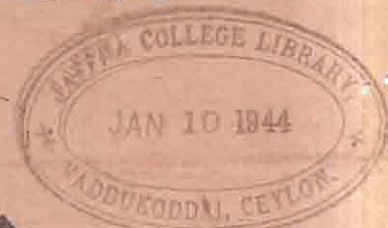


# THE Hindu Organ.



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NO. 72.

## THE INDIA DEADLOCK.

### Will British Labour Break It?

Action Expected This Week.

#### CHIANG'S APPEAL TO MAHATMA GANDHI.

London, Dec. 16.

According to Mr. Middleton, Labour Party Secretary, there has been "a good deal of action" following the pledge given at the party conference by Mr. Arthur Greenwood that the India issue will be given fresh consideration by the National Executive of the Party. Mr. Middleton informs me that a number of meetings have been held by a Joint Committee including representatives of the Parliamentary Party as well as of the National Executive, one of the documents taken into consideration being the Transport Workers' Union resolution demanding "complete revision of British policy in India" and resignation of Mr. Amery as "the first step" thereto.

I understand from other sources that the Joint Committee has not yet reached a decision owing to the illness of its Chairman, Mr. Ridley. Another factor which appears to have hampered proceedings and produced a stalemate is dissensions between some members of the committee, reflecting personal antipathies and ideological conflicts. I reliably learn that the Joint Committee is meeting early next week and will make an effort to reach some "decision before Christmas," wires the special correspondent of the Madras "Hindu".

#### CHIANG KAI-SHEK'S APPEAL.

##### Mr. Amery Leaving India Office?

London, Dec. 17.

To-day's *Daily Mail* publishes a message from its New Delhi correspondent stating, "Chiang Kai-Shek has appealed to Congress leaders to settle their political disputes and enlist the support of their followers in the war against Japan. The appeal was made through an Indian emissary who recently visited Chungking."

The *Daily Herald* also publishes the following from its New Delhi correspondent: "Chiang Kai-Shek is understood to have appealed to Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders to end the deadlock and give full support to the war against Japan."

The Generalissimo holds the view that if India is to be the base for big operations against the Japs, armed forces must not be handicapped by any domestic problems and feels that before a largescale offensive is embarked the famine must be solved.

It is learnt in lobby circles that Mr. Amery is leaving the India Office sometime early in the new year. Marshal Wavell will then release Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Nehru and Maulana Azad for finding a basis for the formation of a National Government.

## THIRTY-YEAR PLAN TO COMBAT T. B.

### Indian Expert's Opinion.

NEED FOR TRAINED PERSONNEL.

What may be called a thirty-year plan for the development of the anti-tuberculosis organisation in Ceylon has, it is understood, been suggested by the Indian expert, Dr. P. V. Benjamin, who is now in the island to advise the Minister of Health on the subject.

Dr. Benjamin is the Medical Officer in charge of the Madanapalle Sanatorium, in South India.

#### Trained Personnel

At a recent conference in Colombo with the members of the committee appointed some time ago to report on the problem of tuberculosis in Ceylon Dr. Benjamin is reported to have expressed the opinion that *the principal need in Ceylon for coping with the problem of tuberculosis was trained personnel.*

#### Hospital Accommodation

It is estimated that approximately 10,000 persons die of tuberculosis every year in Ceylon. At the rate of one bed for every death, at least, there should thus be hospital accommodation of 10,000 beds.

At the Ragama Hospital, the largest anti-tuberculosis one in the island, there are 400 patients.

Dr. Benjamin recommended that during the first fifteen years hospital accommodation of 5000 beds should be provided.

#### Training in T. B. Work

Dr. Benjamin urged that in any scheme of control there should be an efficient diagnostic service as well as a diagnostic centre for every province in charge of an officer specially trained in the subject. All these institutions should be fitted with X-ray apparatus as the diagnosis of early cases of tuberculosis required X-ray photography.

Dr. Benjamin was strongly of opinion that before Ceylon undertook the training of officers in the subject locally, there should be a full development of tuberculosis institutions which would make such training possible.

## VICEROY ON INDIA'S GREAT HELP.

Calcutta Dec. 20

"I can well remember the spirit of co-operation and helpfulness with which our demands on India were always met. There is no doubt that Indian help saved the Middle East at a critical time and thus laid the foundation for our successes of 1943 in the Mediterranean area", said the Viceroy addressing the annual meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce this morning. —A.P.I.

## Mrs. Gandhi Ill Again.

### Condition Causing Anxiety.

Why Release Is Refused.

Bombay, Dec. 20.

The Government of Bombay has issued the following communique on Mrs. Gandhi's health: "Mrs. Gandhi has had another severe heart attack. Although she has rallied from it and is now somewhat easier, her condition, having regard for her age and general frailty must continue to cause anxiety." —A.P.I.

#### Lord Munster's Reply To Question

Westminster, Dec. 15.

Lord Strabolgi asked the Government in the House of Lords today whether it was the intention of the Government of India to release Mrs. Gandhi from detention.

The Earl of Munster, the Under-Secretary for India, replied: "Mrs. Gandhi, who has been subject to heart attacks for some time, had two severe heart-attacks at the end of November. Since then, she has had a further slight attack, but, although weak is reported to be better. The Government of India, some time ago, considered her release on grounds of health. But they formed the view, to which they still hold, that it would be in Mrs. Gandhi's own interests to remain where she is with one of the most eminent heart specialists in India living on the premises and able to attend to her at any time."

Lord Strabolgi: "Do I understand from the reply that it is only a matter of Mrs. Gandhi's own well-being which actuates the Government in this, and that there has been no question of the safety of the public or the safety of the nation?"

The Earl of Munster: "I thought I had answered the question which stood on the paper referring to Mrs. Gandhi's health. I have said that they considered her release on the grounds of health, but that they considered, taking it by and large, that she is better where she is at the present time with a heart specialist in permanent attendance upon her." —Reuter.

## THE RATE-PAYERS' ASSOCIATION.

### FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The fifth annual-general meeting of the Jaffna Rate-Payers' Association will be held on Saturday next at 4 p. m. in the Town Hall.

## LEADERSHIP OF THE WAR.

### Who Will Act For Mr. Churchill?

Premier Needs a Change.

London, Dec. 16

Mr. Churchill's illness has roused speculation about a possible successor in the event of the Premier being unable to resume his duties for any length of time. The question is regarded as one of the most difficult and ticklish in British politics, since Mr. Churchill is head and shoulders above all his colleagues, none of whom is considered to have anything approaching his personality or personal nationwide prestige.

The general belief is that Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, is the likeliest successor and has apparently been groomed in recent years as such. A number of other names crop up, including that of Sir Stafford Cripps, but most of them are regarded as out of the running. Firstly, there is Mr. Attlee who has the prestige of the Deputy Premiership and leadership of the Labour Party, but political circles doubt whether he has the necessary personality. Secondly, there is Mr. Ernest Bevin who has a strong personality and formerly had strong Labour Party backing, but in the past couple of years he has lost considerable popularity in Labour and trade union circles due to his methods in handling labour. Mr. Morrison is an excellent speaker and administrator and is regarded as one of Labour's most capable men, but he too, lacks personality and has no experience of international affairs; recently he slumped politically in his own party as a result of his handling of the Mosley case. Sir Stafford Cripps, two years ago, was regarded as a coming star on the political horizon but has suffered loss of prestige due to the failure of his mission to India and of late he has slipped rapidly into the background, wires the Madras "Hindu's" London Correspondent.

## Temperature Now Normal

London, Dec. 19.

A bulletin on the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, this afternoon says: "The Prime Minister's temperature is normal and signs of pneumonia are disappearing". The bulletin was signed by Lord Moran, Brigadier D. Evan Bedford, Lieut.-Colonel R. J. V. Pulvertaft and Lieut.-Colonel J. G. Scadding.

The Government is anxious that Mr. Churchill should take the longest possible convalescence, declares the "Daily Mail's" diplomatic correspondent today. "In these circumstances, it is likely that he may in the near future travel to another country where the climate might be helpful and more bracing." —(Reuter)





## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1943.

### THE CONGRESS AND THE MINORITIES.

THE President of the Ceylon National Congress has stated that the Congress is prepared to present a united front in the matter of constitutional reform by making all reasonable concessions to the minority communities. He continued: "I am confident that the Board of Ministers are more or less working on these lines and that they are prepared to make all reasonable concessions to minorities to allay any suspicions that they may entertain in order to unite the country against the imperial menace". It is unlikely that the president would have made a definite statement like this unless he had good reason for doing so. The next move must come from the Ministers. The demands of the minorities are well-known. It is for the Ministers to say how far they are prepared to go in conciliating the minorities. The record of the Sinhalese leaders in this respect is not at all satisfactory. There is a good deal of justification for the complaint that they have resorted to questionable expedients instead of taking their stand on fair-minded and wise statesmanship in dealing with the grievances of the minorities. We do not understand the president's references to "so-called" minority communities. Does he mean that there are in fact no minorities?

The conciliatory attitude of the Congress president makes it all the more necessary that the minorities should be reasonable in their demands. In a recent speech, Mr. A. Mahadeva emphasised this important aspect of the matter and said: "It is not sufficient for us to ask that the Sinhalese should not dominate. But we the minorities should equally be careful not to attempt to dominate the Sinhalese. Any permanent settlement between the Sinhalese and the minorities can be secured only if principles of justice, fair-play, and righteousness are observed in our demands". We trust that Mr. Mahadeva's advice will be taken to heart by the minorities. It is absolutely necessary that, at the present juncture, the question of minority safeguards should be approached without passion and in a spirit of utter detachment. It would be idle to expect complete agreement amongst the minorities themselves on the nature and extent of the safeguards they need, but it should be possible

for the elected representatives of the minorities or an appreciable majority of them to decide whether any proposals submitted to them with reference to the minorities should be accepted. Each representative must know what his constituents are thinking about this matter and he will act accordingly.

On the question of balanced representation, as it has been defined by its redoubtable exponent, we regret we are unable to agree with our contemporary of the "Catholic Guardian". It is not necessary to take the paper's arguments seriously. The demand for balanced representation puts itself out of court by reason of its being opposed to the principles of justice and fairness emphasised by Mr. Mahadeva. As for the question of what constitutes adequate representation, this is a matter for the minority representatives to decide. We dare say that their decisions on this vital point will be accepted by the great majority of the people whom they represent.

As we have said, there is bound to be difference of opinion over the question of adequate and balanced representation. As the "Catholic Guardian" suggests, the minority representatives may even fail to agree on what exactly constitutes adequate representation. The obvious course is for each section to put forward its views, and when the time comes to consider the Ministers' proposals the views of the majority of the minority representatives should prevail. It is significant that the European group has not so far committed itself to the demand for balanced representation. The fact cannot be denied that European interests in Ceylon are, financially and otherwise, considerable. The "Times of Ceylon" which has taken up cudgels for the advocates of balanced representation, should know why the European leaders have failed to subscribe to the demand for balanced representation. The Europeans are a very important minority. And yet a political plank like balanced representation, which the European community does not want, is considered necessary for the minorities. The object of the whole move is obvious and the minorities would be foolish if, by pitching their demands too high, they failed to arrive at a settlement with the Sinhalese. After all, a settlement would be far safer, from the point of view of the people as a whole, than an investigation by a Commission from England. If the Sinhalese leaders fail to come to a settlement, it will be time enough to rattle the sword and we shall be glad to help the "Catholic Guardian" to do it. In the meantime let us give the minority representatives a chance by leaving it to their sense of duty and honour to reach a correct decision.

## TOWARDS POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION.

### A LESSON FROM ANCIENT INDIAN MARTIAL CODE,

MR. M. S. ANEY'S RAMANATHAN MEMORIAL LECTURE.

India and Ceylon would keenly regret the absence of Sir P. Ramanathan when the time came for the world to take momentous decisions on reconstruction which would affect the future of India and Ceylon alike. Sir Ramanathan's distinguished countrymen who were engaged in the difficult work of drafting a new Constitution for the island must be realising the grave loss of his invaluable help caused by his death, said Mr. M. S. Aney, Representative of the Government of India in Ceylon, on Saturday last at Parameshwara College, in introducing his Ramanathan Memorial lecture.

#### Versatile Genius

He suggested that some friend or admirer of Sir P. Ramanathan should take up the work of writing his biography as a love's labour and present to the wider world the story of the life of this great son of Ceylon, "the noblest representative of the Vedic culture in the Island". Sir P. Ramanathan was not only endowed with a versatile genius but with a power of magnetism. He was a centre of inspiration from which the rays of light and energy radiated in different directions illuminating and energising a large number of persons, young and old. He was a pioneer and founder of organised public life in the island. His genius was indeed versatile, practical and subtle. He could tackle subtle problems of philosophy and metaphysics with the same ease and expound them with the same clarity of expression as he used to show in dealing with practical problems of politics or technical questions of law.

"The personality of Sir P. Ramanathan strikes me as one comparable to that of the late Justice Mahadev Govinda Ranade. No thought smacking of provincialism, sectarianism or communalism ever crossed their minds. Their cosmopolitan sympathies and catholic outlook did not however permit the majority to perpetrate any injustice to the minority in the name of democratic nationalism. Justice to one and all was the motto of both said Mr. Aney.

#### Post-War Reconstruction

"The second world war which is being fought throughout the world has brought into prominence the sad fact that there is something in the existing state of the world, order which is wholly rotten and which stands in need of immediate repairs or reforms or replacement. The Treaty of Versailles that concluded the last world war and all the paraphernalia of the League of Nations have proved a miserable failure. The one great distinguishing factor in this war is that there is no big power which is outside the circle of belligerency and therefore there is no hope of the war coming to an end except as a result of exhaustion of one of the fighting groups. At the end of the war one group will be victor and the other vanquished. I venture to say that this war has now taken a definite turn in favour of the allies and the end of the war is only a question of time.

#### The Right Attitude

"It is time that those who are capable of thinking should give some serious thought to the problems of the post-war reconstruction. The opinion expressed by Field Marshall Smuts only a few days ago at an informal Conference in London have already evoked a good deal of criticism from certain sections of the public in the United Kingdom, America and India. The object or the purpose of the postwar reconstruction requires to be clearly defined and stated in unambiguous terms. If it is declared to be the securing of permanent peace and the elimination of conditions that cause disturbance ultimately leading to war which hampers the progress of humanity—if that is so—then it will be necessary for the victorious group to forget that they are victors and that they have therefore a position of advantage at the round table where the representatives of the civilised nations will be called on to deal with the bigger problems of world reconstruction. In this connection Mr. Atlee's observation we have no desire to humiliate, to crush or to devalue the German nation, is very pertinent. The Duke of Bedford in a still more generous mood pronounces:

"There was only one policy after the world war and that was for all nations to abandon the ridiculous idea of reparations and punishment and get together, letting bygones be bygones, cooperation with one another to do all they would to rebuild the shattered world.

#### Equality of Nations

"All talk of distinction between big nations and small nations or powerful nations and weak nations will have to be stopped. It will have to be tacitly accepted that there is no race or people chosen by God to rule over any other people, and no people condemned to a state of tutelage or servitude. All nations should sit as equals at any conference that may meet to consider the post-war problems. The Atlantic Charter is one of the documents which set out in general terms the war aims of the allies. Without entering into details I hazard the suggestion that it is desirable in the interest of the success of the peace conference that all grounds for doubt, misunderstanding or suspicion, real or imaginary, should be removed and the position with regard to its application to Asiatic Nations including the countries in the British Commonwealth made perfectly clear and unambiguous. In Supplement I to his "Perpetual Peace" Kant asks what is our guarantee for the end of war; and answers that it is nothing less than the great Artist Nature which may fitly be called Providence from whose mechanical course shines forth the visible design by men's very hostilities, to enforce their union.

#### A World Federation

"It will be obvious to anybody who has given the least thought to the subject of abolition of war and permanent peace, that all the

(Continued on page 3)



## A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION.

Sir S. Radhakrishnan's Analysis.

### COMPULSORY TEACHING.

Inter-University Board On Instructional Media.

Hyderabad (Dn.) Dec. 12.

"Education is the root of the whole problem of future reconstruction and if India is to find its proper place in the new order, the education of its people will have to be taken up in greater earnestness", declared Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University, in his presidential address to the meeting of the Inter-University Board held yesterday at the Osmania University.

Disinclination to take a long view had been the chief characteristic of the British in India in education as in other matters but now, he thought, there was a bold and comprehensive attempt to establish a national system of education, national not in the wrong sense of the term, of training us for exaltation of ourselves and for hatred of our neighbours but in the right sense of educating the people, irrespective of caste, class, creed or sex and enabling them to lead full, free and happy lives.

#### Mr. Sargent's Scheme

Sir S. Radhakrishnan said that Mr. John Sargent had drafted the report on post-war educational reconstruction with conviction and imagination and the grateful thanks of the people of India were due to him. A national government with its increased clearness of vision and sense of social responsibility would certainly undertake to implement this scheme as the achievement of our social objectives depended on the spread of education and raising of educational standards. The estimated cost of Rs. 313 crores when the scheme was in full swing, i. e., after fifty years, need not stagger us. If our national economy was properly organised, if our resources in agriculture, forests and industries were well developed this expenditure for a population of 400 millions could not be regarded as too high.

Mr. Sargent's scheme, Sir S. Radhakrishnan continued, contemplated an Indian Universities Commission to co-ordinate activities of the different universities and eliminate undue overlapping and dispersion of effort. It was for them to consider whether the Inter-University Board which included representatives of Provinces, States and the Government of India, could not be entrusted with this work if it was aided by a suitable permanent staff.

#### Osmania Experiment

Sir S. Radhakrishnan referred to the experiment of teaching non-language subjects in University courses through the medium of Urdu as adopted by the Osmania University and said: "As several attempts are being made to make Hindustani the common language for India, it will be of immense interest to us in other parts of India to know how far in the Osmania University and institutions attached thereto there is satisfactory provision for teaching the mother-tongue, a common language for India, Hindustani, and a language for international communication, English."

The experience of the Osmania University in the teaching of medicine, engineering and other technological subjects, through the medium of Urdu would be valuable, he thought, to other parts of the country.

Welcoming members of the Board, Nawab Mehdi Yar Jung, Education Member, H. E. H. the Nizam's Ex-

ecutive Council, and Vice-Chancellor of the Osmania University, said that re-orientation of educational policy, re-statement of educational ideals and revision of educational methods were urgently called for. One point that struck him as being most necessary of all was to consider how education should be organised so as to assist in industrial expansion of the country.

Among those attending the meeting of the Board was Dr. Ivor Jennings, Vice-Chancellor of the Ceylon University. A. P. I.

#### Instructional Media In Colleges

Hyderabad (Dn.) Dec. 13.

A resolution stating that instruction in high schools may be given in Indian languages and that though it is premature for Indian languages to be the media of instruction for intermediate and degree courses Indian languages may be recognised gradually and, as far as possible, alternatively with English as the media of instruction for Intermediate and Degree courses, was passed by the Inter-University Board.

The Board reiterated the resolution on the subject passed at an earlier session in which the Board recognised the principle that the medium of instruction in education upto and including degree courses should be Indian languages, but since in view of present conditions in India, where owing to the existence of pupils with different mother tongues in the same school or for other special reasons, it was not possible to do so, the medium of instruction should be English or any other modern Indian language, English should be a compulsory subject of study and a modern Indian language might be recognised gradually and as far as possible alternately with English as the medium of instruction for Intermediate and Degree courses.

An earlier resolution said that instruction and work in all research institutions should be through the medium of English except in such places, where it was already being done through the medium of any modern language for special reasons. —A. P. I.

#### Compulsory Education

Hyderabad, Dec. 17.

A comprehensive resolution on the memorandum submitted by Mr. John Sargent to the Government of India, on post-war development of education in India, was adopted by the Inter-University Board of India, at the close of its session here. The resolution generally welcomes the system of national education set forth in Mr. Sargent's memorandum and recommends the adoption, as soon as possible, of the principle of compulsion for all boys and girls for a period of eight years from the age of five. The principle of teaching through crafts is recognised by the resolution. —A. P. I.

#### NEW PRICE ORDER

Weet Bix and Vita Brits, whole-wheat preparations sold in 12 oz. and 24 oz. packets respectively, have had their prices controlled at Re. 1 and Rs. 1.75 per packet.

#### NOTICE

Increased sugar ration to Ordinary & Male Worker coupon holders in Jaffna Urban Area

Ordinary and Male-Worker Coupon holders in the Jaffna Urban Area will be issued 1/2 lb. of sugar per head from 28th December 1943.

2. The other classes of coupon holders will be issued at the current rate of 1/4 lb. sugar per head per week.

Sgd. E. B. TISSEVERASINGHE  
For Deputy Food Controller, N. P. Jaffna 22nd December 1943.  
G. 33.

## TAMILS AND REFORMS.

Story of the Recent Conferences.

### JAFFNA ASSOCIATION'S DEMANDS.

"The Tamils have always been in the vanguard of the national movement. They stand today, as they have always done, for the fullest measure of self-government for Ceylon," said Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Member of the State Council, at the conclusion of an informal conference he had with members of the Jaffna Association on Monday evening last at the Jaffna Rest House.

#### Steps In The Ladder

Mr. Ponnambalam sketched the history of the correspondence between the Board of Ministers and the Secretary of State starting from the motion of the Member for Horana demanding a declaration that the granting of Dominion Status to Ceylon was the goal of British Policy and culminating in the declaration of the Secretary of State, of May this year.

The minority members of Council had made repeated demands for a debate on both these issues but were baulked in their attempt by the Government.

The attitude of the Ministers in not giving time to discuss even one of the several motions notice of which had been given by minority members on the Reforms issue, at the last meeting of Council was reprehensibly dictatorial.

Baulked in this manner of every chance of ventilating minority opinion in Council certain minority members were taking steps to represent matters to the British Government.

#### Tactical Move

Perhaps forewarned of this move Mr. D. S. Senanayake began issuing invitations to minority members to meet the Board of Ministers and discuss the Reforms question. The members were asked to come in separate groups—the principle of division being communal and regional; and when group after group demanded that they should be told the details of even the "tentative" proposals of the Ministers to form a basis for discussion the Ministers kept on dodging and finally stated that for the sake of the discussion it might be taken that the Reform will be on the basis of a Single Chamber representative House of 100 members, the political executive being a Cabinet on the British model.

The minority members objected that the complex problems of constitutional reform could not all be discussed usefully and in any constructive manner on the basis of a skeleton proposal as above and demanded a Round Table Conference at which the entire proposals of the Board may be discussed.

#### Jaffna Association's Demands

The following resolutions were passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Association held on Tuesday last.

1. "This Association disapproves the procedure adopted by the Ministers in framing their reform proposals without consulting the representatives of the people in Council."

2. "This Association urges strongly that the scheme of minority representation should be settled before proposals relating to the nature and power of the executive are framed as both are inter-related."

3. "This association requests the Ministers to convene a Round Table Conference of minority representatives in the State Council with a view to arrive at an agreed solution."

Mr. A. Mahadeva, Minister for Home Affairs, addressed the committee on the Reforms issue before the above resolutions were taken up for consideration.

## Towards Post-War Reconstruction.

(Continued from page 2)

nations of the world, big and small must co operate with one another to bring into existence not an advisory body like the League of Nations but a powerful organisation in the nature of a world federation. They must be prepared to part with their powers of sovereignty to a considerable extent and delegate the same to the new federal machinery to be set up. I wish to point out that there is need of setting up a World Federal Authority-call it by any name which can make a comprehensive survey of the world conditions, prescribe remedies for the evils and enforce their application. This world authority can come into existence only on the willing consent and cooperation of those who win the war. Nations will have to accept the doctrine on which the Hindu Joint Family System is based.

#### National Self-Denial

"The problem before the civilised nations is to treat every State as an juristic person or entity and to call upon it to surrender a considerable part of their corporate rights known as Sovereignty to a higher authority of their own creation in the broader interest of humanity and to proclaim their voluntary allegiance to that authority. In short they have not merely to cease to be 'imperialists' but own allegiance to a new state as their paramount power and occupy the position of vassal states in relation to the same in certain matters.

#### Example of Vedic Kings

"I think I should refer to an important convention observed by the renowned Bharata Varsha in the Golden Age of Vedic culture when the pure stream of Hindu cultural thought was flowing in its majestic grandeur uncontaminated by the turbid waters of currents coming from other soils. In those early days of history if owing to certain extraordinary circumstances a need for establishing an effective and powerful central power arose, then the most powerful Kshatriya King that may be ruling in any part of Bharata Varsha would proclaim his resolve to start on a campaign of world conquest by the performance of a sacrifice known as Ashwamedha. On the successful completion of the campaign for world conquest the world conqueror used to celebrate another great sacrifice known as Viswajit.

"The essential and most noteworthy feature of this last sacrifice was that the conqueror has to give away in charity all his wealth and acquisitions and live the life of a poor man whose utensils of every-day use will not be of gold but of clay. This great act of renunciation was considered as the noblest and purest deed of piety to wipe away all the taint of sin which he in his campaign of conquest might have incurred in carrying on vast military operations and clothe him with a me it entitling him to eternal bliss. I believe there is a noble lesson for the victors in the present world war to learn from this holy usage of the ancient Martial Code of India. If they set up a world federal authority and surrender a portion of their sovereign rights to that body to make it really powerful and serviceable to humanity they will have the same merit to their credit as the old Indian sacrificers of Viswajit Yagnam were getting."



## PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURE.

### Interesting Conclusions of Expert Committee.

Will collective or joint farming be feasible and what should be the optimum size for such farms in different regions under different systems of farm management?

This important question was discussed at the last meeting of the Crops and Soils Wing of the Board of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India at Baroda. From the discussions certain interesting conclusions emerged.

#### Tractors

The use of tractors for ploughing was considered impracticable since rice is India's largest food crop. Paddy fields require inundation and the erection of bunds is essential to retain the water. Moreover, experiments with tractor-ploughing in India have demonstrated that there is no increase in yield and tractors are, therefore, unnecessary except where there is scarcity of labour.

Nevertheless it was decided that mechanical cultivation under certain conditions may be recommended. This would necessitate the establishment of tractor stations for repairs and services. In this connection, it was pointed out that a large number of demobilised soldiers in the post-war period with their practical experience of mechanised warfare would find scope for suitable employment.

#### Consolidated Farming

Whether collectivisation or co-operative farming should be adopted in India was another aspect of the same problem. Ultimately a compromise was effected in the recommendation for consolidated farming, since this would involve no interference with ownership of land. Consolidated farming would imply joint decisions by the cultivators in favour of the growth of particular crops in different parts of the village. This is, obviously, the line of least resistance, but the meeting did not feel that it could adopt bolder decisions without rousing controversy on fundamental questions. Consolidated farming would serve the cultivator a great deal of inconvenience and enable joint action in such matters as cultivation, harvesting, supply of water, co-operative purchase and sale of produce etc.

#### Variations in Yield

Another problem discussed at the conference was the maximum potential of different regions for producing agricultural commodities from the point of view of the technical aspects of agriculture as distinct from the economic factors governing production. The scope of the discussion included such questions as the use of manures, irrigation facilities, treatment of soil, etc., in order to produce a maximum crop (which need not necessarily be economically the most remunerative yield). Such experiments have been made in other countries by the choice of typical regions to ascertain the maximum yield possible; but so far not in India, except in the case of sugar-cane.

As instances of the wide disparity between maximum and average yields in India may be mentioned the experience of the Punjab where under special conditions an acre has yielded as much as 54 maunds of wheat against an average for the province of 10 to 11 maunds. In Indore the average yield does not exceed six maunds. Similarly, in some parts of Madras an acre of rice has been shown to be capable of yielding 4,500 pounds of rice against an average of 800 pounds—1,200 on irrigated areas.

#### Experience Of Govt. Farms.

It has been the experience of Government farms that by adopting such

expedients as levelling, better drainage and supply of water at the proper time, much better yields can be obtained than on privately owned lands. A more liberal use of manures and fertilisers and the distribution of good seed are contributory factors. Good seed, however, implies the organisation and establishment of seed stores and storage accommodation. In this respect, there is an enormous field for progress in India.

Another aspect which received attention at the Baroda meeting was the rotation of crops. Long-term experience is necessary to test the soundness of rotation experiments. In Indore, for instance, rotation crops between groundnuts and cotton yielded excellent results for five years, but thereafter there was a sudden and inexorable collapse. Sugarcane, it has been found, particularly new varieties, produces complete depletion of fertility of the soil after a time.

#### Survey Of Waste Lands

The scope for increasing production in India, received a great deal of attention. This could be done either by bringing new areas under cultivation or the improvement of yields. The meeting decided upon an all-India survey of culturable waste lands. A rough estimate of the present position is that as against 300 million acres now cultivated there are 111 million acres described as culturable waste. Some of it may probably be grazing land while a considerable portion may have gone out of cultivation either because of malaria or salinity of the soil. The proposed survey will indicate why so much of land in India has been classified as "culturable waste" and recommend measures necessary for bringing it under cultivation. Yet another aspect is soil erosion, although no definite data are at present available. Large tracts of land have deteriorated through soil erosion. The meeting decided upon a survey of catchment areas to ascertain whether the erection of dams or a policy of afforestation would arrest erosion.

[These findings of an expert committee refute much loose talk in academic circles on the problems of rice cultivation. Some of the conclusions are applicable in this country and deserve wide attention.—Ed. H. O.]

#### MANIPAY HINDU COLLEGE —SCHOLARSHIPS.

Deserving candidates will be given scholarships to study in the H. S. C. Class. Apply to the Principal, Manipay Hindu College, Manipay.

Mis. 191.

#### DENTAL SURGERY, JAFFNA

Mr. S. Chas. Pathirana, Licensed Dentist and Optician will be at the Dental Surgery, 43, Main Street, Jaffna, from the 3rd to the 15th of every month.

#### KURUNEGALA BRANCH

From the 20th to the 30th he will be at his branch Dental Surgery, opposite Courts, Kurunegala.

His Jaffna Patients are advised to make prior appointments, if possible, by writing to his Kurunegala address.

(Mis. 98, 5-8—31-12-43.)

#### WANTED.

A Science Graduate and a lady teacher for service in the Manipay Hindu College. Ability to teach Botany, Music and Housecraft and games will be additional qualifications. Apply to the Manager, Manipay Hindu College, Manipay before the 23rd of December.

Mis. 190,

#### NOTICE

#### Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements have been made to distribute the undermentioned articles to consumers through their Authorised Distributors from 21-12-43 to 26-12-43 (both days inclusive):—

- (1) Coriander one oz per head
  - (2) Mysore Dhall two oz per head.
2. Consumers are advised to draw their ration of the above articles along with their ration of other commodities.  
Sgd. E. B. Tisseverasinghe  
for Deputy Food Controller.  
Jaffna 15th December 1943.  
G. 32.

## ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS

WANTED men for training as CLERKS, STORE-KEEPERS and DRIVERS in the R. A. S. C. Good pay and prospects and OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR PROMOTION TO COMMISSIONED RANK IN THE R. A. S. C. Candidates should be between 19 and 40 years of age, physically fit and willing to serve overseas. Those to be trained as Clerks and Storekeepers should be educated up to the 6th Standard in English while those wishing to become Drivers are only required to speak, read and write English.

Proof of age may be required by the Recruiting Officer. Family allowances will be issued only after marriage and birth certificates of children are produced.

#### RATES OF PAY AND ALLOWANCES

Daily rate of pay on enlistment is Rs. 2.00 per day.

Accommodation, food and uniform will be provided and in addition the following allowances will be paid.

	Rs. cts.
Wife only	... 36.90 per month of 31 days
Wife & 1 child	... 50.89
Wife & 2 children	... 63.45
Wife & 3 children	... 74.56
Wife & 4 children	... 85.56

Maternity Benefit will be paid in all cases of the birth of children to the wives of R. A. S. C. personnel who are enlisted for General Service.

Applicants should apply personally at the Central Recruiting Office, 399, Galle Road, Colpetty, between 8.30 and 10.30 a. m. prepared for immediate enlistment on any week day.

CHIEF RECRUITING OFFICER, CEYLON

(Mis. 92, 29-7-43—)

## THE JAFFNA MUTUAL BENEFIT FUND LTD.

(Established 1918)

#### BANKERS.

Authorised Capital	Rs. 800,000.00
Amount of Calls made	Rs. 134,367.00
SHARES: 8000 shares of Rs. 100/- each. 75 monthly instalments of Re. 1/- per share will earn Rs. 100/- for each at the end of the period. Shares issued all times.	
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at 1% per annum on the average monthly balance when it does not fall below Rs. 500/-.	
FIXED DEPOSITS received for periods of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months and interest allowed at 1, 2, 4 and 6% respectively.	
DRAFTS issued on the National and Imperial Banks to Colombo and the Principal cities of India. Remittances to and from F. M. S. by special arrangements.	
INDIAN MONEY bought and sold	
LOANS on the security of Jewels a speciality. Interest charged at 9% per annum (Part payments accepted.)	

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

S. KANAGASABAI,

(Y. 164, A. 21-11-41—20-11-43.) (T's) Shroff.