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## THE MAIN CAUSES OF THE PRESENT CONFLICT

### MISUNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER'S AIMS

#### HOW THE NAZI MIND WORKS

BY HAROLD NICOLSON

ONE of the main causes of the present conflict is a misunderstanding on the part of the present rulers of Germany of the aims, tradition and character of the British people, coupled with a similar misunderstanding on the part of our own statesmen and writers of the nature of German self-assertion and of the real purposes implicit in Nazi diplomatic methods.

Herr von Ribbentrop, for instance, observed while in this country that we were deeply and widely a peace-loving and an indolent people. He realized that the dominant influence in British governmental policy was that of the propertied classes and that the Conservative Party were fully aware that in any major war they would suffer great damage to their privileges and their incomes. He overestimated the influence, as he underestimated the unselfishness of these circles with which he came into more immediate contact.

#### Pacifist Left

He noticed, and correctly, that there existed in Great Britain very large and potent sections of opinion who were anxious for better relations with Germany and who regretted the effect of the Treaty of Versailles. And he assumed that the pacifist feelings of the Left, in conjunction with the instincts of self-preservation so ardently manifested by the Right, would combine to keep Great Britain aloof from any contest in which her possessions, her interest, or her pride were not directly assailed.

We also misunderstood the true aims, traditions, and character of the German people. Relying upon a superficial similarity, we imagined that essentially the Germans were more or less like ourselves. Again and again, did we attribute to them ideas, wishes, and emotions such as

we ourselves would have experienced had we been in a position analogous to their own. Our estimate of the probabilities of their policy was based upon this false assumption. We did not understand in time that their whole conception of national policy is fundamentally different from any which is dreamt of in our own philosophy.

#### National Identity

The basic difference is, I should suggest, that whereas we possess a sharp sense of national outline, the Germans possess no such sense. I mean by this that every Briton has for generations possessed an instinctive conviction of national identity—racial, cultural, geographical, political, and even social. This has provided us with that self-assurance and self-confidence which is at the root of our lazy calm. The Germans have no such long tradition of national identity. Racially, geographically, politically and even culturally, they have for generations felt themselves to be inchoate, sundere, and dispersed. Their frontiers are vague, their origins are diverse, their cultural development has been divided into different streams. Our insular position and the protected development of our political institutions has enabled us to achieve unity organically—as a tree grows.

#### Belief in Force

Their sandy and pine-strewn Eastern frontier, the admixture of Slav elements in their race, the conflict between Protestant and Catholic, the divergences between South and North, the cultural discrepancy between those sections which had enjoyed the benefits of Roman rule and those sections which lay without the Roman times—all these combined to create both a longing for unity and no organic sense of unity.

## Question Papers Arrive

### London Degree Examinations

QUESTION papers for the London University final examinations arrived on Thursday and arrangements are being made to hold most of the Final examinations about the middle of this month.

These examinations were originally scheduled to commence on June 16 but had to be postponed owing to the non-arrival of the question papers.

The mail brought the B. Sc. (Hons) papers in English, Philosophy, Indo-Aryan and History.

All the question papers for the Final examinations in Economics and Commerce also arrived by the same mail.

There were also included in that mail the question papers for the Ll. B. examination, the Geography paper for the B. Sc. (Special) examination the other papers for the latter examination having been received earlier.

The theory papers for the Intermediate examination in Engineering have also arrived. The papers for the practical tests were received last week.

The question papers for the B. Sc. (general and B. A. (general) examinations have still to arrive as also the papers in Classics, Sinhalese and Tamil for the B. A. (Hons) examination. These are expected within the next fortnight.

And thus it came that whereas our own national identity grew from below upwards, their unity was imposed by blood and iron from the top downwards. It is for this reason that, in the background of the German mind, is the conception of the State as something transcending regional or individual interests and as something exercising its power by force. The German belief in force as the ultimate creator of unity is a profound belief; we may not share it and we may well disapprove of it; yet it is as deeply rooted in their mind and their traditions as is the desire for personal liberty among ourselves. To ignore the potency of that tradition is to ignore the

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## FINANCIAL DISASTER AHEAD

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S WARNING

#### MINISTERS' REPORT ON BUDGET

"A PART from fluctuations in prices, Ceylon is no richer than she was ten years ago when ordinary Government expenditure was less than Rs. 100,000,000 and the present policy of continued expansion of services of all kinds, which has already lifted that figure to Rs. 135,000,000 is bound to end in financial disaster".

Thus warns the Financial Secretary in his "observations" on the Budget for 1941-42.

The following is the Report of the Board of Ministers on the Budget:—

#### Expenditure

The total estimated expenditure chargeable to General Revenue amounts to Rs. 147,960,173 made up as follows:—

Recurrent Expenditure	121,168,328
Special and Extraordinary Expenditure	19,826,833
Provision for Railway Deficit	6,970,012
<b>Total</b>	<b>147,960,173</b>

The revised estimate of expenditure for 1940-41 is Rs. 130,000,000.

**Loan Fund Expenditure**—The amount to be met from General Revenue pending transfer to Loan Funds is Rs. 2,330,670.

**Loan Works**—to be charged to the 1937 Loan—The expenditure proposed under the funds raised in terms of the Loan Ordinance, 1937, amounts to Rs. 9,701,838.

**Railway Estimates**—The Railway Estimates form a separate budget. The estimated Railway earnings for 1941-42 are Rs. 17,000,000 which is the same as the current year's estimate and is Rs. 250,000 less than the revised estimate for 1940-41 of Rs. 17,250,000. The annuities due to General Revenue on account of loans and the interest due on advances amount to Rs. 3,895,000. No credit is taken for this sum in the General Revenue Estimates as there is no prospect of its being paid to revenue by the

(Continued on page 4)

## THE JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE

### INTERMEDIATE IN ARTS & SCIENCE CLASSES

Classes preparing students for the examinations of July, 1942, have been formed. New students will be admitted to these classes till the 14th inst. Provision is made for the teaching of Botany and Zoology in these classes.

(Mis. 59, 3-14-7-41.)

### VAIDYESHWARA VIDYALAYA, JAFFNA, S. S. C. CLASS

A class preparing students for the examination of August, 1942, has been formed. Students will be admitted to this class till the 25th inst.

6-7-41.

(Mis. 61, 7-7-41)



## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, JULY 7, 1941

### THE RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN

IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS of the Russian campaign the German military machine has added one more feather to its cap though it has so far failed to gain a decision anywhere. All along the 1500 miles front the Russian lines have been forced back to the 1938 frontier and a few points far within that frontier. The German High Command claims to have annihilated the Russian army around Bialystok and captured much booty and numerous prisoners. There seems to be little doubt that the centre must have been pierced at Bialystok. The German armies are said to be East of Minsk on the road to Moscow and the report of their being near Smolensk may be taken to be premature. The Hungarians are said to have crossed the frontier and effected a junction with the German armies. One section of the army is making for Moscow and another for Kiev, the Ukrainian capital. The German claim to have broken Russian resistance is also premature or wishful thinking. The Russians are retreating in good order to prepared positions behind fortified original lines where they can offer better resistance. While passing judgements on the strategic possibilities we should not lose sight of the change of scale in Russia, the vast distances which the German army has to cover, the difficulties of transporting a fully mechanised army through

bad roads and over a succession of rivers. Moscow is 800 miles from Warsaw and Kiev 300 miles from Cedessa. The Caucasus is about 1000 miles from the Ukrainian capital. There is no sign that Russian defences will collapse in the near future, or that any wholesale capture of military equipment has taken place. From the news to hand it seems clear that the Russian forces have been able to withdraw and save their materials. Unless the armies are encircled and destroyed, which has not so far taken place on any front, the fight will go on with undiminished vigour. The further Germans penetrate into the interior, the more serious their difficulties are likely to be.

Though the Russians seem to have profited by the Finnish war and have vastly improved their military efficiency and defence position, yet they must be considered inferior to the Germans in efficiency. Both their men and mechanised arms lack the striking power and co-ordination which the Germans are remarkable for. While the Luftwaffe has been able to bomb Russian towns, disorganise their communications and disturb army formations and destroy a large number of planes and aerodromes, the Russian air force does not seem to have achieved anything comparable. The brilliance of German strategy, the vigour of their execution and the perfect co-ordination of all branches of the fighting services have been displayed in this campaign as elsewhere before.

Stalin's speech breathes stern defiance as well as a measure of diffidence. It is certain that, however arduous and protracted the struggle, Stalin and his comrades will not sue for armistice, but will withdraw far into the interior without giving Hitler an opportunity to reach a decision and will continue to harass his army. The Russian army will destroy before retiring everything that can be destroyed—bridges, roads, corn, oil and industrial plants. The Ukraine corn and the Caucasian oil, for which Hitler launched his campaign will not be available at least this year. The disadvantages of stationing a vast army in enemy territory will far outweigh the advantages which Hitler hoped to reap from the invasion. This is just the time when the American nation must strike to counter-balance the gains of Hitler and to compel him to divert a part of his force to the west. By reinforcing the British Navy in the Mediterranean the whole of African can be recaptured and the threat to Egypt and the Mediterranean may be eliminated. The shipping losses have shown no appreciable decrease. The U. S. A. Navy must convoy the war material so that it may be safely delivered to Britain.

## MRS. N. M. PERERA CHARGED IN JAFFNA

### Her Speech At Youth Congress

Mrs. N. M. Perera, wife of Dr. N. M. Perera who is now in detention, was charged before the Malakam Magistrate on Saturday with having, on April 26th, at Tholpuzham, endeavoured to cause disaffection among His Majesty's subjects in Ceylon by stating as follows in a speech:—

"But I cannot help observing that what this country needs today is sedition and more sedition, for sedition is only the imperialistic term for truth. Truth is vital to our interest and the Government is trying to smother it by this baneful term sedition."

She was also charged with endeavouring to influence public opinion in a manner likely to be prejudicial to public safety, the defence of the Island, the maintenance of public order or the efficient prosecution of war.

The plaint has been sanctioned by the Attorney-General. Inspector Attygalle moved for summons on Mr. L. P. King, of Jaffna, and the Editor of "The Ceylon Observer" with a view to leading evidence before process was issued. The Magistrate ordered summons on the two witnesses for July 22nd.

## KOKUVIL HINDU COLLEGE

### Prize-Giving

The annual prize-giving at the Kokuvil Hindu College came off on Friday, the 4th instant. M. C. Suntheralingam presided; proceedings commenced with the singing of Thevaram. The programme consisted of many interesting items of which the group singing of the school girls exhibited a high standard of Carnatic music. The prizes were given away by Mrs. G. Coomaraswamy.

Mr. R. S. O. Williams, Principal Central College, was one of the speakers. He was followed by Atigir A. Naganather who traced the history of the College.

Mr. Suntheralingam in his presidential remarks stressed the necessity for a playground in close proximity to the College and condemned the fact that in the "Ceylon University plan hatched in secret" the playground for the undergraduates was to be at a distance of two miles from the hotels.

Mr. S. C. Thillainathan proposed a vote of thanks.

## SOCIAL LIFE OF ANCIENT TAMILS

### A Public Lecture

Social Life of Ancient Tamils, as depicted in the Ten Idylls, (Paththu Pattu) is the subject of a public lecture Mr. J. V. Chelliah, M. A., J. P., will deliver at the Kala Nilayam hall on Thursday, the 10th instant at 6-45 p.m.

## SIDE LIGHTS AND LIGHT SIDES

(By Squint Eye)

English papers used to refer to Britain as US in regard to the war. After America's advent it was US and U. S. Since Hitler turned to Sovietland it is US, U. S. and U. S. S. R.

*The course of events spells economy, and there's no doubt in the end it will be victory for US, US, US SIR.*

"Germans in Vilna," said a newspaper headline, the other day. *Villains in Germany, suggested itself to me.*

The Ceylon ministers want to shift Anuradhapura from its present position.

*After that, why not shift the Island itself a little southward, out of reach of the Indian pests?*

The Malayalee research student of the Coconut Board deplores the apathy of our people towards his scheme to make paperboard from immature coconuts.

*That's not our way, Mr. Menon, we don't believe in this modern magic.*

"Century for Hobbs," cried a newsbill last week.

*In this age of bombs we can really be thankful for these little mercies.*

Hitler has done more for English-speaking unity than anyone or anything. It is the only good thing he had done, declared Sir Evelyn Wrench in America.

*Even the devil has moments of forgetfulness.*

In the recital of India's ancient maritime glory is a reference to a wooden-built Indian ship that, after a career of thirtysix years, lent its timber for the building of a church in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

*India has always believed in ultimate service to God.*

*By the by, will this old connection, if not the present services of India, move the hearts of Smuts and Co. Unlimited?*

Mussolini speaks of sending an army to Russia.

*Has he still got any, we thought they were all in India?*

## U. S. AID TO BRITAIN

### Mr. Wilkie's Statement

New York, Saturday.

Reiterating the sentiments he expressed in his broadcast on Thursday, in which he said that England's survival was indispensable to the preservation of American liberty, Mr. Wendell Wilkie stated yesterday in an Independence Day broadcast that he was quite sure that before long the great force of the American Navy would be brought in to play to ensure the delivery of supplies to Great Britain.

"An overwhelming percentage of American people are resolved that at whatever hazard or cost we will sustain the fighting men of Great Britain," he declared.

## "URBAN COUNCIL NOT A CHETTY FIRM"

Suggestions to Increase Efficiency and Cut Down Expenditure

### REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY U. C.

"THE Urban Council is not a chetty firm, with its eyes glued to its coffers and a restless endeavour to lay by large profits. That the funds paid by the rate-payers are meant not to be stored but to be spent with care, to increase their comfort and happiness was an important fact, ever present in the mind of the Committee; and so, its members have taken every occasion to recommend expenditure wherever it was found to be essential."

Thus observes the committee which was appointed by the Jaffna Urban Council to suggest ways and means to increase the efficiency of work and to cut down expenditure wherever possible. The committee was appointed on 25th January 1941 and its report was completed and signed on 26th June 1941.

The committee consisted of Mr. R. Sivagurunathan, Chairman, Chevalier S. Arulanathan, Messrs M. Sinnadurai (members of the Council) E. R. Sandrasagara-C. Nadarajah and Sam A. Sabapathy, (non-members)

The Report was signed by only four of them. Mr. Sabapathy, did not attend any of the meetings of the Committee "owing to unavoidable circumstances," and his signature is therefore not appended to the Report.

Following are some extracts from the Report:—

The deliberations of the Committee were devoted mainly to the consideration of the three following subjects:—

(a) Examination of Income and Expenditure, (b) The activities of the Council with regard to its works and sanitation, (c) Reorganisation of Offices

The following are some of the important observations of the Committee:—

1. The staffing of the Council is inordinately large and top-heavy.

2. The cost of working the ordinance is very high and out of proportion to the revenue collected.

3. The profit derived from the working of the Electricity Branch is extremely small.

4. The Works Department does not follow the ordinary rule or procedure adopted by similar departments under Government, to control, check and safeguard expenditure.

5. There is hardly any control of Works Department by the Secretary. He does not shoulder responsibility commensurate with the position he holds in the Council and the high salary he receives.

6. The ease with which money votes involving the Council are carelessly expenditure are passed may seriously affect the finance of the Council

It is astounding to reflect that in 1940 the Finance Committee is said not to have met for the year. Even the budget for 1941 was not submitted to it before it was passed by the Council. This is verily an off-

hand way of doing the duty by the rate-payers. "The ultimate criterion of good administration by the Council is the manner in which it earns and spends its money. There can be no administrative rectitude without a proper scrutiny of the budget."

The percentage of the cost of working the Ordinance is nearly fifty percent. At the rate the establishment charges are raised, one never knows where it is going to end. A business concern should not exceed 25 per cent of its working charges. A local body like the Urban Council should not disregard economy and should not degenerate into an improvident concern. Proper safeguards therefore are urgently needed to put the house in order.

The facility with which the Council can at present pass measures involving annually recurrent expenditure is a serious defect in the Ordinance. To-day the expenditure on salaries and establishment charges is as high as Rs. 90868. This amount is bound to increase from year to year. If in addition, the Council has the power to take on new hands merely by a majority vote at one of its meetings, there is no guessing what the expenditure of this item will be, say, five years hence.

In Government Departments no new expenditure can be launched before reference has been made to the Treasury and the Treasury has reported on the financial implications of the proposed measure. This is without doubt a salutary safeguard. All the more necessary is such a safeguard in a Council where the Chairman and the Members change periodically and where the damage done by one lot of members cannot be undone by the succeeding lot easily. The Committee consider that it is such indiscriminate voting of monies, that has brought the Council to its present top-heavy state. The Chairman should always take the responsibility to introduce money votes. But in this Council, the Committee regret to note, it is not the general practice.

The remedy for such a state of affairs is either:—

1. The establishment in the office of the Commissioner of Local Government of a department or the appointment of a financial expert at the office to advise on all measures involving implications similar to the functions discharged by the Government Treasury, where finance is concerned, or

2. The establishment by the Urban Council of a Finance Committee with one or two experienced retired Government servants co-opted from the members of the Public to advise on all money votes of a recurrent nature, before they are brought up for consideration by the Council.

The present Finance Committee of the Urban Council appointed at

## OUR INDIAN LETTER.

### GODS THAT BEHAVED SHOWN THEIR PLACES!

#### NON-VIOLENCE ON TRIAL

(BY LANKA)

Madras  
28th June 1941.

RIGHTLY did the nationalist papers of India celebrate the occasion of the laying of the foundation for a shipyard at Vizagapatam, the other day, by issuing sumptuous supplements recalling the forgotten glories of Indian naval and marine enterprises of two thousand years ago, while giving an account of the latest development. Though it marks a turning point in the industrial history of this country it is unfortunate that the enterprise of India's sons, in what generally may be considered as a very valuable war effort in the service of the Empire, should be coupled with the aloofness of the government, whereas a national government would have enthused over the event. Thus is the course of industry and regeneration beset with darkness.

#### Gods Punished?

CAN it be said that the godlessness preached in South India by the notorious crowd of self-respectors under Mr. E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker for some years past, was the urge behind, last week's demonstration in a Ramnad village? In Manjapatnam, near Paramakudi, the whole village people pulled out the gigantic idols of Sadayappaswami and Kathayi Ambal from their temple, which they had installed just fifteen years ago with great pomp and favour. The reason for this iconoclastic fury is stated to be that since the installation of the idols a series of misfortunes and reverses had overtaken the village. Let us see how the god and goddess take this insult lying down.

#### Heart-Searching among Congressmen

THE philosophy of non-violence enunciated by Mr. Gandhi has proved itself too tough a thing for the average politician and statesman, as witness the withdrawal of Mr. K. M. Munshi, erstwhile Congress Minister of Bombay, from Congress, though with the sanction and good wishes of Gandhiji himself. Mr. Munshi was known to be a very staunch Congressman following

the suggestion of the Commissioner of Local Government does not seem to be functioning as it should. As far as this Committee can gather, money votes are not as a rule referred to the Finance Committee, before they are considered and passed by the Urban Council.

With regard to retrenchment proposals it is not considered desirable to take drastic steps that would cause hardship and unemployment except in cases where it is absolutely found to be necessary to retrench. But in view of the very high cost of establishment charges, the Committee recommend the stopping of all increments to all officers and servants of the Council who draw salaries of Rs. 75 and over per mensem, as a temporary measure until the revenue of the Council is substantially improved.

the great Mahatma very closely since he joined his movement some fifteen years ago after a career in the old moderate-Congress field. The suspiciously organised communal riots in Bombay, following those in Dacca, Ahmedabad and other places, have moved Mr. Munshi into thinking that he will not be true to himself and to Gandhiji if he adopted the non-violent creed to overcome the mob-fury, while he owed a duty to his followers who, he pleads, ought to be given a lead in organising resistance, even though violent, to meet this hoodigan menace. This perfectly clear withdrawal has given ample scope for the critics of Congress to cry out that Gandhian leadership is giving way before human passions. But the Mahatma still sticks fast to his creed. Here is a situation, very much like the Devil tempting God, that troubles many a heart from Rajagopalachari downwards.

### ALL-CEYLON MALARIA WEEK

#### Point Pedro's Plans

A general meeting of the Teachers of Point Pedro circuit was held at the Sithivinaagar School Hall, Point Pedro, presided over by Mr. E. Aruampalam, Inspector of Schools. Mr. P. Nadesan, Sanitary Inspector, Pt. Pedro, explained the object of the meeting and an interesting account of the forthcoming All-Ceylon Malaria Week. He impressed on them the way how the week should be celebrated and stressed that particular attention should be paid to Rural Sanitation Schemes. It was decided to celebrate the week on a grand scale at Point Pedro. Various Committees were formed to make the necessary arrangements for the celebrations, with Mr. Nadesan as Organising Secretary.

The Celebrations will take the form of a Health Exhibition, Clean up Campaigns, Mothers and Infants Day, Oratorical Contests, Health Debates, Field Visits and Health Concert.

The Health Exhibition will be opened by Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, Jaffna, on the 30th July, and will continue for 4 days and a Health Concert will be held on the last day. The Schools have been circulated to send Health Models, Health Posters, Health Slogans with illustrations etc.

A Health Procession has been arranged in which all the Schools of the Point Pedro circuit will take part.

A Mothers and Infants Day has been arranged at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic where the M. O. H., Dr. Thurairajah, is expected to deliver a lecture on "Maternity and Child Welfare Work." (Cor.)

## "A Shabby Deal"

JUDGE'S STRICTURES ON  
URBAN COUNCIL

### MARKET RENTER AWARDED DAMAGES AGAINST U. C.

**W**HAT confidence can people have in the straight dealings of the Council which sells something by public auction, if even in cases where the sale is held subject to the subsequent approval of the Council, the highest bidder's bid is rejected solely in order to accept a slightly higher bid from a rival who dropped out of the bidding at the auction.

Thus observes Mr. S. Rodrigo, Additional District Judge, Jaffna, in awarding damages to a plaintiff against the Jaffna Urban Council in a case in which the Council was sued by a market renter named S. Ponniah of Tinnevely, seeking to recover damages.

The Urban Council's application for leave to appeal was refused by the Judge. In refusing the application he says "I have accepted the facts as spoken to on defendants' behalf and given judgment on the law. I do not think there is any mistake on my part in the assessment of the amount of damages. Therefore I refuse leave to appeal on the facts."

In the course of his judgment Mr. Rodrigo states:—

The Urban Council annually sells the right to collect the rents of the market stall at the market known as Kaikula Market. This is generally done by calling for tenders. When tenders were called for the sale of the right for the year 1941 which had to be done in the year 1940 there was no response and the Council advertised the sale of the right which I might hereafter call the "rent" by public auction to be held on 6th November 1940.

The notice announcing the sale mentioned that the sale of the rent by Public Auction will take place at a fixed time and place and added that other particulars can be ascertained from the Urban Council's office.

The sale was announced under the supervision of the Chairman, and the plaintiff who had been a previous renter for many years was declared the highest bidder on a bid Rs. 1,820 through his agent.

On 7th November 1940 the Council issued a notice on the plaintiff (P3) to be present at a meeting of the Council to be held on 8th November 1940 "with reference to your offer of Rs. 1,820 for the above market rent for 1941."

One Saravanamuttu was plaintiff's rival at the Market renting. He was also a bidder at the auction sale but had stopped at the bid of Rs. 1,780. The list of bidders and their bids shows that after Saravanamuttu ceased bidding there were three bids from one Arulampalam and four bids from Plaintiff's agent, when the bidding ceased and the Plaintiff's agent remained the highest bidder. For some reason known

to the Council a notice is said to have been issued to that Saravanamuttu also to be present at the meeting and not Arulampalam.

The plaintiff's version as to what happened at the meeting is at variance to a small extent with the version given on behalf of the Council, but the broad fact remains that the plaintiff was called before the Council and a reference was made to a written offer of Rs. 1900 sent to the Council that morning by one Sanmuga Mudaliyar for the rent. This Sanmuga Mudaliyar according to the Council's Chairman also was told to be present at the meeting when he made that written offer. Sanmuga Mudaliyar was not present at the meeting. The plaintiff did not make any offer outbidding this absentee applicant and Saravanamuttu was treated by the Council to be the purchaser of the rent at a figure Rs. 10 in excess of the alleged offer of Sanmuga Mudaliyar that is to say at Rs. 1910.

This Sanmuga Mudaliyar who was shy to come forward to testify to the genuineness of his belated offer was himself a bidder at the Public Auction, who dropped out even long before Saravanamuttu.

The plaintiff's case is that the Council announced the sale to be by public auction, that he was the highest bidder at that auction and therefore the Council had to recognise him as the purchaser of the rent at his highest bid. On his behalf it is contended that there was breach of contract committed by the Council and that he is entitled to damages.

On the Council's behalf it is contended that the contract to be effectual had to be approved of by the Council, that if the plaintiff had gone to the Council's office to inquire for the particulars referred to in the notice he would have come to know of it, and besides that the Chairman after the sale informed the plaintiff that the sum fetched at the sale was not sufficient and that the acceptance of his offer was subject to the Council's approval. The plaintiff denies that the Chairman made that statement.

I believe the Chairman's evidence in preference to that of the plaintiff. I am of opinion that once the announcement is made that the sale will take place by public auction the seller has to accept the highest bidder subject to any conditions announced previously as the purchaser except in cases where there is a personal disqualification.

The particulars referred to in the notice if they are such as to affect the purchase ought to have been read out or otherwise announced at and before the sale. Particulars do not mean conditions. Even if they were they ought to have been announced at the sale before the sale took place. In the case of a sale of land, the extent, the nature of the plantation, its annual crop etc. are particulars. They are not conditions governing the sale and they need not be read out. The plaintiff evidently did not go to the office to find out such particulars because he thought he knew what there was to be known of particulars. The Chairman's informing the plaintiff after the sale that the approval of the

Council was necessary came too late. The notice was from the Council and the executive officer of the Council put up the rent for sale according to the notice. In my opinion the sale was as good as a sale by the whole Council acting as one body so long as no announcement was made in the notice or before the sale that the highest bidder will be declared the purchaser only if the Council subsequently approved.

Even if there was a condition announced before the sale that the acceptance of the highest bid was subject to the approval of the Council, the Council's power of approval was a power that had to be reasonably exercised. If the plaintiff's antecedents as a renter are not known and a better known renter's offer is not far behind, or if the plaintiff had given trouble to the Council in the case of previous rents or if the council finds that the rent can be sold for a very much higher figure approval might be withheld. Even if my views as to how the right of approval is to be exercised are wrong such mistake of mine does not affect this case because as I said above the sale was held without the necessity for approval by Council being previously announced.

The transaction is altogether a shabby deal by the Council in order to get a sum of Rs. 90 added to its revenue which was not a material increase on Rs. 1820. Both Saravanamuttu and Sanmuga Mudaliyar (if his offer was genuine) were men who had every opportunity to outbid the plaintiff at the sale. What confidence can people have in the straight dealings of the Council which sells something by public auction, if even in cases where the sale is held subject to the subsequent approval of the Council, the highest bidder's bid is rejected solely in order to accept a slightly higher bid from a rival who dropped out of the bidding at the auction.

Even as regards what happened at the meeting, I accept the Chairman's version unhesitatingly. Even then the position is that the plaintiff having had an opportunity to bid higher than the bidder who was playing hide and seek did not choose to do so. It is not difficult to understand the feelings of a man who sees that fresh bids from his rivals whom he outbid at the auction are being considered by the Council. His refusal to offer a still higher bid only shows that he was sticking to his rights. It is true that what his feelings were would be immaterial if the law is against him. In my opinion he was the purchaser at the sale and the Council's later conferring the rights on another under suspicious circumstances was an act of breach of faith. I say "under suspicious circumstances" because although during the time of the last seven bids, it was only the plaintiff and the bidder Arulampalam that offered bids, the only other bidder besides the highest bidder to be noticed to appear at the Council meeting was Saravanamuttu. Why was Arulampalam not noticed? Even if the right of approval was reserved and the Council was acting in a straight forward manner they should have fixed the sale for another auction so that all the bidders at the first sale may have a second trial.

I do not think that the allegations made against the Chairman

## FINANCIAL DISASTER AHEAD

(Continued from page 1)

Railway. The loss on working of Rs. 6,970,012 is to be met from General Revenue.

*Electrical Undertakings Estimates*—The Estimates of the Department of Electrical Undertakings also form a separate budget. The annuities due to General Revenue on account of loans and the interest due on advances amount to Rs. 743,404 and credit for this sum has been included in the General Revenue Estimates.

### "No Richer than 10 Years Ago

The following are the "observations" of the Financial Secretary:—

The expenditure proposed for 1941-42 is Rs. 148,000,000; in arriving at what may be regarded as ordinary expenditure, there should be deducted from this figure about Rs. 12,000,000 for defence expenditure of an abnormal kind and Rs. 1,000,000 war loan interest. This leaves Rs. 135,000,000 as the ordinary expenditure proposed.

"If no further expansion of services occurs this figure will increase automatically to at least Rs. 140,000,000 by reason of higher charges for Public Debt, Pensions, etc.

"In my view expenditure at such a rate is beyond the financial capacity of Ceylon in normal years, and will lead to a acute financial crisis in the next trade depression.

"The abnormal expenditure on defence is inevitable during a war, and can be met by special wartime taxation or other means. But this does not apply to the increase in ordinary expenditure.

"Apart from fluctuations in prices, Ceylon is no richer than she was ten years ago when ordinary Government expenditure was less than Rs. 100,000,000, and the present policy of continued expansion of services of all kinds, which has already lifted that figure to Rs. 135,000,000 is bound to end in financial disaster."

on the cross-examination were justified but it is clear that a manoeuvre of Saravanamuttu has succeeded in some way.

I give judgment for Plaintiff for Rs. 175/- comprised of the Rs. 125/- which I fixed to be amount of damages and Rs. 50/- of the Plaintiff in deposit with the Defendant. When the man's life-business is that of a market contractor as in this case the amount of profit that he might have received if he had that year's rent is the amount of damage to him. The interest on the capital on lay need not be considered unless he is a man who had to depend on borrowed capital or it is shown that there was every opportunity for him to invest the money he had with him for the intended purchase of the rent in a money-leading transaction. He could not be expected suddenly to take to another kind of business for that year.

## U. S. Freedom in Danger

### Mr. Roosevelt's Address

Hyde Park (New York), Friday. "When we repeat the great pledge to our country and our flag, it must be our deep conviction that we pledge as well our work and our will and, if it be necessary, our lives," declared Mr. Roosevelt in an Independence Day (Fourth of July) broadcast to the nation.

"It is indeed a fallacy based on no logic for any Americans to suggest that the rule of force can defeat human freedom in all other parts of the world and a low it to survive in the United States alone, but it has been that child-like fantasy, that mis-directed faith, which has led nation after nation to go about its peaceful tasks relying on the thought, even the promise, that it and its life and its Government would be allowed to live when the juggernaut of force came that way.

"It is simple—I could say almost simple-minded—for us Americans to wave the flag, to re-assert our belief in the cause of freedom and to let it go at that. Yet, all of us who lie awake at night, all who study and study again, have known full well that in these days we cannot save freedom with pitchforks and muskets.

"We know too we cannot save freedom in our midst if all around us our neighbour nations have lost their freedom. That is why we are engaged in a serious, mighty and unified action in the cause of the defence of our hemisphere and the freedom of the seas.

"We need not unity alone. We need speed, efficiency, toil and an end to backbiting and sabotage which runs far deeper than the blowing up of munition plants. I tell the American people solemnly that the United States will never survive as a happy and prosperous oasis of liberty in the midst of a desert of dictatorship."

Recalling that on the day American independence was declared in 1776 the representatives of several states in Congress asserted, "a decent respect for the opinion of mankind required that they should declare the reasons for their action." Mr. Roosevelt said: "In this crisis, we have a like duty.

"In 1776, we waged war on behalf of the great principle that Government should derive its just powers from the consent of the governed. In the century-and-a-half that has followed; this cause of human freedom swept across the world, but now in our generation, in the last few years a new resistance in form of several new practices of tyranny has been making such headway that the fundamentals of 1776 have been struck down abroad and are threatened here."

## Wellawatte Tamils Stage "Arichandra"

With the advent of the Cinema our local dramatic clubs have ceased to produce dramas. The reason is quite obvious. Cinema has so captivated the minds of the public that it never pays to stage a drama. Anyway it is refreshing to note that the Tamil Recreation Club, Wellawatte with its changed name Tamil Recreation and Dramatic Club,

## FREE TREATMENT FOR PUPILS

### Parents with Income less Than Rs- 600 A Year

Medical Officers doing school health work have been informed by the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services that it has been decided that school children, whose parents' or guardians' income is less than Rs. 600 per annum, should secure free outdoor treatment from a hospital or a dispensary, in regard to the correction of defects found at school medical inspection.

With the approval of the Treasury it is proposed that, when a School Medical Officer finds that a child is suffering from any ailment requiring hospital or dispensary treatment, he should refer the child to the nearest Medical Officer for free treatment, with a certificate that the income of the parents or guardian of the child is less than Rs. 600 a year.

his widened its activities. The Club staged the play "Arichandra" to a crowded house last Saturday at the St. Peter's College Hall, Wellawatte.

Despite the fact that he featured in over a score of dramas and has reached the higher rungs of the ladder, Mr. M. S. Thiruvilangam feels that he has not yet given a performance of which he can really be proud. Perhaps this is why the producers selected him to play the role of Arichandra. The role is difficult. It requires much attention and a thorough understanding of human psychology; but, Mr. Thiruvilangam threw himself into the role and once again emerged with flying colours. He didn't act; he lived his part.

It was very daring of the producers to have chosen Mr. T. Kanagarajah, who is quite new to the stage, to figure as the heroine; but, the latter, rising to the occasion, amply justified the responsibility placed on his shoulders. His acting, dialogue and songs were good. We can do nothing better than to wish the maiden artiste all luck on the stage in future.

When a Kemble treads the stage, the lesser satellites, though of no mean eminence, look pigmies beside the great Titan. It should, therefore, not be a surprise if Mr. K. Chornalingam, with his vast experience at the stage, threw into obscurity the young amateurs. Mr. Chornalingam, I should say, has added another feather to his crest.

As Sathiakerethy, Mr. V. R. Jayaratnam does his best. He sings effortlessly and well but his acting is poor. While all the actors do competently well, one of the good portrayals is the Thoady dance. The veteran comic, Dr. S. K. Chinniah, gives a finished performance as Veeravagu, the pariah. Messrs Sivagnanam and R. Perambalam who play Naridha and Vasista respectively deserve better roles. Among the dancers, Mr. C. Muttuswamy is good while Mr. S. Veeragathipillai is sparkling. Miss. Hubert as Thevathason and Mr. P. Kanagaratnam as Nadchaitesan are nice.

A more carefully pruned script and a more imaginative direction would have lifted the drama to the higher realms of Art.

"MURUGAR AMMAN."

## College of Indigenous Medicine, Colombo

### 1941 Exam Results

The following are the results of the Professional Examinations held in March 1941:—

#### Final Examination for the Diploma

##### Ayurvedic Section:—

Honours:—Nil

Passes:—N. Sucharitaratna, D. P. Dolawatte.

Completes the Examination:—Miss. M. K. Wijasinghe & S. R. Fernando.

##### Siddha Section:—

Honours:—Nil

Passes:—P. S. Thuraiappah, K. U. Tampi.

Completes the Examination:—A. Pakianathan.

##### Unani Section:—Nil.

#### Third Professional Examination

A. Nadarajah, K. A. Kandasamy and A. C. M. Zaid.

#### Second Professional Examination

K. M. G. Piyasena, K. J. Gunatilleka, N. Rajaratnam, R. C. Beddewela, K. Ranasinghe, D. S. Wijemanne, M. Dassanayake, S. B. Nanayakkara, T. Wickramaratne, A. P. Francis, I. D. S. Vaidyasekera, D. C. R. Pathirana, H. Don Thomas, A. Sirmonne, W. G. Soysa, G. D. S. Jayasekera, K. D. Arnolis and W. L. Sovis.

#### First Professional Examination

L. C. Mudiyanse, D. C. Kodisinghe, K. P. A. Gunasekera, M. D. M. Samarasinghe, H. D. Wijedasa, B. A. D. Francis, S. Sudusinghe, D. S. Gunatillaka, U. D. D. Dharmanasena, D. S. de S. Amarapala, D. N. M. Jinadasa, H. M. Jinadasa, H. B. Ratnayake, D. H. B. Witharane, A. Suriyaratne, Miss. D. S. Jayasinghe, Miss. L. S. Rajasekera, Miss. S. Anurathne, M. S. Mendis, N. U. P. B. Sittunayake, H. B. Ranatunga, P. T. W. Peiris, P. Sellappah, T. Devasagayam, A. N. Ramalingam, M. I. Mohamed Cassim and D. H. Abeysekera.

## ACHUVELY POST OFFICE

### Protest Against Govt. Proposal

Point Pedro, Friday, 4th

A public meeting presided over by Mr. S. Nadesan, M. S. C. was held on the 3rd inst in the A. C. M. Tamil School Hall at Achuvely to protest against the decision of Government to reduce the status of the Post Office at Achuvely. A resolution requesting the Government to retain the Post Office in its present status was moved by Mr. K. Sivaguru, V. C. Chairman of Puttur, and seconded by Mr. K. Nagalingampillai. Both Messrs S. Chelliahpillai of Thiccum and E. K. Kanapthipilai deplored the attitude of the present day authorities who would rather adopt wrong methods of economy to reduce the costs of administration. The action contemplated by the Govt. would deprive a big division Valigamam East of its only Post Office.

A committee consisting of Messrs K. A. Kuruvilla, S. Veerasingam and K. Nagalingampillai was formed to take such steps as would prevail upon the Govt. to retain the present Post Office.

Mr. S. Nadesan admitted the fairness of the demand made by the public and assured the audience that he

## Currency Commission of Ceylon

### New Ordinance to Come into Effect

HIS Excellency the Governor has nominated Mr. H. V. Perera, K. C. and Mr. B. B. Shenoy, Lecturer in Economics at the University College as the two Nominated Commissioners of Currency for a period of three years from the beginning of this month.

The Board of Commissioners of Currency comprise five Commissioners of whom three are ex-officio and two nominated by the Governor after consultation with the Board of Ministers.

The ex-officio Commissioners are the Financial Secretary, the Deputy Chief Secretary and the Deputy Financial Secretary.

#### New Standard Unit

The new Ordinance, the object of which is the economic handling of the Island's currency on up-to-date lines, completely overhauls the present currency machinery and creates a new standard unit of value, the Ceylon rupee.

Under the Paper Currency Ordinance of 1884 the Ceylon currency unit was linked to the Indian rupee coin, the Commissioners of Currency being required to issue and to receive Indian rupee coins. But this was found to be a cumbersome system as the exportation and importation of silver involved delay and expense. As a result, because of its advantages to the Commissioners and banks, there grew up a system of issuing and receiving foreign exchanges instead of coins.

#### Uncertainty Removed

Even this exchange standard system was found to have its disadvantages, as there was some uncertainty in that the Commissioners bought sometimes sterling exchange and sometimes rupee exchange and similarly converted currency notes presented to them in drafts on the Crown Agents or on the Imperial Bank of India, Madras.

The new Ordinance removes this uncertainty and places the Ceylon rupee exchange standard, the Board of Commissioners being required to issue Ceylon currency against drafts on the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, and redeem Ceylon currency by drafts on the same bank.

#### Yearly Statement

The Board of Commissioners of Currency is responsible for the management of the currency system of the Island. The decisions of the Board, which will be by a majority vote, may be signified by any three Commissioners. In the case of an equality of voting, the Chairman has a second casting vote. The Board will meet whenever convened by the Chairman and will have an office in Colombo and may appoint agents, if it considers necessary.

The Board will publish yearly a statement of the currency position at the end of the financial year and submit to the Governor and to the Secretary of State of the transactions during the previous year.

The Ordinance, which was passed by the State Council on May, 27 was assented to by the Governor on June 25.

would make all possible endeavours to bring home to the authorities the urgent need for a Post Office at Achuvely. (Con)

## The Main Causes Of The Present Conflict

(Continued from page 1)

very mainspring of German action.

### Predestination

In addition to this belief in force as the final arbiter in human affairs is the conception of predestination. Every country does, I suppose, regard itself as the chosen people; yet whereas we take our pre-eminence almost for granted, the Germans are terrifically self-conscious about theirs. How often have my German friends said to me 'You English do not realize that you are the spoil children of history'. This remark reflects the eternal interrogative which Germans ask themselves. 'How comes it', they ask, 'that we who are so far more thorough, so far more intelligent, so far more unselfish, so far more numerous, than the English should not as yet have established our supremacy over the world? Why is it that we with our great scientific and commercial capacity, with our vast and devoted population, are still no more than a Central European power? The transition from these irritating reflections to the conception of Pan-Germanism as a national destiny is a natural transition. They are convinced that they have the 'right' to dominate Europe; and it is this perfectly respectable conviction that inspires them with the desire to do so.

### No Gradation

There is a third element in the German tradition which I should also wish to emphasize since it is essential to any real understanding of the diplomatic background. The German mind, accurate and powerful though it be, has little capacity for gradation; it works in extremes sometimes even in opposites. In this country we have often underestimated the antitheses in which the Germans love to indulge. We regard as mere oratorical fireworks such phrases as 'World-domination or collapse', Germany must be either the hammer or the anvil'. Such phrases are something for more revelatory and important than mere purple patches in a public speech. They illustrate the incapacity of the German mind to compromise between extremes. They illustrate the unfortunate fact that the German nature is essentially competitive rather than co-operative. The German conception of the relation between individuals and between nations is a horizontal and not a vertical conception; something is always above, something else is always below; they do not readily adjust their minds to a scheme of things in which individuals and nations can exist quite happily one beside the other.

### Pan-Germanism

If I am correct in these three basic assumptions, then we can understand the appeal made to such a national mentality by the doctrine of Pan-Germanism. Once one allows oneself to fall into the habit of regarding the world as divided between the upper and the under dogs one inevitably concentrates one's whole doctrine and attention upon the resolve

never to become an under-dog oneself. Once one comes to regard the State as a mechanism rather than as an organism, it is inevitable that one should take a purely mechanistic view of policy. Once one allows individual self-assurance to be replaced by an artificial and highly nervous form of group self-assurance, then it is to be expected that the latter may degenerate into national self-assertiveness. It is this development which is at the root of the Pan-Germanic ideal.

Let me quote to you some passages from the prophets and pundits of that ideal. You will notice that they bear a marked resemblance to the Nazi doctrines as enunciated in the last ten years. Let me begin with the doctrine of Lebensraum.

### Time of Hatred

'Every State,' wrote Ernst Moritz Arndt, has the right to demand certain things of neighbouring States when they wrongfully take away the air and the light on which it must grow and develop.' Up to the present day he wrote again, 'Holland is the most outrageous violation of Germany's natural frontier.'

That was written in 1804. Let me continue with the doctrine of hatred as an element in the national will. I quote again from Arndt:

'I desire hatred, burning and bloody hatred because the strangers call out loudly and they are rightly our victors and masters and because that is a thing we must not tolerate. May this hatred burn as the religion of the German people as a sacred madness in all hearts.'

## IMPORTANCE OF VEGETABLES

### Madras Govt's Circular to Medical Officers

Saidapet, June 30.

"Rural medical practitioners and medical officers in Government, local fund and municipal medical institutions, are requested to encourage the use of vegetables, especially leafy vegetables, by the villagers among whom they work." says a Government order communicated to local bodies today.

The Government, in the course of the order, state that the diet surveys carried out in various parts of India have shown that the intake of vegetables, particularly leafy vegetables, is everywhere far below the desirable level. The Government state that leafy vegetables are very valuable supplements to rice diets since they contain richer vitamins and mineral salts. While non leafy vegetables, such as, roots and tubers have certain nutritive advantages over other vegetables, the daily consumption of leafy vegetables will add to the nutritive value of diets. In order to improve the standard of nutrition it is necessary to take more vegetables, especially leafy vegetables.

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