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WHY GERMANY IS AT WAR WITH RUSSIA

ATTEMPTING TO STAB GERMANY IN THE BACK

CLOSER COLLABORATION WITH BRITAIN SUSPECTED

The two friendly countries Germany and Russia are now enemies since last Sunday. The reasons for this sudden break between the two nations, as given by Germany, are contained in a Note handed by the German Foreign Minister to the Soviet Ambassador in Berlin.

The following is the text, as given on the Bremen radio in English, of the Note from Germany to Russia which was handed by the German Foreign Minister to the Soviet Ambassador in Berlin:

"When in the summer of 1939, the Reich Government, motivated by a desire to achieve an adjustment of the interests between Germany and the U.S.S.R., approached the Soviet Government, it was aware of the fact that it would be no easy matter to reach an understanding with a State, which, on the one hand claimed to belong to the community of individual nations with rights and duties resulting therefrom, yet on the other hand was ruled by a party which, as a section of the Comintern was striving to bring about world revolution—in other words the very dissolution of these individual nations. The German Government, putting aside its serious misgivings occasioned by this fundamental difference between the political aims of Germany and of Soviet Russia and by the sharp contrast between diametrically-opposed conceptions of National Socialism and Bolshevism, made the attempt. It was guided by the idea that the elimination of the possibility of war, which would result from an understanding between Germany and Russia, and the safeguarding of the vital necessities of the two peoples between whom friendly relations had always existed would

offer the best guarantee against a further spreading of the Communist doctrine of International Jewry over Europe.

"This belief was strengthened by the fact that certain happenings in Russia itself and certain measures of international scope undertaken by the Russian Government allowed it to be assumed that a departure from these doctrines and from the former methods of causing disintegration among foreign nations appeared possible. The reception accorded in Moscow to the German demarche and the readiness of the Soviet Government to conclude a pact of friendship with Germany appeared to confirm this state of attitude. Thus, on August 23rd, 1939, a non-aggression pact was concluded, while on September 29th, 1939, a frontier and friendship agreement was signed by the two States. The essence of these agreements consisted in:

(1) A reciprocal engagement on both States not to attack the other and to live on peaceful and neighbourly terms and

(2) A delimitation of spheres of interest, the German Reich renouncing all influence in Finland, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Bessarabia, while territories of the former Polish state as far as the line of the rivers Narva, Bug and San being incorporated in Russia in accordance with the desire of the Soviets.

Alleged Sabotage

"The Reich Government, in fact, immediately following the conclusion of the non-aggression pact with Russia, did effect a fundamental change in its policy towards the U.S.S.R. and from that day onwards adopted a friendly attitude towards the Soviet Union. The German Government faithfully adhered, both in the letter and the spirit, to the treaty concluded with the Soviet

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THE INDIAN DRAMA

WHY I LOVE IT

BY K. M. MUNSHI

OF all forms of literature Drama is the most difficult and the most enjoyable. A great dramatic tradition is the high watermark of a literary renaissance. No one ever forgets the deep emotion with which he sees his first drama, however crude it is; and even in this age when photography and gramophone have produced the talkie, a mechanised form of drama, nothing can equal the charm and the beauty of a real live drama on the stage.

In the drama alone we see the most perfect combination of different arts; we observe the passions, the motives and the inner-man of human individuals and this is achieved not by description, but by delineation of character in action.

Old India had a great dramatic tradition. Sanskrit literature has not less than six hundred dramas to its credit; and three of its dramatic artists, Bhasa, Kalidasa and Bhavabhuti, can rank among the best poets of the world. But most of the Sanskrit dramas were rather dramatic poems in which men and women were described as types rather than individuals. It failed to unfold character through actions as successfully as in the Greek dramas. *Marichakatika*, *The Clay Cart* is an exception, no doubt; it deals not with standardised heroes and heroines but with thieves and prostitutes and police officers; a strange medley of realistic characters, brought out in bold relief.

Out of these six hundred and odd Sanskrit dramas twenty-six were written in Gujarat, twenty-three out of them belonged to the century between 1150 A. D. and 1250 A. D. The most exceptional of them were written under the inspiration of the Jain Acharya Hemachandra, one of the greatest Indian scholars. But to-day they look pedantic; they are pale shadows of the real world.

Before Gujarat was conquered by Mussalmans, on festive or religious occasion plays were performed in temples with some kind of scenic display. In the South even at present a Sanskrit drama is performed in temples not on one day but succes-

sive days.

After the advent of the Mussalmans in the North the old Hindu dramatic traditions came to an end in Gujarat. Only episodes from Rama's or Krishna's life were crudely staged by strolling players at religious fairs or in Vaishnava temples. Comic theatricals, hideous with gross acting and reeking with ribaldry were also performed in the villages. But the real drama simply did not exist.

In the nineteenth century, however, with the introduction of English education literary men all over India inspired by the plays of Shakespeare began to turn to the dramatic art. In the fifties of the last century a Shakespeare Katha Samaj was founded in Bombay by young men who were then receiving education at what was then called the Elphinstone Institute and which is now divided into the Elphinstone High School and the Elphinstone College. One of the first original plays named *Lalitadukhadarsaka* was written in 1864 by Ranchhod-bhai Udayram. The heroine Lalita by name, a cultured woman married to an illiterate rake, after passing through terrible social and emotional trials, was driven to seek relief in death. It was staged in Bombay at a theatre which was first organised by the Parsis. When it was staged it took Bombay by storm. Men and women shed tears at the tragic fate of the heroine; Nandan passed into the language as a synonym for a heartless rake. But these plays were only didactic stories with long nerveless dialogues intercepted with songs. Their only merit was their novelty.

Strolling Players

I have a faint recollection of the first play which I saw in 1894 or 1895 in my native town. A Dharamsala was improvised as a theatre by a company of strolling players. They borrowed furniture and dresses from the gentry of the town. The families of the best classes squatted in front of a portion of a long room which was screened off by a white bed-sheet. Following the Sanskrit

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The Travancore National and Quilon Bank Ltd. Jaffna Branch

(In Liquidation)

A petition has been filed in the District Court of Jaffna by the Liquidator of the Colombo, Kandy and Galle Branches of the above Bank stating that the Head Office at Quilon and the various Branches in British India were willing to co-operate with the Ceylon Branches if all the Ceylon Branches acted together. The petition further requested the District Court of Jaffna to make an order consenting to this co-operation to the extent of the moneys which have not yet been distributed by way of dividends to creditors. The inquiry will be held on Tuesday the 8th July 1941.

Notice is hereby given to the creditors of the Jaffna Branch to show cause if any on or before that date why such request made in the petition should not be granted.

J. SUBRAMANIAM LEWIS,
Liquidator-Jaffna Branch.
(Mis. 54, 26-6-41)

Wanted

Wanted a qualified lady teacher for the Alaveddy English School. Preference will be given to a Saivite lady capable of teaching music, drawing and handwork. Salary according to C scale.

Apply before 30th instant to.

N. A. Subbairam,
Manager of Schools,
Alaveddy.

(Mis. 52, 23-6-40-6-41)



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1941

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS

MUCH OF THE COMMUNAL MIS-understandings and of the scandalous allegations against members of the State Council and Ministers can be avoided if the State Council will accept the suggestion of the Member for Point Pedro in regard to appointments to the Public Service. Mr. Ponnambalam suggests that the Executive Committee of Communications and Works, of which he is a member, should not make recommendations to the Public Services Commission for appointments to the various departments under it. This suggestion merits of serious consideration by all the Executive Committees. The right which the Committees exercise of recommending candidates for appointments has in it the chance of abusing it. A recommendation made by any one of the Committees, however deserving and just it may be, is always looked upon with suspicion by the disappointed candidates; favouritism, bribery and undue influence are alleged as having weighed with the Committee in making its recommendation. As politicians eager to be in the good books of influential persons in their respective

constituencies, Councillors find themselves placed in an unenviable position. They have got to please the men who helped them and would help them to win seats in Council. It is but natural that a Councillor should always be on the lookout to keep his supporters in good humour, and in doing so he has perforce to cast aside, much against his conscience, considerations of justice and fairplay. And even among State Councillors, the get-rich-quick mentality may not altogether be absent, and this weakness can be taken advantage of by job seekers with big purses to load the dice in their favour. Circumstances like these have given rise to rumours and allegations which reflect on our State Councillors. It will not be fair to give credence to such accusations against an august body of men, elected representatives of the people, who are charged with the task and responsibility of looking after the welfare of their countrymen. One should therefore await the findings of the Commission that will be appointed to inquire into these charges against the State Councillors before dismissing or giving credence to such allegations. Whatever the findings, our contention is that the State Councillors are now placed in such unenviable and tempting circumstances as will expose them to uncharitable criticism. The best course open to them, therefore, is to free themselves from such thankless responsibilities as would give room for tongue-waggers to ply their equally thankless and unprofitable trade. Mr. Ponnambalam's suggestion is an excellent one which would greatly minimise the chances of spreading ugly rumours against Councillors. The suggestion requires of the councillors an act of self-denial whereby they will forgo voluntarily the much maligned right of recommending candidates for appointments. If they do so, they will rise in the estimation of the public and insure their future against any malevolent propaganda. If, however, they choose to retain what the public views as a questionable right, then the public will grow more suspicious of the intentions of the Councillors. A very healthy and desirable procedure followed in other democratic countries in the matter of appointments to public service is that these appointments are entirely removed from the political influence of popular representatives. The broad principles that should govern appointments should be the only concern of the legislature, and appointments can then be safely left in the hands of a capable and impartial Public Services Commission. There will then be no cause for any complaint. Will our Councillors see the wisdom in this act of self-denial?

More Revenue than Expenditure

Income Tax Estimate Exceeded

The revenue from Income Tax, Estate Duty and Stamps for the first eight months of the present financial year (October 1940 to May, 1941) exceeds the amount estimated for the whole of the financial year.

The revenue from this source for the period amounts to Rs. 22,580,189 as compared with Rs. 22,385,000 which was the amount estimated for the year.

The latter sum, however, did not include the estimated yield from the increase of 1½ per cent of the unit rate of Income Tax imposed in connection with the Budget for the present financial year.

Decrease in Customs Revenue

A feature of the revenue during the period under review is the decrease of the Customs revenue.

A sum of Rs. 39,947,461 has accrued from Customs revenue from October, 1940 to May, 1941 as compared with Rs. 41,098,925 from the same source during the corresponding period of the last financial year.

There is also a shortfall of Rs. 379,850 in the Port and Harbour dues, as compared with the same period in the last financial year.

Excess of revenue over expenditure from October, 1940 to May, 1941 amounts to Rs. 9,893,515 as compared with Rs. 7,777,932 in the corresponding period of the last financial year.

In the last financial year, however, a sum of Rs. 9,000,000 accrued to revenue from the surplus in the sinking Fund of a loan.

The expenditure during the period under review was Rs. 79,089,597 as against a revenue of Rs. 88,993,112.

WILL NOT RETIRE FROM POLITICS

Sir Baron to Win Freedom for Ceylon

A suggestion that Sir Baron Jayatilake should retire from politics and lead the people in religious work, was made at the anniversary celebrations of the Pannapitiya Y. M. B. A. at which Sir Baron presided.

Sir Baron replied that he had entered politics to help win freedom for the country and had succeeded to some extent. If during his lifetime Ceylon won freedom, he would stay out of politics.

Health Week In Jaffna

A mammoth gathering of school children and members of the public was present at the Jaffna Hindu College playground last week to see a Health film, demonstrating sanitary methods that should be adopted for a healthful living.

This demonstration was an item in the Health Week programme carried out by Dr. K. Kanagaratnam, School Medical Officer, and was held under the patronage of Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Chairman, Jaffna Urban Council.

RUSSO-GERMAN WAR

FIERCE FIGHTING ALONG NORTHERN FRONT

BRITISH MISSIONS TO RUSSIA

Moscow, Wednesday.

THE Rumanian Black Sea port of Constanza is ablaze from three raids by the Soviet air force, reports a Red Army communique. The Danube port of Sulina, to the south, was also attacked three times. The raids were made "in reply" to the two German raids on the Crimean naval base of Sebastopol. Ankara reports have spoken of the massing of the Axis "invasion" fleet at Constanza and elsewhere along the western shores of the Black Sea.

Soviet bombers also raided the former free port of Danzig on the shores of the Baltic the East Prussian capital, Königsberg; the Polish capital, Warsaw; and Lublin, a textile centre 100 miles south-east of Warsaw, "causing great damage to military objectives". Petrol dumps are burning in Warsaw.

These raids again were in retaliation for the German bombing of the Ukrainian capital, Kiev; the White Russian capital, Minsk; and the Latvian ports of Libau and Riga carried out twice in each case, states the communique.

British Missions To Russia

London, Tuesday.

According to authoritative circles in London, the Soviet has accepted the offer of British Military and Economic Missions to Russia.

It is understood that preparations for the despatch of such Missions are being pressed forward as quickly as possible and it is expected that this will be completed shortly. Sir Stafford Cripps, who is occupied with further consultations and discussions in London, hopes that he will be able to return to Moscow in a few days.

DETENUES ON HUNGER STRIKE

Protest Against Ministry's Attitude

Kandy, Monday.

The four Sama Samajist detenus are on hunger strike from today, beginning with their morning tea which they refused to take. The breakfast likewise was not partaken of. It is learned that the jail staff keep the meal for one hour and, if not consumed, dispose of it.

It is understood that this action of the detenus is a gesture of protest against the Home Ministry in not giving consideration to certain representations they had made.

SHOP ACT FOR JAFFNA

EMPLOYEES APPEAL FOR INTRODUCTION

WHY U. C. REFUSES TO EXPRESS OPINION

THE Jaffna Shop Employees' Union have sent another petition to the Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce, praying for the immediate enforcement of the Shop Act in Jaffna.

The petition refers to the reasons urged against the enforcement of the act and states that the majority of the employees welcome the enforcement of the Act in Jaffna.

The following are some passages in their memorandum:

The Jaffna Central Ratepayers' Union in their evidence before you at Jaffna deliberately misled you when they said that about 25,000 people go out of the Town daily for work in the villages.

The population of the Jaffna Urban area is about 46,000. These include men, women and children.

To say that out of this number 25,000 persons go daily to the village for work and return very late in the day is a deliberate lie, specially in a place like Jaffna where there are no large factories and large scale farms.

In this connection it is significant to note that when a member of the Jaffna Urban Council questioned the Chairman of the Urban Council who is also the President of the Ratepayers' Union as to the truth of the statement made to you by the Ratepayers' delegation, the Chairman refused to answer the question.

We understand that the Chairman of the Urban Council has computed that if the Closing Orders are enforced in Jaffna his Council would incur a loss of about Rs. 25,200 per year.

Having this loss as its main reason for opposing the enforcement of the Closing Orders, the Council may recommend to you in the name of the poor man not to enforce the Closing Orders.

We maintain that the Urban Council is an interested party in this matter. The Council has invested a capital sum in their electricity scheme. Any loss specially a sum of about Rs. 25,200 a year to their electricity revenue will deter them from viewing favourably the enforcement of the closing orders in Jaffna.

We fear that the Council is not keen on expressing its views on this matter. Thus to penalize us till the Urban Council condescends to express its opinion, we submit is hardly fair specially so when this Council is controlled and directed by a Ratepayers' union composed of a few members as against nearly 20,000 voters in the Urban Area.

Our position in this question is that the State has thought it fit to proclaim a law to regulate the conditions of work in shops, and therefore it is our legitimate right that such relief as granted by this law should be given to us immediately. We further maintain that the State should not discriminate between human beings as is being done now by not enforcing the Shop Act in many places.

We would also draw your attention to the fact that a majority of

PAPER MANUFACTURE IN CEYLON

A Step Ahead of India, Says Mr. Balfour

Galle, Tuesday.

The view that Ceylon had advanced a step ahead of India in the manufacture of paper was expressed by Mr. D. H. Balfour, Director of Commerce and Industries, when he declared open a manual paper manufacture section at the Uplift Centre at Dadalla.

He announced his intention of opening a paper factory, similar to the one in Colombo, at that centre shortly and said he would be asking for the necessary funds from the State Council soon.

He also explained a very simple process apparently undiscovered so far in any other country, of retreating printer's ink from paper. This process, it is understood, was discovered by Mr. Balfour himself.

Mr. V. P. Aiyadurai, the paper training master, gave a demonstration of paper manufacture by hand and showed samples of paper thus made.

Speaking to "The Times of Ceylon's" correspondent Mr. Aiyadurai said that the paper, although not glazed, was good for writing and typing. Ink would not spread. Mr. Aiyadurai also showed samples of blotting paper made from waste paper. Some of the machinery, required for the manufacture of paper, like presses and so on, had been made locally.

Mr. Balfour, in declaring open the paper section, thanked Mr. E. de S. Wijayarathne, the Deputy Mayor, for placing that building at the disposal of the Department of Commerce and Industries. It was the first centre of its kind outside Colombo.

The students would be trained to manufacture paper by hand and he hoped that it would be encouraged as a cottage industry. He intended to open a paper-making factory like the one already in Colombo and the building might have to be extended. The paper would be made partly by a mechanised process and partly by hand.

They were starting that industry at an opportune time, as the price of paper had gone up considerably.

Mr. H. W. Amarasinghe said that Mr. Balfour was responsible for a number of new industries in this country in recent years. He felt that small industries of that nature should be encouraged as far as possible but what they really wanted was big industries like the plywood industry.

Acting Minister for Health

Mr. George E. de Silva, Member for Kandy, was elected by the Executive Committee of Health on Tuesday, to serve as Acting Minister for Health during the absence of Mr. W. A. de Silva on two months' leave.

Our employers are not opposed to the Shop Act but on the other hand would welcome its enforcement in Jaffna.

The conditions under which we work need to be reformed. We are ever worked. We work under the most insanitary conditions. We have no holidays. Such conditions are a disgrace to any society.

Indian Women Speak Out

Reply to British Women's Message

Wardhaganj, June 21.

The following statement has been issued over the signatures of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Rani Laxmibai Rajwade, Mrs. Radhabai Subbarayan, Mrs. Ammu Swaminathan and Rajkumari Amrit Kaur of the All-India Women's Conference in reply to the British Women's message to Indian women:

"We have very carefully studied your message addressed to Indian women. We write this in our individual capacity as also that of representative members of the All-India Women's Conference which, as you know, is an organisation of fifteen years' standing. We mention this to show that what we state here is not only our deep personal conviction but also, as far as we can judge, the conviction of a large body of India's women.

"It is scarcely necessary to tell you that we appreciate the sincerity of your appeal, but we are amazed at the ignorance betrayed in it of realities. Indeed, your Prime Minister by contrast shows a grasp of realities which is refreshing. However painful it may be, he has no misgivings about the status that India occupies in the British mind. It is a dependency which can and is being utilised at the British will. He knows that he does not need the consent or co-operation of India's thinking sons and daughters in any thing that Britain wants for fighting her war. He takes care to pay tribute to the valour of Indian soldiers who are part of the army of occupation in India. These soldiers, you should know, are wholly unconnected with the national life and activities. They may not freely see any nationalist without incurring heavy penalties. Nor has your Prime Minister any difficulty in raising, either by taxation or so called voluntary contributions, the money he wants. We cannot complain of this helplessness, but we must not be blind to facts. How can there be association in such a situation of India, that is impatient of the foreign yoke, with the forcible and we have adverted to?

Exploitation of Non-European Races

"The fact is that you are wholly wrong in your estimate of things. We are surprised at your quoting an untruth contained in President Roosevelt's pronouncement. You quote today that the whole world is divided between human slavery and human freedom. The fact is that there is no such thing as human freedom for the Asiatic races, certainly not for India, nor is there for the virile Africans. The result whatever it may be, of the war will not alter their condition for the better save through their own efforts. As we see realities it is this. It is a war between the British Empire and the Nazis and Fascists for world domination, meaning in effect exploitation of the non-European races. We cannot be in love with Nazism and Fascism but we may not be expected to be in love with British Imperialism.

"Now perhaps you will under-

GEMS IN CEYLON

NO SIGN OF EXHAUSTION

USES OF THE JAFFNA LIMESTONE

IN normal years, during the pre-war period, Ceylon's production of minerals of the gem variety was roughly of the order of Rs. 1,500,000 to Rs. 2,000,000, states Mr. D. N. Wadia M. A. B. Sc., F. R. G. S. F. G. S. F. R. A. S. B., the Government Mineralogist, in his Administration Report for 1940.

Referring to the Jaffna limestone, Mr. Wadia says that the suitability of the Jaffna limestone for cement manufacture has long been known, but besides cement and mortar, this limestone can be applied to other uses.

Gem-Gravels

The following are further extracts from Mr. Wadia's Report:

In normal years, during the pre-war period, Ceylon's production of mineral of the gem variety was roughly of the order of Rs. 1,500,000 to Rs. 2,000,000. There is no sign of any approaching exhaustion of the gem-bearing gravels, which ordinarily underlie the surface alluvium in the broad parallel lateral valleys of Sabaragamuwa, at a depth of only 6-30 feet below the ground level. Deeper gem-gravels in the same valleys, or in neighbouring valleys of the same mountain watershed, are likely to be found in favourable situations, for the depths of fluvial alluvium, ascertained by borings in some of these valleys, has been found to be greater than 30-40 feet.

The present system of extracting the gems and semi-precious stones by small holes and pits in agricultural land is not sufficiently exhaustive and leaves a considerable portion of the payable gravel untouched. Some modified form of mining by hydraulic methods, where the relief of the ground presents suitable gradient, must be devised for a more thorough search and washing of the

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stand why we as women are against all wars. Women's part is just now to stand up for truth and non-violence as against untruth and violence which surround us. We admire the self sacrifice of British women of which you write with just pride. How we wish you had taken a braver and prouder part by telling your men to wash their hand clean of human blood! You might not have succeeded all at once but you would have led the way to the establishment of a permanent peace. We take leave to doubt the wisdom of women aping men in the black art of human slaughter on a scale hitherto unknown.

"Lastly, let us point out the anomaly of British women asking India, though a slave nation, to help a slave owner in distress instead of asking the slave owner to undo the wrong and cure himself of the initial sin and thus ensure the moral justness of his position.

"This presentation of the picture may appear unpleasant to you but it is, nonetheless, sincere and we could not answer your sincerity except by being equally sincere."

Why Germany is at War With Russia

(Continued from page 1)

Union. In addition, it had, by the conquest of Poland, that is by the shedding of German blood, gained for the Soviet Union the greatest success in foreign politics which it had achieved since coming into existence. This was only possible by reason of Germany's friendly policy towards Russia and the overwhelming victories of the German forces. In contrast to this the Soviet Union had adopted a wholly different attitude. By means of centres chosen in neighbouring countries, it had attempted, as it had before, to carry on subversive activities and preparatory measures for sabotage in Germany and the territories occupied by her.

"Comprehensive material concerning anti-German activity pursued by the Soviet Union, which will be published by the Reich Government, proves conclusively that Soviet Russia's declaration constituted a definite attempt to mislead Germany, nor did the advantages accruing from Germany's friendly attitude cause the Soviet Government to adopt a loyal attitude towards Germany. The fact that the treaty Russia had concluded with the Reich had been a mere technical manoeuvre was proved with brutal clarity in the following words which occur in a Russian document discovered in the Soviet Legation in Belgrade after the occupation of that city.

"The U.S.S.R. will not react until the opportune moment occurs. The Axis Powers have further disipated their forces and the U.S.S.R. will consequently strike a sudden blow against Germany."

"If the Soviet Union's subversive propaganda carried out in Germany and the rest of Europe leaves no room for doubt as to its attitude towards Germany, then the policy of the Soviet Government towards Germany in the military sphere and the field of foreign politics ever since the conclusion of the pact between Germany and Russia makes matters clearer.

"Extending Power"

"In Moscow, on the occasion of the delimitation of spheres of interests, the Soviet Government declared to the German Minister for Foreign Affairs that it did not intend to occupy, Bolshevise or annex any state situated within the sphere of interest, other than the territories of the former Polish State which were at that time in a condition of disintegration. In actual fact, however, as the course of events have shown, the policy of the Soviet Union during the whole time was exclusively directed towards one object—namely, that of extending Moscow's military power wherever the possibility offered in the area between the Arctic Ocean and the Black Sea and of further Bolshevising

Europe. This began in the autumn of 1939 by the creation of military bases in the Baltic States, was continued in the war against Finland and in the summer of 1940 by the annexation of the Baltic States. Then, while the German army was still fighting west against France and Great Britain, the Soviet Union advanced in the Balkans. Although the Soviet Government had declared during the Moscow negotiations that it would never make the first move towards achieving a settlement of the Bessarabian question, the German Government was informed on June 24th, 1940, by the Soviet Government that it was now determined to settle the Bessarabian question by force.

One consequence of the attitude adopted by Germany was that the Soviet intensified its policy which more and more openly was directed against Germany and that its increasingly close cooperation with Britain was clear. In January, 1941, this antagonistic attitude on the part of Russia first showed in the diplomatic sphere. The Soviet Government objected to the necessary military precautions taken by the Reich in Bulgaria against the landing of British troops in Greece and Russia designated Bulgaria and the two straits as her safety zone. Despite a statement of reasons which the Germans placed before the Soviet Government, the latter published a declaration addressed to Bulgaria which was of a character directly hostile to the Reich. This policy however, reached its climax in the anti-German agitation in Yugoslavia now conclusively proved by documents. When, therefore, the anti-German Belgrade putsch, at the instigation of Great Britain in agreement with the Soviet Government succeeded, Russia on April 5th concluded a friendly agreement with the illegal Serbian Government of General Simovitch, which was to lend moral support to the putsch and with its weight assist the joint Anglo-Yugoslav-Greek front.

Innocent Reich

"Thus at the same time when German troops were being concentrated on the Rumanian and Bulgarian territory against the growing landing of British troops in Greece, the Soviet Union now obviously in concerted action with Britain, was attempting to stab Germany in the back by, firstly giving Yugoslavia open political and secret military support; secondly, attempting to move Turkey to adopt an aggressive attitude towards Bulgaria and Germany by an agreement not to attack her and to concentrate her army in a very unfavourable strategic position in Thrace; thirdly, itself concentrating a strong force on the Rumanian frontier in Bessarabia and in Moldavia and, fourthly, a sudden attempt early in April of Vishinsky, the Deputy Peoples' Commissar for the Foreign Commissariat in his conversations with M. Gafencu, the Rumanian Minister in Moscow, to inaugurate a policy of rapid rapprochement with Rumania in order to

persuade that country to back away from Germany. British diplomacy, with the intermediary of the Americans, was making efforts in the same direction in Bucharest.

"In vain, the Soviet Government tried on various occasions to veil the real intention underlying its policy and adopted a succession of measures to deceive the world into thinking that it was maintaining formal and even friendly relations with Germany. In addition, there were violations of the frontier and incursions into German territory from the air which had been on the increase since April, 1941, leading up to final conclusion that, as the result of observations made during the past few days, there was no longer any room for doubt. While 160 Russian divisions have been massed against Germany, thus rendering possible acts of aggression at various points on the German frontier, reports were received daily concerning incidents on this frontier and the clashes between outposts belonging to the two armies serve to reveal the impression of an exceedingly tense military situation which might lead to an explosion at any time.

"The news received today from England about the negotiations which Sir Stafford Cripps, the British Ambassador, with a view to establishing still closer collaboration between the political and military leaders of Great Britain and the U. S. S. R. together with an appeal made by Lord Beaverbrook, a one-time enemy of the Soviet regime, to support Russia in her oncoming conflict by every available means and his exhortation to the United States to do likewise show unambiguously what kind of fate they desire to prepare for the German nation.

Subversive Acts

"Summarising the foregoing points the Reich Government wishes therefore to make the following declaration: "Contrary to all engagements which it has undertaken and its solemn declarations, the Soviet Government has turned against Germany. It has firstly, not only continued, but ever since the outbreak of war has intensified its subversive activities against Germany and Europe; it has, secondly, in continually increasing measures developed its foreign policy in a tendency hostile to Germany and it has, thirdly, massed its entire forces on the German frontier ready for action. The Soviet Government has thus violated its treaties and has broken its agreement with Germany. Bolshevik Moscow's hatred of National Socialism was stronger than its political wisdom. Bolshevism is opposed to the National Socialists in deadly enmity. Bolshevik Moscow desires to stab National Socialist Germany in the back while she is engaged in a struggle for her existence. Germany has no intention of remaining inactive in the face of this grave threat to her eastern frontier. The Fuehrer has, therefore, ordered the German forces to oppose this menace with all the might at their disposal. In the coming struggle, the German people are fully aware that they are called upon not only to defend their native land, but to save the entire civilised world from the deadly dangers of Bolshevism."

Kathirgama Temple

Jaffna Society to Supply Water

A public meeting of the Hindus of the Chankanai parish convened for the purpose of forming a society to supply a water service for the use of pilgrims (தலைவர் பதவி தகுதி) at Kathirgama more efficiently was held at Valikamam West Stationers Hall at Chankanai with Muhandiram M. Krishnar in the Chair.

The Chairman explaining the object of the meeting said that during the past 11 years that Dharman had been carried on by Mr. Sangarapillai Murugesu from public subscription but since of late all sorts of people were going about duping the Hindus and collecting money for their own personal needs saying they were doing it on behalf of Kathirgama Thannir Pandai. To prevent such fraud from continuing to be perpetrated it was necessary to form a society.

After some discussion it was unanimously resolved to establish a society for this purpose.

The following were elected as office bearers:—

President. Muhandiram M. Krishnar.

Vice President. Mr. A. Sithamparampillai.

Secretary. Mr. V. Chellathurai.

Treasurer. Mr. A. K. Navaratnam, Proctor.

Managing Committee: Mudaliar R. N. Sinniah, Messrs V. Veerasingham, T. Subramaniam, S. Sampanthamoorthy, S. Annamalai, R. Somasundram, A. Nagarathnam, S. Chelliah, E. Ramalingam, M. Arumugam, S. Karthigesu, V. Nagalingam and S. Sabaratnasinghe. Auditor. Mr. S. Sithamparamathan.

A sub committee was elected to frame rules.

It was resolved to authorise Mr. Sangarapillai Murugesu to collect subscriptions on behalf of the society and remit the same to the treasurer.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting concluded. (Cor.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1032
In the matter of the estate of the late
Kasamma wife of O Velupillai of
Karadivu West Deceased.
Canapathipillai Valupilai of Karadivu West Petitioner.

Vs.
1. Velupillai Canapathipillai of do and 2. Valupilai Supramaniam the 1st of whom is a minor by his Guardian-ad-litem the 2nd Respondent Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge on 5th June 1941 in the presence of Mr. E. Murgesampillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read: It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor 1st respondent for the purpose of protecting his interests and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the Petitioner as her lawful widow unless the abovenamed Respondents shall appear before this Court on 11th July 1941 and state objection to the contrary.

The 5th day of June 1941.
Sd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge.

(O. 18. 23 & 26-6-41)

North Lanka Rural Reconstruction Society

Election of Office-Bearers

A Self-Denial Fund Inaugurated

THE inaugural meeting of the North Lanka Rural Reconstruction Society was held in the Uduvil Village Committee Hall on Saturday, the 21st instant, at 4 p.m.

The proceedings commenced with the singing of the National Anthem. The delegates present at the function introduced themselves to the audience after the Dutch fashion.

Mr. S. Senathi Rajah, the Secretary, Youths' Social Service League and convenor of the meeting extended a welcome to those who had assembled there to inaugurate the North Lanka Rural Reconstruction Society.

Such a movement, he said, had been a long felt want. Tall talks in politics and communal wrangles had been dominating public life for the last several years. The real need of the peasant had been overlooked. It was high time that they bestirred themselves and faced the real issues that confronted them. The world war was coming near to their motherland and they had only 3 months' food supply. Unless they started in right earnest with an intensive food production drive they would be faced with a terrible famine. Ninety-nine per cent of the materials they used in their daily life, came from foreign countries. The spread of the war had resulted in the exorbitant rise in the prices of imported goods. No time was more opportune than the present to develop their national industries and build up their economic strength.

Up till now, individual organisations existed—some content with passing resolutions and celebrating Annual Conferences, others doing the bit they could. Individual organisations could do but little but when linked together could achieve much. Hence an All Jaffna Rural Reconstruction Society free from politics was a dire necessity. Then the speaker read the messages from Dr. S. C. Thuraiajah, M. O. H. Jaffna, Mr. V. Veerasingham, Principal, Manipal Hindu College, Mr. J. B. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, and Mr. C. Arulambalam, Advocate.

Mr. W. Ponnudurai, President, Uduvil R. R. S., was voted to the chair. The President urged the need for such a movement and called upon Mr. Darrel Pieris (Dayananda Piriyadarsi) President, All-Ceylon R. R. S., to speak.

Mr. Pieris traced the growth of the All-Ceylon Rural Reconstruction Society and gave a detailed account of the very useful work done by the Movement during the last ten years. He expressed his great pleasure at the formation of the all Jaffna R. R. S. which he said was "a pressing need."

A resolution formally inaugurating the Society known as the North Lanka Rural Reconstruction Society, was then passed.

The following office-bearers were elected:

NAGA POOSHANY AMMAL KOVIL OF NAINATIVU

Receiver Appointed by Court

The Hindoo Worshippers of Nainativu filed an action against the present Managers of this temple about three years ago for declaring the said Temple a Hindoo Charitable Trust in terms of Ordinance No. 9 of 1917 and for the settlement of a scheme of management of all the affairs of the temple. Several issues were framed and the District Judge of Jaffna heard the Case and postponed the trial for the 20th and 21st of August 1941.

In the meantime the plaintiffs filed an application for appointment of a receiver to collect the income of this temple during the ensuing Annual High Festivals which begin on the 29th June, 1941, and notice of this application was served on the defendants who objected to the appointment of a receiver. After hearing arguments by Counsels for the parties, the District Judge has appointed Mr. V. A. Duraiappah (Commissioner of Sales of the District Court) to collect all the incomes during the High Festivals of current year and to deposit all such collections at the Jaffna Kachcheri to the credit of this action. Commission has been accordingly issued and arrangements are being made to conduct High Festivals in this temple from 29th June for a period of ten days.

President:—Mr. W. Ponnudurai, Uduvil R. R. S.

Vice-Presidents:—The presidents of all the branch organisations.

Social Executive:—Mr. K. Navaratnam Central College.

Agricultural Executive:—Mr. M. Karthigesu, Principal, Kokuvil Hindu College.

Industrial Executive:—Mr. S. Senathi Rajah, Secretary, Youths' Social Service League.

General Secretary:—Rev. Selvaratnam, Christa Seva Ashram.

Women's Secretary:—Miss. Lee, Pandetharippu Bilingual School.

Unofficial Executive Committee Members:—Rev. J. S. Mather, and Messrs. S. H. Perinbanayaham, S. Rajaratnam, T. C. Rajaratnam and K. Nesaiah and the Principals of secondary schools and the General Managers of Schools.

Propaganda Board: The Editors of all the Jaffna Papers and the representatives of the out-station presses.

In conclusion the President paid a glowing tribute to the selfless services rendered by Mr. Darrel Pieris who had been chiefly responsible for the formation of this movement.

The proceedings ended with the singing of the National Anthem.

A Self-denial Fund

The nucleus of a Self-denial Fund was then collected among those present by Mr. Pieris.

Mr. Pieris appealed to all those present and through them to all others to contribute regularly to the Self-Denial Fund by forgoing some luxury or other in their daily life and passing on such saving to the Fund which would be used for the uplift of the country.

Gems in Ceylon

(Continued from page 3)

illam. This subject, however is attended with many difficulties because of the extensive fragmentation of the ground and divided ownership of the fields; hydraulic mining can have no chance of success under existing condition, for its operation can be effective only on continuous stretches of land or where co-operative union of land-holders enables a whole *deniya* or a tributary valley to be treated.

The heavy concentrations resulting from gem-washing (*nambuwa*) and rejected by the gemmers, contain at times minerals of the rare-earths, like fergusonite, allanite, gaskelite, thoranite, kornepine, &c. The Department is collecting the *nambuwas* from the different gemming centres and determining their contents by chemical and microscope tests.

Glass-sand

A parcel of a sample of quartz-sand collected from Marawila, Chilaw District, was sent to the Imperial Institute, London, testing whether the defect of the high percentage of the injurious iron (Mn) content of the sand could be economically overcome and the sand thereby rendered fit for the manufacture of the better grades of glass-ware. The experiments carried out at the institute on the sand have shown that it is possible by a combination of sieving and electro-magnetic separation, to prepare a glass sand fraction of high purity. The Imperial Institute has, with the permission of the Department, published these results in the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute, Vol. XXXVIII, September, 1940. Through grading and purification of the raw sand by the above treatment, it is possible to obtain a 52 per cent. fraction of the sand containing only 0.1 per cent. of iron-oxide. In the words of the Bulletin "the purified material, which constitutes more than 50 per cent. of the whole sand, compares favourably in respect of its iron content with the best glass-sands of commerce, and should be suitable for the manufacture of such special products as optical glass and high-grade crystals."

As a preliminary survey of quartz-sand deposits of only a few parts of the coastal areas has revealed quantities of several hundred million tons, the supply of this raw material for glass manufacture can be considered as practically inexhaustible for all local needs, allowing of a large surplus for export.

Graphite

The extension of the area of probable graphite-bearing rocks to the North-Central Province referred to in my last report has necessitated a change in the geological survey programme. One officer is to be deputed to this promising area next year together with a field collector for detailed mapping and prospecting.

Several applications for mining leases in the Kabitigollewa area have already been attracted and it is hoped that with facilities being given for active prospecting by small peasant land-holders in this district, the North-Central Province may be found to contain workable lodes of graphite concealed under the sub-recent and later alluvial accumulations.

The chief mining areas of plum-bago are, however, centered in the

MAVIDDAPURAM KANDASAMY KOVIL

Appointment of a Receiver

In the action filed by the Hindu Worshippers and others interested in the Maviddapuram Kandasamy Kovil, summons had been served on all the defendants who are the Brahmin Priests officiating in the said temple and who have obtained time to file answer till the 26th June, 1941.

In the meantime the plaintiffs have filed papers through their Proctor to have a Receiver appointed by Court to take charge of all the properties belonging to the said temple and to collect incomes of this temple from all sources and to prepare an inventory of all movables. Notice was allowed by court and had been issued for service on the defendants. Two of the defendants on whom the notices were reported by the Fiscal to have been served had obtained time till the 26th June, 1941, to file their objections. Notices on the other two defendants had been reissued and served on them returnable on the 26th June.

south-western half of the Island to which alone prospecting has been hitherto directed. In view of the industrial possibilities of graphite referred to in my report for 1939, detailed prospecting in the above ground by private agencies is strongly recommended.

Iron-ore

During the year work on examination and estimating the quantity of the widely scattered superficial abstractions of brown iron-ore was continued. A few more localities were added to those already known and the present estimate of workable ore occurring in accessible localities in the Western, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces may be taken as approximately five million tons. Deposits occurring in outlying parts are not taken into account. The ore is of uniform composition and structure, invariably a more or less cellular mixture of haematite and limonite, without clayey or other impurities and yielding about 47.51 per cent. of iron (60-75 per cent. of iron-oxides). The ore is essentially confined to the surface, even the larger *in situ* masses do not extend more than 8-10 feet below the ground surface, and its mode of occurrence suggests that a good part, though not all, of the ore-bodies is connected with the formation of the lateritic cap over the more basic rocks of the district.

Limestone

The suitability of the Jaffna limestone for cement manufacture has long been known, but besides cement and mortar, this limestone can be applied to other uses. In Ceylon, the soils of most parts are notoriously poor in lime content and the utilization of Jaffna limestone for the production of agricultural lime, especially for use in Southern and Eastern Provinces, where the lime-deficiency of the soil is marked needs to be examined by experiments in the fields.

THE INDIAN DRAMA

(Continued from page 1)

tradition there was a jester in the play; he tried to raise a laugh every time he opened his mouth. He tried to make us laugh, but failed miserably; nobody would even do so much as smile. In despair the poor jester turned to us and shouted: "Why don't you laugh, Sir? What is wrong with you today!" I don't remember what the audience replied to the question.

In the meantime, however, in Bombay the stage was struggling into some artistic shape. Perhaps Baliwala, the well-known actor, through his Urdu plays, was the first to create some kind of technique for the stage; not only in Bombay, but in most of the big cities in India. Many yet remember the fascination which his drama, Harishchandra, exercised over theatre-going public in India. Most of the plays which followed were cast in the same mould; they were adaptations of Shakespeare or melodramas of blood and passion. Technique which Baliwala thus evolved, however, was simply terrible. Everything was unnatural and hideous. I know very well the play Zari Sapa, The Venomous Serpent, staged about 1904. I must have seen it dozens of times in my college days. The powerful impression which that drama created on my mind is not yet forgotten. I then thought it wonderful. Nothing could have been more absurd.

Marathi Stage

Marathi stage in the beginning was very musical. Songs and nothing but songs, highly artistic and beautifully sung but very little acting and no action. But very soon the Marathi dramatic tradition outgrew this form. Today, I think, in Western India Marathi stage can claim fine dramas. Its historical and social plays have a sense of realism unequalled in the rest of India. For instance the plays of Prol. Atre are spicy, brilliant and witty comedies. Maharashtra has also built up a fine histrionic tradition.

I am not much familiar with the Bengali stage, but I have read their dramas. They do not seem to have outgrown long dialogues and slow moving action; elements

which destroy action, the soul of drama.

The Gujarati stage has inherited all the absurd paraphernalia required by the Baliwala technique. The drama of literature is different from the drama of the theatre, and both are losers. The stage is miserable; the drama in literature is more often than not a dramatic poem. I have had failure in life, but the worst was my attempt to give Gujarati drama the technique associated with Ibsen.

Munshi's Play

I have tried to present characters through action and dialogue. Some of my plays have enjoyed great popularity with amateurs. The Marathi actors recently made a great success of one. But the professional Gujarati stage won't touch them; and the Gujarati reader somehow refuses to invest as much in my plays as in my novels. Either I don't know how to write plays or they don't know how to appreciate them. But with the conceit of a literary man I prefer to believe that the fault is not at all mine.

But of all things pertaining to literature I love the drama. When I was eight years old I fell in love with the form of literature. With my little heart palpitating I laughed and loved and cried in sympathy with the little boys who paraded the stage as men and women on the crude Gujarati stage. I got by heart the songs and dialogues of the plays which fascinated me and I loved nothing more than the green room of the Indian theatre, that crude and dirty gallery behind the wings so characteristic of the Indian theatre, full of rushing men with strange dresses, false whiskers and boys half-dressed as women. There I found the atmosphere of a new mysterious world of dance and song and laughter, where men and women were kings and queens. When the drama was over—in those days they closed in the small hours of the morning—I went home and slept to dream of lovely forms, piquant situations of the clash of passions of heroes great and unyielding and loving. And even now at fifty to see a drama is for me to be transported with ecstatic delight and of the diverse forms of literature at which I have worked the drama alone has given me moments of creative frenzy which I cherish as the happiest of my life. (Roy's Weekly)

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