

THE Hindu Organ.

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

(WAR NUMBER)

VOL. LI.

Phone 56,

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1939.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 55.

FIRST LARGE-SCALE ATTACK ON GERMAN SOIL

Internal Position in Germany Deteriorating

WAR NEWS REVIEW AND COMMENTARY

Covering Period October 15th—23rd

Broadcast Talk No. 6

DURING the past week the War on the military side has grown in intensity. Following the failure of Hitler's peace offensive, of which they had such high hopes, the Nazi leaders have been forced to realise that they cannot have peace on their own terms. Consequently, they have begun to wage war in the West in earnest.

Western Front

Last Monday the first large scale attack was launched on the French advance troops on German soil. This attack was made on a twenty mile front, and in it as many as 150,000 men are estimated to have taken part. In anticipation of an attack, the main French Divisions, which had carried out the advance into German territory, had been withdrawn in order to avoid unnecessary losses from artillery fire. Consequently, the weight of the attack fell upon a light screen of Patrols well ahead of the French positions. These troops fell back in accordance with their instructions, fighting as they went, and eventually the Germans were brought up short by the main French resistance on a line pre-arranged by the French General Staff. It must be realised, of course, that the line at present held in strength by the French is a long way in front of the fortifications of the Maginot Line, and represents a series of strongly fortified positions in territory captured from Germans since the beginning of the war.

Air Raids on the East Coast of Britain

The other indication of a more determined spirit on the part of the Germans was the

series of air raids on the East coast of Scotland and on Scapa Flow. The biggest of these Raids, which was apparently directed at the naval base at Rosyth, was intercepted by British Fighters and driven off before any serious damage could be done. Actually, during the course of this raid, in which some fourteen or fifteen aeroplanes were engaged, no ship was hit and only one Destroyer slightly damaged by a bomb which fell near it. On the other hand, at least five of the raiders were shot down either by the intercepting Fighters or by anti-aircraft fire. The raid on the main fleet base of Scapa Flow was even less successful. A smaller number of planes were engaged, and no ships were hit. Here again several planes were destroyed. A number of other minor raids have been experienced, but none of these have been in any way effective. As the Prime Minister justly remarked in his weekly review of the War situation, the British Air Defences have been tested for the first time and have fully come up to expectations.

On the Sea

For the Navy, the week has not been a happy one. The Battleship "Royal Oak," a veteran of the last War but recently reconditioned, was sunk at her moorings in Scapa Flow by a German submarine, with a loss of about 800 men. The heavy loss of life was due to the capsizing of the vessel and darkness. It is, of course, idle to pretend that the loss is not a serious one, but, in view of the enormous superiority of the British Navy over the enemy, it can make no significant difference to the re-

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MILITARY ADMINISTRATION IN ANCIENT INDIA

The Army (Contd.)

ELEPHANTS

By S. R. Muttukumar

(Continued from our issue
of 19-10-39)

CHAPTER II.

THE elephant force was one of the four well-known divisions of an old Hindu army. On the efficiency of this force depended the efficiency of the army as a whole. Many a battle is recorded in early Indian history, in which elephants carried the day. Hence the rearing of elephants of good breed was recognized as one of the special duties of Government, and great care was taken of them by the State.

Megarhenes says:— "J, (India) is prolific, besides, in elephants, which are of immense bulk, as its soil supplies food in unsparing profusion, making these animals far to exceed in strength those that are bred in Libya. It results also that, since they are caught in great numbers by the Indians and trained for war, they are of great moment in turning the scale of victory" (1)

Excellent war elephants were those which were free from the following blemishes: having blue palates, blue tongues, curved tusks or no tusks, persisting long in their angry moods, rut gushing out without any systematic order, shaking their backs, having less than eighteen nails, and having tails that touched and swept the ground. (2)

The science about elephants was highly specialised in India. Hindu drivers and veterinary doctors were well up in the rules of elephant life. There were several marks known to them by which they could interpret the internal character of these animals and forbode good or evil to the owners.

It may also be observed that the Hindu treatises on the Animal Force of the Military

Department of the State give us a concrete picture of the exact manner in which the war establishment was governed. The various sciences and practical arts connected with the life history of animals employed in war were all laid under contribution; and the account is incidentally suggestive of the specialized treatises on Zoology, Veterinary Science, etc. These Hindu treatises testify to the genius of the ancient Hindus for the inductive sciences of the physical, objective world.

The Arthashastra tells us that during the reign of Chandragupta "the department of elephants had several officers. At the head was the Superintendent of Elephants, whose main duties were (1) to see that the elephant forests were well protected, and (2) to superintend the internal arrangements in the elephant stables and the proper training of elephants by experts. The immediate work of the maintenance and upkeep of the elephant preserves was, however, not his lookout. This was left to another officer called the Superintendent of elephant forests. He had a staff of assistants called the keepers of elephant forests, through whom he had to acquaint himself with the limits as well as the paths leading into and out of the forests—especially those that were mountainous or boggy or contained rivers or lakes. The capture of elephants was also their concern, in which they were helped by a special set of men. They were 1. elephant drivers, 2. those who slip nooses round the legs of elephants, 3. boundary guards, 4. servants for miscellaneous works, 5. foresters, and 6. elephant trainers. (3)

Private parties were forbidden to keep elephants. This served as a sumptuary law, checking the ambition of the

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(1) Apud Diodorus ii. 35, Fragment I. Mc Crindle's trans.

(2) Sukraniti. IV. vii. 64—7.

(3) Law's Ancient Hindu Polity, p. 54.

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE O. B. A.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

29th OCTOBER, 1939

Programme

- 8 30 a. m.: Pooja.
 9 30 a. m.: Singing Competition & Musical Entertainment
 12 00 noon: Lunch
 2 30 p. m.: Business Meeting
 3 30 p. m.: Volley Ball.
 4 30 p. m.: Principal's Tea
 5 p. m.: Football } College vs
 Tennis } Old Boys
 7 30 p. m.: Dinner
 V. Sivasupramaniam
 Jaffna, Hon'y. Secretary
 5-10-39

NOTICE

Hindu Board Girls' Orphanage

A Hindu Girls Section will be added to the Orphanage under the Hindu Board of Education as from Wednesday, 15th November 1939.

Those seeking admission apply to the General Manager, Hindu Board, Jaffna.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1939.

RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

A SERIES OF ADDRESSES ON Rural Reconstruction will be delivered by MR. DARREL PIERIS at different centres in Jaffna commencing from today. We are glad of the opportunity the people of the North will have to learn from Mr. PIERIS the experiments and successes of other countries in this line. In Ceylon, this subject has been in the air for a long time and nothing tangible has yet come out of it. No serious effort has been made to bring home to the people the benefits of a rural reconstruction scheme. In the north particularly, except for an attempt or two, there is hardly any knowledge of, or enthusiasm for, the subject. It is opportune that Mr. PIERIS should have chosen this time to tell the people of the North of the benefits of his study and experience of the many schemes of rural reconstruction which he has acquired by his connection with the World Rural Reconstruction Movement.

Jaffna which has earned an All-Ceylon fame for its successful working of the Co-operative Movement should prove a fruitful field for the working of a well-planned reconstruction movement. MR. PIERIS' visit should be availed of to make a serious effort in this direction. The present crisis affords an excellent opportunity to launch out a campaign like this. The people will be ready to help and co-operate in any effort to better their condition which now is far from satisfactory owing to many reasons, particularly unemployment. It would be well if the authorities were persuaded to select a backward village in the North for this purpose and demonstrate to the other parts of the Peninsula the benefits of rural reconstruction.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES

ON RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

AND FOOD PRODUCTION

Mr. Darrel Pieris, one of the leading Social workers of the World Rural Reconstruction Movement, will deliver public addresses on Rural Reconstruction, in the following centres between the 26th and 28th inst. Mr. M.R.M. Jeyaratnam Asst., to the Propaganda Officer, will address on Food Production.

- 26th 8-30—a. m. Araly American Mission Vernacular Schools
 10.30—a. m. Jaffna College
 11.30—a. m. Karainagar American English School
 3—p. m. Velanai West Nadarajah Vidyasalai, Pullyankudal.
 6—p. m. Kayts
 8—p. m. Karainagar Better Living Society.

27th instant,

- 8.30—a. m. Ramanathan Girls' College.
 9.30—a. m. Uduvil Girls' College
 10.30—a. m. Manipay Hindu College
 11.30—a. m. Office of the Maniagar, Valigamam West.
 4.30—p. m. Jaffna Hindu College.
 6.30—p. m. Pandatheruppu English School.

28th instant,

- 8.30—a. m. Kythady English School.
 11.00—a. m. Chavakachcheri Driberg English School.

All interested in the Agricultural, Industrial, Health and Social progress will profit immensely by attending these meetings.

(Continued from Column 4)

there should be a Municipality.

Mr. S. Patanjali said that he wanted from the Minister a decision one way or other.

The Chairman thanked the Minister and the Committee for patiently listening to them. Recalling the Minister's remark that if Jaffna was a Sinhalese Town, he would have established a Municipality long ago, he inquired from the Minister why he should treat the Tamils differently. In his (the speaker's) opinion the Minister should treat them equally.

The Minister said that he was considering the possibility of a cry being raised that the Sinhalese Ministry was introducing an institution against the wishes of the people.

THE MUNICIPALITY QUESTION

CONFERENCE BETWEEN U. D. C. & MINISTER

NO NEED FOR ADDITIONAL TAXATION

WAR NO REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT

THE Minister for Local Administration agreed with the view that without additional taxation a Municipality could be established in Jaffna.

A conference was held on Sunday in the U.D.C. Committee room between Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Minister for Local Administration and certain members of his Executive Committee, and the Chairman and members of the Urban Council with regard to the establishment of the Municipality for Jaffna.

The Minister in opening the proceedings said that he and his Committee had come to discuss with the Chairman and members of the Council the question of converting the Jaffna U. D. C. into a Municipality. He was aware of the decision of the Council with regard to that question. He was himself personally convinced that Jaffna should have a Municipality, but there was a large volume of public opinion against it. Many reasons had been urged against the establishment, but the only plausible reason put forward was the financial commitments and the consequent possibility of additional taxation.

The Chairman, Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy, said that the additional commitments would be the salaries of a Commissioner and a Medical Officer of Health. Jaffna was a cheap place, and they could get a highly efficient Commissioner on a salary of nearly Rs. 500 per month. The Kandy Council had appointed a Proctor on a salary of Rs. 750. The Secretary of the Jaffna Council, who was also a Proctor with almost the same seniority as the Commissioner of the Kandy Council, had been appointed on a salary of Rs. 200. Then there were many doctors well qualified, who would accept appointments on a salary of about Rs. 300.

For the last 20 years or more the properties had not been assessed but this year the Government Valuer was assessing the properties scientifically. As a result of that, whether a Municipal Council was established or not, there would be an increased revenue of about Rs. 12,000 per annum. That would be more than sufficient to meet the salary of the Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health.

Effect of the War

The Minister said that he more or less agreed with the Chairman that without additional taxation a Municipality could be established but owing to the supervention of war, he inquired whether postponement was not desirable.

The Chairman replied that Jaffna was not much affected by the war, and even if Jaffna had to undergo any hardships on account of war, so long as there was to be no additional taxation, it made no difference whether there was the U. D. C. or a Municipality.

Mr. L. R. Nalliah said that they should have a Municipality now or

never. There was no reason whatsoever for the postponement. They knew Jaffna very well, and conditions in Jaffna would not change for another 20 or 30 years.

There was always opposition in Jaffna to any new undertaking. Once it was introduced the people realised the benefits of it and blessed it.

Dr. V. Nadarajah, M. O. H., said that the Jaffna man was afraid of the Municipality on account of two things. One was increased taxation and the other was prosecution. He was sure that there were not going to be more prosecution in the Municipality than there was at present in the U. D. C.

Opposition

Mr. S. M. Aboobucker said that the Minister was already aware of the arguments against the establishment of the Municipality, and if there was to be no additional taxation why should they want a change in the name Urban Council to Municipal Council. Was it for prestige and dignity? When the majority of the people were unable to have one good meal a day and were starving what was the use of prestige? "Why do you want, Sir, to compel a beautiful girl to marry a man whom she does not like?" (Laughter) The speaker said that he was sure that although it was said that there would be no additional taxation, there would be additional taxation on account of the increase in the staff and establishment expenses.

The Minister said that Egoda Uyana did not want a Village Committee, nor did the inhabitants agree that it should be included within the urban limits of Moratuwa. There was not a single inhabitant in favour of it; yet he and his Committee took the bold step of including that village within the U. D. C. of Moratuwa, and he told the inhabitants to inform him if they felt any hardships. It was one year since he took that step, and he had not received a single petition yet.

In Jaffna was a Sinhalese Town, he would have established without any hesitation a Municipality. He told Mr. Aboobucker that the question of establishing a municipality had been decided, and the question now was whether it was to be postponed or not and whether he would accept a Municipality after three years.

Mr. Aboobucker: If the conditions after three years did not improve they would agitate again.

Minister: In order to bar any progress you want to gain time? If the supervention of war is a reason, it may be considered.

Mr. Aboobucker: I do not consider war as a reason for postponement but the poverty of the ratepayers.

Mr. Samarakkody. You are a nominated member?

M. Aboobucker: Fortunately or unfortunately I have a place here. But I am a member of the Central Ratepayers' Association and have vested interests in the area.

After further discussion the Minister asked Mr. C. Ponnambalam what his views were on the matter.

Mr. Ponnambalam said he agreed with Mr. Aboobucker that the majority of the ratepayers were against the establishment of a municipality. However his opinion was that gradually they could convert a clear majority of ratepayers in favour of Municipal Council. He was against any postponement, and he thought in the best interests of the Town

(Continued on Col. 2)

CONGRESS MINISTRIES ASKED TO RESIGN

"Viceroy's Declaration Wholly Unsatisfactory"

WORKING COMMITTEE REFUSES SUPPORT TO BRITAIN

Wardha, Sunday.

THE Congress Working Committee has passed the thousand word resolution calling upon the Congress Ministers to resign and appealing to the nation to "sink all its internal differences in this hour of grave crisis."

It is expected, however, that the Ministries will resign only after the Provincial Legislatures, in which there is a Congress majority, have passed resolutions disapproving the Viceregal statement.

It is not expected that there will be any immediate call for direct action after the resignation of the Ministries, but the Working Committee will be prepared for everything in the light of the developments that may occur.

"Wholly Unsatisfactory"

The following is the full text of the resolution: "The Working Committee is of the opinion that the Viceroy's statement in answer to the Congress invitation for a clear declaration of the British war aims, particularly in their application to India, is wholly unsatisfactory and is calculated to rouse resentment among all those who are anxious to gain and are intent upon gaining India's independence.

"This invitation was made not only on behalf of the people of India, but on behalf of millions of people all over the world who are weary of war and violence and of the Fascist and imperialistic systems which have exploited ultimately the causes of war.

"The Viceroy's statement is an unequivocal reiteration of the old Imperialist policy. The Committee regards the mention of the differences among the several parties of India as a screen to hide the true intentions of Great Britain. What the Committee asked for was a declaration of her war aims as a test of Britain's bona fides regarding India irrespective of the attitude of opposing parties and groups.

"Congress has always stood for the amplest guarantee of the rights of the minorities. The freedom Congress claims is not for the Congress or for any particular group or community, but for the nation and all communities in India that go to build that nation. The only way to establish this freedom and to ascertain the will of the nation as a whole is through a democratic process which gives full opportunity to all.

"The Committee, therefore, regard the Viceroy's statement as very unfortunate in the circumstances. It cannot possibly give any support to Great Britain, for such would amount to an endorsement of the imperialist policy which the Congress has always sought to end.

"As the first step in this direction, the Committee calls upon the Congress Ministries to tender their

resignations. The Committee earnestly appeals to the nation to end all internal controversies at this hour of great crisis and to act unitedly in the cause of India's freedom.

"The Committee calls upon all Congress Committees and Congress men generally to be prepared for developments and eventualities and show restraint in word and deed so that nothing may be said or done which is not in keeping with India's honour or the principles for which the Congress stands. The Committee warns Congress men against any hasty action in the shape of civil disobedience, a political strike and the like. It will watch the situation and the activities of the British Government in India and will not hesitate to guide the country and take further steps whenever the necessity for this arises. The Committee desires to impress upon all Congress men that a programme of resistance, commensurate with the magnitude of the issue before the country, requires perfect discipline within the Congress ranks and the consolidation of the Congress organisation.

"The Committee realises that the nonviolent resistance offered by the Congress in the past has been sometimes mixed with violence and desires to impress upon all Congress men that the resistance that may have to be offered must be purged of all violence and to remind them of the pledges taken to this effect as early as 1921 during the Congress session at Ahmedabad and repeated on many subsequent occasions.

LIBERALS ALSO DISAPPOINTED

Comprehensive Statement Issued

Bombay, Sunday.

The Council of the All-India National Liberal Federation concluded a two day session here this evening. A comprehensive statement, setting forth the views of the Federation on the viceregal declaration was issued at the conclusion. It says, among other things: "The Council, having given careful consideration to the statement issued by the Governor General, is of the opinion that it cannot but be deemed unsatisfactory, in as much as:

(1) "It does not make clear that the Dominion status to be attained by India is to be of the same character as that enjoyed by the self-governing Dominions and as contemplated by the Statute of Westminster.

It contemplates the advent of Dominion status at some indefinite future period and fails to envisage the attainment of such status by India within a definite period.

It ignores the urgent need for

(Continued on Page 4)

Chankanai V. C. as a Model

Minister Opens New Reading Room

Under the auspices of the Village Committee Chankanai, the new reading room situated in close proximity to the Vadakamparai Mariamman Temple, Tholpuram, was opened by the Hon'ble Mr. Bandaranaike, the Minister for Local Administration, on Sunday the 22nd instant, amidst a large and representative gathering of the villagers, surrounding the reading room. It gave the greatest pleasure to the villagers that the opening ceremony synchronised with the pooja day of the Goddess of learning, wisdom and eloquence (Saraswathi).

Mr. Bandaranaike accompanied by Mr. Jayasuriya, M. S. C., a member of the Executive Committee of Local Administration, his Secretary Mr. Peiris and Mr. Senevaratne, the Secretary of the Sinhala Maha Sabha, arrived punctually to time and they were taken to the specially erected pandal to the accompaniment of oriental music. Messrs Bandaranaike and Jayasuriya were garlanded by Mr. Krishner, the popular and hard working chairman of the village committee. A specially composed song referring to Mr. Bandaranaike as a political lion of Ceylon, was sung. In the course of a short and brilliant speech Mr. Krishner made some very fine references about Mr. Bandaranaike's upbringing and outlook in life and the part he is playing to help steering the ship of State along progressive lines and hoped that the Minister of Local Administration would very soon be the Captain of the ship of State. Mr. Krishnar also made references to the unfortunate estrangement of feelings between the Tamils and the Sinhalese and earnestly hoped such state of affairs would soon be a thing of the past. The party then adjourned to the new reading room where Mr. Bandaranaike declared open amidst loud cheers. In the course of his speech, the Minister said that the village committee and their activities came under his charge and it gave him very great pleasure to have had the privilege of opening the reading room. He exhorted the villagers present to select the right type of men to the village committee who could devote their time and energy for the uplift of the rural people. It is in the administration of the village committee, the seed of self government is sown. He paid an excellent tribute to the village committee, Chankanai, in general and Mr. Krishnar, its chairman in particular. In fact Mr. Bandaranaike said that when he gets back to the Sinhalese provinces, he would advise those people to model the activities of their village committees in the manner of Chankanai. He also hoped that the various communities would pull together and have a smooth go in their political aspirations.

(Cor)

Collaboration Committee for Thenmaradchy

Importance of Economic Self-Sufficiency Stressed

A Meeting of the inhabitants of Thenmaradchy was convened by Mr. V. Canagaratnam J. P. U. M., Proctor, Chavakachcheri, on Thursday the 9th instant at the Drieberg English School Hall at 4-30 p. m. for the formation of a Collaboration Committee to work along with the Govt. Agent, N. P., with a view to check profiteering, to regulate the prices of foodstuffs and other necessities of life and to devise means and methods to increase food production in the area.

Mr. Canagaratnam opened the proceedings by explaining the purpose for which the meeting was convened, and Messrs V. S. Kartigesoo and J. C. Amerasingam spoke after him and stressed the importance of working out a programme of economic self-sufficiency under the present crisis.

Then the following were elected to constitute a 'Collaboration Committee', to work in the area.

Messrs. V. Canagaratnam, J. P. U. M., Proctor S. C. and Notary Public, (Chairman) Chavakachcheri; A. S. Kanagaratnam, B. A. (Lond) Chavakachcheri (Secy.); S. Kanapathypillai, Chairman V. C. Chavakachcheri; S. Santhirasegaram, Chairman V. C. Navatkuli; S. K. Chelliah, Chairman V. C. Kachchaj, Kodikamam; V. Chithambaranathan, Chairman V. C. Varany; S. Velupillai Chairman V. C. Mirusuvillee, V. S. Kartigesoo, Proctor S. C. and N. P., Kodikamam; K. Kasipillai, Proctor S. C. and N. P. Nunavil; K. S. Saravanamuttu, Headmaster, Drieberg English School, Chavakachcheri. S. Sabapathipillai, Chavakachcheri (Pensioner) The Parish Priest in charge of Mirusuvil R.C. Church, V. Coomaraswamy, F. M. S. Pensioner, Madduvil North Akilesar Sangarapillai of Kaithady, M. K. Sithamparapillai, Registrar B. D. and M. Kodikamam, C. Rasaratnam Proctor S. C. and N. P. Mirusuvillee, R. S. Sabapathipillai, Registrar B. D. and M. Nunavil, V. Subbiah, H. M. Kamalasini Vidyasalai, Madduvil, S. Guruswamy Kurukkal, Manager of Schools, Kaithady and S. K. Thiravianayagam, Chavakachcheri.

The following Resolutions were passed unanimously.

1. That the Government Agent be requested to send 100 copies of the Price List published in English and Tamil.

2. That all traders do affix a copy of the Price List in a prominent place of their boutiques in two languages viz. English and Tamil.

3. That apart from controlling rice, flour etc. the prices of paddy, currys, sugar, cloths and other necessities of life should be controlled.

4. That the Government Agent be kindly requested to order the Headman to supply the following data with regard to this division:-

(a) Acreage of land under paddy cultivation in each village. (b)

(Continued on Page 5)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Grievances of Paddy Growers in Batticaloa

Sir,—May I crave for a little space in the column of your valuable journal to ventilate the grievances of a section of the paddy growers in this district.

Pursuant to a communication addressed by the Hon'ble The Minister of Agriculture and Lands, in reply to representations made through Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Member, State Council, I find that the attitude of the Minister is really deplorable. About 20,000 acres of 'Mannavari' lands were not cultivated last year owing to the absence of legislation for the control and management of cultivation. This fact was brought to the notice of the Minister by a deputation of the Batticaloa Matajana Sabha, which waited on him in April 1938. No tangible action was however taken and I as President of the Sabha had occasion to invite the attention of the Minister more than once, to the urgent need of providing the necessary rules for cultivation and to point out the serious set back that would be caused by the delay in food production in this district. I am not a little surprised now to gather from the reply sent to the Member, State Council, that "the rules cannot be framed without the scope of the Irrigation Ordinance is widened". In the first place, the Minister ought to know that the Irrigation Ordinance has nothing to do with rain-fed fields. Secondly even if a special ordinance was considered necessary, it was the duty of the Minister, I think, to have seen to the framing of such an ordinance during the last two years or so. It was, I believe, that Mr. Comarasamy, present Conservator of Forests, or Mr. Prasad, Government Agent, E. P., who had pointed out about two or three years ago the irrelevant and irregular procedure adopted under Irrigation Ordinance No. 45 of 1917, for exercising control over the cultivation of 'Mannavari' lands. The Minister's reply clearly indicates either his total ignorance of the methods practised in the cultivation of Mannavari lands or his callous indifference to food production in this part of the Island. We have often heard of the Minister's enthusiasm for food drive throughout Ceylon and really do not know if he only advocates a mad drive in this district and not food production.

The present situation in regard to the cultivation of these lands for the ensuing season, created by the authorities responsible, is very serious. On the one hand there is no seed paddy for the majority of the people as they had no cultivation last year, and on the other even if the necessary supply of seed is found available out of compassion for those in distress the rules are not as yet passed and introduced for carrying on operations in the fields.

Batticaloa, Yours etc.,
19-10-39. K. KANAGASABAI.

Ban on Non-Ceylonese Teachers

Sir,—The Minister of Education's motion that the report of his Executive Committee recommending a policy whereby non-Ceylon-

CONGRESS MINISTRIES ASKED TO RESIGN

(Continued from page 3)

taking immediate measures for the Indianisation of the Defence Forces in all their branches within a fixed period and the development of an Indian air force and its substitution for the Royal Air Force. It also ignores the demand for the organisation of man-power for the defence of the country on a broader basis and the need for widening the basis of recruitment so as to give greater opportunity for all classes to serve.

It leaves at least between the period of the war and for some indefinite period thereafter a Central Government entirely irresponsible as at present.

A mere Consultative Committee, without any power of any sort, mentioned in His Excellency's statement is no substitute for responsibility at the Centre and cannot satisfy anyone. The creation of such a body for war purposes is not sufficient for the effective association of India in the prosecution of the war.

"The Committee recognises that there are differences among the people of this country and that sometimes those differences are acute, but though such differences will always exist, they should not be permitted to stand in the way of the establishment of a free constitution. The Council appeals to all parties to take a broad view of the situation and to bend their energies to the task of national reconstruction and freedom by pooling together all progressive elements in the country. The Council confidently trusts its appeal will not be in vain. All sections should forget the narrow bounds of their respective parties and help in the emergence of a New India with real power and so further the cause of genuine democracy and peace to which all look."

ese would be debarred from employment as teachers in Assisted Schools, subject to certain exceptions, should have been accepted by the State Council without a division. Although there was more opposition at the outset the Minister's motion was caused by 27 votes to 16.

It was a sheer wastage of time for the State Council to have debated on the said motion. If there had been no exceptions, then the motion should not have been accepted. The exceptions are that Principals may be non-Ceylonese and non-Ceylonese may be appointed to special posts when Ceylonese competent enough are not available. Notwithstanding these exceptions, some members opposed the motion.

The State Council has adopted the policy of Ceylonising the other Government Services and there is therefore no reason why the teaching profession should not be Ceylonised. It can be safely said that there are now a large number of Ceylonese who are more qualified to be teachers than the non-Ceylonese who are now employed as teachers.

Jaffna,
23-X-1939.

K. SIVAPRAGASAM.

FIRST LARGE-SCALE ATTACK ON GERMAN SOIL

(Continued from page 1)

lative strength of the two Forces. At the same time, one cannot but admire the coolness, courage and skill of the enemy Submarine Commander in carrying out what Mr. Churchill has described as a remarkable exploit of professional skill and daring. Following their usual policy of making wildly exaggerated claims of successes, the German Government have announced a number of other sinkings including that of the Air craft carrier 'Arc Royal' and the Battle Cruiser 'Repulse'. These claims which were effectively contradicted by Mr. Chamberlain, are German Government's tactics to hearten her own people and mislead the neutrals and perhaps to elicit information as to the whereabouts of the vessels stated to have been attacked. It is obvious that the Admiralty would not wish to be drawn into more than a bare denial of the fantastic allegations.

Two important British successes on sea are reported. First, the "Schwabenland" which was a base-ship in the middle of South Atlantic for German mail planes and was equipped with a flight deck and a catapult device for aeroplanes has, according to a Buenos Aires despatch, been sunk by a British Cruiser. Second, a British armed merchantship, when attacked by a German U-boat, brought her guns into action and defended herself so well that the submarine was seriously damaged. It was later finished off by a destroyer.

The outstanding event of the week is in the diplomatic sphere, the signing of the Anglo-French-Turkish Agreement. This, besides being an outstanding reaffirmation of loyalty to the Allies by a country placed in a not altogether easy position, should go a long way towards stabilising conditions in South-Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean. It must be appreciated too that this Treaty is in no way an emergency measure, since it is intended to hold good for a period of fifteen years, and thus, while relieving the Allies of much anxiety during the prosecution of the War, it should be of material assistance in the settlement which must follow its victorious conclusion. An interesting and important point about this Agreement is that the absence of any hostile intent towards the Soviet Union is expressly stated.

Russia

Russia has also continued to expand its sphere of influence in the Baltic at the expense of Germany, thus fulfilling her ancient ambitions in that region. The German Government has been obliged to evacuate a large number of its citizens from the small Republics bordering on the Baltic, and is busy settling these unhappy people in occupied parts of Poland. Russia had attempted to adopt the same tactics with Finland as with the other Baltic Re-

publics. The Finns, however, with the backing of the three Scandinavian Powers, Sweden, Norway and Denmark, have shown considerably less accommodating spirit and have gone so far as to take measures for their country's defence. As a result of this, it appears probable that the Russian Government will be content with considerably modified demands.

A conference was held at Oslo during the past week, which was attended by the Heads of State of the four Oslo Powers. At the conclusion of this Conference a statement was issued, reaffirming the desire of these Powers to maintain a state of complete neutrality. There is little doubt, however, that they will resist by military means any real attempt at encroachment upon their independence.

Comment

The Russian moves on the political chess-board of Europe have ceased to cause anxiety except to Germany. Russia appears to have endeavoured to induce Turkey to prevent foreign warships from having ingress through the Dardanelles to the Black Sea, which would have been a breach of Turkey's obligation to the Allies. Turkey's plight is understandable as he occupies a vulnerable position both in the Mediterranean and in the Black Sea. An inimical Russia could cause great damage to Turkish towns on the northern coast with her Black Sea fleet. Even Constantinople would not be immune from the effects of Russian naval operations and Ankara from the air however strongly fortified they may be, unless Turkey had a stronger Fleet and an adequate Air Force. A Bulgaria, if ill-disposed, either from rivalry or through German influence can be a thorn in Turkey's side. She has therefore thought it desirable to keep on good terms with Russia. German designs however, have been frustrated and the German Ambassador to Turkey, von Papen, has had to leave suddenly to report his failure to Hitler. The German Chancellor's attempt to paralyse the will of Britain and France by threats and subterfuge diplomacy has dismally miscarried. He could not have felt happy when he learnt that the British and French Governments had undertaken to assist Turkey against any act of aggression by a European Power or against any act of a European Power by which Turkey became involved in war in the Mediterranean. Hitler could not but have been depressed to hear too that Turkey on her part had agreed to support Britain and France against any act of aggression by a European Power which led to hostilities in the Eastern Mediterranean or against any act by a European Power leading to the enforcement of the joint guarantees which Britain and France have given to Rumania and Greece. The conclusion of this alliance is a magnificent gesture by Turkey to those Powers which attempted to drive a wedge between her and her allies. International obligations, once incurred, have a sanctity, which cannot be lightly ignored. Turkey's honourable conduct has greatly impressed all liberty-loving

(Continued on Page 5)

Successful Raid by French

Struggle for a Village

Paris, Tuesday.

The last 24 hours have been more animated than the previous day on the Western Front. In the region immediately east of the Moselle, the French carried out a daring and successful raid. The Germans are active in the area west of Forbach, in the Saarbrücken area, where they attacked a German village held by the French.

The attackers came over in waves time after time, but the struggle ended with the village still in French hands.

Although the latest *communiqués* report calm, there is always a difference between the views of the compiler of the *communiqué* and the troops in the front-line sectors.

A *communiqué* states: "During the latter part of last night and today, there were raids and ambushes at several points and fairly sharp engagements towards the South-eastern border of the forest of Warndt where one of our posts, attacked by the enemy, was relieved by a counter-attack which was launched immediately."

Rice Prices Increased

Muttu Samba and Milchard

By a notification issued at 12 midnight on Tuesday by the Controller of Prices, the maximum wholesale prices for Milchard and Muttu Samba have been increased.

The importer's price of Milchard No. 1 has been raised by 40 cents per bag, while the maximum wholesale price has been increased by 30 cents per bag. These changes have resulted in the wholesale price per bushel going up by 16 cents, namely, Rs. 4.32.

The price of a bushel of Milchard No. 2 has been raised from Rs. 4.10 to Rs. 4.20, following an increase in the importer's price by 35 cents a bushel.

In the case of Muttu Samba No. 1, the importer's price has gone up from Rs. 12.25 to Rs. 12.50 a bag. This has necessitated the maximum wholesale price being increased to Rs. 13 a bag. The wholesale price of a bushel of this variety of rice will be Rs. 5.16 from today, an increase of 10 cents on the previous price.

The price of Muttu Samba No. 2 has been raised from Rs. 4.90 to Rs. 5.02 per bushel from today. The importer's price for this grade of rice has been increased by 30 cents per bag.

These alterations on prices have been made as a result of the prices of these grades of rice having gone up in Rangoon and in India.

The retail prices per measure have, however, not been increased, as it is found that retail dealers can, despite the increase in the importer's price and the wholesale price, make a profit by selling at the existing retail prices.

First Large-Scale Attack On German Soil

(Continued from page 4)

ing nations. In the words of Mr. Chamberlain it has enabled Britain to set the seal on her close and cordial relations with a country for the quality and character of whose people Britons have had the highest regard and admiration.

But what of Germany's prospects in the Baltic? Before we deal with this, we must remember that the conquest of Poland and the acquisition of Danzig secured for Germany the command of the Baltic until Russia stepped in with her claim to spheres of influence in the Baltic littoral. Danzig and Gdynia might have made first class naval bases for Germany had Russia chosen to remain quiet. But Russia's instinct of self-preservation and her determination to propagate the communist doctrine have no doubt been roused by Germany's new gains. In her moves on the Baltic one cannot imagine that Russia has been conducting herself as Germany's accomplice, whatever impressions one may form of consignment of Russian gold to Germany. Russian territory before the Great War had extended as far as Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Finland was independent but after the triumph of Bolshevism in Russia, the Soviet Government had invaded Finnish territory and Finland appealed to Germany for help. This aid was given by the despatch of German troops to operate under General von Mannerheim. The Germans routed the Russians, occupied Helsingfors, and reached Viborg from where it would have been easy to advance on Petrograd (now Leningrad) if the Russians had not surrendered and agreed to withdraw from Finland. Since Germany's support for Finland 20 years ago was out of self-interest, it cannot be pleasant to her now to be so ready to adjust herself to Russia's needs. Not only is Germany unwilling to intervene in Finland but is desirous that her nationals resident there should leave. If this is the "Lebensraum" (living room) for which Germany is supposed to be fighting, then Germany's internal problems must proportionately diminish especially in war time. Dissatisfaction is bound to speak as Germans returning to Germany from foreign parts have to accommodate themselves to new social and political conditions. They have been compelled to abandon all they laboriously built up and made to depend entirely on the bounty of Hitler. One wonders whether Russian diplomacy has not triumphed enormously in this business. In seeking Russian aid, Hitler has doubtless created forces which tend to ruin himself.

The internal position in Germany, as far as can be judged from outside sources, appears to be deteriorating. The grand military funeral oration from General von Bauschitz not withstanding, suspicion has been centred on the manner in which General von Fritsch met his death before War saw. Moreover, several army chiefs including Field Marshall von Blomberg, another quondam Commander-in-Chief, are said to have been imprisoned in a Bavarian fortress. The World knows the Nazi method of settling differences of opinion. How long will the German people tolerate this administration?

Military Administration in Ancient India

(Continued from page 1)

nobility. It also secured the maximum number of these valuable beasts for the imperial forces. It may also be stated that whoever killed an elephant was put to death.⁽⁴⁾

Training of Elephants

The military training of elephants had several clearly marked out stages. The preliminary step was to accustom them to girths and collars, and to co-operation with a herd in common work. They were then taught the following movements necessary for war, (1) drill, such as rising, bending, and jumping over fences, ropes, etc; (2) turning, such as lying down, sitting, and leaping over pits and lines drawn; (3) advancing, such as moving straight or traverse, or making serpentine movements; (4) trampling down horses and chariots, and killing the infantry; (5) fighting with other elephants; (6) assailing forts and cities; and (7) other cognate movements relating to war.⁽⁵⁾

A war elephant carried four men—three who shot arrows and the driver.⁽⁶⁾ Hsien Tsiang, the Chinese traveller tells us that the elephants ridden by the Commander-in-Chief was covered with a coat of mail and his tusks were provided with sharp carbs.⁽⁷⁾

The *Agni Purana* says that "the proper functions of elephants or elephant-men are to proceed in front of an army on march, to range and reconnoitre forests and wildernesses, to break through the line of the enemy's forces, or to break the formation of a regiment or a squadron drawn up in a deep array, to serve as a parapet under the cover of which a scared column may again mend a gap made in its ranks, to scare away the enemy from a distance to protect the army treasure, to demolish any wall, turret or battlement, or to break down the boughs of trees."⁽⁸⁾ Kautiliya adds that "the destruction of the four constituents of the army, either single or combined, the dispersion of the flanks, wings and front, trampling down, and attacking the army when asleep—these are the varieties of waging war with elephants."⁽⁹⁾

The *Agni Purana* further states that "a battalion, actually composed of elephant-men, should be employed on hills of inaccessible heights, drained by streams and fountains in large numbers, and shorn of all trees and shrubs"⁽¹⁰⁾

In conclusion, it may be stated that the victory of kings in ancient times depended mainly upon elephants being of large body frame, were capable not only to destroy the arrayed army of an enemy, his fortifications and encampments, but also to undertake works that were dangerous to life.

(To be Continued.)
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- 4) *Arthashastra*, Bk II, chap. ii, p. 55.
- (5) *Arthashastra*, Bk. II chap, xxli, p. 172, 1st ed.
- (6) *Mo. Crindle's Megasthenes*, pp. 88-9.
- (7) *Si-Yu-Ki*, i. 82:3. Beals' ed.
- (8) *Op. cit.* cxxxvi. 44-8 and cxlii 24-27.
- (9) *Arthashastra* Bk x chap. 5.
- (10) *Op. cit.* cxlii. 31.

Collaboration Committee for Thenmaradchy

(Continued from page 3)

Acraage of land under Cereals and catch crops. (c) Acraage of land under fruit cultivation. (d) Acraage of lands cultivable either for paddy or cereals or catch crops or fruit trees and which are not cultivated (e) What extent of Crown Land is available in this division to be allotted to peasantry to promote the increase of food production.

5. That the Government Agent be requested to entertain any communication from any member of the Collaboration Committee on the subject of Food Control and Food production.

6. Sweet toddy should be allowed to be tapped in all areas in this division without restriction or license.

Then the Chairman thanked the audience for their kind response to his invitation and the meeting came to a close at 5.30 p. m.

Royal College Principal

Mr. E. L. Bradby, the Principal-elect of Royal College, is expected in Ceylon about the middle of next month, probably in the company of Mr. L. McD Robinson, Director of Education.

Mr. Bradby is an old Rugby boy, 32 years of age, and a Double First at Oxford.

After a brilliant University career, he joined the staff of Merchant Taylors and was there for about four years, when he was selected to go as General Secretary of the International Student Service, where he was until August 31st, when his contract terminated.

Acting Chief Justice

Colombo Sunday.

In consequence of the retirement of Sir Sidney Abrahams, Chief Justice of Ceylon, Mr. Justice Moseley, was sworn in again in chambers yesterday as Acting Chief Justice until a new appointment is made. The oaths were administered by Mr. Justice Wijewardene.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFENA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 791.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Suppramaniam Nagalingam of Myliddy South.

Deceased.
Kasiar Suppramaniam of Varuthalaivelan

Petitioner.

Vs.

Ponnu wife of Kasiar Suppramaniam of do.

Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 12th day of October 1939 in the presence of Mr. P. Eliathamby, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the petitioner as father of the said deceased is entitled to take out letters of administration to the estate of the said deceased, and that letters of administration to the estate of the said deceased be issued to him unless the Respondent appear before this court on the 22nd day of November 1939 and show cause to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

This 16th day of October 1939.
(O. 55, 26 & 30-10-39)

337,000 Tons of Enemy Goods Intercepted

London, Wednesday.

During the week ended October 14th, Britain's contraband control intercepted and detained 23,000 tons of goods as to which there was evidence that they were contraband destined for Germany. These included 5,900 tons of copra, 2,000 tons of phosphates, 1,800 tons of coffee, 1,800 tons of lead and lead concentrates, 1,150 tons of steel scrap, 1,000 tons of manganese ore, 1,500 tons of miscellaneous ores and metals, 1000 tons of palm oil, 1,000 tons of soya bean oil, 1,000 tons of other oils and fats, 1,000 tons of cereals, 350 tons of cotton and various quantities of wool, silk fibres, chemicals tanning material, hides and skins, foodstuffs, oil seeds, timber, gums and resins. This brings the total for the first six weeks of the war up to 337,000 tons.

Russian Gold to Germany

London, Wednesday

Asked whether the Prime Minister's attention had been drawn to the fact that a consignment of 17½ tons of gold, said to be the first consignment, has been transferred by the Soviet Government to Germany, Mr. R. A. Butler replied that Lord Halifax had reason to believe that the report was not without foundation.

It is estimated that Soviet troops are in occupation of 8,000 square miles to the west of the Curzon Line in Poland, according to a statement by Mr. R. A. Butler in the House of Commons.

German Army Chiefs Confined

Paris, Oct. 15.

Field Marshal von Blomberg, former Commander-in-Chief of the German Army, and five other high officers are confined in Landsberg fortress in Bavaria, according to a Berlin report quoted by Madame Tabouis in to-day's *L'Ouvre*.

Landsberg is where Hitler was confined and wrote *Mein Kampf*. The report states that Hitler ordered their incarceration on September 6.

How von Fritsch died

The exact circumstances in which General von Fritsch died during the Polish campaign are not known, but, according to a neutral correspondent, General von Fritsch was shot in the back by a Berlin Storm Trooper.

Petrol Price Up 20 cents

Colombo Sunday.

Following the increase in the tax from 75 cents a gallon to 90, announced yesterday, all petrol in Ceylon went up 20 cents a gallon at midnight. The Colombo price is now Rs. 1.55 a gallon.

Lubricating oil is already up five cents a gallon.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 785

In the matter of the Estate and effects of the late Appucutty Gnasegarampillai of Sarasalai, Chavakachcheri Deceased.

1. Somasunderam Sivagnanam
2. and wife Devi of Chankalai

Petitioners.

And

1. Sivasampu Namasivayam
2. and wife Thaiyalnayaki
3. Perampalam Kandasamy
4. Santhanayaki daughter of Perampalam all of Sarasalai Chavakachcheri
5. Velupillai Arudchelvam
6. and wife Thevaratnam

Respondents.

This matter coming up for disposal before O. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge of Jaffna on the 22nd day of September 1939 in the presence of Mr. S. Kanjiah Proctor for the petitioners and the petition of the petitioners dated 22nd September 1939 and the affidavit of the first petitioner having read been over

It is hereby ordered and decreed the 2nd petitioner as one of the judgment creditors of the deceased be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and the same be issued to the 2nd petitioner accordingly unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons shall on or before the 29th day of November 1939 appear before this Court and shew sufficient cause to the contrary to the satisfaction of this Court.

This 29th day of September 1939.

(Sgd) O. Coomaraswamy,

District Judge.

(O. 50. 23 & 26-10-39)

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