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The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Maximum Rice Prices in Jaffna

THE following maximum retail prices for rice have been fixed by the Deputy Controller of Prices, Jaffna District, for the Divisional Revenue Officer's Division of Jaffna, including the Jaffna Urban Council area and the Sanitary Board areas of Point Pedro and Kayts of the Jaffna District:—

	Per Bushel.	Per Meas.
	Rs. c.	Cts.
Muttusamba No 2	6 25	20½
Milchard (Arakan)		
White No. 1	5 53	18
Rose	5 94	19½
Broken Raw Rice (Adirampatnam)	5 53	18

January "Cut" in Petrol Ration

Private owners of motor cars will receive between 40 and 50 per cent. of their November ration of petrol this month.

The "cut" in the case of buses will be less drastic. It is learned that, in view of the fact that the bus service is regarded as a public utility service, the reduction will be only about 25 per cent. of the November ration.

Trafficking in coupons is stated to be going on and some "brokers" are said to be prepared to pay as much as fifty cents per coupon (representing half a gallon of petrol).

Under the existing law trafficking in coupons is illegal and the Petrol Controller, Mr. J. N. Arumugam, is keeping a watch for such traffic.

Defence of Burma

It is officially announced that the responsibility for Burma's defence has been assumed by General Wavell, Lieutenant-General T. J. Hutton, Chief of the General Staff, India, has been appointed General Officer Commanding in Burma. Lieut-General Hutton is aged fifty-one. He was promoted from Major-General in 1938 at the early age of forty-eight and became Deputy Chief of the General Staff in India in 1940 and Chief of the General Staff in India in April this year.

RESULT OF WASHINGTON CONFERENCES

POSITION OF DEMOCRACIES MUCH STRONGER

Washington, Dec. 28.

MR. ROOSEVELT declared that the position of the United States and all the nations aligned against the Axis had been "strengthened immeasurably" by the conference with Mr. Churchill and the representatives of the other nations. Summing up in a statement the conferences he and Mr. Churchill had held throughout Saturday with the representatives of the thirty-three nations actively allied or sympathetic to Axis opposition and other meetings, Mr. Roosevelt said: "We have advanced far along the road toward the achievement of our ultimate objective—the crushing defeat of those forces that have attacked and made war upon us."

Mr. Roosevelt's statement was issued by his Secretary, Mr. Stephen Early at White House. It says "Much has been accomplished in this week through the medium of the many conferences held in the meetings of supply and production officials, in the sessions held by members of military and naval groups and in discussions with chiefs of the missions of all nations that are at war with the common enemy. Included were conferences

with the Russian and Chinese Ambassadors, the Canadian Prime Minister and the Netherlands Minister.

POSITION STRENGTHENED

"As a result of all these meetings I know tonight that the position of the United States and of all the nations aligned with us, has been strengthened immeasurably. We have advanced far along the road towards the achievement of our ultimate objective—the crushing defeat of those forces that attacked and made war upon us."

"The conferences will continue for an indefinite period of time. It is impossible to say just now when they will terminate. It is my purpose as soon as it is possible to give, in so far as the safety of the world permits of not giving information of military value to the enemy, a more detailed account of all that has taken place in Washington this week and all that will take place during the remainder of the meetings. The present overall objective is the marshalling of all the resources, military and economic, of the worldwide front opposing the Axis. Excellent progress along these lines is being made."

EMERGENCY OFFICERS ASSUME DUTIES

ALL the Emergency Officers appointed to take charge of the re-organised Provincial Administration Scheme to ensure the application of measures necessitated by the war have assumed their duties at their new posts.

All these officers met Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Minister of Home Affairs, on Saturday when the scheme was explained to them.

The Minister of Agriculture and Lands, Mr. D. S. Senanayake, and the Director of Agriculture, Mr. Edmund Rodrigo, were also present and spoke to the officers regarding the arrangements for starting

the campaign for increasing the island's food production.

LIST OF OFFICERS

The following members of the Civil Service have been appointed Emergency Officers, with headquarters at the stations mentioned against their names:—

Messrs. C. B. P. Perera, (Minuwangoda); N. Munasinghe, (Horana); H. E. Tennakoon, (Gampola); L. J. Seneviratne, (Kandy); M. J. Perera, (Trincomalee); S. C. Fernando, (Colombo); C. Kanagasunderam, (Haputale); L. Jayasundera, (Pelmadulla); W. D. Gunaratne, (Homagama); N. Q. Dias, (Hambantota); B. F.

CEYLON UNITED AND FREE

NEW CONGRESS PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

"WHILE helping the war effort we must take steps to prepare ourselves for our freedom," observed Mr. G. C. S. Corea, the Minister for Labour, in the course of his address as the new President of the Ceylon National Congress at the twenty-second sessions of the Congress.

A very useful step to take at this time, he added, was to attempt to prepare an agreed constitution—a constitution in regard to which the greatest measure of agreement could be secured from all sections of the people. This required goodwill, understanding, and true patriotism and compromise.

Mr. Corea began by paying a tribute to the Chairman of the Reception Committee for the arrangements made for the convenience of the delegates. He also referred to the valuable work done by their retiring President, Mr. Wijeyaratne in extending the activities of the Congress to towns and villages.

The Congress had gone through many vicissitudes, said Mr. Corea. There were years of unity and solidarity and also years of dissension and even of defection, the latter on the part of men who, having climbed to the higher rungs of political power, kicked the Congress ladder by which they had ascended.

But it was comforting that throughout they had kept constantly before them the twin ideal of a united and a free Ceylon. The ideal of a united Ceylon had been somewhat blurred by the undue and unhealthy emphasis laid on communal differences. They should therefore make a special effort to sink those differences and re-

• Continued on page 6

Perera, (Gampaha); C. J. Orloff, (Jaffna); M. Rajendra, (Chilaw) and C. P. D. de Silva, (Polonnaruwa).

The following are the officers of the Land Settlement and Survey Departments appointed to the emergency scheme: Messrs. M. W. F. Abeykoon, (Hikkaduwa); R. W. Tennakoon, (Ruanwella); S. L. D. Silva, (Akuressa); D. B. Ellepola, (Narammala) and J. R. Sinnatamby, (Kalmunai).



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1942

THE CEYLON CONGRESS

IT WOULD PERHAPS SERVE no useful purpose to point out to those who are managing the affairs of the Ceylon Congress that ever since the Tamils were forced to secede from the Congress, this body ceased to be "national" in any sense of the term. That the Congress authorities still persevere in the delusion that their organisation is national in spite of all that has happened is, however, a great tribute to those Tamils who gave nationalism in Ceylon a voice and an organisation. Nationalism is indeed a potent factor, but it is at the same time a force which can be utilised for the attainment of ends diametrically opposed to it. This is what has happened in Ceylon, where, thanks to the lack of vision of a few, nationalism has come to mean the sort of arrogant racialism which Mr. Bandaranaike is never tired of preaching. Shallow and unscrupulous minds in all communities have seized upon nationalism as a handy excuse for condoning and even encouraging trends of thought and conduct which are not only in themselves morally as well as intellectually indefensible but also productive of the worst possible consequences to the cause of good government. Placed in such a situation, the best of causes is bound to suffer, and one need not be surprised that, under similar conditions, nationalism and democracy have in Ceylon produced results which have staggered the apostles of reform.

It is possible that in every country which has the misfortune to experiment with modes of thought and government that are somewhat foreign to its own culture and traditions mistakes cannot always be avoided, but it stands to reason that at some stage or other we have to deny ourselves the pleasure of making mistakes which rob these new things of their meaning and purpose. The speech delivered by the outgoing President of the Ceylon "National" Congress displays the new technique at its best. British imperialism is the only enemy of Ceylon, and, as for the rank dishonesty and corruption which continue to drag public life to the lowest possible level, the lack of statesmanship which rendered it necessary for the Tamils to secede from the Congress which they them-

selves had helped to create, and the record of the democratic and homogeneous Ministry itself, Mr. E. A. P. Wijeyeratne is discreetly silent. According to him the only reason why Ceylon is not free is that we are a small and weak people, but Mr. Wijeyeratne expresses the hope that, as a result of the war in the Far East, Ceylon is going to achieve freedom. These are some of the riddles with which the muddled mind of the professional politician tries to conjure up visions of great things. Mr. Wijeyeratne has not told us how the war in the East is going to make Ceylon free but he cannot be ignorant of the fact that a small and weak people, to use his own phraseology, like those of Ceylon can never secure their independence except as a gift from the Power actually in possession. From whom, from which Government, does Mr. Wijeyeratne propose to obtain due recognition of Ceylon as an independent country?

It is certainly refreshing to turn from the frenzied speculations of the ex-President of the Congress to the statesman-like address of the new President, Mr. G. C. S. Corea, who has managed to give within the limits of a comparatively short speech, a shrewd and on the whole correct analysis of the present political situation. His goal is a united and free Lanka and his appeal for unity amongst the various communities of this island deserves careful consideration. How is this unity to be achieved? Not certainly by ignoring legitimate grievances, or by mumbling formulas which have no practical application to the matter in hand. Mr. Corea thinks the moment opportune for preparing an agreed constitution, but he does not underestimate the difficulties in the way. The task is one which, in his own words, "requires goodwill and understanding and true patriotism. It requires a spirit of compromise, not a yielding on fundamental principles but non-essentials and matters non-fundamental." Mr. Corea himself will, we think, be the first to recognise that national unity must precede any attempt at framing a Constitution, and the bickering of the last ten or fifteen years have left their inevitable impress on the political outlook of every community in Ceylon. We may deplore as much as we like, but the fact remains that at the present moment Ceylon is not united. To get back to the spirit of the times when all communities heartily co-operated in the task of political regeneration will take time. These things cannot be made to order. Besides, apart from the question of framing agreed constitutions, a great danger threatens us all, regardless of race or community. We in Ceylon have to unite and remain united if our common heritage is to be preserved. We cannot think of a more powerful argument in favour of unity than this. Is it too late for the Congress to suspend political agitation and constitution-making during the present crisis in the history of the island?

MAIN EVENTS IN CEYLON IN 1941

A REVIEW

CEYLON'S total trade in merchandise showed a further increase during 1941 and the figure of Rs. 700 million will undoubtedly be revealed when the final figures are published. This compares with Rs. 669 million for 1940 and we have to go 12 years to 1929 to find a higher aggregate value for our trade, says the 'Times'.

The Customs Returns, as now issued are incomplete, but they show that imports up to November amounted to Rs. 256½ million, while the November total—and this will apply to subsequent monthly totals—does not include the figures for coal, liquid fuel, petrol, and for military imports.

The total figure for imports for the year was undoubtedly not less than Rs. 290 million, or some Rs. 6 million more than the 1940 figure, but with higher prices ruling for commodities this may actually mean a reduction in the quantum of imports.

The reports for the 11 months up to November are shown to have amounted to Rs. 382 million in value and the full figure for the year will probably be in the region of Rs. 415 million on account of the higher shipment of rubber towards the year-end.

The export quota for rubber for the year gave an average of 105 per cent of standard, the permissible exportable allowance being 114,450 tons.

The export quota for tea for the control year 1941/42 has been increased to 110 per cent.

The War continued to engage a great deal of the attention of the State Council. At the very first meeting for the year (on January 28th, 1941), all three readings of the Companies (War Contribution) Bill were passed. It was explained that unless the Articles and the Memorandum of Association specially provided for it, Companies registered in Ceylon were not in a position to make contributions to War funds, even if they wanted to do so. This Bill authorized such contributions.

At the next day's meeting the Financial Secretary moved the first reading of two Bills—"An Ordinance to authorize a sum of Rs. 100 million to be raised under the Registered Stocks and Securities Ordinance and to be lent to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom for the purposes of Imperial War Expenditure," and "an ordinance to enable money to be lent without interest to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom through the Government of Ceylon for the purposes of Imperial War expenditure."

Both Bills were passed.

When the Minister and Executive Committee of Local Administration who had previously sanctioned donations from the funds of local authorities for War purposes decided to withhold such sanction as a protest against the Governor's message on Undertakings to India the Governor in a letter to the Minister required of him "publicly to notify forthwith" the rescission of the Committee's resolution.

This the Minister did in a 'Gazette Extraordinary' and without the sanction of the Committee.

His conduct was called in question by Mr. S. Samarakkody.

The Council decided not to pursue the matter. Local authorities were allowed to contribute to war funds.

The Council on October 28th voted Rs. 1,271,700 for raising a fourth Battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry. The proposal was to enlist in this Battalion only Cadets from the schools. The proposal met with some criticism. When applicants were invited to enlist the response was so poor that the proposal was dropped.

AFTER JAPAN'S ENTRY

After Japan's entry into the War the Council which had adjourned for the year on December 5th was specially summoned. On December 17th, the Governor addressed the Council, outlining the measures to be taken for the defence of Ceylon. He announced the appointment of a Local Defence Committee on which four Ministers—those for Home Affairs, Agriculture and Lands, Local Administration and Communications and Works—were to sit along with four other members drawn from the minority communities.

At the same meeting of the Council a block vote of Rs. 20 million for emergency measures was passed.

On January 28th, the Council sanctioned the expenditure of Rs. 270,000 out of Loan Funds for the erection and equipment of a Steel Rolling Factory.

The appointment of a Commission "to inquire into and report upon the various allegations made in connexion with the preparation, approval, prescription and adoption of text books in schools" was announced on March 4th.

The second reading of 'An Ordinance to provide for the prevention and punishment of bribery and corruption of and by members of the State Council' was taken up on May 14th. After some speeches the Council by 19 votes to 11 decided to adjourn the debate until the decision of the Secretary of State on the State Council Powers and Privileges Bill was made known.

On May 15th Mr. Francis de Zoysa moved for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the charges of bribery and corruption brought against State Councillors. The motion was accepted and Mr. L. M. D. de Silva was appointed Commissioner.

After the third reading the Bill has been reserved for the opinion of the Secretary of State. In the meantime the Commission has not begun to function.

The Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Bill framed on the lines suggested by the Secretary of State in order to eliminate the objections to the previous Debt Conciliation Bill was passed through all stages at the meeting of the Council on June 25th.

1941-42 BUDGET

On July 6th Sir Baron Javaharlal introduced the Appropriation Bill which provided for a total estimated revenue of Rs. 127,382,000 and an estimated expenditure of Rs. 147,960,000 involving a deficit of Rs. 20,278,000. The Budget included four new taxation proposals; an additional duty of 1½ cents per lb. on tea, estimated to yield Rs. 3,300,000; a duty of 2½ cents per lb. on rubber estimated to yield Rs. 5,800,000; a export duty of Re. 1 per cwt. on gamboge, estimated to yield Rs. 600,000; an excess profits duty of 10 per cent on business other than agriculture and

Continued on page 5

DEADLOCK IN INDIA

Fresh Effort For Solution Urged

London, Dec., 26.

"This is an important week in India," says the "Manchester Guardian" in a leading article, on Wednesday. (A summary of the article appeared in our issue of December 25). "The Congress Working Committee is meeting at Bardoli and the Muslim League Executive is to meet at Nagpur. These gatherings take place when India, deeply stirred by the Japanese attack, sees massed forces of violence directly threatening her and finds herself not free and dependent on an external governing Power for protection.

"The intervention of Japan has not changed the rights and wrongs of the political problem, but charged the issues with higher intensity. Not only is there an opportunity for a fresh attempt by all sides to unite India, but there is an obligation on all to make it. Everyone must be weary of the British Government saying that nothing more can be done until the contending parties agree and the parties glowering at one another, sullenly aloof, united in nothing except grievances against the British Government.

"Cannot both sides make an effort which all desire and all know to be necessary? One hears that the Viceroy would gladly act but cannot risk rebuffs. He has made various offers and they have been rejected; so the official world fears that if this goes on, the Indian Government will lose credit, with the ruled. One is told that Congressmen desire to return to active political co-operation in the provinces but the Congress will not move unless Government fulfils certain formulas. When Asia is on fire, should wise men stand in dignity or Indian patriots prefer formulas to the practical wisdom of uniting the country and guiding its affairs?

"Our Indian correspondent says, as others, that the Congress (apart from what Mr. Gandhi may do) would co-operate if Britain will make a definite unambiguous declaration in favour of India's complete freedom. Why should not the Viceroy for if there is to be peace, the Viceroy must act—see the chief Indian leaders, specially Mr. Jinnah and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, appeal to them to set history and party cries aside and come forward as men determined to find India's road to liberty, at the same time telling them that their agreement on this road will mean that India's liberty is already fully won?

"To be successful, this policy must have behind it not only the Indian leaders but also Mr. Churchill. Is that too much to hope of a man who, in many other things, has shown the highest qualities of political insight? What ought to be decisive with both Mr. Churchill and the Indian leaders is this. Here is India whose future depends completely on our victory and to whom this country sincerely intends to give its freedom. Yet Indian leaders and parties cannot agree among themselves, nor can individual representative Indians or British and Indian Governments find a basis for agreement. Now the moment has arrived to make a new effort and it must not be missed."

AMERICAN PACIFIC FLEET'S WHEREABOUTS

PRESIDENT'S SOLEMN PLEDGE TO THE PHILIPPINES

Washington, Dec. 29.

THE U. S. Navy Department announced on Sunday night that the Japanese Government is circulating rumours for the obvious purpose of persuading the United States to disclose the location and intentions of the American Pacific Fleet. It is obvious that these rumours are intended for and directed at the Philippine Islands. The Philippines may rest assured that while the United States will not be tricked into disclosing vital information, the fleet is not idle. The United States Navy is following an intensive and well-planned campaign against the Japanese forces, which will result in positive assistance to the defence of the Philippine Islands.

Mr. Roosevelt has sent a message to the people of the Philippines pledging that "their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources in men and material of the United States stand behind that pledge" he added. The President's message followed the bombing on Sunday of undefended Manila for the second successive day by Japanese planes.

The message reads: "To the people of the Philippines: The news of your gallant struggle against the Japanese aggressor has elicited the profound admiration of every American. As president of the

United States, I know I speak for all our peoples on this solemn occasion. The resources of the United States, of the British Empire, of the Netherlands East Indies and of the Chinese Republic have been dedicated by their people to the utter and complete defeat of the Japanese war lords. In this great struggle of the Pacific, the loyal Americans of the Philippine Islands are called upon to play a crucial role. They have played and are playing tonight their part with the greatest gallantry. As President I wish to express to them my feelings of sincere admiration for the fight they are now making. The people of the United States will never forget what the people of the Philippine Islands are doing this day, and will do in the days to come.

SOLEMN PLEDGE

"I give to the people of the Philippines my solemn pledge that their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources in men and material of the United States stand behind that pledge. It is not for me or for the people of this country to tell you where your duty lies. We are engaged in a great and common cause. I count on every one in the Philippines, man woman and child, to do his or her duty. We will do ours."

BRITISH FORCES FIGHTING SOUTH OF IPOH

PORT SWETTENHAM BOMBED BY JAPANESE PLANES

London, Dec. 29.

A Singapore war communique today states: "On the Perak front our forces are in close contact with the enemy south of Ipoh. Elsewhere in Malaya the situation remains unchanged. On the east coast, at Kuantan, some enemy aircraft bombed and machine-gunned our positions. No damage or casualties are reported. Reports regarding Sarawak confirm the Japanese occupation of the capital, Kuching.

R. A. F. ATTACK ON SUNGEI PATANI

Medium bombers of the R. A. F. carried out another attack on the aerodrome at Sungei Patani last night, causing a number of fires and explosions. Reconnaissances confirm that during the attack on the same target on the previous night,

seven enemy fighters and three heavy bombers were destroyed and five other enemy fighters badly damaged.

"Enemy aircraft carried out raids on Medan and Port Swettenham yesterday. Slight damage has been reported. One enemy aircraft was shot down by anti-aircraft fire at Port Swettenham and at least one other damaged. There was a raid this morning on Kluang aerodrome."

Japanese planes bombed the walled city and harbour of Manila yesterday.

Manila City had a 46 minutes air raid alarm late yesterday afternoon, when Japanese planes strafed the suburban Camp Murphy from an altitude of 200 feet. The camp had previously been evacuated. The planes did not fly over the city proper.

600 CASUALTIES IN RANGOON

It is learnt that 600 civilian casualties were caused in the first air raid on Rangoon on December 23, but the casualties in the second raid on December 25 were very small. Casualties among military personnel were small.

A high military authority who was in Rangoon during the raids pointed out that the civilian casualties were largely due to people coming into the streets instead of taking cover.

WANTED

"Wanted for the Karainagar Hindu College a Hindu Lady teacher who should have passed either the London Matriculation examination or the Cambridge or Ceylon Senior School Certificate examination. Preference will be given to one who is good at Needle-work and Indian Music. Apply before 10-1-1942, to the Manager, Jaffna Hindu College and Branch schools, Jaffna."

(Mis 164, 1-1-42-8-1-42)

CALL TO STUDENTS FOR UNITY

Pandit Nehru's Message

Patna, Dec. 25.

MR. M. L. Shah, General Secretary, All-India Students' Federation, has received the following message from Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru from Bombay for the Seventh Session of the All-India Students' Conference, which will be held at Patna under the presidency of Mr. Yusuf Meherally on December 27 and 28.

"I understand that the All-India Students' Conference is going to be held at Patna soon, and that this will be presided over by my friend, Mr. Yusuf Meherally. I have been asked to give a message of good wishes for this Conference. Students, of course, have my good wishes always, and yet I have hesitated to give this message, as some news reached me through newspapers in prison about squabbles and schemes in the student world. I did not try to follow what happened, as such disputes did not interest me, but I gathered enough to be distressed.

"It seemed to me bad enough that students in India, even in ordinary times, should be behaving as political parties have been behaving, but infinitely worse that, at a time of national and world crisis, relatively trivial matters should create splits and rouse passions. It is always the test of a nation, group and individual as to what it or he considers the first essential. If secondary matters are given the first place, that nation, group or individual becomes secondary and counts for little.

"For students, it is obvious that the common bonds that should link them and the general national approach that should bind them together are such that there can hardly be two opinions in regard to them. On these there could easily be unity and effective work, giving freedom for individual expression of opinion on other matters. If students forget their own job, and consider themselves as final judges of the nation's activities, and split on that issue, they are perfectly welcome to do so, but they are not likely to advance their own interest or the national interest. In this world of prejudices and horrors, none of us can afford to make catch-phrases and slogans take the place of reason. Slogans are useful and desirable but they are dangerous companions for those who wish to use their minds and their intellects."

MEANINGLESS RIVALRY

"I do not know the merits or demerits of student organisations that exist to-day, and I am unable to express my opinion, but I am well acquainted with the background, and so can presume to form an opinion based on general principles.

"I am told there is another students' organisation called the All-India Students' Federation and that this organisation also is holding some kind of Conference soon in Patna. Mian Iftikharuddin, a friend and a colleague, is expected to preside over this Conference. Both these prospective Presidents of the two students' conferences are comrades of mine, whom I respect. It seems odd to me that two such friends and comrades should be as

Continued on page 4

JAPAN ATTACKS SUMATRA

Parachutists Land Near Medan

London, Dec. 28.

SEVENTEEN Japanese planes attacked Medan airport on the east coast of Sumatra this afternoon. Parachutists were also dropped about ten miles outside Medan, and fighting is still proceeding. Australian planes encountered a small Japanese cruiser off Minabassa and scored direct hits on the cruiser's stern, causing a fire. Japanese planes bombed and machine-gunned several places on the Minabassa peninsula this morning without causing much damage.

Twenty persons were killed and forty wounded during the raid on Medan. The office of the Royal Netherlands Indies Air Line received a direct hit and one plane about to take off was burned out.

Houses, shops and offices were destroyed when the Japanese raided Sorong on the north coast of New Guinea today. Many fires were still blazing there. One person was killed. The number injured has not yet been established.

FUTURE POLICY OF INDIAN CONGRESS

Bardoli, Dec. 27.

After a five-day discussion the Congress Working Committee was unable to come to any decision with regard to the future policy of Congress. There appears to be a sharp difference of opinion between Mr. Gandhi on one hand and the other members of the Committee led by Mr. Rajagopalachari on the question of the revision of the present programme of Congress.

Well-informed quarters point out that no decision is likely for two or three days in view of the important issues involved and the diametrically opposite views held.

600 YEARS OLD

is the formula of "Nethraratna Thailaya" now prepared at a Rock Temple by a Buddhist priest according to an ancient prescription found in the old book of a great physician.

Nethraratna Thailaya

is a renowned curative medicinal oil.

The regular use of this oil effects a cure of the most common diseases of the eyes and head. It instantly relieves eye strain, tired eyes, eyes affected with watering, redness, irritation etc. It is speedily efficacious in cases of the inflammation, congestion, ulceration of the eyes or the eyelids.

It is particularly good for people with misty and clouded vision, long and short sight etc. For the hale, this oil will preserve their eyes from eye troubles. It keeps the head and the brain cool. It also acts as a sedative to the overstrung nerves. It is very beneficial in cases of nasal catarrh and neuralgia in the head.

(N.B. This oil is guaranteed to aid the growth of the hair.)

Price Rs. 2-50.

Distributors:-

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[Q. 115. 23-10-41-22-1-42]

"NATIONAL" CONGRESS IN FREEDOM FIGHT

PRESIDENT TALKS "WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR"

HIS Lordship the Bishop of Chilaw paid a short visit to "Swarajyapura", or the Congress City, after it was declared open by Mr. E. A. P. Wijeyaratne, president of Congress, to the accompaniment of a Victory cry, Jayasri! Jayasri! Jayasri!—which rent the air of Dummala-deniya in the district of Chilaw, yesterday afternoon, says the "Times of Ceylon" of Dec. 28.

The opening of the City was also the opening of the Swadeshi exhibition, which is part and parcel of the 22nd annual session of the Ceylon National Congress to which delegates began coming in from all parts of the island from yesterday morning. The presidential address by Mr. G. C. S. Corea, who has been elected president for 1942, will be delivered tomorrow afternoon.

"Swarajyapura" presented an animated scene yesterday, the chief attraction for the thousands of villagers, men women and children, from the neighbouring areas, being the Swadeshi exhibition which cannot but impress the visitor of the latent talent of the people of the country.

An attractive pandal spans the entrance to the "City" and on either side are two long sheds housing the exhibits. The Department of Commerce and Industries makes a justifiably boastful display of the products of its coir, twine, mat, textile and pottery factories, while the Department of Agriculture proclaims the results derived from a fertile soil. Private exhibitors are not far behind. The Youth's Social Service League of Jaffna shows the possibilities of paper manufacture and an enterprising young man of Wennappuwa proves the length to which he has gone experimenting successfully with curing ham and bacon and with the preparation of corned beef and corned pork.

Beyond the exhibition grounds is the long row of sheds put up for the delegates. Each shed accommodates 50 and there are ten of them in complete with beds and other conveniences. There are also ten dining halls each with its own kitchen. The Reception Committee must indeed be congratulated on these arrangements.

Yesterday and today the Congress association of Ceylon held their annual conference. Tomorrow afternoon is the presidential procession and the addresses in the open from the rostrum built in the centre of the exhibition grounds.

The Mayor of Colombo, Dr. R. Saravanamuttu, and other prominent Congressmen were present yesterday when Mr. E. A. P. Wijeyaratne performed the simple opening ceremony by cutting a ribbon.

IN FREE CITY

"With this ceremony we enter 'Swarajyapura,' the 'Free City,'" said Mr. Wijeyaratne. "In this city, built by the Congress we

shall talk without fear or favour and we shall think as we please.

"It is not because we are dis-united; it is not because we are not fit to govern ourselves; it is because we are small and weak that we are not free. If we had the power, long ago we would have wrested from our foreign rulers the freedom that is our birthright."

"It may be that the war in the East will bring to India and Lanka that freedom which British Imperialism still denies to us. Let us by reasoned discussion and endeavour prepare ourselves to use that freedom for the greatest good of the greatest number."

Mr. Wijeyaratne was welcomed by Mr. Peter Perera, the Chairman of the Reception Committee.

Mr. G. C. S. Corea, who opened the Conference of Congress Associations of Chilaw, referred to the useful work done by them for 18 years. Their sabbaths represented the whole district and met once a year. Such annual meetings had been held for the last eight years.

At the present time the Conference had a very important duty owing to the international situation. They must take steps to increase food production. They must help in food control and they must support the authorities to keep peace and order.

He referred to the motion regarding constitutional reform on the programme (it was later passed unanimously) and emphasised the need for a free constitution like Dominion Status for Ceylon.

"America and Britain are fighting for freedom," said Mr. Corea. "We join them in that fight. We give all the support we can because fighting for them we fight for our own freedom."

A large number of delegates, including Ministers and members of the State Council and members of municipal and urban councils, are expected tomorrow. There will be a special bus service from the Bolwatte Railway Station, one-and-a-half miles from "Swarajyapura," which is on the main road to Chilaw.

LANKA AYURVEDIC MEDICAL COLLEGE O. B. A.

A meeting of the old boys of the Lanka Ayurvedic Medical College and Sidha Institute was convened on the 22nd ultimo, at 10 a. m. under the presidency of Dr. P. Nagalingam (Principal) at the above College hall.

An Association was organised, and it was named "O. B. A. of Lanka Ayurvedic Medical College and Sidha Institute."

The meeting was successfully conducted and a resolution was passed unanimously that the committee should apply to the Board of Indigenous Medicine, asking them to register the graduates of the College under class A.

(Cor.)

CALL TO STUDENTS FOR UNITY

Continued from page 3

sociated with rival organisations. It seems to me that it should be their first job, as well as that of the students, to put an end to this unseemly state of affairs. Possibly, they may find it difficult to day, under the existing conditions. Possibly also, it is better for the student world to learn through its own experience. Till they have so learnt, I am afraid they cannot expect much sympathy or help from outsiders, who otherwise wish them well, and would gladly co-operate with them.

"I have ventured to express my opinion frankly to the students, for there is little point in my repeating unmeaning platitudes. I am sure they will appreciate my frankness, even though they may not agree with all that I have said. We dare not delude ourselves in these critical times by adopting any course or line of thought that evades the real issues.

"Again, I repeat that I wish well to the students. After all, the burden of the future rests with them. What they do to-day is relatively of little importance, except in so far as it prepares them and lays the foundation for the future. For them tomorrow is more important than to-day. If they wish to make tomorrow theirs, they will have to develop methods of work and qualities which will bring them this heritage, or else others will pass them by, while they argue and dispute, and take the leadership."

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1102

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Alagammah wife of Subramaniam Sellathurai of Kankasanturai, Jaffna. Deceased. Subramaniam Sellathurai of Kankasanturai Jaffna presently of Madulsima Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Sellathurai Senathirajah of Kankasanturai, Jaffna.
Minor: 2. Parameswary daughter of Sellathurai of do

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner praying that the 1st respondent abovenamed be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor 2nd respondent and that letters of administration be issued to him in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased coming on for disposal before G. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 14th day of December 1941 in the presence of Mr. A. V. Sathasivam Proctor for petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the abovenamed petitioner having been read:—

It is ordered that the 1st respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 2nd respondent and that letters of administration in respect of the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or any other persons shall appear before this court on the 30th day of January 1942 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge

Jaffna this 18th day of December 1941.
Drawn by
Sgd. A. V. Sathasivam,
Proctor for petitioner.

(O. 56. 1 & 5-1-42)

THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

VIII. The Siddhanta Shastras and Other Sacred Books

(Continued from our issue of 25-12-41)

We would mention just one other point before we proceed further. We do not know if this point has been noticed or mentioned by any other student of Siva Gana Bodham before this. The word 'Siva' appears but once in the whole of the Siva Gana Bodham, we mean in the Sutras themselves, not the commentary, and even in that single instance it does not appear as an independent noun but is tacked on to another word 'Sat'. Now if a commentator of the type of Sayanar would take it into his head to interpret this term 'Siva Sat' as meaning 'blessed existence', woe be to any Saivan who claims the Bodham as his most authoritative and sacred Shastram! One can then assert with even greater plausibility than these critics of the Veda that the name Siva does not occur in the Bodham at all and that the Bodham should therefore be rejected as not being an authoritative Siva Shastram. The existence of such words as Olunki, Antim, Anai, Sat, Haran, Pati and Irai can simply be brushed aside as of no moment in the same way that the existence of such words as Rudra, Triambaga (three eyed God), Pasupati, Bharga, Gourie, Ganapati, Vira (Virapatra), &c. in the Rig Veda is brushed aside. It matters little if the Bodham speaks of the Tri-Padarthas just as it matters little if the Rig Veda speaks of two inseparable friendly birds sitting on a tree of which one ate the fruits while the other simply looked on without eating. It does not matter if this allegorical reference to two birds in the Rig Veda is found in a more developed form in the Svetasvatara Upanishad and forms the original to Tirumoolar's Tirumantiram:

அன்னை இரண்டு உள் ஆற்றங்கரைவிரிவில்
ஒன்றி இரண்டும் துணைப்பிரியா, தன்னை
தன்னிலே அன்னை தனி ஒன்று, அது என்நக்கால்
பின்னம், மட அன்னைப் பேறு அறுகாதே.

It does not matter if the germ of the Puranic story of the appearance of Kanda Swami in the form of fiery sparks from Akasa (Chit Akas or Sadasiva) and His being reared in the water (Siravana Pond) and His possession of the (weapon shaped like an) eagle with outspread wings (Vel) is found in one of the Rig Veda Mantiras. Has not Sayanar interpreted this Mantiram (—and Sayanar cannot be wrong—) as referring to the birth of a horse? (—a most wonderful ass indeed this is!—pardon for the slip—a wonderful brute!—Oh! no, a horse! a horse!—) It does not matter if the sacred 'Gayatri' Mantiram in which Siva is referred to as Bharga is found in the Rig Veda. It does not matter if the 'Gourinimaya' Mantiram referred to in the Siva Maha Puranam as referring to Parvati Deviyar is found in the Rig Veda. It does not matter if Sankarachariyar himself addresses Siva as 'Giri-Ira' and Sakti as 'Gourie'. Has not Sayanar plainly stated (—and Sayanar cannot be wrong,—) that this Mantiram refers to the rattling of clouds (? thunder) and rain spreading once, twice, four times, eight times, nine times, &c.? What does it matter if others take it as clearly referring to Gourie (Daughter of the Mountain) who is One (Siva and Sakti combined), who appears as two (Siva and Sakti), who is the giver of the four Purusharthas (Aram, Porul, Inpam and Veedu), who manifests Herself as the eight forms Ashta Moortham இருநிலையு &c, and as the nine forms நவந்தரு பேதம் described in the following verse of Siva Gana Siddhi:

சிவம், சக்தி, நாதம், வித்து, சதாசிவன், தீகமும் இசன்,
உவந்து அருள் உருத்திரன் தான், மால், அயன், ஒன்றின் ஒன்றாய்
பவந்தரும் அருவம் நானு இவ்வு உருவம் நானு உபயம் ஒன்றும்
நவம் தருபேதம் ஏகாதனே நடிப்பன் என்பர்.

Cf. also the following Venba from Tiru-Kalittu-Padiyar of Uyyavantha Devan:

இருதி அங்கே முதல் ஒன்று இரு இரு இரண்டாய்
மாருத என் வகையாய் மற்று துவற்றின்—வேறாய்
உடனாய் இருக்கும் உரு உடைமை என்றும்
உடனாய் இருக்கின்றான் காண்.

It does not matter if the Rig Veda contains the 'Gananandwa' Mantiram referred to in the following and other stanzas of Vinayaka Puranam:

குழக்கம்முதலாகிய கொறியில் உறழாத குழைச், சலி மகிழ்த்து,
வழுக்குஇலாத கணுநுத்துவா என் மனுவை உபதேசித்த,
அழுக்கு இலாதாய் இமமனுவை அனுட்டிப்போமும் கணியிழைவு
முழுக்க அருள்வர், கேணைச், என மொழிந்தான், அவனும்
அது ஏற்றான்.

What does it matter if among others the very name 'Ganapati' (கணபதி) occurs in this Mantiram? Has not Sayanar unequivocally stated (—and Sayanar cannot be wrong—) that this Mantiram is addressed to a deity called Brahmanaspate (—whoever that may be—) who is lord of the hosts and most learned of the learned (? or is it chief of monkeys perhaps, Kavies, கவிஞர்)?—What shall we say of such most amazing annotations of Sayanar and of translations into English based on such interpretations? Astonishingly wonderful and literal indeed they are, reminiscent a bit of the story of the blind man who imagined that the 'milk' given to his child was as crooked and solid as his hand bent in zigzag

MAIN EVENTS IN CEYLON IN 1941

Continued from page 2

plumbago estimated to yield Rs. 2,500,000.

Both the Appropriation Bill and the Excess Profits Duty Bill were passed on Sept. 24th.

On Sept. 24th the Council approved the appointment of a transport Expert on a salary of £2,500 per annum for a period not exceeding three years to report on the carrying out of the recommendations of the Transport Commission's report.

A motion introduced by the Minister of Communications and Works for the closing of the Puttalam-Bangadeniya section of the Railway was debated and rejected on Nov. 26th.

The next day the Minister of Agriculture obtained the Council's sanction for his scheme for the settlement of educated young men from the schools on land specially reserved for them.

In view of the Secretary of State's decision not to hold a general election Mr. S. Samarakody moved that the existing Executive Committees be dissolved and fresh committees formed on a re-shuffle of members with consequent election of Ministers. Twenty members voted for the motion and 22 against it. Among the latter were five Ministers. One Minister alone, Lieut. Col. Kotlawala, declined to vote.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

On February 11th the Governor sent to the Council a Message in which he detailed the "undertakings" given to the Government of India by the Government of Ceylon on Indo-Ceylon relations. On the message being read, the Leader of the House (Sir Baron Jayatilaka) moved the adjournment of the House till March 4th. After a debate lasting the whole day the House divided: Ayes 30, Noes 13. Declined to vote 1.

Despite the Governor's warning that no legislation affecting Indians on which the Government of India had not been consulted would receive his assent two Bills—the Immigration Bill and the Registration of non-Ceylonese Bill—were introduced and the

first reading took place on March 4th and the second reading of the Immigration Bill went on for five days and was passed (Ayes 29, Noes 12) on March 26th. On the next day the second reading of the Registration of non-Ceylonese Bill was passed (Ayes 36, Noes 13).

On Sept. 4th an Indian delegation consisting of Sir Girja Shanker Bajpai, Sir Mirza Ismail, Mr. T. R. Venkata Ranga Sastri and Mr. T. G. Raghunadiah arrived in Ceylon to discuss Indo-Ceylon relations with a Ceylon delegation consisting of Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Mr. G. C. S. Corea and Mr. R. H. Drayton. Meetings were held from Sept. 5th to Sept. 20th when "agreed conclusions" were reached. These conclusions have not yet been implemented and form the subject of discussion in India and Ceylon.

KNOWLEDGE OF FIRST AID IMPORTANT

The advisability of having a first aid outfit in every house and the necessity of everyone acquiring some knowledge of first aid was emphasised by Dr. S. M. M. Jabir in a lecture at St. Peter's College hall on A. R. P. methods.

HINDU ENGLISH SENIOR SECONDARY MIXED SCHOOL, VADDUKODDAI

An examination for pupils seeking admission to the above school in the Senior School Certificate Class will be held in the school hall, on Monday, the 19th January, 1942, commencing at 10 a. m. Only pupils who have either sat for the J. S. C. examination or been admitted in the Pre-Matric or S. S. C. forms in other schools or colleges will be eligible for admission. Further information may be had from the undersigned.

M. SABARATNASINGHE,
Headmaster.

Vaddu. H. E. S.,

27th December, 1941.

(Mis. 163, 29-12-41 & 1-1-42)

form to resemble a swan! and on a par with—ch literally very accurate but most ridiculous and parrotlike translations as the following: Paramahansa=great goose, Svetasvatara=white mule, Saktinipatam=cessation of energy, Koduva Katti=give-come-knife, Idiappam=thunder bread &c.—It does not matter if the Rig Veda speaks of Him with the Braided Hair (Kaparidin) or of the Drinker of Poison (Visha). It does not matter if the Bodham enjoins contemplation on the Five Sacred Letters. As neither the Rig Veda nor the Siva Gana Bodham mentions Siva Peruman by that particular name or, even assuming that there are some clear references to Him in both of them, as they do not repeat this particular name as frequently as other names, they have both to be rejected. (We have confined ourselves here to the Rig Veda as our friends' criticisms are mainly directed against that Veda and not to the other Vedas).

Having thus rejected both the Rig Veda and the Siva Gana Bodham, we next come to the Siva Gana Siddhi which, being the work of an (alleged) imposter who pretended to be and was recognised as the foremost of Meykanta Deva's disciples when as a matter of fact he hated his Guru in his heart of hearts as being a Sudran and created cock and bull stories to belittle his Guru's greatness, as our friends allege, cannot be accepted as authoritative, whatever its intrinsic value may be. Sivapirakasam and other works labour under a similar handicap. The Agamas and the other Vedas are in Sanskrit and cannot therefore be accepted. The Devaram, Tiruvachagam, &c., are also not quite acceptable as they make frequent references to the Rig and other Vedas in a reverential manner. Thus then by a process of elimination our Thani-Thamil-Vada friends are left with no Sruti, no Shastras to look up to as authoritative. The obvious result when the matter is carried to its logical conclusion is that they have to fall into the laps of the Lokayatan (like our other friends the Ekanma-Vadies at the opposite pole who try to belittle everything Tamilian; and.....We shall say no more and proceed. We have digressed a bit too far. But the digression was inevitable.

—To be continued.

CEYLON UNITED AND FREE

Continued from page 1

gain that unity and solidarity which existed in the early days.

THE WAR AND CEYLON

They were met at a time of great crisis. The war had been brought closer to Ceylon and with it had risen many problems. They in Ceylon in their own little way had contributed in men and material to strike a blow for liberty and freedom. They had done that spontaneously because they felt that the defeat of the forces of aggression would mean the triumph of the forces of liberty. They looked forward to the victorious end of the war when the peace that would have been won through much travail would usher in a new era of a brotherhood of nations, great and small. "Therefore, while helping in the war efforts", said Mr. Corea, "we must take steps to prepare ourselves for this freedom."

He then spoke of the need for preparing an agreed constitution. For this there must be goodwill, understanding and true patriotism. There must also be a spirit of compromise, not a yielding of fundamental principles, but on non-essentials and matters non-fundamental. One fundamental principle would be the framing of a constitution which would confer the freedom of a Dominion at least. Compromise on a principle of this kind might be impossible, but the question of what was adequate representation for the different areas was a matter on which reasonable compromise would not violate any fundamental principle.

"In a recent despatch on reforms the Secretary of State stated that what stood in the way of the acceptance of the reform proposals of the Governor which were substantially in accord with the reform proposals of this Congress was the absence of agreement by the minority communities," Mr. Corea said. "On a previous occasion the Secretary of State had said that the Ministers were not agreed. Now the Ministers are agreed but the minority communities are not agreed. Therefore there must be a conference or commission to settle the future constitution. There can be no earthly use in having a commission."

BOYCOTT OF COMMISSION

"It is not as some people imagine that the Congress or the State Council is afraid of the examination of its record. That record is not hidden. It is available in State papers to the Secretary of State and to the public. It is moreover a record of which any people might well be proud. The Secretary of State, therefore, has all the records available to him. More than that the Governor who had been asked to make a full inquiry and report has, after hearing all shades of opinion submitted his report. What further use is there in the appointment of a commission. Our decision on that has been made. This Congress will have no part or lot with the work of such a commission."

"A conference held by the Colonial Office will be futile, but the idea of a conference is not to be

lightly dismissed. Why should we wait till the Secretary of State arranges a conference to settle our differences? We have now gone beyond the stage of asking for reforms. We have reached a stage when we desire to formulate our own constitution. This must necessarily require a conference. It is therefore up to us to arrange such a conference to draft a constitution securing for it as much agreement as is possible and submit it for the acceptance of the State Council.

"If we did that, we will meet what appears to me to be the one and only objection put forward by the Secretary of State even to the demand for a reform of the constitution."

"There can be no doubt that this objection is unreal and hollow and of the stereotype pattern, but even that objection it is in our power to meet. I, therefore, say that we should meet it and while thus convincing the Secretary of State that an agreement is possible we will also thereby be definitely securing our own freedom."

FOOD PROBLEM

Mr. Corea next referred to the food problem of the country and said that there was no doubt that at the moment there was no immediate danger but a dangerous situation might arise at any time. In order to prepare for such a contingency the Government had in anticipation taken steps to provide an adequate reserve of rice. If this reserve was to be used the supplies of rice to consumers would have to be restricted to definite quantities by a system of rationing. In such an emergency it was absolutely necessary not only to conserve for as long a time as possible the limited supply of rice available, but also to ensure to every individual an equal amount of rice so that there would be no discrimination between rich and poor.

Mr. Corea, continuing, stressed the utmost necessity for the increase in the production of food locally.

"As you are aware," he said, "a step forward in this direction has been taken by the appointment of emergency Assistant Government Agents, one of whose main duties would be to help forward this movement to produce more food. Steps have also been taken to obtain the necessary 'seed' material from India and also to permit of the use of all unused land. I realise fully how important for this country is this question of immediate food production to meet this emergency. I would propose that one of the main functions of this Congress during this emergency would be to assist to the fullest of its capacity this work of greater food production."

Mr. Corea said that with the object of expanding village industries it was proposed to utilise the method of co-operative societies as far as is possible and thus establish a chain of village industries.

In conclusion, he said, that the Congress would make an effort in the coming year to raise a fund of a lakh of rupees.

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