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THE THREAT TO THE SUEZ CANAL

INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES TO INVADERS

THE BRITISH NAVY AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

BY DAVID WATT

ONLY a few months ago—yet how long ago it now seems—there was much talk and speculation over a possible pincers movement by which Germany and Italy would between them reach the coveted land of Egypt and the Suez Canal, that great artery of the British Empire. Fortunately the Italian threat has now been effectively overcome, but it is still possible that Hitler may, like Napoleon, reach Suez on his own. Certainly as long as the British Navy controls the sea it is going to be quite impossible for him to consider any means of approach from the Libyan side. There only remains a possible road eastwards through Asiatic Turkey, and then down through Syria and Palestine.

The difficulties of such a march would appear to be almost insurmountable, but as the insurmountable is occasionally achieved in warfare it is of interest to consider the obstacles that do exist against its realisation.

Before it could be contemplated such a march would require an enormous amount of preparation and much damage to British sea and air power. We should, of course, have warning of such an offensive and even though we were seriously damaged both at sea and in the air there would still remain further obstacles to Hitler's march in the footsteps of Alexander.

Turkish Obstacles

The first obstacle to a march to Suez lies in Turkish Thrace where the Chataldja Lines, a most highly fortified zone, which cannot be outflanked except from the sea, would have to be overcome. After the Chataldja Lines would come the defences of the Dardanelles and the Straits of Bosphorus, both of

which, one may be sure, are now protected in a manner to meet the latest devices of mechanical warfare.

Were the Nazis to overcome successfully these obstacles they might then find themselves with a footing in Anatolia. Their hold there would be precarious unless they also at the same time obtained a certain command of the sea to prevent the Navy interfering with their movements. In Anatolia it is several hundred miles through mountainous and craggy country, supplied with few roads, and inhabited by a nomad population of strongly warlike instincts, before they could reach the border of Syria. Even before they reached this point they would have to overcome the great obstacle provided by the Taurus and Amanus Mountains. Then, again, there remains the British Navy and the Royal Air Force to be taken into account, for the Germans would always have an open flank. The lines of communication in such a march would be tremendous and the Nazis with their already enormous commitments in occupied territories would have a strain on their man-power which it is difficult to see them overcoming.

Syria, Graveyard of Military Reputations

Syria itself occupies a large area, but much the greater part is either desert or steppe and effectively Syria consists of a Mediterranean belt about fifty miles wide. It is this part of Syria, with its narrow productive coastline, backed by the wooded Lebanon mountains running north-west, together with the oasis of Damascus, which contains the population, cities and wealth of Syria. At the present time the military

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OUR INDIAN LETTER.

MAKING BRITISH INDIA KNOWN!

SIMPLE SOLUTION FOR PAKISTANITIS

(BY LANKA).

Madras,
21st June 1941.

ASSAILED by heart-searchings as to the possible opinion of America about the benefits and benevolence of British rule in India, which country is being advertised as fully backing the war for the preservation of Democracy, the British government have felt the need for some propaganda in America to explain to Uncle Sam Indian questions. Some months ago they were said to have engaged an Indian journalist in England to do the boosting business, and the High Commissioner for India in England, Sir Feroze Khan Noon, was also to undertake a propaganda tour, to assure Americans of the genuineness of British war aims and to counteract the criticism of British policy in India already made by Mrs. Kamaladevi and others. The High Commissioner's first effort has now been published in this country. Meanwhile the Indian government also had to do something towards the common effort, and so soon as Sir R. K. Shunmukham Chetty relinquished the Dewanship of Cochin State he was commissioned to lead a Purchasing Commission in America, as also incidentally to explain to Americans the situation in India. The choice of Mr. Chetty is brilliant, for he had distinguished himself as the personage that represented India at the Ottawa Conference and brought off the Ottawa Pact by which India engaged herself in a lot of Imperial Preference at her own expense. Mr. Ottawa Chetty, as he is known generally in this country, will make a good job of it.

The Eternal Differences

THE Talking Points furnished to British parliamentarians by the India Office to help them in propagandist lectures, mentioned the social difficulties in India among others as the cause of her inability to attain

Dominion Status. The religious differences between Hindus and Muslims and Sikhs were a case in point. That is also the strong point with Mr. Jinnah in his passion for Pakistan. "Hindus and Muslims could not rule jointly, as there was a great difference in their modes of living, dress and language", he has said so often.

A Growing Movement

How many Muslims are there in India? Till a few months ago the figure was 70 millions, then when Mr. Jinnah had got his Pakistan idea under way it rose suddenly to 90, and the Secretary of State of India made them "ninety-millions strong". It is a progressive movement, this Pakistan affair, and in very recent public speeches, the Muslim population has risen to 100 million. Here, then is a solution that is bound to come some time shortly, of the problem that has baffled leaders of both sides, and broken heads of the common people.

Blanky Blank!

INDIA'S enthusiasm for war effort has driven quite a lot of young men to the gates of the recruiting camps, but the imperfect knowledge of "colloquial English" among many of these well-intentioned folks has induced the authorities to engage local Europeans to teach them this *sine qua non* of successful war. When these fellows return home after the victory there will be some fun at home.

Sight Indeed!

So great has been the demand for admission to war-service that another restriction had to be enforced to prevent youngsters who wear glasses regularly from seeking places in the Flying Training Classes. It is an ordinary sight in India for young

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1941

RUSSIAN WAR

THE INVASION OF RUSSIA BY Germany in traditional Nazi fashion, without the offer of any ultimatum or declaration of war, is an unprovoked act of aggression against a friendly state with which she had entered into a Non-Aggression Pact. M. Molotov avers that Soviet Russia has scrupulously observed the terms of the Pact. In justification of his aggression Hitler only adduces vague allegations of unfriendly moves, dark designs, and secret understandings with Britain, which are all categorically denied both by London and Moscow. It may be that mutual suspicions, fears and competitions were developing behind the scenes. The fact is that Nazism and Communism have ever been uneasy bedfellows under the Non-Aggression Pact. How far Hitler's action has been dictated by a mere lust for dominion in fulfilment of the ideals set forth in Mein Kampf and how far by the exigencies of a war situation which offers no prospect of an early solution, we cannot say for certain. The difficulties of the Egyptian campaign along with the tension with the U. S. A. indicated a protracted war for which he is economically unprepared. The seizure of Ukraine and the Caucasus would make Germany economically self-contained for a long war. Side by side with this economic necessity another motive might have operated in Hitler's mind. A time may soon come when Britain would be in a position to take the offensive both in the air and on land. Then the Soviet might stab Germany in the dark and try to set up communism there. Now that Hitler has his hands comparatively free as regards the West he can safely concentrate his strength on Russia and, having crushed her, might avoid a war on two fronts. These considerations cannot palliate, much less excuse, the enormity of the crime which he has committed.

As to the probable course of the war that is now raging on the Eastern frontier, and its ultimate issue, it is too early as yet to predict with any degree of certainty. The war has continued for just a week and the Russians have held out except in the North where they have been compelled to withdraw to prepared positions. The greater efficiency of the German military machine should enable

Hitler to gain some successes and to capture considerable territory. But we see no possibility of his overrunning all Russia or of liquidating the war before winter. Russian resources in men and machinery are so vast that the Russian forces can always withdraw to the interior without asking for an armistice, and be harassing the German army. It is doubtful if Hitler can gain his objective of seizing the Ukraine and the Caucasus this summer. Even then he has to maintain a large force on the Eastern frontier to guard against Russian guerilla warfare. That is a possibility which he could not have bargained for at first.

Taking advantage of Hitler's pre-occupation with Russia, Britain has already assumed the air offensive. Both occupied France and Germany are receiving the serious attention of the R. A. F. day and night. If the attacks are pressed home so continually, they will have the effect of crippling Germany's war industry in some measure and will also go some way to relieve the pressure on Russia. Whatever be the outcome of the Russian campaign, it will so tax the resources of Germany in men and material that Britain will be in a better position to assume the offensive and invade Europe at the conclusion of the Russian campaign, if not much earlier. It will also give Britain a breathing space during which she can increase her military strength and score some successes in Libya.

DETENUES GIVE UP HUNGER STRIKE

Satisfactory Assurances

Kanday, Saturday.

Two bottles of malted milk were sent yesterday, by the caterer to the Sama Samaja detenues in the military prison yesterday. It is believed that they were intended for Mr. Edmund Samarakkody who had been reduced to the condition of an invalid as a result of his experiment in hunger-striking.

Yesterday evening it was announced that the detenues, as a result of certain satisfactory assurances received by them, the character of which has not been divulged, would discontinue their hungerstrike as from this morning.

Kokuvil Hindu College Prize-Giving

The prize-giving at the Kokuvil Hindu College will take place next Friday, the 4th proximo, at 6 p.m. Mr. C. Suntheralingam will preside, and Mrs. C. Coomaraswamy will give away the prizes. The programme includes speeches by Mr. R. S. D. Williams, Principal, Jaffna Central College, and A. Tigar A. Naganathan.

German "Successes" To Be Announced

Russian Claims

London, Saturday.

The German High Command communique today announces "News of our great successes in the Eastern theatre will be the subject of a special announcement tomorrow."

A press report from Helsinki says that Finnish artillery have begun to bombard the Russian defences of Hango, the Finnish port leased to Russia last year.

Stockholm cables that German troops from Norway are marching across northern Finland to attack the Soviet port of Murmansk, according to reports from Berlin. German planes have taken off to bomb the Kola peninsula where the Russian air force is reported to have built underground hangars.

In a communique broadcast from Moscow today the Russian Information Board states:—"One of our cavalry divisions completely annihilated the sixth regiment of the enemy which had made attempts to cross the river Pruth. Following a battle on the banks of the river Danube three hundred more prisoners have been captured."

GERMAN "PEACE OFFER"

London Denies False Rumours

London, Saturday.

A statement issued by the official German news agency states that the report in which Herr Von Papen is said to have made a peace offer to the British Ambassador at Ankara is pure invention, according to the Wilhelmstrasse.

The report that Herr von Papen, German Ambassador in Ankara, has demanded a passage for German troops through Turkey to attack British forces in Syria finds no confirmation in informed quarters in London, says Reuter's diplomatic correspondent.

Reports from Ankara stating that the British Government has granted permission for the evacuation through Turkey of Vichy French troops now fighting in Syria, are not confirmed in informed quarters in London, learns Reuter's diplomatic correspondent. It is understood that the Turkish Government has not yet even been asked for this permission and it is observed that Vichy troops are still resisting stubbornly.

JAPAN STILL CONFERS

Questions re Russo-German War

Tokyo, Saturday.

The Japanese Government is still conferring with the Defence chiefs on "important outstanding questions." These conferences have been proceeding for the past few days, following the outbreak of the Russo-German war. There was another conference this afternoon which was attended by the Premier, Prince Konoye; the Home Minister, Baron Hiranuma; the War Minister, Lieutenant General Tojo; the Navy Minister, Admiral Dikawa; and the chiefs of staff of the Army and the Navy.

SIDE LIGHTS AND LIGHT SIDES

(By Squint Eye)

Clothes-rationing in England need not have raised many problems. For a good many years the feminine section have seen to it that clothes were reduced to the minimum; and that their figures also slimmed correspondingly. The grumblers then were the drapers who always had an eye on yardage.

Now, that reminds me of the story of a medical missionary lady of rather large circumference, who tried to inculcate ideas of health among Londoners at a Hyde Park oration. Indicating rough and ready methods of determining the proportions of the healthy body she recited some telling rhymes, Twice round your little finger once round your thumb, twice round your thumb once round your wrist, etc. etc. She did not proceed much farther when a bored individual from the fringe raised his voice and interrupted her. "Twice round your waist once round Hyde Park."

The Printer's Devil played a scurvy trick with me last time. Homeopathy had better invest in lipstick and rouge, I said in comment on a bit of news I had picked somewhere. That bit got torpedoed in transit, and the comment went through. Perhaps I must repeat what the bit of news was. A conference in India of homeopathic doctors had complained that the reason for their 'pathy' not making much progress was that it had no "glamour." And that's that.

President Roosevelt has appointed Mr. Harlan F. Stone of New York as Chief Justice.

The yankees can now have sermons from stone.

Mr. Eden told the House of Commons the other day that women would be now admitted in the Foreign Office and diplomatic and consular services.

With women in the garden of Eden, well:

Turkish papers had said that the late German battleship 'Bismarck' was the last word in German naval technique.

We hope it will be.

After the 'Bismarck' hunt it was truly said that Britain rules the seas.

And shortly Nazis will cease to rule.

EARTH TREMORS IN CEYLON

Colombo, Friday.

Earth tremors were felt in several parts of Ceylon yesterday evening. From information available so far it appears that they were the result of a shock about 1,500 miles away from Ceylon.

The seismograph at the Colombo Observatory recorded the preliminary waves about 5.25 p.m. Owing to the indistinctness of the latter part of the trace the precise time of the other phases cannot be given.

An earthquake of "intense severity" was recorded at the Dominion observatory at Ottawa yesterday. The location may be Japan.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF A UNIVERSITY

NOT TO STUDENTS
BUT TO THE COMMUNITY

DR. I. V. JENNINGS
VIEWS

Colombo Saturday.

IT is apt to be forgotten that the primary responsibility of a university is not towards its students but to the community," said Dr. Ivor Jennings, Principal of the University College, yesterday, at a social which preceded the 21st annual general meeting, or what was described as the coming of age of the Colombo Teachers' Association.

Of course, they were concerned with careers, at least with education for careers, said Dr. Jennings, but whereas the parent thought primarily of the interest of his own son, the university had to think primarily of the interest of the community.

A state would not flourish unless it had every year a number of academically qualified citizens, and so the state or public-spirited citizens heavily subsidised university education.

It was true that students paid fees. The principle of that, he thought, was wrong. They offered service in the interests of the community and therefore the community should pay. Where fees were charged the selection of a student who ought to be educated in the interest of the state was made on a totally irrelevant basis—the wealth of the parent.

Dr. Jennings said that he was not suggesting that it was possible, as a practicable proposal, to abolish fees at any time that he could foresee. He would only say that in an ideal community there would be no fees.

Ceylon went a very long way towards the ideal because leaving aside heavy capital expenditure, the student's fee was only about one-fifth of the cost of educating him. Therefore, they were not offering university education, like a shop, at a price or for a price.

Fair Compromise

In order to remedy the worst defects of the fee system, scholarship and free studentships were provided. The result was not ideal but it was a fair compromise. Once it was understood that the primary duty of a university was to the community, a great many problems became somewhat easier of solution.

The university, acting on behalf of the state, he said, must be able to determine how many students should be admitted on the basis of their academic ability and not on any other basis whatever.

That did not mean that every student who passed the matriculation should be admitted. It meant that every child, if possessed of the proper ability, should have an opportunity of reaching the university.

It was unfortunate that in most countries academic ability was treated higher than other abilities. In Ceylon that was specially so. The result was that students with high material abilities of another kind were

USE OF FLAGS IN ELECTIONS

Discontinuance
Decided Upon

The State Council on Thursday considered in Committee the recommendations of the Select Committee on Election Law and Procedure. The recommendations relating to tendered ballot papers and agents were approved.

The recommendation of Mr. F. C. Gimson to discontinue the use of flags was approved as was also the recommendation that there should be no compulsory voting.

The recommendations of the Select Committee on treating and bribery and to make the publication of any advertisement, handbill to any election without the name and address of the printer on the face of it a corrupt practice, were approved.

Other recommendations of the Select Committee on conveyance of voters, election expenses, hearing of election petitions, election petition rules and the disqualification of candidates on the ground of contracts with the Government were also approved.

pressed through the same narrow passage as other students. It was the duty of the parent to study his children and fit them to their natural ability.

Nuffield and Churchill

He asserted emphatically that one kind of ability—that of a skilled worker, for instance—was as good as another. He was not entitled to look down on Lord Nuffield because he (Dr. Jennings) graduated from Cambridge and Lord Nuffield from a bicycle shop. He was not entitled to give himself airs before Mr. Winston Churchill because he had five degrees and Mr. Churchill had none. A man was judged by what he was and not by the letters after his name.

It seemed to him that at present the educational system of Ceylon did not allow every child with the necessary measure of academic ability to proceed to university education. If the people in the towns of the Island were intrinsically more able, in the academic sense, than the lads and lasses of the village, then this must be a peculiar country. The general experience as between town and country was that the town people were quicker and more superficial and the villagers slower and sounder.

Talking of language, Dr. Jennings said that educationally a child ought first to be taught in his mother tongue—not necessarily the language of his race but the language in which his mother spoke to him.

Mr. C. Santheralingam said that they must not restrict the number entering the university. If they applied the normal test to find out the capacity of students to follow a university education, they would find that there was no reason to refuse them a university education.

If they followed the Indian example, he had not the slightest doubt that their unemployed and unwanted graduates would fit themselves in other jobs, jobs which were now in the hands of non-Ceylonese.

Economy in Use of Paper

Controller's Advice to Firms & Schools

A circular advising economy in the use of paper has been issued by the Controller of Imports, Exports, and Exchange, Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, to the Chamber of Commerce and to the leading firms.

The Controller points out that owing to the need for conserving exchange, shipping space and productive capacity it is essential that the consumption of paper in Ceylon should be drastically cut down. Much can be achieved in a voluntary way by the public responding to the Controller's advice.

Retail shops, for instance, can, he says, refrain from wrapping with paper articles which can be handed or delivered to customers, such as goods packed in cartons, tins, boxes, or articles such as periodicals and books.

In suitable cases bulk packing of articles should be substituted for individual packing, and customers should be encouraged to bring bags or baskets to remove their purchases.

The Controller suggests the discontinuance or the curtailment of catalogues and sale lists, and that advertisement posters be reduced to a minimum, both from the point of view of size and of the numbers distributed.

Letters and invoices should be sent on small sheets, and envelopes should be saved wherever possible.

The necessity for such economies should be, he emphasises, politely explained to customers and their co-operation invited.

The Controller has also written to the Ministry of Education, advising the economising of paper of schools.

REGISTRATION OF EUROPEANS

Regulations
Gazetted

Regulations made by the Governor, under the provisions of the Defence Force Ordinance, for the registration of male Europeans for the purpose of deciding to whom compulsory military service within The Island should apply were published in last Friday's Gazette.

As stated in a brief communique issued by the Chief Secretary's Department on Thursday, the regulations prescribe that:—

(1) Every male European who, on the date on which these rules are published in the Gazette, has completed a period of three months' residence in Ceylon shall, within seven days from that date, furnish to the Chief Secretary particulars relating to the matters enumerated in the Schedule hereto on such form as may be provided for the purpose by the Chief Secretary and;

(2) Every male European who, after the date on which these rules are published in the Gazette, completes a period of three months' residence in Ceylon shall, within seven days from the date of such completion, furnish to the Chief Secretary particulars relating to the matters enumerated in the Schedule hereto on such form as may be provided for the purpose by the Chief Secretary.

In the case of a male European who is under fifteen years of age his parent or guardian is required to furnish the necessary particulars,

THE IMMIGRATION BILL

UNDERSTANDINGS AND OBLIGATIONS

NEED FOR PROTECTION OF ACQUIRED INTERESTS

Colombo, Friday.

STANDING Committee A of the State Council now considering the Immigration and Registration Bills discussed yesterday the question of the undertakings and understandings. The bills will be further considered on a later date.

On a previous day an interesting point was raised by Mr. L. M. D. de Silva K.C. who argued the point of view of the European Association in regard to the right of entry into the Island. He submitted that any scheme by which persons who had been allowed to acquire interests were told that they would not be given the ordinary facilities to protect those interests was in the nature of a trap which, he hoped, the State Council would not countenance.

Elementary Facilities

He submitted, in relation to the bills, that the sum-total conduct between the persons who had been resident in the island and had acquired interests, on the one side, and Ceylon, on the other side, apart from any undertakings expressed, was that elementary facilities would be afforded for the protection of those interests, or property, or whatever else it might be.

Those people had come here and had acquired property, employment or business, and it was essentially unfair for them to be told now that one of the most necessary needs for the protection of that property would be denied them or be restricted.

Mr. J. C. W. Rock, retired Civil Servant, told the Committee that his position and that of others who had come to Ceylon under certain conditions had been considerably worsened because the provision of a regulation restricting the eligibility to the Civil Service to Asiatic and Europeans had prevented not only his son, but also several other non-Ceylonese from competing for the Civil Service and other posts in Ceylon.

Not Even the Police

His son could not even enter the Police. It was quite legitimate now to pass legislation to enforce that disqualification in future but for persons already resident in Ceylon it would be only worsening the status quo as regards the children of those persons.

Mr. Rock stated that the law in Ceylon had been more than once altered since his arrival in respect of franchise qualifications. Some years ago his children would have been reckoned as "B. Class Dutch Burghers," but since then rules had been introduced disqualifying them from true privileges of Ceylonese citizenship. He would gain nothing by this, but he thought some indication was necessary as to who would be regarded as Ceylonese and whether it would be possible for a man who would be regarded as non-Ceylonese to become a national. In these days when so much nationalism and racialism was about, it was extremely difficult unless one could prove one was 100 per cent. Ceylonese or 100 per cent. German.

SALT AS BASE OF MANY INDUSTRIES

NEED FOR DEVELOPING PRODUCTION

CAPABLE OF CREATING AN EXPORT MARKET

THE sea as everybody knows is a vast storehouse of chemicals and from common salt as a base spring vast industries such as the manufacture of caustic soda, chlorine etc., says Mr. C. E. Foenander, Salt Adviser, in his Administration Report for 1940.

Ceylon's salt resources, if properly developed, are capable of producing over 50,000 tons more for an export market. The harvest of 1940 was not very satisfactory, but as the large stocks in the country were becoming a source of embarrassment the shortfall was welcome.

"The stocks on December 31st, 1940, amounted to 1,891,288 cwt., or two and a half years' consumption supply."

Referring to the special price of one rupee per cwt to fish curers Mr. Foenander states that the privilege is being abused. A suggestion made at the Government Agent's conference that salt should be issued at the usual rate and a rebate given on the dried product was accepted.

"The sea as everybody knows is a vast storehouse, of chemicals and from common salt as a base spring vast industries such as the manufacture of caustic soda, chlorine, bleaching powder, hydrochloric acid, magnesium sulphate, chloride, oxide, oxy-chloride sodium carbonate, sodium sulphate, bi-carbonate, bromides, muriate of potash and others too numerous to mention, states Mr. Foenander.

"The manufacture of soap in large quantities has been started in Ceylon by Messrs. Lever Bros. (Ceylon) Ltd. and Messrs. the British Ceylon Corporation, and both these firms are purchasing salt from the Government Saltern at Palavi for use in soap manufacture. The quantities purchased during 1940 were as follows:—For soap making, 4,123 cwt., curing hides and skins, 6,000 cwt., dyeing, coir fibre, 80 cwt.; manurial purposes, 793 cwt.—Total 10,996 cwt.

"The imports of caustic soda, chlorine, washing soda and other chemicals are increasing and muriate of potash largely used as a manure is difficult to obtain. There is every reason therefore why Ceylon should in the near future be producing some of these chemicals if not all.

"Ceylon table salt in palmyrah packets at half the price of the imported product is now available and is being very successfully marketed by the Marketing Department. School chalk for which there is a demand of over 6,000 gross boxes, will shortly follow. Ceylon-made rock salt is being consumed by the police horses and the cattle of the Agricultural Department. The Railway is using it in their cement wash."

"A report called for from a chemical expert in London recommended by the Imperial Institute is overdue by a year. The war of course has upset normal conditions and the machinery re-

The Threat to the Suez Canal

(Continued from page 1)

position of Syria may be uncertain, but it is quite certain that if a Nazi invasion was to take place the Arab population would rise up in its full power to repulse it. We, on our part, would not only be able to attack from the south against the advancing Nazi hordes, but from our air and naval base at Cyprus should be able to offer more opposition.

Nowhere else in the world has so much history run into or through so narrow a space as in Syria. All the world's conquerors have gone through it from Thothmes to Tamerlane and Napoleon. It has also been the graveyard of many military reputations. If this was so in the past how much more different would it be today with the advent of our air and sea power. In addition, the powerful military strength of an Arab bloc would be brought into play. The Muslim world has no use at all for Totalitarian pretensions.

Palestine Plateau and the Suez Desert

Beyond Syria lies Palestine. It is made up of coastal plain a hundred miles long and fifteen miles wide, the interior plain of Esdraelon, the plateau of Samaria and Judaea and the Jordan depression. Relatively to the steppes and deserts of Arabia, Palestine is well-favoured by Nature and although it enjoys hot summers, mild winters, the rainfall is irregular. Large parts of the Samaritan and Judean plateaux, especially on their eastern slopes, are dry and barren wastes. Any German advance would have to be along the coast-line. Here once more our sea and air forces could effectively operate.

Beyond Palestine lies desert before Suez and Egypt could be reached.

The fact of the matter is that German dreams and the actual realities of reaching Suez are poles apart. Even were the Nazis to secure great success in the Balkans and even in parts of Turkey they would avail her little in any ultimate objective such as Suez until she was able to master British sea power in the Mediterranean.

It is very easy to talk of pincer strategy in the Middle East. It is also easy to conjure up horrific plans of what might happen. It is better, however, to stick to facts as they actually exist and not to imagine that the Nazi armies are so miraculously endowed that they are unconquerable. It would, indeed, be, nothing less than a miracle were the Germans to carry through an eastward march to the Middle East. It is a miracle which is not likely to occur.

(Rays weekly)

quired for special processes may not be available till the war is over, but necessity is the mother of invention and I have already designed plant and machines which can be built locally, and devised methods which will give the desired results."

Founder's Day at Mahajana English School

Importance of Religion Stressed

The Tellippalai Mahajana English High School celebrated her Founder's Day with great enthusiasm on Tuesday, the 24th inst. The programme started at 10 a. m. with Poojab and Memorial Service at which Mr. K. Sri Sundaramoorthy, Manager, Sir Kanagasabai Vidyasalai, and Mr. K. S. Kanagarayer, Proctor S. C. spoke of the great service rendered by the late Mr. T. A. Thuraiappahpillai to the cause of Hindu Education. Light refreshments were served to all those present. This was followed by a musical entertainment by the students of the school.

The evening programme commenced with a friendly Volley Ball match between the past students and the present. The game ended in a victory for the latter. An exhibition game in 'hatchie' next followed. This drew a large crowd and was much appreciated.

The most important item of the day was a public meeting held in the tastefully decorated school hall presided over by Mr. M. Prasad, C.C. S. Government Agent, Northern Province. Mr. Prasad and Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, and the speaker of the evening, were received at the gate by Mr. C. Arulambalam, the Manager, and Mr. K. Chinnappab, the Head master.

The scouts of the school presented a guard-of-honour. The meeting, which was largely attended commenced at 6.30 p. m. with Thevaram. Associated with the chairman on the platform were Messrs. A. J. R. Vethavanam and C. Arulambalam. Welcome songs, one in Tamil and the other in English, were rendered by the students of the school. These were followed by a recitation by two students and a scene in English entitled "The Pudding Pan" by the students of the Primary Department. A scene in Tamil from "Jeevaka Chintamani", specially dramatised for the occasion, was also presented by the students. Cups presented on the results of the Inter-House competitions in 1940 were then given away by the chairman.

Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, in an inspiring address to the parents, exhorted them to keep in mind the ideals for which the school was founded, and to co-operate with the school in the task of educating their children. He told them that they should not insist on book-learning. The right attitude should be developed, he said, to extra curricular activities and to religious education.

The chairman, in his remarks, said that he was happy to be associated with the Founder's Day Celebration of the school. He paid a tribute to the Manager of the school, whom he esteemed highly for his sincerity, ability and service. He touched on the varied activities and successes of the school and urged on those present to help the institution and see that it grew from strength to strength. He also stressed on the importance of religious ins-

THE NAYANMAKULAM

POND SACRED TO HINDUS

BY-LAWS TO RESTRICT ITS USE

Mr. C. Ponnambalam will move the following motion, which is of great interest to the Hindus, at the next monthly meeting of the Urban Council.

"That as the Nayanmakulam situated in Ward No. 4 has been a pond sacred to the Hindus and used for Theertham and other Hindu ceremonies from time immemorial and was being used as such until recently when those who do not according to Hindu usage and custom enter Hindu temples in Jaffna started using the pond, this Council do frame by-laws restricting the use of the pond for bathing and other purposes, by only persons who according to Hindu Customs and usage are allowed to enter Hindu temples in Jaffna."

It will be remembered that a public meeting was held in October 1939 under the chairmanship of Atikar Naganathan at the bund of the tank where it was decided that steps should be taken to restore the tank as it was built by the ancient Tamil kings of Jaffna and sacred to the Hindus. The then Government Agent, Mr. E. T. Dyson, was present at the meeting and promised full support for the objects of the meeting. A committee was appointed to take the necessary steps in the matter. Since then a new road along the bund of the tank has been opened up and the Urban Council has been clearing all the bushes on the bunds and has also improved the tank by erecting steps. It was being used for ceremonies for the deity of the Pillaiar Temple situated in the eastern bund of the tank. Pilgrims to the Nallur Kandaswamy temple also used to bathe in this tank. But about two years ago all classes of people contrary to the customs of the Hindus started using the tank for all purposes. A mass petition was sent to the chairman last December and after holding an inquiry the Chairman ordered on 21st December 1940 that only those who according to Hindu usage and custom allowed to enter the temples should use the tank and not any others. Although the public were informed of this by beat of tom-tom the order has not been observed. Hence it has become necessary that by-laws should be framed to enforce the order of the Chairman.

(Cor.)

struction, and the teaching of Sinhalese, both of which were receiving due attention at the Mahajana School. He wished the institution all prosperity. Mr. Prasad's remarks were interpreted by Mr. S. K. Appadurai, the Kachcheri Mudaliar.

With a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Advocate, C. Vanniasingam, an old boy, the meeting terminated with Thevaram at 8.45 p.m.

(Cor.)

An Ancient Vihara

Ruins in Heart of Jungle

Archaeological find of considerable historical importance are expected to be revealed as a result of the investigations, which have just been started by the Archaeological Department, of the ruins of one of the most ancient Buddhist shrines in Ceylon, the Mandalagiri or Madirigiriya Vihara, in the heart of the Tamankaduwa District.

It was to this famous shrine that Gaja Bahu II went after his defeat by his cousin, Prakrama Bahu I, and it was here that the treaty between the two sovereigns was inscribed on a stone in the Vihara.

Unique Features

Even today, in spite of the passage of time and the growth of jungle, the shrine presents many unique features.

It possesses the only Watadage in Ceylon which has so many granite pillars still standing erect. Even at the Thuparamaya, in Anuradhapura, the number of such pillars is not so large.

On a few of the bricks in the fragmentary heaps of stone, which are left, masons' marks have been discovered. These have been found to be Brahmi characters of a pre-Christian era suggesting the ancient origin of the first Vihara built on this site.

Apart from the Watadage, there are also the ruins here of a monastery as well as of a hospital.

Preparations for Excavations

A number of workmen of the Archaeological Department are now busily engaged at the spot clearing the jungle, cleaning the interior of the Watadage and constructing a balustrade.

This is all work for the conservation of the site preliminary to the excavations that are hoped to be carried out as funds permit. Estimates for the excavation work have been prepared and are to be included in the Budget for the next financial year.

Bench Transfers

Mr. C. Nagalingam, Additional District Judge, Colombo, will be District Judge of Kandy as from July 1st, Mr. Waldo Sansoni, D. J. of Kandy, coming to Colombo.

Mr. L. W. de Silva, Advocate of Galle, who acted recently as D. J. of Tangalle, will act as D. J. of Kalutara, from July 1st, following the transfer to Colombo as Additional District Judge of Mr. James Joseph.

The following transfers will take effect on August 1st:—

Mr. V. Joseph, D. J., Kurunegala to be D. J., Kalutara.

Mr. H. A. de Silva, D. J., Kegalle to be D. J., Kurunegala.

Mr. B. R. Selvadurai, D. J., Badulla, to be D. J., Kegalle.

Mr. R. R. Crossette Tambiah, Crown Counsel, to act as D. J., Badulla.

Mr. H. S. Roberts, D. J., Nuwara Eliya, to be D. J., Tangalle, and Mr. W. Olegasagaram, D. J., Tangalle, to be D. J., Nuwara Eliya.

FORMER FRENCH C-in-C ESCAPES

Police Search for Gamelin

London, Saturday.

General Gamelin, the former French Commander-in-Chief, escaped from prison at Bourraso yesterday, according to a Vichy dispatch broadcast by the German Transocean News Agency. His escape, says the Agency, was announced in Vichy today.

An announcement from Berlin stated that the National Security Police throughout France were searching for General Gamelin and that two people had been arrested at Clermont Ferrand for conspiring at his escape.

General Gamelin, who is 68, was arrested last September by order of Marshal Petain with other leading figures of the former regime, including M. Daladier, M. Reynaud and M. Blum, on a charge "of conducting activities contrary to the interests of the State."

SOCIALIST CONSPIRACY IN U. S. A.

Criminal Proceedings Ordered

Washington, Saturday.

The Acting United States Attorney-General, Mr. Biddle, announced yesterday that he had authorised criminal proceedings against leaders of the Socialist Workers' Party in Saint Paul, Minnesota, on charges of seditious conspiracy and advocating "the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force and violence."

Evidence, he said, had resulted from "intensive investigations" of agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the past year. This development follows raids by G-men in the headquarters of the Socialist Workers' Party in the twin cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. G-men are said to have seized "records of propaganda and other material."

Why Germany Withholds Reports

Berlin, Saturday.

The German High Command continues to withhold its reports on the fighting on the Eastern Front and thus give no information to Russia on the situation that is obviously unfavourable to the Soviet, declares the official German News Agency.

It is evident, adds the Agency, that operations in the East are proceeding according to plan for the Germans.

It is considered that the entrance of Hungary has completed the front against Russia. The Soviet forces are now contained on the Hungarian-Carpathian frontier and there is also a threat to the Soviet flank in the struggle developing around Lwow.

The Chief of the Swedish Navy has announced that Swedish waters east of the southern area of Oeland have been mined in order to facilitate the work of the Swedish, neutrality patrol, says the official German News Agency. Shipping is ordered to obey minutely the regulations of navigation of these waters which will be given by patrolling craft.

KOKUVIL HINDU COLLEGE

Inter-House Athletic Meet

The Kokuvil Hindu College Inter-house Athletic Meet was concluded on Saturday last. The three houses into which the College is divided showed great enthusiasm and had spared no effort in decorating their new ground and entertaining the visitors of whom a large gathering was present.

Chelliah House were champions with 70 points. Sabapathy House and Sabaratnam House scored 52 and 31 points respectively. S. Nagalingam of Chelliah House was senior champion with 13 points. R. Navaratnam of Chelliah House and A. Thirunavukarasu of Sabapathy House tied for the Intermediate Championship scoring 10 pts. each.

There was even greater competition in the Junior Championship, three competitors, S. Somasegaram and M. Sivasubramaniam of Chelliah House and E. Panchalingam of Sabapathy House, each getting 7 points.

Lands at Minneriya

Small plots of lands, 5 acres for paddy and 2½ acres for permanent crops—both irrigable are available at Minneriya to be given out to the passed out students of Farm School only. All possible assistance will be given to them.

Those who are willing to take lands, please send in your applications to reach me on or before the 2nd July, 1941.

S. C. GUNARATNAM,
Head Master,
Farm School, Jaffna.

Obituary

MRS. S. M. KANDIAH

We regret to record the death of Srimathy Sellamuttu, relict of the late Mr. S. M. Kandiah and mother of Mr. K. Ganeshaprapu, of the Medical Department, which took place on the 27th inst. at "Ananda Vasa," Neeraviady, the residence of her brother, Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Proctor S. C. and member, Jaffna Urban Council. The funeral took place the same evening and was largely attended. The remains were cremated at the Kompayanmanal crematorium.

MR. S. ARUMUGAM

The death occurred at Kaitadi on Wednesday, the 18th June 1941, of Mr. S. Arumugam, Landed Proprietor and Manager of Kayattasiddi Kandasamy Kovil in his 73rd year after a brief illness. He leaves behind four sons, Messrs. A. Suppiah, Landed Proprietor, Kaitadi, A. Navaratna Rajah of the office of the Divisional Superintendent of Post Offices, Kandy, A. Thampoe of the Transportation Supdt's Office Nawalapitya and A. Kandiah of Kopay sub Post Office and V. C. member Kaitadi, and two daughters Mrs. P. Subramaniam, Mrs. K. Selvarajah, besides a number of grand children and other relations.

The funeral took place on 19.6.41 and was largely attended. The remains were borne in a palanquin by Kovias from the entire village and cremated in the family crematorium at Kaitadi North, the eldest son setting fire to the pyre.

The poor were fed on 22.6.41 in remembrance of the deceased.

(Cor.)

Kayts Maha Jana Sabha

Stormy Inaugural Meeting

Cat-calls and other interruptions marked the proceedings of the inaugural meeting of an association called the Kayts Mahajana Sabha held in the Sivagurunatha Vidyasalai Hall, Karampan, on the 22nd inst. with Mr. V. Arasaratnam, retired officer of the Forest Department, in the chair.

Several members of the audience which consisted of about 80 persons including school children rose to object to several irregularities regarding the enrolment of members, the election of office-bearers etc. etc.

Finding that their objection were unavailing because the chairman ruled them out, a part of the audience walked out in protest.

While these people were staging a walk-out the President repeatedly called for order. Finding his efforts to preserve order unavailing, certain sections of the audience that remained called for order.

A resolution urging that steps be taken in view of the general discontent against the D. M. O., Kayts, was proposed by Mr. N. P. Ramalingam and seconded by Mr. N. Kandaiah. Stray objection was raised by the audience who expressed their displeasure by creating a pandemonium.

As a concession to the stray objections raised Mr. Sivapatham the Secretary proposed that no reference should be made to the higher authorities but the Doctor be communicated with personally.

Mr. S. T. Benjamin, teacher, intervening said that sensible and educated people would first weigh matters carefully before taking any action. (interruptions) As the President was unable to control the audience the speaker could not regard this as a proper meeting. With reference to what they said of the D. M. O. they only maintained that they had been told certain things about him.

There were interruptions at this stage. He asked for a herring. The President also repeatedly called for order. (Calls of "enough" "get out" "clear out"). At this stage the local manager of the school, Mr. S. Sabapathipillai, threatened to stop proceedings by asking them to leave. The President then got up and exclaimed, "how can a human being preside over a meeting of...!"

This was followed by wild disorder and the meeting terminated.

(Cor.)

Additional Magistrate Jaffna

Mr. R. R. Nalliah has been appointed to be Additional Magistrate and Additional Commissioner of Requests, Jaffna, Mallakam and Kayts and Additional District Judge, Jaffna, during the absence of Mr. T. Quentin Fernando, from June 28 to July 2.

Personal

It is learnt that Sir Baron Jayatilake, Minister for Home Affairs, will be in Jaffna towards the middle of next month.

Auction Sale

D. G. J. 15710

Muttucumaru Canagaratnam of Vannarponnai west

Vs.

1. Haribux Jayadevoor
2. Haribux Bajarangalal and
3. Haribux Rangalal of Grand Bazaar Jaffna
4. Haribux Narmal Moorthyilal
5. Ramasamy Subramaniam
6. Rajaratnam Nalliah
7. Kathiravelu Chittampalam and wife
8. Kamalambikai
9. Payalambikai daughter of R. Subramaniam

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All that undivided one half share in common out of all that coconut estate commonly known as East Ariyalai Estate with spontaneous and cultivated plants, houses, sheds, well and other appurtenances containing in extent (238 acres and 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ perches and situated at Ariyalai in Chivatharu in the parish of Chundiculy in the Division and District of Jaffna and bounded on the East by the property of Moothathamby Thamotharampillai and others, on the North by the property of the heirs of the late Eliathamby Kanapathipillai and others, on the West by lane and by the property of Velupillai Sinnathamby and others and on the South by the property of Velupillai Sinnathamby and of others and by Crown land.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna in Case No. 15710. I shall sell the above property by public auction on Wednesday 30th July 1941, at about 4 p. m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,
Commissioner.

(Mis. 58, 30-6-41)

SALE OF ARRACK RENTS 1941-42 - VAVUNIYA DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Assistant Government Agent, Vavuniya, will receive sealed tenders for the purchase, subject to the General conditions applicable to all Excise Licences published by Excise Notification No. 329 in Government Gazette No. 8368 of May 11, 1938 and to Arrack Rent Sale Conditions for 1941-42 published in Government Gazette No. 8751 of June 6, 1941 of the exclusive privilege of selling arrack by retail in the undermentioned taverns during the period October 1, 1941 to September 30, 1942.

2. For further particulars see Government Gazette No. 8757 of June 27, 1941. The Kachcheri, Vavuniya, June 17, 1941.

LIST OF TAVERNS REFERRED TO:

Serial No.	Division	Local area (within which tavern may be sited)	Date, time and Place of closing tenders
1.	Mullaitivu Sanitary Board Town.	Within Sanitary Board limits of Mullaitivu	July 15, 1941 at 10.30 a.m. at the Vavuniya Kachcheri
2.	Vavuniya North	Within the Village of Mankulam	do at 10.40 a.m.
3.	Vavuniya Sanitary Board Town	Within Sanitary Board limits of Vavuniya	do at 10.50 a.m.

(G. 10, 30-6-41)

Wanted

A Head Teacher for J. Koddady Namasivaya Tamil Mixed School. Only Head Teachers of schools who hold Tamil First class trained certificates and who have a knowledge of English may apply, stating the examination passed in English. Applications should reach me on or before 12 noon, Tuesday 5-7-41.

C. S. Nadarajah Chettiar,
Grand Bazaar, Jaffna, 30-6-41.
(Mis. 57, 30-6-41)

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. Subbaya,
Manager of Schools,
Alaveddy.

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(Continued from page 1)

people even in elementary schools to wear glasses.

Loud Dressers

SPEAKING of the fashion of spectacles I recall the remarks of a Public Services Commission in this country in regard to applicants for posts. For the "interviews", it was stated, "most candidates came specially dressed. New tweed or silk lounge suits hit one in the eye."

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Jaffna.

(Y. 21 B, 11-8-40—10-8-41.)

(M)

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