

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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MRS GANDHI PASSES AWAY

Peaceful End In
Palace Prison

India Plunged
In Grief

Mahatma Participates
In Last Rites

Bombay, Feb. 22.

The Government of Bombay has issued the following communique:

"The Government of Bombay regrets to announce that Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi passed away at 7-35 p. m. to-day at the Aga Khan Palace, Poona."

Srimati Kasturba leaves four sons, namely, Hiralal, Manilal, Ramdas and Devadas.

Mahatma Gandhi, his eldest and youngest sons, Hiralal and Devadas, and Manu, Hiralal's motherless daughter, who was brought up by Mrs. Gandhi from childhood, another lady belonging to Gandhiji's family, and Kanu Gandhi, Gandhiji's grand-nephew, were present at the bedside of Mrs. Gandhi when she breathed her last just before sunset. The end was peaceful.

Besides those already mentioned, Drs. Gilder and Sushila Nair, Mrs. Pyare Lal, Mira Ben and Mr. Mathuradas Tricumjee were also present.

THE FUNERAL

Poona, Feb. 23.

Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi's body was cremated at 10-40 a. m. The last rites were performed by her youngest son, Mr. Devadas Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi was present throughout the ceremony.

Sri Kasturba was cremated next to the spot where the late Mr. Mahadev Desai was cremated.

Over a hundred persons, relatives and friends of the Gandhi family, were present at the cremation ceremony.

As Sri Kasturba's body, which was dressed in a white Khadi saree, was lifted from the bier and placed on the pyre, Mahatma Gandhi was visibly moved and with his shawl he was seen wiping his eyes. Except for this, Gandhiji showed no signs of emotion or excitement. All the time he was seen talking to the visitors.

After the preliminary rites of cremation had been performed and the body placed on the pyre, Mahatma Gandhi beckoned to the priest to allow him to conduct a brief service. Recitations from the Koran, the Bhagavat Gita, and the Bible were made and some of the members of the Ashram sang in chorus a few "bhajans".

Dr. M. D. D. Gilder recited a passage from the Zoroastrian sacred text while Mira Ben recited a Psalm.

The service over, Mahatma Gandhi directed the priest to continue the ceremony and himself stood leaning on his staff. Sandalwood was piled on the body and ghee was poured. Devadas Gandhi with fire in hand went round the body three times and amidst cries of "Govinda, Govinda, Govinda" lit the funeral pyre.

Mr. Churchill On The War

"Victory May Not
Be Far Away"

Coming Campaign

Polish Problem
Explained

London, Feb. 23.

"At Teheran, the United Nations agreed on one thing above all others—something to which they are all bound in solemn compact—namely, to fall upon the Hun and smite him by land, sea and air with all the strength in us during the coming Spring and Summer.

"To this task we must now address ourselves every day anew with all the moral virtue we possess. The task is heavy, the toil is long, the trials will be severe. Victory may not be far away and will certainly not be denied to us in the end."

So declared the Premier, Mr. Winston Churchill, when he reviewed the war situation in the House of Commons today.

Mr. Churchill was greeted with tremendous cheers when he began his speech. He said: "This is no time for sorrow or rejoicing. It is a time for preparation, effort and resolve. The war is still going on. I have never taken the view that the end of the war in Europe is at hand or that Hitler is about to collapse, and I have certainly given no guarantee or even held out any expectation that the year 1944 will see the end of the European war; nor have I given any guarantee the other way.

"On the whole, my information—and I have a good deal—goes to show that Hitler and his police are still in full control and that the Nazis and the generals have decided to hang together. (Laughter). The strength of the German army is about 300 divisions, though many of these are substantially reduced in number. The fighting quality of the troops is high. The German General Staff system, which we failed to liquidate after the last war, represents an order comprising many thousands of highly-trained officers and a school or doctrine of unbroken continuity. It possesses great skill both in the handling of troops in action and in their rapid movement from place to place. The recent fighting in Italy would leave no doubt on these points. It is true that the results of our bombing have had a noteworthy effect on German munitions production. In the people, they have produced a dull apathy which also affects munitions production and all A. R. P. Services.

"The splendid victories of our Soviet ally on the eastern front are inflicting immense losses upon the enemy. The fact that so many enemy divisions have been drawn into Italy and into Yugoslavia, while other large bodies of his troops are held in France and the Low Countries by fear of invasion, has been a help to these victories.

(Continued on page 3)

CHANGE IN JAPAN REVOLUTIONARY

Cabinet Gains Sway
Over Army & Navy

Premier Becomes Head
of Army

London, Feb. 21.

The Tokyo radio announced today that General Hideki Tojo, the Japanese Prime Minister, has been given the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Army General Staff. Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Navy Minister, is to be Chief of the Naval General Staff.

Other appointments were: General Atsushi Ushiroku to be Deputy Chief of the Army General Staff as well as a Member of the War Council.

Admiral-of-the-Fleet Asami Nagano, Chief of the Naval General Staff, and Field-Marshal General Sugiyama, Chief of the Army General Staff, have been relieved of their posts.

The assumption by the Japanese Premier and War Minister, General Tojo, and by the Navy Minister, Admiral Shimada, of the functions of Chiefs of Staff of their Army and Navy is a significant break with Japanese tradition and in that sense is revolutionary. The step would doubtless not have been taken if the balance sheet of military operations had been showing a profit instead of a loss. The change follows the defeat at Truk.

Unwritten Law

It has long been an unwritten law in Japan that the Army and Navy were virtually independent of the Cabinet and responsible only to the Emperor. Now, effective control of both the Services has been taken over by the Cabinet which will be in a position to over-ride any opposition of the Army and Navy Staffs to its strategic policy—and signs of such opposition recently have not been wanting. The new set-up has, of course, the approval of the Emperor which is calculated to mitigate the inevitable hostility of Army and Navy officers to the reform.

A German correspondent, commenting on the Japanese Cabinet changes, described them as epoch-making and said that the war was entering on a decisive stage in the Pacific.

A Japanese Imperial Headquarters communique issued today said:

"Imperial Army and Naval units successfully repulsed the enemy attack forces which attacked Truk Island. In these operations Imperial Army and Navy units sank two enemy cruisers and damaged an aircraft-carrier and a warship of unidentified category, as well as shooting down more than 54 planes. Our losses consisted of two cruisers, three destroyers, thirteen transports and 120 planes, in addition to some damage to our ground installations."

—Reuter.

THE CONGRESS LEADERS

Condition of Their
Health

HOME MEMBER'S
STATEMENT

New De'hi, Feb. 23.

The Home Member, in reply to Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari's question in the Assembly about Dr. Syed Mahmud, a member of the Congress Working Committee, said that towards the end of December, 1943, Dr. Mahmud developed a superficial abscess on the neck; this was operated on under a local anaesthetic on January 6, and he had since made rapid recovery. His general condition was reported to be satisfactory and there was no question of his suffering from any serious throat affection or from continuous bleeding.

Mr. Patel

The Home Member added that Mr. Vallabhai Patel had for many years had what is known as a spastic colon. It was not a serious intestinal complaint. His condition had in no way deteriorated during his detention, as was shown by the fact that his weight had remained stationary and recent reports on his health were satisfactory.

As for the remaining members of the Working Committee now in detention, a careful watch over their health was maintained and Government were satisfied that their general condition was satisfactory.

Question: Do Government propose to consider the desirability of releasing the gentlemen who are seriously ill or, in the alternative, of permitting them to have medical advice of their own choice?

Answer: None of these gentlemen is seriously ill. They all receive every possible medical attention.

Question: Do Government propose to consider the desirability of allowing members of the Congress Working Committee to have interviews with their friends and relations at stated intervals?

Pandit Nehru

Answer: No.

The Home Member said in reply to Sardar Mangal Singh, that members of the Working Committee were detained in Ahmednagar and they were allowed to write two and receive four letters per week. They were allowed at Government expense whatever article of diet and in whatever quantity they required.

Mr. Nehru had lost in weight since his detention, but his health was reported to be good. He was supplied at Government expense with such medicines as the medical officer in charge considered necessary. So far as the Home Member was aware, Mr. Nehru had made no request to be supplied with any particular medicine.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1944

INDIA IN MOURNING

THE MOTHERLAND IS IN mourning. The saintly wife of India's matchless leader is no more. Srimati Kasturbai Gandhi cast away her mortal body on holy *Sivaratri* in the presence of her world-revered husband. As Pandit Malaviyaji points out in a telegram to Mahatma Gandhi she has died a *Sowbhagyavathi*, thus achieving the greatest of gifts for which Hindu women pray. She is blessed. The Motherland is blessed. The world is blessed; for the leader is in flesh and blood ultimately to redeem the land of his birth and point out the noble path which alone will lead to the salvation of the world.

During the sixty years of her comradeship with her distinguished husband Srimati Kasturbai exemplified in her life all the virtues enjoined on a Hindu wife. No contemporary woman could have had a more exacting husband, for the world has not had Mahatmaji's peer in the utter depths of self-abnegation through which he has gone in his "experiments" with truth. Utterly unprepared for the task of acting as wife and comrade to one who was bent upon self-mastery Srimati Kasturbai rose more than equal to the occasion. She earned from her husband the certificate that her endurance was "matchless". During the latter half of their life she learned to look upon her husband not only as her own teacher but as the teacher of the world. It was to her a privilege to follow in his footsteps. It is true she discovered, as did the world, the genius of her master only by slow degrees. The majesty and merit of her personality has been subdued by comparison with her husband's. But the fact remains that modern India has not produced a nobler woman. Almost unlettered she put to shame her brilliant women contemporaries by the breadth of her vision, her culture, greatness and unsurpassed love of country.

Mahatmaji is a man of God. He needs no human consolation at this time of his greatest personal loss. He knows that Indians revered his wife as their mother. The grief of the nation is heightened by the thought that the wife of India's greatest sorhad to die in prison. To our thinking there is nothing extraordinary in it. India, as Gandhiji and

Jawaharlalji frequently say, is one vast prison. Only the thought that authority could be so unmannerly, unchivalrous and unimaginative as not to release her at least just before her death, of the coming of which everybody knew, causes grave dissatisfaction. Those responsible for the decision have earned the reproach of the world; and Indians will remember all this. India is rich in symbols of Britain's genius for evil. Perhaps when the country imbibes more perfectly the message of Gandhiji Indians will condemn the deeds and only take pity on the doers. May the agony through which her children are passing bring the Motherland nearer her goal. May God spare the leader long enough to achieve it. On behalf of the Hindus of Ceylon we desire to place at his feet our humble tribute of reverence and admiration for the departed mother. May she whose life has been one of sacrifice and suffering for over half a century now rest in peace in the bosom of God.

EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCES IN ANCIENT INDIA

It is a misnomer to think that Vedic lore consists of metaphysical speculation and dialectics alone. It abounds as much in scientific thought, embracing the exact and the experimental science of ancient India, observed Pundit Kasi Krishnacharya, in an address at Masulipatam.

Speaking on ancient Indian Civilization in Sanskrit Pundit Krishnacharya said that our ancestors never lived in a dreamland. The sciences received a great impetus not merely at the courts of kings but great Rishis like Bharadwaja, Viswamitra and Gautama engaged themselves in physical and astronomical researches and investigations. Illustrating his point the speaker explained the theory of light and sun's rays as put forward by Bharadwaja, who held that light and darkness were not opposite but mutual absorbents. The Nayayayikas contended the darkness was the negation of light and the Vedantins and Mirameekas, that darkness was a distinct entity.

Proceeding the Pundit quoted from about a score of works like "Sandamukala"—where it was recorded, that instruments existed in those days by which the density of darkness could be measured. In those days, photography had advanced to such a stage that what was called animate photography was known. Unbreakable mirrors which could record the movements of planets and heavenly bodies were in use in the days of Bharadwaja.

Continuing, the Acharya said that instances of highly advanced scientific knowledge among the ancients, could be multiplied and that it was upto scholars and students of science today to probe the past and reveal to the modern world what the past had achieved in science, both exact and experimental. The speaker concluded after putting forward a strong plea for the revival of Sanskrit learning and language, which alone he declared, deserved to become the international language of the future world.

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE.

Mr. B. R. Nalliah, J. P., M. B. E., was elected Manager of the Jaffna Hindu College and affiliated schools at a meeting of the Board of Directors held yesterday.

SRIMATI KASTURBAI'S HEROIC LIFE

Saintly Wife Of Modern Rishi

By "SENTINEL"

தெய்வத் தொழுகைக் கொழுந்த் தொழு தெய்வம் பெய்யெனப் பெய்ய மரமு

பெற்றார் பெற்றின்பெயர் பெண்டர் பெருஞ்சிறப்புப்

தேவீர் வாழு முக்து.

Kasturbai Gandhi, whose passing away has cast a gloom over the entire length and breadth of India, achieved in a unique measure the rewards of a dutiful and devoted Hindu wife. No Hindu wife ever had a husband more worthy of worship and Kasturbai achieved the capacity of utter devotion to him. She has thus earned the reward of renown in the "land of the Devas", as our own divine bard Thiruvalluvar sang centuries ago. In the luminous galaxy of patriotic men and women who have sacrificed all they had for the good of the country Kasturbai stands supreme, second only to her own great husband. The world has not witnessed another life partnership of greater nobility or greater achievement. In India's annals Kasturbai will have a place as exalted as that of the famous wives of the Rishis of old.

Girl-Wife

Srimati Kasturbai Gandhi was born in Porbunder, the birthplace of the Mahatma, in 1869. She was the elder daughter of Gokuldas Makunji a wealthy merchant who was a life long friend of Karamchand Gandhi, Dewan of Porbunder, Mahatma Gandhi's father. The two friends decided to perpetuate the friendship by a marriage alliance. When Kasturbai was seven it was decided that she should be given in marriage to Mohandas the second son of the Dewan. The marriage took place in 1883 when the man and wife, destined to become world famous, were 14 years of age. Within a few years of marriage Gandhiji, left for England for higher studies, leaving his girl-wife and first born son, Hiralal, who has given him no end of trouble, in the care of his mother Kasturbai young and unlettered as she was did not put any difficulties in the way of her husband's plans for an English education.

In South Africa

She accompanied Gandhiji to South Africa in December 1896, with two sons, when Gandhiji went to South Africa for the second time. The part that she played in the soul-stirring activities of her husband in that country is an epic by itself. Gokhale, referring to Mahatmaji's work among Indians in South Africa once said that he "made heroes out of clay." This strange potter has handsomely acknowledged that but for Kasturbai's loyal support and co operation his work would have been greatly handicapped.

Gandhiji's life has not been one long saga of other worldly ecstasy from the very beginning. He has had his own share of human frailties and at the time he took his young wife and two boys to South Africa he was a westernised Indian; he taught his wife European ways of life and brought up the children on those lines. Suddenly he changed his manner of life and began the role of the Satyagrahi. The poor wife had



to change in tune with him. In her young days there were occasions when she disliked tasks set her by her exacting husband.

A Sacred Memory

At the Phoenix settlement Gandhiji and his wife used to wash the chamber pots of his own household. Often Mrs. Gandhi would do the work herself refusing to let her husband undertake it. In this connection Gandhiji narrates in his autobiography an incident which he calls "a sacred memory."

"My wife managed the pots of the others, but to clean those used by one who had been a Panchama seemed to her to be the limit, and we fell out. She could not bear the pots being cleaned by me, neither did she like doing it herself. Even today I can recall the picture of her chiding me, her eyes red with anger, and pearl drops streaming down her cheeks, as she descended the ladder pot in hand. But I was a cruelly kind husband. I regarded myself as "her teacher, and so harassed her out of my blind love for her."

"I was far from being satisfied by her merely carrying the pot," Gandhiji adds. "I would have her do it cheerfully. So I said raising my voice: I will not stand this nonsense in my house." The words pierced her like an arrow. She shouted back: "Keep your house to yourself and let me go." I forgot myself, and caught her by the hand, dragged the helpless woman to the gate which was just opposite the ladder, and proceeded to open it with the intention of pushing her out. The tears were running down her cheeks in torrents, and she cried: "Have you no sense of shame? Must you so far forget yourself? Where am I to go? I have no parents or relatives here to harbour me. Being your wife, you think, I must put up with your cuffs and kicks? For Heaven's sake behave yourself, and shut the gate. Let us not be found making scenes like this!"

Revealing episodes of this kind filled their life. A man who subjects every thought, word and deed of his to the most rigorous examination in the light of the teachings of religion, must pass through many such tests. Space prohibits a longer narrative.

Nation Building

Srimati Kasturbai completely identified herself with every phase of her husband's nation-building work. During the days of the first Civil Disobedience movement she courted imprisonment. During his many fasts, which everybody feared would endanger his life, Kasturbai stood by him with understanding sympathy and utter confidence that God will safeguard the precious life.

MR. CHURCHILL ON THE WAR.

(Continued from page 1)

Britain's Contribution

"It is far from my wish to make any boastful statement about the part which this island is playing in the war. It has, however, been borne upon me that the interests of our alliance as a whole may be prejudiced if its other members are left in ignorance of the British share in the great events which are unfolding. I think it is, therefore, my duty to state a few facts which are perhaps not generally realised. For instance, since January 1st, 1943, up to the present time—the middle of February—ships of the Royal Navy and aircraft of the Royal Air Force—that is to say the forces of the Mother Country only—have sunk more than half the U-boats of which we have certain proof in the shape of living prisoners. They have also destroyed 40 per cent of the very large number of other U-boats of which either corpses or fragments provide definite evidence of destruction. Again, on the naval side apart from enemy U-boats, we have sunk by British action alone since January 1st, 1943, 19 enemy warships and also a large number of E-boats, escort vessels, mine sweepers and other auxiliaries. British action has been predominantly responsible for the sinking during this period of 316 merchant ships aggregating 835,000 tons. In that same period, 7,677 officers and men of the Royal Navy and about 4,200 Merchant Navy officers and men have lost their lives in British ships. This last however, does not at all represent the total war sacrifice to date of our merchant seamen because matters have improved very much lately. Since the beginning of the war, the proportion of merchant seamen sailing from these islands alone who have been lost at sea on their vital duty has been about one fifth the average number engaged in this service. The total personnel of officers and men of the Royal Navy lost since the war started is just over 30 per cent. of its pre-war strength, the figures being 41,000, which was its total strength on the outbreak of the war. Since January 1st 1943, ships of the Royal Navy have bombarded the enemy coast on 716 occasions. In the same period, we have lost in action or had disabled for more than one year—serious disablements—95 ships of war.

"Turning to the air, the honour of bombing Berlin has fallen almost entirely to us. Up to the present we have delivered the main attack upon Germany. Excluding Dominion and Allied squadrons working with the Royal Air Force, the British islands have lost 38,300 pilots and air crews killed and 10,400 missing and over 10,000 aircraft since the beginning of the war. They have made nearly 900,000 sorties in the North European theatre.

Prodigious Attacks

"The Anglo-American air attack on Germany must be regarded as our chief offensive effort at the present time. Until the middle of 1943, we had by far the largest force in action. As the result of enormous transportation across the Atlantic which have been made during 1943, the United States Bomber Force in this island now begins to surpass our own and will soon be substantially greater still, I rejoice to say. The spring and the summer will see a vast increase in the force of the attack directed upon all military objectives in Germany and German-occupied countries. Long-range bombing from Italy will also penetrate the southern part of Germany.

"Hitler has great need to exaggerate his counter-attacks in order to placate his formerly-deluded population.

New German Schemes

"Besides these air attacks, there is no doubt that the Germans are preparing on French shores new means of attack on this country, either by pilotless aircraft or possibly rockets or both, on a considerable scale.

"Already we have seen the German air programme concentrate mainly on fighters, thus indicating how much they have been thrown on to the defensive in the air.

"Our other great joint Anglo-American offensive is in Italy. Many people have been disappointed with the progress there since the capture of Naples in October. This has been due to the extremely bad weather which marks the winter in a supposedly-sunshine land and which this year has been worse than usual. Secondly, and far more, it is because the Germans, bit by bit, have been drawn into Italy and have decided to make extreme exertions for the retention of the City of Rome. In October, they began to move a number of divisions southwards from the valley of the Po and to construct a winter-line south of Rome in order to confront and delay the advance of the Fifth and the Eighth Armies and their General Alexander. We were, therefore, committed to a frontal advance in extremely mountainous country which gave every advantage to the defence.

Terrific Fighting

"Hitler has apparently resolved to defend Rome with the same obstinacy which he showed at Stalingrad, in Tunisia and recently in the Dnieper Bend. No fewer than seven extra German divisions were brought rapidly down from France, from Northern Italy and from Yugoslavia and a determined attempt has been made to destroy the bridgehead and to drive us into the sea. Battles of prolonged and intense ferocity and fury have been met. At the same time, the American and British Fifth Army to the southward is pressing forward with all its strength and another battle is raging there. On both fronts, there have been in the last week most severe and continuous engagements.

"General Alexander says that the bitterness and the fierceness of the fighting now going on, both in the bridgehead and on the Cassino front, surpasses all his previous experience. He even uses in one message to me the word 'terrible'. On the southern—Cassino—front, British, American, Dominion, Indian, French and Polish troops are fighting side by side in noble comradeship. Their leaders are confident of final success.

When Invasion Comes

"Mr. Churchill proceeded: "As certain statements have been made in America—unofficial statements—about the relative strength of the armies to be employed from here I think it necessary to state that the British and American armies at the outset of the struggle will be approximately equal, but that if its duration is prolonged the continuous inflow of American reinforcements will give them that superiority in numbers which would be expected from the great resources and manpower which they possess and which they desire above all things to bring as speedily as possible into contact with the enemy. Therefore, it is right that the Supreme Command should go to the United States (Cheers)

Poland's Future

"I took occasion to raise personally with Marshal Stalin the question of the future of Poland. I pointed out that Great Britain declared war on Nazi Germany for Poland and had never weakened in our resolve on during the period when we were all alone and that the fate of the Polish nation holds a prime place in the thoughts and the policies of His Majesty's Government and the British Parliament. It was with great pleasure I heard from Marshal Stalin that he too was resolved upon the creation and maintenance of a strong, integral, independent Poland as one of the

BRITISH ELECTORATE VOTES FOR INDIAN FREEDOM

LONDON ESTIMATES OF VICEROY'S SPEECH

INDIA—BRITAIN'S POST WAR TRUMP CARD

SECRET OF GOVT. OPPOSITION TO INDEPENDENCE

London, Feb. 19.

The popularity of the cause of Indian freedom has been reflected in the West Derbyshire bye-election which was hotly contested and won by Mr. Charles White (Independent Socialist) against the Government candidate Lord Hartington. Mr. White fought the bye-election on the important plank of recognition of Indian independence and release of Mr. Gandhi. It has caused country-wide sensation.

The Conservative candidate was defeated by a margin of 4,561 votes. Political circles here feel that in spite of the official attitude on India, the average voter is interested in Indian freedom and the Derbyshire people have given a clear verdict on the Indian issue.

Interviewed Mr. White said "The British electorate is greatly sympathetic towards India."

London, Feb. 19.

Lord Wavell's speech before the Central Legislature has been received with a feeling of disappointment and in a section of the Press it has even been ignored.

Commenting on the speech, Revd. Reginald Sorensen, M. P. said, "After some months of hopeful expectancy it is disappointing to find that the mountain only yielded a rather bewildered mouse. It would have been far better for Lord Wavell to have direct contact with

leading Powers in Europe. He has several times repeated these declarations in public and I am convinced that they represent the settled policy of the Soviet Union. Here I may remind the House that we ourselves have never in the past guaranteed on behalf of the Government any particular frontier line to Poland. We did not approve of the Polish occupation of Vilna in 1920. The British view in 1919 stands expressed in the so-called Curzon Line which dealt at any rate impartially with the problem. I have always held the opinion that all questions of territorial settlement and readjustment should stand over until the end of the war and that the victorious Powers should then arrive at a formal and final agreement governing the articulations of Europe as a whole. That is still the wish of His Majesty's Government. However, the advance of the Russian armies into the Polish regions in which the Polish underground army is active makes it indispensable that some kind of friendly working agreement should be arrived at to govern war-time conditions and to enable all anti-Hitlerite forces to work together with the greatest advantage against the common foe. I have intense sympathy for the Poles—that heroic race whose national spirit centuries of misfortune cannot quench. But I also have sympathy for the Russian stand. It is twice in her life time Russia has been violently assaulted by Germany. Many millions of Russians have been slain and vast tracts of Russian soil devastated as the result of repeated German aggression. Russia has the right of re-assurance against a future attack from the west and we are going all the way with her to see that she gets it not only by the might of her arms, but by the approval and the assent of the United Nations.

the leaders instead of trying to avoid British responsibility by justifying their continued detention. It is apparent risks will have to be taken. Otherwise the barrier will remain rigid."

Mr. William Galloway, Communist M. P. said, "I say, for heaven's sake, liberate the Congress leaders first and then talk of co-operation afterwards. Once the leaders are freed a basis of understanding will have been laid."

Sir Richard Acland, leader of the Commonwealth Party, said, "Lord Wavell has done his best to produce a rabbit out of a hat. His first task is to establish goodwill by releasing the leaders."

IMPORTANCE OF INDIA TO THE COMMONWEALTH

Ottawa, Feb. 18.

In connection with Lord Wavell's statement, it is pointed out here that Canada had made manifest her confidence in India's future and the coming constitutional developments by appointing a High Commissioner for India. While officials declined to comment on the statement, External Affairs functionaries frankly advanced the view that the strength of India's man-power, production and reserves might prove Britain's trump card in post-war rivalries. They foresaw the prospect of Britain's status as one of the "big three" resting ultimately on India's importance as a Commonwealth nation. They expressed the belief that India's constitutional development to full nationhood with the minimum possible delay is a matter that concerns not only Indians but equally all the nations of the British Commonwealth.

Choice Before Lord Wavell

London, Feb. 18.

The Economist commenting on Lord Wavell's speech, criticises it as a repetition of older speeches of lesser men. The only hint of fresh policy was his straightforward appeal to Congress members to accompany their demand for the release of their leaders from detention with some practical proposals for Indian agreement.

The period oil describes the occasion as of no little importance which might well have been dramatic.

Lord Wavell and behind him the British Government say that some assurance of co-operation must precede the release. The Indian reply is that to ask for this is in effect to ask Mr. Gandhi and his colleagues to convict themselves out of their own mouths; that, released, they would do of their own accord if only for political reasons, what they would not do under compulsion.

The journal adds, "It is now upto Parliament and British public opinion to decide whether it is better to take the risk of release in the hope that the new mood of Indians would at once press their leaders to go forward in order to keep their lead, or to play a waiting game". The article ends by saying, "So long as Wavell, a soldier, has the choice he probably has no alternative—and so his chance of political greatness abbs". —Hindu.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Mr. A. Indiraupalam, Town Overseer, Jaffna, begs to thank all friends who sent messages of condolence in his bereavement. (Mis. 229)

ZENITH OPTICAL Co.,

11 MAIN STREET, JAFFNA
FOR EVERYTHING
OPTICAL

Mis. 199.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 214.

In the matter of the estate of the late Rasammah wife of Casippilai Arulambalam of Chiviateru, Jaffna Deceased.
Ramaswamy Subramaniam of First Cross Street, Jaffna Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Arulambalam Visuwanathan of Chiviateru, Jaffna, presently of Kandy
 2. Vallambigai daughter of Arulambalam
 3. Kamalambigai daughter of Arulambalam both of Chiviateru, Jaffna
 4. Rasammah wife of Ramaswamy Subramaniam of First Cross Street, Jaffna
 5. Sampanther Sabaratnam of Chiviateru, Jaffna

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esquire District Judge, Jaffna, on the 28th day of January 1944 in the presence of Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Proctor for the petitioner and an affidavit of the petitioner dated the 26th day of January 1944 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Respondents and that Letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioner accordingly unless the Respondents abovenamed or any person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on or before the 28th day of February 1944 and show sufficient cause if any to the satisfaction of the court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the minors over 12 years be produced before this Court on the 28th day of February 1944 at 10 a.m.

(Sgd) James Joseph,
District Judge.

This 28th day of January 1944.
(O. 80)

HINDU WOMEN'S SOCIETY**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 15th annual general meeting of the Hindu Women's Society, Colombo, was held at the Society's Hall in Colonel's Avenue with Mrs. K. Sathasivam, President, in the chair.

The minutes of the last annual meeting having been read and confirmed the Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Balance sheet were read and adopted.

The income for the year under review was Rs. 5034.39 and the expenditure was Rs. 2338.96. The school income was Rs. 7269.81 and an expenditure of Rs. 7269.81.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:

President:—Mrs. K. Sathasivam;
Vice-President: Mrs. M. Thambiah
Mrs. A. Sellamuttu, Mrs. K. Kanagaratnam, Mrs. K. Namasivayagam, Mrs. Dorasamy and Mrs. Velupillai; Secretary: Mrs. T. Nallainathan; Treasurer: Mrs. A. Sabaratnam.

Committee: Mrs. Ratnakaram, Mrs. Rosel, Mrs. Carthigesan, Mrs. Ponniah, Mrs. Nagaretnam, Mrs. Balendra, Mrs. Thamotheerampillai and Mrs. K. Kanagasabai.

ORDER 'NISI' DECLARING WILL PROVED, &C.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 191
Nagamamma widow of Kandiah Sivasampoo of Karainagar West Petitioner

- Vs.
1. Parameswari
 2. Thirunivukkarasu
 3. Kanagamma all children of Kandiah Sivasampoo all of Karainagar west and
 4. Kandiah Thiruvatar of do

Respondents.
In the matter of the Last will and testament of the late Kandiah Sivasampoo deceased of Karainagar west

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 23rd day of November 1943 in the presence of Mr. A. Kanagasabai, Proctor, on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the above-mentioned petitioner and of the witnesses to the last will filed of record in this case having been read.

It is ordered that the Will of the abovenamed deceased dated 7th May 1943 and numbered 8535 be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the respondents or any person or persons shall, on or before the 20th day of December 1943 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the said 4th respondent, be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors 1-3 respondents and that the said Nagamma widow of Sivasampoo the petitioner, is the executor named in the said Will and that she is entitled to have Probate of the same issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 20th day of December 1943 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

14-2-44 Sd. James Joseph
District Judge.

This 1st day of December 1943

Time to show cause extended to 20-3-44

Sgd. James Joseph
O. 78. 21 24]

NOTICE.**Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.**

Arrangements have been made to distribute the currysuffs mentioned below at the rates specified against each commodity to each consumer not attached to a retail co-operative store from Monday, the 28th instant to 5th March 1944 (both days inclusive).

1. Peas at one oz per head.
2. Cummin seed at $\frac{1}{2}$ oz per head
3. Mustard at $\frac{1}{2}$ oz per head.

2. Consumers are advised to draw their ration of the above articles along with their ration of other commodities.

E. B. Tisoverasingha,
Asst. Govt. Agent [E]
Jaffna.

for Deputy Food Controller,
N. P. Jaffna.

Jaffna, 23-2-44,
G. 53.

MATRIMONIAL**SANGARAPPILLAI—CATHIRAVELU**

The marriage of Dr. V. Sangarapillai, D. M. O., Murunkan, with Miss. Thangarane Shanmugasundari, daughter of Dr. & Mrs. K. Cathiravelu was solemnized according to Hindu rites at the residence of the bride, "Sri Rama Manthiram", Manipay, on Monday the 31st ultimo. A largely attended Reception was held in the afternoon by Dr. & Mrs. Cathiravelu at which Sir Waitilngam Duraiswamy, Mr. S. Natesan, M. S. C., and Mr. Clough Balasingam offered their felicitations to the new couple. The premises were profusely illuminated and the guests were lavishly served with refreshments.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 184
In the matter of the Last will and Testament of the late Sinnathamby Kandiah of Kokkuvil in Jaffna Deceased.
Sivacamipillai widow of Sinnathamby Kandiah of Kokkuvil in Jaffna

- Petitioner,
Vs.
1. Kandiah Ganeshapillai of Kokkuvil in Jaffna
 2. Ganagasundary daughter of Kandiah of Do
 3. Kandiah Sanmugaratnam of Do
 4. Kandiah Sanmugaratnam of Do and
 5. Sabapathy Vinayagamorthy of Kondavil in Jaffna

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph Esquire, District Judge, of Jaffna on the 2nd day of November 1943 in the presence of Mr. V. Vinayagam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner and the witnesses to the Last Will and testament having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 5th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st to 4th Respondents unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 1st day of December 1943 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court.

It is further ordered that the Will of this abovenamed deceased dated the 9th day of August 1932 and attested by P. U. Somasundaram, Notary Public under No. 6922 be and the same is hereby declared proved: Unless the Respondents or any other persons shall appear before this Court on the 13th day of December 1943 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the Petitioner as executor named in the said Will and that she is entitled to have Probate of the same issued to her accordingly.

It is further ordered that the 5th Respondent should appear and produce the minors over the age of 17 before this Court on the 13th day of December 1943.

Sgd. James Joseph,
District Judge.

13-12-43 Extended for 4-1-44,

Id. J. J.

D. J.

Extended for 28-2-44

Id. J. J.

D. J.

This 2nd day of November 1943,
(O. 82)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testy Case No. 175.

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Thangamma, wife of Murugesu Chelladurai of Karaidivu west, Deceased.
Murugesu Chelladurai of Karaidivu west

- Petitioner
Vs.
- (1) Kanisapakkiam, daughter of Chelladurai,
 - (2) Chelladurai Kamru,
 - (3) Chelladurai Paramsothy, and
 - (4) Velauther Sabapathipillai of Karaidivu west

Respondents
This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that the abovenamed 4th respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minors, 1st, 2nd and 3rd respondents, and that the last will and testament of the abovenamed deceased dated June 18, 1942, attested by S. Maheswaram, Notary Public, under No. 5,946 be proved and that probate be issued to the petitioner as the executor and sole heir coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esq., District Judge, Jaffna, on September 21, 1943, in the presence of Mr. F. Arumugam, Proctor; and that the affidavits of the petitioner and that of the notary and witnesses having been read:

It is ordered that the 4th respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minors, 1st, 2nd and 3rd respondents, and that the last will and testament of the deceased be proved and that probate be issued to the petitioner as the executor named in the said will, unless the respondents shall, on or before November 19, 1943, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

James Joseph,
District Judge.

This Order Nisi is extended till 28th February 1944.

O. 83. 28.

ORDER 'NISI' DECLARING WILL PROVED, &C.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 212
Velauthar Nallathamby of Karainagar West Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Lzelavathy daughter of V. Arumugam and
 2. Annamuttu widow of Velauthar Arumugam of Karainagar West

Respondents.
In the matter of the Estate of the late Velauther Arumugam deceased, of Karainagar West.

This matter coming on for disposal before James Joseph, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 26th day of January 1944 in the presence of Mr. A. Kanagasabai, Proctor on the part of the petitioner, and the affidavit of the abovenamed petitioner dated 21st January 1944 having been read.

It is further declared that the said 2nd respondent, be appointed guardian ad litem over the minor 1st respondent and that the said Petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 3rd day of March 1944 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

Sgd. James Joseph,
District Judge.

This 26th day of January 1944.
(O. 79)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF BADULLA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. B. 1087.

In the matter of the intestate estate of V. Kandiah of Hopton Deceased.

Between
Sivacelundu (widow of V. Kandiah aforesaid) of Annavasal Atchuvvely, Jaffna, Petitioner.

- And
1. K. Jayaseelan, of Railway Station, Maradana, Colombo
 2. K. Manayakarasi, a minor act' about 19 years of Atchuvvely
 3. K. Arulanatham do 18 do University Colombo
 4. K. Thiruvavukarasu do 16 Jaffna College Jaffna
 5. U. Ulaganathan do 14 Atchuvvely school Jaffna
 6. K. Manojitham do 12 do do
 7. K. K. Sandiraprakasam 11 do do do
 8. K. Sathanathan do 8 do do do
 9. K. Athirupawathi do 7 do do do

This matter coming on for disposal before Herbert S. Roberts, Esquire, District Judge of Badulla, on the 8th day of February, 1944, in the presence of Messrs. Nadarajah & Nambihai, Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and her affidavit dated the 6th day of February, 1944, having been read:

It is ordered (a) that the 1st Respondent abovenamed be and is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd to 9th minor Respondents abovenamed for all the purposes of representing them in the testamentary proceedings, and (b) that Letters of Administration in respect of this estate be issued to petitioner as an heir and lawful widow of the said deceased, unless the Respondents abovenamed or any person or persons interested therein shall on or before the 3rd day of March, 1944, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. Herbert S. Roberts,
District Judge,
Badulla.

The 8th day of February, 1944.
(O. 81)