

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Schools to Go on as Usual

The Principals of schools in Colombo have decided to continue the work of the schools as usual in spite of the risks attendant on existing conditions.

Muslim as Mayor

Mr. A. I. H. Abdul Wahab, last year's Deputy Mayor of Galle, was elected Mayor by a majority of eight votes to four against Mr. E. D. Nagahawatte. Out of a total of fourteen ballot papers two were spoilt.

Mr. Wahab thus becomes the first Muslim Mayor in Ceylon and his election as Mayor of Galle, where the Muslims form a small minority, shows the solidarity of the Muslims and Sinhalese in Galle who for generations past have lived in perfect amity.

"Pep" Talks Suggested

Frequent broadcasts to maintain civilian morale, evacuation centres and shelters in protected areas were among the suggestions made at a representative conference of Colombo citizens, with Mr. R. L. Pereira, K. C. as Chairman, and Mr. A. Gnanaprakasam as secretary.

Mr. O. E. Goonetilleke, Commissioner for Civil Defence, his deputy, and other officers were present, and indicated the lines on which arrangements were being made in relation to matters in charge of the Civil Defence Commissioner. The Commissioner invited the co-operation of the public.

A. R. P. in Offices

All heads of state departments, who are responsible for making arrangements for the safety of the employees working in the particular buildings which they control, met the Civil Defence Commissioner, Mr. O. E. Goonetilleke on Wednesday morning and discussed their special problems.

Several of these departments have already initiated some sort of action; others will make a beginning. Mr. Goonetilleke hopes that within a week very substantial progress will be made in order to provide Government employees, labour and staff, with whatever protection is possible during their working periods in these buildings.

CEYLON WAR VICTIMS IN MALAYA

NEW FUND TO HELP SUFFERERS

THE "Times of Ceylon" writes:—

In response to numerous requests "The Times of Ceylon" has agreed to sponsor a new fund, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the relief of suffering among Ceylonese war-victims in Malaya.

These requests have come to us from members of the Jaffna community and from bankers and representatives of other business houses who have intimate contact with the life of the Malayan Peninsula.

Though we are diffident about opening new appeals and adding to the diversity of calls upon the generosity of our readers we feel that this particular cause is one which will find a ready response from the people of Ceylon.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C., has been especially energetic in fostering this plan for sending help to Malaya and we know that there must be many in Jaffna and elsewhere in this Island who, having seen service further east, will be equally anxious to lend a hand. There has for years been a close common interest between the people here and in Malaya and it is only natural that this should find expression in the tangible form of aid in the hour of trial.

Jaffna's fighter-plane fund demonstrated their loyalty and generosity and this new appeal will most certainly meet with an equal response.

His Excellency the Governor has often given expression to his interest in Malaya and, as outlined in the following letter to Mr. Ponnambalam, he has established contact with Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor and High Commissioner, on the subject of the distribution of funds subscribed.

"With reference" writes His Excellency, "to the representations which you recently made to me concerning the desire of people in Ceylon to subscribe towards the relief of such of their countrymen in Malaya as may be suffering distress under present conditions of Japanese invasion and bombard-

ment, I have the honour to inform you that I have since ascertained by telegram from Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor and High Commissioner, that a Malaya War Distress Fund has been opened under his general direction, and that in any distribution of relief from that Fund the needs of Ceylonese in Malaya would constitute a first call on all contributions to it sent from this Island.

"I wish you every success, therefore, in the inauguration and organisation of a local 'Malaya War Distress Fund,' subscriptions to which will be periodically remitted to the main fund in Malaya. I have much pleasure in enclosing a personal contribution."

A. CALDECOTT.

In sending his own contribution, Mr. Ponnambalam writes, "Ceylon owes so much to Malaya that I feel that the response to this appeal will be splendid, manifesting not merely a desire to help our people in Malaya suffering owing to the circumstance of war, but as a gesture that we stand united against the common aggressor whether he comes from the West or the East."

These sentiments must be shared by all and we ask our readers to be open-handed and generous in their giving to this new cause. There is need, too, for haste in your giving for each day has seen a slow advance by the enemy southwards and increased menace to Malaya's inhabitants. Send a contribution today to succour those who are called upon to face those things which, we all fervently hope, we in Ceylon may never have to experience.

All contributions should be addressed to the Editor, "The Times of Ceylon," and crossed "Malaya War Relief Fund." Do not send notes or cash unless your contribution is being personally delivered.

"The Times of Ceylon" gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:—

	Rs.	c.
H. E. Sir Andrew Caldecott	1,000	00
G. G. Ponnambalam	500	00
	1,500	00

USEFUL TO THE ENEMY

INFORMATION IS PROHIBITED

THE following Press Communiqué has been used:

The attention of the public is invited to the provisions of section 14 of the Defence (Misc) Regulations which, inter alia, lay down that it is an offence to communicate any information being or purporting to be (and that includes rumours!) information in respect of any of the following matters:—

(a) The number, description, armament, equipment, disposition, movement or condition of any forces, vessels or aircraft of His Majesty or an allied power;

(b) any operations or projected operations of any forces, vessels or aircraft of His Majesty or an allied power;

(c) any measures for the defence or fortification of any place on behalf of His Majesty or an allied power;

(d) the number, description or location of any prisoners of war;

(e) Munitions of war;

(f) any other matter whatsoever information as to which would or might be directly or indirectly useful to the enemy.

Information of this nature may be common knowledge in a particular locality but if it is conveyed by letter or otherwise to other parts of the Island, the danger of leakage to the enemy is considerably enhanced. Letters despatched overseas may be intercepted by the enemy. So if you do acquire knowledge of this nature remember that secrecy is now of great importance, 'keep it under your hat,' and please *Don't write or Talk about it.*

FIRE-FIGHTING ORGANISATION

Mr. B. E. Weerasinghe, Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade, is organising the formation of about 15 fire sub-stations in Colombo in connexion with the recent appeal made by H. E. the Governor for volunteers in fire-fighting services.

At these sub-stations, two or more pumping units will be housed. Each station will be in the charge of a company officer who will have a section fire officer to assist him.

MANAGER'S NOTICE

The Offices of the "Hindu Organ" and the Saiva Prakasa Press will be closed on Wednesday, the 14th instant, for Thai Pongal and consequently there will be no issue of the paper on the 15th instant.

12-1-42.

MANAGER.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1942

THE MALAYAN FUND

CEYLON IS ONCE MORE beholden to the "Times of Ceylon" for its latest enterprise for helping the victims of the war. The Tamils in particular, who form the great majority of Ceylonese in Malaya and who are naturally very anxious about their kith and kin in that country, cannot but appreciate the interest taken by His Excellency the Governor and the "Times" in the welfare of their people under the present trying conditions. "The Malaya War Relief Fund" has, indeed, got started under the happiest of auspices. His Excellency has headed the list of subscriptions with a handsome contribution of Rs. 1000, while Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam comes a close second with a gift of Rs. 500. We appeal to our readers to follow this worthy example. The need for help is very great as well as urgent. The fact has to be borne in mind that a considerable portion of Malaya has now been overrun by the Japanese. It is impossible to say how many of those ordinarily residing in the occupied area have been evacuated, but the number cannot certainly be large. For those who were unable to leave in time little can be done as long as the area in which they reside is occupied by the enemy. Others, however, require help, which must be given. As we have said more than once in these columns, the Tamils of Jaffna are under a special obligation to give all the help they can, and the fund started by the "Times of Ceylon" gives them the opportunity to do so.

It is interesting to note that, according to the Governor of the Straits Settlements, there had been no applications for evacuation by Ceylonese up to January 5th and that no casualties among the Ceylonese community had been reported up to that date. This should go a great way towards allaying anxiety about the fate of our people living in the areas that had been bombed. We would suggest to the Government of

Ceylon the advisability of obtaining prompt official information regarding casualties and publishing it. This would scotch the false rumours that now take the place of authentic news. As for the new fund, Sir Shenton Thomas has given an assurance that the needs of the Ceylonese in Malaya will constitute a first call on every rupee contributed by Ceylon. We trust that Ceylon will make the fund a success.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

Little time has been lost by the authorities in getting in touch with the public of Jaffna over the question of Air Raid Precautions. Yesterday at the Kacheheri Mr. O. E. Goonetilleke, Commissioner of Civil Defence, gave a clear and concise exposition of what is needed. We agree with him that, in the present situation, what every part of Ceylon requires is a kind of leadership rare in times of peace, and that the success of any A. R. P. scheme depends on the quality of the leaders and the people. We have no hesitation in saying that Jaffna is fully alive to this important aspect of the matter. The selection of the personnel of the A. R. P. scheme rests, of course, with the Commissioner, and the appointments announced by him for Jaffna will meet with wide approval.

Mr. Goonetilleke's appeal for volunteers should evoke an enthusiastic response on the part of the public. We trust that the implications of the position will be realised in time. Every town will have to depend on its own resources for providing the personnel of its A. R. P. scheme. No help from outside need be expected. If a town fails to do its best in this respect, then in the event of a raid it will be the first to suffer. Self-preservation, therefore, requires that Jaffna should respond to this appeal promptly and in great numbers.

As we said the other day, the position in regard to fire-fighting appliances is hardly satisfactory and we are glad to have the Commissioner's assurance that steps will be taken to remedy this defect. There is another matter which was not referred to at yesterday's meeting but which is equally important. It is the need for training. Not only the A. R. P. officers but also the population must be trained in the general principles of A. R. P. There is no other way, and it is our earnest hope that this will be realised by the officers concerned. There should be partial blackouts to the sound of the siren and A. R. P. officers should be given plenty of practice in what is required of them when an attack occurs.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Mayor of Kandy

WE congratulate Gate Muhandiram N. Canaganayagam on his election as Mayor of Kandy. He is the son of Adigar Naganather, who, in spite of his age, is still an active and popular figure in the public life of Jaffna. The new Mayor well deserves the following tribute by "Tatler" in the columns of the "Times of Ceylon". "It was when he was sheriff of a bank in Nuwara Eliya that I first met him during the Legislative Council elections of 1924. He then occupied a prominent place in the life of that town. Subsequently he went to Kandy and it did not take him long to identify himself with the public life of the Hill capital. He comes from Jaffna but he is not associated with the narrow outlook generally attributed to the Northern peninsula. His friends are drawn from all communities. He is ever mindful of the help given him by the Sinhalese to return him to a municipal seat to represent a thoroughly Sinhalese ward. Upright in all his dealings, and possessing a high moral rectitude, which should be an example to all public men, Muhandiram Canaganayagam, with his keen business acumen, should prove a successful mayor".

The Benighted North

IT has all along been the fashion to speak in terms of disparagement of the narrow outlook of the benighted North, so that "Tatler" is in excellent company. We wonder what Tatler will say to the disclosure made by his colleague, "The Whip", in another issue of the "Times of Ceylon". According to the latter, one of the dirtiest bits of propaganda against Mr. Mahab, who was recently elected Mayor of Galle, was a leaflet which purported to be issued by a Muslim. "Printed in Singh lese, it bore the title: 'Ceylon's Four Chief Offices'. It went on to name them—Speaker of the State Council and Mayorships of Colombo, Kandy and Galle. It named those who held these offices—Sir Wimalingam Duraiswamy, Dr. Saravananattu, Mr. A. M. Sparr, and Mr. W. Dahanayake. And then came the comment. "This shows," the leaflet said, "that at the moment the Sinhalese are three-fourths dead," and concluded in a most clumsy way that if the remaining one-fourth was taken by the Tamils then the Sinhalese would be fully dead. It looks as if there is good deal of the narrow outlook here, but we have no hesitation in saying that this is confined, as in the case of Jaffna, to a small but exceedingly vocal section which sees in the communal cry an intellectual short-cut dispensing with the need for sound reasoning. Unfortunately, in the State Council the representatives of the Sinhalese are mostly believers in this short-cut. It is not the Sinhalese people who are to blame for what has happened. It is their so-called leaders who have set the vicious example. We trust it is never too late to mend.

War Time Grievances

WAR time has, no doubt, its grievances, but it would be a mistake to exaggerate them or, worse still, to exploit them for other purposes. It is true that the entry of Japan into the war endangers our food supply. In this respect the position is much more serious than what occurred during the last war. We in Jaffna must be prepared, along with others, to face whatever the future has in store for us calmly and without flinching. It is, however, a bad sign that just at the present moment, an attempt is being made to create unnecessary feeling and excitement in regard to such matters as the control of prices. Such attempt will recoil on those who make them. There are bound to be grievances, as we have said, but redress must be sought without recourse

THE SIREN SOUNDS

II

Splinters

THE explosive bomb sends many splinters, average size about one inch across, whizzing everywhere. They begin their journey at a speed double that of a rifle bullet, and can kill half a mile away.

You want something between yourself and the splinters.

Blast

BLAST from the bomb plays freakish tricks. Lungs collapse, terrible things happen to your inside. It enters windows, lifts up floors and dumps them on the heads of those below, sometimes kills without leaving a mark.

Blast is the violent outward movement of the air from the explosion, and the violent inward suction. People hundreds of feet from a bomb explosion have been killed by blast.

Blast will sweep away light-built houses, balconies, verandahs, tiles, bricks, slates, glass.

Brick buildings provide extra shrapnel.

Glass

BLAST may blow doors and windows inward, it may suck them outward. Glass will certainly shatter and fly with devastating effects.

Do you work under a glass factory roof, in an office surrounded by glass panels, doors, or windows?

Take a look at that glass, and remember that a shower of it could cut you to pieces.

Checks to glass-shattering are urgent. You have seen overseas pictures with glass criss-crossed with paper strips. They are better than nothing. Sticking plaster or insulating tape are far better.

Your best plan is to get a piece of fabric—muslin, calico, cotton, or linen sheeting, and paste it over the window, with glue, office paste, or even floor-paste. Old clothes, bedding, and tea-towels can be used.

When windows are shattered, wind and rain come in. Save your old boards and iron sheeting to block them up.

Emergency Hints

BOMBS may cut off water, gas, power. Prepare emergency sanitation, fill all spare vessels, bathtubs, and sinks with water.

Torches, candles, lanterns, and oil lamps are handy things to have around.

Transport and delivery may suffer, so an emergency food supply should be stored in every home.

Protection

PROTECTION from bombs, machine-gunning, and shrapnel is the problem.

In Spain and China they honey-combed the hills with tunnels. In England, Ramsgate converted an old smuggler's cave into a perfect air raid shelter; Finsbury built a deep shelter which should have been a model for us. Rome uses the old Catacombs of the early Christians; Moscow and London use their magnificent deep underground rail systems.

But the absence of these shouldn't deter us from following the example of Finsbury, Barcelona, and Chungking. But the deep shelters aren't there, nor are adequate surface shelters, so we have to look to the homes and offices, to cellars, basements, and garden trenches.

Normal stone or brick walls have a fair chance of standing up to even the

Continued on page 5

to mass agitation and without emphasising the wrong things. We have every sympathy with those who are anxious to prevent profiteering. It is a crime to increase prices merely because Japan has entered the war, but we must at the same time take care not to frighten away the merchants who import rice. Something of the sort is happening now.

JAFFNA PUBLIC MEETING

Five Resolutions Passed

The following resolutions were passed at the public meeting held on Wednesday, the 7th January, 1942, at the Jaffna Esplanade, under the auspices of the Jaffna Urban Rate-payers' Association.

Resolution No. 1

"In view of the likely danger of enemy attack by air in this part of the Island, this public meeting of inhabitants of Jaffna requests the Government to take, in addition to other obvious military measures, immediate steps:—

- (a) To base aerial patrol and fighter units in suitable coastal location;
- (b) To organise necessary means of giving air-raid alerts;
- (c) To instruct the inhabitants in precautionary measures against bombing;
- (d) To make all necessary arrangements to evacuate the people, particularly women and children, if and when the need arises, to prepared reception areas;
- (e) To construct at least a few model air-raid shelters;
- (f) and to make all arrangements to supply food products to the people during times of possible disturbance of normal channels of supply."

Resolution No. 2

"This public meeting of inhabitants of Jaffna desires:

- (a) To convey to Ceylonese in Malaya and the Straits Settlements the deep sense of sorrow and sympathy of the people of Jaffna for the horrible sufferings they are undergoing in the distant land, as a result of Japanese aggression;
- (b) To request the Government of the Straits Settlements and send financial assistance to relieve the suffering of Ceylonese rendered destitute and homeless there; and
- (c) requests the Government Agent of this Province to organise a committee to raise sub-scriptions locally to supplement the suggested financial aid of the Ceylon Government."

Resolution No. 3

"That this public meeting of inhabitants of Jaffna requests the Government to take immediate steps to encourage the cultivation of food-crops in cultivable areas by offering financial aid to those in need."

Resolution No. 4

"That whereas import of rice from Burma is bound to come to a standstill almost immediately, this public meeting requests the Government to render all assistance to importers to get down rice from India, and to take all other necessary measures to prevent shortage of food-crops occurring."

Resolution No. 5

"That this public meeting of inhabitants of Jaffna requests the Government and the Urban Council not to enforce the by-law regarding pillion riding on bicycles until the petrol situation improves."

The following Resolution was rejected:

"That this public meeting requests the Hon. The Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce not to introduce the Shop Ordinance into Jaffna Town, owing to the critical condition created by the war in the Far East (scarcity of food supply and the economic depression prevailing among the inhabitants, and as the

JAPANESE 55 MILES NORTH OF KUALA LUMPUR

SLIGHT WITHDRAWAL BY BRITISH FORCES

Singapore, Jan. 8.

THE fierce attack which the Japanese began yesterday (Wednesday) against positions on the main front between Ipoh and Kuala Lumpur continued throughout the day, writes Reuter's Special Correspondent on the Malayan front. The Imperial Forces made a slight withdrawal in accordance with the general policy of avoiding a stand except when on ground good for that purpose. The Slim River, beyond which the Imperial Forces have now withdrawn, is about 55 miles north of Kuala Lumpur. The enemy's pressure appears to have been considerable, supported as usual by mechanised equipment and from the air. At points the Imperial position must have been forced unexpectedly, because it is admitted that the Imperial Forces suffered "some losses" in guns and transport.

The enemy has not yet been completely mopped up in the Tenggi swamp area between the Bernam River and Kuala Selangor and some of his troops continue to infiltrate here, but the general success of the Imperial counter-attacks in this area is shown by the fact that the Imperial main line is still north of Selangor.

It now looks as though the fighting will soon develop into a battle for Kuala Lumpur, capital of the Federated Malay States and the heart of Malaya's rubber industry.

In Kuala Lumpur everything possible has been done to prepare the city for a major action. A curfew has been imposed and as many civilians as possible—Indians, Malaya, Chinese and British—have been evacuated and even a large part of the Civil Defence services have been removed to Singapore. Kuala Lumpur is almost entirely organised by the military and it can be expected that a determined attempt will be made to hold it.

It can now be disclosed that Commando squads and guerrilla units of the Imperial Forces are operating with considerable success behind the Japanese lines.

The Slim is a tributary of the Bernam River which divides Perak from Selangor.

The R. A. F. again raided the Japanese-held aerodrome at Gong (in Kedah) early today. Explosives and incendiaries were dropped on the target, says a communique, but accurate observations were prevented by low clouds.

TWO HEAVY RAIDS ON BANGKOK

Bangkok has been heavily raided twice in the past twenty-four hours, at least seven Japanese aircraft being destroyed in the raid on Bangkok aerodromes today following the raid last night, states a Rangoon message.

A communique issued by the combined Army and R. A. F. head-

said Ordinance will injuriously affect the masses.

"Further this meeting suggests to the Hon. The Minister that it would be sufficient to pass an Ordinance to protect the interests of the Shop Employees, as such an Ordinance will not inconvenience the inhabitants."

quarters tonight says that five aircraft raided aerodromes in the Bangkok area today. They destroyed seven aeroplanes on the ground for certain and probably an eighth. One of our aircraft is missing as the result of this raid. The destruction of these seven Japanese bombers brings the total Japanese aircraft destroyed for certain by the Allies from Burma since the Pacific War began to fifty-three. It is known in addition to these certainties that another twenty or thirty Japanese planes either failed to reach their bases after raiding Burma or probably have been destroyed on the ground in an attack such as reported today. It is learned tonight that the damage inflicted on the dock area in Bangkok in last night's raid was heavier than at first believed. When they started the Allied bombers carried a heavy load. The attack was concentrated and delivered from a low altitude.

JAPANESE LED BY GERMAN OFFICERS

There is evidence accumulating that some of the Japanese troops may be led by European officers, possibly Germans, writes Reuter's Correspondent on the Malayan front.

One Punjabi Sergeant-Major related a thrilling hand-to-hand encounter with an officer whom he described as a "flaxen haired giant, carrying a long sword and dressed in khaki with knee-high rubber boots." The officer had killed one Indian, when the Sergeant-Major tackled him amongst the rubber trees, and, after a terrific struggle, killed him.

Another Indian officer said that some Indians were holding a strategic bridge, when a small car audaciously drove to the other side of the bridge. The uniformed Europeans stepped out and shouted in Hindustani: "Let us cross. We are your officers." Luckily the Indians were forewarned and so these bogus officers got a hail of bullets.

British officers also report one or two cases when they believed they encountered officers of European appearance.

The Singapore Radio says that the Home Minister of the Burmese Government expressed the opinion that the people of Burma were very glad to know that the R. A. F. are now fighting back at the enemy and giving blow to blow to any Japanese raid on Burma.

The Singapore Radio states that another raid by our aircraft on the aerodrome in Kelantan was reported in Thursday night's Singapore communique. A number of high explosives and incendiary bombs were dropped on targets. Our aircraft also dropped a load of bombs on the aerodrome of Kuantan. All fell in the target area.

BURMANS WANT REVENGE AGAINST JAPANESE

Demands for revenge against Japanese atrocities in Burma have been voiced by representatives of the Burmese people and Press in all townships and throughout the country. The feeling is unanimous that despite the repeated Japanese blandishments of religious affinity and goodwill towards the

KANDY'S NEW MAYOR

Ballots Drawn After Tie

Kandy, Friday.

BALLOTS had to be drawn, after a tie in the voting, for the election of Kandy's new Mayor, at today's meeting of the Kandy Municipal Council, as the two candidates for office, Mr. W. A. B. Soysa and Gate-Muhandiram N. Canaganayagam, polled seven votes each.

In the resultant draw Gate-Muhandiram Canaganayagam turned out the luckier of the two.

Mr. A. C. L. Ratwatte was elected Deputy Mayor unopposed.

HONOURS FOR SHROFFS

The Shroffs of two Banks in Kandy thus won the chief civic honours this year.

Gate-Muhandiram Canaganayagam is a son of Atikar A. Nagana-



Gate-Muhandiram N. Canaganayagam.

thar of Jaffna and is the Shroff of the National Bank of India. He was Deputy Mayor last year.

Mr. Ratwatte is the eldest son of the late Sir Cudah Ratwatte and is the Shroff of the Mercantile Bank of India.

At the meeting held for the elections, at which all the members were present, Mr. W. Gopallawa, the Municipal Commissioner, presided.

Mr. Ratwatte proposed and Mr. B. H. Dunuwille seconded Gate-Muhandiram Canaganayagam's name. Mr. M. A. S. Marikar proposed and Mr. H. A. C. Wickremaratne seconded Mr. Soysa's name. The voting was by secret ballot and after the counting of votes the Commissioner announced that seven votes had been cast for each candidate.

He accordingly placed five blank ballots and one marked "Mayor" in the ballot box and invited the candidates to draw. In the toss of the coin to decide who should draw first Mr. Soysa called right. The fourth ballot drawn made Gate-Muhandiram Canaganayagam Mayor.

Burmans, the people of Burma and their religious institutions have suffered greatly by indiscriminate Japanese bombing. Religious meetings in particular have expressed their abhorrence of Japanese action and declared that far from being Buddhists the Japanese have conducted themselves as the archbarbarians of the East.

NEED FOR BOLD STATESMANSHIP

Indian Appeal To Premier

Allahabad Jan. 4

Over a dozen prominent politicians, including Mr. Gauri, Mr. Jayakar, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Sir Radhakrishnan and Sir Sivaswamy Iyer have cabled an appeal to Mr. Churchill at Washington urging the need for some bold stroke of far-sighted statesmanship to enlist India's wholehearted and active co-operation in intensifying the war effort.

The appeal says: The gravity of the international situation compels some of us, who have spent long years in the public life of India to make this appeal. You as Prime Minister will realise the urgent necessity of transforming the entire spirit and outlook of the administration in India.

"Detailed discussions of the question of a permanent constitution may well wait more propitious times until after victory is achieved in this titanic struggle against the forces which threaten civilisation. But some bold stroke of far-sighted statesmanship is called for without delay in India in this hour of growing danger to her safety to enlist her wholehearted and active co-operation in intensifying the war effort. Millions of men and women are required for the adoption of effective measures designed to protect the civilian population. The heart of India must be touched to rouse her on a nationwide scale to the call for service, undistracted by internal domestic differences.

"Is it not possible for you to declare at this juncture that India will no longer be treated as a dependency to be ruled from Whitehall and that henceforth her constitutional position and powers will be identical with those other units of the British Commonwealth? Such a declaration should, we suggest be accompanied by concrete measures calculated to impress on the people that in co-operating with the war effort they are safeguarding their own freedom.

SUGGESTED MEASURES

"These measures are:

"(1) The conversion and expansion of the Central Executive Council into a truly national Government consisting entirely of non-officials of all recognised parties and communities and in charge of all portfolios, subject only to responsibility to the Crown.

"(2) The restoration, in the provinces now ruled autocratically by their Governors in accordance with section 93 of the Government of India act, of a popular Government based on confidence in the different classes and communities; failing this the establishment of non-official Executive Councils responsible to the Crown, as proposed for the centre.

"(3) The recognition of India's right to direct representation through men chosen by the national Government in the Imperial War Cabinet—should such a body be set up—in all Allied War Councils, wherever established and at the peace conference.

"(4) Consultation with the national Government precisely on the same footing and to the same extent as His Majesty's Government consult the Dominion Governments in all matters affecting the common-

LOCAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEES

AID IN CHECKING SIGNS OF DISORDER

It is understood that Mr. C. L. Wickremesinghe, Commissioner of Lands, and Mr. E. W. Kannangara, Commissioner of Local Government, have been appointed special officers to assist the Minister of Home Affairs in the organisation and supervision of the Emergency Assistant Government Agent Scheme to ensure the success of local activities necessitated by the outbreak of war in the Far East.

It has been decided that the scheme being essentially a matter of Provincial Administration, the central authority which should control it should be the Minister of Home Affairs.

General instructions as regards the carrying out of the scheme have been issued to the emergency officers by the Chief Secretary.

LOCAL COMMITTEES

The Home Minister has circularised the Emergency Officers, drawing special attention to some of the matters included in the Chief Secretary's instructions.

Each Assistant Government Agent (Emergency) has a Consultative Committee provided under the Scheme. The Home Minister's circular states that

it is of the utmost importance that Local Assistance Committees should be formed with the least possible delay.

Each Emergency Officer is advised to take immediate steps, with the advice of his Consultative Committee to divide his area into convenient sub-divisions.

The circular states that no hard-and-fast rule can be laid down as to the size of a sub-division but it may consist of one or more Village Headmen's divisions or one or more wards of a Village Committee.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

After these sub-divisions have been decided upon it would be advisable to convene public meetings of the inhabitants of the areas concerned for the purpose of explaining the matters connected with the Emergency Scheme in respect of which the co-operation of the public is invited. At these meetings the Local Assistance Committee should be formed.

The number of members of the Committee should be such as not to make it unwieldy but should be representative and include

wealth as a whole and India in particular.

URGENT NEED FOR ACTION

"These are war measures whose adoption need in no way prejudice the claims and the demands of the different parties in regard to India's permanent constitution. But knowing intimately the feelings and aspirations of our countrymen, as we do, we must express our conviction that nothing less than the inauguration of such a policy can resolve the crisis in India. The urgent need for immediate action can not be overemphasised.

"We appeal to you in all sincerity, but with the greatest emphasis to act while there is still time for such action so that India may line up with the other anti-axis powers on a footing of absolute equality with them in the common struggle for the freedom of humanity."

KOKUVIL SEVAI SANGAM

17TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 17th Annual General Meeting of the Kokuvil Sevai Sangam was held in the Sangam Hall at Kokuvil East on Wednesday the 31st of December 1941 at 4.00 p. m. with Mr. V. Chellappah, the President, in the chair.

The meeting commenced with the singing of Devaram.

After the adoption of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on December 1940 and the reading of the Annual Report by the Secretary Mr. R. Sivaratnam and the submission of the Balance Sheet by the Treasurer Mr. S. Alagaratnam, the following Office-Bearers and Committee were elected for the year 1942.

Office-Bearers:—Mr. C. Muttavelu J. P. (Patron); Mr. V. Chellappah (President re-elected); Mr. V. Thamotharampillai (Vice-President); Mr. K. S. Nadarajah (Secretary); Mr. K. Nadarajah (Assistant Secretary); Mr. T. G. Arumugam (Treasurer); Mr. R. Sivaratnam (Assistant Treasurer); Mr. S. Nadarajah (Librarian); Mr. M. Arumugam (Sports-Secretary); Mr. V. Ramanathan (Literary Secretary)

Committee:—Messrs. V. M. Nadarajah, C. Arulampalam, M. Mathiapparanam, P. M. Rajaratnam, A. Sinnadurai, S. Appudurai, A. Nagarathnam, S. Alagaratnam, P. Duraisamy R. Sinnathamby, V. Sinnathamby and M. Sinniah.

Messrs. S. Kanapathippillai and R. N. Thamotharampillai were elected Auditors.

Messrs. M. Gnanesundram and K. Nadarajah were elected English and Tamil Editors respectively.

After a short address by the President, the meeting came to a close at about 5.30 p. m. with the singing of Devaram. (Cor.)

some of the leading inhabitants of the area.

In the case of Municipalities (except Colombo) and Urban Councils the Chairman and members should be invited to form one or more Local Assistance Committees for the area within such Local Authority.

It is requested that these Local Committees should be formed before the end of this month.

AID TO HEADMEN AND POLICE

The Home Minister states that Local Committees should be made to realise the importance of maintaining peace and good order in their respective divisions. They must be vigilant and help the Police and Headmen in taking timely steps to check any signs of disorder. It is proposed to enlist as Special Police Officers influential and responsible inhabitants in village and town areas in order to assist the Police at a time of emergency.

Particular attention is drawn to the necessity for the prevention of profiteering and any attempt on the part of traders to issue quantities of rice below those stated in the coupons.

On the necessity for propaganda, the attention of the Emergency Officers is invited to the broadcast message of the Governor on January 4. The meetings of Local Committees should be made the occasion for desirable propaganda.

Every Assistant Government Agent (Emergency) will have to submit a monthly review of the work done to the Home Minister.

AMERICA'S SOLEMN ASSURANCE

Stars and Stripes Shall Fly Again

Washington, Wednesday.

"THE Stars and Stripes shall fly again over Wake and Guam and the brave people of the Philippines shall be rid of Japanese imperialism. Powerful and offensive actions must and will be taken at the proper time."

So declared Mr. Roosevelt in the course of a message to Congress yesterday. The President added that the consolidation of the total war effort of the United States against our common enemies was being achieved.

"It was bitter for us," Mr. Roosevelt continued, "not to be able to land a million men and a thousand ships in the Philippine Islands. But this only adds to our determination to see to it that the Axis nations are defeated."

"That is the purpose of the conferences held during the past two weeks in Washington and Chungking. That is the primary objective of the declaration of the solidarity signed at Washington by 26 nations united against the Axis Powers."

"I have just sent a letter of direction to the appropriate departments and agencies of our Government, ordering immediate steps to be taken:

(1) To increase our production rate of airplanes so rapidly that this year we shall produce 60,000 planes which are 10,000 more than the goal set a-year-and-a-half ago. This includes 45,000 combat-planes—bombers, dive-bombers and pursuit planes. The rate of increase will be continued so that next year, in 1943, we shall produce 125,000 airplanes, including 100,000 combat-planes;

(2) To increase our production rate of tanks so rapidly that this year we shall produce 45,000 tanks and to continue that increase so that next year we shall produce 75,000 tanks.

(3) To increase our production rate of anti-aircraft guns so rapidly that this year we shall produce 20,000 anti-aircraft guns, and to continue that increase so that next year we shall produce 35,000 anti-aircraft guns.

(4) To increase our production rate of shipping so rapidly that this year we shall produce 8,000,000 tons of shipping and to continue that increase so that next year we shall produce 10,000,000 tons of shipping.

Mr. Roosevelt continued: "American land, air and sea forces will take stations in the British Isles which constitute an essential fortress in the world struggle. American forces will operate at many points in the Far East. The American armed forces will help protect this hemisphere and also American armed forces will be used in any place in all the world where it seems advisable to engage the forces of the enemy."

WANTED

Wanted a Science Graduate as Principal, Chavakachcheri Hindu College of at least seven years' experience qualified to teach Chemistry and Mathematics. Preference will be given to one with previous experience as Head Master. Salary Scale 'C'. Applications close 23rd. inst. Apply Manager, Jaffna Hindu College and Branch Schools. (Mis. 170. 12 & 19-1-42)

THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

IX. Siddhiyar and its Author

அறவகைச் சமயத்தோர்க்கும் அவ்வவர் பொருளாய் வேறும் குறியது உடைத்தாய் வேதாசுமங்களின் குறி இறந்து அங்கு அறிவினில் அருளால் மன்னி ஆம்மையோடு அப்பன் சூசிச் செறிவு ஒழியாது சிவன் சிவன் அடி சென்னி வைப்பாம்

The Siva Gnana Siddhi commences with the usual invocation to Pillaiyar. The second verse which we have quoted above is in praise of Siva Peruman and is a fitting preface to the treatise as it gives a brief indication of the subject matter of the whole book. The first line shews its catholicity or spirit of toleration towards other creeds or, shall we say, its all-comprehensive nature. The next line வேறும் குறியது உடைத்தாய் வேதாசுமங்களின் குறி இறந்து shews its transcendence over all and the incomprehensibility of the Supreme Lord through Pasa Guanam or worldly knowledge. The last two lines tell us of His immanence in all nature, both animate (Pasu) and inanimate (Pasam), His Arul or Grace and His Fatherhood & Motherhood of the world, implying the Pancha kritiyas or fivefold acts of the Lord (Pati) designed for the salvation of souls (Pasu). Siva Gnana Muniver dives deeper and shews how the subject matter of Parapaksham (other creeds), the Pothu or Thadatha Lakshanam, பொது அல்லது தடத்தல்களும், relative nature of the Tri-Padarthas (Pati, Pasu Pasam) described in the first five Sutras of Supaksham, the Siva Sorupa Lakshanam of the sixth Sutra, the Atma Sorupa Lakshanam of the seventh Sutra, the Gnana Dharsanam (literally knowledge-vision) of the eighth Sutra, the knowledge (Gnanam) the knower (Gnathru) and the known (Gueyam) of the ninth Sutra, the Irai Pani Nittal (இறை பணி நீற்றல், action without attachment) of the tenth Sutra, the attainment of the Goal of the eleventh Sutra and the nature of the Sanctified of the twelfth Sutra are implied in the phraseology of this verse. He also reads into it the six (or eight) Divine attributes of Omnipotence, Omniscience, &c.

We may here mention, by the way, that Siddhiyar is the most numerously annotated book in Tamil. There are six recognised commentaries which have appeared in print. The earliest commentary extant is by Marai Gnana Desikar. Sivagra Yogi's is a long and learned commentary with copious quotations from the Agamas and other Shastras. The commentaries of Gnanapragasar (of Jaffna), Nirambavalagiyar and Siva Gnana Muniver are comparatively shorter. Subramaniya Desigar's commentary is a word for word one (பதவுரை) closely following Siva Gnana Muniver. Several publications of Siddhiyar have appeared in recent years with commentaries by learned scholars, but these follow Siva Gnana Muniver more or less and add their own notes, some of which are very copious indeed and a help to the student in understanding the sublime truths contained in the text. There is also an English translation of Siddhiyar with notes by Nallaswamipillai.

After a few more prefatory verses, in which amongst much else, our author states that this book is not intended for those spiritually advanced souls who happen to be reborn in this world for particular purposes nor for the indolent and the ignorant (and, shall we add, the indifferent and the perverses) but for the benefit of the enquiring student anxious to know the Truth and reach the Goal, there follows a chapter on Alavai (அலவை) or different kinds of proof, logical methods. Siddhiyar is a logically arranged treatise employing strictly logical proofs to establish the sublime truths that it preaches and Arulaandi Devar does not want to take things for granted, even in the matter of the methods of proof he adopts. So he gives a synopsis of these as a preliminary to the study of his main work. Siddhiyar stands almost unique in this respect, as indeed it does in many others, in Tamil literature and has but few parallels even in the Sanscrit or, for the matter of that, in any other language.

Siddhiyar is broadly divisible into two parts, Parapaksham (the other side) and Supaksham (our own side) and to these is prefixed the chapter on Alavai referred to above. Parapaksham contains a critical review of 14 systems of philosophy beginning with Lokayatam and ending with Pancharatiram, and may very well be put down as a fitting introduction to the main work, Supaksham, which contains a detailed account of the Saiva Siddhanta religion and philosophy. And herein lies another great beauty of Siddhiyar. There is no book on the face of the Earth but it has some statements to make and others to condemn, opinions to advance and prejudices to combat, righteousness to uphold and malpractices to put down, truths to declare and deception to denounce, &c. Writers generally prefer the more easy-going process. They are content to meet objections casually as they occur and in a half-hearted manner. Our author, on the other hand, is more systematic. He displays more method. He employs a better plan. To begin with, he deals with his antagonists one by one. First he takes up Lokayatam. He first states Lokayata's case in a succinct form, as he knew him in his day. Then he takes up his (the Lokayata's) arguments and refutes them one by one regularly. Having disposed of the Lokayatan, he ascends a step higher and takes up the Chautibrantika's (Buddhist) case and deals with it similarly, and so on, till the end. From our author's severe criticism of these schools of philosophy, it should not for a

THE JAFFNA DRAMATIC CLUB

The twelfth annual general meeting of the club came off on Monday the 29th December, 1941 at the residence of the Managing Director, Mr. J. T. Solomons, at Chundikuli.

The proceedings began with a conference of the actors at 9 a. m. presided over by Mr. E. T. Hitchcock. It was resolved to stage "V" Performances in aid of war charities and a small sub-committee was appointed for that purpose.

A musical programme followed presided over by Mr. R. Rajadurai at which special items were contributed by the members of the Club including Master R. Gananathan.

The Annual Meeting was presided over by Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Advocate, one of the Patrons of the Club.

After the adoption of the statement of accounts and the annual Report, the Chairman congratulated the Managing Director Mr. J. T. Solomons, and the members of the Club on their enthusiasm and work.

Mr. S. J. Gunasegaram, Inspector of Schools, Jaffna, stressed the fact that the time had come for Tamil Dramatists to produce plays "which would inspire new ideas among the youths, enabling them to laugh at and laugh out their social superstitions."

A resolution was unanimously adopted appreciating the services of Mr. J. T. Solomons rendered to the Club and to the Tamil Community in the promotion of Tamil Language, Literature and Drama.

The following office bearers were elected for the year 1942:

Patrons: Mr. A. Sellamuttu, M. B. E., Dr. S. Subramaniam, Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Mr. J. S. Nicholas, Mr. S. J. Gunasegaram, and Mr. Sam A. Sabapathy.

Managing Director: Mr. J. T. Solomons.

Advisory Board: Messrs. E. T. Hitchcock Play Director; B. D. Benedict, Producer; V. Sinnadurai, Conductor; A. M. Brodie; T. S. DuraiRajah; R. Rajadurai.

The proceedings ended with a Union Lunch of the members at which covers were laid for over 30 persons and great conviviality prevailed. Toasts were proposed to the Club, and the Managing Director which were suitably replied to. (Cor.)

THE SIREN SOUNDS

Continued from page 2

blast of a 500 lb. bomb bursting not less than 50 ft. away.

Where walls are thinner than 13½ inches of brick or stone, this should be reinforced by addition of further material, earth in boxes piled against the wall to a height of 6 ft. or so, or sand-bags.

moment be supposed that he would have them swept off the face of the Earth. Far from it. They may not be of use to him, but there are hosts of others who may be in need of them. And our author knows this only too well. For, is it not he that says:

ஓது சமயங்கள் பொருள் உணரும் தூதர்கள்
ஒன்றோடு ஒன்று ஒவ்வாமல் உணர்வுகள் இவற்றின்
யாது சமயம் பொருள் தூதர் யாது இங்கு என்னில்
இது நுகரும் அது அல்லது என்னுள் பிணக்கை இன்றி
இதிலுள் இவை எல்லாம் ஒர் இடத்தே காண
கின்றது யாது ஒரு சமயம் அது சமயம்.....?

Religions and religious books there are many in this world differing from one another. The peerless religion is that which reconciles their differences and comprises all and every faith in its broad folds. What higher ideal could there be of toleration and religious freedom!

OFFICIALS' EVACUATION OF PENANG

'CARRIED OUT "WITHOUT GOVERNOR'S KNOWLEDGE"

Madras, Jan. 9.

The Governor, Sir Shenton Thomas, has it is understood, made a public statement that the evacuation of officials from Penang was carried out without his knowledge or that of the Colonial Secretary.

He is now giving instructions, in the event of further areas having to be abandoned, that some officials are to remain at their stations in order to assist the civil population, even if it means that these officials will fall into Japanese hands.

OBITUARY

MR. T. THAMBINATHAPILLAI

The death occurred in the afternoon of Wednesday the 24th December at his residence at Sandiruppay of Mr. Thiruvilangar Thambinathapillai at the age of 89 years. He was the son of the late Mr. Velautha Udaiyar Thiruvilankar and came from the distinguished old family at Sandiruppay whose members had held important positions as Chiefs and Headmen for many generations. The funeral ceremonies were performed according to Hindu rites and his remains were cremated at the Manipay Crematorium on Thursday afternoon in the presence of a large number of friends and relations who had assembled to pay their respects to the deceased. The deceased was the manager of the Aiyar Temple at Sandiruppay.

The late Mr. Thambinathapillai leaves behind two sons Mr. J. T. Thambiah, Retired Technical Assistant, Revenue Survey Department, F. M. S. and Muhandiram T. Kandiah, Assistant Accountant, Department of Government Electrical Undertakings and a brother, Mr. T. Canagarayar, Proctor, Colombo, besides a large circle of relations and friends to bemoan his loss.

(Cor.)

SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

AT JAFFNA CENTRAL COLLEGE

Two Scholarships of Rs. 30/- to students who have passed the Fifth Standard and two scholarships of Rs. 60/- to students who have passed the J. S. C., will be awarded on the results of a competitive examination. For further particulars apply to the Principal on or before 14th January 1942.

J. W. ARUDPRAGASAM,
Acting Principal.
(Mis. 165. 8 & 12-1-42)

(To be Continued)

PRESS COMMENT ON INDIAN POSITION

PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT MUST BE ATTEMPTED

London, Jan 1.

COMMENTING on Mahatma Gandhi's relinquishing the leadership of the Congress, the London "Times" in an editorial on Thursday, says that not all the implications of the event are clear yet, but it can be verily said to have clarified the political situation in one aspect. "Whatever objections the Congress leaders may still sustain to co-operation with the Government, or whatever conditions they may seek to attach to a new line of action, they no longer base their policy upon unresisting Pacifism, which has been Mr. Gandhi's recent reply to the grave menace with which the German and now Japanese aggression has confronted India. To that extent the complication which has always been present while Mr. Gandhi led the Congress Party has been removed. Other things being equal, this rationalisation of the Party's standpoint should make it easier to approach the difficulties confronting both the British Government and the Congress Party on new lines.

"On the British side, there should certainly be every readiness to meet half-way all claims which take full account, both of the stern realities of the Indian military situation, and of the British undertakings to open a full share of responsibility to India's political leaders. A substantial move was made in this direction by the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council, which has become a partly representative body with Indian, instead of British majority; and is indeed designed to become still more representative. While the devising of a new

constitutional scheme was never practicable in war-time and is less than ever practicable now that India is exposed to danger from both the flanks, Indian political opinion rightly expects that the British Government will withhold no contribution to a genuine provisional settlement which is in their power to grant. On both sides the question is—as it has always been—one of confidence. If this is to be established, the Government have a right to expect the National Congress Party or for that matter any other important Indian political body, to help them in establishing just a workable plan of co-operation. Practical participation from day to day in the task of administration and of the moral and material preparation of India to meet the greatest crisis in her history will be the most effective way in which the Congress Party can win the confidence of the British Government and the people and of the growing body of independent Indian opinion.

"GUARDIAN" ON TASK AHEAD

London, Dec. 31.

The *Manchester Guardian*, in a leader, says: "Mr. Gandhi has asked the Working Committee of the Congress to release him from his leadership and the Committee has agreed. It, therefore, the Congress has any idea of considering fresh negotiations with the Government, it is freed from what was a false position.

"Mr. Gandhi last year persuaded the Congress to adopt his principle of non-violence as the only right method of dealing with any aggressor. He says that, when the Congress then refused to take part in the war effort, or any war effort, he thought that the principal ground for its action was that of 'non-violence' as a principle; he was astonished to find that most members differed from his view and held that they could oppose participation for quite other reasons. Now that many Congressmen desire to discover whether some basis cannot be found on which they can return to political life, both at the Centre and in the Provinces, and support the war, it is clear that they must first cut themselves off from Mr. Gandhi's 'non-violence.' He says, no doubt sincerely, that he will go on with his own campaign and along with such supporters as he has, continue civil disobedience.

"The Working Committee has not gone farther than to accept his resignation. It repeats last year's formula, which rejected the Government's proposals, and has gone beyond them by now—and has refused to co-operate. Nevertheless, those who desire to negotiate are freer than they were, if there is enough good-will to improve the opportunity.

"It remains to be seen what Mr. Jinnah, the leader of the Mus-

lim League, will do and how far, if he will do nothing, he can overbear other Moslem leaders."

NEW YORK PRESS COMMENT

New York, Jan. 1.

Commenting on Mahatma Gandhi's release from Congress leadership, the *New York Times*, in an editorial, says: "India's contribution to the British war effort has been tremendous and might have been greater however but for the tactics pursued by Mr. Gandhi and his followers which have embarrassed and hampered Britain considerably. But now that the war has moved closer to India's frontiers, there are signs that Mr. Gandhi's followers are beginning to question the wisdom of his policies. Unable to hold his following in line and incapable of changing his own views, Mr. Gandhi took the only course he could in asking to be relieved of his leadership. This is a hopeful portent as even the most zealous of Mr. Gandhi's followers must see that all India's hopes for independence and freedom in future rest upon the outcome of the war. Does even the great apostle of non-violence believe that Axis victory

would spell anything but slavery for India's millions? In clinging too tenaciously to his coterie doctrine, Mr. Gandhi has lost touch with reality."

"CHANCE UNLIKELY TO RECUR"

London, Dec. 31.

"Mr. Gandhi's resignation of Congress leadership offers Britain as well as India a great opportunity" writes the London newspaper, *Star*, in an editorial today (Wednesday). "The Mahatma will remain a revered figure among the peasant millions of his people. Yet there is no doubt his decision is wise. It opens the way for an improvement in Anglo-Indian relations as has not been possible before in this war. That improvement is the more urgent now that the struggle is rapidly approaching the sub-continent.

"Though the Working Committee reiterates its hostility and mistrust of the British Government, its acceptance of Mr. Gandhi's resignation shows that Britain is regarded with far less aversion than the Germans or the Japanese who seek from the West and the East to plunder its riches.

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[Q. 115, 23-10-41—24-1-42.]

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(Y. 21 B. 11-8-40—10-8-41.)

Jaffna.

(M)

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