesan Helping the Hindu Board?

Sir,—The attached letter of mine to Dr. Subramaniam, the President of the Hindu Board, and his reply speak for themselves. It will interest the Hindu public, showing the difficulties the Board has to overcome to do its legitimate work.

I am, e.c.
S. RAJARATNAM.

Letter Referred to

Jaffna.
27-8-39.

Mr. Natesan's Attitude Towards the Hindu Board

My dear Sir,

I am sorry to have to trouble you.
Delft Sarapiddy School:—

You would remember my telling you that Mr. Natesan informed me that when the registration of this school was opposed by the Catholic authorities, and when the question came up before the Committee of Education, he also helped to see that the school was registered for aid and that I thanked him in the name of the Board. This was some years back.

Thaiyiddy School:—

You would remember my telling you that Mr. Natesan interviewed the Director of Education in Colombo and again in Jaffna, to see that this school was not registered for aid. In spite of this the school was gazetted for observation.

Then this was taken out of the hands of the Director of Education and placed before the Committee. In the meantime I saw Mr. Natesan and wanted him to help the Board in getting this school registered, in other words to see that he did not continue his opposition. Mr. Natesan wanted to strike a bargain. He wanted to know whether I would support him at the next election if he should help Hindu causes now, especially as he had already promised to help the proprietor of the neighbouring school who had supported him at the last election, by seeing to it that the school was not registered for aid. To this, of course, I was unable to give an unqualified assent. The Education Committee decided that this school should not be registered till three years pass.

Some members of the Education Committee told me that Mr. Natesan had voted against the registration of this school and was the strongest opponent of the Hindu Board in the Committee.

Thumbalai School:—

The land was bought and building put up for the school at my instance. It was to be a school under our Board. Before the deed of donation was executed, the proprietor sees Mr. Natesan and he (Mr. Natesan) gives notice that the Parameshwara College Board is starting a school there. Deed in favour of the Board conducts the school. Two Christian Missions request the Director of Education to reclassify this as an "unnecessary" school. The Director of Education does it. We protest. He, after our representations, minutes that the original decision of the Department that the school is necessary is correct. This is not sent to us. In the meantime Mr. Natesan

sends one Swaminathan to inform you that the Director of Education told him (Mr. Natesan) that he would be very reluctant to register the school under the Board and would be prepared to register the school at once if the school is transferred to the Parameshwara College Board. Mr. Natesan too visited you twice to give you the same story. When you put the proposal to us we refused to even consider such manoeuvres. Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam's services are requisitioned to canvass the Donee to induce the Board to reconvey the school to the Parameshwara College Board, with the same story of the Director of Education's hatred towards the Board and of registration immediately under the Parameshwara College Board. The Donee refuses. The school finally gets registered after a weary waiting of 15 months, though it had more than 200 children from the day of starting and has one of the finest buildings and is well equipped according to the Director himself.

I shall thank you to state if the above facts are correct to your knowledge and if they are wrong to correct me.

Yours truly,
Sgd. S. Rajaratnam.

Correct
Sgd. S. Subramaniam.

Sinhalese-Tamil Unity

Sir,—That Charming editorial of yours dated 24th August has made matters plain and I feel as though Sinhalese-Tamil unity is in my arm's reach.

We are, Sir, to be thankful to Major J. L. Kotalawala both for his visit to Jaffna and for the very way in which he has made us understand the atmosphere that prevails among our councillors, each of whom wishes very much, to feather his own nest. But the Board of Ministers knew the secret well; they are cultured we must understand. So they have decided that Kayts should be the Northern Port of passenger traffic between India and Ceylon. This, their decision amazingly becomes the convenience of the Government and Jaffna public. Let our representatives now remain satisfied and thank the Ministers a thousand times. If at all our candidates are not contented the Sinhalese Ministry is not to be blamed.

Also we very kindly insist on the Board of Ministers to hurry up and decide the Jaffna aerodrome question.

Furthermore we beg of the Board of Ministers to view all problems regarding Jaffna on the same base as is as they view theirs.

We fully hope that more Ministers would visit Jaffna, mix with the people of Jaffna and bring the two communities together and establish better and closer relationship between them.

Chemany Street, X. Y. Z.
Jaffna, Aug. 26, 1939.

Notice to Correspondent

NON-HINDU BOARD MEMBER,
N. C. T. T. A.;—Letter not authenticated.

RELIGIOUS NEUTRALITY OF GOVT

Sri Sankaracharya Convenes Conference

Kumbakonam, Aug. 21.

In order to ascertain the views and opinions of some of his prominent *sishyas*, it is learnt, His Holiness Sri Sankaracharya Swami of Kamakoti Peetam invited, among others, Rao Sahib N. Natesa Aiyar of Madura, Messrs K. V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, K. Balasubramania Aiyar, T. L. Venkatarama Aiyar and S. Rajagopalachariar, Advocates of Madras, to an informal meeting at Kumbakonam on Saturday last. Leading *mirasdars* of the town, several *pandits* and some trustees of local temples were also present.

The main question discussed was how to safeguard religion from legislative interference. The discussions turned round the need for having an organisation for enforcing religious neutrality. Some among those present stressed the necessity for preventing Congress Ministry from engaging itself in this reform by joining the Congress itself and forming a separate party. It was pointed out by them that there was a sharp cleavage of opinion within the Congress itself about mixing politics with religion. It was finally decided to take a sort of referendum and obtain the opinions of all persons, Congressmen as well as non-Congressmen, on the question of the principle that the Government and the Congress should observe strict religious neutrality.

It is understood that a prominent Harijain from Chidambaram, who came to the Sri Sankaracharya Mutt, where these discussions were held, was admitted into the backyard and was following the discussions.

The Late Mr. T. P. Masilamany

The "anthiaddy" ceremonies of the late Mr. T. P. Masilamany whose death occurred in Travancore on the 11th instant were performed on Saturday at Villooody by his son Mr. Bhaskaram, assisted by the family priest, and later at his residence, in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends.

Change of Name

I Veerakathy Amirtham of Alaveddy do hereby bring to the notice of the Government of Ceylon, the general public and those who are concerned that I shall from this day forward be known and called as Veerakathypillai Sinna Thangam and shall sign my name as

V. S. THANGAM.

Alaveddy,
21-8-39.
(Mis 128. 24-31-8-39)

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Monday, the 28th August, 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8 p.m. Karnatic Instrumental Music
8 p.m. Recital of Devotional Music

Tuesday, the 29th August 1939

UPAKARMA

6 p.m. Bhajana
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 7-15 p.m. Bharatha Recital by Sriman K. Krishna Rao
8 p.m. Tamil Harikatha "Travancore Temple Entry"

Wednesday, the 30th August 1939

6 p.m. Hindusthani Light Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Clottuvadyam Recital by Vidwan Srinivasa Iyengar, accompanied by Vidwan Ramiah, (Mridangam)

Thursday, the 31st August 1939

6 p.m. Karnatic Vocal Music
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
7 to 7-20 p.m. Popular Science: "Ghost Plane" by B. M. Sivaramiah, Esq.
8 p.m. Telugu Drama: "Sakhu Bai"

Friday, the 1st September 1939

6 p.m. Flute
6-15 p.m. News and Announcements
6-30 p.m. Recitation from the Holy Koran-I-Sheriff
6-40 p.m. Hindusthani Music

Saturday, the 2nd September 1939

6 p.m. Orchestral Music
6-15 p.m. News & Announcements
6-30 to 8-45 p.m. Vocal Music Performance by Asthana Sangitha Vidwan B. Devendrappa and Party

Sunday, the 3rd September 1939

No Broadcast

Arrack Rent Sale, 1939-40, Mannar District

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase of the exclusive privilege of selling arrack by retail in the Periyakaddai and Puliyadi-Irakham Arrack Taverns of Mannar District during the period October 1, 1939 to September 30, 1940. Tenders should reach the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar, not later than 11 a.m. on Friday, September 15, 1939.

2. The conditions of sale and any other particulars can be obtained on application at the Mannar Kachechi.

S. F. AMERASINGHE,

Assistant Government Agent.

The Kachechi,
Mannar, 22nd August 1939.
[G. 19. 28-8-39.]

CONGRESS AND RELIGION

QUESTION OF NEUTRALITY

SRI SANKARACHARYA CONFERS WITH SISHYAS

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Saiva Aykkia Sangham Kaithadi

A Committee meeting of the Saiva Aykkia Sangham Kaithadi was held at its Reading Room on Monday the 21st inst. at 6 p.m. with Mr. S. Subramaniam, (F.M.S. Pensioner) the President of the Sangham, in the Chair.

The meeting commenced with the singing of *Thevaram*.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary and adopted.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. K. Subramaniam and seconded by Mr. S. Sjanathanby was passed:—

"In view of the fact that the building of the Muthucumaraswamy Vidyasalai Managed by this Sangham requires immediate repairs, necessary steps be taken to effect repairs forthwith."

After some other business of the Sangham were transacted the meeting came to a close at 10 p.m. with the singing of *Thevaram*.

Ceylon Getting Ready for Emergency

(Continued from page 1)

sised that there is no need whatsoever for panic. All precautionary measures have been taken to ensure that considerable quantities of rice will be available in the Island.

The Essential Commodities Reserves Ordinance which recently came into operation, has enabled the Food Controller to create a reserve of rice which, it is hoped, will assist the country in tiding over such difficulties as may be caused by interruption of sea-borne traffic.

If War Comes

On the declaration of war it will become necessary to close the Granaries so that a complete check may be taken of the actual stocks in hand, and in order that the Food Controller may be in a position to keep a close watch on the quantities of imported rice which are brought into and removed from the Granaries. This action is necessary in order to make sure that existing stocks are distributed to the best advantage.

The public are therefore advised that such closure of the Granaries should not be considered as an indication of any shortage of rice in the country or of an intention to introduce rationing.

Purchase of Reserves

The Government's appeal to house-holders to buy reserve food-stuffs without delay has prompted several Fort firms to give advances of salary to their employees.

Circulars were sent to the respective departments yesterday that such advances will be given today for the purchase of reserve food supplies.

Last night's Gazette announced that under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Reserves Ordinance, sugar and flour have been declared to be essential commodities for the purpose of that Ordinance.

Leave Cancelled

Leave granted to officers in certain departments, like the Post Office, Railway and the Police has been cancelled and the officers have been asked to remain at their posts.

A young man for whose marriage today all arrangements had been made was among those officers in a Government Department whose leave was cancelled yesterday.

A circular was issued by the head of the Department cancelling the leave granted to all officers of the Department except those on sick leave and requesting them to turn up for duty today.

A number of retired officers have also been called back to duty; and these have been detailed for specialised work in different parts of the Island.

Musical Pillars In South India

(Continued from page 1)

membered that these were the earliest ones to be attempted. The number of musical pillars in a structure varies from one to sixteen. In the Chowdesvari temple in Kamalapur taluk, near Humpi and at the Sthalasayana Perunal temple, Mahabalipuram and in the Tortoise Mantapam in the S. W. corner of the outer Prakaram of the Tirukalikundram temple, there are columns with one or two musical pillars.

The colour of these stone pillars is either white, grey or black. In the Krishnan temple at Humpi, there are musical pillars side by side with the non-resonant pillars. To all outward appearance the stones in both the types of pillars appear to be the same, but when struck one is able to see that the one is resonant and the other non-resonant.

Their Purpose

These pillars not only contributed to the artistic appearance of the temples but also served a definite musical purpose. It should be noted that these pillars are seen only along the sides of the temple halls (mantapas) or court yards. When hundreds of devotees met on festival days and recited sacred music, these pillars were played upon by musicians. The pillar-music provided both the *sruti* and a regular musical accompaniment. The notes given by these pillars extend over a range of one full octave and by disciplined practice a party of four musicians can, by standing at different pillars, play easily "Samaganam," "Thevaram" and other sacred music. And these stones uninfluenced as they were by the climatic changes, always gave notes of the same pitch. The congregation had the assurance that they always sang to the same pitch or *sruti* (*adhara shadja*). These pillars do not need any repair; they are there, for all

ages to come, giving their beautiful clear notes.

In some temples the pillars are seen along the sides of dance halls or *Nritta mantapas*. In such cases it is possible that 'Jatis' (tala mnemonics) were played on them for the guidance of the dancer or the group of dancers. In the Pampatiswarar temple, at Humpi, there are musical pillars all along the court yard and as the dancer or dancers danced from one end to the other different pillars must have been played upon.

It is possible that in some temples, the pillar-music formed part of the daily temple ritual. It is interesting to note that in the Nelliappar temple the place containing the musical pillars is known as "Mani Mantapam". There are two musical pillars at the entrance to the "Thousand pillared mantapam" in Madras. The stony seats provided for the pilgrims at the Sanjeevi hill corner of the Tirukalikundram Hill temple are also resonant. One can hear notes of different pitch by striking these stony slabs.

National Treasures

It is a pity that these musical pillars which are national treasures are not carefully looked after in some places. Not even good publicity is given to them. The temple authorities would do well to put placards in front of them. They can go a step further and find out with the help of local musicians, the precise pitch in absolute scale of these pillars and label them.

The attention of tourists and visitors must be drawn to these marvels of architectural skill.

The only temple containing whole resonant images is the one at Krishnapuram, Tinnevely District, but it is a matter for regret that this important temple is not kept in a good condition. It is hoped that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board will do something to save this temple. Popular interest in these musical pillars can be revived if the temple trustees get some musicians to perform on them simple pieces of music like the "Divyanama Kirtanas" and "Thevaram" and "Tiruppugazh" songs.

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Y. 48. 1-11-38--31-10-39 (M)

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Y. 134. 1-4-39 to 30-9-39 [M]

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Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 702.
In the matter of the intestate estate
and effects of the late Gertrude
Annammal wife of Bryant Seeva-
ratnam Aiyathurai of Changanai

Deceased
Bryant Seewaratnam Aiyathurai of
Changanai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Joseph Sabaratnam Bryant Aiyathurai
2. James Atputharatnam Bryant Aiyathurai
3. Gladies Selvarany daughter of Bryant Aiyathurai all of Changanai
4. Elizabeth Annappillai widow of S. E. Sabapathipillai of Vannarponnai East Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge, Jaffna on the 10th day of February 1939 in the presence of Messrs Aiyathurai and Thambi-
rajah Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the 4th respondent be and she is hereby appointed

Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 1st, 2nd and 3rd respondents to represent them in the Testamentary proceedings, that the petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration to the Estate of the deceased as husband of the deceased and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 22nd day of March 1939 appear and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
July 19, 1939. District Judge.
Time to shew cause is extended till
23th August 1939.

Intld. C. C.
D. J.

(O 39. 24 & 28-8-39)

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Y. 51. 20-3-39 — 19-3-40

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