

THE Hindu Organ.

Editor:
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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Revised Register of Voters

Revised registers of voters relating to the Kayts, Kankasanturai, Jaffna and Point Pedro Electoral Districts have been certified and are open for inspection during office hours at the Jaffna Kachehri.

Death of Sir Nevile Henderson

The death occurred in London last Wednesday of Sir Nevile Henderson, who was British Ambassador in Berlin at the outbreak of the war. He had been ill for some time.

Hindu Mahasabha Deputation To U.S. and Mexico

Mr. B. G. Khaparde, M.L.A., ex-Minister, Central Provinces and Berar and Vice-President of the All India Hindu Mahasabha who had appealed for a passport for the United States and Mexico in connection with the proposed Hindu Mahasabha deputation to those countries has been informed by the Provincial Government that passport facilities for those countries cannot be granted to him.

Reception to Sir Baron

Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Ceylon's Special Representative in India, was entertained to an evening party—the first public function in his honour after his assumption of office at New Delhi by Mr. K. Vaithianathan, Commissioner of Ceylon Government Supplies, and Mrs. Vaithianathan. The guests included Government of India officials and several members of the Legislature.

Northern Man now an Enemy

A man named N. Seevaratnam, of the Northern Province, presently in the F. M. S. is declared in last Friday's Gazette to be an enemy within the meaning of the Defence (Trading with the Enemy) Amendment Regulations. Two lands totalling an extent of 13½ lachams with a house at Kadami Karni (N. P.), belonging to Seevaratnam, are now vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property.

Defeating Japan A Tough Proposition

"I believe we cannot defeat Japan until Germany is first finished off and we can concentrate our forces in the Pacific," said Vice-Admiral Helfrich after a visit to the Under-Secretary for State, Mr. Sumner Welles. "I think we shall have to lick the Japanese man by man. It is not going to be an easy task, but once we can concentrate our forces, we can do it. We may have to reconquer the Japanese possessions in the Pacific island by island, although we may be able to weaken Japan through bombing and attacks on her shipping," the Admiral said, adding that Mr. Sumner Welles agreed with him that defeating Japan would be a tough job.

WHY INDIA SHOULD BE FREE

A CHINESE LEADER'S APPEAL TO BRITAIN

BY TAN-YUN SHAN

THE present political deadlock and chaotic situation in India cannot in any case be any more prolonged and should not be allowed to last longer. It will do good to nobody but help the common enemy. It will serve neither the purpose of Great Britain nor the purpose of India but will be a tempting invitation to the aggressive and avaricious Japanese militarists. It is just like the kingfisher and the clam in a Chinese story: "When a clam exposed itself to the sun, a kingfisher stuck its beak into it. The clam immediately closed its shell and caught the beak of the kingfisher. The kingfisher said to the clam: 'Today it will not rain, tomorrow it will not rain, then you must die.' The clam retorted: 'Today you will not get out, tomorrow you will not get out, then die will the kingfisher.' Then came a fisherman who caught both the kingfisher and the clam. Therefore both of them became the victims of the fisherman." Now the Japanese fisherman is watching at the gate of India with vigilant eyes and a malicious mind. He will surely avail himself of every opportunity to catch both the clam and the kingfisher. If it happens it will be most unfortunate and tragic, not for India alone but for the United Nations and human decency.

Declare India Free

Now let me appeal to our great ally, the British Authorities:

For everybody's sake and for many reasons, Britain must first declare India independent and free immediately, then form an Indian National Government as soon as possible. This is the aspiration not only of the Indian people but also of the peoples of the United Nations. Even the British people, most of them I daresay, have the same desire too. Perhaps only our common enemies would not like you to do so; because if you declare India independent and free, their propaganda will be useless and they will lose their hope of getting the Indians on to their side. Otherwise, Hitler may cry loudly again and again: "If Mr. Churchill can set India free, I will kneel down before him;" the Japs may daily broadcast to the Indian people: "The British would not give you freedom and we shall come to relief you." I, therefore, most humbly and earnestly pray to far-sighted British statesmen, to declare India free and independent immediately. Let Hitler kneel down before Mr. Churchill, let the Japs shut their

evil mouths and may their day-dreams evaporate.

Change for the Better

When you declare India independent and free, the name of India and the present war will be immediately rectified, and the present deplorable situation of India as well as of the war, will be entirely changed for the better. Then you can very easily form an Indian National Government at your earliest convenience. To declare India independent and free needs not much time. It takes only a few minutes to complete the task. But it takes a little more time to form an Indian National Government. Still I hope you will accomplish this work as soon as possible. For, the Indian National Government will help and join us to carry on the war against the Axis. The sooner this Indian National Government be formed the better will it be for us all. By declaring India independent and free you will lose nothing; by forming an Indian National Government, you will get everything not only for yourselves but also for the United Nations.

Most Favourable Time

You may say that you have promised India freedom and independence already, but this is not the time to declare it; and that you are ready to grant India self-government but until the Indians themselves settle their internal quarrels you cannot form it. If we only think of one side and look at it from one standpoint, it is quite right to say so. But if we also think of the other side and look from another standpoint, we shall have quite a different view. I am fond of quoting proverbs. Another Chinese proverb says: "The onlooker is always more clear than the man who is inside the affair." As an onlooker and outsider as well as a well-wisher, I think this is the best and most favourable time to declare India independent and free. For, the desire and demand for India's freedom and independence has never been so eager, so great and so urgent. You should not miss this golden opportunity. If you declare India independent and free just now you will not only gain the hearts of the 400 million Indian people, but also obtain the praise, enthusiasm, appreciation and admiration of all the United Nations. You will not only win the war but will write the most glorious page in the history of mankind. When you declare India independent

OWNERS MUST CULTIVATE

PADDY GROWING TO BE COMPULSORY

It is understood that the Defence Regulations, which will shortly be brought into operation for the purpose of forcing landowners to cultivate their lands, will also render more effective the Government's scheme for the purchase of paddy.

The Minister of Agriculture and Lands recently announced the introduction of Emergency legislation to compel food production.

It is learned that the new regulations will, in the first instance, compel proprietors of paddy lands to cultivate such lands during all seasons.

Government Cultivation

When the owner of a paddy land does not intend to cultivate such land, he will be required to give notice to the Government within a prescribed period.

Such land will then be taken over by Government and cultivated.

The new regulations, it is learned, will provide that the Government shall not be liable to pay any rent in respect of any such land taken over by it for the purposes of cultivation or to pay to the owners of land any part of the profits of the cultivation.

Regulations are also being framed in order to make more effective the Government's scheme for the purchase of supplies of paddy.

Must Give Date of Reaping

According to the provisions under the new regulations, owners of paddy land will be required in future to inform revenue officers of the date on which they propose to reap their harvests.

Revenue officers will have power to enter premises for the purpose of assessing the quantity of paddy that could be produced.

Under the existing regulations, producers of paddy are entitled to keep a stipulated quantity of paddy for their use and are required to sell the remainder to the Government.

It is stated that many producers of paddy continue to evade this provision.

dent and free, the Indians will naturally settle their internal quarrels and come together to form a National Government. Although there are discords and controversies now among the different sections and parties in India, the desire and demand for India's freedom and independence are the same everywhere. Even if the Indians cannot settle their internal quarrels and form a National Government after your Declaration, the blame and fault will be theirs, not yours. Then you have

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NOTICE

Attendance Registers printed at this press are now available for sale at the Hindu Organ Office and in all the important bookstalls in Jaffna.

MANAGER.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1943.

1942

THE YEAR THAT HAS JUST come to an end is notable for more than one reason. Ceylon has gone through an experience new to her people since the advent of British rule. Formerly, wars were regarded by us as distant events that affected us little. During the last war the island knew nothing of the realities of war. There were minor inconveniences. The "Emden" was on the prowl and Madras had been shelled. But, that was all. Today, however, there is a radical change. Ceylon is decidedly in the front-line of the struggle. She has become one of the vital bases from which this struggle will be carried on against the common enemy. This was shown and emphasized by the air raids on Colombo and Trincomalee. The danger of attack has not ceased.

If the year 1942 saw the conquest of Burma and Malaya by the enemy, it also witnessed a resurgence of British and Allied strength. The defences of Ceylon and India have been greatly strengthened and as was evident from the losses inflicted on the enemy raiders, these defences have proved themselves quite capable of ensuring the safety of these countries. What is more important, our forces are no longer on the defensive. It is the enemy now who has to look to his defence. The bombardment of Sabang and the attack on Western Burma are evidence not only of the offensive spirit that animates the armies but also of the certainty of liberation for the peoples of the occupied countries. At the beginning of the year the future looked dark indeed. Towards the end of that year, however, signs have not been wanting to show that the Japanese are not going to be allowed to have their own way in Asia.

Only in one respect it has been an year of disappointment and sorrow. We refer to the unhappy conflict that has arisen between the Indian National Congress and the Government of India. The definite improvement in the war situation has been the signal for the marshalling of the forces of reaction in England. This is a bad sign but we see in the association of the American people in this, the promise of a better future.

NOTES & COMMENTS

The "Ceylon Daily News"

WE congratulate the "Ceylon Daily News" on its twenty-fifth anniversary. Two daily newspapers of Ceylon have gone off the stage and the "Daily News" alone remains to carry on the tradition of Ceylonese journalism. In a special supplement issued to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Ceylon Daily News," Mr. D. R. Wijewardene tells the story of his paper. It is a story that should be read by every Ceylonese. The founder of the "Daily News" had two objects in view: to have a daily newspaper approximating more closely to the standards of British journalism and to support and guide the national movement in Ceylon on the proper lines. Considering the difficulties peculiar to our country, the success of the "Daily News" is a great tribute to the genius of its founder. The paper has, on the whole, lived up to the best traditions of journalism, and it has exercised an abiding influence on progressive thought throughout the island. We wish our contemporary a happy centenary when future generations will be in a position to assess the real worth of the paper's achievements during the last twenty-five years.

A Great Ceylonese Writer

NO account of the "Daily News" would be complete without the mention of the name of the late Mr. J. T. Blaze. In the early days of the paper, Mr. Blaze used to write some of its editorials. There was a stateliness about his style and an elegant simplicity that marked him out as one of the greatest writers Ceylon has produced. No one who read his editorials could imagine the ease with which he dashed them off on the spur of the moment while in the office compositors were clamouring for "copy". But, then, the "Daily News" was very fortunate in the literary circle it built up during those days. There were Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam and Mr. E. W. Perera who were active on the political side, and Mr. J. R. Weinman with his reminiscences that might at any moment stray into the forbidden fields of libel and contempt of court. There was also the late Mr. H. A. P. Sandrasegara whose sarcasm and humour had to be kept under control. It was a brilliant circle and it is no wonder that the "Daily News" succeeded where others failed. But, the credit for the paper and its achievements is really due to its founder, Mr. D. R. Wijewardene, who is undoubtedly

the greatest Ceylonese publicist of modern times.

A Tamil Knight

IN the list of New Year Honours we find the name of Dr. R. Saravanamuttu, the Mayor of Colombo, who receives a Knighthood. The new Tamil Knight has had a distinguished political career. Sir R. Saravanamuttu belongs to a well-known Jaffna Tamil family in the North. He is greatly loved by those who know him well and has been a prominent figure in the public and social life of Colombo. We congratulate the new Knight on the honour His Majesty has conferred on him.

Compulsory Cultivation

MR. D. S. Senanayake has not made a secret of his intention to make the cultivation of food crops compulsory. Compulsion can hardly be avoided at the present juncture. The safety of the community demands that every inch of available land should produce its quota of food. It is understood that new Defence regulations will soon come into force compelling every owner of paddy lands to cultivate his lands. When the owner does not intend to cultivate his lands, he will be required by the regulations to give notice of his intention to the proper authority within a prescribed period. The Government will then take over the uncultivated land and have it cultivated. So far there can be little objection to the measure proposed. But the public are entitled to know whether satisfactory arrangements have been made for the cultivation of such lands once they are taken over by the Government. It is here that the whole scheme may fail unless the Minister of Lands and Agriculture has got the machinery ready to have it cultivated. Assuming that there are enough funds to enable the Minister to go on with his scheme, has he got the necessary labour and equipment? Of all these things, labour is the most important. We know for a certainty that there is a shortage of labour in Ceylon, particularly in the backward areas. It would be interesting to know how the Minister proposes to meet this difficulty. He is one of those who have protested against the alleged encroachments of Indian labour. The present position is utterly ridiculous, if not tragic. Will the Ministers have the courage to tell the Indian Government what their real difficulties are and make it possible for that Government to lift the present ban on the emigration of Indian labourers to Ceylon?

The Watch on the Farmer

ONE of the new regulations will, we understand, require the owners of paddy land to inform revenue officers of the date on which they propose to reap their harvests. Evidently, these offi-

cers have found the assessment of a paddy crop difficult, and we agree that the best way to ascertain the quantity of a particular crop is to have it threshed under the eye of the Revenue Officer. But, has the Government enough officers to go round when threshing time comes? There are practical difficulties that have got to be faced. We sympathise with the Government in its efforts to prevent the hoarding of paddy, but if these efforts are to be successful, it is necessary that the methods adopted should be practical. It is impossible to have an eye-witness for the Crown at every threshing, for the simple reason that the farmer does his threshing whenever the weather is clear and fine. There is no other way of threshing paddy, unless the Government has some other method up its sleeves. What is wrong with the present method of assessing a crop and notifying the landowner of the assessment, giving him an opportunity of showing cause to the contrary? This might, no doubt, strike the uninformed as a highly arbitrary method of assessing a paddy crop, but it is the only practicable method. It is the method adopted by every farmer who wishes to value a standing crop. There is no reason why the Government should not continue to adopt it. We have a further suggestion to make. Why not confine the test of personal inspection by a revenue officer to cases in which objection is taken by the farmer to the assessment? It should be quite possible to complete the assessment before harvesting is done.

Scaring the Farmer

WE are offering these suggestions because we believe it is to everybody's interest that the farmer should not be scared away from his occupation. The Ministers have not been very diplomatic in their dealings with the traders. Let them not make the same mistake with the farmers. As we have often remarked in these columns, even farmers have to put up with a good many harassing restrictions in times of emergency like these, but the line must be drawn somewhere between measures that would serve their purpose and those that would defeat them.

Who Is To Blame?

THE fact that some farmers still continue to evade their obligations under the Defence regulations is no argument in favour of adopting futile measures. It is, on the other hand, an argument in favour of tightening up the existing machinery for the assessment of paddy crops and securing respect for the law. At present the Government has sufficient power to stop hoarding. Let that power be exercised justly and honestly. There will then be no need for heroic measures.

NO ELECTION DURING WAR COUNCIL'S TERM EXTENDED

Further extension of the life of the State Council is provided for in an Order-in-Council sent by the Secretary of State confirming his earlier intimation that he was not in favour of a general election during the war.

The new Order-in-Council, which is cited as the Ceylon (State Council Extension of Duration) Order-in-Council further extends the period by two years, by substituting the words "nine years" for "five years" and revoking the Amending Order-in-Council 1940 "without prejudice to anything lawfully done by virtue thereof".

"The Whip" writes in the "Times of Ceylon":

Meanwhile there is every prospect of a change in the Constitution. We may with some degree of confidence expect a change over from the present system of Executive Committees to the Cabinet form of Government.

The point on which opinion is likely to be agitated is around the representative character of the Cabinet.

One school of thought wishes to introduce a thinly veiled form of communal representation. But this has not received general approval. It is felt that the Premier should not be tied down to any hard and fast rule.

It is, however, expected that both the Governor and the Premier would exercise their discretion in such a manner as to give no room for dissatisfaction with their choice of Cabinet Ministers from all sections of the House.

This does not necessarily mean that the Cabinet must consist of representatives of all communities, regardless of their fitness to hold office.

KNIGHTHOOD FOR MAYOR OF COLOMBO NEW YEAR HONOURS

The Mayor of Colombo, Dr. Ratnajoti Saravanamuttu has received a Knighthood in the New Year Honours. Eight others have received Imperial Honours.

An official communique issued states that His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the following appointments:—

To be a Knight Bachelor: Ratnajoti Saravanamuttu, M. B. C. M., M. R. C. S. L. R. C. P.

To be a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George: Edward Trevor Dyson, B. A. C. C. S.

To be a Commander of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire: Thomas Arthur Owles, O. B. E., M. Inst. C. E.

To be an Officer of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire: Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Ian Sinclair Sutherland, M. C. E. D.

To be Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire: David Montague de Silva, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., D. T. M. H., D. R. H., and Tom Neville Wynne-Jones F. R. I. B. A., M. I. Struct. E.

To be a Member of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of British Empire: Major Frederick Grace Smith.

To be Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire: James William Warby and Mrs. Estelle Slater.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CO-OPERATIVE STORES

Sir,—Co-operative stores managed on right principles should prove the salvation of our people in this time of economic distress. I am glad to learn that another Co-operative store for Tellipallai has been opened. I hope I would not be deemed impertinent if I should venture to suggest that the greater good of the country needs stricter scrutiny of Co-operative endeavours. About 7 years ago a Co-operative store was opened at the Grand Bazaar, Jaffna, under the aegis of the Co-operative Department. In a few years, its affairs were wound up. I got 15 cents on a Rs. 10 share, on liquidation. If there had been proper supervision or stricter audit, the shareholders should have got a much higher percentage on the share, assuming failure was inevitable and beyond the control of the management.

Yours truly,
R. C. P.

MEAT STALLS

Sir,—Meat stalls were closed to day on account of prosecutions threatened by the Food Control Inspector.

The Council has fixed the price of meat at 60 cents with bones and at 70 cents without bones; this is not in accordance with the prices fixed for Northern Province by the Food and Price Control Department which is the old pre-war rate of 50 cents and 60 cents respectively.

The butchers say they would lose heavily by adhering to the pre-war rate and as a result they have closed the stalls.

I, with Messrs C. Ponnambalam and S. M. Aboobucker interviewed the Government Agent, N. P. to-day as Deputy Food and Price Controller who promised to do all in his power to represent the grievances of the Public to the Civil Defence Commissioner. I have to-day sent a memorandum to the Civil Defence Commissioner embodying all the grounds for the present deadlock in the meat trade and requested him to reconsider the decision about the rates for meat within U. C. area and a letter to the Government Agent for his recommendation in the light of the present circumstances.

I have also sent the following telegram to the Civil Defence Commissioner to-day and am awaiting a reply.

"By Resolution Council price of mutton within urban areas fixed at 60 cents a pound with bones 70 cents a pound without bones stop understand Price Control Inspector has taken steps for prosecution breach Price Control Regulations stop in consequence all mutton stalls closed to-day stop Council Resolution not strictly legal stop I request you as Authority fix price mutton within Jaffna Urban Area according aforesaid resolution Council stop Public suffering in consequence of mutton stalls being closed stop request immediate relief."

Yours faithfully,
K. AIYADURAI,
Chairman, U. C.

Jaffna,
December 31, 1942.

AN APPEAL TO THE HINDUS OF VADAMARADCHY

Sir,—Time was when Hindu children for English Education had to go to Christian schools. Today there is no paucity of Hindu Eng-

lish Schools in the North; but the Hindu parents do not seem to be in a mood to encourage such institutions.

In Vadamaradchy there are two Hindu Secondary Schools, one at Valvettithurai and the other at Karaveddi, and still Hindu boys without any special reason whatsoever flock to the third Secondary School in the area, Hartley College, a Christian School. Hartley College does not show any special merits either in examination results or in other matters so as to deserve this preferential treatment. More than ninety percent of the pupils of Hartley College are Hindus and, strange to say, there is not a single Hindu teacher in the approved staff of the school. The policy of this institution is not to appoint Hindus as teachers. When the only Hindu graduate teacher Mr. Mailvaganam expired a year ago they appointed a Christian, and that too the son of the Principal, to fill in the vacancy. What a pity it is that the Hindu parents continue to patronise such an institution when it is quite easy for them to send their children to one or the other of the two secondary schools in the area! I fear that several of the Hindu parents, being old boys of Hartley College, are victims of missionary influence and incapable of realising the magnitude of the harm that is caused to the Hindu community by their indifference or rather apathy.

The one argument put forward for retaining denominational schools is that education will be complete only if the children are brought up in the proper religious environment. Does not this sound principle apply to the Hindus? Now a normal Hindu gentleman of Vadamaradchy feels himself a true and devout Hindu when he has spent some money in performing some orthodox rites in a temple—a sad plight indeed.

It is time for us Hindus to open our eyes and to do something to extricate ourselves from the strong grip of the baneful Christian influence in the educational field to which we are ignorantly and passively submitting.

A HINDU PARENT.

PERIYA PURANA PADANAM

The Periya Purana Padanam that is being conducted under the auspices of the Saiva Paripalana Sabha at the office of the Sabai will be concluded with a special celebration commencing at 6 p.m. on Thursday, the 7th instant.

NEW UNDER-SECRETARIES

London, Jan. 2.

The Duke of Devonshire has been appointed Under Secretary for the Colonies and the Earl of Munster Under Secretary for India and Burma.

SRI SARADA DEVI DAY IN JAFFNA

The birthday of Sri Sarada Devi, consort of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, was celebrated under the auspices of the Ramakrishna Mission (Ceylon Branch) on Tuesday the 29th ultimo at the Vaideshwara Vidyalaya. Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, presided. Miss T. Maheswari, B.A., Mr. M. Balasundaram, Advocate, Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Chairman U. C. and Mr. K. K. Natarajan, Asst. Editor, "Inthasathanam" spoke at the public meeting. Mr. C. M. Perumalpillai, Prosecutor, proposed a vote of thanks.

WAR SAVINGS MOVEMENT

COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME READY

With a view to ensuring the more effective working of the Ceylon War Savings Movement, a comprehensive scheme has been drawn up by Mr. R. Y. Daniel, the Commissioner.

Savings Groups can be established by any body of persons from whom regular subscriptions can conveniently be collected. Outstanding examples are the employees of the Central Government and Local Government services, employees in shops, factories, offices and estates and members of the Ceylon Defence Force, Ceylon Naval Volunteer Force, Essential Services Labour Corps, Civil Defence Units, social organisations, clubs and schools.

A number of schemes for Savings Groups have been drawn up and include an Employer's Scheme, Savings Stamp Scheme (for school children) War Loan Scheme, five-months' cycle method, whole certificate scheme, and variable subscription scheme.

The following War Savings Committee has been appointed:—

Sir John Tarbat (Chairman) Messrs. E. G. Adamaly, J. P. Appleby, E. S. Captain, J. A. Clubb F. J. de Saram, Sir Wilfred de Soysa, Messrs. O. E. Goonetilleke H. J. Huxham, T. B. Jayah, E. W. Kannangara A. D. Learmond Sir Mohamed Maccan Markar, Messrs. A. Mahadeva, R. Mann, N. O. C. Marsh, the Mayor of Colombo, Messrs. H. E. Newnham, H. Watson Peiris, J. B. C. Rankine, L. P. Samson, G. Scroggie Dr. G. Wignaraja and Sir Gerard Wijekoon.

FOOD SHORTAGE IN BOMBAY

Bombay, Dec. 30.

It is understood that rice and other food grains will be rationed to consumers in the Bombay City and suburban District from March, 1943 onwards. In the meanwhile scarcity of food grains in the city is growing intense and long queues of men, women and children in front of Government grain shops have become a common sight.

The cost of certain qualities of rice not controlled by the Government has in recent weeks doubled. Wheat is not obtainable anywhere except in black markets where also, it is reported, stocks are fast drying up. The expected import into this province of about 30,000 tons of wheat and 50,000 tons of rice has not materialised in any appreciable degree.

The Standing Committee of the Food Advisory Council, Bombay, has been in session for the past two days and it is understood a tentative decision has been arrived at to ration rice from the month of March. In addition to rice, other cereals and other necessities will also be rationed. To start with kerosene oil will be rationed early from the new year. The task of issuing ration cards to the million and more families in the city, apart from the many thousands of floating population, will need careful preparation and much work.

It is understood that the Punjab Government are unable to promise more than 20,000 tons of rice and millets to the deficit provinces while between C. P. and Sind, they have promised to secure 15,000 tons of food grains.

WHY INDIA SHOULD BE FREE

Continued from page 1

done your duty and justice is on your side, your Government will remain there, and it will only increase your dignity and strengthen your hold on India.

No Need to Fear

There is no need of fearing that when India becomes independent and free and has her own National Government, she may make peace with the Japanese, or she may oppose the United Nations to carry on the war in India. It will be exactly the opposite. When India becomes independent and free, she will totally and wholeheartedly join the war with us. The Indians will neither make peace with the Japs nor oppose the war to be carried on in India. For the All-India National Congress and other parties have declared more than once that if they have their independence and freedom they will join the United Nations and fight the Axis at all cost. It was because they had not got their freedom and independence, they said, that they could not join the war. We may not believe in anybody else but we must believe in the sincerity, the honesty, the truthfulness and the sublime personality of Mahatma Gandhi. We may not trust other people but we must trust in the zeal, the eagerness, the great efforts and enthusiasm of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to fight against the Italian Fascists, the German Nazis and the Japanese Militarists. As a matter of fact, the Indians also cannot make peace with the Japanese or oppose the war even if they liked to do so. For the power is still in your hands and the United Nations troops are here. But if they cannot get their independence and freedom, they may be deadly disappointed and may despair. Great disappointment and despair may compel them to do anything and everything to harm not only the British Authorities but also the common cause of the United Nations.

Give It To Gain It

Again, you need also not fear that when India becomes independent and free you will lose your relationship with and your advantage, profit and benefit in this country. It will again be just the contrary. You will not only not lose all these things but will gain more and more. The truth is that human feelings are reciprocal and mutual, and the natural law is relative and respondent. When there is a sound, there must be echo; when there is an action, there must be a reaction; when there is a movement, there must be a response, and when there is a cause there must be an effect. So far as I know, most of your intellectuals and scholars do not read much of other Chinese philosophers but like to read Lao Tzu. Lao Tzu told us: "The more you do for others, the more you will have, the more you give to others, the more you will gain." He said again: "If you want to gain it, you must give it first." Again he said: "If you want to hold it you will lose it." The Indian people are very philosophical and sensible, hospitable and benevolent, friendly and thankful people. If you give them freedom and independence they will surely ever reciprocate your kindness,

your goodness, and your greatness. The relationship and friendship between you and Indian people will be ever increasing. So also will be your benefit, your advantage and your profit. Then no Hitler or Mussolini or the Japanese can break the concrete link between your two great nations. Nor can they interfere with your benefit, advantage, and profit in India. But it will be better for you not to think of those old terms, Dominion, Autonomy and Self-Government. Let India be completely independent and free and make her your equal and true ally. After this war there must be a great Union of all the United Nations; there should be no Empire either like the old German, Italian and Japanese or like the French, the Dutch or your own Empires. It will be very good for you to take the lead and start this movement now in India. If you can take the lead and start this movement just now in India, you will surely be crowned with success. And the whole world will really bow down to you.

Destroy the Cause of War

Moreover, you have declared again and again that you and the United Nations are fighting this war for freedom, for peace, for justice, for democracy and so on. How can we deny that very freedom to India whose population consists of one-fifth of that of the whole world? If such a great number as the Indians do not join us or unfortunately side with the Axis, how can we be sure to win the war? Even if we can win the war without setting India independent and free, what will be the significance of the war? To fight to win the war or to defeat the Axis is not enough for us. We must fight and destroy the very cause of war. Hitler might have thought if the British could dominate such a large country as India in Asia, why the Germans would not dominate such small countries as Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, etc. in Europe? By setting India free and independent, you will break the excuse and pretext of the Axis for their aggression and thereby remove one of the causes of war. At least you will show a noble example to them and relieve your responsibility for causing further wars. Until the cause of war be removed, there will be no peace, no freedom, no justice or the like even after the war.

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A rickshaw complete with bell, apron, curtain, etc. Used by owner. Excellent condition. Rs. 125/- No offer.

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(Mis. 176. 4-1-43.)

OBITUARY

MRS. V. PONNAMMAH

The death occurred on the 27th ultimo at her residence at Kondavil of Mrs. V. Ponnammah, wife of Mr. N. Visuvalingam, who was doing business at Nawalapitya for about 30 years. The deceased leaves behind her husband and an only daughter Mrs. Ratnasingham, wife of Mr. K. A. Ratnasingham, proprietor of the Malayan Trading Co. Grand Bazaar, Jaffna.

GLORY OF HINDUISM

Under the auspices of the Central Province Saiva Maha Sabha a public lecture on the "Glory of Hindu Religion and how it should be prestised" was delivered by Mr. O. Arulampalam, Advocate, on Sunday the 20th ultimo at the Sabha Hall. Mudaliyar S. Sinnathamby of the Supreme Court, presided. Mr. Arulampalam spoke for an hour and a half hour. He explained briefly the great benefits that would accrue to every one by practising the religion in the manner it was practised by their ancestors. Their religion was very old, but every practice that obtained then stood new scientific tests, asserted the lecturer. He eulogised the work carried on by the Sabha, particularly the religious classes in Puranam and suggested the conducting of a class in Saiva Siddantham at least fortnightly.

Mr. S. Thiagarajah, the Joint Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

THIS YEAR'S COLOMBO MAYOR

The meeting of the Colombo Municipal Council for the purpose of electing a Mayor and Deputy Mayor for this year has been fixed for Monday, January 11, at 8 p. m.

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL DEFENCE

A. R. P. SCHEME, TRICOMALEE

Wanted 15 messengers. Salary -/75 cents per day. Rations will be provided. Candidates should be physically fit and be able to speak English.

Selected candidates should be prepared to serve at Trincomalee for the duration of the war. Applications stating educational qualifications and age should reach the A. R. P. Controller, Trincomalee on or before 10th January 1943.

A. I. RAJASINGHAM
A. R. P. Controller,
Trincomalee.

(G. 45. 4 & 7-1-43)

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(Mis. 175. 31-12-11-1-43)

This will be followed by a general meeting at 3.30 p. m. for the election of members to the Five Standing Committees.

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