

# THE Hindu Organ.

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

VOL. LII.

'Phone 56.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1940.

Price 5 Cts.

NO. 70.

## EARLIEST INDIAN CIVILISATION

LIFE IN INDIA 6000 YEARS AGO

### DISCOVERIES AT HARAPPA AND MOHENJO-DARO

By "G. P. O."

THE Archaeological Survey of India has thrown fresh light on life in India as it was 5,000 to 6,000 years ago by a detailed account of discoveries made at Harappa, in the Punjab, in an illustrated monograph on the excavations at Harappa, which it has just issued.

Of the twin centres of culture in the Indus Valley Harappa which has been known for over 100 years, is larger in extent and had a much longer span of life than Mohenjo-daro, in so far as it is not only contemporary with all the stages of the latter but also reveals phases which are definitely earlier as well as later. Unfortunately, however, its position near the Lahore-Multan highway has exposed it to depredations, with the result that hardly any buildings have been left intact.

Amongst the earliest finds at Harappa are miniature seals and sealings dated the second quarter of the 4th millennium B. C., a period not reached at Mohenjo-daro, presumably because the strata exposed in that site above the water level are of a subsequent date.

These seals are generally of burnt steatite, less frequently of faience or paste, and rarely of shell, and are characterised by the absence of any knob, and also of the unicorn and other animals, (with the sole exception of the *ghari*, found on the later stamp seals. The range of their inscriptions, which are meant to be read direct from the originals, is limited, but the variety of their shapes is truly amazing, over twenty varieties having been traced out by now.

#### Burial Practices and Beliefs

The cemetery at Harappa, with its rich archaeological yield, is, however, definitely later than any portion of the city sites. Although it does not mark a complete break from the Indus culture, there

is evidence to show that it belongs to a distinctly later period. The burial pottery is of finer grain and the shapes are more highly developed and elegant than those of the secular pottery found in the city sites. The paintings on the burial pottery, some of which are of great interest because of their mythological character also show preference for animal and realistic motifs such as the goat, deer, bull and peacock, kites and fish, as well as for plants, trees, leaves and stars. The paintings on the secular pottery, on the other hand, show an equally strong bias in favour of geometrical and linear patterns.

The finds at the cemetery show what the burial practices of the ancients were and what they believed about life after death. A study of the skulls by anthropologists has revealed that all the principal racial strains in India were represented in the population of those early days.

The cemetery contains two strata, one above the other; the upper one of pot-burials which contained human remains, including skulls and a few bones, apparently collected after exposure of the body, and the lower one of earth-burials consigned to graves in the ground and accompanied generally by grave furniture which the dead person was apparently believed to require for use during the journey hereafter.

#### The Great Granary

In the city site the most remarkable discovery is what one may call the Great Granary, the largest of the buildings left over from the old days. The Granary consists of two similar blocks, separated from each other by an aisle 23 feet wide, which was once roofed over. Each block comprises

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## COTTON CULTIVATION IN CEYLON.

ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT

### A NEW AVENUE OF HOPE

The *Tropical Agriculturist* has the following editorial on cotton:—

The note which the Botanist of the Department of Agriculture publishes in this number describing the preliminary stages of a trial he has in hand for selecting a strain of cotton marked by the characteristics of high yield and superior quality naturally provokes the questions what progress has been made in the development of this crop since its introduction fourteen years ago and what prospects there are of its acquiring an important place in the agricultural life of the country. The market price of cotton rose rapidly in the twenties till it stood in the neighbourhood of Rs. 30 for a hundredweight of unginned cotton. Since a moderately-well-cultivated chena would yield not less than 4 cwt. of seed cotton this price was very attractive, and cotton chenas became very popular specially in the Hambantota District where the Department of Agriculture carried out an intensive campaign to spread the cultivation of cotton. The peasants had hardly the time to recover from the shock of these large profits when the depression intervened and the commodity became a drug in the market and it would not find a purchaser, at Rs. 8 for a hundredweight. Cotton practically went out of cultivation.

A second stage in the history of the crop began with an agreement between the Government and the proprietors of the Spinning and Weaving Mills, Wellawatta, by which in consideration of certain guarantees given by the Government regarding (a) the exemption from import duty of raw cotton grown within the British Empire (not including Palestine and Soudan) and (b) maintenance of the existing import duty on cotton yarn, the Mills undertook to buy unginned cotton of good quality delivered at Wellawatta at Rs. 12 a hundredweight. The Department of Agriculture undertook to collect the village cotton

and deliver it at the Mills without charging anything for the organization required for the operation and recovering from the growers out of Rs. 12 only the direct handling charges such as railway freight and cart hire. This arrangement gave a new stimulus to the crop. The following is a statement of the quantities of cotton of all grades handled under this scheme during the last five years and of the payments made to the growers:—

	Quality purchased.	Price paid to Cultivators.
	Cwt. qr. lb.	Rs. c.
1936	3,014 3 12	30,705 98
1937	4,004 1 13	41,695 29
1938	3,726 0 11	38,245 70
1939	1,605 0 24	17,171 76
1940	2,329 3 5½	24,259 66

The decline in the last two years has been attributed to several causes the chief amongst which are the unseasonal rains—dry weather in the growing season and heavy rains at harvest—and the disinclination of some of the revenue officers to be liberal in the issue of chena permits for growing cotton. When due allowance has been made for these factors, it is clear from these figures that cotton growing is not an expanding agricultural industry, nor can expansion go very far on a basis of chena cultivation.

The future of the crop lies in the establishment of permanent cotton fields: that is to say in making cotton an arable crop which will find a periodical place in a regular rotation of crops. This development may take place both on channel-irrigated lands and rain-fed lands—in the dry zone in either case because the wet zone is unsuitable for cotton. The possibility of maintaining a comparatively high average rate of yield by rotational cultivation on rain-fed lands has been demonstrated in departmental stations for a number of years. But the dry zone villager has been in no hurry to copy this method largely because he does not own sufficient land, and, if he

(Continued on page 4)



## NOTICE Jaffna College — Scholarship Examination

FOR  
ADMISSION TO THE  
PRE MATRICULATION CLASSES

This examination will be held  
From Jan. 15th to 17th at Jaffna  
College.

The College offers four open scholar-  
ships of two years' free tuition  
to the students under seventeen years  
of age who:

- have passed the J. S. C. or its equivalent examination,
- have been certified by the headmasters of their schools to have been, during the previous year, members of the top 10% of their class scholastically,
- and c are among the four highest to pass a special examination set by the College.

Syllabi and application forms may be had from the Principal. All applications must be in on or before Wednesday Jan. 8, 1941, with a fee of one rupee.

S. K. Bunker,

Principal, Jaffna College.

(Mis. 169. 19-12-40 & 6-1-41.)

## JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

WANTED a teacher qualified to teach Botany for the London Intermediate classes. State qualifications and subjects. Applications close 5th January 1941. Salary according to scale.

MANAGER.

(Mis. 167. 19 & 23-12-40)



**Hindu Organ.**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1940.

## COURT DRESS FOR LAWYERS

AT A TIME WHEN POMP AND show attached to dignity and high place is giving place to simplicity and convenience consistent with comfort and decency, it is but natural that lawyers who are prescribed a set uniform to be donned in court should think of adapting their court dress to the conditions of climate and surroundings in which they perform their functions. This question was discussed at a conference of proctors last week. The consensus of opinion at the Conference was in favour of a change, all the speakers disapproving the black coat which proctors are required to wear in court. National costume with a black gown was favoured by some. One speaker condemned the black coat and black gown and considered the wearing of the wig an abomination. This speaker had nothing in particular to offer as an alternative but strongly pleaded for such a change as would suit local conditions and make the lawyer distinguishable from the layman, "without recourse to black, of all colours." The example of Indian lawyers appearing in court in their national costume with black coats was cited by a

proctor, obviously an Indian. This at once raised a protest from a leading member of the profession who decried their tendency to copy others. There was no necessity, he observed, to copy England or India, but they should evolve something best suited to this country. It is evident from the discussion at this conference that lawyers who have tamely submitted so long to the tyranny of the black coat convention are now rising in protest against it. A knowledge of the law or its advocacy does not at all depend on the dress a lawyer puts on. This truth, perhaps dawning so late as now on the bar or the bench here, was realised long ago, and that without any beating of drums, by those practising the profession in India. Eminent Indian judges and lawyers who can stand comparison with their most successful and erudite compeers in any other part of the British Empire, find no difficulty in appearing in Court, in a dress satisfying the minimum requirements of court conventions, and in keeping with a sense of decency and their outlook on life. No doubt, there are a few lawyers in India who can put to shame the most fastidious and conventional of lawyers even in England in their dress, but these are exceptions. In South India particularly where you have the brainiest of men in all India, dress conventions do not claim so much attention. In Ceylon where national dress is still in the problem stage, unlike in India where it has gained popularity as a matter of course, a change from the accepted form to something else, no matter however desirable, is accompanied by a violent disturbance of the equilibrium. Let us wait to see whether this revolution takes place at all or merely ends in sound and fury.

## British Ambassador For America

### Speculation in London

London, Dec 17.

SPECULATION remains very busy with the name of Mr. Lloyd George as a possible successor of Lord Lothian in Washington (says Gerard Herlihy, Reuter's Lobby Correspondent), but such reports may be discounted. It is believed that such an appointment would be warmly welcomed in very high Government quarters.

One of the considerations advanced by the advocates of this appointment is that Mr. Lloyd George would take to United States, at a moment when it was most needed, and unrivalled knowledge of the rapid acceleration of munitions production. But all such arguments disregard the fact that Mr. Lloyd George is 78 years of age, and, in the view of many, he cannot reasonably be expected to take so strenuous a post. It is believed that he hit himself, while willing to serve the country in any fruitful capacity, considers that a

## Minister Thanked for Grant to Channel

### Reception at Suthumalai

In thanking Lt. Col. J. L. Kotalawela, Minister of Communications and Works, for the grant of a permanent channel to flow out the excess water from the Suthumalai Pond, Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Secretary of the Manipay Parish Social Service League, at a public meeting held on Monday last at Suthumalai, said that it was a sin to accuse the Ministers of indifference to Jaffna's needs. He said the Ministers were considerate and were always willing to help. The channel referred to was proof of his contention, and he said he had a few instances more to quote in support of his statement, but that time at his disposal was short. Continuing, Mr. Thiagarajah said that much bridge-building could be accomplished by constant personal contacts, and that was why the Manipay Social Service League had as one of its aims to give every opportunity to leaders of other communities to come in contact with the people by inviting them to address public meetings.

A reception was accorded to Lt. Col. Kotalawela, and at the public meeting Col. Kotalawela addressed the audience on "Social Service", and Dr. S. C. Thuraiaraj, M. O. H. spoke on "Typhoid". Sir Waitilngam Duraiswamy presided, on being called upon by Muhandiram S. K. Swaminathan, President of the League. An illuminated address was presented to Col. Kotalawela by the residents of Suthumalai.

Sir Waitilngam after thanking Col. Kotalawela for the assistance in getting the necessary funds from the State Council, appealed to those present to join the Social Service League of Manipay which was very ably run by Muhandiram S. K. Swaminathan, Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Mr. C. N. Devarajan, Mr. K. Chornalingam, and a band of enthusiastic gentlemen.

Col. Kotalawela, his Secretary, and Sir Waitilngam were taken in procession from a distance of about quarter of a mile to the accompaniment of several bands of music and were profusely garlanded on their way to the venue of the meeting, the Suthumalai Central Vernacular Hindu School.

Mr. S. P. Ambalavannar, Physician, who organized the reception, expressed the thanks of the residents of Suthumalai to Col. Kotalawela for the sum of about Rs. 20,000 voted for the proposed channel. (Cor)

younger man should receive the post.

London, Dec. 17.

This afternoon the name of Sir Archibald Sinclair, Secretary of State for Air, has been brought into the comparatively narrow circle of possible candidates for the Washington Embassy, writes Gerard Herlihy, Reuter's Lobby Correspondent.

If such an appointment were made, it would be in accordance with the fact, which I mentioned yesterday, that informed opinion favoured the appointment of a modern Statesman to succeed Lord Lothian. There is now no substantial support for any idea that Mr. Lloyd George will be appointed.

## Nominated Seats in Urban Councils

### "Committee's Recommendations Lack Knowledge of Men And Matters"

The Whip, a regular contributor to the Times of Ceylon writing about the recent recommendations to nominated seats in the Urban Councils makes the following observations:—

Honestly, the Executive Committee of Local Administration should feel ashamed at some of the recommendations they have made to fill nominated seats in the seven urban councils that went to the poll recently.

It is difficult to imagine how bankrupt the members of this committee are as far as their general knowledge of men and matters goes.

The agitation for a Sinhalese in the Jaffna Urban Council was too well known a stunt of some mischiefmakers. The Executive has fallen into the trap.

A member of this Committee admitted to me yesterday that the Urban Council nominations had been bungled.

The Governor seldom or never interferes with the recommendations of executive committees. It is to be hoped, however, that he will adopt a different attitude in the case of the present recommendations.

I make no apology for making special reference to one of the most satisfactory recommendations.

Mr. V. Suppiah, whose name has been put up for the Jaffna Urban Council is an ex-Malayan, a businessman, and he gave a lead to Jaffna in the matter of the Gloucester Fund.

Jaffna Tamils in Colombo generally acclaim his nomination. Even in Jaffna itself, it will no doubt be hailed.

He is a progressive man. I don't however, claim to know his views in regard to a municipality for Jaffna. If he joins the anti-municipal brigade, I shall be surprised.

Can the Central Ratepayers' Association really say that Jaffna voted against a municipality?

Is it not the fact that the total votes polled by the pro-Municipal candidates at the Urban Council elections, exceed those of the Ratepayers' Association nominees by over a thousand?

## NOTICE

### The private burial temple or Samadhi by Thambipillai Ambalawannar in Kondavil West.

The public is warned not to give any money to a dark short man with a long beard, wearing kavi clothes on his head, called Thambipillai Ambalawannar of Kondavil West, for the purpose of putting up a temple for burial at the junction of Kondavil—Kankesanturai Road, front of old Sandrasegaram Pillayar Temple. There is no necessity for his burial or Samadhi temple. It has been decided by the Jaffna District Court that a Samadhi should not be erected or any additional work done at the spot.

S. SATHASIVAKURUKKAL,  
17-12-40  
Kondavil.  
(Mis. 166. 19 & 23-12-40)



# THE INDIAN DEADLOCK

## GOVT. MUST MAKE A GESTURE

SIR T. B. SAPRU ON A WAYOUT

Allahabad Dec. 13.

THE suggestions that Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah should meet immediately to discuss the present political situation in a free, open and large-hearted manner with a fixed determination to come to a settlement, that they should invite one or two leaders of the Hindu Mahasabha, the Sikhs and the Depressed Classes, that they should see the Viceroy and press on him the necessity to reconstruct for the period of the war his Government so as to give it in substance the character of a National Government, that the Viceroy should be asked to appoint an Indian Defence Member, that the Viceroy should be pressed to start heavy industries in India, particularly those needed for the war, and that constitutional Government should immediately be restored in the Provinces, are made by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in a long statement he has issued drawing public attention to the present situation in the country.

The following are extracts from the statement:—

"In this statement I propose to draw attention to the situation in India as it has unfortunately developed in recent months. It is not my intention to refer in this statement to some of the features of Mr. Amery's speech delivered at the luncheon of the English-speaking Union as I propose later on to deal with some parts of it which call for very serious attention, not because he has made any affirmative remarks about the future constitution of India but because he has thrown out hints and suggestions, some of which must cause grave anxiety in the Indian mind.

The Indian Press has been lately drawing pointed attention to the rapid deterioration of the internal situation and among the newspapers in India, no two papers have written more emphatically and more appealingly on the necessity and urgency of re-establishing an atmosphere of harmony and co-operation than the two leading Anglo-Indian dailies of Calcutta and Bombay. It is somewhat significant that Mr. Fazlu Huq, the Premier of Bengal, has made a public suggestion to the Muslim League for exploring avenues for a rapprochement between the parties which have unfortunately fallen out, but which should in the highest and the abiding interest of the country do every thing that lies in their power to remove the miasma, which has so much poisoned the body politic.

### Urgent Need for Settlement

It will do no good either to India or to England to ignore the signs of the times. Englishmen, who think that the challenge, which has been thrown at this juncture by certain advanced politicians, who are courting arrest and imprisonment and many of whom are occupying the highest positions in the public life of the country and some, who until last year, were running the machinery of Government in seven Provinces—

is not affecting the Indian mind at large, that the masses at large are indifferent to what is happening in the country, seem to me to be at best taking a very narrow view of the situation. The sentence passed on Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru has not only attracted the attention in Parliament but is the subject of general comment nearly everywhere in India. Similarly I maintain that Indians, whatever their political affiliation or political creed, who believe or affect to believe that the challenge which has been thrown out to the British Government at a juncture like this, is going to do any good to the country, or that it is going to bring us nearer the day of the fulfilment of our political aims and objects, are to my mind, deceiving themselves and sacrificing the permanent interest of the country at the altar of certain political shibboleths, which however good in themselves, are full of dangerous possibilities, in times like these. The tragedy of the situation is that, so far as Nazism and Fascism are concerned, Indian opinion has unequivocally condemned them and indeed it may be said that not a few of the leaders, who find themselves behind the prison bars, have not only condemned Hitlerism and all that it stands for, but have in some of their speeches expressed the hope for the victory of England and the defeat of Germany. It, therefore, seems to me all the more deplorable that the issue on which they should have decided to fight the Government should be the issue of the freedom to preach slogans against the war effort. While, therefore, I maintain that no Government in the world—foreign or national—can afford to permit speeches or slogans calculated to interfere with their war activities, I also feel that the situation, which has been created by mistakes of one side or the other, or probably both should be remedied and as the *Statesman* said the other day, "sooner or later, there must be a settlement, a new approach on bigger and more hopeful lines." To allow the present state of things to continue indefinitely is to confess the failure of Indian leadership and British statesmanship alike. I have no hesitation in saying that both have failed us on this occasion.

### Idea of National Government

From this side issue, on which relations have broken down, I think we must revert to the "bigger and more hopeful lines. So far back as May last, I ventured to suggest that the time had come when the different parties in India should arrive for the period of the war, at a minimum amount of agreement and the one issue on which they could unite was, that we must do the best that lay in our power to win this war and thus secure the safety of India. In my humble opinion this could only be done by the formation of a National Government. Now a National Government might be a government responsible to the

(Continued on page 4)

# GOVERNOR BACK IN CEYLON

## Arrival on Tuesday From Madras

Colombo Wednesday

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Caldecott returned to Colombo from Madras yesterday morning by the Talaimannar train.

The Governor had a twelve-day course of prophylactic deep-ray therapy treatment in Madras and was looking very fit.

A Gazette Extraordinary, issued yesterday, stated that, the Governor having returned to the Island, Mr. G. S. Wodeman, who administered the Government during Sir Andrew's absence, has resumed duties as Chief Secretary.

The Governor was welcomed at the Fort Station by Mr. Wodeman, who was accompanied by Mr. J. W. H. O'Regan, Private Secretary, and Mr. H. A. C. Dobbs, Assistant Private Secretary to the Governor.

The others present at the station were Mr. J. C. Howard, Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Huxham, Mr. E. R. Sudbury, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Hills, Mr. P. N. Banks, Mr. and Mrs. Justin Kotawala, Mr. G. S. Baker and Mr. H. Mills.

The Governor was pleased to greet his old Malayan friend, Mr. V. Subbiah, among the small crowd at the station.

Dr. A. M. de Silva, who accompanied the Governor, and Mrs. de Silva also returned by the same train.

# HOAX ON JEWELLER

## Note Duplication Story

How a Muslim man of Slave Island, Colombo, is alleged to have cheated a Muslim jeweller in Jaffna by claiming to be able to duplicate currency notes by photography and charms was related when the Jaffna police accused Ahamad Kunji Abdul Jabeeb, of Church Street, Slave Island; Kathirithamby Sunmugam and Vinnasithamby Periatnamby, both of Kokuvil; and N. M. M. Meera Lebbe Mohideen Pitchai, of Moor Street.

Mohamed Meera Lebbe, of Moor Street, is alleged to have been induced to give Rs. 1,100 to Jabeeb.

The other three accused are charged with aiding and abetting.

Mohamed Meera Lebbe, aged 30, a jewel merchant of Vannarponnai, said that Jabeeb was brought to his house to demonstrate how a Rs. 5 note could be duplicated.

Jabeeb cut a piece of white paper to the size of the five-rupee note, applied a mixture on the white paper and placed both the paper and the five-rupee note between sheets of glass. After placing the apparatus in the sun Jabeeb muttered charms, made a parcel of the apparatus and handed the parcel to him to keep.

On the following day the parcel was opened by Jabeeb and apparently the piece of white paper had been converted into a five-rupee note.

Some days afterwards, on Jabeeb's suggestion, witness gave him Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 notes, to the value of Rs. 1,100, for duplicating. The same process was repeated but Jabeeb did not come back and the parcel, when opened, was found to contain only pieces of paper.

Further inquiry was postponed.

# UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF CONFERENCE

MR. COREA FORESEES NEW INDUSTRIES

## OFFICER WILL INVESTIGATE PROBLEM

Colombo, Wednesday.

VARIOUS proposals for solving the unemployment problem in the country were discussed at a special conference of leading public workers under the chairmanship of Mr. G. C. S. Corea, Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, at the Secretariat, yesterday.

The main decision at the meeting was the appointment of an officer to investigate the whole problem and to make recommendations as to the nature of relief that should be given.

Mr. Corea pointed out that as a result of the Eastern Group Conference it was possible to set up new industries in Ceylon. As a matter of fact, they were going ahead with some of the schemes, and these new works would naturally provide a certain amount of employment to the people.

His Committee was considering a proposal for the establishment of a state farm and he would bring up that matter before the State Council at an early date.

Mr. A. E. Goonesinha, Mayor of Colombo, undertook to go ahead with the land reclamation and housing schemes at Wasathanulla and Bloemendahl if they received the necessary financial assistance from Government.

It was also decided at the meeting to grant relief to the large number of women who had been thrown out of employment by the closing of fibre mills. The conference was in favour of giving monetary grants to the Friend-in-Need Society and the Social Service League to enable them to help these women.

### The Attendance

Those who had been invited to the conference were Miss Cissy Cooray, Mr. L. J. M. Pieris, Mr. Geo. Wille, the Rev. Fr. Peter Pillai, the chief of the Salvation Army, the chairman of the Employers' Federation, the chairman of the Headmasters' Conference, the secretaries of the Colombo Y. M. C. A. and the Colombo Y. M. B. A., the chairman of the Colombo Friend-in-Need Society, the Mayor of Colombo, the Secretary of the Socialist Party, and the chairman of the Jaffna Urban Council.

The Government Agents of the Western, Southern and Northern Provinces, the Assistant Government Agent of Puttalam and the Controller of Labour were also present.

As already stated, the question of unemployment has been raised in the State Council very frequently and Mr. Corea in his budget speech detailed all that he was doing through Exchanges to grant as much relief as was possible. He indicated that it would be necessary for the Central Government, who had accepted the responsibility for unemployment, to undertake a definite scheme dealing with the whole unemployment problem.



## The Indian Deadlock

(Continued from page 3)

Legislature or responsible to the Crown. In the existing circumstances, I did not forward the idea of a National Government responsible to the Legislature, particularly because no responsible government could be formed in the true constitutional sense of the word upon the existing franchise and with important elements kept out of the Legislature. I thought that a National Government though technically responsible to the Crown during the period of the war was certain to command great influence and weight with the Legislature as a precursor of things to come. I was glad to notice later on that so far as public opinion was concerned this idea of National Government held the field. It had the support of influential organs of public opinion and a few months ago, I understood that weighty non-official British opinion also favoured it. Of course, I did not know as to how this proposal was viewed in important official quarters in India or in England. It was however abundantly plain that so far as the official world was concerned, the idea of an expansion of the Executive Council at the Centre was being entertained as providing the most hopeful way out of the present difficulties. I should have preferred to call it a reconstruction of the Government.

Of course everybody knew from the speeches of Mr. Amery and others in high quarters that the future Constitution of India was not going to be drawn up now and that, whenever it would be drawn up by Indians themselves a certain measure of agree-

ment would be necessary, but surely, Mr. Amery could not mean that it was beyond his powers or those of his advisers to secure a working agreement on certain principles so as to enable the newly expanded Executive Council to work on that principle of collective responsibility which it has always been required to follow and which, I hope, it does follow even now. All that we have been told is, 'that the door is still open.' Nothing has pained me more than the remark of Mr. Amery, which I should not have expected from any Secretary of State, that 'there is nothing to-day to prevent serious-minded and responsible leaders of Indian nation coming together and beginning to think out among themselves the great problem of India's Constitution.' When Mr. G. MacDonald interjected the remark, 'provided they are not in jail,' Mr. Amery is reported to have said; 'that depends upon their action, but even there, they will have plenty of opportunities for correspondence and study. Coming, as this remark does, from the Secretary of State at a juncture like this, it is, to my mind, wooden and indefensible. I am no believer in Civil Disobedience—mass or individual—but in fairness to those among my countrymen from whom I

differ—and differ very strongly—I maintain that a remark of this character is not calculated to pour oil over troubled waters.

The question of law and order is one thing and the discussion of political problems is another. It is not on this plane that one would expect in these times or at any time even the Secretary of State for India to speak. It is somewhat remarkable that, in his own speech after saying that the attitude of the Congress with regard to the proposals was 'all or nothing,' Mr. Amery himself said that 'other elements' in India have accepted and welcomed our general proposals as to the future shaping of India's Constitution. Even as regards the more immediate policy of the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council, it was not rejected by any one of them in principle but it only broke down in details. In the case of the Muslim League, they broke down because they asked for more places on the Executive than the Viceroy was prepared to concede, and because guarantees demanded against the Congress changing its mind and coming into the Executive later without the League's approval also went, in his view, too far. If the 'other elements' were so reasonable and if the breakdown of the propo-

sals took place only on question of detail, then, it is all the more regrettable that, while blaming one political party for adopting the attitude of 'all or nothing,' Mr. Amery should have allowed himself to adopt the attitude of 'take it or leave it' and that is mainly the reason why I hold that, if Indian leadership has been a failure, British statesmanship has been an equally a great failure on this occasion.

### "Not yet too Late"

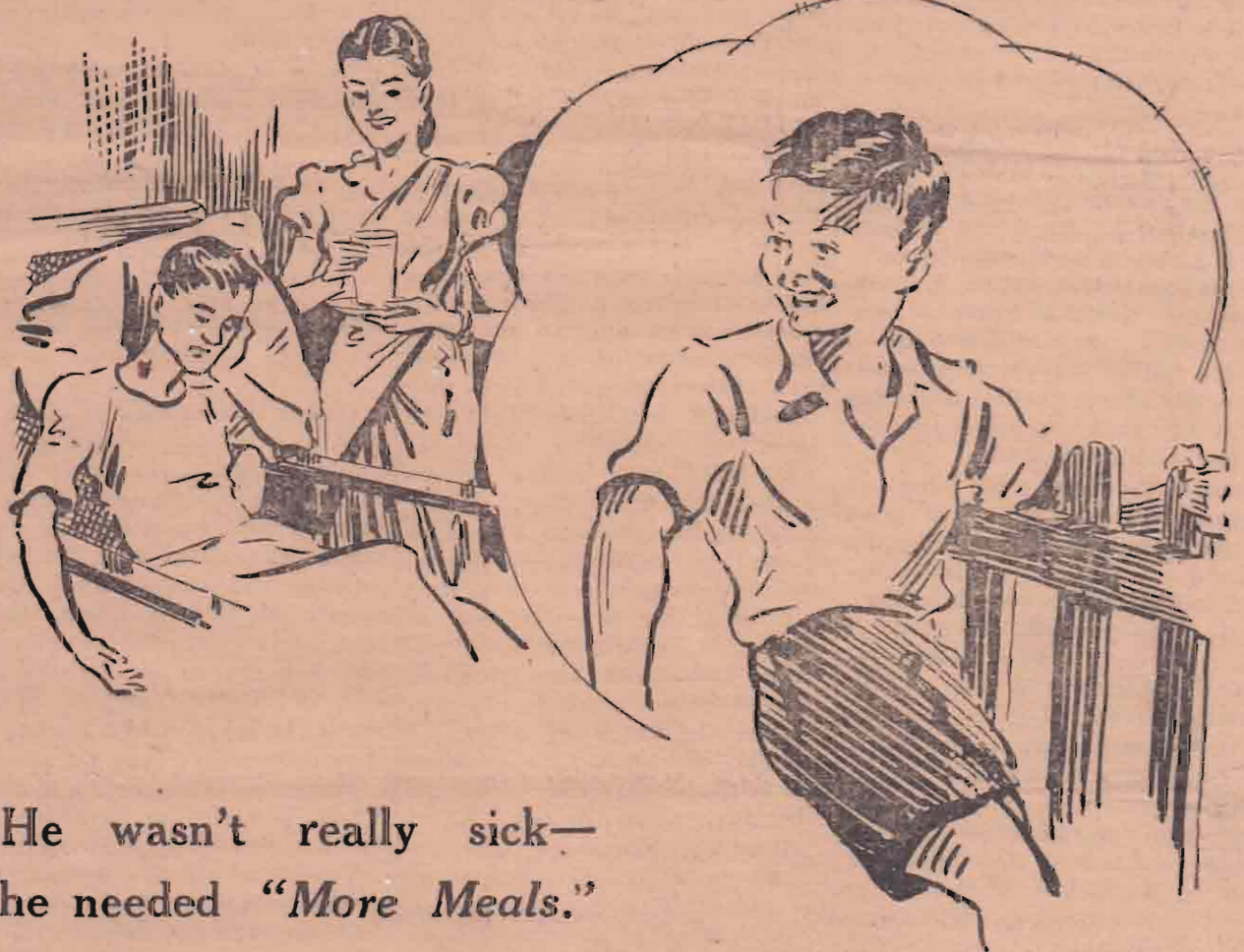
Surely even now, it is not too late to retrieve the lost ground. All those who are anxious that the energies of this country should not be dissipated in theoretical discussions or manoeuvring for positions or in trying to serve the prestige of one party or the other, including the Government, are anxious that something should be done to repair the mischief which has already been done. I am therefore, glad that the suggestion has emanated from Mr. Fazlul Huq that the Muslim League should take the initiative in trying to bring about rapprochement. As one who believes sincerely in the necessity of a rapprochement—and a genuine rapprochement—between the Hindus and the Muslims, I welcome this move. I believe that the interests, not of this party or that party, but of the whole country are involved, both Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah will recognise that they owe it to the country at large that they should meet each other at

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## Cotton Cultivation in Ceylon

(Continued from page 1)

owned the land, he does not own the necessary capital to reclaim it from forest and bring it under the plough. A trial for the purpose of popularizing this practice is in progress at Kurundankulam, two miles out of Anuradhapura, where a few selected farmers have been settled on land reclaimed and equipped with the necessary implements by Government. While the results so far obtained are not unpromising, the uncertainty of the incidence of rainfall makes unirrigated cotton a precarious enterprise. A surer basis of expansion would be the incorporation of the crop in a rotation on irrigated lands. The chief obstacle to this is the fixed prejudice in favour of paddy as the only crop under irrigation. Propaganda for dispelling this prejudice must be preceded by trial and demonstration. Hitherto the Department has neglected this problem; but a Departmental Committee set up last year has the trials in hand, and it is hoped to lay down demonstrations as soon as the trials have yielded positive results. The activities open an avenue of hope for the cotton growing industry in Ceylon and we welcome the efforts of the British to be ready to keep genetical achievement abreast of the work of prospective expansion.



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## The Indian Deadlock

(Continued from Page 4)

least at this critical juncture and try to remove those misunderstandings which are in the main responsible for our present position. Intermediaries on an occasion of this character cannot be so useful as direct personal contact. This is not an occasion in my opinion when either of them can refuse to meet the other and talk to each other in the large-hearted fashion, which the best interests of the country require them to do. If once they meet and come to any definite conclusions, I see no reason why both of them should not seek to remove the misunderstandings with the Viceroy himself should not take the initiative.

### How Similar Situations Were Met

I can recall a similar situation having arisen as far back as 1921. I remember that it was during the progress of the non-co-operation movement that a Conference between the then Viceroy, Lord Reading and Mahatma Gandhi and certain other leaders was to take place. It is unfortunate that it did not come about but the point is that it was to have come about while non-co-operation was in full progress. Similarly in 1930, conversations were again started with the full knowledge and consent of Lord Irwin between Mahatma Gandhi, then in the Yerowada Jail, and certain other distinguished leaders and from stage to stage, then. The documents of that time are now public property. Again in 1931 when the Irwin-Gandhi Pact or agreement was issued on March 5, 1931, the first Article said that: 'consequent on the conversations that have taken place between His Excellency the Viceroy and Mr. Gandhi, it has been arranged that the Civil Disobedience movement be discontinued.' It was only in 1932 that Lord Willingdon in reply to a letter of Mahatma Gandhi said that, as the latter had been away from India, he believed that he had personally no share in the responsibility for, nor that he approved of the recent activities of the Congress in the United Provinces and in the North-West Frontier Provinces. If this was so, said the letter of the Private Secretary to the Viceroy, "he is willing to see you...but His Excellency feels bound to emphasise that he will not be prepared to discuss with you the measures which the Government of India with the full approval of His Majesty's Government have found it necessary to adopt in Bengal"...Incidents of a similar character could be multiplied both from Indian history and English history. I have ventured to refer to them only because I hope that the fact that

Mahatma Gandhi has decided—and as I frankly think most unfortunately decided—to start individual civil disobedience will not influence decisions in high quarters.

### Suggestions for Consideration

My suggestions, therefore are:—

(a) That Mahatma Gandhi, in whom all the powers and functions of the Congress are at present centred and Mr. Jinnah should meet and meet promptly and discuss things in a free, open and large-hearted manner with the fixed determination that they must come to some sort of a settlement;

(b) That not only should they meet between themselves, but they should also invite one or two leaders of the Hindu Sabha, the Sikhs and Depressed Classes, etc., and I would make an earnest appeal to them just as I would to Mr. Jinnah, that, in the larger interests of the country, the spirit which should permeate them in their discussions should be different from that which permeates in public discussions. It will do no good at this juncture and certainly not promote the objective of unity or settlement to ask whether it is right or wrong to make the future of India dependent upon the will or the veto of the minorities. We must take the situation as it is at present.

(c) They must also see the Viceroy and press on him—(1) to reconstruct for the period of the war his government so as to give it in substance the character of a 'National Government'. From a practical point of view, it is entirely immaterial by what name you call it, whether you call it a 'national government' or a 'national executive' or merely an 'executive council', the essence of the whole thing being, that the number of non-official Indians, who command the confidence of large sections of the people, in whose honour and judgment the country can trust, should be preponderantly large.

(2) That, with the advent of the new Commander-in-Chief, or even before, an Indian Defence Member should be appointed as the moral effect of that on the imagination of the people will be immense, and in my opinion, Government in agreeing to it will be reviving the faith of the country and removing the sense of frustration, which, in the last analysis, is affecting the entire psychology of the country.

(3) They should press on the Viceroy that heavy industries, particularly those connected with the war, including the manufacture of aeroplanes, should be started as early a date as possible even though, Whitehall may be unwilling for one reason or another, and tell him plainly that the plea that technical experts are not available or cannot be got elsewhere is looked upon even by the friends of Government as a plea of obstruction or delay, which can bring no conviction to the Indian mind.

(4) they must also draw attention

## CONGRESS M.S.C.S ASKED TO RESIGN

### Ceylon National Congress Sessions

The 21st sessions of the Ceylon National Congress will be held at Mirigama on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Swadeshi Exhibition, organised by Congress will be opened on Friday and on Saturday a historical pageant will precede the business session at which Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Chairman of the Reception Committee, will welcome the delegates and invite the president-elect, Mr. E. A. P. Wijeratne, to assume command.

The following are some of the resolutions that will be moved:—

That decisive steps should be taken to secure immediately for Ceylon such a political status as would ensure for the people of this country the unfettered right to determine their domestic and foreign policies and to frame their own Constitution.

"Congress demands the immediate introduction of legislation for the prohibition of immigration, whenever foreign labour competes with Ceylonese labour in any trade or profession, and opposes any modification of the existing provisions of the law which provide for the grant of the status of citizenship to non-Ceylonese."

Congress protests against the postponement of the General Elections beyond the statutory period without a sufficient guarantee that it is for the purpose of inaugurating satisfactory reforms, and calls upon Congressmen in Council to resign their seats in pursuance of the resolution passed unanimously at the Kandy Sessions."

Congress expresses its emphatic opinion that the Debt Conciliation Bill passed by the State Council but vetoed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, should be made part of the law of the land and empowers the Congress Executive to take steps to further this object, and also strongly supports the proposal to enact a Land Redemption Ordinance."

### THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

The London Intermediate in Arts and science classes preparing for the examination in July 1942 will be opened on the 22nd of January 1941. Admission is given to candidates who have passed the matriculation examination. Those who have appeared at the January 1941 examination may be admitted on probation, pending results. Special provision is being made to teach Botany and Zoology.

(Mts. 168, 19, 23 & 26.12.40)

to the present constitutional position in the provinces and tell him that if the old Ministries cannot be revived or cannot work smoothly, an attempt should be made with the goodwill of all to establish mixed or Coalition Ministries and even if this attempt fails Non-official Advisers should be associated with the administration of the provinces simultaneously with the reconstruction of the Central Government, and lastly that the war Board, which alone can at this stage bring British India and Indian States together on a common platform, be established provided it is going to be a live and active Board."

## Earliest Indian Civilisation

(Continued from page 1)

six halls, alternating regularly with five corridors, in all cases the walls rising to a uniform height. The halls are each partitioned into four narrow divisions by three equidistant full length brick walls terminating in broader piers. The resulting aperture made their spanning by carrelling, or timbering, easy.

This extraordinary complex measures 169 feet by 185 feet. The halls no doubt had timbered floors which rested on the partition walls below. Access to them could be had direct from the corridors which probably sloped up to the entrance hall, or from the aisle side. One can easily picture how this immense store-house must have functioned in collecting the dues from citizens and serving them in times of need.

In some of the Roman Forts in England there are structures remarkably like this Granary with the same narrow galleries and the same small apertures at the bottom of the end walls intended to allow circulation of air under the floor, to prevent the grain becoming mildewed.

### Planned Workmen's Quarters

Another discovery at Harappa is what may be called the "workmen's quarters", which give evidence of careful planning far ahead of any contemporary attempt. Fourteen small houses built in two blocks of seven houses each, separated by a long and narrow lane, with a similar lane at either end, have so far been brought to light. The three lanes are regularly intersected by a series of six cross-lanes, having the effect of making each dwelling open on all sides. Each house is rectangular, and consists of a courtyard and two rooms, a small room flanking an oblique entrance passage and a bigger room at the back of the courtyard. The entrance is so planned as to shut out a view of the courtyard from the outside.

The houses bear a striking resemblance to the workmen's cottages at Tel-El-Amarna in Egypt (which date to a period at least 1,200 years later), except that the cottages at Tel-El-Amarna, being built in continuous rows, have no cross lanes and are open on two sides only.

Amongst other important finds at Harappa mention may be made of two small nude male stone statuettes in the round of prehistoric origin. One of them is a torso, with frontal pose, in red sandstone, and the other an ithyphallic dancer in dark grey stone. They are made in parts and are of high artistic merit, with refined and wonderfully truthful modelling, incomparably superior to the statuary found at Mohenjodaro. Their discovery has, in effect, revolutionised existing ideas about the origin of Indian art and its technique.

### Gold Ornaments

A remarkable collection of jewellery consisting of gold, silver, stone, faience and shell objects, has been found below the foundation of a wall in the workmen's quarters. Those of gold

(Continued on Page 6)

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## Earliest Indian Civilisation

(Continued from page 5)

comprise a hollow armlet and bangl; a conical ornament for the temple or forehead; a heart-shaped pendant in 'repousse', inlaid with blue faience; a brooch with silver backing, shaped like the number 8 and inlaid with two rows of tiny, cylindrical steatite heads, having golden ends; a necklace consisting of 240 beads in four strings; two wristlets of beads and two small conical bosses; and an assorted string of 27 beads.

Another important discovery is a medium-sized round copper jar, sealed with a lid, which concealed a hoard of implements and utensils in excellent preservation, and a small copper chariot. The former contained as many as 70 weapons and implements and several hollow and solid bangles, some finished and some in the process of manufacture.

Children have always loved to play with toy conveyances, and thousands of earthen toy wheels and cart-frames from Harappa and Mohenjo-daro testify to the extent to which this pastime was indulged in these earliest cities. A complete idea of the ancient carts, complete with roof and driver is, however, given by models in copper, recovered from Harappa and Chanhudaro. The Harappa chariot is two-wheeled open front and back, but has a gabled roof which, with the side-walls, is relieved with simple linear decoration. The driver is seated in front on a raised seat, but the animal yoked to it (no doubt a bullock, as the horse was unknown), the poles, wheels and the axle are missing. These earliest Indian vehicles are, at anything, superior to the crude carts of rural Hind in the present days.

### Arts and Crafts

Evidence of a highly developed ceramic and metal industry is afforded by 16 small furnaces, more or less fragmentary. One of these consists only of a round pottery jar; two of cylindrical pits dug in the ground, the pit in one case being bricklined; and thirteen pear-shaped pits—eight with, and five without, brick lining. Some rectangular pillar with an air passage for the circulation of heat, while one has a dividing

wall.

The furnaces give indications of varying degrees of heat and repeated use. From their small size and signs of intense vitrification the conclusion has been drawn that the furnaces were not used for firing ordinary pottery ware but were designed for the casting of metal objects which, there is abundant evidence to show, were manufactured locally; or for the firing of small faience objects such as miniature vessels, squirrels, rams, beads, sundries for inlay, jewellery of this material and stoneware bangles; as well as for glazing steatite seals, faience sealings, vessels, etc; for putting on bands of coloured frit on faience vases; and for etching corneelian bead-processes which imply efficient arrangements for quickly reaching a very high degree of heat and equally rapid cooling in order to keep the colours bright. To judge from the light weight of the ashes and the intensity of the fire, charcoal seems to have been used in most cases.

The excavations at Harappa were carried out first by the late Sri Bahadur Daya Ram Sahni and then by Mr. M. S. Vats, Deputy Director-General of Archaeology, the author of the publication. The present volumes, together with the previously published five volumes on Mohenjo-daro by Sir John Marshall and Dr. Mackay, complete the official account of the large-scale excavations in the Indus Valley. The discoveries at Harappa range over a period of 20 years.

(The Mysore Economic Journal)

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Printed and published by S. ADCHALINGAM, residing at Vannampunai East, Jaffna, for and on behalf of the Proprietors, viz. Saiva Paripalana Sabai, Jaffna, at their Press, viz. Saiva Prakasa Press, Vannampunai, Jaffna, on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1940.