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"ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT"

Germany Disappointed at Russia's Attitude

AMERICAN NEUTRALITY ACT AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO ALLIES

By Rev. Fr. Nicholas Perera

(Broadcast Talk: War News Review and commentary covering period 31st October to 7th November)

IT has been an uneventful week on the Western Front. The general tone of the Communiqués from the Western Front run as follows: "All quiet on the Western front except for patrol activity and light artillery action". The war has settled down to a stalemate compared with the bloody offensives of the last war but all is to the good of the Allies. Hitler cannot afford to wait. The time factor is on the side of the Democracies. Hence Hitler's feverish peace offensive and war of nerves and frantic efforts to enlist Russia and Italy. The German reserves of necessary war materials like iron, petrol, nickel, copper, pyrites, manganese are limited while the Allies have infinite resources to draw from, and are daily increasing the armament output. The siege of Germany goes ruthlessly on and the German attempt at a counter blockade of England by intensified submarine warfare has come to nothing. The convoy system has proved effective and only a few ships have been torpedoed while the daily toll of enemy submarines is taking place. It is never wise to under-estimate an enemy, but the fact seems to be that Hitler's threat to make a holocaust of England and paralyse all activity by unprecedented aerial bombardment seems to have been hastily made. The few attempted raids on the North-Eastern Coasts have been beaten off with no damage to British ships and heavy casualties to raiding aircraft. One thing has stood out with striking effect. The overwhelming superiority of the English fighter-planes and the superior

skill and technique of the R. A. F. personnel. Mr. Hebert Morrison the Minister of Supplies has left Hitler in no doubt as to what would happen if Hitler tried any of his tricks. The English will reply with savage reprisals if need be. The R. A. F. flights over Germany have shown that it will be just as easy to drop bombs as to drop leaflets. This is likely to make Hitler pause.

What Next?

But one must not be mistaken by the apparent quiet and calm. It's just the lull before the storm. Hitler if he is to win the war must strike with rapidity and strike soon. Else Hitler has only to surrender or suffer slow strangulation, or widen his field of offensive and strike a lightning blow before Germany feels the full effect of the blockade due to shortage of food and essential war reserves. Neither Russia in her present state of development nor Hungary nor Rumania nor Italy can give her adequate supplies. Hitler has one of four alternatives; (a) to smash through the Maginot Line, (b) to attack through Italy, (c) Switzerland (d) Belgium or Holland.

(a) This is a reckless undertaking but not out of the possibility of the erstwhile Corporal now Commander-in-Chief of the German forces. It would entail a loss of over a million men and he will have to be prepared for a terrible counter offensive. The army command is not likely to approve of such appalling waste

(Continued on page 4)

HEALTH IN JAFFNA

Educated men should set the Example

By Dr. V. Nadarajah
(M. O. H., Jaffna)

GOOD health is vital to the well being of an individual or people. To put it broadly good health depends on two factors namely external sanitation and internal sanitation. External sanitation means the cleanliness of surroundings and internal sanitation the cleanliness of person. External sanitation is the simpler of the two, because its requirements can be seen by the naked eye and therefore easily fulfilled and because its defects can be rectified with equal ease while internal sanitation is the more complicated of the two and depends for its control on conditions which are outside the knowledge of an ordinary individual. What is meant by external sanitation? It means the provision for

1. A healthy housing,
2. Arrangements for the disposal of human excreta,
3. Arrangements for disposal of refuse,
4. Control of flies, mosquitoes etc the vectors of diseases.

Jaffna is fortunate in being free from the menace of the dangerous mosquito that spreads malaria. The average family lives in fairly healthy home, keeps its premises clean of refuse, but pays no heed whatever to the disposal of human excreta which is the source of the following diseases man is subject to namely—

1. Typhoid fever
2. Cholera
3. Dysentery
4. Diarrhoea in children
5. Worm infestation in children
6. Hookworm disease.

It is common knowledge that we don't have latrines in our homes. In the absence of latrines we either pollute the vacant lands or our back com-

pounds giving rise to widespread soil pollution. This habit has become so traditional and age-long with us that we have become oblivious and insensitive to the evils that arise from it.

We have not realised that we are held in a vice by this pernicious habit of soil pollution. This habit has been and is a great menace to the health of our people. It has continued to cause for a long time a considerable amount of sickness and deaths.

Enteric Fever

Enteric fever is a serious and prolonged disease. It is infectious. It affects the youth of the population. Besides being a killing disease it is the cause for the ruin of many a poor family financially owing to the prolonged hospital treatment it requires. In the event of one member of a family being ill with the disease the earning members have to attend on the patient in hospital and thereby are rendered unable to pursue their occupations resulting in further loss of money. There is not a single family in Jaffna of which one or more members have not been preyed upon by this disease. Annually there are 900 reported cases with 81 deaths. How is the disease caused? It is caused by the specific germ being swallowed by man. The germ is found in the excreta of those who suffer from enteric fever and those who have recovered from the disease who act as carriers. When people deposit their excreta on open surfaces, the wells which are sources of drinking water receive the flood water carrying with it the human excreta and become contaminated; and then the germ gains access into the intestine of man through drinking water. Flies which breed and feed on filth carry the germs on their legs and wings

(Continued on Page 6)



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1939

THE CRISIS IN INDIA

IN ALL THE CONGRESS PROVINCES except ASSAM the Ministries have resigned. As, in view of the over-whelming majority which the Congress commands in these provinces, no other party would undertake responsibility for office, the Governors have taken over the administration under section 93 of the Government of India Act. Thus Parliamentary Government is at an end in all these provinces and the administration will rest on the will of the Governor alone. As our readers are fully aware of the circumstances that led to this crisis, we need not recapitulate them here. The versions of the last Delhi talks given by the Viceroy and the Congress party are conflicting in material points. While the Viceroy's statement gives the impression to the outside world that the Delhi Talks and consequently the prospects of Indian Swaraj failed because of the fundamental and irreconcilable differences between the Congress and the Muslim League, the statement issued by the Congress leaders, while recognising the divergence between the two bodies, ascribes the breakdown to the failure on the part of the British Government to define its War Aims vis-a-vis India to the satisfaction of the Indian people—in that the statement of aims did not include the issue of Dominion status to India. The Congress justly contends that the existence of communal differences is irrelevant to the statement of War Aims, as what is demanded is that a Constituent Assembly representative of all interests and communities, and not any particular body or community or even the British Government should decide what the future constitution for India ought to be. Such a demand is eminently fair and should have been conceded.

While the British Government which has ruled over India for nearly two centuries cannot divest itself of its responsibility for the maintenance in India of a Government equitable to all sections, it would be straining its notion of responsibility to argue that the opposition, factitious though it be, of a minority should hold up constitutional advance in India. The demands of the Muslim League under the inspiration of MR. JINNAH, are such as the Congress cannot concede without betraying the basic principles of its very life,

without reducing itself to the position of a parallel communal body of Hindus with no authority to speak for the rest of India. As MR. SAPRU and other neutral leaders have often observed the Muslims have no legitimate grievances; in fact they have got already much more than they would get under any fair scheme. A partition of power between the Congress and the League as proposed by MR. JINNAH would be altogether unfair to the other minorities and to the large body of Muslims themselves outside the League. The League envisages the perpetuation and even intensification of communal differences as the ideal order for India without allowing any scope for the evolution of national consciousness. As LORD SAMUEL rightly observed in the House of Commons, a minority community has no right to hold up the progress of a country. All that it can demand is the safeguarding of its own culture and legitimate rights in the constitution on the lines laid down by the League of Nations. As MAHATMAJI has observed in the *Harijan*, the Hindus are only paper majority and if British power were withdrawn the martial races like the Muslims, Sikhs and Gurkas will be the real rulers of India. It is rather unfortunate that British statesmanship at this hour of European crisis has failed to rise to the occasion, but has taken shelter behind the factitious opposition of a communal body in order to deny to India her legitimate position in the Commonwealth.

THE NORTHERN ASSIZES

Attempt to Commit Murder

The Northern Assizes opened on the 6th instant at the Town Hall, Jaffna. The Hon. Mr. Justice Nihill presided.

The Supreme Court Staff consists of Mr. F. C. Loos, Crown Counsel; Mudaliyar T. Velautham, Tamil Interpreter and Mudr. Dissanayake, Registrar.

The first case taken up for trial was one of attempted murder from Paloly, in which Murugesu Arumugam of Alway stood charged with attempt to murder, by stabbing with a knife, one Chelliah Kandaswamy of Paloly West.

Mr. S. D. Tampoe instructed by Mr. C. Thanabalasingham defended the accused who pleaded not guilty.

The jury unanimously found the accused guilty and His Lordship sentenced him to five year's rigorous imprisonment.

Accused Acquitted

The second case taken up for trial was from Suthumalai, in which Gnanamuttu Aiyathurai stood charged with attempt to murder Manicam Kandiah, and two others with aiding and abetting the first accused. The jury unanimously found all the accused not guilty. The accused were acquitted.

Tragic Discoveries in Jaffna

A Widow, Old Man and Skeleton

The Changani Police discovered on Friday the body of a 70 year old named Marimuttu widow of Kandappar lying in a pool of blood in the front verandah of her house at Chulipuram, where she was living alone.

The police found both ear lobes of the woman severed and gold earrings and a gold necklace, belonging to the woman, missing.

Mr. R. Ramachandran, the Makkam Magistrate, visited the scene. A post-mortem examination, conducted by Dr. W. Wickremasinghe, acting J. M. O., disclosed a fracture of the base of the skull. It was stated that death was due to shock as a result of the injury.

Two Other Tragedies

While investigations were proceeding at Chulipuram, information reached the Police to the effect that the Managar of Pallai had reported that a human skeleton was lying under the foot of a tree in the Reserve Forest at Vannankerni in Pallai. The Chavakachcheri Magistrate motored to the spot.

The third report was from Kondavil, four miles from Jaffna, to the effect that the body of a sixty-year-old man named Sinnavan Aiyar was found floating in a well in his compound.

Appointments

The following are among the appointments by the Officer Administering the Government notified in last Friday's Gazette:—

Mr. K. Kanagaratnam to act as Deputy Auditor-General with effect from November 2.

Mr. B. Ponniah, Cadet attached to the Ratnapura Kacheheri, to be Cadet attached to the Kegalla Kacheheri with effect from November 1, until further orders.

Mr. S. Kanagasabai to be Additional District Judge. Additional Commissioner of Requests and Additional Magistrate, Jaffna, and Additional Magistrate and Additional Commissioner of Requests, Point Pedro, during the absence of Mr. S. Rodrigo on November 14 and 15.

Mr. S. Rajaratnam to be an Additional Magistrate, Jaffna, on November 17, to hear M. C. Jaffna, case No 7,117.

WHAT BRITAIN'S WAR AIM SHOULD BE

Premier Thwarted by "Megalomaniac"

London Nov. 10.

"We must end the war in such a way that the Germans' only grievance shall be against their own rulers, against their leader, and against the system that brought them again to defeat."

This war aim was put forward by Sir Nevile Henderson, the last British Ambassador to Berlin at a Press Club lunch in London.

"We went to Berlin, he said, 'with the deep conviction that if war was to be avoided, it was absolutely necessary to find some means of coming to an understanding with and co-operating with Germany.'

"In the end the megalomaniac of one man defeated the Prime Minister and defeated me also."

Mortgage Sales

Suspension Proposed by Legislation

Colombo, Saturday.

It is understood that the suspension of mortgage sales is the object of a draft Ordinance which is now before the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

The object of the Ordinance will be temporarily to limit the rights and powers of mortgagees, to grant relief to mortgagors of immovable property, to defer the sale of such property, in execution of hypothecary decrees, and for other purposes incidental to or connected with such matters.

Land Mortgages Only

It is proposed that the Ordinance should apply to mortgages of land only and be read as one with the Mortgage Ordinance and the Civil Procedure Code.

When passed, it is to remain in operation for a period of one year and may be extended from time to time, if necessary, by resolutions of the State Council ratified by the Governor.

The draft Bill seeks to provide that a mortgagee shall not, without leave of the Court, call up and demand payment of the mortgage money or commence any action for the recovery of any mortgage money.

The leave of the Court would also be necessary to proceed with or complete the execution of any decree entered in any hypothecary action or any judicial sale of any mortgaged land, or to exercise any power of sale or entry into possession conferred by any mortgage or by any written law.

No leave is to be granted to take action so long as interest is paid at the rate provided in the mortgage within such time or times as the Court is authorised to fix.

Factors for Consideration

The Court will be required, in determining whether leave should be granted to proceed to action, to take into consideration circumstances such as the inability of the mortgagor to pay the mortgage money either from his own funds or by borrowing, as well as the ability of the mortgagor to pay a reasonably increased rate of interest in consideration of the continuance of the mortgage.

Any hardship that would be inflicted on the mortgagee by the continuance of the mortgage or upon the mortgagor by the enforcement thereof would also be taken into consideration.

If in the opinion of the Court it is just and equitable to institute action, the Court would grant leave for the purpose.

The Court is to be vested with the power to appoint a person to manage mortgaged land.

Jaffna Central College

The Prize Day at the Jaffna Central College comes off on the 17th instant. The Hon. Mr. Justice J. H. B. Nihill will preside.

180 Executions in Germany

London, Nov. 10

At least 180 persons were executed at the end of last week as a result of the large anti-war demonstrations in Dassel, Hannover, Hamburg and Potsdam according to well-informed sources, says a despatch received by Reuter from the Czechoslovak frontier.

EXCESS PROFITS DUTY

Fifty Per Cent of Pre-war Profit Standard

DRAFT ORDINANCE GAZETTED

THE draft of an Ordinance to make provision for the imposition and collection of Excess Profits Duty, was published in a Gazette Extraordinary last Friday.

The duty will be 50 per cent. of the amount by which the profits of a business for an accounting period exceed the pre-war standard of profits plus Rs. 3,000.

The pre-war standard is normally either the average of the best two of the last three years prior to the war or 6 per cent of the capital employed in the business, whichever is more favourable to the taxpayer.

Agriculture Excepted

The provisions of the Ordinance will apply to any business of any description (whether continuously carried on or not) which is carried on in Ceylon by any person, whether resident or non-resident, or is owned or carried on in any place other than Ceylon by a person resident in Ceylon, except—

(a) any agricultural undertaking;

(b) any employment by an employer; and

(c) any profession the profits of which are dependent merely on the personal qualifications of the person by whom the profession is carried on and in which no capital expenditure is required or only capital expenditure of a comparatively small amount, but including—

(i) the business of any person taking commissions in respect of any transactions or services rendered; and

(ii) the business of any agent of any description not being a commercial traveller or an agent whose remuneration consists wholly of a fixed and definite sum not depending on the amount of business done or any other contingency;

Provided that all business of the like nature in one ownership shall be deemed to be one business for the purpose of this Ordinance.

It shall be the duty of every person assessable to excess profits duty under this Ordinance in respect of any accounting period, to give notice to the Commissioner that he is so assessable within six months of the end of such accounting period; and it shall be the duty of liquidator of every company which is assessable to excess profits duty and in respect of which winding-up proceedings are pending on the date on which the draft of this Ordinance is first published in the Gazette or are commenced after that date to give notice to the Commissioner of the fact that the company is so assessable.

Penalties

Any person who fails to give notice or to furnish a true and correct return in accordance with the preceding provisions of this section or to comply with any

requirement of an Assessor under such provisions, shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred rupees and to a further fine not exceeding one hundred rupees a day for every day during which the offence continues after conviction.

The duty is imposed for three years only. If during any year within that period the profits of a business are less than the pre-war standard plus Rs. 3,000, 50 per cent of the deficiency is to be set against the duty due or paid for the other years.

Relief may be claimed in respect of excess profits duty paid in the United Kingdom or in any other part of the British Empire. Any sum paid as excess profits duty will be allowed as a deduction for income tax purposes.

SUPDT OF ORGANISATION AND STAFF

High C. G. R. Post for Tamil

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has confirmed the appointment of Mr. M. Kanagasabai as Superintendent of Organisation and Staff, C. G. R., the new designation given to the post of Deputy General Manager (Administrative).

Mr. Kanagasabay, who has acted in this capacity since 1937, was one of the first Ceylonese sent to England for training in 1931-33, and the first Ceylonese to be appointed permanently to the post of Deputy General Manager (Administrative), the designation of which post was altered to Superintendent, Organisation and Staff in connexion with recommendations of the Transport Commission.

He joined the Railway Department as a clerk in 1917, and in 1929 was chosen as a Probationary Assistant Divisional Transportation Superintendent. He is 41 years of age.

DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION

Training a Ceylonese for the Post

The question of training a Ceylonese in the Department of Civil Aviation in England so that he may fill the post of Director of Civil Aviation in Ceylon will be considered by the Executive Committee of Communications and Works at the end of the war.

The Executive Committee has made this decision in reporting on a motion by Mr. A. Ratnayake.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FARMING AS A CAREER FOR EDUCATED YOUNG MEN

Dear Sir,

My attention was drawn to a scheme outlined by Mudaliyar Wickramartna "for farming as a career for educated young men" in Ceylon. In tackling the problem we have not only to consider the urgent need but also to find ways and means of carrying out the project successfully. The main scope of the scheme and the principles underlying should enable the middle and peasant classes to co operate in the work of the farm and to participate in the benefits, on an equitable and reasonable basis. The proposal of the Mudaliyar however to adopt the "Attama" System and to co-ordinate the services of the labourers on the basis suggested by him is not calculated to prove conducive to the successful development of the holdings. The system is practically similar to the Podi system that prevailed in the District of Batticaloa. But the time has changed and we have to adapt our selves to the conditions now obtaining.

Apart from the above facts the figures quoted from the estimate of the Agricultural Department for a fifty acre farm for a middle class colonist is appalling. Government will not, I am afraid, be in a position to spare money for lavish schemes. The real object should be to increase the food supply and to find work for the workless people. And in order that this may be given effect to I have put forward to the Director of Food Production the following suggestions:—

(a) Lands be allotted under the provisions of the Development Ordinance to persons who have completed a course of Agricultural Studies in a Farm School or to others who in the opinion of the Batticaloa District Agricultural Committee have the necessary aptitude for or have the necessary training and experience in Farming.

(b) Loans not exceeding Rs. 75 per acre be granted for the development and cultivation of the land. Such loans should be given in three instalments, the first instalment being given 500 after the land is allocated and the second after the whole area has been opened up and the third being made available for the seed, cattle and implements. The allottees should undertake to employ labour for the cultivation of paddy and other cereals on a share basis so that they may become entitled to one-third of the produce of the crops and should make arrangements for settling the labour on the land so that the cultivation rights may pass on from father to son or any other next of kin.

(c) Every labourer who has been cultivating the land up to the fifth year shall not only establish the cultivation rights in the land reckoned as ten acres for every family settled on the land, but also be entitled to receive an absolute grant of an acre of land for the purpose of housing and highland crops. Such land may be part of the land held by the allottee or specially acquired for the purpose.

(d) The loans are to be granted on the distinct condition that they will be repaid in ten annual equated payments of Rs. 10 per acre (in the event of the maximum loan being granted) commencing from third

year of occupancy and on the lieu of the plantation crops and of the two-third of the produce of cereals.

(e) The one-third of the produce of the cereals are to be set apart solely for the labourers who are entitled to receive same without deductions for the value of equipment e.g. houses, channels, machinery, tools and so forth and supplies e.g. live-stock and seed provided that they have performed their quota of labour due under the cultivation rules under Ordinance No. 45 of 1917.

(f) As soon as it shall be convenient to convene a meeting of the proprietors of Irrigation Schemes under which it is proposed to take up colonisation and consider the question of embodying some of the foregoing conditions in the code of cultivation rules to suit the purpose.

(g) The detailed working of the scheme and the general supervision of the colonization would naturally be in the hands of a Colonization Officer specially appointed for the purpose to work under the direct control of the Government Agent, Eastern Province.

Yours faithfully
K. Kanakasabai

The Vaddukoddai Post Office

Sir,—

One of the retrenchment proposals of the Postal Department is to convert the Vaddukoddai Post Office to a one-man-office. There are a Post Master and an assistant at present. In future it will be manned by one person only and his hours of duty will be 7 a. m.-12-30 p. m. and 1-30 p. m.-5 p. m. and no business could be transacted at other hours except on payment of late fees etc.

Since the Portuguese divided Jaffna into 32 parishes, Vaddukoddai was also a Maniagar's division from 1796 to 1833. Although several Maniagars were suppressed in 1833 and the whole Valigamam West came under one Maniagar, Vaddukoddai continued to be the seat of the many succeeding Maniagars of even the enlarged division right up to 1915.

Vaddukoddai continues to be the head-quarters of the American Mission in Ceylon. It has also been the head quarters of the Morning Star (1841), the second oldest Newspaper existing in Ceylon. It has a first rate College, two Elementary Schools, more than thirty Vernacular Schools, a Village Tribunal, an Outdoor Dispensary with a D.M.O. and an Apothecary attached to it, and even the Co-operative Hospital at Moolai is served by this Post Office for telegraph purposes.

There has been a Post-box-holder ever since the opening of the Batticaloa Seminary (1823) at this place. The Post Office was opened about the year 1887 or even earlier and has functioned very satisfactorily up to the present day. An assistant was stationed at the Post Office about the year 1907. It serves the most thickly populated parish of Vaddukoddai and parts of the Changanaiparish, an area of three miles radius in all. The population of Vaddukoddai alone was 12,350 in the 1931

(Continued on page 5)

"ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT"

(Continued from page 1)

of man-power. Hence probably the disagreement between Hitler and his generals.

(b) Italy has shown no strong affection for the Berlin Axis after the Russo-German Alliance. The recent reshuffling of the Cabinet has brought in men not quite favourable to the Nazi Regime. The only ominous sign is the projected visit of Field Marshal Goering to Mussolini. But little is likely to come out of it as Italy's attitude to Communism is some thing much stronger than Germany's and the influence of the Pope very much greater than sometime before. The latest Papal encyclical though it mentions no names, is a direct condemnation of Hitler and his methods. Italy, defeated, will be a heavy liability for Germany.

(c) The attack through Switzerland is not an easy proposition as Germany would have to get control of the whole of the Jura Mountains and the Swis defending themselves in their mountain passes are a tough nut to crack.

(d) This seems to be the only way to carry out her "Blitzkrieg" (lightning war). Holland and Belgium in spite of their overconfidence are weak and if Germany is to carry out her threats to England she must strike quickly. The Dutch, fearing such a possibility, have taken all precautions. Martial law has been declared in the inundation areas. Measures are being taken to prevent espionage on the German Netherlands Frontier. They are doing everything to preserve their neutrality but in case of a German advance, the Allied Powers will not idly wait to see Germany making use of Belgium or Holland as a base for their air, sea and land operations.

In this week, there are two events of outstanding importance, Germany has suffered two of the biggest diplomatic defeats since the war began.

M. Molotov's Speech

(i) The definite declaration of Russian Neutrality by M. Molotov, Hitler had counted much on the meeting of the Soviet Supreme Council. A special courier had been sent by him earlier with a secret despatch to Moscow. Hitler had said that this meeting would be a turning point in the war. It must have been a sad disappointment to Hitler and a deathblow to Nazi hopes when Molotov merely chided England for fighting an ideological war and gave only mere moral support to Hitler. But what Hitler wanted was a definite military help.

Molotov also asserted Russia's right to protect herself from attacks by any foreign power through the Baltic. Hence his vain threats to Finland to yield to her demands. The bay of Finland and the Aland Islands control all movements of ships to and from Leningrad. When Finland became independent they

were demilitarised by the Convention of 1921. During the years of collective security this did not cause Finland any unnecessary alarm but with the rise of "Power Politics" Finland had to reconsider her position and has thought of fortifying these zones. Russia has opposed any change in the status quo of these isles as any enemy seizing these islands could bottle up the Russian Baltic Fleet from entering the Baltic and keep it paralysed at Kronstadt. Besides these isles could be used as a jumping ground against Leningrad. In Finland there is a strong Fascist Movement and in this era of International chaos and anarchy, when treaties are not worth the scrap of paper they are written on Russia does not want to leave things to chance. The question we might well ask at this stage is "Whom does Stalin fear?" There is no other power that can threaten Russia in the Baltic but Germany. Hence the concessions forced out of Esthonia, Latvia and from Finland are a virtual military defeat for Hitler. The Baltic has become strategically a Russian lake. Meanwhile the exodus of the German Balts continues. The Baltic has been a German sphere of influence for over seven hundred years and Hitler's renunciation of it has been the greatest setback to the Third Reich since Hitler came into power. The initiative in north Eastern European affairs has passed into the hands of Stalin.

American Neutrality Act

The second most important event of the week has been the revision of the American Neutrality and Arms Embargo Bill which became law last Saturday. From the allied point of view, it is the most encouraging thing since the war. It shows where the sympathies lie. The provision of the "Cash and Carry" clause makes the United States of America an arsenal of unlimited supplies for the Democracies. Germany has neither the money to buy the arms nor the ships to transport them. The Neutrality Bill gives President Roosevelt the power to control America's Foreign Policy. The President will do everything to give help to the Allies in keeping with his avowed declaration that "American help to Anti-aggressors must be stronger than words but short of war".

Dominion Ministers' Meeting

The other event of note is the meeting of the Dominion Ministers in London. As Mr. Chamberlain declared this is a striking demonstration of the unity of the Empire and a realisation that a threat to Britain is a threat to their freedom. This is the first war after the passing of the Westminster Act and the declaration of war by the Dominions and Colonies on Germany was immediate and spontaneous. It speaks of the solidarity of the British Commonwealth of nations and of the principles of justice and freedom on which the Empire is founded. In a world of international anarchy when the rights and liberties of smaller nations have been treated with scant respect, the British Commonwealth stands out as a supreme example

WORK ON UNIVERSITY SITE TO BEGIN

Five Lakhs to be Spent

Preliminary work on the Ceylon University project is to be carried out during the next financial year, at a cost of Rs. 500,000. This will consist chiefly of levelling the site and the construction of roads.

Meanwhile, the architectural branch of the P.W.D. is busy preparing a number of designs for the buildings.

Work on the civil engineering section of the hydro-electric scheme is to begin in December. The work will provide employment for local labour, whereas the work of the other sections of the scheme will need imported labour.

of where all nationalities and races could live together in peace and harmony. It is the greatest factor making for world peace.

Revolt in Austria: News of internal trouble in Germany has reached us in previous weeks from outside sources. There seems to be a military revolt in Austria now. According to the French radio, reports about unrest among troops in Vienna, Graz and Klagenfurt have leaked through the Austrian Frontier. It is no wonder that the Austrian people who have recently lost their independence are not prepared to put up with the privations of a war such as Germany is fighting.

Hitler and Roman Catholic Church

Another point which indicates that the Hitler regime cannot last long is the increasing oppression of Catholics after the Pope's latest encyclical. Hitler has made himself the head of the Church in Germany where there are over a third of the population ardent Catholics. He cannot be ignorant of the facts of History. The Emperor Henry IV attempted a similar thing and failed. A greater man than he Frederick Barbarosa had to bow to the Pope and in modern times Bismark whom in some ways Hitler emulates and who had declared that he would not go to Canossa in that now famous phrase "Nach Canossa gehen wir nicht" (we will not go to Canossa) did indeed have to go there in spirit begging.

Burke declared "that blood of man should never be shed but to redeem the blood of man. It is well shed for our family, for our friends, for our god, for our country and for our kind. The rest is vanity; the rest is crime".

We know whose cause is right and justice will triumph in the end.

"Fiat justitia ruat coelum".

These are the people who clamour for peace and sound peace proposals must be entertained for the sake of humanity, but not peace at any price. That would be to surrender the cause of justice and right for which the Allies are fighting. It would mean the end of civilization in Europe as well as disastrous repercussions in the rest of the world. For though it looks as if the Nazi and Soviet ideals are very different, they are indeed more alike than what most people imagine. They both suppress individual liberty, personal freedom, spiritual rights, and rights of minorities. Can anything be worse?

MALARIA IN ANURADHAPURA

Ministry Cautions People

The Ministry of Health in a Press communique issued on Friday, advises people not to go to Anuradhapura this season and reside there unless they are properly housed and protected against malarial fever.

"Several years of careful investigation and study," states the communique, "have definitely established that the seasonal increase of malaria at Anuradhapura and areas surrounding it takes place during months of November, December and January.

"If during this period proper precautions are not taken by those who go to these areas, they are bound to contract malaria.

"A very grave danger is that those persons who go to such areas and contract malaria when they return to their home-towns and villages, will be the source of spreading infection in their district and thereby cause epidemics of malaria."

Red Cross Flag Day

THROUGHOUT JAFFNA
Monday 4th December 1939
HELP THE WOUNDED IN THE WAR
(Mis. 187 6-30-11-39).

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 658.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sivapaekiasunthary wife of Vannianathan of Moolai, Jaffna.

Deceased.
Sanmuga Saravanamuttu of Kopay, Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Vanniasunthary daughter of Vannianathan of Moolai,
2. Thanotharampillai Vannianathan of do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 15th day of March 1939 in the presence of Mr. V. Navaratna Rajah Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 21st September 1938 having been read:

It is ordered that the 2nd Respondent be and he is hereby appointed guardian-ad-litem of the 1st Respondent minor to represent her interests in the Testamentary proceedings and that the petitioner be and he is hereby declared the administrator of the estate of the late Sivapaekiasunthary wife of Vannianathan deceased, and Letters of administration be granted to him unless the Respondents above-named or any other person or persons shall appear before this Court on or before the 5th day of May 1939 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the Court to the contrary.

This 15th day of March 1939.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended for 22nd November 1939.
(O. 56. 13 & 16-11-39)

"CONSIDERABLE" GERMAN AIR ACTIVITY

'Planes Active Over Northern France

"WHISPERING CAMPAIGN" AGAINST WAR IN GERMANY

London, Saturday.

ON the Western Front from Moselle to Switzerland there has been ever growing activity on land and in the air, while German 'planes are most active over northern France, where they have been sighted over Lille, Tourcoing and Maubeuge.

The 'planes came either by way of Belgium or the North Sea, but they mostly went back over Belgium, the quickest way, recklessly violating Belgium's neutrality.

This activity continued not only through the day but also through the night and an air raid alarm was given early this morning in the northern areas concerned, including Paris.

Beyond the fact that anti-aircraft batteries fired on suspect 'planes no details are yet available. German air activity at present is authoritatively described as "considerable".

Murmurings in Germany

London, Friday.

The attempt on Hitler's life, it is learned, although it caused a shock to the German people, came as no surprise. The defeatists and communists have been busy recently with a "whispering campaign" against the war and the Nazi regime, and the possibility of their turning to violence had already been taken into account.

Joachim von Ribbentrop learned some three weeks ago, of a possible attempt on his life and has since been specially guarded by the Gestapo. The "whispering campaign", against which severe measures are being taken, runs on the lines that Germany is unable to hold out for more than a month or two under the present conditions and that a way must be found to liquidate the war at all costs as the country has been betrayed on all sides, particularly by the Soviet.

Siegfried Line Being Extended

Copenhagen, Friday.

According to the Copenhagen "Berlingske Tidende", the Germans are busy extending the Siegfried Line along the Belgian and the Dutch frontiers.

The European edition of the "New York Herald-Tribune" (published in Paris) reports continuous troop movements behind the German lines throughout yesterday. The paper adds that addi-

tional units, which had seen action in Poland, are reported to have been brought to the Siegfried fortresses.

Nazi-Soviet Border Being Fortified

London, Friday.

It is known now that the German-Soviet frontier is being fortified on both sides. Russia has sent many engineers to supervise the construction. The Soviet has already established an air base at Vilna. There are 6,5000 troops of the Red Army in the Baltic Provinces.

German Vessels in Italian Ports

Rome, Friday.

A number of German freighters taking refuge at Trieste have been offered for sale, but found no buyers among Italian shipping companies. Germany is now trying to sell the ships to Balkan shipping lines in return for raw materials.

Maha Aikya Sabha Araly North.

An executive committee of this Sabha was held at 'Lambert Hall' at 5 p. m. on Saturday with Dr. C. Somasundaram in the chair.

Profiteering—Letter No. N. L. of 3rd of October from Maniagar of Vali West was discussed. It regrets to find that prices of not only rice but of other commodities as well are soaring high, and the victims are mostly ignorant peasants. This Sabha, therefore still maintains that some reliable officers authorised by the Government should be deputed to detect the offenders for prosecution and is also inclined to believe that the number of prosecutions is an index to the vigilance with which the prices are said to be controlled.

Approach Road—regarding the grievances of the local dhobies this Sabha has interested itself to approach the owners of land concerned, for the provision of a cart track to their washing tank. (cor.)

Agricultural Products Regulation

It was decided at a meeting of the Agricultural Products Regulation Board to obtain further information regarding the quantities of local commodities available in the various districts, before deciding which commodity should be regulated.

The Board will decide upon regulating the prices of several products when sufficient information is forthcoming.

Making Labourers Coconut Conscious

By Bertram Fernando

(Asst. Supdt. Forest Creek Estate Kotagala)

Intense propaganda work is being carried on by the Coconut Board among the estate labourers in the Dimbula District. The virtues of the coconut are extolled in the presence of large numbers of labourers with the aid of a loud-speaker and in fluent Tamil which they readily understand. I was very much impressed by the manner in which the propaganda officer transmits the gospel of the coconut to the labourers. His discourses strike one as being pointed and apt, as it often revealed by the ready response they met with from the labourers who start asking all manner of questions and evince great curiosity in the various uses to which the coconut may be put. To most of them it is a revelation, while to some it is a pleasant diversion to be spoken to in a courteous and an instructive manner after being shouted at and harrangued all day in the field by their Kanganies. A still pleasanter diversion comes to them in the form of "Chintamani" records played to them from the gramophone installed in the Caravan.

An estate is worked from Group to Group and from one set of Lines to another so that every part of it is rendered coconut-conscious by the dissemination of literature, holding of demonstrations and cookery competitions etc., before the Propaganda Officer leaves the Estate.

The planters have been unostentatious in their co-operation and willingness to help. Some of them have given extra cash prizes with a view to encouraging cookery competitions.

Another mode of advertisement is the free distribution of curries prepared with coconut, among the children of the labourers—usually about 250 in number. It is driving home the old saying that the proof of the pudding lies in the eating.

The holding of cookery competitions in the various Estates has afforded a great stimulus to making the Indian coconut-minded.

The competitions held at "Mount Vernon Estate", "Yuillefield Group" and "Chrysler's Farm" were particularly successful ones.

The opportunity of finding a large market for the coconut in the hill districts is being seized with avidity by the Coconut Board and exploited by the Propaganda Officer. A permanent depot which will act as a feeder to the needs of estate labourer as well as to others, will be established at Hatton and another will be opened at Talawakelle soon after.

The response that the campaign has hitherto met with has been encouraging and invitations to make the labourers coconut-conscious have already been received from planting interests in other districts. The "covered waggon" rolls along from estate to estate teaching the labourer to seek his salvation in the coconut and live joyously by making the most of it.

Letter to the Editor

The Vaddukodai Post Office

(Continued from page 3)

census. It also serves 300 boarders at Jaffna College who do not come under the regular population of Vaddukodai. The late Mr. M. Vythilingam, popularly known as Singapore Vythilingam, was the pioneer amongst the Ceylonese to go to Malaya and even today Vaddukodai counts more number of persons employed in the F. M. S. and the S. S.

To refuse to serve this important place after 5 p. m. in the evenings will result in untold hardship to the residents of the locality there and abroad. We trust that the Post Master General would reconsider his decision and permit things to go on as usual.

Yours faithfully
"Murugar Anman"

Increase of Crime in Jaffna

Sir,—While it is heartening to see some places in Ceylon usually notorious for man-slaughter and the perpetration of horrible crimes have turned over new chapters in the history of crime in their districts. It is most sickening to observe several villages in Jaffna committing nefarious crimes, in many cases, after deep premeditation. In spite of the heavy punishments imposed by the Government on criminals, the Supreme Court sessions are held with greater frequency than in former times when the country was less civilised. The cases to be tried in November are many and some are of so complicated a nature that all of them cannot be heard within the prescribed period.

However deterrent, the Government may feel, their punishments are on criminals, the result is not wholly satisfactory. The expected end is not achieved. The present system of housing and treating the criminals does not tend to improve them. When they go out of prison, they seem to be more hardened criminals than before. The Government need not increase the number of Police Stations at public expense. They can with the help and co-operation of the public endeavour to find ways and means to lessen lawlessness and crime in the country.

Just as reformatories are established for juvenile offenders, the Government will do well to establish similar institutions for grown up prisoners. The prisoners must compulsorily be made to spend their last two years, one year or six months, according to their terms of imprisonment, in reformatories. In these institutions the Government must enlighten the prisoners on civics, spiritualism, the Western culture etc. The criminals are mostly illiterate persons who cannot reason out anything in a clear way. Instruction on the line suggested would undoubtedly make the prisoners more useful citizens than the present system of imprisonment has made them and is bound to make them.

Illiteracy, the root cause of crime, is rife among the cigar rolling and the labouring classes. It is among them that crime is also rampant. I suggest that night schools be established in the villages solely for the enlightenment of the cigar-rollers and the labourers.

Chundikuli K. S. Ponnuthurai

Health in Jaffna

(Continued from page 1)

and infect the food and drink of man. Germs also gain access through infected vegetables grown on polluted soil and through milk handled by carriers. They can also reach man through infected fingers direct from a patient.

Dysentery

Dysentery is an infectious disease caused by a germ. The germ is found in human excreta and gains access to man through the channels described above. This disease is responsible annually for about 275 deaths.

Diarrhoea in children is an infectious disease caused by a germ found in human excreta. It is also caused in the manner described above. This disease is responsible annually for about 188 deaths.

Worm trouble gives rise to convulsions in children which is responsible for 195 deaths annually.

How do children get infected with worms? The worms live in the intestine of man and their eggs are excreted in human excreta. The eggs find access into the alimentary canal of children in the same fashion described above and hatch into worms.

Hookworm disease is a worm infection which causes suffering, sickness and deaths among the adult population. The eggs come out in human excreta and hatch into tiny worms which pierce the skin in the region of the feet and through the bloodstream reaches the intestine. This worm unlike other worms is a blood sucking parasite. 95% of us suffer from disease. The disease deprives man of his blood and renders him pale and weak. It reduces the man power and productive capacity of our people. The infection increases in intensity year after year and cripples the activity of man progressively. In

women the rate and intensity of infection is higher and the consequences in them are disastrous. Hookworm disease is the principal cause of all complications during pregnancy and after childbirth. The dangers result from loss of blood caused by the disease in a pregnant mother in whom loss of blood results in lowered vitality which is a grave condition in a pregnant mother who normally requires her maximum vitality and strength to go through pregnancy and childbirth. It operates as one of the chief causes of the diseases associated with pregnancy and childbirth namely—convulsions, abortion, miscarriage, stillbirth and puerperal sepsis. Annually it accounts for about 120 deaths among pregnant mothers and 120 among others. Indirectly it is the cause of many an infant death operating through the mother.

All this amount of sickness and deaths must be costing dear to our people. The lamentable fact about it is that it is all preventable. Now that we know the cause of all this misery for which we are entirely responsible, for it behoves us not to tarry a moment in finding a remedy. The remedy is simple and that is the construction and use of latrines by one and all. Those of us who are fortunate to be more educated and enlightened than others can understand the implications of this problem and its far reaching repercussions on the lives of our people and should set an example to others by constructing and using latrines. It is also our duty to take such measures as are necessary to induce all our people to build latrines and save themselves from so much of preventable sickness and death and to give all necessary assistance to the Sanitary Officers who are engaged in the sanitation of village homes in their areas.

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