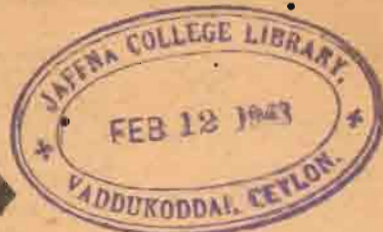


THE Hindu Organ.



The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Two to Contest Kelaniya Seat

Messrs E. W. Perera and J. R. Jayawardene were nominated on Saturday for election to the Kelaniya Seat in the State Council.

Mussolini's Six Posts

By the recent Cabinet and other changes and dismissals Mussolini adds one more to the five jobs he already holds as Commander-in-Chief, and Minister of War, Navy, Air and the Interior.

New Member for Ruanwella

Mr. R. E. Jayatilleke was elected to represent Ruanwella in the State Council, at the by-election which took place on Saturday. Mr. Jayatilleke has been a teacher and is the Chairman of the Nawalapitya Urban Council.

Gestapo Suspect Papen

Von Papen, the German Ambassador to Turkey, and his wife are accused by the Gestapo authorities at Hitler's headquarters of seeking peace negotiations with the Americans, according to an underground German Radio picked up at New York.

Bigger Ration Urged

At a meeting held at the National Theatre, Maradana, Mr. P. de S. Kularatne presiding, a resolution was passed to the effect that workmen and peasants, who were in receipt of low wages, were unable to meet the necessary expense for purchasing substitute foods and that they should be granted a weekly ration of two measures of rice each.

War Costs 400,000 Million Dollars to the World

Hitler's lust for conquest has already cost the world more than 400,000 million dollars, the United States Department of Commerce estimates. The cost may exceed 500,000 million dollars, if the Fuehrer is not brought to his knees for another year, it was added. The Department based its estimate of the staggering financial toll of Hitlerism on known and estimated military expenditure to-date of Germany and her victims and the nations allied against her as well as the loss of national income to the Axis conquered lands.

THE GREAT AFRICAN SKYWAY

A FINE FEAT OF EMPIRE BUILDING

MUCH has been heard recently of the great Trans-African air supply route by which hundreds of aircraft and quantities of supplies are ferried to our forces in the Near and Middle East.

Not many people know of this great Trans-Continental skyway. Of the few who do, the majority imagine that it owes its existence to the war. Actually it is more than six years ago since it was created. This fine feat of Empire building, for which we now have cause to be thankful, was carried out by Imperial Airways as long ago as 1936.

It was early in that year that it was decided to open a branch route westwards from the Cape to Cairo line, leaving the main route at Khartoum and crossing the Continent to the Atlantic seaboard in Nigeria, 2,250 miles away. A small band of pilots, navigators and ground staff began the survey. They flew over deserts and jungles where no aeroplane had ever flown before. The chosen aerodromes in wild places, hundreds of miles from civilisation, and surveyors and engineers followed them, clearing trees and swamps and blasting rocks to make safe landing grounds.

The first section, from Khartoum to Kano, was opened in February 1936. In October the route to the coast was completed and the first from Khartoum reached the Atlantic at Lagos. A year later the service was lengthened to Accra, and in May 1939 the route was further extended to Tavoradi on the Gold Coast.

When France fell in May 1940 and Italy entered the war, the British Government had occasion to bless those sturdy pioneers. The Mediterranean was closed to British aircraft. The Empire's air life-line was thus broken. But it was soon restored. Following a daring pioneer flight from the United Kingdom to West Africa by Captain A. C. Loraine of British Overseas Airways, a regular service was opened, which linking up with the Lagos-Khartoum route, established four years before, provided a new through air route

to Near and Middle East, India and Australia.

Later the flow of lease-lend aeroplanes began to come from America and traffic rapidly increased. In May 1941, the Americans arrived on the scene and began their participation in the ferry traffic of military aircraft from the United States. But already the traffic over the British Airways route had increased so much that a new route for flying boats had been surveyed by British Overseas Airways, and put into operation, stretching 3,500 miles from Lagos, flown to the mouth of the Congo, up that river, then sheer across Darkest Africa to Port Bell on Lake Victoria Nyanza, where it joins the North-South route from Durban to Cairo. For something like 2,000 miles, from Coquilhatville in the Belgian-Congo, to Port Bell, these British Airways planes fly over almost unbroken forests.

"I well remember the Trans-African route in 1936", said Captain W. G. Pudney, one of the pioneer pilots, in an interview recently. "Those were the days when pilots like myself had to fly in spite of ant-hills, dust-storms, visibility of 30 yards, torquados and radio communications so bad, that quite often I travelled three hours or longer with no communication of any kind. What I did was only what every other pilot on this service was doing in 1936, when Imperial Airways first operated the Trans-African route".

According to Captain Pudney, who is now 43 years old, a New Zealander of 25 years' flying experience, the British Trans-African service to-day is as comfortable as a railway service, is so modernised and well-equipped that few people now-a-days have any conception of the problems of Imperial Airways' pilots who did the work of pioneers in the days when civil aviation was considered an adventure as well as a career.

To-day, of course, British Overseas Airways have built fine runways of 1,500 yards all along this route. To help us still more, we have short wave radio, beacons all

Continued on page 4

REGULATION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

NEW ORDINANCE LIKELY

It is understood that the Executive Committee of Home Affairs will shortly consider the introduction of an Ordinance to make provision for the prohibition and regulation of public meetings which are likely to promote sedition or disaffection and for the preservation of order at public meetings.

The question of the introduction of such an Ordinance was first considered in the latter part of 1940 and the Executive Committee of Home Affairs signified its approval of such a measure.

It is proposed that the Governor's Emergency Regulations should be abrogated on the passage of the proposed Ordinance.

Early in 1941, the Executive Committee considered the draft of an ordinance for the purpose, together with a report thereon by the Inspector-General of Police.

Public Opposition

Public opposition to the proposal arose on the ground that it was undesirable to place permanently on the Statute Book emergency measures which were necessary only for the duration of the war and the draft bill was not proceeded with.

Further emergency regulations were introduced in the latter part of last year under which public meetings and processions could not be held within a certain radius of Colombo and in the Central, Sabaragamuwa and Uva Provinces without the permission of the Minister of Home Affairs.

The prohibitory order was amended at the request of the State Council and last month seven categories of meetings were excluded from its operation.

The question of the introduction of an Ordinance embodying all the regulations on the subject, it is learned, has again been placed before the Executive Committee.

COST OF NEWSPRINT

In view of increased costs, the British Ministry of Supply has issued a new control order raising the price of newsprint by 30 shillings per ton.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1943.

TEMPLES IN JAFFNA

THERE ARE SEVERAL TEMPLES in the peninsula; some of them are of very great historical importance. At Nallur, the seat of the ancient Tamil kings, there are the Kailasa Pillaiar Temple, the Nallainathaswamy temple commonly known as the Saddanather Kovil, and the Kandaswamy temple. Among other temples may be mentioned the Maruthady Pillaiar temple, the Vannarponnai Sivan temple, the Kandavanakkadavai Kandaswamy temple, the Maviddapuram Kandaswamy temple and the Vaishnava temples at Vannarponnai, Point Pedro and Punnalai. Most of these are self-supporting. We are inclined to think that all is not well with the administration of most of these temples.

The congregation expects managers of temples to be god-fearing and conscientious, doing what is fair and reasonable and not capricious in their conduct. The income collected from the temporalities and the worshippers should be devoted to the benefit of the temple and the public good. We are aware of a temple manager, who is reputed to be very capable, who felled innumerable palmyrah trees in a fairly extensive land belonging to the temple and made a bonfire of them. In fairness to the manager we must say that he has planted the land with coconuts and is improving the land considerably, but we cannot understand how he made up his mind to commit waste of this kind. Such conduct is inexcusable. The manager of another temple died some time ago. The waste that is being committed by his successor is indescribable. Many valuable trees standing on several lands situated all over the peninsula and belonging to the temple have been felled and sold. There are some tenets in common to all religions which alike condemn the Five Sins (பஞ்சமபாதகம்) namely, Theft, Murder, Drink, Adultery and Falsehood. To our knowledge this particular manager is making money by letting the trees standing on temple lands to be tapped for toddy. It is our desire that managers of temples should not give room for such complaints. 'Caesar's wife must be above suspicion'. The conduct of managers should be such as would not warrant even a suspicion that the temple funds are being utilised for the personal benefit of the manager or his family. There should be no jobbery. Some temple managers spend all their income in litigation. Perhaps there

is not a single temple (of some importance) which has not been the subject of litigation in the District Court of Jaffna. The Trusts Ordinance of 1917 is too cumbersome to be worked and has been found unsatisfactory. We shall deal with this aspect of the matter at another time.

If the current type of manager leaves much to be desired, the class of priests we have in Jaffna are not at all satisfactory. In every religion other than Hinduism, the priest undergoes a special training; he receives a sound education in theology; there is no caste which alone has the privilege of supplying priests; it is open to any man to qualify himself as a priest. Among the States in India, Baroda alone has followed the example of other religions. No one can be a priest in Baroda who has not undergone a training and discipline which qualify him to be a priest in a Hindu temple; on the other hand it is not the sweet privilege of the Brahmin alone to become a priest. In Jaffna, in most cases, only the Brahmins officiate as priests. The education priests receive in Jaffna is pitiable; some of them know not the meaning of the words they utter, having memorised Sanskrit verses with the help of the Tamil script, while several do not know the significance of what they are doing at temples regarding their priestly duties.

அந்தணர் சென்னைப் பார் அறவோர்
மற்றொருவருக்குத்
செந்தணர்க்குமே பூண்டொழுது லான்.

That is how the sage Thiruvalluvar described the class of priests. Our priests are more concerned with the amount of rice and money they would get than with the knowledge of the Vedas or Upanishads. An attempt has been made by an educated brahmin to start a Sanskrit college which is doing good work, but how many of our brahmins are being educated there? The number is insignificant. Some of our so-called enlightened priests officiating in big temples have not acquitted themselves creditably in the witness box while giving evidence. Their evidence has been rejected as unreliable. Such a state of affairs is pitiable. Some effort must be made to turn out better priests who have a sound knowledge of the Hindu scriptures; they must be given a training which would make them true to themselves and others.

The congregation of a Hindu temple consists of pious worshippers who entrust their money, rice or other offerings to the priests and worship God praying Him to be merciful or bless them with things temporal or spiritual. Most of them know not what is being done by the priests for them. In India things are different; people are beginning to study the Sacred Books and understand what the priests are doing for them; some are strongly anti-brahmin in their outlook, and are of opinion that

Tamil is the Mother of all languages; they have given up the custom of getting brahmin priests to officiate at weddings or shradha ceremonies. We in Jaffna appear to be contented with the existing state of affairs. In Europe during the middle ages men like Luther protested against services in church being conducted in Latin; Protestants have since then conducted service at church in their mother tongue. The time is not perhaps come in Jaffna for some Hindu Religious Reformer to initiate reforms on the lines of Martin Luther. The Maharajah of Travancore has by an act of State thrown open the temples in Travancore to all classes of people. The example has been followed by several others in India. These are matters which furnish much food for thought and it is our earnest hope that Hindus will lose no time in putting their house in order.

NOTES & COMMENTS

Re-distribution of Wards

THE abolition of nominated seats in the Urban Councils necessitates an increase in the number of elected seats of the Councils. The Jaffna Urban Council now consists of eight elected and two nominated members. The Council has now been asked by the Local Administration authorities to re-distribute the wards with a view to providing for an increased number of elected members who will, hereafter, solely constitute the Council. The Ratepayers' Association suggests the division of the urban area into twelve wards so as to make the Council representative of the various interests in the town. As it is, some wards are too unwieldy, and certain special interests as those of Muslims and trade are in danger of being left unrepresented. The wards should be so carved as to ensure that these interests will always be in a position to return their representatives. The need, therefore, to increase the number of wards is beyond question. Ten seats in the Council, as at present, seem to be inadequate, and further this number is sometimes capable of dividing itself into factions so as to render at times the working of the Council impossible. We feel that the more the number of members, the less is the chance for wire-pullers to meddle with the even working of the Council. We would, therefore, urge on the Council to increase its strength to at least twelve as suggested by the Ratepayers' Association. The Urban area is extensive and populous enough to be divided into more than twelve wards.

A Truly Religious Act

WE are glad to learn that the Manager of the Amman Temple at Araly has issued a notice to the public banning the sacrifice of animals at this

temple. This temple is famous throughout the Peninsula for this highly irreligious act performed annually, notwithstanding several attempts made in the past to put a stop to this inhuman form of worship and offerings that are made in the name of religion. Now that the manager has banned the sacrifice of animals at his shrine, we trust the public will take his decision in the right spirit and co-operate with him in implementing it. We wish all other temples, where this practice is permitted, would follow the example of the Araly temple and raise religion from the plane of bloody orgies to that of true love and devotion, eschewing all that smacks of *himsa*. May we hope that before long animal sacrifice in temples will be a thing of the past in Jaffna?

State Visit to Minneriya

THE Commander-in-Chief and the Governor who set out last week on a tour of the North-Central Province have returned to Colombo after visiting farms and colonisation schemes in the area. The last place they visited was the Minneriya Colony where, it was reported, they were particularly impressed by the prosperous living conditions of the colonists. The most successful colonist who was introduced to Their Excellencies is one who produces an annual crop of 600 bushels of paddy. From a malaria-stricken casual labourer on the railway eight years ago, he has metamorphosed into a prosperous, healthy and happy colonist living in one of the Colony's model dwellings, which he has furnished with satin-wood furniture made at Minneriya. The change in the fortunes of this colonist should certainly induce many an unhappy peasant to take advantage of the benefits of the colonisation scheme—a scheme meant to alleviate the lot of the peasants and to increase thereby the food production of the country. The millions expended on the Minneriya Scheme yet remain, however, to be justified by results more substantial than what Their Excellencies have witnessed. The day will not be distant, let us hope, when Minneriya would stand out as a monumental landmark in the agricultural history of Ceylon which Mr. D. S. Senanayake, the Minister for Agriculture, is earnestly labouring to make.

To The North?

DO Their Excellencies, one would naturally be anxious to know, intend, in their later State tours, to visit the food-production centres in the Northern Province? The Karachi Scheme and its potentialities are well worth knowing by Their Excellencies. The long-standing grievance of the Northerner is that such schemes as are inaugurated in the North receive but step-motherly attention at the hands of the authorities. Their Excellencies will do well, therefore, to convince themselves personally of the truth behind this grumbling and see if anything can be done to popularise cultivation in this vast area, a major part of which yet remains to be opened up and made to contribute its share to the urgently needed food supply of this Island.

GERMANS FACE ENCIRCLEMENT

RUSSIANS STEADILY CLOSING IN

A quarter-of-a-million Germans on Monday face the danger of encirclement and destruction in the Battle of the Donetz bend which has now begun in earnest.

The fight for Rostov, where the Russian forces are steadily closing in from the south, is overshadowed by this new gigantic envelopment of the Soviets.

The spearhead of the Soviet thrust is now beyond the industrial town of Kramatorskaya and is less than 110 miles north of Mariupol, on the Azov Sea coast.

The Soviet drive towards the south would draw a ring around a pear-shaped area of nearly 20,000 square miles and would encircle the whole of the important mining and industrial region of the Donetz basin. The great German centres of resistance, such as Rostov, Voroshilovgrad, Stalino, Taganrog and Mariupol, are within this area.

While the Soviet forces are pushing on from Kramatorskaya another Soviet wedge is biting into the German lines southeast of Kharkov to isolate this great base and protect the flank of the southern drive. Kharkov itself is now menaced by Soviet forces pushing towards the west about 60 miles north and south of the town.

Bielgorod, which protects Kharkov from the north, is in imminent danger of falling as the Soviet forces stand less than 18 miles away. With the whole of the territory south of Rostov in their hands, the Russians can now afford to reduce the town itself at their leisure.

NAZIS LEAVING CITY?

Washington, Monday

Unofficial reports reaching Washington tonight say that the Nazis are leaving Rostov and do not intend to put up a real fight for the city.

Under cover of rearguards, long columns of German troops are retreating from Rostov toward Taganrog, said the Ankara radio tonight.

A German communique reports fighting of local importance on the Caucasus front and says that in the region of the mouth of the Don and in the great Donetz bend, the day generally passed quietly. The Russians continued their furious attacks on the Central Donetz sector and west of Niko, but Berlin claims that these "were repulsed in hard fighting". South of Lake Ladoga, the communique mentions renewed Russian attacks.

NAZI PROPAGANDA'S DIFFICULT TASK

London, Monday.

With the Russians continuing to bite deeper into German vital rail communications over a wide front from Kursk down to the Donetz basin, with the threat to Kharkov becoming increasingly graver, with the German salient in the Donetz basin being progressively narrowed and lengthened and with the German hold upon Rostov and the Taman peninsula hourly being made more precarious, German propagandists find their task peculiarly difficult. General Dietmar, the German official military spokesman, has been forced to admit that they had under-estimated

CEYLON'S REQUEST FOR INDIAN LABOUR

TEXT OF GOVERNOR'S CABLE TO VICEROY

A COPY of telegram dated December 8th, 1942, from the Governor of Ceylon, to the Governor-General of India, regarding additional estate labour, was tabled in the State Council on Tuesday and it runs as follows:

"Adequacy of supply of estate labour is under urgent consideration by Board of Ministers with special reference to production of rubber of which Ceylon basic quota represents 85 per cent of production left in control of Allied nations.

"In these circumstances Ceylon must resort to most intensive tapping possible including slaughter tapping in order to increase production to at least 30 per cent above basic quota. This will entail employment of additional labour during war and less than normal amount of labour after war when areas have been exhausted. Estates are also required by law for period of war to produce foodstuffs in addition to plantation crops and this also requires abnormally ad hoc increase in labour force.

"Demands on local labour for military units, defence works, essential services and rural food production have been and are very heavy and consequently there is no surplus available for diversion to estates. Production of tea must not be allowed to decrease below present necessary level. It will be realized that now that Indian ban on emigration has been relaxed in respect of labourers now in this Island the e is likely to be usual exodus on holidays to India during early months of next year.

"In these circumstances Board of Ministers has asked me to ascertain whether Government of India notwithstanding their ban on emigration to Ceylon of unskilled labour other than labourers already in the Island would consider special recruitment of labour to meet present war emergency on following terms: (a) pay and conditions of employment identical with those of other Indian labour; (b) repatriation to India at end of war or other period stipulated by agreement.

"Board of Ministers consider arrangement on these lines to be the right one to meet position in which they are confronted, which is that (a) demand for extra estate labour is abnormal and only temporary although essential to prosecution of war and (b) status of Indians in Ceylon is one of the questions which at request of the Indian Government has been postponed for consideration at a future undetermined date.

"Grateful for earliest possible reply to this telegram in order that if your Government approves principle of recruitment on lines

Russia's powers of resilience and that they had not realised how sudden could be the "Russian transition from disorderly flight to furious counter-attack" and the only consolation he can offer the German people is that the "moment has now come when we can and must give the Soviet a dose of their own strong medicine." This medicine apparently is to be supplied by the latest German mobilisation of reserves,

proposed details of method and machinery may be immediately worked out in consultation between our two administrations through Ceylon's newly appointed Representative in India.

"Paramount essentiality of maximum production of our plantation crops especially rubber to the supply position of Allied Nations has caused me to head this telegram Most Immediate".

The Government of India have communicated to the representative of the Ceylon Government certain proposals concerning which His Excellency the Governor has asked the Ceylon Government representative to request elucidation before placing them before the Board of Ministers for consideration.

A MATTER FOR INQUIRY

MR. RAJAGOPALACHARI'S VIEW

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, ex-Premier, Madras, has issued the following statement regarding the proposal to recruit Indian labour for Ceylon:

The Ceylon Indian Congress is perturbed over the request for 2,000 fresh labourers from India for work in the plantations. Their envoy has come to take advice from public men in Madras and has been busy seeing important men here and in Delhi. It is not quite clear whether the Ceylon National Government repudiate any knowledge of the request for fresh recruitment of labour or whether they only mean to deny active interest in the transaction. It is unsatisfactory for the Government of India to act in a matter of this kind without things being made more definite. Hitherto the Government of India took great care to align themselves fully with public opinion in India on matters affecting the interests of Indian overseas. Although in so many other things we are only too well aware of the wide gulf between Government policy and public opinion, on this issue there was complete agreement. All possible efforts should be made before sacrificing this single case of identification of Government and people.

No Reason for Hasty Action

Organised Indian opinion in Ceylon denies the accuracy of the claim made by the Ceylon Minister now in India, that there is at present no discrimination against Indians in Ceylon. The complaint is vigorously made that, though a certain piece of offensive legislation has been suspended, there are many subtle and not fully disclosed, but none-the-less effective forms of discrimination even now practised. There is no reason why the Government of India should be hurried into action in regard to the lifting of the ban on labour recruitment in contravention of definitely agreed previous policy, when it is reasonably feared that such action is likely to prejudice the position of Indians in Ceylon. If it be established that the urgency of war efforts in Ceylon demands the immediate

CHINESE GIFT TO ACADEMY OF INDIAN CULTURE

The International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore, in a communication to the press, says:

"In 1941 Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek presented to the Academy a complete set of Chinese Buddhist literature, consisting of no less than 2,000 works, which had been written during 16 centuries, from the first Century A. D. A large number of these are translations of Sanskrit books, which are unfortunately now altogether lost in India. This literature is a whole world representing every sphere of learning and it fills vast gaps in our knowledge of ancient India. In continuation of the above noble gift we have now received a further instalment of 20 volumes, incorporating the results of modern researches carried on in China in ancient Buddhist literature."

Importation of Indian labour, and that the Ceylon National Government have nothing to do with this, then the matter should be put definitely on a military basis, and the Government should recruit suitable men expressly for military service, and put them under the Commander-in-Chief wherever they may work. This would prevent a relaxation of the Indian claim as well as serve to put such recruited labour on a satisfactory basis in respect of conditions of service. It should be blowing hot and cold for the Ceylon planters to demand facilities for recruitment on the pretext of war-emergency and yet to ask for it on the basis of private production and private profit. The importation of 'free' labour with all the unsatisfactory features of competition between the new immigrants and those already in the Island, with unemployment for those ousted in such competition is not the most satisfactory way of solving a military requirement. The Ceylon Indian Congress insists that there is ample labour already in Ceylon and that fresh importation will only lead to deterioration of service conditions, and further damage to the food position. The estate labourers in Ceylon are stated to be suffering a great deal of difficulty and driven to the black market to find the rice that they absolutely need for existence.

Enquiry Committee Must Be Appointed

There is no reason why an *ad hoc* committee should not be appointed to go to Ceylon to examine the true position in regard to military requirement and to recommend the specific conditions on which it may now be met irrespective of the outstanding permanent issue. The Ceylon Ministers' dubious denial of responsibility makes the case very strong for such a committee of enquiry on a strictly limited reference. Nothing less can satisfy Indian public opinion on this matter. It would be wrong for the Government of India to be hurried into action without due circumspection and to add to the export of rice to Ceylon, the lifting of the only sanction which the people of India have for the enforcement of honourable treatment of Indians in Ceylon.

INDIAN RICE EXPORTS

COMMERCE MEMBER ASSURES CURTAILMENT

Bombay, Feb. 4.

Export of food grains from India has been considerably curtailed during recent months and such exports came to less than three days' rice consumption of India, declared the hon. Mr. N. R. Sarker, Commerce Member, Government of India, when he met the Committee of the Association of Indian Industries today. The Commerce Member said that India was only supplying to Ceylon and the Persian Gulf countries as a sort of token help to the neighbouring countries.

The Indian Industries Association submitted a memorandum to Mr. Sarker explaining the difficulties experienced by the members of the Association in regard to supply of essential materials including chemicals for maintaining the present tempo of industrial output. The Association also referred to the shortage of foodstuffs felt in industrial areas to inflation and the disposal of sterling balances.

MINISTER ARRIVES TOMORROW

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Minister for Local Administration, will arrive in Jaffna tomorrow morning and proceed to Kayts. At 3 p. m. he will meet the Chairman and members of the Jaffna Urban Council, and at 5 p. m. preside at a public meeting of the taxpayers of Manipay Village Committee.

On Friday, he will attend the Village Committee Conference at the Kachcheri at 9.30 a. m. At 2.30 p. m. he will hold an inquiry at Point Pedro into the future status of Point Pedro and Valvetiturai. He takes the down mail from Jaffna at Chivakachcheri.

MALLAKAM COOPERATIVE STORES

The Mallakam Cooperative Stores was declared open by Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, on the 1st instant in the presence of a large gathering.

A public meeting preceded the opening ceremony and was held at the Mallakam English School Hall presided over by Mr. T. N. Appadurai I. S. M., the President of the Stores Society, who welcomed Mr. Prasad and others present.

Mr. M. S. Subramaniam, Proctor, Vice President of the Stores, detailed the history of the Stores. Mr. R. N. Sivaprakasam appealed to the members to co-operate and ensure a long life to the Stores.

Mr. Prasad stressed on the advisability of starting bakeries in the District in view of the shortage of rice and promised to do everything in his power to promote the scheme.

Mr. S. T. Rajaratnam, Proctor, proposed a vote of thanks to the Government Agent and to all who graced the occasion with their presence.

The gathering then proceeded from the School Hall to the Stores with the accompaniment of music for the opening ceremony. Mr. Prasad declared the Stores open by cutting a ribbon and wished the Stores all success. A token donation given by Mr. Prasad was followed by several others. A good portion of the stock-in-trade was cleared that very night. The Stores continues to function with great success.

U-BOAT STILL THE BANE

THE WAR AT SEA DISCUSSED

London Monday.

The Commander of the United States Navy forces in Europe, Admiral Harold R. Stark, who arrived in Britain yesterday night from Washington, discussed the war at sea at a Press conference this afternoon.

"We have not broken the back of the U-boat campaign," he said. "I think, however, that our efforts may have better results this year than last April when sinkings were very severe. I shall never be satisfied. So long as there are U-boats in existence, there is room for improvement."

Admiral Stark added that co-operation regarding U-boats between the American and British navies was very close and that all fresh ideas were closely studied and pooled.

Germany, he said, was throwing everything into the U-boat campaign and it was a vital phase of the war, "but I hope that by the end of 1943, we shall have the U-boats, where we want them."

Bombing U-boat services at Lorient and other bases, he went on, was a vital element in the struggle. He was confident of the result.

Admiral Stark said that the U. S. A. was building a large number of escort vessels and that he was delighted with the flow of warships coming along, but would be still gladder if it were better.

Regarding the Pacific campaign, Admiral Stark said that the U. S. A. had done well at sea in the past few months. They had taken far greater toll of Japanese ships than vice versa and were able also to replace losses better. This made the result a mathematical certainty, but "there will be tough going yet."

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 47

In the matter of the estate of the late Sooriyanmoorthy Aiyer Gnanasegaram Aiyer of Tellipalai East Deceased.

Gnanasegaram Aiyer Coomaraswamy Aiyer of Tellipalai East

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Rajarajeswary daughter of Gnanasegaram Aiyer

2. Manonjany daughter of Gnanasegaram Aiyer

3. Puspakanthy daughter of Gnanasegaram Aiyer

4. Marakathammah widow of Sabapathy Aiyer all of Tellipalai East Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. C. Thumbyah Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 20th day of November 1942 in the presence of Mr. S. T. Rajaratnam Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st to 3rd respondents for the purpose of representing them in this testamentary proceedings and that the petitioner be declared entitled to letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that the same be issued to him accordingly unless the abovenamed respondents or any other person shall on or before the 18th day of January 1943 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 14th day of December 1942.

Sgd. G. C. Thumbyah.

District Judge.

Extended for 19.2.43.

Sgd. G. C. T.

18-1-43.

(Cor.) (O. 95, 11 & 15-2-43.)

THE GREAT AFRICAN SKYWAY

Continued from page 1

the way and highly specialised meteorological officers as well.

"In 1936, when these things were still just a dream of the future, we had to be content with runways of 700 yards, to begin with. Later the maximum runway was 1,400 yards. In Nigeria there was a terrible problem in cutting away the brush before a runway could be built. You see, apart from lack of equipment and difficulties of maintenance in a very hot climate, we had to contend with the ignorance and fear of natives. For a long time the natives were terrified of the things which they called 'fly boats' and it was most difficult to find labour.

In those days the ant hills were a nuisance to everybody because there seemed to be no way to deal with them. An ant hill about 10 inches high will rise out of the ground in a couple of hours. Sometime you get an ant hill 12 feet high and as a house. Well, the problem has been overcome to-day, like so many other problems but in 1936, it was a constant source of anxiety and annoyance to us.

Incidentally, some generous tributes have been paid in America to the British airman who pioneered this Central African route six years ago. Mr.

Notification of Land Kachcheri to Select persons to receive permits—(Middle Class Ceylonese)

Notice is hereby given that the Government Agent, Northern Province, will hold a Land Kachcheri under the Land Development Ordinance (Cap. 320) at 10 a. m. on Saturday 13-3-43 at the Kilinochchi Circuit Bangalow to consider applications for lands under the Karachchi Scheme and to allot lands to Middle Class Ceylonese. All applications must reach the Government Agent at the Jaffna Kachcheri on or before 5-3-43. Enquiries with regard to this Land Kachcheri should be addressed to the Govt. Agent, Northern Province. For further particulars reference may be made to the notice appearing in Govt. Gazette No. 9079 of 5th February, 1943.

The Kachcheri, M. Prasad, Jaffna, 1-2-43 Govt. Agent, N. P. (G. 48. 11-2-43)

Edward R. Stettinius, America's Lease-Lend Administrator, in a recent article in the Saturday Evening Post describing the route over which American aircraft are now flying across Africa, wrote: "...it could not have been done without the British. They pioneered the way, built a skeleton route complete with weather stations and radio beams. They studied the climate, terrain, water supply and prevalent tropical diseases. They taught the Africans to man the weather and radio stations and service the planes."

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