

THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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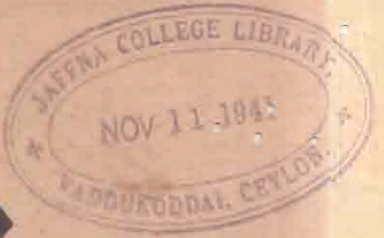
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THE REFORM OF THE CONSTITUTION

IN THE FAR EAST

Peace or War?

London, Wednesday.

IN what is regarded as a final effort by the Japanese Government to break the deadlock which once again threatens Japanese-American negotiations in Washington, Tokyo is sending a special adviser, Mr. Saburu Kurusu, to Washington.

On the success or the failure of his task depend vital issues in the Far East and, says Reuter's diplomatic correspondent, it is not going too far to say that peace and war are hanging in the balance.

Official Washington has noted this news with interest, but the State Department has withheld any statement. It is noteworthy that the initiative in the dispatch of a special emissary comes from Tokyo.

Sources close to Mr. Cordell Hull explained the State Department's reticence with the observation that the Japanese-American situation is in such a critical stage that the less said about it the better until something positive can be announced. It is recalled that the U. S. Navy Secretary, Colonel Frank Knox, recently stated that Far East tension was so acute that a "collision" there appeared almost inevitable.

Mr. Kurusu, who is on his way to the United States, is not coming at the invitation of Washington. This was made clear by the Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, at a Press conference tonight. Mr. Hull said the United States Government had nothing to do with Mr. Kurusu's mission in any way, except to extend to it such courtesies as might be feasible in connexion with his travels. He added that the Japanese Government had notified the State Department that the emissary would co-operate with the Ambassador, Admiral Nomura, in further exploratory conversations.

Mr. Kurusu was formerly Japanese Ambassador to Ber-

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INVESTIGATION NEEDED

A Frank Talk

ON the motion that:-

"This Council requests the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to take immediate steps to advise His Majesty the King to appoint a Commission composed of members with wide administrative experience and knowledge of the Eastern Empire to inquire into and report on the working of the Donoughmore Constitution and to recommend a Constitution more suitable to the conditions and state of public opinion in Ceylon"

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam spoke as follows in the State Council:

May I be permitted, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to offer my thanks for allowing my motion at this stage, as I feel that that section of the House representing a good section of the people of this country who feel that the ultimate solution to the Reforms question can only be brought about by an impartial inquiry by a thoroughly

By

G. G. Ponnambalam

competent and impartial Commission desire that question to be placed before the Secretary of State for the Colonies before he comes to a final conclusion on the question of Reforms.

It might strike hon. Members as being somewhat unfair that this motion should be introduced at this stage when the House has been engaged upon a discussion of the Reforms proposals for several months past. But that is not entirely our fault, Mr. Deputy Speaker. We made it perfectly plain and clear to His Excellency the Governor that so far as an expression of opinion by Members of this House was concerned it would be an expression of opinion as between two interested parties. There is one section of the House representing the minority communities which feel that it cannot get a square deal from a House composed as the pre-

sent house is. I am sorry, I have to talk very frankly. Division after division has more than amply justified the fears or grave misgivings engendered in our hearts. I will give you one solitary example. Take the debate upon the motion dealing with Royal Instructions to the Governor, namely, the inclusion of some representatives of the minorities communities in any future cabinet. I will justify what I say. Some of us indicated that the Royal Instructions framed as they were, even in an unamended form, would be rendered completely nugatory in its actual operation and yet this House witnessed the spectacle of Member after Member belonging to the Board of Ministers and to the major community opposing even that.

Not the First Occasion

I was going to say that this is not the first occasion when a reform of the Constitution has been ushered in by the appointment of a Royal Commission. The Constitution which is in operation to-day, as Members have nauseatingly reiterated, is the result of the findings of a Royal Commission.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, let us not forget the special circumstances in which that Royal Commission was appointed. That Royal Commission was not appointed because of a specific demand made by members of this House or by any section of public opinion in this country. This Special Commission was appointed at the instance of the then Governor who felt that there was a concentration of power in the hands of officials without a corresponding responsibility vested in them.

When the house adjourned last night, Sir, I was referring to the way in which certain decisions went in this House, and as you felt that it was casting an imputation on hon. Members of this House, I withdrew that. I want to make the position however clear,

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BRITAIN & INDIA

Need for National Government

EVERY successful form of government rests on the secure foundation of a fundamental understanding between the component elements of national life based on a realization of common interests. A democratic form particularly postulates such a common sentiment because its methods are dialectical; that is to say, they operate on the assumption that truth and progress are the result of a conflict of ideas. The opportunity created by this war can be used to forge in India a basis of national cohesion as well as of international stability. Whether it will be so used will depend upon the actions of the Government.

The least that it can do to bring about a better order in India is to adopt the recommendations of the Poona Con-

By

M. Hamidullah Beg
In the "Twentieth Century"

ference, and then the Congress and the Muslim League, which have both been non-co-operating with the Government, though for different reasons, may either be forced by the pressure of public opinion to change their policies, or, if they do not, other political organizations might grow out of the ranks of their deserters, because their policies have proved to be abortive and sterile. Just now such developments are completely barred owing to the inadequacy of the policy of the British Government. It is really shocking that in a country seriously at war there should be a government so divorced from public opinion, and that there should be in it such vast quantities of idle capital, unused natural resources, and such a large army of the unemployed, as we find in India today. Only an Indian National Government can

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Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1941

THE CASE FOR A COMMISSION

OF LATE THE "HINDU Organ" has published the views of various individuals, including Mr. D. S. Senanayake, regarding the announcement of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the next instalment of reforms would be granted only after an inquiry by a Parliamentary Commission after the war. Our readers have also had the opportunity of refreshing their memory with regard to the position taken up by the Tamil representatives in the State Council. The suggestion that no such inquiry is necessary and that the various communities of Ceylon should settle their differences and present a united demand for further reforms has been made by Mr. Senanayake and others of his way of thinking.

The suggestion assumes that the conditions favourable to such a demand exist in this country at the present moment. These conditions have been conspicuous by their absence during the last ten years of the Donoughmore regime. The Donoughmore Constitution itself was accepted by Mr. Senanayake and his colleagues, not on the ground that it was the best constitution for Ceylon under the circumstances, but specifically and solely on the ground that, for the first time in modern history, the Sinhalese people to rule the country. An appeal was thus made to communal, as distinct from national, interests, and ever since the various minority communities in this island have had to pay heavily for the doubtful pleasure of enjoying a Government after Sir D. B. Jayatillake's heart.

At the present stage no useful purpose can be served by ignoring the obvious but damning facts of a situation which has been brought about entirely by the lack of statesmanship displayed by the Sinhalese leaders. As we have said often in these columns, it is not desirable to rake up old grievances, but the grievances of the Tamils and other minorities are still there. Not the slightest attempt is being made to meet these grievances even half way. If those who want unity first and the redress of legitimate grievances afterwards will for the moment forget their phrases and consider

the temper and feelings of the minorities, including the Tamils, they will not have the slightest difficulty in understanding how the reform movement in Ceylon has already wrecked itself on the rock of broken promises and discarded ideals. It wrecked itself the moment Sir D. B. Jayatillake appealed to communal and racial interests to justify the acceptance of the Donoughmore Constitution. It wrecked itself when he and his colleagues resorted to the miserable expedient of an All-Singhalese Ministry, and when some of these colleagues tried to rouse the Singhalese people against the Tamils and other minorities. There is no evidence at present of any change for the better in this attitude of the Singhalese leaders.

Besides, apart from the grievances of the minorities, we have had an opportunity of seeing the results of the working of the new Constitution. Some of these results require careful investigation. One of these is unquestionably the inability of the majority of the various electoral divisions to elect worthy men as their representatives. This is the most sinister phenomenon during the last ten years of self-government. If the Ministers think they can raise the cry of national unity and make thoughtful people in any community forget this deadly menace to any form of government, they are greatly mistaken. The public conscience has been roused, and those who in the years gone by presented a united demand for the recognition of the right of the people of this country to govern themselves are now obliged to ask themselves in all earnestness whether the adult franchise conceded by the Donoughmore Constitution has not, after all, proved itself to be an unmixed evil. Again, take the latest instance of discriminatory taxation by the State Council. Enough has been said about the Excess Profits Tax to show how various interests in the State Council have conspired to impose this new tax on a section of the population. This is a conspiracy in which Ceylonese representatives joined hands with the European members. After this exhibition of close amity between the representatives of "foreign interests" and the sons of the soil, Mr. D. S. Senanayake must have been a great optimist to talk at length of the evil wrought by "foreign interests."

These and other matters certainly require a careful and impartial investigation before the people of this country are called upon to decide the vital question of further constitutional changes. It is too late in the day to hope that such changes can be brought about by agreement among the various communities. As we have remarked, all these ten years only one community was functioning politically, and at the bidding of the leaders of this community it would be impossible to persuade the others again to stultify themselves by asking for complete self-government, before the ground has been sufficiently prepared for an agreement.

Notes & Comments

Party Politics

MESSRS. Bandaranaike and Kannangara are playing an exceedingly dangerous game when they propose to carry on an agitation, by issuing literature and holding public meetings against the acceptance of the Joint Report of the two Delegations. In his speech at the special meeting of the Sinhala Maha Sabha, Mr. Bandaranaike contented himself with some vague generalisations about the impossibility of Ceylon's absorbing the entire Indian population. The contention will deceive nobody acquainted with the economic conditions obtaining in the island. Besides, the present is hardly the time for going about the country and starting a campaign the end of which it is not at all difficult to foresee. Mr. Bandaranaike himself cannot be ignorant of the dangers inherent in the situation that has arisen in regard to Indo-Ceylon relations. At a time when the utmost cordiality should prevail between the two countries, it would be nothing short of folly on the part of any responsible political leader to precipitate a crisis. Of course, nobody, except perhaps the authors, is quite satisfied with the report. The delegates have, however, arrived at the only compromise satisfactory to both sides, and a compromise like this is not likely to please all parties and shades of opinion. At least, for the duration of the war, the compromise has to be loyally accepted and carried into effect. We would strongly deprecate any attempt on the part of politicians to make political capital out of a measure which must always be above party politics, the only alternative being an acrimonious agitation on the lines suggested by the Sinhala Maha Sabha.

The Fat Boy's Role

IN his speech at the meeting, Mr. Kannangara tried to play the role of the Fat Boy in Pickwick. He wanted to make our flesh creep by solemnly warning all and sundry "that, if they were to confirm the proposed agreement, the time might not be far off when Indians in Ceylon would say that, if the Singhalese could not live with them, they (the Singhalese) should leave Ceylon. This is another way of saying that the sole object of the Joint Report is to get the Singhalese out of Ceylon—an argument which is as frivolous and baseless as it is mischievous. The object of the argument is, not to convince, but to inflame the public mind; to create unrest and apprehension regarding the future of the Singhalese people; and to stampede the State Council itself into taking up an intransigent attitude with regard to the Report. There is another object as well: it is to undermine the position of Sir D. B. Jayatillake, Mr. D. S. Senanayake, and their followers. In such a situation the representatives of the minority communities have a duty to perform. Some of them may be justifiably dissatisfied with some of the recommendations in the Joint Report, but they ought not to allow themselves to be made use of for the purpose of discrediting the authors of the report. This is what Messrs. Bandaranaike and Kannangara want to do. If the threatened agitation materialises, His Excellency the Governor will, we take it, have something to say about it. In the present circumstances, considerations of law and order are paramount, and they weigh heavily against any attempt to foment ill-feeling between the two countries. The Report itself confers no new blessings on the Indians; it is merely an attempt to meet at least half way the legitimate grievances of Indians with reference to the extreme measures taken by Mr. Bandaranaike

and his colleagues to alter the status and rights of Indians. The wisest course would be to leave the matter here, instead of trying to force on the Board of Ministers a point of view which is frankly and obviously racial and communal. We hope that the State Council will refuse to endorse Mr. Bandaranaike's attitude towards the Joint Report.

A Bad Example

WITH regard to Mr. Bandaranaike's criticism, the Political Correspondent of the "Daily News" is right in saying that all right-thinking people will have no difficulty in understanding the underlying nature of that criticism. As we have said already, Mr. Bandaranaike's campaign has a political object which is obvious enough. We are however unable to understand the content or quality of the mental process which led the correspondent to bracket Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam with Mr. Bandaranaike. Our representatives are by no means perfect, but any one of them would compare very favourably with Mr. Bandaranaike in respect of those qualities of leadership that are vitally needed in a country like Ceylon. The correspondent's contention that politicians of the type of Mr. Ponnambalam have always wanted to exploit "the cause of the minority communities as a counterpoise to the lawful claims of the indigenous people" is rather astounding in view of the fact that the important minority whom Mr. Bandaranaike and his friends want to get rid of are Tamils between whom and the Tamils of Ceylon there are racial and religious ties which cannot be ignored. And yet, the Ceylon Tamils have been very reasonable in regard to this matter; they have always advocated a middle course between two extreme views, though the same cannot be said of those *protéges* of the "Daily News" who find themselves confronted with Mr. Bandaranaike's Chauvinism. The great mistake was originally made when the "Daily News" party tried to get rid of the Indian vote by adopting the simple expedient of eliminating the Indian voter. The plain truth of the matter is that Mr. Bandaranaike is loyal to this piece of political foolishness, while his colleagues have become wiser and very properly wish to arrive at a compromise satisfactory to both sides. There is no reason why the Tamils of Ceylon should refuse to espouse, within limits, the Indian cause, or to benefit by such co-operation. Instead of casting cheap sneers at Tamil politicians, the "Daily News" will do well to persuade its own faction to refrain from making the Indian question a communal or party question. A little more political honesty in this respect will remove from our midst one potent cause of friction.

War Nears India

THE "New Statesman" appeals to the British Government to conciliate India. The time is indeed ripe for some gesture of friendship and goodwill. The battle is approaching India, and for that matter, Ceylon. The "New Statesman" says that, in the present situation, "India's mood might weigh in the final issue as heavily as many armoured divisions", and draws the attention of the British public to the growing feeling amongst Indians that their country should not remain a passive spectator of a struggle in

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Opinions expressed by writers in contributed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.

THE HINDU BOARD OF EDUCATION

By
A Correspondent

An Appreciation and Advice

A Great Idea

THE Annual General Meeting of the Hindu Board of Education has made me venture out with a few observations on this institution. The idea of the Hindu Board of Education is one of the greatest and noblest ideas conceived by the Hindus of Ceylon. The thanks of the Hindu people are due to those who conceived the idea, originated the movement and have been hitherto carrying on the work. Our thanks are also due to those who, even before the advent of the Board, created the necessary atmosphere to bring about its formation. The services of the dead should never be forgotten in any cause and so let us pay our homage to Sri La Sri Arumuga Navalar and the late Sir Ponnampalam Ramanathan, Advocate Nagalingam, Mr. Pasupathy Chettiar and our other distinguished countrymen who have laboured in their day for us in the matter of Hindu education and culture and Tamil learning.

The object of the Board is to see that the Hindus of Ceylon do not rest content till all the Hindu children are educated in a Hindu atmosphere by Hindu teachers in Hindu schools. It is superfluous to say that every Hindu is in hearty agreement with this desire. It is, therefore, the duty of the Hindu public, including those in charge of the Hindu Board, to devise means of achieving this great consummation. The public should try their best to co-operate in the activities of the Board and help in its work. The officials of the Board, including its employees, on the other hand, should work in such a manner as to secure the maximum amount of co-operation from the Hindu public. It is to be regretted that things in

the past have not been as they ought to have been, with the result that the Hindu Board is not at present in a position to do the maximum amount of service to the Hindu public. Allegations have been made in regard to certain aspects of the management. It is not my desire to go into these details on the present occasion. I wish to draw the attention of all concerned to another important factor that has a bearing on the present condition of the Hindu Board and its future welfare.

The Board and the Hindu Public

THE institution depends entirely on the indigenous Hindu public for support, unlike Christian missionary institutions which are, I believe, to some extent subsidised by external agencies. Further, the Hindu public of Ceylon (particularly of Jaffna) is not over-rich. In these circumstances, every precaution must be taken to see that the Hindu Board commands the love, affection and support of the entire Hindu Public. Any element that might tend to disunite the Hindu public and wean it away from its allegiance to the Hindu Board should be removed with the object of enlisting the whole-hearted co-operation of the Hindus of Ceylon. Such being the case, it is desirable that the employees of the Hindu Board, including particularly its executive officers, should abstain as much as possible from participating in partisan controversial movements that might divide the Hindu community. Such a course of abstention will include non-participation in electoral conflicts and electioneering activities. Jaffna is the home of the Hindu

Board of Education, though there are branches outside the Peninsula. It is also the stronghold of the Hindus of Ceylon. Therefore, the allegiance of the Hindus of Jaffna, whether they are settled in the Peninsula or outside, should be preserved intact for the Board, if the latter is to do its best towards the Community. It so happens that a good number of the contestants for electoral offices, whether they be in Village Committees or in the Urban Council or the State Council, are mostly Hindus. Employees of the Hindu Board, particularly prominent executive officers, paid by the Board, to which the Hindu public is expected to subscribe, might do well to pass a self-denying ordinance and abstain from participation in electoral conflicts and electioneering activities. The evil effects of such participation are too obvious and too patent to anybody to be dilated upon. Participation by executive officers of the Hindu Board in elections will involve the Board itself in the election and bring it within the realm of controversy. The Hindu Board should be above and beyond all controversy. Participation in elections and controversial politics brings the Board within the realm of controversy, and thus undermines the affection and unity of the people. It is no argument to say that the officers of the Hindu Board are citizens like others and that they are entitled as of right to discharge their political duties to the fullest extent. The rule forbidding Government servants from active participation in politics is partly based on the principle that the efficiency of the Public Service and its influence over the public would be lost if officials were allowed actively to participate in electoral

conflicts, electioneering activities and controversial politics. Similarly, the influence, and power of the Hindu Board would be very greatly undermined if its employees including its executive officers participated in those matters which are taboo to Government officials. In this case, as in all other matters, the greater the position of the employee, the greater the responsibility.

The Board's Duty

IT is trusted that the officials of the Hindu Board will take the ultimate and abiding interest of the Hindu community at large and evolve a convention whereby participation in controversial politics, electoral conflicts and electioneering activities would be ruled out entirely. Till this great reform is brought about, the Hindu Board would not be able to command that love, respect and influence which it deservedly ought to command among the Hindu Public. Unless and until this great Reform is brought about, the Hindu public which has in the recent past been to some extent divided on the matter of the Hindu Board cannot honestly be expected to give the institution their full and sincere co-operation. It is trusted that the officials of the Hindu Board, who more than others are expected to do their utmost for the sake of the Hindu Board, will realise their clear duty in the matter and act accordingly. That duty is as clear as day-light.

Should the officers concerned follow this course of action, the greatest of all services which they would have rendered to the cause of Hindu education in Ceylon would have been accomplished. Far sighted action on their part now will strengthen immeasurably the present position of the Board and will serve as a salutary example and source of inspiration for future generations to come. The officials and employees of the Board might come and go; but the Hindu Board of Education in Ceylon has to go on for ever. May God bless the Hindu Board!

INCREASING YIELD OF PADDY

Department's Efforts

The Acting Director of Agriculture in his Administration report observes:—

An attempt was made under the Food Production Scheme to increase the yields and consequently the total production of paddy by the free distribution of bone-meal manure. In order that the application of the manure should be effective in Ceylon paddy soils, which are on the whole deficient in nitrogen and organic matter, the free issue of bone-meal manure was made conditional on the application by recipients to their land of green manure or organic matter at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ ton per acre. The response by cultivators to this offer was poor and gives food for thought. Granted that in many areas it is difficult to obtain green material suitable for application to fields, it is astonishing that greater advantage was not taken of the offer. It is probable that the tenancy-system of cultivation and the unprofitable price for

paddy are, in part at least, responsible. It is hoped that, with the completion of the Government rice mills which will be opened shortly and the increasing demand for paddy which should follow, prices will be more remunerative.

Mention may be made here of the increase in crop which is obtained, particularly with short-aged paddies which are not usually transplanted, by harrowing the standing crop at the age of about one month. This practice, which is new to Ceylon, stimulates tiller-production and checks weed growth. Attempts are being made by demonstration and propaganda to extend this practice which is both cheap and simple.

The field officers of the Department have continued to attempt to popularize the growing of pure-line paddies, the use of simple implements in cultivation and the practice of manuring. Pure-line paddies are popular in certain areas, particularly in the Northern and North-Central Provinces and to a lesser extent in the Eastern Province. Model plots worked on villagers' fields on modern lines have proved to be popular and the use of this method of propaganda is being extended.

CAPITALISM CANNOT EXIST

Post-War Economic Order

"Whatever this war may or may not do, whatever things it may overturn or set up, one thing is absolutely settled. The Old Capitalist structure of society is no longer alive and cannot exist here for two reasons. The State is and the needs of the State are, great and paramount", observed Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, presiding over the International Co-operators Day celebrations at Tanjore.

"The state must act," he added. "The time will come when there cannot be many congregations of capital. The taxation of to-day must increase in the future because the ruined towns, countrysides and cities throughout the world should be rebuilt and rebuilt with the sweat and tears of the people. That can only be done by taking the money and by taking the resources of those who have it. It will be done either in the form of taxation or capital levy of something else. It is bound to come. The future of the world therefore is a necessary, inevitable disastrous but nevertheless inescapa-

ble distribution of capital. Secondly, that capital so distributed will necessarily aggregate in the State which will have as the biggest capitalist, the biggest employer of labour with regard to new nationalisation of industries. This is bound to be. The State's responsibilities, every State is bound to become arbitrary and tyrannical, but for the co-operative movement. The co-operative movement should stand as a world-wide, an intensive movement designed to preserve the self-respect of the individual where wealth does not count, but the character, honesty and business habits count and where that honesty that business habit and that willingness to work are regimented and consolidated for the general welfare of the community."

NOTICE

I Subramaniam Thuraiappah of Kondavil do hereby inform the public that an I. O. U. for Rs. 1000/- which I gave on trust to Sinnadhar Vallipuram of Inuvil in the month of May or June 1940 has been lost. The public is hereby warned against negotiating it. Any finder of the I. O. U. is kindly requested to give information to me. Kondavil, Jaffna S. THURAIAPPAH 7-11-41 Muttadumadam (Mis. 130, 10, 13 & 17-11-41)

CULTIVATION OF PALMYRA

Nut Fibre for Carpets

The planting of palmyra in open spaces near village settlements in the dry zone is to be further extended to more remote areas, according to a statement tabled at a meeting of the Board of Agriculture held at Peradeniya on Monday.

The statement was regarding the action taken on previous resolutions of the Board.

The extension of the palmyra cultivation to more remote areas will proceed as the villagers become aware of the usefulness of this tree.

Carpet Making

The possibility of manufacturing high grade carpets from palmyra nut fibre has recently been explained by the Department of Commerce and Industries and the experiments made so far have been successful.

This fibre is said to be more adaptable for conversion into mats and carpets than coir fibre, and is softer.

Vali-West Tamil Teachers' Association

The annual celebrations of the Valigamam West and Islands Tamil Teachers' Association will be held on the 15th instant commencing at 10 a. m. at the Victoria College, Chulipuram, under the presidency of Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, C. C. S.

Letter to the Editor

The Palmyrah

Sir,—I had the opportunity of tasting a sample of palmyrah jam the other day and indeed it was very palatable. I hear that the method of preparation is very simple, and no chemical preservative was used in the process. It was as good as any imported jam, and I would even venture to say better than many of the imported varieties. The one thing that struck me was the maintenance of the taste in the absence of the peculiar smell of the fruit.

As a student of economics I was interested in the possibilities of the various products that could be made from the palmyra palm, and there is no reason why the palmyra palm was not exploited for such a long time, for its valuable food products. The only reason seems to be lack of enterprise and initiative on the part of the people.

I hear that Mr. Saravanapavan (of the Agricultural Dept) by his untiring efforts has found out immense possibilities for the manufacture of food stuffs from the palmyra fruit. If the people of Ceylon and especially of Jaffna, (where the palm seems to have a natural home) are only energetic enough to start producing new and palatable articles of food from the palmyra palm, there is every possibility of alleviating the present economic distress in the country.

There is a bright future for a palmyra industry in Jaffna and it is left to the people of Jaffna to make the best use of the opportunities offered to them and develop the industry to suit modern requirements.

Yours etc,
T. SIVARAJAH

100 Colpetty Lane,
Colpetty,
6.11.41.

IN THE FAR EAST

Continued from page 1

lin. He left Japan for Hongkong yesterday, where he will board a clipper for the United States.

WHAT JAPAN WANTS

Tokyo, Wednesday.

Seven Japanese demands which, it is claimed, would lead to a settlement of the Pacific question are published today by "The Japan Times and Advertiser", the organ of the Japanese Foreign Office. They were set down as follows:—

(1) No more military and economic help to China from other states;

(2) Complete freedom for China in her dealings with Japan;

(3) No more encirclement by the establishment of military, naval and air bases and economic barriers;

(4) Acknowledgment of Japan's co-prosperity sphere in East Asia;

(5) Japanese and Chinese assets to be "unfrozen";

(6) Trade treaties to be re-torced and restriction on shipping and trade to be abolished; and

(7) Recognition of Manchukuo, if it so desires.

The paper, after setting forth these demands, adds that Japan is determined to act boldly and that the United States must revise its policy or face the consequences.

If these demands are authentic and really represent what Japan calls a presentation of the realities of the situation, it is difficult to see any hope of a compromise as they would involve a complete renunciation of the policy thus far pursued in the Far East by the A. B. C. D. group of Powers.

It is possible, therefore, that "The Japan Times and Advertiser" has merely been flying a kite and not voicing any authoritative statement. It is necessary to wait for news from Washington.

PROTEST TO SOVIET UNION

London, Nov. 7.

A Japanese official spokesman today emphasised the "gravity of the situation" when speaking concerning the sinking of the Kahi Maru off Korea on Wednesday night.

Japan has almost reached the "limit," he said, and referred to the previous sinking of a Japanese vessel allegedly by Soviet mines and to Japan's repeated protests to the Soviet Union. Efforts would probably be made by Russia to take precautionary measures, the spokesman said, adding that they would not be enough. "We cannot rely on the sincerity of the Soviet Union," he said.

281 Survivors

The number of people saved from the Japanese steamer Kahi Maru was 281 leaving 110 still missing according to the Domei News Agency which says that twenty are known to be dead.

Fifty-nine drifting mines of Soviet make have been picked up by the Japanese off the coast of Korea, since the beginning of this year, according to a communique issued in Seoul by the Governor-General of Korea.

While foreign military experts in Chungking admit the possibility of a Japanese drive against Kunming, which is at the end of

the supply road from Burma, they are of opinion that the Japanese strength in Indo-China is still insufficient for the campaign. It is estimated that Japan has at present seventy thousand troops and 150 aircraft there, which must be increased to 200,000 troops and 400 aircraft in order to make a difficult drive through Yunnan over the Indo-China border. Chinese circles are confident that Britain and the United States will not remain idle in the event of a Japanese drive against the Burma Road.

Aid to China

"It is important for Britain and the United States to keep China fighting in the Far East," one observer remarks, "just as much as to keep Soviet Russia fighting in Europe." While it is impossible to foretell what form assistance will take, it is believed in Chungking that British and American aircraft may be used to help China to defend the Burma Road. Meanwhile the Chinese authorities are taking no chances and are rushing up supplies.

Japanese Reinforcements

Japanese reinforcements have arrived in Haipong, and although a certain number are proceeding southward by train, the majority are remaining in Tonkin. Although the possibility of a Japanese move northward is not ruled out, the contention that the Japanese force in Tokin is "purely defensive" is strengthened by considerations of the extremely difficult terrain between China and Indo-China.

The late T reports show that the Burma Road is rapidly approaching peak capacity and the Japanese wish to stop the traffic before the material transported has reached a volume compensating for the stoppage in deliveries from Russia.

Some circles point out that while the Japanese are probably unwilling to cause a general outbreak of hostilities in the Far East, the idea of cutting the Burma Road inside China is doubtless strategically tempting to them.

"Precarious Road"

"There is always the possibility, even probability, of a direct march on the Burma Road," says the "Japan Times and Advertiser," the organ of the Japanese Foreign Office, in a reference to "Japan's power of initiative" today. In an article entitled "Precarious Road," the newspaper says periodical air raids have considerably damaged the road, but "a permanent solution" would be the Japanese occupation of it.

NOTICE

I Vaiththianather Kandiah of Chunnagam now of Kuala Lumpur in the Federated Malay States, do hereby give notice that I have already revoked and cancelled the power of attorney executed by me in favour of Vaiththianather Visuvanathapillai some years ago, as I have executed another Power of Attorney in his favour in favour of my daughter, son-in-law and the said Vaiththianather Visuvanathapillai today the 21st October 1941.

Dated at Seremban this 21st day of October 1941.

V. KANDIAH.
(Mis. 122. 3—17-11-41.)

BRITAIN & INDIA

Continued from page 1

remedy these serious defects in the comparatively primitive and neglected Indian war machine for which India has to thank the British.

If Hitler Wins

LASTLY, let us all be quite clear about the consequences of Hitler's victory—a point on which there seems to be doubt and confusion. His victory would mean that there would be no place in the world for the freedom of any people except the German, and that the rule of a Herrenvolk led by the maddest, and certainly the most powerful, megalomaniac in history would be maintained over his helots by the most thorough, brutal, and scientific oppression the world has ever known. Hitler turns in unexpected directions and banks on surprises for his victories. Let the realisation of this and the nearness of the danger to India impart resilience to the attitudes of our Government and of our political leaders. In invading Russia, Hitler relies on confusion in world opinion as his greatest ally, and he poses as the saviour of civilization. Far from being deceived, let us see his policy and its implications clearly since it is revealed in all its naked bestiality more strikingly than ever. The main feature of Hitler's technique has been: *l'audace toujours de l'audace*. Cannot tables be turned upon Hitler by applying this very technique against him? There is a deplorable tendency to speak of this golden opportunity as a respite. Let us hope that Hitler's regime will receive its deathblows from the British Commonwealth before Russia is defeated, for isolating his enemies and dealing with them in turns is the cornerstone of Hitlerian strategy.

To sum up: The hopes of a new and better order in India depend on three factors:

1. The defeat of Hitler. This can only be accomplished by devising adequate means for achieving victory, and this implies the necessary political adjustment to enlist the full support and energies of the Commonwealth.
2. A bold and generous policy of the British Government towards India now, leading to the formation of Indian National Government. If the Government does not act now, it might be too late to preserve Indian peace, unity, and integrity.
3. A new spirit of concord in Indian political life. This can be brought about by magnanimous moves of our political leaders under the sense of a great and impending danger to India, or by the actions of the Government resulting, either in the creation of an irresistible political necessity for agreement among the leaders, or in the growth of a new and attractive nucleus of political association and unity.

THE REFORM OF THE CONSTITUTION

Continued from page 1

namely, that decisions have been effected by the preponderance of one community in the Council.

The Governor's Opinion

NOW with regard to the demand for a Commission, you will notice, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that his Excellency the Governor has adverted to it in one paragraph of his Despatch. He does not oppose the appointment of a Commission but he exhibits a close mind on the subject. He says that if the Secretary of State for the Colonies were to appoint a Royal Commission fresh evidences should not be taken on this subject of Constitutional reforms but upon the evidence available the Commission should decide. I do not think any of us could have any objection to their deciding upon evidence if the evidence is absolutely complete. But I venture to think that an impartial inquiry by a Commission in Ceylon will reveal the state of affairs and a series of facts which could not have been brought out in these debates.

Apart from the question of Constitutional reforms, Sir, the question of finance of this country and the expenditure upon education, on which there has been a demand from all sections of the people of this country for a Royal Commission, might all be met by the appointment of one comprehensive commission on the subject.

In India

It might not be out of place to consider for a moment the way

in which Constitutional reforms have been tackled in India. There periodically a statutorily-granted Commission has to come out—I believe once in 10 or 12 years. Take the more recent case. Even during the stress of war the then Secretary of State (Mr. Edwin Montagu) came along and in collaboration with the Viceroy (Lord Chelmsford) toured the whole country, took evidence and subsequently sent out certain Committees, notably the Southborough Committee, before a report was submitted to a Joint Committee of both houses of Parliament. And the Government of India Act of 1919 did not become an accomplished fact till that Report had been considered and approved in the major parts by a Joint Committee of both Houses. In the India Act of 1919 it was definitely laid down that the further reform of the Constitution could only be effected after an examination of the Constitutional position by a Statutory Commission.

It was because of that provision in the Government of India Act of 1919 that the Simon Commission otherwise called the Statutory Commission on India, came out. The history of the investigations of that Commission is too recent to need recapitulation. But we know this: very nearly two years were spent by the leading lights of all parties in the House of Commons and outside it in touring India, in order to try and examine and understand the position of the various communities and their respective demands before a report was written. That report of the Statutory Commission

was not the last word on the subject. Subsequently because of the opposition of certain communities to the findings of the Statutory Commission, there was a Round Table Conference lasting, again, over a period of several months, at which delegates of British India, of various political parties and organisations were heard at first hand by His Majesty's advisers at Whitehall. Nor was that all, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Subsequently their findings were subject to the review of a Joint Parliamentary Commission of both houses.

At a time when we contemplate changes of a very far-reaching nature, changes which, if the present demands of the Sinhalese Board of Ministers were granted, would usher in a definitely responsible form of government—I think such changes should be effected only after a survey of the situation, a survey of what has happened since the inauguration of the Donoughmore Constitution, by an impartial body of Commissioners.

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Chundikuli, Jaffna.
[Q. 82, 7-8-6-11-41.]

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[Q. 115, 23-10-41-24-1-42.]

Notes & Comments

Continued from page 2

which India's future is involved as directly as that of Britain. The present is indeed a time for heroic measures. The old shibboleths about the difficulties in the way should be brushed aside in the same way as the British people have brushed aside some cherished but erroneous notions of theirs in regard to other matters. British public opinion has been no doubt slow to develop but it has nevertheless succeeded in adapting itself to a situation, at once strange and revolutionary. To solve the Indian problem should not be difficult, once it is realised that the willing and effective co-operation of India, which can only be secured by a timely recognition of her legitimate claims, is as necessary as, for instance, the manufacture of tanks.

CORRECTION

In the article on "Balanced Representation" by "A Correspondent" which was published in the last issue of the *Hindu Organ* an error has crept into the sentence—"a few more seats with balanced representation will merely lead us up to a blind alley." The word *with* should read as *without*.

The word *Jaffna* which occurred during the last 13 lines in the 1st paragraph of my article that appeared in the "Hindu Organ" of the 6th November 1941 should be read as *Ceylon*.

—K. Sivapragasam.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1080.

In the matter of the estate of the late Kathirithamby Kulasegaram of Navaly Deceased.
Valupillai Tambipillai of Manipay Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Kulasegaram Selvatamby, 2. Ponmany daughter of Kulasegaram, 3. Tambipillai Rasamanikkam of Manipay, 4. Mangaleswary daughter of Kulasegaram, 5. Annaledchumy widow of Kulasegaram of Mallagam Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that the above-named 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors 1st and 2nd respondents and 5th respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor 4th respondent coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge on the 23rd October 1941 in the presence of Mr. E. Marugesampillai Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner having been read: It is ordered that the above-named 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minors 1st and 2nd respondents and 5th respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor 4th respondent for the purpose of protecting their interests in these Testamentary proceedings and that Letters of administration to the estate of the said deceased be granted to the Petitioner as the father-in-law of the deceased unless the respondents shall appear before this court on the 28th November 1941 and state objection to the contrary.

The 23rd day of October 1941.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

[Q. 48, 19 & 18-11-41.]

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[Mis. 126, 6 & 10-11-41.]

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA
(Held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 166. P.

In the matter of the intestate estate and effects of the late Ramalingam Damodarampillai of Karanavai North Deceased.

R. Damodarampillai Shivagurunathan of Karanavai North

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Thamotherampillai Ramalingam
2. Damoderampillai Subramaniam
3. Damoderampillai Senathirajah
4. Damoderampillai Mailvaganam
5. Maragathavalli daughter of Damoderampillai
6. Balambikai daughter of Damoderampillai
7. Puvaneswari daughter of Damoderampillai
8. Ponnar Vannichey widow of Damoderampillai all of Karanavai North. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva, Esquire, Additional, District Judge, Jaffna on the 16th day of October 1941 in the presence of Mr. P. Kanapadhipillai, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the petitioner having been read;

It is ordered that the abovenamed 8th respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 4th to 7th respondents to represent them and to protect their interests in these testamentary proceedings, that the petitioner as son be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased and that Letters of Administration be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or any other persons shall on or before the 20th day of November, 1941 appear and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 16th day of October, 1941.

L. W. de Silva,

Addl. District Judge.

(O. 45. 6 & 10-11-41.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary No. 979 T.

In the matter of the intestate estate of Subramaniyakkurukkal Sivasamikurukkal alias Sheo Guru Khator of Chavakacheheri Jaffna late of Bannars in North India. Deceased.

Velambihiammah widow of S. Sivasamikurukkal alias Sheo Guru Khator of Chavakacheheri Jaffna.

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Subramania Sarma
2. Muttusamy Sarma
3. Sabanayaga Sarma
4. Parameswary Sarma
5. Sarvesuvara Sarma all children of Sivanandaparathi of Chavakacheheri now of Kilakkuveethi in Sidamparam S. I.
6. Kanagasabapathikkurukkal Somasundaram Kurukkal
7. Kanagasabapathikkurukkal Thiagarajakkurukkal
8. Kanagasabapathikkurukkal Pancharacharakurukkal
9. Kirishanamoorthy Iyer and wife
10. Valambal alias Vallayambal
11. M. Subramaniam and wife
12. Pakkiam
13. Pavaniammah wife of the 8th Respondent all of Chavakacheheri
14. Jegathambal daughter of Nadarajakkurukkal of Vallveddy
15. Nadarajakkurukkal Rengasamy Iyer
16. Appotharunakkurukkal Santhirasegarar
17. Appotharunakkurukkal Subramaniam
18. Nadarajakkurukkal Ratnasabapathy
19. Nadarajakkurukkal Ramanathan
20. Nadarajakkurukkal Sundaramoorthy

21. Diruthevy daughter of Nada, rajahkkurukkal
22. Subramaniyakkurukkal Appotharana Kurukkal all of Chavakacheheri Respondents.

This matter coming on for final disposal before E. V. R. Samaravickrama Esquire Acting District Judge Jaffna on the 27th day of January 1941 in the presence of Mr. V. Canagasabai proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read, it is ordered that the 1st Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 2nd to 5th Respondents, 22nd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 16th and 17th Respondents and the 6th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors 18th to 21st Respondents for the purpose of protecting their interest and of representing them in this case and that the petitioner be declared entitled to have letters of administration to the Estate of the said intestate be issued to her as his lawful widow, unless the Respondents or any person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on or before the 5th day of March 1941 and state objection or show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
Jaffna District Judge.
This 11th day of February 1941.

Order Nisi extended and re-issued for the 10th of November 1941.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Drawn by
V. Canagasabai
Proctor for Petitioner
(O. 47. 6 & 10-11-41)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1079

In the matter of the Intestate Estate (in Ceylon) of the late Naganather Sampanthanather of Chunnakam in the Island of Ceylon but late of Johore Deceased.

And in the matter of the appointment of a guardian-ad-litem over Sampantha Nather Mahadevan of Averangal presently of Silver-smith Street Colombo. Minor.

Sothipillai widow of Sampanthanathar of Averangal

and Petitioner.

1. Sampanthanathar Mahadevan and
2. Naganathar Kumarasingham both of Hill Lodge Silver-smith Street, Colombo Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before T. Quinton Fernando Esquire District Judge on the 16th day of October 1941 in the presence of Mr. Ehamparanathan, Proctor on the part of the petitioner abovenamed and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 16th day of October 1941 and the order of the Supreme Court dated the 12th September 1941 having been read.

It is ordered that the said Naganathar Kumarasingham the 2nd respondent be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem of Sampanthanathar Mahadevan, the minor 1st Respondent and that the said petitioner is the widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have letters of administration to the estate (in Ceylon) of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person or persons shall on or before the 26th day of November 1941 shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

Jaffna the 16th day of October 1941.
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy
District Judge

True Copy
Ehamparanathan
Proctor for Petitioner
(O. 46. 6 & 10-11-41)

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