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THE DEADLOCK IN INDIA.

Viceroy's Passing Reference.

Does Not Believe In Talking About It.

In the course of his first public speech in India after assuming the headship of the Raj, the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, made the following observations on the political deadlock in that country.

The speech which took 40 minutes to deliver was made on the 20th inst., at Calcutta in opening proceedings at the Annual-General Meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, a predominantly European organisation:

"I have said nothing of the constitutional or political problems of India, not because they are not constantly in my mind; nor because I have not the fullest sympathy with the aspirations of India towards Self-Government; not because I consider political progress impossible during the course of the war—any more than I believe that the end of the war will by itself provide an immediate solution of the deadlock—but because I do not believe that I can make their solution any easier by talking about them just at present. For the time I must concentrate on the job of work we have to do. The winning of the war, the organisation of the economic home front, and the preparations for peace call for the use of all the resources India has in determination, energy, and intelligence. I welcome co-operation from any one and anybody who can assist me in these great problems on which the future of India depends; while I do not believe that political differences can be solved by administrative action, I believe that if we can co-operate now in the achievement of the great administrative aims which should be common to all parties when the country is in peril we shall do much to produce conditions in which the solution of the political deadlock will be possible. As head of the Government—and an old and sincere friend of India—I will do my best during my term of office to guide India on her path to a better future. It is no easy path, here are no short cuts, but I do believe in the future greatness that lies ahead if we can work together to the solution of our problems."

PERSONAL

At the request of the Chief Secretary, Ceylon, the Government of Madras has offered facilities to Mr. Jos. I. Gnanamuttu, Member of the Executive Committee of Local Administration, to study the organization and working of the Fisheries Department of that Presidency.

Mr. and Mrs. Gnanamuttu will tour between Bangalore and Madras up to the first week of February.

78 LAKH EXCESS IN NOVEMBER.

Revenue Figures Compared.

Revenue exceeded expenditure by over Rs. 7,800,000 last month, according to a Treasury statement issued recently.

Revenue totalled Rs. 21,887,742 as against Rs. 17,149,807 in November last year. The total expenditure was Rs. 14,085,288 as against Rs. 12,245,818 in November last year. The exact excess of revenue over expenditure was Rs. 7,852,454 as against Rs. 4,908,989 in November last year.

For October-November, the first two months of the current financial year figures are—Revenue: Rs. 40,474,777; Expenditure: Rs. 26,657,672; Excess of revenue over expenditure: Rs. 13,817,105. At this period last year the excess revenue was Rs. 10,889,374. Chief causes of the increase are bigger receipts from Customs duties, income tax, excess profits, etc., and the Railway.

Last month the gain on the working of the Railway was Rs. 1,122,302. In November last year it was Rs. 845,322. For October-November this year it was Rs. 2,331,585. For October-November last year it was Rs. 1,932,028.

TO ACT AS MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

Mr. A. Ratnayake Gets Majority of One Vote.

By a majority of one vote Mr. A. Ratnayake, Member for Dumbara, was elected on Thursday last to act as Chairman of the Executive Committee of Education to fill the temporary vacancy caused by the departure on a holiday of Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara, Minister of Education. The only other candidate was Mr. A. R. A. Razik, Nominated Member.

The voting was by secret ballot, but it is understood that Mr. G. A. Wille's vote tipped the scales in favour of Mr. Ratnayake, the others who voted for him (beside himself) being Dr. A. P. de Zoysa and Mr. P. de S. Kularatne while Mr. Razik had his own vote and those of Mr. T. B. Jayah and Mr. S. Natesan.

Mr. R. S. Tennakoon, Deputy Chairman of Committees, presided over the ballot.

The Speaker of the State Council presented Mr. Ratnayake to His Excellency the Governor on Friday, at Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya, for appointment as acting Minister of Education.

MR. CHURCHILL: STEADY PROGRESS

London, Dec. 23.

A bulletin on Mr. Churchill says: "The Prime Minister continues to make steady progress."

WAR IN THE EAST.

Events Are Moving Rapidly.

Mr. J. C. W. Rock in the course of a weekly commentary on the war writes as follows:—

In the Far East events have moved rapidly in the past week. General Auchinleck has shown that preparations in India have been greatly speeded up, to such an extent that he is able to give the assurance that the time for the invasion of India by the Japanese is past but he also sounds a note of warning: it is an appeal to our morale rather than to our fears; it really is an appeal not to be disturbed by occasional raids or landings of small parties should they occur, as in his opinion the Japanese would not be able to secure a permanent foothold on Indian territory. These remarks might be regarded as applicable to Ceylon. There has been new activity on the Arakan front and our modest part is to await further developments.

Landing at Arawe

In the Pacific the outstanding event has been the landing at Arawe in New Britain on the South side of that island. Some knowledge of the state of the terrain is necessary in order to ascertain what the landing means. It is on the other side of Rabaul. Rabaul has been a thorn in the side of the Allies for the past year because it has been the main supply base in that area. One can easily imagine that the Japanese are going to fight very bitterly to retain this outpost. Its loss coupled with the loss of Gilbert Islands would open the way to Truk, another important naval stronghold of the Japanese Empire. It is not only the loss of bases that is important but the effect that it would have on the morale of the Australian and American forces. Nothing succeeds like success, and the capture of Rabaul would mean that Australians and Americans had solved the problem of wresting important bases from the Japanese.

It is interesting to note that here again, as in the case of Guadalcanar and Lué, accounts indicate that the Japanese were taken by surprise. Does this mean that the Japanese were careless and cocksure and did not keep a sharp look out for these attacks? Or does it mean that in the case of a far-flung empire the attacking force is at an advantage and by clever feinting can catch the defence on the wrong foot, and on the desired spot almost as well; military experts can answer this question.

This operation however must not be regarded in isolation. It must be looked at in conjunction with events in the Indian Ocean. It is the fashion to talk of pincer movements but the simultaneous move against Burma to a point in South China or Malaya, and a move in the Pacific towards the Philippines via Rabaul and Truk would be just such a movement, the pincers (or pins) being Lord Louis Mountbatten on this side and General McArthur on the other.

New Governor Of Bengal.

Australian Statesman Appointed.

Mr. R. G. Casey, Minister of State, resident in the Middle East, has been appointed Governor of Bengal, states a *Reuter's* message from London.

Mr. Casey is an Australian. From 1924-1930 he represented the Australian Government as Liaison Officer, at the Foreign Office in London. He became Federal Treasurer in 1937 and Minister for Supply and Development in 1939. When Australia and the U. S. A. agreed to exchange Diplomatic representatives Mr. Casey was sent to Washington in March 1941. A year later Mr. Churchill appointed him Member of the British War Cabinet and he was stationed at Cairo as Resident Minister. It will be remembered the Australian Government strongly protested against Mr. Casey being transferred from Washington without their previous approval.

The India Office has issued the following Press Note on the appointment:—

Two Reasons

An India Office Press note on the appointment says: "The announcement that the Governorship of Bengal is to be extended to a Minister who at present holds a post carrying War Cabinet status clearly shows the great importance attached to the appointment in view of the serious position in Bengal. Mr. Casey's experience over the last 18 months in the Middle East will be invaluable to Bengal for a two-fold reason. In the first place, he will bring to Bengal a knowledge of economic and supply problems which will assist Bengal in her present difficulties. Secondly, Bengal is the main base for the South East Asia Command's future operations against Japan, and the lessons gained of military and civil co-operation in the Middle East will be of value to all concerned. By reason of the improvement in the military situation in the Mediterranean, the political responsibilities of the Minister of State in the Middle East as a member of the War Cabinet have been appreciably reduced. It is understood that Mr. Casey's new appointment as Governor of Bengal will entail his resignation from the War Cabinet but will not take effect until he arrives in Bengal which he expects to do late in January."

NEW U. S. SUPER-BOMBER.

Washington, Dec. 23

The development of a new super-bomber will "surprise and hurt" the enemy said the Chairman of the House of Representatives Aviation sub-Committee, Mr. John J. Sparkman.

Mr. Sparkman said on his return from a tour of inspection of aircraft factories, that the new bombers would soon be in large-scale production.

—Reuter.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1943.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

THERE is one question which very few miss asking nowadays: When will the war come to an end? The present war is very much unlike its predecessors. It is a total war and, as such, it affects everybody. Everywhere life is hedged in with restrictions. There are restrictions in regard to food, petrol, clothes, and a number of other things which in times of peace one would not dream of denying oneself. In Ceylon, where most things have got to be imported from other countries, the question shows that everyone has become a realist.

There are some who think that the war will be a long one. Mr. Stimson, the American Secretary of State for War, is one of them. He thinks the war will not be over soon and he rarely misses an occasion for telling the world that it is going to be a long war. Mr. Stimson is wise. If what is looked upon as a long war comes to a sudden end, the Allied Nations are not going to lose anything by it. On the other hand, knowing what we do of easy-going, light-hearted humanity, it is not difficult to imagine what will happen when the optimists find that all their optimism is entirely misplaced. There are, of course, those who think that the pounding the Germans are receiving will shorten the war appreciably. Of course, it will. It will certainly make it less easy for the Germans to do what they had been doing in all the wars they had fought. The Germans won some of their resounding victories in the present as well as the last war by concentrating an overwhelming amount of manpower and fire-power at a given point. We remember that during the last war troops from the West were shifted to the East in order to smash up the Russians. In the present war too one frequently reads of air squadrons which were supposed to be in one country transferred to another. Today in Italy there is no doubt that the Germans are offering very strong resistance to the Allied Armies. This means that all the paraphernalia of war including the human part of it had been transported and organised for the German defence of Italy. What the R.A.F. and the American Air Force are doing is to make it less easy for the Germans to trans-

port their material and troops and to concentrate them for offence or for defence. Take, again, the question of production. The bombing of German centres of production is bound to affect adversely the output of their factories. What this means at a time like the present when the Allied production of war planes has greatly exceeded that of the enemy will be readily understood. Besides, this production is increasing by leaps and bounds. Britain and America have already achieved definite superiority in the air. As we have said, the war in the air will certainly shorten the war in this sense: it will reduce enemy production; it will disorganise his resources; his war machine will no longer work so smoothly and effectively as it used to do. But the war will not end before the enemy armies which are admittedly still powerful are battered into surrender.

The view of the Allied military experts seems to be that this battering must be preceded by further intensive bombing of the Germans, compared with which the air attacks in the past would be mere child's play. New types of bombers are being produced against which the defence of German cities, ports and factories will become increasingly difficult. It is at this stage that Europe will be invaded by the Allied armies. The attack on Italy is only a prelude to an invasion in far greater force from the South. We take it that the German preparations in the Balkans and in the Aegean are intended to forestall an Allied attack in this direction, but when the Allied preparations are over, there is not the slightest doubt that the Allies will invade Southern Europe in overwhelming force. And Europe will be attacked from the West as well. Before this happens, however, the Germans would have learnt what total war in the air means. They never learnt it during the last. Even after their armies surrendered, they claimed that they were still the victors in the field. But now Germany would be practically reduced to ashes before the fighting begins. And the enemy will be faced not only by well trained and well equipped armies but also by an air force greatly superior to his. This is bound to shorten the war but not in the sense the optimists understand it.

Then there is Japan to be tackled. It is agreed that Japan will be attacked with the full strength of Allied resources only after Germany is defeated. Assuming that the defeat of Germany will take an other two years including the preliminary softening process from the air, it is not difficult to see that the war with Japan will last much longer.

This war, then, is not going to be a short war. It is going to be much longer than the last one.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

Let The Country Speak.

By Jos. I. Gnanamuttu, M.S.C.

The "finished" product has yet to be finished. The "product" awaits production. Nothing final has been framed, declare the Board of Ministers: they have still an open mind. One can now understand the *non possumus* attitude of the leader when a discussion in Council was sought to be launched. But those five motions asterisked as being urgent were not meant to adorn the Agenda paper: they were not just a gesture as some people have imagined. They were the outburst of a genuine alarm lest a secret scheme should gain headway without prior examination by the public. If that alarm is now mitigated, it is due to a political sagacity which knows to retreat with grace and to impart into the committee room a suave atmosphere that does not—perhaps cannot—always pervade the big chamber.

Is Harmony Not Possible?

Once outside that chamber, "we are a united club", says the master of strong phrases who hails from the hills. True; no less than in the Law Library—that other political club where what is thundered across the bar table is a thing forgotten and obliterated—the heat engendered in debate and even in the hustings mellows under the warmth of social companionship. Well then, in the field of politics, where a ninety five per cent agreement as to the features of a self-governing Ceylon may be postulated, is it impossible for the big brother to concede the five, and to call a truce to all controversy?

The Mandate Stands

"But how are we to meet our electors?" That thought seems to worry one Minister who might otherwise concede anything. The fact is: no majority member was ever returned on the plank of inferior status for minorities. "Surely, there is some mental reservation when you say 50:50" pleads another. There can be no reservation whatever where many electorates, and particularly the depressed areas, have recorded their verdict, where minority leaders feel that considerations other than those of merit have largely created and influenced the present ruling order, where a spirit of conciliation and co-partnership has not been manifest these many years. Give a chance for the growth of trust and understanding, say in the next five years; there would then be no cry for safe-guards.

Major Community Will Ever Lead

As regards satisfying the mass vote in the South, it is easy enough to demonstrate that the European and Burgher elements would more often than not align with the party in power. Easy too to explain how the declining parts of this island cry out for local and concentrated attention to their problems, and how a mathematical allocation of one member for sixty thousand souls would only hasten their extinction. Numbers cannot be the only criterion. Reasonably workable territorial units for the Wannie regions created in inverse

ratio to population, would fully sustain the balance between the wet zone and the dry. Under normal circumstances the scale could not sway against the major community; only the compelling urgency of defence against a common peril would lead to concerted action by the heterogenous minority groups.

Reserved Subjects

No powers of intervention would rest with the Governor once we are masters in our own house. Opinion remains largely hostile to a Second Chamber. Even if one was devised it would operate no more than as a brake; never as a final protection against ill considered measures. Putting aside outside relations, there remain subjects of internal government now subject to superior sanction, and which the Prime Minister and Cabinet would have power to handle. What are the subjects open to racial, class or religious discrimination. Such reserved subjects being categorically scheduled, should not a 75 per cent vote in Council be stipulated? These are queries which the thinking public must determine and help their spokesmen to answer.

"Always The Bridezmaid?"

Our Muslim friends have had a raw deal so long. There has been some loose talk about Muslim members being returned by general electorates. That is to concede communal representation—a correct and realistic view in existing circumstances. On the other hand, the inevitable support by the party in power would tend to create Quislings, and liquidate every one of the checks and balances we contemplate. It is for those immediately concerned to demand that Muslims alone should return their own members, while any Muslim should be competent to stand for any general constituency. At any rate, the tragedy of the second place, as in the last two by-elections, should not recur.

Just Demands of India.

The Ceylon-Indian Congress is strong enough to press home the rights of Indians living in Ceylon. They have the fullest support of all other minorities, North Ceylon has a further interest—that of agricultural labour essentially required to reclaim and repopulate the Wannie. Food production schemes have been canvassed from every angle except the pivotal one of hardy man power which especially our arid regions cannot find otherwise. That issue can no longer be shirked. India can yet feed us, failing her, own granaries from our soil.

Non-Territorial Seats

Are the European and Burgher members to be nominees of the Prime Minister as they are now of the Governor? Perish the thought! They may be trusted to demand election by vocational groups or by frankly communal electorates. Here again numbers do not count; the interests involved do.

Arbitration?

Finally, the possibility of arbitration—two arbitrators, for the Board of Ministers and two for the minority groups—has engaged tentative discussion. The practical difficulties are enormous. Whom could the parties select? England is barred. India does not appeal to all. State Councillors are partisans of various hues, Ceylon's stock of elder statesmen is exiguous. Let the public cogitate.

BRITISH LABOUR AND INDIA.

Deputation M. y Meet Mr. Amery.

Talks With Congress Leaders to be Urged.

London, Dec. 23

I am reliably informed that if the present arrangements are carried out, an official deputation from the Labour Party will interview Mr. Amery early in the new year in order to discuss the whole position regarding India. The exact date of the meeting as well as the composition of the deputation will depend on the convenience of those concerned, but the proposal of sending a deputation to see Mr. Amery is agreed upon in principle and the deputation will almost certainly include the Chairmen of the Labour Party National Executive and the General Council of the T. U. C.

The lines along which representations will be made are not yet disclosed, but I am assured we may take for granted the need for speedy reopening of conversations with Indian leaders will be among the points strongly urged. This will be consistent with the demand publicly voiced by numerous organisations associated with the Labour movement, wires the special correspondent of the Madras Hindu

OBITUARY

MR. K. AMBALAVANAR.

The death occurred of Mr. K. Ambalavanar, retired Kirama Vidane of Mandaitivu, at his residence on the 12th instant. He was Kirama Vidane for about 30 years. He was the manager of the "Karthigesa" School and the "Sirupulam" Subramania Temple. He was an uncle of the present Kirama Vidane Mr. M. Navaratnarajah. He leaves six daughters; Mrs. Kanthiapillai, of Nallur, Mrs. Kurunathapillai of Colombogam, Mrs. Thirugnanasambanthapillai of Velanai and three others.

The funeral which took place on the following day was well-attended.

MRS. NANNITHAMBY.

The death occurred recently of Mrs. Nannithamby at her residence at Thalaiyal, Vannarpannai. She leaves her only son Mr. N. Kandasamy of the Puttalam Kachcheri and a number of grand children.

The funeral was largely attended.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Vallmar Sinnathamby Sithther of Kanaveddy East do hereby inform the Government and the general public that hereafter I will be called Chittampalam and sign

V. S CHITTAMPALAM.

(Mis. 194.

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 lb. of sugar per head from 28th December 1943.

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

Sgd. E. B. TISSEVERASINGHE for Deputy Food Controller, N. P.

Jaffna 22nd December 1943. G. 33.

Roosevelt Surveys The War.

The Present and The Future.

Points From X'Mas Message.

"This Christmas Eve there are over ten million men in the armed forces of the United States alone. One year ago 1,700,000 were serving overseas. Today this figure has been more than doubled to 3,800,000 on duty overseas.

"On Christmas eve this year I can say to you that at last we may look forward into the future with real substantial confidence that, however great the cost, 'peace on earth and goodwill towards men' can be and will be realised and ensured. This year I can say that. Last year I could not do more than express a hope. Today I express a certainty, though the cost may be high and the time may be long.

"Within the last year, within the past few weeks, history has been made and it is far better history for the whole human race than any that we have known or even dared to hope for in these tragic times through which we pass. A great beginning was made at the Moscow Conference in October by Molotov, Eden and our own Hull. There and then the way was paved for later meetings.

Plans for Future

"At Cairo and Teheran we devoted ourselves not only to military matters. We devoted ourselves also to considerations of the future, to plans for the kind of world which alone can justify all the sacrifices of this war.

"At Cairo Premier Churchill and I spent four days with Generalissimo Chiang Kai shek. It was the first time that we had had an opportunity to go over the complex situation in the Far East with him personally. We were able not only to settle upon a definite military strategy but also to discuss certain long-range principles which we believe can assure peace in the Far East for many generations to come.

"Those principles are as simple as they are fundamental. They involve the restoration of stolen property to its rightful owners and the recognition of the rights of millions of people in the Far East to build up their own forces of self-government without molestation.

Rights of Nations

"Britain, Russia, China and the United States and their Allies represent more than three-quarters of the total population of the earth. As long as these four nations with great military power stick together in determination to keep the peace there will be no possibility of an aggressor nation arising to start another world war. But those four Powers must be united and cooperate with all the freedom-loving peoples of Europe and Asia and Africa and the Americas. The rights of every nation, large or small must be respected and guarded as jealously as are the rights of every individual within our own republic. The doctrine that the strong shall dominate the weak is the doctrine of our enemies—and we reject it. But at the same time we are agreed that if force is necessary to keep international peace international force will be applied for as long as it may be necessary".

GENERALISSIMO Of SECOND FRONT.

U. S. General Appointed.

BRITISH LEADER FOR MEDITERRANEAN.

London, Dec. 25

General Dwight Eisenhower will be generalissimo of the second front. Under him General Sir Bernard Montgomery will command the British group of armies. Command of the Mediterranean offensive has passed into British hands.

These dramatic announcements were sprung on the world last night in the Christmas Eve broadcast by President Roosevelt and a simultaneous official statement from 10, Downing Street.

General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, now Middle East Commander, is to take over General Eisenhower's supreme Mediterranean command of all three arms, and General Sir Harold Alexander will be Commander-in-Chief of Allied armies in Italy.

General Eisenhower's new post is defined in the Downing Street announcements as "Supreme Allied Commander of British and United States expeditionary forces organising in the United Kingdom for the liberation of Europe" Reuter.

Letter to the Editor

BENGAL DISTRESS RELIEF FUND

Sir,—The following message, dated 2nd December, has been received from the General Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Headquarters, Calcutta: "Thank you and the Vivekanda Society for your sympathetic endeavours and the sum of Rs. 20,000 sent till now. December is the most critical time. The Mission gives relief to nearly one lakh recipients daily. Rice doles, medical aid and cloth are being given. It is very encouraging that the generous-hearted people of Ceylon are sympathising with us and helping us in our humble efforts to alleviate the miseries of the starving and naked sufferers in Bengal. Please convey to our benevolent friends and sympathisers our heartfelt thanks for all the help they have been sending to us."

The latest report from Calcutta states that the Ramakrishna Mission has been carrying on Distress Relief work in different parts of Bengal, through 55 centres scattered over 15 districts and cover 446 villages as well as 16 large towns, including Calcutta. The total Receipts up to 16th November are Rs. 335,258 and the total expenditure Rs. 303,695. They have also received 5,700 Mds of Rice and other food grains (total value of which is about Rs. 110,000) which have been distributed through various centres.

We have so far received from the generous contributors in Ceylon, over Rs. 28,000 and we have remitted Rs. 25,000 to the Ramakrishna Mission Headquarters, Belur Math, Calcutta.

G. WIGNARAJA Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission. 17-12-43 Colombo.

S. SIVASUBRAMANIAM, Secretary, Vivekanada Society.

Jinnah On Congress Policy.

League Attitude Explained.

Karachi Dec. 23.

"I really do not understand the oft-repeated demands for Mr. Gandhi's release", observed Mr. M. A. Jinnah, President of the All-India Muslim League in an interview to the United Press of America

Mr. Jinnah, proceeding, said that he could not understand why people should entertain hopes about Mr. Gandhi's release or blame the British for keeping him in detention. If Mr. Gandhi desired, he could be released to day. He was arrested for the threat of mass movement. Reason demanded that he must withdraw that threat. If Mr. Gandhi withdrew his threat there was no reason why he should be detained any longer.

Explaining the Muslim League's attitude towards the Congress, Mr. Jinnah asked; 'would the Congress join hands with the Muslim League if the League launches a mass movement against the British for not conceding their demand for Pakistan although Pakistan pre-supposed Independence for three-fourths (Hindu India) and one-fourth only for Muslim India'. Mr. Jinnah said he knew the Congress would not. How could the Congress expect the Muslims to participate in their mass movement—when, to Muslims, it was as clear as daylight that, if the British conceded the Congress demand for "Akhand Hindustan" Muslims would be reduced to the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water, for then, Muslims would be entirely at the mercy of the Hindu majority.

Mr. Jinnah continuing said that the Congress aimed a loaded revolver at the British saying that if the British did not concede the Congress would shoot. This threat was directed not only against the British but Muslims also for if the British conceded the Congress demand and allowed the Hindus to deal with the Muslims as they chose the Muslims would never have Pakistan independence. U P I

MASSED ATTACKS ON 'SECRET WEAPON COAST'

Allied Air Onslaught On Occupied Europe

London, Dec. 23.

The Allied air onslaught against Germany's occupied Europe, which continued throughout yesterday and last night was carried a stage further early today, when a powerful force of bombers, escorted by fighters, roared out across the Channel from south-east coast of England. For several days now British and American bombers have pressed home massed attacks on targets in Pas De Calais and over what has become popularly known as "the secret weapon coast." Though cloudy weather hampered observation, good results are believed to have been secured by Mosquitoes, Bostons and Typhoons, which yesterday attacked military objectives in Northern France without loss. R. A. F. bombers, which attacked objectives in Northern France and Western Germany last night also returned without loss.—(Reuter).

BRITAIN AND INDIA.

Need For Reasonable Compromise.

Changing Political Geography.

"Russia Will Dominate Indian Ocean."

London, Dec. 19

The Managing Editor of the Calcutta weekly, *Whip*, Sir R. Srinivasa Sarma, in an interview with the *Observer*, published to-day (Sunday), deprecated Sir George Schuster's ten-year plan for Indian reconstruction.

"Any policy of long term planning for India would be both illogical and dangerous at a time when nobody—not even the leaders of great Powers—can give us a picture of what the world will be like, say in five years' time", Sir Srinivasa Sarma said.

He expressed the opinion that if Mr. Gandhi and his colleagues were released, it might easily give an opportunity for a reasonable compromise between the British Government and Indian leaders. —Reuter.

Prof. Coupland On India's Future

London, Dec. 17.

The *Manchester Guardian* in a review of "The Future of India" by Prof. R. Coupland says: "This is the third and crowning part of Prof. Coupland's survey of the Indian constitutional problem. It contains his views on possible solution for the formidable problems of nation-making which now face the Indian people and us. Quite rightly the author insists that we have our contribution to make not in the shape of dictated terms but of help, sympathy and ripe experience.....The political geography of India might be changed from division into British Provinces and Indian States to a grouping of 'regions'—"Hindu" Cor.

Mr. Fischer's Criticisms

New York, Dec. 12.

The *Herald Tribune*, reviewing the book "Empire" by the American author Mr. Louis Fischer says: "India's demands for independence cannot, in Mr. Fischer's opinion, be considered as solely a British-Indian problem since it has a direct bearing on the whole United Nations' war effort in Asia. He also believes that "nothing which the British have done in India in recent years would indicate that they are getting out of India." Of special interest is Mr. Fischer's discussion of British economic relations with India in which he has cited specific instances of deliberate British obstruction to Indian industrial development. He also shows why Britain had been unable to undertake the much-needed reforms in India's backward and overburdened agricultural system."

The newspaper says that the book which is based on first-hand observations, interviews and documents is both informative and convincing, but adds, "however the author is less successful when he assumes the role of a political theorist and seeks to generalise about problems of the "Empire" and "Imperialism." Mr. Fischer would have us believe that the Empire is not only obsolete but accidental. He would have served the purpose better if he had sought to probe more in the nature of imperialism and problems involved in limiting it as a political and economic system."

The *New York Times* states that Mr. Fischer "argues that we cannot make a good peace without seeing that India is freed—but if Mr. Fischer's object is to persuade England to free India it is doubtful whether he has furthered it."—Reuter.

'Russia Will Dominate Indian Ocean'

New York Dec. 14.

The *New York Mirror* columnist, Drew Pearson, writing from Washington, said today that diplomatic appraisals of the Teheran Conference see an important result, viz that "Russia will dominate the Gulf of Persia, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean".

Pearson added, "Stalin won Russia a political triumph of a hundred years by forcing Britain to come to Teheran on joint policies. Even if the Gulf and Russia's outlet to sea were not mentioned the selection of Teheran was important. It meant that post-war Russia will sit astride the Indian Ocean and can reach out and touch India."—Reuter.

Industrial Planning Committee

New Delhi, Dec. 18

A Committee to inquire into and report on the planning of post-war scientific and industrial research for India is being appointed and its personnel and terms of reference are expected to be announced during the next week or so. A P I

China Official's Call To Western Powers

New York.

Mr. C. L. Hsia of the Chinese Ministry of Information, addressing scientists at the Nobel anniversary dinner, warned that the western peoples 'must take the peoples of Asia seriously in their striving for freedom. Peoples throughout Asia, articulate and inarticulate, are anxiously watching to see whether the leaders in the older democracies mean what they say."

"The Asia of to-morrow has two dominant notes," he said. "The first is the universal and intense desire to be free. To them this is a war of liberation. Once kindled, that desire will not be quenched. Secondly, the Asia of to-morrow will be progressive, dynamic and full of interesting possibilities. When our destiny is in our own hands, we are determined to stamp out poverty, ignorance and oppression."

Federal Court's Jurisdiction

Allahabad.

It is in the interest of India, appellants and our legal profession, that the jurisdiction of the Federal Court should be extended and fairly soon, observed Sir William Patrick Spens, Chief Justice of India, addressing the members of the Bar Council whom he met this evening at the Advocate-General's house.

Dr. Narain Prasad Asthana, Advocate General, U. P., welcoming the Chief Justice of India to the meeting of the Bar Council, conveyed to him the desire of the members of the legal profession in general, for the extension of the jurisdiction of the Federal Court. He said it would be the best thing if there could be an extreme type of extension where all the appeals from the High Courts should lie to the Federal Court.

Sir Patrick Spens, replying to the observations, made by Dr. Asthana, appreciated the wish of the members of the Bar Council. He felt that extension of the jurisdiction of the Federal Court was necessary and was in the interest of India and the appellants and should be made fairly soon. A P I

Air Raid Shelters In Calcutta

Calcutta, Dec. 16

The Government of Bengal, it is learnt, have issued instructions to the Calcutta Improvement Trust to recondition the covered and surface air raid shelters constructed by the Trust which are mostly in North Calcutta. The Trust have so far dug 1,16,652 ft. of slit trenches, and constructed 23 protected verandah shelters 30 circular centres and 272 parabolic masonry shelters. These shelters, it is estimated, will accommodate about 1,00,000 persons.

Shelters in other parts of the city have been constructed by the Public

Works Department of the Government of Bengal, and they are also being attended to. A P I

Mr. Amery on Princes' Role

London, Dec. 16.

A tribute to Indian Princes was paid by the Secretary of State for India, Mr. Leopold Amery, speaking last night (Wednesday) at a dinner for members of the Baroda Squadron of the Royal Air Force.

The squadron is endowed by the Maharaja Gaskwar of Baroda and the dinner was provided out of a sum of £500 presented by him this year as last year for the benefit of the squadron.

"India" continued Mr. Amery, "is now the base for those future operations which, I hope, may dispose of the Japanese menace as effectively as we shall no doubt dispose of the German menace here at home. After that we look forward and I believe not without reasonable confidence to India finding her self after the war coming together with all her different elements, Hindu, Muslims and Princes, and finding in better days of peace those compromises and mutual adjustments which will enable them to agree upon a constitution under which India can launch herself out safely upon the waters of freedom and equality with this country and all the great countries of the world."

The High Commissioner for India, Sir Samuel Rungtadhan, referring to the squadron's motto "Danger is our Opportunity" said that the squadron had not only met danger face to face many times, but had made splendid use of its opportunities. Its proud record to-date was destruction of 23 enemy aircraft apart from damage to many others. Sir Samuel added that the Indian Air Force (which was represented at the dinner by three officers) had just completed its tenth year. The young men of India were just as eager as the youth of Britain and the Dominions to join the ranks of the Air Force and serve their country in the cause of freedom. Ten squadrons of the Indian air force were now in active operation in India.—Reuter.

MANIPAY PARISH SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE.

In Aid Of The Bengal Distress Fund.

Under the distinguished patronage, and immediate presence of Mr. James Joseph, District Judge, and Mrs. Joseph

"Chandra Hari"

(a burlesque on "Harichandra", full of fun from start to finish) by Rao Bahadur P. Sambandha Mudaliar, B. A., B. L., (will be staged at

The Manipay Hindu College Hall,

on Saturday, 1st Jan. 1944, at 9 a.m. by the members of

The Jaffna Sangeetha Abivirithi Sabha and Shanti Nilayam.

The amateurs taking part in the play include; Dr. K. Cathiravelu, Messrs. K. Chorpalingam, K. Saravanamuttu, V. Sinnadurai, T. Ariaratnam, A. J. Casipillai, S. Gnana-sundaram, K. S. Ponnabalam, S. Chithiravelu, R. Senathirajah, J. G. Rajah, V. Kanapathippillai, etc.

Rates of Admission: Rs. 3, Rs. 2, & Re 1

C. Thiagarajah, President.

K. Chornalingam, Hon. Secretary.

Tickets can be had from:

M. Vallipuram, Manipay, Hon. Treasurer.

(Mis. 185.)

BENGAL RELIEF FUND

JAFFNA CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S COLLECTIONS

	Rs.	Cts.
Previously acknowledged	1266	19
Chundikuli Mrs. Ferdinands and Miss Lawrence	3	50
Mr. N. Ponniah, Editor Elakesari	100	00
Mudr. V. Ponnampalam collected to be sent to Ramakrishna Mission	120	00
Church of Ceylon schools at Pallai and Vavuniya	60	00
Through Mr. J. Subramaniam Lewis	21	00
Total	1570	69

J. Subramaniam Lewis
Hony. Treasurer.

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL DEFENCE.

Trincomalee A. R. P. Scheme.

VACANCIES exist in the undermentioned Services.

Wardens Service:

Salary Rs. 60—Rs. 75 per mensem with prospects of promotion to Special Wardens at Rs. 90 per mensem. Educational Qualification: J. S. C. in English.

Casualty Service:

FIRST AID PARTY MEN. Salary Rs. 45—Rs. 60 per mensem with prospects of promotion as Trained Dressers on Rs. 75 per mensem.

Qualifications: Good knowledge of either Vernacular and ability to understand English. Age: 18 years and over. Must be of good physique.

Messenger Service:

Salary Rs. 45—Rs. 50 per mensem with prospects of promotion as Special Messengers on Rs. 60 per mensem.

Qualification: Standard VI in English. Transport Service: DRIVERS. Rs. 60—Rs. 75 with prospects of promotion to Rs. 90 per mensem.

Conditions of Service:

Furnished Bachelor's quarters and messing facilities, at cost, provided to all services except Transport Service. Special leave privileges will be granted. Six months notice of resignations will be required.

PLEASE APPLY with certificates to the undermentioned on or before December 30, 1943.

A. R. P. CONTROLLER,
Trincomalee.

G. 34.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.

The Food Controller desires me to explore the possibilities of water-borne carriage of foodstuffs between Colombo and the Jaffna Ports, and any shipper or shipping agent interested is invited to attend a conference on the subject on 7th January next at 10 a.m. in the Sales Bungalow of the Jaffna Kachcheri.

E. B. TISSEVERASINGHE,
For Govt. Agent, N. P.

23-12-43,
G. 35.

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.)