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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Extra Police Officers

A large number of extra officers have been enlisted in the police force. These will be given a special uniform and will begin a course of intensive training shortly.

Revenue Ahead Of Expenditure

The excess of revenue over expenditure for the period October, 1941, to February, 1942 was Rs. 12,633,632. The total revenue for this period was Rs. 65,644,188 while the expenditure was Rs. 53,010,556.

In the corresponding period of the last financial year the excess of revenue over expenditure was Rs. 8,294,716.

There was an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to Rs. 70,728 last month. The revenue was Rs. 10,329,771.

Japan's Resort to Bacterial Warfare

The Chinese Government intends to pass on full information to the Allied Governments concerning Japan's resort to bacteriological warfare in China, said Dr. Wang Shih-Chieh, the Chinese Minister of Information, at a Press conference at Chungking. "In addition to the responsibility of Japan, the individual responsibility of those officers and men who have ordered or carried out such inhuman methods of warfare should be taken into account by the united nations when the day of reckoning comes," the Minister declared.

Shipping Losses In The Atlantic

Ninety-eight ships of the United Nations have been sunk in Atlantic waters since December 7, fifty-one of them off the east coast of the United States, according to an announcement made at Washington. Admiral Ernest King, the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations, has been requested to appear before the Senate's Naval Affairs Committee to explain what counter-measures against submarine warfare are being taken. The Chairman of the Committee, Senator Walsh, said today that the enquiry was to be into the effectiveness of the counter-measures—not criticism.

THE WORLD SIXTY YEARS HENCE

NEED FOR SOME REVIVAL TO SAVE MAN'S SPIRIT & BODY

BY PROF. C. E. M. JOAD

THE World sixty years hence is a "pen-ful" altogether beyond the capacity of a single article and still more beyond the capacity of its writer. So let me contract the horizon to Britain first. In sixty years it will have considerably fewer inhabitants.

A good deal of attention has recently been paid to the subject of population decline. In the Victorian age the average reproduction rate was about 34 per thousand; in 1930 it was 16½ since when it has still further decreased.

The reduction of the birth-rate has not yet persisted long enough to effect an absolute decline in the population, in fact, until 1944 or 1945, we shall continue to increase but, once the peak year has in fact passed, decline begins (nothing can now stop it), and, once begun, it is very rapid.

Let us suppose that the present birth and death rates remain constant, going neither up nor down. Then it is possible to compute mathematically what the population of Great Britain, at present about forty-five million, will be in two hundred years' time: it will be six million. I am not mathematician enough to compute the figures in sixty years' time, but they will certainly show a very big drop.

Decline of Birth-rate

Incidentally, I have assumed that the birth-rate will remain constant, but it is likely to decline still further. Not only is the use of birth control still spreading down through every stratum of the population, but the after effects of the war are likely still further to diminish the supply of babies.

Not only will the population be very much smaller—at a guess I should put it at thirty million—but it will contain a very much larger proportion of old people.

What will a Great Britain of thirty million predominantly old people be like? The answer depends, to my mind, on the situation in regard to two

main factors—religion and war.

A word, first about the Churches, since religion is one thing and the Churches are another.

The influence of the Churches has been declining for over half a century. Let us suppose that it still declines, as I think it will. Then a number of taboos which the Churches have succeeded in imposing on the life of the people may weaken and perhaps disappear altogether. For fifty years the Churches fought against birth control, but fought unsuccessfully. They still fight against easy divorce.

Clamping Down of Fascism

Is it too much to prophesy that sixty years hence the revolt of men and women against being tied for life to partners whom they detest may lead to such a modification of the obsolete laws governing divorce as will make divorce as easy as marriage, the children of the divorced parents being taken care of by the State?

The word "children", reminds me that in sixty years' time we shall be living under a system of universal free education continuing up to university age, a system into which the public schools will have been incorporated and the extent and nature of child's education will be determined by his ability to profit by it and not by the size of his father's bank balance.

Now for the all-important question of war. Either we succeed in eliminating war, or we do not. If we do not, there are two alternatives. The first, I suggest, is the clamping down of the tyranny of Fascism not only upon the countries of Central Europe, but upon Britain and America as well.

World of Savages

There is another alternative whether worse or not, I do not know. It is that war should get out of hand like a prairie fire that is stopped in one place, only to break out again in another.

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OVER 30,000 MORE VOTERS

LARGEST INCREASES IN CITY CONSTITUENCIES

Although the total number of new names added to the State Council electoral registers in 1941 was 160,323, the increase in the total electorate amounted to only 31,964.

This is revealed in the report of the Legal Secretary (Mr. R. H. Drayton) on the Revision of Electoral Registers (1941), which also states that the largest increases occurred in the Colombo electoral districts.

No. of Indian Registrations

There were increases in the total number of voters in 39 electoral districts, such increases aggregating 42,621 and decreases in 11 electoral districts, such decreases aggregating 10,657. The total electorate has therefore increased by 31,964.

The largest increases (as stated above) occurred in the Colombo Electoral Districts (North, Central and South.) The number of Indians registered in these three electoral districts was 6,880 the figure for 1940 being 4,230.

Of the new names added under the domicile qualification in all the 39 electoral districts in which increases occurred, the proportion of Indian voters was approximately 9 per cent. The proportion in 1940 in the 26 districts in which increases occurred was 5 per cent.

128,659 Expunged

The particulars of the total number of new names added to the registers are as follows:—

Domicile—

Sinhalese	101,895
Ceylon Tamils	18,809
Indians	21,742
Others (B. G. C., Ceylon Moors, Ceylon Malays, &c.)	17,263
Literacy and Property Certificates of permanent settlement	385
	529

The total number of names expunged from the 1940 registers in connection with the 1941 revision was 128,659 which is 31,964 less than the number of new names added. The total electorate has therefore risen from 2,635,588 in 1940, to 2,667,552 in 1941.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1942.

THE ISSUES

THE BRITISH PRESS HAS done a distinct service to all concerned by drawing the attention of the Indian leaders to the perils with which they would be confronted, in the near future, in the event of their adopting an uncompromising attitude towards the British War Cabinet's proposals. "Congress leaders," says the "News Chronicle," "are not blind to India's well-being and to the deadly perils which rejection may precipitate. They must know that they would be emptying out the baby with the bath-water. The mind that India may so soon have to meet is thrusting onward through the Burmese jungle. If that alone cannot tilt the scales in favour of unity, nothing can. India would be lost not only to the Empire, but to those who have claimed to make decisions in her name. There would be no more hope of freedom for India for generations." Other papers have commented in the same vein on the discussions that are taking place. The American press has bluntly told the Indian leaders that they must stop haggling if they are to retain American sympathy. Many people in India and Ceylon are in the habit of persuading themselves to think that even the menace of Japanese invasion and all that it implies is a British trick. They do not stop to think what the new order proclaimed by Japan means in reality to countries like India and Ceylon. Anything is better than what we are now, they seem to say. We are afraid that an outlook like this may be the result of desperation but it is certainly not the result of calm and careful thinking on the grim realities of the present situation.

There is still a ray of hope. The Working Committee of the Indian National Congress is after all a body consisting of cultured and practical men who know, as much as anybody else, what the future has in store for a country which blindly refuses to face facts. According to a recent message, a strong group of the Committee headed by Mr. Rajagopalachariar is credited with the belief that, if a way could be found to associate Indian leaders with the defence of the country, the other shortcomings in the Cripps proposals "should not be an insuperable obstacle to the acceptance of the scheme as a whole". If

this message is correct, it seems to us that the British Government should have no difficulty in granting the concession demanded. It is true that, in principle, changes should not be introduced adversely affecting the defence organisation of a country engaged in war. But where such changes should normally help the Government to prosecute the war with greater chance of success, it would be wrong to use the war as an excuse to resist these changes. The British Cabinet, in fact the whole world, believes that if India is to do her part in the present struggle, some changes are necessary and a declaration guaranteeing India's complete freedom after the war is imperative. The declaration is there, and we are firmly convinced that this declaration will be honoured by the British people and Government after the war. It is also common ground that for the duration of the war the Viceroy's Executive Council should be Indianised in order to associate Indian leaders with the government of the country. However, for reasons one can easily understand, the British Cabinet has stipulated that these changes shall not affect the existing organisation and responsibility for defence. This does not mean that an Indian member of the Executive Council can under no circumstances be even associated with the control and direction of the military forces. On the other hand, such association will, more than any other, make the Indian people believe that this is their war and that they must fight it out to the bitter end. The Government of India will be the first to acknowledge that its military achievements in Malaya have suffered greatly by the lack of Indian man-power. There is not the slightest likelihood of Indian association with the defence of the country resulting in anything worse than what has already happened. A compromise on this point is obviously necessary in the interests of Britain and India.

It is hardly necessary to say that we have no sympathy with those who profess to think that even at the present juncture, Indians must have complete control of defence. This is a piece of misguided patriotism that is always the prelude to disaster. It is certain that the saner elements in the country will succeed in keeping it under control. The people of India and Ceylon need, at the present moment, all the help Britain and the United States can give to resist Japanese aggression. This is the one fact which should make everybody realise that, at least for the duration of the war, there can be no such complete control of defence as is demanded by a section. Let them, as the "Yorkshire Post" rightly says, look at Australia. 'Australians, tenacious individualists, have invited an American General to come to their country and command their troops. Why? Because they know that without American aid they cannot resist the Japanese menace and victory over the Japanese is their immediate concern'.

TOPICS OF THE DAY

By
T. Kathira Vellu

Unemployed Teachers

THE Director of Education's ban on appointments of new teachers has been slightly modified so that registered unemployed teachers may get jobs in schools where vacancies occur. But the Department has absolved itself from its promised responsibility for the security of tenure of teachers who were once teaching in areas now evacuated i. e. Colombo, Trincomalee, etc. The teachers concerned feel that they have been let down. The Headmasters' Conference is taking a serious view of the matter while a mass meeting was held on Sunday, under the auspices of the Colombo Teachers' Association, to consider the critical situation. While the Special Committee on Education is reported to have a salary scheme which offers even less opportunities to what I term 'newer entrants,' it is in the interests of the general public that fresh candidates can be no longer recruited to under-paid jobs as teachers. In progressive countries the teaching profession is fairly treated as far as salary is concerned. Ceylon, however, offers higher teaching salaries than India but Malaya paid better. Lanka's teachers are still waiting for the War Bonus (due from 1-1-42), as approved by the Board of Ministers.

Rationing

MORE rationing is probably waiting round the corner. A good beginning could be made with kerosene. Luxuries should be rationed first. People are now getting accustomed to rice rationing and the promise of half-a measure more per week is reassuring. Though there are many socialist-minded persons among us, a distinction must be made (for purposes of rice rationing) between manual workers and those sedentarily occupied. If this would involve complications, the same treatment for all alike could continue. Regimentation in war emergency is a sound principle.

Tabloid News

The postal authorities wish to increase inland and foreign rates. Idea is to wipe out the present financial loss on the service.

British people have an almost fatalistic belief in the efficacy of Commissions. The fall of Singapore does not need a Royal Commission at this stage. Root causes of the debacle must be wiped out; mere cabinet changes will not achieve this. The whole system of colonialism should be reviewed in the light of the twentieth century. Lord Wedgwood wants the Ceylonese to defend their country like the Russians.

By 22 votes to 15, the State Council decided that immediate steps need not be taken to introduce a compulsory form of military service in Ceylon but a resolution was passed to establish permanently a Ceylon Regiment.

Japanese occupation of the Andamans brings the war closer to our shores. We in Jaffna should speed up A. R. P. measures. The Chinese are doing well in Burma. They have measured the Japs in the past.

RICE SUPPLIES FROM INDIA

OBJECT OF MINISTER'S TRIP TO DELHI

Colombo, Friday.

It is understood that the Government of India has sent a cable to the Ceylon Government stating that it is willing to issue permits for the immediate despatch of 20,000 tons of rice a month from North India and another quantity of 15,000 tons of rice from South India.

The Government of India, it is understood, is trying to make arrangements to put the exports from the latter place also on a monthly basis.

It is reported that the Government of India has also informed the Ceylon Government that it is making an effort to arrange for the transport of the balance of the quantity arranged for by Mr. D. S. Senanayake during his recent visit to Delhi.

The message from the Government of India, it is learned, was considered yesterday at a meeting of the Board of Ministers.

Freight Difficulties

Mr. Corea, in an interview yesterday with a "Daily News" representative before his departure for Delhi, said that, in view of the telegram received from the Government of India, he suggested deferring his visit to India for a week at least but that he was requested to go as the matters in hand should not be left to chance.

What was now necessary, said Mr. Corea, was to see that the quantities which the Government of India was willing to release actually reached Ceylon at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Corea said that this effort involved two very important matters, namely, the question of transport and that of organising purchase.

Although in normal times that was the work of importers, it was most essential at the present moment that Government should have a hand in making all.

Mr. Corea left for India last night by the Talaimannar train.

TWO LIKELY NEW BATTLEFIELDS?

Chungking, Wednesday.

Two new battlefields are likely to be started soon—one by British and American forces in Northern Europe and the other by Japan in India, declared General Yang Chieh, former Chinese Ambassador to Moscow and a well-known strategist.

Commenting on Germany's much-heralded Spring offensive, General Yang is of the opinion that the Germans will once more direct their drive against Moscow, believe that the chances of either a German drive into the Caucasus or an invasion of England are much slighter. Whether Japan will attack Siberia, he continues, will depend largely on the outcome of the forthcoming Soviet-German battle. He says Hitler's total defeat will take at least two years.

Preparations for an Allied counter-offensive in the Pacific, he says, will take at least 12 months and it will take another 12 months to terminate the war on sea against Japan. General Yang believes the Pacific war will end later than the war in Europe.

PAPER OUT OF PALMYRAH LEAVES & STRAW

[Contributed]

VERY recently an application was made to the Government Agent, Jaffna, by a Jaffnese from Madras for Ceylon Government's aid to establish in Jaffna a permanent industry of producing paper by the hand-process out of palmyrah leaves and straw which are both available in Jaffna sufficient to keep up a small factory producing 100-150 reams of various sizes, qualities and weights of paper, both for writing and printing as well as for packing and wrapping, going monthly.

The applicant has been engaged during the last eight months in producing such paper for the first time out of such materials, at the instance of and with financial aid for the experiments from the Government of Madras, through their Director of Industries and Commerce. The aim was to produce in the first instance by hand larger sizes of paper as 30 ins. x 36 ins. and 36 ins. x 40 ins. weighing average 30 lbs. per ream of 20 quires and then to waterproof these sheets into double-ply sheets and rolls of 100 yds. each in which the sheets were p-e-jointed at one of the edges in both the plys into continuous rolls of 100 yds.

The waterproofing mixture, a patented invention of the applicant, was then applied to one side of one of the plys and the other ply was pressed over it and smoothed down and the roll air-dried in the shade.

Owing to the import of paper having practically ceased in India, considerable attempts are being made to produce and supply hand-made paper at many centres throughout the land. The Government of Madras, while encouraging such centres in the south where very considerable volumes of grasses suitable for pulping are available in the forests, was immediately interested in producing a waterproof packing paper to supply the local trades so that the available waterproofed (bitumen-proofed) mill-made paper in rolls may be released for Defence supplies. Hence they took up the suggestion of the applicant to produce such paper and prove the local market under his patent processes. These experiments have just been concluded sufficiently satisfactory to enable the government to embark on a commercial scale by providing State aid to private parties to undertake the business, but unfortunately the current tension in public affairs owing to the proximity of the war to India has interfered with the plan and it has been proposed by the applicant to suspend the experiments for the time being at Madras. On the other hand, Jaffna being not only remote from any war interruptions but also owing to its barrenness and dryness not attractive to any invader, the applicant desires to come over to his native place and utilise his mechano-industrial and chemical knowledge as a practical inventor and patentee of numerous processes and products out of local raw materials, labour and locally made and erected plant according to his designs for the benefit of his homeland.

We are informed that he has re-

HIGHER PRICES FOR LOCAL PADDY RECOMMENDED

CONTRADICTIONARY CIRCULARS ISSUED BY MINISTERS

THAT if Government constitutes itself the sole buyer of paddy, rice, kurakkan and meneri, the prices paid for these commodities must bear a relation to those paid for similar imported grain, was the text of a motion passed by the State Council on Wednesday last.

Mr. B. H. Aluwihare who moved the motion, said that the Minister for Agriculture had received reports from all over the Island that capitalists were purchasing all the grain and they were draining all the reserve stocks in the villages and hoarding them. The Government's first purchasing scheme had failed because the prices offered were insufficient. Once Government became the sole purchaser it meant that owners of paddy, etc. were no longer, able to sell except for small quantities. Once Government became the sole purchaser it had the control of prices. It was very essential that a fair price should be offered if the cultivation of these grains was to be encouraged.

He went on to relate how the Ministry of Agriculture, in consultation with the Minister of Labour, had taken upon itself the purchasing scheme and had obtained from the Board of Ministers a vote of Rs. 8 millions for the purpose. One day suddenly when he was at Matale he was told that the A. G. A. had received a telegram from the Director of Food Purchase to stop the purchase of grain. That meant hardships to the small cultivators. He immediately telephoned to the Minister of Labour and the latter agreed not to enforce the order until Mr. Aluwihare had seen him in Colombo. He next telephoned the Director of Food Purchase, but he did not receive the same courtesy.

Local Grower should Not Suffer

Mr. Corea said that he certainly agreed that if the Government purchased any grain from any other part of the world, the prices paid should be borne in mind. He did not see why the local grower should get a lesser price.

He explained the history of the purchasing scheme and the allocation of Rs. 8 million vote to the Director of Food Purchase. That officer exercised his discretion and issued instructions that paddy should not be purchased for a price higher than Rs. 2.50 per bushel. The prices fixed were a minimum of Rs. 2.50 and a maximum of Rs. 3.50. It was within

his competence to order his purchasing officers not to buy at more than Rs. 2.50. After doing that, that Officer immediately submitted his views on that matter.

Mr. Corea strongly deprecated the language which had been used by Mr. Aluwihare regarding that Officer who, he said, was a courteous officer though certainly strong in his views and actions.

Mr. Corea said that he had no objection to fixing prices as suggested in the motion. It would be difficult to get grain from abroad at a uniform price. What could be done, therefore, was to calculate the average price of imported grain and fix prices here accordingly.

Mr. S. Natesan (Kankasanturai) said the important issue was whether the Government was going to make a price like Rs. 2.50 per bushel a uniform price all over the country. That would be very unfair because different factors operated in different parts of the country with regard to the production of paddy, kurakkan, etc. In some parts of the country the cultivators would certainly suffer if the price of paddy was fixed at Rs. 2.50.

"Midnight Sales"

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam (It. Pedro) said in the north he found that there was certainly unconscionable profiteering going on in both local and imported paddy. He was happy to find the price fixed at Rs. 2.50 per bushel. They could have on paper the fiction that the Government was the sole purchaser. There were "midnight sales" at Rs. 18 per bushel. He was certainly of opinion that cultivators should be paid a reasonable price. But that was only half the problem.

The Government should immediately purchase all stocks and sell at a minimum price to the consumers. In spite of the most stringent regulations, paddy was certainly changing hands today.

He urged that Government should fix a price for its purchases and also a price at which consumers might purchase paddy.

Mr. H. F. Parfitt (Nominated) said that his own view was that if they were going to produce food in this country they must offer prices which would be an incentive to the cultivator. He would rather see them paying too much and getting the food than paying too little and not getting the food. Whether it was necessary to sub-

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requested a near relative to take the matter of the application up and interview the higher authorities at Colombo and secure a State grant, offering security if called for to repay, if by which time his contract with the Madras authority would be over and he will be free to come over and establish the industry in Jaffna. There is ample scope on a very definite and permanent scale for one or two small factories in Jaffna for hand-producing and supplying the local market only all the various sizes and qualities of paper which is, under current civilisation,

as much a necessary as the food grains, fats or cloth for human growth and progress. Hence, it is a most reliable home-industry founded on home-raw materials, home labour, home organising and expert knowledge and home markets that could be carried on for generations without mishaps. Supplying the needs of the various schools and colleges in Jaffna alone will be enough to maintain the business and provide a very respectable career at home for any educated Jaffnese with a probable competitive income with other professions.

SIR S. CRIPPS POSTPONES DEPARTURE

Hopes to Do "Something Useful"

New Delhi, April 2.

THE Congress Working Committee's resolution as finally approved today is understood to advise the country not to accept Sir Stafford Cripps' proposals for reasons which the Committee have fully explained.

The Congress resolution, it is understood, criticises the British proposals regarding defence, the option given to the Provinces to stay out of the future Indian Union and the method of representation of the Indian States on the constitution-making body.

Maulana Azad, the Congress President accompanied by Mr. Nehru came to Sir Stafford Cripps' residence at 4.30 p. m. local time to present to him the Working Committee's statement on the proposals.

"I am postponing my departure from India", said Sir Stafford Cripps at this morning's Press Conference. "I had arranged to go on Monday. I have now postponed it for a short time. The postponement arises from the fact that, owing to my view of the general situation, I think I can possibly do something useful next week."

"I think one may generally say that the points of difficulty are coming down to fairly narrow limits and with common goodwill we may be able to solve the difficulties. I want to try to do that."

Referring to Press reports of these difficulties, Sir Stafford Cripps said: "It is rather natural, in a state of keen excitement, that people tended to over commit themselves in a particular direction at rather too early a stage and I think judging from what I have seen in the Press this morning, it is sobering down a little now to a more thoughtful frame of mind."

Question: If you have no power to agree to the appointment of an Indian Defence Member straightway would you obtain such powers from His Majesty's Government?

Sir Stafford Cripps: I can obviously consult the Cabinet at any moment if I consider it necessary.

Question: Have you referred to His Majesty's Government in this connection?

Sir Stafford Cripps: I have kept His Majesty's Government informed, but haven't got any alternative scheme or plan whereon to consult them. Sir Stafford Cripps added: "I haven't yet received the official document from Congress, which I understand from the Press, I am going to receive."

Mr. Jinnah had not yet given him any communication on the Muslim League's final reaction.

It was pointed out to Sir Stafford Cripps that the Hindu Maha Sabha and Sikhs had published their conclusions on the scheme and the question was asked whether Sir Stafford considered these sufficiently important bodies to alter his plans.

(The Hindu Maha Sabha and the Sikh All Parties Committee have rejected the scheme.)

Sir Stafford said he would have to consider what the other parties had to say. It was possible if some accommodation was arrived at with

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HIGHER PRICES FOR LOCAL PADDY RECOMMENDED

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aidise the consumer or not, he could not say. But he would rather see that done than not getting the food produced.

The estates had paid as much as Rs. 8 per bushel for imported kurakkan, said Mr. Parfitt. That was done merely to have stocks to keep the labourers alive. But such panic prices should not be taken into consideration in fixing the prices.

Contradictory Circulars

Mr. D. S. Senanayake (Minister of Agriculture and Lands) counselled the member for Pt. Pedro not to talk of things about which he knew nothing. He denied that there was any disagreement between himself and the Minister for Labour. He admitted, however, that there were contradictory circulars issued by the two Ministries and the unfortunate Government Agent had to carry out contradictory instructions. He had, therefore, told the Minister that there should be one authority in charge. The Director of Food Purchase was certainly right in having submitted his views. But he must say that if the standard price of Rs. 2.50 per bushel had been fixed for the whole Island he was quite sure the quantity of paddy produced would be very much less. If they wanted a normal production of paddy the price of Rs. 2.50 would be fair.

Today if a cultivator tried to produce any paddy it was through sheer fear of starvation, said Mr. Senanayake. He had to pay twice as much for his implements. It was with the greatest difficulty that he found his seed. Besides there was a great demand for labour. Any man could get employment for a wage of 80 cents. In such circumstances, would not a man prefer to work as a labourer at 80 cents a day?

He urged that the cultivation needed a lot of incentive to make him carry on his cultivation. Arm-chair critics, he said, were the curse of this country. The greatest inducement to a man today to cultivate was, as Mr. Parfitt said, money. They must encourage the people and try to produce as much as possible.

On a motion by Mr. H. R. Freeman (Anuradhapura) the Council next went into Committee.

Mr. Freeman asked whether buying of paddy, kurakkan etc., by Revenue Officers was now going on.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake: We are buying for two purposes. We buy when it is offered at the minimum price and pay above the guaranteed price when we buy for seed purposes.

Mr. Freeman: Do you get returns from the Revenue Officers of how much is being bought?

Mr. D. S. Senanayake: The buying done by the Revenue Officers is for the purpose of feeding the population in the district.

Mr. Freeman: Is it not being stored by the Revenue Officers in the provinces?

Mr. D. S. Senanayake: I believe instructions have been sent that they should not keep anything more than what is required for feeding their population. If anything more than what is needed for a particular district is purchased the excess quantities will

have to be handed over to the Food Controller for distribution elsewhere.

Returns Of Purchases

Mr. Freeman: Have returns of purchases been obtained?

Mr. Corea: I have no returns with me, but I know that some paddy is bought in different parts of the country. Perhaps returns are available in the Food Control Office.

Mr. Freeman: When was buying started?

Mr. Corea: Shortly after the circular issued by the Acting Minister.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake: Buying started at the guaranteed price at the time we started the food production drive and even earlier than that. When there was a good crop of kurakkan in Hambantota we started buying. Later on buying centres for paddy were established some two months ago.

In further reply to questions, Mr. Senanayake said that Government Agents were buying kurakkan at different prices.

Mr. S. Natesan (Kankasanturai) asked whether the purchase and sale of paddy to the extent of five bushels by members of co-operative societies was legal.

Mr. Corea: According to the Food Control Ordinance and the regulation no one can sell any paddy or rice, after the introduction of control, but that has never been enforced.

Mr. Natesan: The Government Agent says that he has been enjoined by the Food Controller to see that all the regulations under the Food Control Ordinance are strictly enforced.

Mr. R. C. Kannangara asked at what price paddy was being bought.

Mr. Corea: Rs. 2.50 has been fixed as the standard price. Formerly the price was between Rs. 2.50 and 3.50.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake: If this price of Rs. 2.50 is adhered to as the standard price, the purchasing officers will have very little work to do because there will be no rice to buy.

Conflict of Laws

Mr. Natesan: I wish the Minister of Labour to go more carefully into this question of conflict of laws.

Mr. Corea: That is why I am proposing to get all these things placed under one authority—the Food Purchasing Officer.

Mr. Aluwihare asked whether the Minister contemplated allowing unlimited sales within the same district, because if he allowed that the whole purpose of the regulations would be defeated and capitalists would collar all the paddy and store it in their barns.

Mr. R. C. Kannangara said that he could not understand why the production of paddy should be in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture while the Minister of Labour should have the right to control the price of paddy.

Mr. E. W. Abeygunasekera (Nuwara Eliya) observed that all the trouble had been caused by conflicting circulars sent by two Ministers. The Minister of Agriculture and Lands was sent to India some time ago and he had arranged everything. Now they were told that the Minister of Labour would be going to India

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other parties, that it might alter the Sikh attitude.

Indian Defence Member

A correspondent drew attention to strong reports that Sir Stafford Cripps had been faced with the resignation of three great soldiers if he made a settlement which involved the appointment of an Indian Defence Member.

Sir Stafford Cripps gave an absolutely "flat denial" of that report and also took the opportunity emphatically to contradict the report that the Viceroy was creating difficulties.

Question:—

If a suggestion was made for the appointment of an Indian Defence Member in charge of recruitment, training and equipment etc., would you consider reopening the question?

Sir Stafford Cripps said: Broadly speaking and without replying to the specific point raised, I would say that I am always prepared to consider anything if by considering it there is any chance of arriving at a satisfactory settlement."

Asked whether certain suggestions had been given to him by Sir T. B. Sapru which might form the basis of a settlement, Sir Stafford said: "All I can say is that a number of people have been helpfully trying to do what they can to help to bring about an adjustment, and I am grateful to them.

to-night or tomorrow. If there was any further question to be settled, why should not the Minister of Agriculture be sent again? The Board of Ministers should entrust a particular job to a particular Minister.

Attitude of Head of Dept.

Mr. Aluwihare in reply, referred to his previous criticism of the Head of a Department. He would maintain that the Head of a Department had no right to stop the working of any scheme sponsored by any Minister and in operation without the authority of the Minister under whom he worked. That particular Head of Department working under a Minister wired to the Government Agent to stop purchases. He had merely told the Head of that Department that the permanent Minister had authorised him to convey to the Assistant Government Agent that he should not act on the telegram sent by the Head of the Department until instructions came from the Minister. The Head of the Department then told him that that Minister should not have done that and that he had the Rs. 8 mill on vote and would not pay out of that vote.

He had been told by another member, said Mr. Aluwihare, that a Head of a Department had used language which he should not have used before the Minister. That Head of Department had gone to the extent of saying that the State Council and the Constitution should be reformed. Some Heads of Departments, Mr. Aluwihare remarked, forgot that they were Heads of Departments because that Council existed.

The motion was then put to the House, and passed.

FOOD EXPORTS TO CEYLON

INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S MEASURES

New Delhi, April 1.

Sir Alan Lloyd, Commerce Secretary, Government of India, told the Council of State today that the India Government had agreed to facilitate exports to the extent necessary for the satisfaction of Ceylon's primary food requirements, subject to the condition that Ceylon could not expect to be in a proportionately better position than India herself if the supplies available to India fell below the full figure of the requirements of the two countries taken together. It was not possible to give the exact figures, but Government were keeping a close watch on the situation and proposed to regulate the quantities exported from the different areas with due regard to the varying conditions of supply.

Active measures were in hand to ensure the increase of production of foodstuffs in India.

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Bicycles in good condition. Reasonable prices will be paid.

Apply to R. C. S. Cooke, Message Commandant, A. R. P. Headquarters, Jaffna.

A. J. R. Vethavanam,

A. R. P. Controller.

A. R. P. Office,
Jaffna, March 28, 1942,
(Mis. 1. 2 & 6-4-42.)

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our establishments will be closed on Sundays commencing from 19th April 1942 until further notice.

JAFENA CO-OPERATIVE STORES LTD.

(Mis. 7. 6-4-42)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1125.

In the matter of the estate of the late Sabapathippillai Karthigesu of Suthumalai

Deceased.
Sabapathippillai Mahalingam of Suthumalai

Petitioner.
Vs.
1. Karthigesu Sammuganathan,
2. Sarathamma daughter of Karthigesu and
3. Sellamma widow of Karthigesu all of Suthumalai

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 19th March 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 said deceased be granted to the Petitioner as his brother and the 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors 1st and 2nd respondents for the purpose of representing them and of acting in their behalf in these Testamentary proceedings unless the abovesaid respondents shall appear before this court on the 6th May 1942 and state objection to the contrary.

The 19th day of March 1942
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge,
(O. 1. 6 & 9-4-42)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RATIONING AND PRICE CONTROL

Sir,—It is very well known to all that the stocks of Paddy and Rice available in Ceylon, either locally grown or imported, are hardly sufficient for six months consumption. But as a good portion of the Indians who are mainly consumers of rice, had returned to their country and all their articles of food can be utilised by the local residents. We must also be thankful to the Honourable The Minister for Agriculture for obtaining permission to import Rice, Paddy &c. from India into Ceylon.

On account of the present developments of War in the East, it has become necessary to ration all articles of food as the means of communications and carriage of goods by sea or by rail are likely to be interfered with. There is every likelihood of everything coming into a dead-lock, if matters grow up to a crisis shortly or later on. The public must be satisfied with the articles of food available in Ceylon for the time being.

Now the Government of Ceylon had proclaimed, after taking the necessary statistics, certain areas as self-supporting and others as non-supporting. In these self-supporting areas, there is no rationing established. But the producer in a self-supporting area is not allowed to remove his paddy or rice from this area to the other areas except on permits issued by the Government Agents of the Provinces or by the Officers appointed by the Food-Controller of Ceylon. There is a complaint by the public that there is considerable delay in issuing such permits to the producer for transport. It is nothing but proper that the Officers should make all inquiries as to the bona-fides of the producer—applicant, and should issue permits after being fully satisfied as to their bona-fides. In this connection it should be brought to the notice of these Officers that certain producers of paddy in areas such as Kiknochy or Pooneryn are attempting to buy paddy from others and to remove these quantities of paddy or such permits and are selling them in Jaffna.

The prices of food stuffs are controlled by the Department of the Controller of Food Supplies in Ceylon and the prices are announced in the Government Gazette and in the Local Papers &c. In Ceylon the main staple food of the Ceylonese is Rice and it is by the prices of Rice and Paddy, that the prices of the other articles of food such as Kurakkan, Samy, Manioc, Varakoo, Yams and other edibles are regulated. In short, the standard by which the prices of edibles are calculated mostly depends on the prices of paddy and Rice.

In the past, the Paddy producer had been working at a loss in Jaffna on account of the cost of labour and on account of the cheap prices paid for the imported Rice. Even then the price of country grown Paddy had been varying from Rs. 1-75 cts to Rs. 2-50 cts per bushel. But Kurakkan &c. had been selling from ninety cents to Rs. 1-50 cts. Whereas now the price of kurakkan is fixed at Rs. 4-50 cts. per bushel and the price of paddy at Rs. 2-50 cts. The Food Control Department

AMENDMENT OF U. C. ORDINANCE

THREE READINGS PASSED

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, (Minister for Local Administration) moved, in the State Council on Thursday, the first reading of an Ordinance to amend the Urban Councils Ordinance.

He said that this Bill would bring the Urban Councils Ordinance into line with the Municipal Councils Ordinance regarding provision for action to be taken on a vote of no confidence that might be passed by the members on the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of an Urban Council.

Practical difficulties, he said, had arisen in more than one Urban Council today. The result of this Bill would be that in an Urban Council if a vote of no-confidence, against a Chairman got the necessary support, the Chairman would cease to be Chairman. If the motion did not get support the members would not be entitled as they were doing at present to bring the entire work of the Council to a standstill. The alternative would be, of course, dissolution and a fresh election.

The first reading of the Bill was passed.

Mr. Bandaranaike moved that the

A.R.P. IN MANIPAY PARISH

Under the auspices of the Social Service League a public meeting was held on Sunday the 29th ultimo at the R. C. School, Anai-cottai. Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Chairman Village Committee and Head Warden, Manipay, presided.

Dr. K. Cathiravalu spoke on the present position of the War, Mr. M. P. David of Colombo on the duties of Wardens and on various kinds of bombs, and Mr. M. Thanikasalam on false rumours.

At the close of the meeting, several wardens were enrolled. (Ccr)

Bill be read a second time.

Mr. Aluwihare suggested that similar provision should be made in regard to the State Council also, because Ministers instead of resigning threatened to dissolve the House.

Mr. Ponnambalam asked whether there was provision in the Municipal Councils Ordinance for the removal of the Mayor for certain acts of delinquency.

Mr. Bandaranaike said that such provision existed in the Municipal Councils Ordinance.

The second and third readings of the Bill were then passed.

JAPANESE LAND AT AKYAB

NEW THREAT TO DEFENDERS OF PROME

London, April 2.

The Japanese have landed at Akyab, a port on the west coast of Burma some 200 miles north-west of Prome, according to a Chinese spokesman in Chungking today (Thursday). The landing was covered by cruisers and destroyers, the Chinese spokesman said. This represents a new threat from the flank and rear to the British defenders of Prome.

On the Sittang River, the Chinese are now north of Toungoo, it was stated authoritatively in London today (Thursday). The British forces are round Prome and the British have to guard against the possibility of an outflanking movement from west of the river opposite Prome.

Australian Troops at Battle Stations

Allied Headquarters in Australia believe that eight fully equipped Japanese divisions, between 120,000 and 150,000 men are massed at Java and Singapore in readiness for Japan's next large-scale offensive, according to the Sydney "Sun's" representative at Allied Headquarters. Included therein it is believed are the crack storm-trooper Fifth Division and the Imperial Guards, plus a large force of paratroops. The increasing flow of American aid is regarded as likely to speed up Japanese plans for an attack for which reason troops throughout Australia are at battle stations and reconnaissance planes are ranging over wide areas.

Important announcements regarding the more complete fusion of Australian, American, Dutch and other Allied land forces under General Blamey and of the R. A. A. F. and American army air force under General Brett are expected very early.

Invasion of Port Moresby Likely

"The likelihood of an early Japanese invasion of Port Moresby, New Guinea, is suggested by recent movements of ships," writes the Sydney "Sun" today (Thursday). "Vessels are constantly being attacked at Lae and Salamaua by the Allied air forces. Although as a result of operations in the past three weeks, we have gained local air superiority, the Japanese are now obtaining further reinforcements, which were described today as considerable."

"Recent Allied air operations have merely delayed the Japanese plan and have been carried out by a limited force. For this reason the air supremacy we have gained may not be permanent and at the most will only temporarily dislocate the Japanese plans, and will not affect their general strategy, which will possibly be an attack from the sea or even from the air."

UNIVERSITY BILL PASSED

The Third Reading of the University Bill was passed by the State Council on Thursday.

ENEMY AGENTS

REWARD FOR INFORMATION OR CAPTURE

It is essential to the success of any enemy plan to attack Ceylon that he should obtain before hand all the information he can about the defences of this Island. He may attempt to do this by landing agents by sea or by air equipped with a means for sending information back to enemy bases outside Ceylon. It is vital that, if enemy agents made such landings, they shall be seized and brought into military custody as quickly as possible before they have had time to further the enemy plan by passing back this information. It is the duty, therefore, of every person to do everything in his power to assist in the capture of such agents and the Government accordingly proposes to pay rewards on the following scale:

1. *Reward for information leading up to the capture of any enemy Agent: up to Rs. 1,000/-* at the discretion of the Commander-in-Chief. Such information should be given with the least possible delay to the nearest Police Station or to any Police Constable or the nearest Unit or Headquarters of any of the Fighting Services, (Navy, Army, and R. A. F.)

2. *Reward for the capture and handing over of any enemy Agent to the nearest Police Station or Service Unit: up to Rs. 5,000/-* at the discretion of the Commander-in-Chief.

(Mis. S. 6-4-42)

ment had prohibited the sale of paddy by the producer, without taking into consideration the initial capital and the necessary expenses of labour &c. and the savage attacks of Malaria on the producer and his coolies and without considering the means and sources by which the producer had to find his capital and working expenses. The producer must sell his paddy and find the means for cultivation of the following crop. In the past, the price of kurakkan had been practically one-half of the price of paddy or even less than half at times. The quality of kurakkan now on sale is very bad and the grains are small and are mixed with sands &c. Under these circumstances the price of country-grown

paddy should not be fixed by the department, if the Government is keen on getting the paddy producer to cultivate more lands and to produce more paddy. On the other hand, if the Controller fixes the price of country paddy at a low rate surely no producer will have the heart to produce more paddy, although there is a demand, because he cannot make both ends meet as the cost of labour and other articles of food had been increased on account of the present conditions of War. It is the hope of every producer that the Controller should act cautiously in this matter without causing loss to the paddy grower.

Jaffna,
31st March 1942.

Yours, etc.,
A FARMER.

THE WORLD SIXTY YEARS HENCE

Continued from page 1

ther. In that event we shall, in sixty years' time, see neither Fascism nor Communism, Capitalism nor Socialism but a world of half-starved savages, quarrelling and gibbering over the last turnip.

Now, war can be eliminated only by some form of international Government. Therefore, if civilization is to survive, I should expect the world in sixty years' time to be living under a federal government to which a number of nations have agreed to surrender the control of the foreign policies, of their armies, navies, and air forces, of their trade and currency arrangements, and of the movements of their populations.

What bearing have these general principles upon our vision of the world sixty years' hence? Let us suppose that war and the fear of war have been eliminated; that under some form of Socialism the grosser injustice in the distribution of wealth have been removed. The intensive application of science to industry will have enormously increased production, and all workers will be assured of comfort and a competence in return for some three or four hours' machine-minding a day. What would such a world be like?

Misuse of Gifts

In many ways it would be a vastly more comfortable world. All the external enemies to man's happiness would have been abolished: there would be no slums, and I hazard the guess slavery in all its forms would have disappeared.

So far so good. But suppose we misuse the gifts with which science will have so embarrassingly endowed us? That whatever land is left over from cultivation is devoted to golf courses or tennis courts, and that no wild places where man can seek solitude and refreshment of his spirit are left; that our roads are covered by an almost stationary mass of cars welded together in an inextricable jam; that our coasts are ringed with a continuous series of resorts basked in a perpetual flood of light music; that man in short has imposed his law upon the world, yet acknowledges nothing higher than himself to impose its law upon him.

I believe that man is spirit as well as body, and nature abhors a vacuum in the spiritual world not less than in the physical. Hence, it is inconceivable to me that a whole side of man's nature should be allowed to remain permanently unsatisfied. But some revival there must be unless the Brave New World of science is to kill man's spirit and reduce him to the level of the robot.

NOTICE

WANTED Volunteers, Men and Women for work in the A.R.P. Control & Report Centre as telephonists and clerks for part time work.

A.J.R. VETHAVANAM,
A.R.P. Controller.

A.R.P. Office, Jaffna,
March 31, 1942.

(Mis. 4, 2 & 6-4-42)

AUCTION SALE

D.C.J. 15185.

Poothapillai Seenivasagam of Kopay South Vs. Plaintiff.
Kanagar Karthigasu, Manager Vernacular School Kaithady—Nunavil Defendant.

PROPERTIES REFERED TO

(1) All that piece of land called Kovanthidal Valavu Nedungkerni Valavu and other parcels in extent 40 Lms. V.C. situated at Kaithady-Nunavil and bounded on the East by the property of Thambiyah Vaithilingam, North by road, West by the property of Ariacuddy Ratnavarathar and shareholders and South by Mailupillai Kunchupillai and others, (2) all that piece of land called Kochchaddy Valavu in extent 4½ Lms V.C. situated as aforesaid and bounded on the East by the property of Sinnathamby Kandiah, North by lane, West by the property of Vallipillai widow of Sinar, South by the property of Sinnachchy wife of Sinnathurai,

(3) All that piece of land called Puliankulam Valavu in extent of 13½ Lms. V.C. situated as aforesaid and bounded on the East by the property of Thillampalam Sadasivam, North by lane, West by the property of Sinnappu Ramalingam, South by the property of Moothathamby Kandiah and road.

(4) All that piece of land called Kincha Valavu and Alagarthoddam in extent of 6½ Lms. V.C. situated as aforesaid and bounded on the East by the property of Thambiyah Ponniah-raja, North by the property of Ponnammah wife of Ponniah, West by lane, South by the property of Valauther Chelliah and others, (5) All that piece of land called Kotuvil valavu in extent of 17½ Lms. V.C. situated as aforesaid and bounded on the East by the property of Ledchumipillai wife of Ponniah and shareholders, North by the property of Saravanamuttu Ponniah and others West by the property of Kanagar Karthigasu and others, South by the property of Nallammah wife of Murugasu.

(6) An undivided half share of all that piece of land called Kiranchi Kadu in extent of 20 Lms. V. C. situated at Madduvil South, and bounded on the East by frontage of lane and property of Kandiah Sivambu and shareholders, North by the property of Sinnakuddiar Vinasthamby and shareholders, and others, West by the property of Sinnakuddiar Velupillai and others, South by the property of Sinnachchy wife of Sinnathurai and others, together with the right of using bye lane for going to and from this land along the South leading to the eastern boundary land.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna, in case No. 15185, I shall sell the above properties by Public Auction on Wednesday the 29th April 1942 commencing at about 10 a.m. at the spots.

N. KANDIAH,
(Mis. 6, 6-4-42) Commissioner.

AUCTION SALE

13720 D. C. J.

Porter David Chinniah Kopay South Vs. Plaintiff.
Kanagasabai Vallipuram of Nunavil East as representative of the estate of Vallipuram Kanagasabai and wife Kunchammah of Chavakachcheri Defendants.

All that piece of land called Kom-maddiaddai, and Chempanvalavu, in extent 28½ Lms. V. C. situated at Chavakachcheri and bounded on the East and North by lane, West by the property of Murugasu Kandiah, South by the property of Chellammah wife of Kumarasamy together with palmyrahs, coconut trees, and other plantations, house and well.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna, in Case No. 13720, D. C. J., I shall sell the above property by public auction on Tuesday the 28 April 1942 at about 4 p.m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,
(Mis. 5, 6-4-42) Commissioner.

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[Q. 115, 23-1-42—23-4-42.]

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