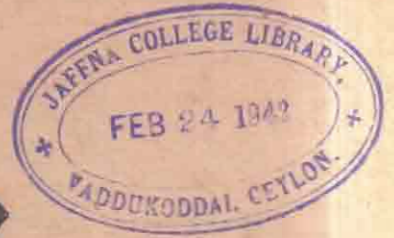


# THE Hindu Organ.



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## NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

### Colombo North By-Election

It is understood that April 11, has been recommended as the date for the by-election in the Colombo North constituency of the State Council.

### Minister Resigns

Mr. W. A. de Silva, Minister of Health, has tendered his resignation from the Board of Ministers and also from membership in the State Council.

### No Probe into British Retreats

Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. C. R. Attlee answering for Mr. Churchill refused to appoint a Court of Inquiry presided over by a High Court Judge into the retreats of the British Army from Dunkirk, Norway, Greece, Crete, Malaya and Benghazi.

### Economy Urged in Use Of Paper

Strict economy in the use of paper is urged by the Controller of Imports, Exports and Exchange, Mr. R. N. Bond.

The stock position, which is already serious, he states, is likely to deteriorate further, as it is improbable that importers will be able to secure delivery of more than a small proportion of pre-war imports. Every endeavour should, therefore, be made to conserve existing stocks.

### State to Buy All Rubber

Shippers, brokers, and dealers of rubber will as far as possible not be disturbed for the present by the new order from the Secretary of State making Government the purchaser of all Ceylon rubber.

Mr. P. Saravanamuttu, the Rubber Controller, who will be the buyer on behalf of the Government, told a Press representative that, as far as possible, the existing machinery would be used for the present.

### Supplies from India to China

A statement on the results of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek's visit to India issued in Chungking states:—"Concrete measures were decided upon for the transportation of supplies direct from India to China the capacity of which will exceed those taken along the Burma Road. The use of Rangoon as a port of entry has therefore been abandoned and its approaches have been mined."

## THE UNHEEDED WARNING ABOUT HITLER

### PUBLIC OPINION REFLECTED BY A NEWSPAPER

BY WILLIAM HOLT  
(In a Recent Broadcast Talk)

CHURCHILL once described one of our dailies as "one of those great country newspapers which must be studied to understand the movement of public opinion."

Most of you will have heard of this paper; it's often quoted in your own press. I am referring to the "Yorkshire Post". Those of you who have been in England and have travelled in the north east will remember the yellow painted signboards erected in fields which can be seen from the railway—"TWIST TRENT AND TWEED—THE YORKSHIRE POST." Well, I've attended a six o'clock conference of this important British newspaper.

The day men going off were meeting the night men coming on. It was just the ordinary routine conference which takes place every day at that time. The editor, W. L. Andrews, sat in his swivel chair behind his big leather-topped mahogany desk, and his men sat around the room in leather upholstered chairs.

It was a quiet room, with a library atmosphere, and the big coal fire blazing in the open fireplace was reflected on the old mahogany furniture and on the polished copper kettle which stood in the hearth. There was a turkey red carpet on the floor and bookshelves covered two of the walls. The windows were blacked out by heavy curtains. It was already getting dark in Leeds.

The average age of the men present was under forty. There was the chief assistant editor, the chief "sub-editor," the news editor, the sporting editor, the art editor, three leader writers, and the chief reporter. The editor himself would be the oldest man present. He's fifty-five.

#### They Discuss

They took the foreign news first. The chief sub-editor, acting as foreign news editor, told them the principal items and they had a discussion. The first item was the sinking

of the Rueben James, and American reactions. They talked in quiet voices and the discussion was unhurried. It might have been taking place at the editor's home, so informal was the way it was conducted. There were wood spills on the mantelpiece and I could hear the clock ticking away on the wall. It only needed a cat or a dog stretched out on toe hearthrug to complete the picture. The copper kettle was brought by a former editor who used to boil water in it for a meal late at night. His wife used to come with a basket and after the editor had eaten, they used to sit on each side of the fireplace and drink tea.

The main item of Home news, that night, was the fire at a clothing factory in Huddersfield, with a loss of forty-seven lives. Four of the "Post" reporters were still out covering it. "Put all the late stuff on the front page, and the news and details on the back page", said the editor. Newspapers over here are responsible for their own censorship. They use their own discretion governed by the laws affecting security. They are responsible for what they print. With regard to fires no mention can be made of them until they are put out—for obvious reasons. Other items of news were discussed and now and then during the conference a messenger brought in some teleprinted news which had just come over the wires.

#### The Background

It wasn't at all like the newspaper editorial conference you see in films. And yet the background was war, and there might have been a bombing raid that night. All was ready for it if it had come. Duplicate apparatus was ready in the great cellar. No one could say what news might come over the wires during the night. Plans then being made might have to be scrapped at the last minute, but mean-

Continued on page 6

## GANDHI—CHIANG MEETING

### INTERVIEW LASTS 4½ HOURS

Calcutta, Wednesday.

Mahatma Gandhi met Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek at Mr. Gandhi's Calcutta residence, Birla Park (the house of a Marwari millionaire), this morning.

Mr. Gandhi was accompanied by his Secretary, Mr. Mahadev Desai. When the train arrived Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru entered the Mahatma's compartment and introduced him to Mr. Tao Fan-chang, a member of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang, to Dr. C. J. Pao, the Chinese Consul-General, and to Professor Tan Yun-sen, a representative of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek.

As Mr. Gandhi and Pandit Nehru and the Chinese representatives alighted, the Mahatma was garlanded. Then leaning on the shoulder of Mr. Tao Fan-chang and accompanied by Pandit Nehru, the Mahatma walked to a waiting car and drove straight to Birla Park amidst shouts of: "Gandhiji-ki-jai (Long live Gandhi). In the meantime, the Chinese Consul-General proceeded straight to Barrackpore Government House to bring the Generalissimo to Birla Park.

The Gandhi-Chiang Kai-shek meeting concluded at 6-10 p.m., having lasted for nearly four-and-a-half hours. Mahatma Gandhi then left for Howrah station, while the Generalissimo returned to Government House.

Pandit Nehru told Press men that the two leaders discussed all matters regarding India, China and the world. Mr. Gandhi presented yarn he had spun to the Generalissimo and a spinning wheel to Madame Chiang.

The Council of State has unanimously passed a resolution at New Delhi today, expressing appreciation and admiration of Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek and warmly welcoming both to India.

## COMMISSIONER OF WAR RISKS INSURANCE

Mr. H. C. Cocks has been appointed Commissioner of War Risks Insurances under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance No. 1 of 1942, with effect from February 6, in addition to his other duties.



## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1942

### BRITISH CABINET CHANGES

THE CREATION OF A WAR Cabinet of reduced size, and the inclusion in it of Sir Stafford Cripps as Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Commons, constitute Mr. Winston Churchill's reply to the storm of criticism which his Government's conduct of the war had provoked. The British public had become seriously alarmed by the mistakes that have been made and the disastrous consequences that have undoubtedly flowed from these mistakes. The Prime Minister has been forced to realise that public opinion would refuse to tolerate for a moment longer the blunders which have landed the British Empire in the gravest crisis of its history, though Mr. Churchill has continued to retain, to a remarkable degree, his personal popularity and the confidence of the nation in his great qualities. What is, however, more relevant to the actualities of the present situation is, not the mere fact that Mr. Churchill has at last consented to reconstruct his Cabinet in response to public criticism, but the question whether the new Cabinet will succeed in avoiding the pitfalls that had wrecked its predecessor; whether the lamentable lack of realism, imagination and drive that had been the most amazing characteristic of some of the British Ministers in their attitude towards the war and its problems will no longer continue to hamper the successful prosecution of the war; and whether the political background of the struggle that is now being waged in Asia, in dangerous proximity to India and Ceylon, will receive the consideration it deserves. The British press has, under these circumstances, taken up a guarded attitude. While welcoming the Cabinet changes as evidence of the Prime Minister's willingness to yield to public opinion, it has, at the same time, expressed the view that these changes do not go far enough. The only exception worthy of note is the "Daily Telegraph" which is positive that nothing but good can result from these changes, and that "public opinion should now ensure that attacks on the Government, which have done

infinite harm to our cause abroad, are silenced." The "Daily Telegraph" is one of those papers that closely resemble a certain class of experts who have their feet firmly planted in the twentieth century, in the midst of a world war which resembles nothing that one knows of, and their heads equally firmly enveloped in the mists of ancient military history. Fortified by its superabundance of half-pay wisdom the "Daily Telegraph" seems to think that what is needed to win the war is not brains and supplies but a continued display of Tory pomposity and firmness.

It is our earnest hope that the question of supplies including equipment with reference to the war in Asia will receive the immediate consideration of the new Cabinet. The present position in regard to this matter has been very forcibly stated by the Editor of the Calcutta "Statesman": the requirements of Asia in the matter of equipment have not been considered at all; and it is somewhat disturbing to find that, even at the present moment when the consequences of all this neglect are only too evident even to an ordinary layman, a member of the old gang in the person of Capt. Margesson, Secretary of State for War, should go out of his way to give his version of the causes that have led to the present deplorable situation in the Far East. According to Capt. Margesson, "in the great war of 1914-18, we were able to send new divisions to a quiet part of a stationary line of defence, and there they were able to secure battle training and experience in a modest way before being committed to the hazards of a pitched battle. In this war the position is quite different. When we meet the German armies in the field, we meet troops having two and a half years' experience of fighting. When we meet the Japanese we have to face hardened soldiers with four years' experience of a type of warfare to which we have been totally unaccustomed. There is no time for our troops to secure preliminary training." All this is, of course, nonsense, but there are people, even in the midst of a world tragedy like the present, who after the manner of the thick-headed Bourbons, manage to learn nothing and forget nothing. Capt. Margesson is one of them. If he is to be believed, a thumping defeat at the hands of the Germans or the Japanese is an indispensable preliminary qualification for any body of troops to get into fighting trim. The experience gained in Poland, France, Norway and Greece evidently counts for nothing. One wonders also whether Capt. Margesson has heard of the information, supplied by an obliging press some months ago, that German officers were busy

training the Japanese in dive-bombing and the latest methods of mechanised warfare. Besides, the methods adopted by the Japanese in China never approached anything like the grim effectiveness of their onslaught on Malaya and the Dutch East Indies. It is a libel to put the blame on the soldiers. What was needed was plenty of realistic training and more than enough of equipment. Given these things, the British, Indian and Australian soldiers would have proved themselves more than a match for the Germans and the Japanese. Was this training given? Was even a modicum of this equipment given? It is only too patent that it was not. And yet, we are today privileged to witness the spectacle of these politician-Ministers who have managed to worm their way to their present positions through the electorate and through Parliament trying to dope the public mind with explanations which are not correct and which even a Village Court would have no difficulty in rejecting as fundamentally unsound. It is the duty of every Englishman, Indian and Ceylonese to try and get the British public to realise what is wanted to help Asia in her hour of need. Mr. Arthur Moore's example should be followed.

In one important respect, the reconstructed Cabinet will fail to satisfy Indian opinion. The Secretary of State for India has no place in the new Cabinet though Mr. Amery is likely to remain in the saddle till an exasperated House of Commons throws him out, perhaps too late, to make room for a better man. Recently, the "Daily Mail" suggested that the best thing to be done for India was to appoint someone with the requisite qualifications as Secretary of State and send him out to India to organise the country for war. It is an excellent suggestion and it is by no means too late to give effect to it. With reference to India, Mr. Amery's position has been that of an obedient tool of the Prime Minister whose attitude towards India is well known. Mr. Churchill seems to have pinned his faith to Australia to lead the Eastern Group, which included India, and he seems to have depended a good deal on the two ill-fated battleships to frighten the Japanese. These plans have miscarried, and the only alternative before any statesman mindful of his great responsibilities is to conciliate the Indian people and to weld them into a powerful unit equipped for defence as well as attack. Mr. Churchill has utterly failed to appreciate this point of view with the result that Mr. Amery still remains tied to his apron-strings, while the war is approaching the fertile valley of the Ganges.

## PUTTUR LOCAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

### INAUGURAL MEETING

(From a Correspondent)

For the purpose of electing a local Assistance Committee for Puttur Mr. C. T. Oorloff, C. C. S., Assistant Government Agent (Emergency), Adigar A. Naganathan and the Maniagar of Valikamam East Division attended an inaugural meeting of the Puttur public held at the V. C. Court on 19th January. Mr. A. K. Muttukumar, the V. C. Chairman, was elected the chairman of the Assistance Committee with Messrs K. Balasundram and K. Kandappu as Joint Secretaries and Mr. A. D. Sankarappillai as Treasurer.

Three committee meetings and two public meetings have been held so far. It was decided that the V.C. should be requested to increase the number of cattle seizers to protect cereal crops which would be grown immediately after the harvesting of paddy; that every encouragement for food production should be given by affording irrigation facilities by sinking wells for needy people, who should be supplied with free green and black gram; that each member should do the necessary blackout propaganda; that retail shopkeepers be requested to keep all varieties of rice without causing inconvenience and hard hip to the public and that their boutiques be open for business from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; that the committee should exercise the right to inspect weekly and check all rice boutiques; that the committee should attend the first aid classes held by the Apothecary-in-charge, under the auspices of the Puttur Health League.

At the first public meeting presided over by Mr. S. Natesan, M. S. C., the Maniagar of the Division spoke on "Food Control", Mr. N. Sivaganan on "A. R. P." and Mr. Selvadurai on "Food Production." The meeting resolved that "since the food production drive at Puttur and the adjoining villages can gain greater force by the use of the tidal well at Navakiri for irrigation, the Member for Kankasanturai should move a resolution in the State Council to the effect that the tidal well be harnessed for irrigation." It was pointed out by Mr. K. Sivaguru, the proposer, that the required machinery could be had from India in spite of war conditions.

Mr. A. J. B. Vethavanam A. R. P. Controller Jaffna, spoke on Air Raid Precautions before a mass meeting on February 15, Mr. A. K. Muthukumar presiding. The talk was illustrated by practical demonstrations. Speaking next, Mr. C. Raganathan, Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, appealed to the land owners to reduce their rents in order that tenant cultivators could cultivate food crops in place of tobacco. Mr. R. Singaretnam, deputising for the chief Air Raid Warden, also dwelt on A.R.P.

The Puttur Agricultural Advisory Committee met on 18th February, Mr. V. Chellappa presiding. It was resolved that the Rural Development Officers should prepare a report on the type of food crops which could be economically grown during the next six months.

## KANDY TAMILS ASSOCIATION

### 32nd Annual General Meeting

The 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Kandy Tamils Association was held commencing at 7 p.m. on Saturday, the 14th February 1942 at the Saiva Maha Sabha Building, Kandy, with Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, B. A (Hons) Lond, the President of the Association, in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting, the minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting, report of the Managing Committee and the Treasurer's balance sheet were read by the Hony. Secretary Mr. A. Navaratnarajah and adopted.

The report contained, among other things, the action taken by the Association regarding the discomfort and inconvenience of the travelling public from up-country and Jaffna in having to detrain at Peradeniya Junction and Polgahawela and the unduly long halt at malarial Polgahawela in the early hours. The matter was taken up by the member for Kandy in the State Council in his last Budget speech and it is hoped that something would be done early to remedy matters. Other activities mentioned were public lectures conducted under the auspices of the Association, a tour to the ruined cities, a memorial meeting in honour of Sir. P. Ramathan, K. C. C. M. G., First Aid and A. R. P. classes conducted by Dr. S. Ariaratnam, Inspecting Medical Officer of Schools; a tennis meet, between members of the Orion Club, Gampola led by Mr. Ivor de Saram, Magistrate and members of the Association led by Mr. K. Wijayaratanam, the Chairman of the Sports Branch participating in it. The report also contained a reference to the very successful function held in honour of Gate. Muhandiram and Mrs. Canaganayagam on the former's election as Mayor of Kandy.

Then followed the Presidential address which was as usual a very inspiring one. Comments were made on the useful work done during the year and what remains to be done. The President thanked the house for the hearty co-operation given by one and all throughout the year.

A resolution moved by Mr. A. Pathmanathan that a dramatic section be formed to encourage the staging of Tamil Dramas was seconded by Mr. A. Navaratnarajah and unanimously accepted.

The election of office-bearers for the next year resulted as follows:—

President:—Mr. N. Coomaraswamy.

Vice-Presidents:—Messrs. S. Kandiah, S. U. Somasegaram, H. T. Gnanaipirakasam, Dr. T. Kulnayagam, Dr. S. Ariaratnam.

Hony. General Secretary:—Mr. S. Sivagnanam.

Hony. Treasurer:—Mr. V. Muthulingam.

Hony. Secy. Dramatic Section:—Mr. K. S. Gopala Iyer.

Hony. Secy. Sports:—Mr. S. Thambiappah.

Hony. Literary Secretary:—Mr. V. Panchadcharam.

Hony. Social Service Branch:

## PURANAS: THEIR PLACE AS RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES

BY "VYASA"

IV

### VAISHNAVA PURANAS:

#### Padma Purana

THE present Padma Purana is found in two versions. One is North Indian (Bengal) and the other is South Indian. The North Indian version has only five Khandas: 1. Sristi, 2 Bhumi, 3 Svarga, 4 Patala and 5 Uttara. The South Indian version has six Khandas: 1 Adi, 2 Bhumi, 3 Brahma, 4 Patala, 5 Sristi, 6 Uttara. It is generally believed that although the Bengal version, on account of the number, arrangement and contents of Khandas, is more reliable than the South Indian one, it does not however represent the Padma Purana in its original form. The Bengal version is not available in printed edition. We shall give below an outline of the South Indian version, with extracts from the Bengal versions wherever necessary.

The Adhi Khanda is purely Vaishnava and begins with a short account of creation. It gives the geography of the earth, deals with the glories of various holy places and rivers and ends with a chapter on Vishnu Bhakti, and the duties of the members of the different castes in different stages of their life.

Bhumi Khanda is full of legends introduced in order to prove the sanctity of various holy places and to show how Prahalada became so great a devotee of Vishnu, and why a teacher, a father or a chaste and devoted wife is called a Tirtha. In connection with these legends and glorifications, the duties of Asramas, gifts, duties of women, holy places, and vratas are treated in detail. Buddha also is mentioned as an incarnation of Vishnu.

Brahma Khanda is concerned with the description of Vaishnava feasts and festivals. It treats of the merits of besmearing a Vishnu Temple with cow dung and of burning a lamp there at night, the observances during the month of Kartika, the Jayanti Vrata, the Guruvara Vrata, the birth day festivals of Radha and Krishna, the Ekadasi Vrata, the worship of Vishnu on the full moon day and the offer of various things to Vishnu. The merits of observing these festivals are illustrated by stories. The Tulasi plant is glorified in Chapt: 22 and called the 'wife of Hari' in chapt: 10. Greatness of Brahmans are dealt in Chapt: 14 wherein Suta says 'O best of the twice-born, a Brahman is superior to all castes. He is known to be a prop of all the Gods, and (is identical with) the Lord Narayana.....The man who licks the particle of water sticking to the foot of a Brahman gets rid of all sins (arising out) of the murder of Brahmans.'

Patala Khanda starts with a description of the nether world and the Nagas. It deifies Rama and

Secretary: Mr. C. Sivasithambaram.

Committee Members: Gate Muhandiram N. Canaganayagam and Messrs. S. Kanagasabai, V. Ramanathan, S. Seenivasagam, K. Nagapper, K. Wijayaratanam, S. Karalakulasingam, S. Nagalingam, S. Charavanapavan, A. K. Velupillai, V. Sabapathy and Mr. A. Navaratnarajah. (Cor).

conceives him as Vishnu incarnate. Sita is identified with Lakshmi. The utterance of Rama's name is said to be extremely sanctifying and capable of conferring final release. The Tulasi plant and its worship is referred to in more than one place. In chapters 69-99, there are references to Krishna and Radha, Siva and Parvati are said to converse on the life story of Krishna. He is said to be Vishnu incarnate and His worship frees the worshipper of all sins and gives him final release. Radha is called Krishna's Sakti. She is the 'Ayyaya Mula-Prakriti' of which Durga and other goddesses are infinitesimal parts. Brindavanam is considered the most sacred place in the world. There are references to the Tantras and the Agamas as authorities. From chapter 100 to the end references to Siva and Linga worship are found. The unity of Siva and Vishnu is recognised in the form of Rama and it is Siva who is assigned a higher place. The glories of the ashes are sung in many of the chapters. The book ends with a few chapters on the duties of Vishnu worshippers, the sanctity of the Salagrama stone and other details of the Vishnu Cult.

Sristi Khanda. The first part of the Khanda seems to have been compiled by the Brahma worshippers. In this book it is not Vishnu who is assumed as the first cause but the highest Brahman in the form of the personal god Brahma. Nevertheless, the book is Vishnuite in character and contains myths and legends for the glorification of the God Vishnu. One of the principal parts of the book consists of the description of the lake Puskara (in Ajmere), sacred to Brahma. Many feasts and vows in honour of the goddess Durga are mentioned.

Uttara Khanda. This Khanda is a collection of legends. It also contains a few chapters on Marriage, Gifts, Worship, Vows and duties of the castes and asramas. It contains the list of the 10 incarnations of Vishnu including Buddha and Kalki. The Vrata called the Tulasi-triratri vrata is narrated and long stories about the origin of the goddess Tulasi are given. The worship of the five deities (Siva, Vishnu, Uma, Kumara, Ganesha & Surya) of the Smartas is referred. References to Pasandins, including especially the Siva worshippers, and Mayavada as Prachchanna Bauddha are found in this book. In the Bengal version of the Uttara Khanda story is narrated to establish the supremacy of Vishnu over other Gods.

The Padma Purana is a very voluminous one and is second to the Skanda in size. The purana contains materials which bring the book to even the 14th or the 15th century A. D. There are no doubt very ancient as well as very modern portions found in it.

#### Varaha Purana

The extant Varaha Purana is supposed to be a comparatively late book. It is rather a manual of prayers and rules mainly for Vishnu

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## SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN PADDY

### Agriculture Director's Address

Annamalainagar, Feb. 13

**S**UGGESTIONS for the better production of food crops and the need and means of achieving self-sufficiency in paddy, were made by Mr. P. H. Rama Reddi, Director of Agriculture, Madras, while delivering the valedictory address of the Annamalai University Cosmopolitan Club, this evening at the Gokhale Hall, with Sir K. V. Reddi in the chair.

The Chairman of the Club, Mr. Gandbi Chowdhry, welcomed the guest after the reading of the annual report.

Pointing out that India was at present not self-sufficient as regards rice, Mr. Rama Reddi said that the problem before the country at present was how to make up the deficit of about 650,000 tons, annually imported into India from Burma, Siam, etc. and which had all but stopped on account of the war. There were two ways of increasing the production, namely, by increasing the area under cultivation and by increasing the yield per acre. Considering the first question of extensive cultivation it should be clearly understood that in Madras province, there was little or no waste land available, which could be brought immediately under cultivation without irrigation. The irrigated area under paddy had, to a little extent, increased due to the facilities offered by the Irrigation Department for more water. For intensive cultivation, dry lands did not offer much scope as the success of cultivation in these lands depended upon rainfall, which was often uncertain and precarious, particularly in localities where this sort of cultivation was most important, namely, the Ceded Districts.

#### Low Yield and its Remedy

The average yield of paddy in Madras was estimated at 1,200 lbs. per acre, added the speaker. This was low, compared with the yields in other paddy growing countries. But the low yield was due to a number of adverse factors which could not be easily remedied. The first among the adverse factors was lack of sufficient water supply. The second was the present practice of annual lease. The landlord cared very little beyond his annual income and was not interested in the improvement of the land. The tenant in turn was concerned only with extracting as much from the land as possible, with little or no application of manure. The result was the deterioration of the land, with a fall in its yielding capacity. This evil could be remedied only if the minimum period of lease was extended and the landlord was made to pay a share of expenditure on any improvement effected on the land by the tenant. All this did not, however, appear to be possible without necessary legislation. The only thing that could be done was to induce the cultivator to use better seed and adopt improved methods of cultivation. The third cause was the necessity for culti-

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## SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN PADDY

Continued from page 3

vating short duration varieties which were by nature low yielders. The cultivator was unfortunately still in the habit of using a high seed rate per acre, which resulted not only in waste of seeds, but also in lower yield. One other defect in the local method of cultivation of paddy was raising nurseries very thick and transplanting the seedlings in bunches of ten to twelve in each hole. The best way of raising seedlings was to sow 25 lbs. in a 10 cents plot and transplant the seedlings 2-4 per hole at a distance of 4-10 inches depending upon the soil fertility. In the case of fertile soil, wider spacing was necessary and in the case of poor land, close spacing was better. Mr. Reddi then urged the need for proper manuring of paddy fields and the advantages of using iron ploughs in the place of country made wooden ploughs.

In conclusion, Mr. Rama Reddi stated that, due to the intensive propaganda of the Agricultural Department and the increase of area under paddy cultivation, the yield of rice obtained in 1940-41 was about 6 lakhs of tons more than normal. They had to make up only half a lakh of ton, but imports received that year were more than that quantity. The results of 1941-42 were not yet known, but crop forecasts showed that there was a fall in area under paddy crop by a little over 2 per cent, but the yield expected was about the same as last year. That was to say, their shortage was about half of a lakh of ton which was more than counter-balanced by the extra yield obtained from 3 lakhs of acres of dry land as a result of the decrease in area under groundnut. Thus there would be no shortage of food grains this year.

### Sir K. V. Reddi's Remarks

The President thanked the lecturer and stated that the various facts and figures quoted by the lecturer showed the great work that was being done by the Agricultural Department. He referred then to the Thungabhadra Project and added that millions of acres of land in Rayalaseema had still to depend upon doubtful rains. Under such circumstances, one would be tempted to ask why the Government should not spend some more money on those projects. When one thought of the astronomical figures given in connection with War expenditure, it looked as though the Government were not doing what was essential. Continuing Sir Kurma stated that while he was Minister of Agriculture in Madras about 20 years ago, he had collected some figures and found that about half anna was being spent in Madras per head, while in countries like America the figure was about five rupees. Now it would have gone up further in those countries, while in India it was worse. The population was increasing day by day and unless the production of food crops was not increased by about at least 20 per cent, starvation might increase. He hoped that the government, the Department and scientists would do something in this direction to relieve the suffering.

## PURANAS: THEIR PLACE AS RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES

Continued from page 3

worshippers. The Purana consists of four sections. The first section is primarily the work of the Pancharatras. Here the deity is Narayana. The gifts made to the Pancharatra Acharyas are said to be productive of immense good. The study of the Pancharatra Samhitas and the observance of the rules of the Pancharatras are recommended, next to the Vedas, as the means of realising Vishnu-Brahma. In this section Siva, Brahma and Vishnu are said to be not different from one another but it is Narayana who is the highest God and all other Gods, including Brahma and Siva, are said to be born of Him. Rudra is made to acknowledge the superiority of Narayana. A distinction is made between Narayana or Vishnu-Brahma and the inferior Vishnu of the Trinity. The latter is born of the former and is incarnated on earth. The first section was mainly directed against the antagonistic non-Vedic Pasupata Saivas.

The second section of the Purana is meant for the Bhagavata Vaishnavas. The Bhagavatas are to be honoured at the end of the worship of Vishnu; the pure Bhagavatas are always to be visited and honoured by the people.

The third section narrates the story of Nachiketa and deals with the method of Vishnu worship. In the story of Nachiketa the narrator is more concerned with the description of heaven and hell than with the philosophical ideas contained in the ancient poem in the Katha Upanishad.

The contents of the fourth section is strictly Saiva. It deals with the origin and glorification of Uttara Gokarna and other holy places in Nepal which are sacred to Siva. In spite of the Vishnuite character of this Purana, it yet contains a few legends relating to Siva and Durga. The story of the birth of Ganesha is given. It also deals with Sraddhas, Prayachittas and the erection of images of the Gods. A considerable section is a Mathura-Mahatmya. The date of this Purana is assigned to a period not later than the 12th century, A. D.

## AUCTION SALE

17054 D. C. J.

Kandiah Thamby of Vannarponnai East Plaintiff.

Vs.

Karthigasu Muttukumar of Kanthermadam Jaffna, legal representative of the estate of the late Vallipuram Sinnadurai of do Defendant.

### PROPERTY

All that piece of land with its appurtenances situated at Vannarponnai East, called Karmaikkatchi, in extent of 1 1/2 V. C. with house, well, and plantations is bounded on the East by Road, North and West by the property of Karagammah wife of Senakirajah and South by the property of Theivanappillai wife of Ratnam.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna, in case No. 17054, D. C. J. I shall sell the above property by public Auction on Saturday the 21st March 1942, at about 4 p. m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH  
Commissioner

(Mis. 189. 23-2-42)

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### CEYLONESE IN OCCUPIED-MALAYA

Sir,—How the harrowing tales of suffering among the civilian population of occupied Malaya originate is a baffling mystery, and I crave your indulgence to expose the falsity of a typical tale that went round Jaffna.

The story was that Mrs. . . . of Colombo had received a letter from her sister X in Penang to the effect that X and her children were starving and that she had been despoiled of her jewellery and valuables, by the Japanese. It was alleged that the letter was forwarded through the International Red Cross Society.

This tale reached a Jaffna lady whose son-in-law was in Malaya and she became terribly anxious about the safety of her son-in-law.

Anxious relations of X and others who had heard similar stories of their kith and kin called on me as I had left Malaya only ten days before the Japanese attack, and was known to be a friend of the parties.

The Malayan War Relief Committee, Vaddukoddi, deputed me to visit Colombo, investigate the X story, and make such representations as seemed necessary to the authorities.

I called on X's sister, and learned (as I fully expected) that she had received no letter whatever and was utterly ignorant of the supposed fate of her sister's family. We would be inhuman if we were not anxious, but it is sheer folly to give ear to stories of the type mentioned. I am separated from my four children whom I left behind in our Johore home, and mine is not unfeeling advice.

So far as it is possible to judge, our people appear to be content to remain where they are (in spite of the inevitable hardships) and to prefer remaining in Malaya to facing the dangers of a sea-voyage. The official information is that there have been no Ceylonese applications for evacuation.

In spite of the adverse turn of affairs, one cannot say when help might become necessary for our countrymen and sisters across the water. But it is only proper that we should have ample resources at our disposal to give them adequate help at the first available opportunity.

It is needless for me to remind the Tamils of this Island, especially the people of Jaffna, of the manifold benefits they have enjoyed and are still enjoying as a result of our people venturing out to Malaya. It is hence our foremost duty to repay this debt in an honourable and ungrudging manner. This we can only do by liberal and prompt contributions to the Relief Fund, which might be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. A. S. K. Selvadurai, of 'Vaike Vasa' Vaddukoddi, or The Editor, 'Times of Ceylon,' Colombo.

I might add that a Committee is in existence in Colombo for the purposes of exploring the possibilities of assisting our people in Malaya, and such of them as might reach Ceylon as evacuees. This Committee includes Messrs. G. St. Ponnambalam, M. S. C., K. Kanagaratnam, Acting Auditor General, and N. Narayana K. C. Once again I appeal to my countrymen to keep

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 943.  
In the matter of the estate of the late Kathirippillai Kumaraiah of Vannarponnai East Deceased.  
Ponnamma widow of Kathirippillai Kumaraiah of Vannarponnai East Vs. Petitioner.

1. Kathirippillai Kulandaivelu of Vannarponnai East
2. Achchimuttu wife of Sinnappah Vallipuram of do
3. Sinnappah Vallipuram of do
4. Murugar Vallipuram and wife
5. Sinnathangam of Tellippalai East Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire, District Judge of Jaffna on the 23rd day of October 1940 in the presence of Mr. V. S. Somasuntharam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read; It is ordered that the Petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate unless Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 27th day of November 1940 and state objections or show cause to the contrary.

This 13th day of November 1940

(Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended to 25th day of February 1942.

Intd. C. C.

D. J.

(O. 67. 19 & 23-2-42.)

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1116.  
In the matter of the estate of the late P. J. Sinnadurai of Suthumalai late of Kuang F. M. S. Deceased.

Muttamma widow of Pavilu John Sinnadurai of Suthumalai Vs. Petitioner.

1. S. Alagendharajah,
2. Poomalar daughter of Sinnadurai
3. S. Selvarajah
4. Poomalar daughter of Sinnadurai and
5. Valluppillai Tampullai of Suthumalai Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge on the 3rd February 1942 in the presence of Mr. E. Murugesampillai Proctor and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read; It is ordered that Letters of administration to the estate of the deceased be granted to the Petitioner as his lawful widow and that the 5th respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors 1st to 4th respondents for the purpose of protecting their interest and of representing them in these Testamentary proceedings unless the respondents shall appear before this court on the 11th day of March 1942 and state objections to the contrary.

The 3rd day of February 1942.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge

(O. 66. 23 & 26-2-42)

## NOTICE

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS SERVICE, JAFFNA WANTED

Clerks and Telephonists for the A. R. P. Communications Service. Those with experience preferred.

Apply to the Officer-in-Charge, A. R. P. Communications Service, D. I. T's Office, Jaffna.

A. J. R. Vethavaniam  
A. R. P. Controller

Jaffna, February 20, 1942.  
(Mis. 190. 23-2-42)

cool, not to lend ears to mischievous rumours, and to support the Malayan War Relief Fund liberally.

Yours etc.

E. CHELLIAH

Vaddukoddi,  
17th February 1942.

# THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

## SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

### X. 'Alavai' (அளவை) or Methods of Proof (Logic)

அளவை காண்டல் கருதல் உரை  
அபாவம் பொருள் ஒப்பு ஆகு என்பர்  
அளவை மேலும் ஒழிப்பு உண்மை  
ஐதிகத்தோடு இயல்பு என காண்கு  
அளவை காண்பர், அவை யிற்றின்  
மேலும் அறைவர், அவை எல்லாம்  
அளவை, காண்டல் கருதல் உரை  
என்று இம்மூன்றில் அடங்கிடுமே.

Six kinds of 'Alavai' (literally measure) or proof are mentioned by some writers, to wit: (1) Kandal, Anubhavam or Pratiyaksham (காண்டல், அனுபவம் அல்லது பிரத்தியட்சம்), direct or sensuous perception. (2) Karutal, Yukti or Anumanam (கருதல், யுக்தி அல்லது அனுமானம்), inference, (3) Urai, Sruti or Agamam (உரை, கருதி அல்லது ஆகமம்), revelation, (4) Abhavam or Inmai (அபாவம் அல்லது இன்மை), negation or non-existence, (5) Porul or Aruthapatti (பொருள் அல்லது அருத்தாபத்தி), deduction or presumption and (6) Oppu or Upamanam (ஒப்பு அல்லது உபமானம்), analogy or comparison. Others add four more varieties: (7) Olipu or Parisesham (ஒழிப்பு அல்லது பரிசேசம்), residue, (8) Unmai or Sambavam (உண்மை அல்லது சம்பவம்), co-existence or probability, (9) Aithikam (ஐதிகம்), tradition and (10) Iyalpu or Sahasam (இயல்பு அல்லது சகசம்), nature. Yet others there are who increase the number further. But all these can be comprised under the three main divisions of Kandal, Karutal and Urai. These are the three methods ordinarily known as Sruti, Yukti and Anubhavam (in inverse order).

Four stages are noticed in the process of acquiring the knowledge of anything, namely: Nirvikatpam (நிருவிகத்பம்) Aiyam (ஐயம்), Tirivu (திரிவு) and Savikatpam (சவிகத்பம்) which may be translated as undifferentiating, doubtful, erroneous and discriminative perception, respectively. Thus, when we see a rope before us, the first stage is the knowledge that there is something before us without cognising what the functions and attributes of the object are or its species or name, the next stage is to recognise some of these qualities, &c, and doubt what the thing can be, the third stage consists in wrongly thinking that it is a snake and the final stage is the full comprehension of the object in all its aspects and arrival at the right conclusion that it is a rope.

The first kind of proof (Kandal) is divided into four subdivisions. The first subdivision is termed Indriya or Vayitkadchi (இந்திரிய அல்லது வாயிற் காட்சி) and is the bare sensory perception of a thing (Nirvikatpam) without reaching the stages of doubt, error or discrimination. Next comes Manasakadchi (மானசக்காட்சி) or discriminatory perception (Savikatpam) where all the stages of non-differentiation, doubt, error and discrimination are completed. Then comes Thanvedanaikadchi (தன்வேதனைக் காட்சி), knowledge by actual experience of pleasure and pain. The fourth kind of direct perception is called Yogakadchi (யோகக்காட்சி) where the spiritually advanced devotee has recourse to Yoga practice and thus overcomes his Malabandham (மலபந்தம்) and sees things distant in time and place remaining where he is.

Anumanam is the inference of things not directly perceived from known data and is divided into inference for oneself and inference for others. The terms Pakkam (பக்கம்), Hetu (ஹேது), &c, used in this mode of proof are best explained by an example. Smoke is observed over the top of a hill and though we do not actually see any fire there (this being hidden by rank vegetation, &c), we conclude that there must be fire as we had invariably observed fire and smoke as cause and effect in the kitchen, while neither fire nor smoke was found in the tank. Here the hill is the Pakkam or place where the thing to be proved lies, the kitchen is the Sapakkam or analogous place where the thing in question is already proved or known to exist and the tank is the Vipakkam or place where the thing in question is known never to exist. There are thus three kinds of Pakkam, the first two of which are locations for affirmative proof while the last is used for negative proof. The inference that there must be fire because there is smoke is the Hetu or reason. This is known as Kariya Hetu (காரிய ஹேது) or reasoning from causal relation or succession. Two other kinds of Hetu are mentioned: Anupalatthi, (அனுபலத்தி ஹேது) and Iyalpu or Sakasa Hetu. Anupalatthi is inference from non-existence as when we infer the non-existence of dew from the absence of cold. Sakasa Hetu or natural cause is the inherent power of a word where we gather its meaning from the context as in the expressions "the Tamil race" and "they ran a race." Inference for oneself is drawn from these Pakkam & Hetu.

(To be Continued)

## SPECIAL MEETING OF JAFFNA U. C.

A Special Meeting of the Jaffna Urban Council will be held at the Office of the Council today.

Pursuant to notice Dr. V. S. Ramanathan will move:—

- i. "This Council do take immediate steps to provide adequate Air Raid Shelters at all Public Markets and other public places where people congregate."
- ii. "This Council to vote a sum of Rs. 5,000 for providing fire fighting apparatus for any emergency."
- iii. "That this Council to provide a Retail Rice Depot for the employees of the Council."
- iv. "That this Council do request the Food Controller to give relief to the Council's labourers by increasing the present ration to at least four measures of rice a week."

### A. R. P. SERVICE

The A. R. P. Controller, Jaffna, writes:—

There seems to be some misunderstanding among people with regard to this service. This is entirely voluntary and unpaid. Only those who wish to help their country and their own people should volunteer for this service. They will spend their leisure and off time in training for this work and when trained will keep themselves in readiness to be called during an emergency. It may be necessary to keep a very few ready all the time. These must be people who have no other duty. All should, however, be enrolled.

No man or woman should miss this opportunity to render service to the country in some capacity or another. Older people can join the Wardens' Service and younger people the other services. Each street or group of houses can have their own fire fighting party of three, First Aid party of four, and Rescue party of six. It is high time people organised themselves for self-help in their way.

### RETIREMENT OF DR. S. G. C. MILLS

A public meeting of the residents of Valikamam West was held on Wednesday the 18th February at the Memorial English School, Manipay, with Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Chairman Village Committee and President Manipay Social Service League, in the chair, to consider what steps should be taken to publicly acknowledge the value of Dr. S. G. C. Mills' 42 years' services to the Green Hospital, Manipay on his retirement at the end of the month. The Chairman and Mr. Sam Sabapathy, Proctor S. C., spoke on the value of the services rendered by Dr. Mills. A representative Committee with Mr. C. N. Devarajan as Secretary and Mr. M. Chelliah, Retired Station Master, as Treasurer, was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. (Cor.)

### A. R. P. FIRST AID CLASSES

Dr. C. Sivasithamparam will conduct First Aid classes at the Jaffna Hindu College commencing from today at 3-45 p. m. The classes will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Members of the public who wish to attend these classes are welcome.

## PUTTUR HEALTH LEAGUE

### FIFTH COMMITTEE MEETING

(From a Correspondent)

At the fifth committee meeting of the Puttur Health League held on January 28, Miss M. P. Dore presiding, the Government Dispensary, Puttur, was selected as a first aid post for A. R. P. work. Consequent on a letter from the M. O. H. the same day, it was decided to conduct two first aid classes for males and females with the Apothecary and Dr. (Miss) S. Thomas (of the Training Centre) respectively in charge. A letter was addressed to the A. R. P. Controller asking for application forms for wardens, doctors and people for first aid duties. A reply was received stating that volunteers should be recruited to be trained in the first instance. Their employment would be decided later and conditions of employment settled. In this connection the Joint Secretary later interviewed the A. R. P. Controller.

The inaugural meeting of the First Aid Class, mainly confined to teachers, was held on 16th February at the Government Dispensary, with Mr. R. Sivaguru, Vice-President of the League, in the chair. In response to the circular convening the meeting, 37 teachers registered themselves. Seventeen heads of schools were informed and the areas covered were Neervelli, Sirupiddy, Puttur, Avarangal, Atchuvally and Punnalaikadduvan. The attendance totalled 54, thirteen schools being represented by 37 teachers. After the first lecture by Mr. S. S. Vadivale, it was decided to hold classes four times a week at the Mission Tamil School. The meeting further decided that the details asked for in the Divisional Inspector's Circular to Heads of Schools should be supplied through the Health League.

Twenty-five teachers further joined the classes, bringing the attendance of teachers to 54 out of a possible 62. Twenty-two schools are now participating. Further lectures will be held on 24th February, 26th February, 2nd March and 3rd March and two public meetings on 5th March and 9th March respectively.

The Health League has tentatively fixed March 19, 20 and 21 for a Health Exhibition at the V. C. grounds. A Kitchen Garden Competition is being planned as an incentive to food production. Only tapioca, sweet potatoes, gram and onions are encouraged. The consideration of free squatting plates was postponed at the fifth committee meeting as no reply had yet been received from the Government.

### WAR BONUS FOR TEACHERS APPROVED

The Board of Ministers has approved the recommendation of the Executive Committee of Education that Assisted School teachers should be included in the scheme of war bonuses, with effect from January, 1942.

## THE UNHEEDED WARNING ABOUT HITLER

Continued from page 1

while all went on as the first steps were taken in the making of the next day's newspaper, the editor sharing his thoughts with his colleagues and suggesting a new line of enquiry here and there. It was all good team work.

"Eight pages, eight columns" I heard the editor say, and at half past six the men got up and quietly left the room. Photographs of the Huddersfield fire were spread out on the editor's desk and I saw him point with his finger to two of them. "Across three columns, that," he said, "and across two, that." He then put on his soft hat and overcoat and went to the club for dinner. The conference had lasted just half an hour.

Of course that was only the beginning of the night's work. After dinner the editor would come back and work well into the night on the editorials which over here are called "leaders."

It's a Conservative paper based on a vast industrial population; it is a great commercial organ and it is also read by a lot of farmers. It has been described as the most authoritative paper in the country in its discussions of Church of England policy. It has always been true to the best traditions of fair play, and like the "Manchester Guardian"—that great Liberal paper—it has never lacked courage to face unpopularity if something has had to be said that it felt ought to be said.

### Warning in 1933

The "Yorkshire Post" is very popular just now because of its strong leading articles which—under the editorship of Arthur H. Mann—began way back in 1933 warning the public about Hitler. From the very beginning it has opposed the policy of appeasement while most of the conservative press either supported that policy or kept silent. On the question of Abyssinia, Spain and Germany, it strongly criticised the policy of the Government. But it stood alone among conservative papers. Like Churchill it was a lone still voice.

Although it brought forth the ire of the Conservative Executive, the "Yorkshire Post" stuck to its guns. It vigorously defended its right of free speech and declared in a column long leader that it would continue to exercise it. "The importance of Foreign policy transcends considerations of party" it said, and repeated its condemnation of the policy of capitulation to aggression. It ended up by saying, "We own, and can own, no other allegiance than that to our public and the truth as we see it."

As I glanced up from the files at the men who were preparing the next day's paper, the news editor with his green eye shade, the leader writer absorbed in his subject, Churchill's words came back to me and took on an historic significance, and let up the present.

### Democracy vs Fascism

On the 8th of December, 1938, this paper said "The issue in

Europe today does not lie between Fascism and Communism but between Totalitarianism and Democracy. It is in the name of Democracy that Fascism must be resisted." "Chamberlain" it said, "has failed to appreciate the strategic campaign of Hitler. He has allowed himself to be manoeuvred into a disastrous position, a position which Munich merely placed publicly on record. The safety of the realm, democracy, tolerance and freedom is at stake."

It advocated leadership of the democracies, and told them how to do it. "Great Britain" it said "must show by word and deed that she is ready to give such leadership and there will be a quickening and strengthening of democratic spirit everywhere."

That was in 1938 when all the other Conservative papers were either blindly following Chamberlain or keeping silent, and public opinion was growing uneasy. This powerful Conservative paper declared that to keep silent would be nothing less than a failure in patriotic duty.

Back through the dusty files I went, the coal fire casting its glow on the edges of the shelves, the table lamp throwing its circle of light on the carpet.

Listen to this July 2nd, 1866. "We declare ourselves Conservative and progressive—a foe to democracy and revolution, but a firm friend of all constitutional reform." But now this Conservative paper which was "a foe to democracy" has become a champion and leader of democracy. So you see—great newspapers do reflect movements of public opinion.

### Yorkshire Post's Stand

On the 28th of November 1939, the "Manchester Guardian" in a leading article said, "Soundness in judgment, tenacity of purpose, loyalty to principle, the courage to be unpopular—which with another sort of journalism is a folly where it is not a crime—and even to offend the party if the party was not right; these qualities, which are the more precious for being rare, have marked the columns of the Yorkshire Post through the long controversy about British foreign policy which began with Mr. Chamberlain's Premiership. They represent something deep in the characteristic North, tough, earnest, individual. The country owes a debt for them to the old "Yorkshire Post"."

H'm! "Tough, earnest, individual." These words certainly describe the Yorkshiremen who constitute the board of the "Yorkshire Post," headed by the Hon. Rupert Beckett.

The files of these old standing papers, and the picturesque buildings where these papers are made may be bombed and destroyed by Hitler's vandals, but our spirit and the character it has formed is tough and bomb-proof.

The "Yorkshire Post", under its present title and that of its predecessor in name "The Leeds Intelligencer" can look back over an uninterrupted career of nearly two hundred years. Our free newspapers are of the people. The files are merely records of their opinions, thoughts and doings. What they record is a

living thing. It goes on.

Newspapers exist for men; not men for newspapers, and it is in these men that I'm interested when I visit a newspaper office or look through its files.

### Not Too Late

And now in conclusion here's a small point that may be of interest to you. It occurred to me when I had left that warm, bright firelit room and was passing under the arch of the old courtyard into Albion Street under the blacked-out windows which overlook "The Butts" where centuries ago archers drew their bows. It was dark, I had to grope my way. The "Yorkshire Post" now compiles its own blackout time tables once a

month for the use of its readers. The readers cut out these tables and pin them up in their homes. They indicate the times when windows and doors must be completely blacked out as part of the public defence against raiding barbarians. Preparing blackout time tables—that's a function your newspapers haven't needed to perform yet.

Yes, we've been blind at times, and we've made mistakes in our foreign policy, but we're learning from them. When you are buying your twenty-four page papers in the bright lights of North America remember the joint debt we owe to those who saw the danger early and acted. Thank God we weren't too late.

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(Y. 164 B. 11-8-41—10-8-42.)

(M)

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