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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Britain's Production

British industry is producing five times as many tanks as in the days after Dunkirk and twice as many as six months ago. In naval tonnage, British shipyards have completed in the last quarter of 1941 four times as much as in the last quarter before the war and twice as much merchant shipping. The current production of ships is greater than at any time in the last war—when there were more yards, more men, no blitz and no blackout.

No Losses Last Week

For the first time for over 12 months no losses were suffered by either the R. A. F. or the Luftwaffe in Western Europe last week. Weather conditions have cut down operations to the minimum. But elsewhere the Axis lost 293 aircraft in the Middle East, 101 in the Far East and 167 on the Russian front. The R. A. F. have lost 16 in the Middle East.

Director of Food Purchase

The Director of Food Purchase, Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, has been appointed Director of Food Supplies and Control. The appointment has been made in view of the necessity for unifying the direction of all questions of food purchase, storage, distribution, rationing control of prices and other connected matters. Mr. Coomaraswamy was Food Controller before his appointment as Controller of Imports, Exports and Exchange.

Bronze One-Cent Pieces

The first consignment of the new one-cent coins despatched by the Indian Government mint at Calcutta has already been received by the Ceylon Government Treasury and the local Commissioners of Currency propose to put them into circulation immediately.

The new one-cent pieces are of bronze instead of copper. The new one-cent coin, as well as the present one-cent coin, will both be in circulation and will continue to be legal tender.

The consignment that has been received is composed of a hundred wooden cases of one-cent coins. Five hundred more wooden cases containing these coins are expected shortly and it is proposed to put them also into circulation immediately they are received.

THE HOLLOWNESS OF JAPAN'S TALL CLAIMS MILITARISTS DOMINATE NATIONAL LIFE

(BY PRINCIPAL P. SESHADRI, M.A., M.B.E.)

LOVERS of democratic forms of Government can have very little regard for political conditions in Japan. In the first place, the Emperor's wishes over-shadow all constitutional affairs and the man has yet to be found in Japan who will have the courage to express any criticism of the Mikado's opinions or doings. The so-called representative bodies in the country can only register Royal decrees and Japan has never had in its history, anything like the bold fight which popular representatives have put up in many Western countries against the King's authority. It is a political frame-work without any popular opposition and has yet to have any taste of democratic freedom.

Militarist Domination

But more serious than this aspect of national life is its domination by the militarists. Whatever the conditions in the days of the Emperor Meiji, who may be described as the Maker of Modern Japan, the country has now got into the hands of a military gang, including powerful factors of the navy and the army who can only be compared to the Nazis in Germany and the Fascists in Italy. There is even a feature of the constitution which ensures this dominance of national life by the military party. The Minister for War is not subordinate to the Prime Minister or the Civil Government which is the case in all modern countries. The Defence Minister has direct access to the Emperor and can set the Cabinet at defiance, provided he has the support of the Army. The final responsibility for war or peace is therefore not so much of the Prime Minister but of the Minister for War, under the personal control of the Emperor. It is therefore not surprising that the country should have gradually drifted, during the last few years, to an aggressively militarist policy and the people have been helpless to

prevent catastrophes like the present, as injurious to other nations as it is to the peaceful economic life and progress of Japan herself. It has often been observed that it was much better for Japan to have preserved the goodwill and friendship of China, in the interests of her trade and economic prosperity than to have plunged herself into the present economic chaos, caused by an unprovoked war which shows no sign of ending after nearly five years. But it is not the men of wisdom who dictate national policy in Japan, but the army and the navy. Any advocates of peaceful and orderly Government dare not give expression to their views.

Like Chicago Gangsters

The statesmen who do not fall into line with this militarist group can only resign, but they are sure to be pursued with vindictiveness by the military leader. Many of our readers must be familiar with the military coup carried out by the soldiers in Tokio early in 1937, (a few months before my visit, when I saw the places associated with the movement). Ministers were murdered, merely because they were the advocates of a non-aggressive policy and hardly any of them were brought to justice. It was whispered that even the Mikado was afraid of the gang and he could only wink at the cruel murders. It is obvious there cannot be any parliamentary Government, if people run the risk of being murdered for difference of opinion and there could be no punishment for the crime in the courts of justice. The military leaders in Japan are like the gangsters of Chicago, some years ago, who threatened Government itself and could not be arrested in some States as the Governors themselves were afraid of them!

Law of "Lese-Majestie"

Japan claims to fight for the freedom of Asiatic races, but it

(Continued on page 6)

APPEAL FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS

DR. JENNINGS ON A.R.P. WORK

Announcing that he would in future be the spokesman, generally, for the civil defence administration, Dr. Ivor Jennings, the new Deputy Civil Defence Commissioner (whose appointment was gazetted over the week-end), at his first press conference on Monday appealed for more volunteers to man the various services of the civil defence organisation.

Asked how many volunteers he needed in all, Dr. Jennings exclaimed, "The sky's the limit!"

He presented pressmen with copies of "A.R.P. for Everyman" (obtainable by anybody who sends a post-card request to the Civil Defence Office at Union, Place, Colombo).

Dr. Jennings explained that the pamphlet contained up-to-date information on A.R.P. dealing with air raids and their consequences, warnings, shelter in the home, incendiary bombs, simple first aid and other useful information based on the experience gained in England, Malaya and Burma.

The pamphlet, which would soon be available in Sinhalese and Tamil, he added, was not necessarily the last word on A.R.P. As was the case in England, the instructions would have to be changed from time to time, consequent on enemy action, which was subject to change of tactics.

Close observation was being maintained on methods adopted by the enemy, and the change of instruction would follow if necessary in revised editions of "A.R.P. for Everyman".

Dr. Jennings also announced that the new report centre in Colombo North would be opened at the end of this week and for this he needed fifty volunteers immediately.

They would receive free meals and free transport. Teachers and other volunteers are earnestly requested to send their names immediately.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1942.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS

WHEN IT IS POINTED OUT IN these days that some of the things we have learnt to prize are peculiar to the British, or to be more correct, to the Anglo-Saxon element amongst the British people, this is often looked upon as an attempt to devalue the local currency of human thought and civilisation in the East. Critics are not slow to emphasise the slave mentality indicated by such a point of view, and the honour of the East is supposed to be rehabilitated by an almost asinine refusal to look at the plain facts of the matter. Nevertheless, it is unquestionably true that the origin of some of our cherished ideals is British and that the British people have somehow managed to combine belief in these ideals with a scrupulous regard for the duties of the State towards the people. An outlook like this involves the striking of a somewhat nice balance as between the State and the people, and it is very much to the credit of the British public that, even at a time like the present when one's most cherished notions of human values are being subjected to the crudest possible challenge at the hands of individuals like Hitler, Mussolini and the Japanese militarists, the faith of the average Britisher in his own civilisation has not been permitted to stand in the way of a happy compromise between the Anglo-Saxon ideal of democracy and an almost Cromwellian dictatorship pledged to secure the triumph of that very ideal. The strength of Mr. Winston Churchill lies in his almost instinctive recognition of this peculiarity of his own people—a peculiarity which must strike any student of their history as something at once distinctive and peculiar. When it was realised for the first time that Britain was faced with a danger almost unprecedented in the past, the first thing the British Parliament thought of doing was to entrust the Government of its choice with powers which we have been accustomed to associate with the Fascist leaders of Europe. We remember that at the time this was done the continental press grew sarcastic over the British way of doing things and pointed out that Britain had to equip herself with a Fascist Government to deal with the Fascist menace in Europe. The gibe did not take into account one fact which emphasises the fundamental difference between Britain and the rest of Europe.

While European nations had Fascism and Nazism thrust on them at the point of the assassin's revolver and bludgeon, in Britain the greatest democracy in the world delegated absolute powers to the Government of its own creation. It was perhaps inevitable that such an experiment should impose on British democracy the greatest test of all times—the test of its ability to sacrifice itself for the time being so that the ideals that gave it birth may live. It is as yet too early to say that the test has been entirely successful, nor has it failed.

Liberty of the press is another of those ideals which the British people have always regarded as the very foundation of their democracy. From Wilkes down to the present day the British newspaper has managed to maintain its freedom, and, in spite of the obvious drawbacks of the syndicated press, and the vicious, demoralising propaganda that could be carried on by newspapers at the behest of a single individual, the British press has continued to uphold its highest traditions. The position is undoubtedly one of the greatest difficulty. A newspaper which looks upon itself as the custodian of public interests, and a Government solemnly charged with the responsibility for winning the war—a collision between these two cannot always be avoided. According to the Home Secretary, Mr. Morrison, the Government have delivered a warning to the "Daily Mirror" that it runs the risk of being suppressed if it continues to publish "matter calculated to foment opposition to the successful prosecution of the war." The charge is, of course, one that is easily made. Almost anything in the way of news or opinion can be regarded as matter calculated to foment opposition to the successful prosecution of the war. Even the exposure of official blunders, when such exposure was a solemn public duty, could be brought within the category of prohibited matter. The latest instance of this would be found in the criticism by the British press of the steps taken by the Government for the defence of the Far East. The Prime Minister contended that equipment could not have been sent without weakening other fronts, but as a result of the agitation by the British newspapers, reinforcements and equipment were sent, but they were sent too late. Mr. Herbert Morrison could have argued, with great plausibility, that the agitation for sending succour to the Far East would produce consequences utterly disastrous to the successful prosecution of the war, but evidently he thought better of it, and the Government wisely bowed to the storm. One instance of press criticism, which might, however, in a democratic country

like Britain, be held to impede the successful prosecution of the war, was the agitation carried on recently by a section of the British press to have a new front opened up in Europe to relieve the pressure on Russia. In theory, a second European front would be the most effective way of helping Russia and doing the Germans the greatest amount of harm, but it is also unquestionably true that the military authorities are the only persons who are in a position to decide. They have the information and they have the expert knowledge. If the Government decided to compel them to open up a new front against their considered advice, merely to satisfy a clamorous press and public, the consequences might well have been disastrous. But, at the same time, the press would be perfectly justified, and it would be discharging one of its most important duties, if it insisted on knowing why the British Army was not still in a position to deliver a smashing attack on Western Europe. In fact, one welcome result of the press agitation over the question of a second front was the discovery that British war production was not as yet up to the mark, and the Ministers have at last been goaded into trying to find out whether a further tightening-up of the control over factories and the co-ordination of British man-power would not produce the desired results. The result of the agitation has been to a great extent satisfactory and helpful to the prosecution of the war, but public clamour, led by ill-informed criticism in the press, might well have forced a weaker Government than Mr. Churchill's into a course of action fraught with the gravest peril. To the credit of the British press as a whole it must be said that it has handled the most difficult situations with wisdom and a due sense of responsibility. To draw the line between what would help the Government in the successful prosecution of the war and what would not is always difficult, but the British newspaper has done it, and it may be trusted to go on doing it.

The facts underlying the Home Secretary's charge against the "Daily Mirror" have not so far been published. The Government, however, appears to be willing to give Parliament facilities for a debate on the vital issues raised by its action, and take the vote of the House on the merits of the matter. That the Home Secretary's threat has created considerable uneasiness in the public mind is evident from the comments of the British press. Opinion is almost unanimous that the Government would be doing a great disservice to the interests of the State by trying to prevent the free play of opinion.

As we have said, press criticism has its obvious limitations. But then, the same limitations in a different form vitiate State policy and propaganda that are not subject to criticism by the press. An amazing illustration of this truth is furnished by the comments of the third-rate scribes engaged by press agencies on some of the most crucial questions raised by this war, as well as the blundering attempts made by Ministers and officials to soothe the public mind with what the Americans call "sunshine" stories. Between these stories and the string of irritating excuses to which the public has now become accustomed on the one hand, and the newspaper correspondent's puerilities on the latest aspects of a "fluid" situation on the other, there is little to choose. The whole thing has become an unmitigated nuisance. It was not so bad during the last war.

TOPICS OF THE DAY

By
T. Kathira Vellu

More "Scorched Earth"

PRESIDING over the All India Muslim Chamber of Commerce, Sir Sultan Chinoy is reported, states *Free India*, to have endorsed the views recently expressed by Sir Purushothandas Thakurdas in regard to the application of the "scorched earth" in India. He had added that, while the business community was willing to sacrifice much for the successful prosecution of the war, at the same time it expected the careful avoidance on the part of the Government of "senseless sacrifices" which were calculated to ruin irreparably the country's industrial structure and spell unhappiness and poverty for many millions of innocent citizens.

White Rajah Growls

LONDON'S *News Review* reveals that even Sarawak's white Rajah Sir Charles Vyner Brooke criticised Allied mudling in Malaya. In Sydney the Rajah damningly criticised the conduct of war from Singapore, keypoint of the Pacific battle:

"Singapore brass-hats, old-school-tie la-di-da incompetents, responsible for the fantastic position in Malaya should be sacked immediately."

Prior to this outburst, Sir Charles had handed over his government to a more democratic Legislative Council.

How Japs Fight

WHEREVER possible, the Japanese win battles by bribery, or distributing drugs to demoralize the enemy. Only when such methods fail do the Japanese fight. When forced to fight they throw their lives away like so many ants, writes Hessel Tiltman in *Tit-Bits*. In a war with white men the Japanese possess one advantage—the capacity of the Asiatic to stand pain without flinching. Both Japanese and Chinese have a lower flashpoint of pain than Europeans. During the Chinese war I

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JAPANESE ACTIVITY IN BURMA

Air Force Strengthened

London, March 23.

Activity by the Japanese in Burma suggests that the situation will not remain quiet there for very long, it is stated in authoritative quarters in London today. The Japanese have reinforced their air force, and this is usually a preliminary to the next step by forces either on the ground or from the sea. There is a Japanese claim to have taken Letpadan on the Prome road and also Toungoo on the road to Mandalay.

According to the latest information reaching London up to yesterday, Letpadan was apparently a kind of no man's land in which both sides were liable to be shot up if they entered it. It is fairly certain that the Japanese have not taken Toungoo.

Loyalty of Indian Troops

The news that eight Indian soldiers captured by the Japanese in Malaya had escaped and joined the British forces shows, it is stated, that the Japanese have miscalculated the loyalty of the Indian soldiers.

They evidently thought that by sending these Indians to Bangkok they could be used as traitors to stir up feeling against the British. But the Indians, the moment they saw the possibility of escaping and succeeding in reaching the British forces did so, proving that they remained true to the British Raj.

Japanese Raid Wyndham

A communique issued today by the Australian Prime Minister, Mr. Curtin, says: "Wyndham in Western Australia was raided for ten minutes this morning by a medium force of Japanese bombers. The results are not yet fully known."

"Port Moresby was raided this afternoon. One Japanese fighter and possibly a second were brought down by anti-aircraft fire. The aerodrome at Port Moresby was bombed and machine gunned, but there was little damage and no casualties to R. A. A. F. personnel. Japanese reconnaissances over Port Moresby on March 22 were successfully driven off."

RICE EXPORT FROM SOUTH INDIA

During question-time in the State Council on Tuesday, Mr. K. Natesa Iyer, Member for Hatton, stated that he had heard that the Government of India had prohibited the export of rice from South India. That information was received by some of the merchants at noon on Tuesday. He learned that several thousands of bags which had been loaded were being unloaded.

Mr. G. C. S. Corea, Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, said that he had received information from the trade that the Government of India had refused to book freight on the railway.

Representations were being made and the matter was being looked into.

Mr. Corea stated on Wednesday that he had received no official information regarding the ban.

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS ON HIS INDIA MISSION

WANTS QUICK DECISIONS FROM LEADERS

New Delhi, Monday.

SIR Stafford Cripps has reached New Delhi to discuss with leaders of Indian opinion the conclusions which the War Cabinet has unitedly reached in regard to India.

Sir Stafford, at a Press interview today, said he was there to ascertain whether these conclusions would, "as we hope, be acceptable to Indian opinion".

He refused to disclose the nature of the proposals which would be discussed, but their chief object, he said, was to set out finally and with precision the practical steps which His Majesty's Government proposes as fulfilling their past promises of self-government to the Indian peoples.

Sir Stafford laid stress on the fact that there was no time to lose and no time for long discussions. "I am sure," he said, "that in the circumstances of today, the leaders of the main Parties and interests in India will be ready to take quick decisions".

Why He Came

Proceeding, Sir Stafford said: "I have come here because I am, as I have always been, a great friend and admirer of India, and because I want to play my part as a member of the War Cabinet in reaching a final settlement of the political difficulties which have for long vexed our relationships".

"His Majesty's Government believes that a generally acceptable line of practical action can be laid down now and that thus the main obstacle to India's full co-operation in her own defence will have been removed. We feel confident that with the political atmosphere thus clarified, leading political organisations will be enabled to put forward their maximum effort in preserving their country from the brutalities of aggression. How best their effective participation can be immediately arranged will be another matter for discussion."

"Once these questions are resolved, and I hope they may be quickly and satisfactorily resolved, the Indian peoples will be enabled to associate themselves fully and freely not only with Great Britain and the other Dominions but with our great allies, Russia, China and the U. S. A., so that together we can assert our determination to preserve the liberty of the peoples of the world."

Essentials of Success

"My intention is to stay in Delhi for a fortnight. I believe that within that time, with energy and goodwill, the essentials of success can be achieved. My association in the past has been closer with my friends of the Congress than with the members of other Parties or communities, but I am fully impressed with the need in any scheme for the future of India to meet the deep anxieties which undoubtedly exist among the Muslims and other communities. I shall, therefore, embark on my task with a mind equally open to all points of view. Hindu, Moslem, Sikh and others. I believe the proposals of the War Cabinet will appeal to Indian leaders since they are the una-

nimous result of the deliberations of a body of people who have known the past and have widely differing outlooks on the Indian question."

"I shall be spending the first two days with the Viceroy who has cordially welcomed me and, I shall then have an opportunity of meeting the Commander-in-Chief and other Members of the Executive Council and the Provincial Governors. The Indian National Congress, the Moslem League, the Chamber of Princes and the Hindu Mahasabha have been asked to nominate their own representatives of the Sikhs, the Liberal Party and the scheduled castes have also been invited to meet me. I shall, of course see other representative people, including the Provincial Premiers."

Questioned why Mr. Amery did not accompany him, Sir Stafford said: "We have not got unlimited man-power in England." (Laughter) He added that Mr. Amery had fully agreed to the proposals.

Meeting Mr. Gandhi

When it was explained to Sir Stafford that Mr. Gandhi was not a member of Congress and therefore it was possible that he might not be included among the Congress representatives, Sir Stafford said he would certainly see him in any case. He added: "I should always very much like to see him."

Attention was drawn to the sharp differences between Sir Stafford and Mr. Churchill on the Indian question and he was asked if they had now agreed on the proposals. Sir Stafford: "Mr. Churchill and I absolutely agree."

"Which of you have changed?" asked a Pressman amid laughter.

Sir Stafford: "Perhaps both of us have arrived at the same point without changing and by different routes." To a question of what would happen if one or two political parties did not accept the proposals, Sir Stafford said it would depend on the importance of the parties concerned. If they were minor parties, it would not matter, but if they were major ones, then further discussions would follow. "I should be too hopeful if I expect a 100 per cent. acceptance", he added.

SIR S. CRIPPS MEETS CONGRESS PRESIDENT

New Delhi, March 23.

Sir Stafford Cripps was received at the Willingdon Aerodrome by the Military Secretary to the Viceroy and also General Moleworth representing General Headquarters. He looked cheerful and in splendid health.

Cameras clicked as Sir Stafford was introduced by General Moleworth to other members of the Viceroy's Staff present. He then drove to Viceroy's House where he was lunching with the Viceroy.

This morning Sir Stafford had talks for an hour with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Congress President. It is understood the talks related to a political settlement.

YOGIC CULTURE IN SCHOOLS

Travancore Dewan's Advice

Trivandrum, March 18.

"I hold that a sound and healthy body, a vigorous and an alert mind will keep away from us those dreads, those fears, those signs of nervousness and those timidities which are disfiguring the country to day. We are face to face with a crisis. Shall we meet it like men and women or, shall we run here and there like whimpering curs? We might not have the wherewithal to fight, but if we are overcome and if we are killed, it is better to die with courage and defiance in our minds and in our hearts," said Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan of Travancore, presiding over a lecture and demonstration of Yogic Physical Culture by Swami Kuvayalananda of Bombay, yesterday evening.

Sir Ramaswami Aiyar claimed that a proper adherence to the physical, intellectual and moral sides of Yoga gave one that equanimity, that ability to bear triumph and disaster alike and that dexterity in action which was the aim of our forebears to create. Realising this, a beginning had to be made for the introduction of Yogic Culture in the scholastic and university systems here. He had known the Swamiji's work for some time. He had devoted his talents, energies, enthusiasm and patriotism for the purpose of doing good to the school and college population of Bombay. In Bombay, the Swamiji conducted his Yoga tuition in an institution on modern lines. The Bombay Government had wisely endowed that institution lavishly.

The Dewan concluded that it was in the hope of starting a similar scheme in Travancore that the Government had invited the Swamiji who had demonstrated here in theory and practice what could be done by Yogic exercises. It was his hope that by the Swamiji's example, Travancore would recapture the secret of Yoga Sashtra, so that apart from the spiritual side of it, one could bring into existence not merely strong, supple and efficient bodies but also efficient minds. The task was great, the need urgent, but the instruments were there and we would not be found wanting. Swami Kuvayalananda, in his lecture, on "Yogic Physical Culture" dealt with the claims made by the Yoga Sashtra and examined them in the light of cold reason and science.

He explained the working of his institution in Bombay, and cleared some of the misconceptions entertained about Yoga in the popular mind.

REMOVAL OF U. C. CHAIRMAN

The draft of a Bill to insert in the Urban Councils Ordinance provision similar to that contained in the Municipal Councils Ordinance so as to enable the Chairman of an Urban Council to be removed from office on the passing of a resolution to that effect by not less than two-thirds of the total number of members of the Council, is announced in Monday's Gazette.

According to the draft Bill, the Chairman affected by such resolution shall be deemed to have resigned his office.

COMMANDER - IN - CHIEF'S APPOINTMENT

GOVERNOR EXPLAINS IMPLICATIONS

THE Governor, in a message to the State Council, on Tuesday stated: "There will today be tabled for the information of honourable members the terms of the appointment of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. It is desirable that I should, at the earliest possible moment, make clear to honourable members certain matters relating to this appointment which are necessarily not apparent from published documents....."

"The first point which I wish to make is that the sole reason for the appointment is the recent change in the war situation in the Far East, which has made it a matter of paramount necessity that there should be unified direction of all Services in Ceylon and military and civil measures should be fully co-ordinated with all speed possible. It is for this reason and not by reason of any past or anticipated incapacity or default on the part of the Board of Ministers or the State Council that the appointment has been made."

"In my last address to the State Council I described the Government as trinitarian: to that partnership His Majesty's Government has added His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and conferred upon him directing powers for co-ordination, but His Excellency has stated that he intends to leave the civil administration of the Government in the hands of myself, my Ministers and the State Council until such time as he might find it necessary to intervene. Attention in this connection is invited to paragraph (7) of the Commander-in-Chief's directive which reads as follows:—

"In exercise of your authority in civil affairs you will have regard to importance and value of maintenance of services of civil government as long as they can operate effectively in prevailing conditions."

"Honourable members will wish to know what changes in their position are made by the appointment of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief so long as he does not find it necessary to intervene. This question is best answered by considering what their position was immediately prior to this appointment."

"At that time not only were all legislative or executive acts of the Council subject to my assent or ratification but it was also possible for the Council's powers of executive control to be taken out of their hands under Article 49 of the Order-in-Council. Furthermore the Governor possessed the power to legislate without the advice of the Council which is created by Article 22 of the Order-in-Council and the power without the advice of the Council to legislate by Defence Regulation. It was also constitutionally possible for martial law to be declared."

Not Martial Law

"It is, of course, apparent that the position today is not that of martial law although the situation may arise in which it will be

necessary to declare martial law. Until that time comes which both His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and myself hope will be never the position is that the powers of executive control possessed by the State Council will be subject to no greater limitations than they were prior to the appointment of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and that the only means by which substantive legislative measures can be passed will be the same as they were prior to that appointment, namely Ordinance, Governor's Ordinance or Defence Regulation and by Order of His Majesty in Council."

"The Ministers remain my Ministers and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief agrees that I should continue to communicate with the Secretary of State on civil matters."

"In order to secure the prompt co-ordination of all defence measures a War Council has been established which consists of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, myself, the members of the Board of Ministers and representatives of the Navy, Army and Air Force. The good results of this arrangement are already visible. Where defence and civil requirements conflict the problem is investigated by a Committee appointed by the War Council and such Committees are already functioning in regard to the problems of co-ordination of civil and military food supplies, requisitioning of educational premises, priority of allocation of labour and material between civil and military works, et cetera."

"Such Committees consist of Ministers or other representatives of the civil authorities and representatives of fighting services."

"There is complete understanding between His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and myself in regard to our respective functions and I have no doubt that the existing arrangement is admirably adapted to the present emergency. I feel confident that it will have your loyal support and co-operation."

The Directive

The directive issued by His Majesty's Government to His Excellency Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton, K. C. B., D. S. O., was:—

"You are appointed Commander-in-Chief, Ceylon. All naval, military, air and civil authorities in area, including the Government and civil administration, will be subject to your directions."

"2. Your immediate task is to ensure that all measures necessary for defence of Ceylon are taken forthwith and that military and civil measures are properly co-ordinated. The Governor has emergency powers under Constitution and power of issuing Defence Regulations, which he can use to extent you may require for any such measures."

"3. You will convene and preside over any council or conference from time to time which you consider necessary for effective co-operation of all services in Ceylon."

4. You will report as soon as

TOPICS OF THE DAY

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saw Japanese troops suffering from ghastly wounds which would have rendered any white man unconscious, still standing up and fighting back.

Foxy Churchill

"SOMETHING has happened to Mr. Churchill. Now Lion Churchill speaks like a fox. There is a time when a fox's cunning is valuable and there is a time when only the fury of a wounded lion will do. Now is the lion's hour. There is only one danger to the British people now—that the counsel of the fox might prevail"—Mr. Ralph Ingersoll.

"Book of Hess"

HERR Rudolph Hess, Germany's former Deputy Fuehrer, is writing a book of reminiscences, to be published by the British Government, reports *News Review*. It is expected that this *Book of Hess* will beat Hitler's *Mein Kampf* and so placate British propagandists, who, not so long ago, were harping on the publicity value of Hess.

Today's Thought

WHILE Dictators have their triumphs and Mayors have their portraits unveiled, and politicians scream across newspapers, the important and lasting things are happening quite unobtrusively—taking shape in the mind of this poet living in this attic, or in the imagination of that artist living in that garret. And like themselves their inspiration is derived not from seeing mayors or by hearing the speeches of politicians and other national horses but from the note of a bird singing outside their window, or from the sight of a bush of water-lilies at the edge of a lake—J. Vijaya-Tunga in *Mysindia*.

possible whether, in order to carry out tasks specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 above, it is necessary for you to assume supreme command of all fighting services allotted to defence of Ceylon, and what staff and other arrangements this would entail.

5. On all military matters your immediate superior will be Commander-in-Chief, India. As to civil matters, the Governor of Ceylon will remain at his post and will exercise civil functions of Governor subject to your overriding authority and direction.

6. You will communicate with higher authority as follows:—

(a) On military matters you will address Commander-in-Chief India, and report to Admiralty for communication to Chiefs of Staff.

(b) on civil matters you will address the Secretary of State for the Colonies and will ensure that Governor is consulted and informed to necessary extent. You will consult with Governor as to desirability of his continuing to communicate direct with the Secretary of State for the Colonies on civil affairs not touching upon defence issues.

7. In exercise of your authority in civil affairs you will have regard to importance and value of maintenance of Services of civil Government as long as they can operate effectively in prevailing conditions."

Letter to the Editor

SURPLUS OF PADDY IN JAFFNA

Sir,—Mr. V. Veerasingham of Manipay presiding over a public meeting at Kaddudai is reported in your issue of the 19th instant, to have said that "the Jaffna man was by nature a hospitable individual and would not refuse to share any surplus with his brethren in the South."

Will Mr. Veerasingham explain through the columns of your valuable journal whether there is in Jaffna any surplus of food? If there is, why is there so much of import of paddy, rice and other foodstuffs from India and Burma? Again, if there is surplus in Jaffna why was not Jaffna declared a self supporting area? It will also be interesting to know what is meant by "sharing the surplus?" Mr. Veerasingham is reported to have discussed "the incidence of the control of prices on the economics of production." Will he then, as an economist, explain how one can share the surplus of anything with another. I can understand a man sharing with another what he has for his own needs. What is it to share with another one's surplus?

People should know clearly how much surplus of food Jaffna has at present.

Yours faithfully,

C. THIAGARAJAH.

"Iswarapathy,"

Manipay,
22nd March 1942.

AN APPEAL

As a lover of old Tamil works, I have the honour of having been instrumental in the publication of several books especially those of Jaffna ancestors. The latest of such publications is *Kailaya Malai*—a work treating of Jaffna History and belonging to the early part of the 17th century. This was brought out by me in 1933 to suit modern requirements with historical criticism, glossary of important words, summary of the work, English translation &c. It is a matter for deep regret that an important historical work like *Kailaya Malai* should fail to enlist the patronage of Jaffnese. Is it not the duty of every Jaffnese to preserve the history of his land and to encourage my publication connected therewith? Out of the 500 copies printed by me 3 years ago, more than half remain undisposed of. Only about 50 copies were actually sold, the remaining 200 having been distributed gratis. It is such lack of encouragement for good books that dissuade me from bringing out other publications which I have in reserve. I appeal to all Jaffnese in the good name of the great Navalaya whom I adore most, to do their best for the resuscitation of the Tamil works of their ancestors.

G. V. JAMBULINGAM PILLAI
Mylapore
18.3.42

A NEW PRESIDENT

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Vannarapana Vnuesha Pillayar Koval Paripalana Sabai held on Tuesday, Madafiyar P. Rajagopal was elected president of the Sabai in place of the late Mr. S. Kathiravela.

THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

XII. More 'Purvapakshams' or Prior Sides

(Continued from our issue of 23—3—42)

Before proceeding to Supaksham, it seems desirable to clear certain misconceptions regarding the Siddhantic view of Purvapakshams and their classification. We have sometimes heard it said that the Saiva Siddhantam confuses religion with philosophy and philosophy with logic, over-emphasises the necessity for philosophy to be logical, makes very fine and hair-splitting distinctions and is too punctilious in its classification of other systems and their nomenclature. It is even suggested that logic has more to do with theology than with philosophy. Some of our critics seem to be obsessed with the idea that philosophy and religion should be kept apart in watertight compartments, the one having nothing to do with the other as in the West. Well have some oriental scholars remarked that if the word "philosophy" is taken in the European sense there would be nothing corresponding to it in India. The Indian conception of philosophy is quite different. Religion and philosophy are so much intertwined here, one with the other, that it is impossible to separate them. As regards logical exactitude, if it is a crime for a philosopher to be logical the Saiva Siddhanti has to plead guilty to the charge. He has no loophole to escape. And after sentence is pronounced against him, one can only plead for the exercise of the sovereign's prerogative of mercy. But once the royal clemency is exercised and the sentence set aside he would return to the charge. He is such a stickler to logical consistency and hates hypocrisy.

The question is sometimes asked as to why some at least of the heterodox creeds, especially the Yoga system, should be classed by Siddhanta writers as heterodox and not as orthodox. These are relative terms and what from one point of view appears to be orthodox would be heterodox when viewed from another angle. It is something like our saying that the Shrine of Oidambaram is at a great distance from Jaffna, but this Shrine is close by as compared with the holy city of Benares which we say is at a very great distance. The criterion adopted by our writers in making their classification is, as we stated in a previous article, the degree of recognition accorded by the different systems to Vedic and Agamic authority. Lokayatam and other creeds which repudiate the Vedas and Agamas in toto are classed as extreme heterodox, those that appeal to the Vedas only either wholly or in part and reject the Agamas are treated as nearer to our system of philosophy and classed as heterodox, while those that accept both the Vedas and Agamas are classed as inner heterodox or orthodox according to the degree of sanctity they assign to these books which are treated as Sruti or revelation. Yogam and Pancharatnam are placed at the head of the outer groups in the ascending scale as, unlike most of the other systems included therein which are more or less atheistic, these two systems are distinctly theistic. Tharukkam, though this, has some affinity to the Buddhist and Jaina systems in that it promulgates what is called Paramanu Vadam (பாணனு வாதம்) or theory of ultimate atoms and is hence placed just above them but in the higher group as, unlike them, it appeals to the authority of the Vedas here and there. The Tharkikas share yet another feature in common with the Buddhists as they entertain the ideas of momentary existence and decay though to a small extent only and are therefore sometimes dubbed with the appellation of Aita (or semi) Kina Banga Vadies (அத்தான பங்க வாதிகள்).

Our classification of the Purvapaksha creeds is assailed on yet another, and that a novel ground, to wit the ground of expediency. Diplomacy and expediency and other doubtful virtues may have their use in political and other mundane affairs. But they certainly can have no place in religion. It is seriously urged that all creed that look up to the Vedas as authoritative should be classed as orthodox and should be united so as to present a common front to the enemy from outside, the reference obviously being to Christianity and other creeds of foreign origin, not indigenous to India. Common front indeed! and common enemy! No man of religion is considered an enemy by the Saiva Siddhanti. Every religion in its place is a necessity and serves its clientele in its own way according to their capacity and their environments, as we have repeatedly stated. All truth is one, whether it originated (or rather, we should say, found expression) in India or elsewhere. Even granting for the sake of argument that the foreigner is our enemy, an open enemy from outside is to be preferred to a secret enemy from within. A live lion is less to be dreaded than a wolf in sheep's clothing. A godly man who believes in God though not in the Vedas is certainly to be preferred to an atheist or one who blasphemes God and drags Him down from His high pedestal and places Him on a par withering Jivas, even though these latter profess to believe in the Vedas and often misinterpret them to suit their fancy. Even the devil they say sometimes quotes scripture. People who profess to be Saivas (followers of Sivan) but belittle Sivaperuman should be avoided at all costs. (—It is indeed an irony of fate that the Hindu Organ founded and managed by the Saiva Paripalana Sabham whose first and foremost object according to its articles of association is "to promote and propagate the Saiva

Religion"—vide § 8(a) of Ordinance No. 17 of 1931, cap. 240,—should at times lend its columns to give publicity, unconsciously of course, to propaganda containing half truths which tend to undermine the faith of unsophisticated Saiva readers in the Saiva Religion.)

உலகினை இறந்து சிந்தித்த தான் உரு என்பது ஓரார்,
உரு அயன் உருவில் தோன்றி ஒழிச்சிம் என்றும் ஓரார்,
உலகினுக்கு உயிரும் ஆதி, உருகும் ஆய் சிந்தித் தோர்,
உலகினில் ஒருவன் என்பர், உருவினை உணரார் எல்லாம்.

(Siddhiyar)

They know not that Hara's Form transcends the world (Visvadhikan விசுவாதிகன்), they know not that the world originates and merges into His Form (in other words, that He is the Adhara of the world, Visvakaranan, விசுவகாரணன்), they know not that He is the Life (or Energiser) of the world (Visvandariyam விசுவதத்திரியம்) they know not that He manifests Himself in the form of all the world (Visvarupi, விசுவரூபி), they understand not His nature and say that He is one of (the ordinary Jivas or souls in) the world.

தேவன் ஒருவன் என்பர் திரு உருக் சிவனைத், தேவர்
முயராய் சிந்தித்து ஓரார், முதல் உருப் பாதி மாநர்
ஆவதம் உணரார், ஆதி அரி அயற்கு அறிய ஒண்ணு
மேவு உரு சிவமும் ஓரார், அவன் உருவினையும் ஓரார்.

(Ibid)

They say that Sivan is one of the (so-called) Gods, they know not that the three Gods (Tri-Murthies) had their source in Him, they know not that the Lady (of Grace) is part of His Form, they know not that His Great Form was beyond the ken of Hari (Vishnu) and Ayan (Brahma), they know not what came out of His (great) Form.

போகி ஆய் இருத்த உயிர்த்துப் போகத்தைப் புரிதல் ஓரார்,
யோகி ஆய் யோகமத்தி உதவுதல் அதையும் ஓரார்,
வேகி யூனம் போல் செய்தலினை இளை விட்டல் ஓரார்,
ஊகியா முடர் எல்லாம் உம்பரின் ஒருவன் என்பர்.

(Ibid.)

They know not that He appears as Enjoyer (Bhogi) to give enjoyment to souls, they know not that He appears as a Yogi (silent, unperturbed Ascetic) to enable the souls to (imitate Him and) attain Mukti (liberation), they know not that He appears as Destroyer to destroy the evil performed (by them), the undiscerning fools say that He is one of the Celestials.

அத்தேவர் தேவர், அவர் தேவர், என்று இவ்வன்
பொய்த் தேவு பேசிப் புலம்புகின்ற பூதலத்தே,
பத்தேதம் இல்லாதென் பற்றற, காண பற்றி சிந்த,
மெய்த் தேவர் தேவர்க்கே சென்று ஊதாய், தோத் தம்பி

(Tiruvachagam)

In this world that talks and talks of gods that are false (subject to births and deaths) saying that god is the true God and this god is the true God, go and sing On! King-besetle, to the true (birthless and deathless) God of gods on whom I repose so as to get rid of all attachment external as well as internal.

புந்நில் வான் அரவும் அஞ்சேன், பொய்யர் தம் மெய்யும் அஞ்சேன்,
கற்றைவார் கடை எம் அண்ணல் கண்ணுதல் பாதம் கண்ணி,
மற்றும் ஓர் தெய்வம்தன்ன உண்டென நினைந்து, எம்பெய்மான்
கற்றிலாத வரைக்கண்டால் அம்பகாம் அஞ்சும்புமே. (Ibid)

I fear not the snake in the hole, neither do I fear the truth spoken by liars. But we greatly dread even the sight of those who, after (hearing and) hearing the Feet of our Lord with the long matted hair and the upper eye, conjure up visions of yet other gods (Jivas) and learn not the greatness of our Lord.

We content ourselves with citing these typical quotations from Siddhiyar, which some of our friends take a pleasure in describing as a "sectarian" Saiva treatise—something like the pot calling the kettle black,—and from Tiruvachagam, which however they are unable to muster up sufficient courage to brand similarly. It seems unnecessary to labour the point further by making more quotations from other standard works. The reference in the last verse quoted above is obviously to deserters from the Saiva fold as much as to Polytheists and to atheists that render lip-service to religion, indulging in what the Tharkikas would call Setpam (செத்பம்) or per-verse talk and Vitroliat (விதண்டை) or purposeless talk. Further comment is needless. We shall now proceed to the main work that we have taken up for study, the Supaksham of Siddhiyar.

CREDITS FOR SETTLEMENT OF DEBITS

It is understood that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has informed the Ceylon Government that he would obtain His Majesty's assent to the Agricultural and Industrial Credits Corporation Bill if the State Council agrees to certain amendments proposed by him.

The Credits Corporation Bill was passed by the State Council in March last year and was reserved by the Government for the signature of His Majesty's pleasure.

War Damage (Business and Personal Movables) Ordinance, No. 9 of 1942

Section 18

2. Persons willing to act as Agents of the Government for any of the purposes of the Schemes under the above Ordinance are requested to notify the

Commissioner for War Risks Insurance,
P. O. Box 500,
Colombo,

immediately.

2. No remuneration is proposed except in reimbursement of administration expenses.

20th March 1942.

(G. 35, 26 & 31-42.)

MASSIVE WAR PRODUCTION

HENRY FORD'S GOAL OF A BOMBER AN HOUR

New York, Sunday.

Under the throbbing power of its own four engines, the first mass-produced giant bomber was run off the assembly line of a plant in Southern California this week—another testimony to America's massive war production. Fed along a continually moving assembly line, the finished aircraft taxied to the testing field.

Halfway across the Continent, near Detroit, Henry Ford is putting the finishing touches to the world's biggest factory, a vast hall half a mile long and a quarter of a mile broad, in which assembly lines, with the goal of a bomber an hour, will shortly begin to move.

Other factories which produced cars whose names are household words are now turning out engines, propellers and guns throughout the complete scale of the war inventory and cutting finishing time from hours to minutes.

In a world-famous automobile body works which has now been wholly converted to tank production, 500-ton presses shape armoured steel sheets with the same speed as three months ago. Small presses turned out unlimited quantities of automobile bodies.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA HELD AT POINT PEDRO

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 175 P. T.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Eletchumpillai widow of N. K. Ramasamy of Puloly West in Point Pedro

Deceased.
S. Murugesu of Puloly West in Point Pedro

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Ramasamy Kanapathipillai
2. Ramasamy Sithamparapillai by his Guardian-ad-Litem Umayathaipillai widow of Sitham-

THE HOLLOWNESS OF JAPAN'S TALL CLAIMS

Continued from page 1

may be pointed out that only those who are free themselves can extend freedom to others and it cannot be said, of at least the Japanese people, that they have been in the vanguard of a zealous preservation of individual rights and liberties. An idea of the freedom enjoyed by the Japanese can be understood by a tragic incident which happened during my own stay in the country. A Christian preacher happened to preach that God was the King of Kings and there was no greater King on earth than God himself. He was immediately arrested and prosecuted under some law of *lese majestie* and sent to prison for seven years! And these are the people who will bring liberty and freedom to others! Ask Korea, Manchukuo and the parts of China which have come under the baneful occupation of Japan about the freedom and prosperity they have been able to achieve under the new regime!

parapillai of Puloly West in Point Pedro.

Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of S. Murugesu the Petitioner abovenamed praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Eletchumpillai widow of N. K. Ramasamy of Puloly West in Point Pedro coming on for disposal before L. W. De Silva Esquire District Judge, on the 13th day of March 1942 in the presence of Messrs. Ramaswamy and Paramakuru Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 12th day of March 1942 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the maternal uncle of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 24th day of April 1942 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 13th day of March 1942
L. W. De Silva
Addl. District Judge
(O. 77. 26 & 30-3-42)

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[O. 115. 23-1-42—22-4-42.]

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