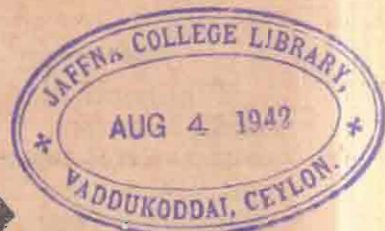


THE Hindu Organ.



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A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Demonetization of 50-Cent Coins

A proclamation by the Governor in last Friday's Gazette declares that every silver coin of the denomination of fifty cents, issued or purporting to be issued in the year 1942 or any year preceding that year, shall cease to be legal tender after the 30th day of September, 1942.

Food Position in Britain

Six hundred thousand additional acres of wheat will be harvested in Britain this year, declared the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Hudson, reviewing food production in Parliament today. Milk production in the first six months of this year was 10,000,000 gallons above the similar period in the best pre-war year.

Ask Pope to Urge Peace

Roman Catholic Bishops in Germany have sent a letter to the Pope urging him to publish a peace programme acceptable to both sides, says a copyright despatch to the "Chicago Daily News" dated "Somewhere in Europe." It is suggested that the letter may influence the Encyclical which is expected in one month's time.

Gandhi Intends to Launch Campaign

"Mahatma Gandhi's last struggle will be short and swift and will be finished within a week," declared Sardar Vallabhai Patel, addressing a meeting of students on the occasion of the inauguration of the National Students' Union on Wednesday. There were divisions in the student world of India, he declared, but they should be bridged.

Improvement of Rice Cultivation

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the scheme proposed by the Director of Agriculture for introduction in the current year of improved paddy seed and better cultural practices in the rice cultivation in about 1½ lakhs of acres in the South Arcot district at a net cost of Rs. 30,000, and in about 3 lakhs of acres in the Kistna district at a net cost of Rs. 48,000. The scheme will be spread over a period of two years.

WHY THE WORLD GOES TO WAR

DESTRUCTION A REQUIRED CONDITION OF PROGRESS

BY N. SIVAGNANASUNDRAM B. A. (Lond)

WAR is a recurring incident of history. The birth of nations is placed amid the trouble and travail of war: so also is their death. It seems to be a characteristic of group life that from time to time man in the aggregate has been addicted to an activity so anti-social and suicidal as war. Much has been said and written about the evils of war, that it spells ruin to the race, that it evokes the worst instincts in man, that it spreads woe and misery in its wake, so much so that one wonders whether man's will to live implies his will to die as well. The verdict of science seems to be that the struggle for existence and the survival of the fittest is the course of life and that variation of race and culture is a required condition of progress. Man's destiny as a moral being has been to oscillate between the twin-poles of good and bad, right and wrong, war and peace. War, then, is an activity normal to man in the sense that it is in his nature to prefer war to peace and vice versa.

Means to an End

Men and nations resort to war to achieve what peaceful means fail to: it is a bloody means to an end. The clash of the individual will with the established order of things results in his revolt against it. Such revolt may rage within the narrow confines of his life or surge above to greater scale by reason of the greater issues at stake. The inner conflict of a Hamlet has led to events that touched a whole nation, turning and twisting the course of its history. From time to time there have lived men whose destiny it has been to churn an ordered world into chaos, and create a new order of things, wise or otherwise. Hard names have been given to such men, but it must be said that, in so far as their activities have affected the human race as a whole, human destiny has fulfilled itself through such instruments.

War presents the awful spectacle of arms and men murdering each other, scorn-

ing the sanctity of life or the Sermon on the Mount. So potent is the spell of an ideal over man that he touches sublime heights that human nature, as it is, is foreign to. War raises man to the stature of the superman. A great deed is the child of great emotion which, alone, has made men great and unforgettable. Love of the fatherland, of one's religion, of one's race, these are powerful motives inspiring men to great acts. A nation is not merely a mass of individuals having common ties of language and customs: on the other hand, a nation is a union of men and women sharing a common devotion to a common culture, a common tradition. There is a uniformity of response to a common emotion, a unity of action for a common purpose. When danger threatens the state, in the shape of an armed host menacing the security and safety of the land and its cherished institutions, the clarion's call awakens in men and women the love for the nation, and the strong desire to preserve it at any cost. Such a war enables man to experience an emotion that surges beyond himself, and a spirit that fulfills itself in self-sacrifice. Since the sacrifices that war demands of a citizen are greater by far than those that peace would have, there comes into being a system of values and virtues that heightens the moral worth of mankind. War inspires great virtues in man and urges him on to deeds of valour and heroism. His self is no more the centre of interest. If the part of youth is action, no other activity gives greater scope for action than war. The primrose paths of pleasure are abandoned for the stern field of drill and discipline. Few things are more loathsome than war but the ideal of death in battle is the highest morality in which the aim is to serve with one's life.

Violent & Non-Violent Evolution

The idea of human progress

Continued on page 5

BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARDS INDIA

EXPLAINED IN THE COMMONS

London, Thursday.

British intentions as regards the political situation in India were explained in the House of Commons by the Secretary of State, Mr. L. S. Amery, today. He said:

"The Congress Party Working Committee has adopted, subject to ratification by the All-India Committee, a resolution demanding the immediate withdrawal of British rule from India and threatening a mass movement if the demand were not conceded. His Majesty's Government stands firmly by the broad intention of the offer made in the draft declaration which Sir Stafford Cripps put forward. The present demand of the Congress completely ignores this far-reaching offer and would, if conceded, bring about an abrupt dislocation of the vast and complicated machinery of Government in India. This at a time when, in Russia, China, Libya and other theatres of the war, the situation calls for undivided energy, co-operation and concentration of the resources of all the Allied Powers. No greater dis-service to the cause for which the United Nations are fighting can be imagined and men of good-will everywhere must refuse to envisage such a catastrophic development in one of the most vital theatres of the war. His Majesty's Government, while reiterating its resolve to give the fullest opportunity for India to obtain complete self-government, cannot but solemnly warn all those who stand behind the Party adumbrated by the Working Committee of the Congress that the Government of India will not flinch from its duty to take every possible step to meet the situation.

"The United Nations have bent themselves to the task of fighting the menace which overhangs freedom and civilisation. In this crisis and its future after the war, India has a great part to play and it is the earnest hope of the Government that the Indian people will lend no countenance to a movement fraught with such disastrous consequences, but will, on the contrary, throw

Continued on page 5

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

The inordinate rise in cost of newsprint, coupled with the fact that our constituents in the F. M. S., Singapore and Burma, have ceased to remit to us the subscriptions due, has greatly increased the difficulties of the management of the "Hindu Organ". May we, therefore, appeal to our subscribers and advertisers to help us by promptly remitting all arrears due. This being the only newspaper in the island for the Hindus, your sympathy, support and goodwill is earnestly solicited to enable us to continue the useful work we are doing.

THE MANAGER.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 1942.

POLICE OFFICERS FROM MALAYA

SIR BARON JAYATILAKA'S defence of the proposed appointment of two non-Ceylonese Assistant Superintendents of Police from Malaya does not look like the Home Minister's own production. According to Sir Baron, the work of the Criminal Investigation Department had increased considerably since the war, and it was, therefore, proposed to appoint two non-Ceylonese as a temporary measure. There was, added Sir Baron somewhat naively, the question of Malayan evacuees which had to be taken into consideration, and these officers had had experience in dealing with such persons. Evidently, Sir Baron forgot for the moment the bitter criticism that was once levelled at the manner in which the whole problem of evacuation was handled in Malaya. It was even alleged that there was a good deal of racial discrimination shown in the evacuation of people. Under these circumstances, Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardena was quite right in saying that the reasons advanced by the Minister were preposterous. We do not think there are any persons in this country who desire to have the example of Malaya repeated here.

If Sir Baron's reasons were preposterous, the Financial Secretary's arguments were still more so. Mr. Huxham said there was a definite need at the present time for temporary officers who had some acquaintance with Malays, Chinese and members of other races who had come to Ceylon. We regret that it is impossible to take

this argument at its face value. The influx of large numbers of people from other quarters of the Empire makes it all the more imperative that Ceylonese Police Officers who know the permanent population and its habits, should be in charge of the additional work entailed by the presence of evacuees in the island. There should be no difficulty in selecting Ceylonese officers suitable for the new posts.

In spite of Sir Baron's appeal to the House to take a "practical" view of the matter, the resolution was rejected by a majority of six votes. The incident shows that the Home Minister had seriously miscalculated the temper of the Council, and is no longer in touch with opinion outside the magic circle of the Board of Ministers. He has even failed to ask himself how his proposal would be received by those persons whose friends and relations are still immured in Malaya under Japanese rule, while the two officers from Malaya had managed to escape.

MR. AMERY SPEAKS

Mr. Amery's latest speech is perhaps his worst. There is no need to add to the chorus of condemnation with which the Wardha resolution has been greeted outside Congress circles. Moderate as well as non-party opinion in India has condemned the Congress move as unwise and unreasonable. It was left to Mr. Amery to brandish the big stick and threaten the Congress with dire penalties for a movement which has not as yet started. Mr. Amery's threats might have served their purpose at a time when India's frontiers were not threatened. Today with the Japanese army on the frontiers of Bengal and Assam, with the Germans trying to crash through the Caucasus into Iran, the position is radically different. In the present circumstances, the attitude of the Congress towards the British Government will play a considerable, if not decisive, part in determining the future of India. When we remember that the unreasonableness of the Congress is in no small measure due to the presence of men like Mr. Amery at the India Office, it is easy to understand what is going to happen, unless the British Government makes up its mind to rid itself of the influence of the gang that has always stood in the way of India's independence. Mr. Amery is one of the leaders of that gang. He has done his best to provoke the Indian leaders with propositions and formulas that are sadly out of date. The present position has narrowed itself down to the question whether, in the governance of India, the British public is going to trust itself to the glib statesmanship of Mr. Amery and his

colleagues or to the advice of the Indian National Congress. A decision is needed without delay for the simple reason that the defence of India against foreign invasion, which Mr. Amery and his friends have so much at heart, would be impossible without the goodwill and co-operation of the Congress.

It is also necessary to understand the real position of the Congress. We believe Pandit Nehru when he says that he and his friends do not want any foreign Power to obtain a hold on India, but we also believe that the Congress has, as a body, lost all faith in British assurances and promises. The faith that has been, rightly or wrongly, lost, is not going to be restored under Mr. Amery's threats. It can only be restored by the British Government's making up its mind to understand the Congress position, while the Congress, for its part, gives up its demand that the British must quit India forthwith. As we have said once before in these columns, there has been a lack of sanity on both sides, and Mr. Churchill's continued loyalty to Mr. Amery has convinced the Congress of the futility of appeals to reason or self-interest. This is why a new tone is discernible in the utterances of Congress politicians who declare that independence is India's birthright and that the Allied Nations have no voice in the matter. In principle, the Congress position is correct, but in practice it is bound to lead to difficulties. The sympathy and support of America, for instance, cannot but be of the greatest help to the cause of Indian independence, and the Congress must do its best to retain it.

Besides, is the situation so impossible that Mr. Amery must needs threaten and the Congress should put its faith in a mass movement hostile to established authority? We do not think so. The British Government made a mistake in taking up a "take it or leave it" attitude when it sent Sir Stafford Cripps with its proposals. Even now it is not too late to resume negotiations. The President of the Congress has said so, and men like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru favour a Round Table Conference to settle the present difficulties.

NOTES & COMMENTS

A Supporter

WE are glad to note that there is before the State Council a motion calling upon Government to stabilise the price of foodstuffs at the pre-war level. Though it is not certain that, in view of the increasing cost of production, pre-war rates can be restored, it is encouraging to find at last that there is one State Councillor, at least, who, in effect, urges the very same cause which the "Hindu

Organ" so strongly pleaded in its issue of 24th July — a reasonable reduction in the price of foodstuffs. The cause is so unexceptionable, just and convincing that it would not be too much to expect of the other State Councillors to support the principle of the motion sponsored by Mr. M. C. M. Kaleel, member for Colombo Central. The abnormal increase in the price of rice and other foodstuffs; the frequent reduction in rice rations; the necessity to bring in substitutes for rice; the existence of large quantities of excess paddy in certain non-ration areas and the scarcity of the same in others; the very strict regulations against the sale, purchase and transport of paddy and other food grains; the unconscionable atrocities of the "black market" and the miserable plight of the large mass of the people—all these should make our "rulers" think furiously and devise ways and means of ensuring an equitable distribution of the available foodstuffs at a price fair and reasonable to all concerned.

* * *

How to do it

AS pointed out by the "Hindu Organ", a just and feasible method of relieving the food situation in the country would be to utilise the proposed War allowances to Government employees and teachers for subsidising trades in essential foodstuffs so as to keep at a reasonable maximum the prices of these indispensable commodities. In the case of paddy, the most important food grain of the people, the Government should buy up all the stock in excess of a farmer's reasonable requirements at the nett cost in Ceylon of the imported variety. The maximum price of paddy to the consumer should then be fixed as low as possible, utilising the money proposed for war allowances to effect this much-needed reduction. By so doing, the authorities would not only be helping every one to get one's rice fairly cheap but would also be giving a great stimulus to extensive cultivation of this crop.

An efficient purchasing and distributing agency should help the distribution, in equitable proportions, of the available paddy to the various parts of the Island and thus put an end to a scandalous situation like the present in which some parts of the country suffer from shortage while others, from excess.

* * *

The "Black Market"

THE "black market" in paddy and rice in Jaffna has assumed scandalous proportions. It undoubtedly supplies a genuine need which the authorities feel unable to meet. There is an undisputed demand for rice and paddy over and above the quantities rationed by Government. Finding no lawful means of getting these, the men half starved of their rice diet turn round to the "black market" which magnanimously hands over a bag of eighty measures of rice for Rs. 40, and a bag of three bushels of paddy for Rs. 25. This latter, no doubt, risks his money in this during speculation but nevertheless gets rich quick. He has become both a necessity and an evil. He threatens to be with us for the duration of the rice-control, unless miraculously the Jaffna man turns a non-rationer overnight. It is very difficult to suppress this elusive but venturesome individual. If the authorities want to, they can only minimise his chances of profit-making by increasing the quantity of the rations. So long as any restriction lasts, that long will the black market last. It has become a necessary evil.

LONDON EXAMINATIONS

Disabilities of Varsity Students

That there was a breach of compact on the part of the Government in not providing for regular courses at the Ceylon University for students who had entered the University from approved colleges and paid their fees with a view to preparing for the London degree examinations, was stressed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Association convened specially to consider among other matters, the unenviable position of those students.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Association was held at "Brindaban" the residence of Mr. N. Chelvadurai, the Joint Secretary, on Tuesday the 28th July, 1942 with Mr. C. Arulampalam J. P. one of the Vice-presidents in the chair.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and the tabling of the correspondence by the Joint Secretary the following resolutions were moved by Mr. V. Manickavasagar, Practor:—

That this association requests
1. That the permission granted for students to sit for the London Degree Examinations from the Ceylon University till 1944 be extended till 1946 in view of the fact that students had, prior to the regulations of the University being notified, begun to prepare for the London Examinations.

2. That necessary arrangements be made for such students to cover the portion of work for London Examination which is outside the syllabus of the internal degrees of the University of Ceylon.

3. That provision be made for such students to secure the Ceylon Degree as well provided they satisfy the rule with regard to the three year residence.

Stranded

In moving the above resolutions Mr. Manickavasagar referred to the fact that a number of students who had passed the Intermediate Examinations were stranded at the Ceylon University. To begin with they were not permitted to work for the London degrees. After agitation the authorities have now permitted these students to sit for the 1943 and 1944 examinations. But they have been informed that no arrangements will be made to cover the London syllabus. So long as students had entered the University with the intention of sitting for the degree examinations in two years in accordance with the usual course at the University College and no notice of any change in the curriculum or in the courses had been given it was incumbent on the authorities to provide the necessary course for these students and take the full responsibility of preparing them for the London Examinations. He further pointed out that the concessions granted should be extended till 1946 at least, considering the fact that students owing to want of notice of the changes effected at the University have started on their career in higher education at other colleges and will only be able to sit for the 1946 degree examinations. This was seconded by C. K. Tambe, Bar-at-law and there was a general discussion in which all members took part and

SOVIET WRESTS INITIATIVE IN DON 'ELBOW'

REICH DRIVE SLOWED DOWN

London, Friday.

AN indication that the Soviet forces have taken the initiative in the fighting in the Don "elbow", west of Stalingrad, is given in a German radio report tonight which for the first time speaks of "bitter defensive actions" in this area.

The latest Moscow reports reaching Stockholm say that in the Tsimlyanskaya sector, the Russians have launched a counter-attack with a strong tank formation. The attack has been successful in slowing down the German drive.

Soviet troops during ceaseless attacks have captured four inhabited localities on the Briansk front, states a front-line report quoted by the Moscow radio.

Hand-to-hand fighting took place in the four villages and the Germans suffered 400 casualties. Soviet artillery frustrated all Axis attempts to bring fresh reinforcements.

Marshal Timoshenko, determined to save Stalingrad, is hurling fresh troops into the great battle that has been raging for eight days in the Don "elbow".

The Soviet Command has evidently set itself the task of stopping General von Bock at any cost from reaching the river between Kletskaya and Kalach—the only sector, except Voronezh, where the Russians are still fighting on the west bank. The Luftwaffe is going all out to bomb bridges and crossings over which the Red Army is bringing supplies, but these are heavily protected by anti-aircraft guns and fighter planes. General von Bock has thrown 600,000 men—all he dare detach from other parts of the front—into his southern drive. Three prongs are aimed at Stalingrad—from the Kuban area from Rostov to Bataisk and from the Tsimlyanskaya bridgehead. General von Bock's first tactical objective must be to reach the Stalingrad-Krasnodar railway. But the Germans may also be attempting to march towards Stalingrad to establish a link with forces fighting south east of Bataisk.

On the Bataisk front, the presence of many Rumanian and Hunga-

rian divisions shows that Hitler has no surplus of home-bred soldiers. Its experience at Voronezh and the hard knocks dealt it almost daily on other fronts north of Orel has taught the German Command (though perhaps too late) that it is risky to denude other fronts for one mighty gambler's throw. At Voronezh, very heavy fighting is still going on in the southern sector where the Hungarians are bearing the brunt of the fighting.

New Tactics Fail

In their new offensive against Stalingrad the Germans attacked in phalanx or hedgehog formation. Instead of tanks moving forward on a wide front with infantry coming behind, the tanks moved forward in a tangle with the infantry in their midst. The new manoeuvre did not succeed.

The tank spearhead of the phalanx was taken under concentrated artillery fire and nine German tanks were rapidly destroyed. This left part of the infantry exposed which was then heavily shelled. Soviet anti-tank riflemen and field artillery simultaneously attacked the German tanks at the side of the phalanx. The tanks finally turned back. Soviet infantry then counter-attacked, supported by an artillery barrage, driving the German infantry divisions back and inflicting heavy losses on them.

Today's German communique states: "German, Rumanian and Slovak troops crossed the Lower Don on a front of 150 miles and have repelled enemy forces of defending this sector. The spearhead of the German thrust is already 110 miles south of the Don. Fighting is in progress this morning for the important railway junction of Salsk."

"An Infantry Division has taken Kushechevskaya. The Luftwaffe ceaselessly intervened in pursuit of numerous columns and is preventing the enemy from regaining a foothold. In the region of Rzhev strong enemy attacks were repulsed, partly by counter-attacks. On the Volkhov front and before Leningrad local enemy thrusts failed."

responsed between the residents in this Island and their relations and friends now in enemy occupied territories of Malaya and Burma be permitted on lines similar to the arrangements now made for correspondence with prisoners of war and civilian internees in those countries. This resolution also was unanimously passed.

Copra Buying Agency

The Chairman then proposed the following resolution:—"This association requests the Hon. the Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce to establish a copra buying agency in Jaffna for the benefit of the producers of copra in the Jaffna District." In proposing the above resolution Mr. C. Arulampalam referred to the fact that the merchants of the North had formed themselves into a ring and are underbidding whereas in Colombo and elsewhere a much higher price was authorised by Government. This was seconded by Mr. R. Subramaniam, Practor and unanimously carried.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting ended.

CEYLON COINAGE

Misapprehension about Shortage

A press communique issued by the Department of Information states:—

A great deal of misapprehension appears to exist in the minds of the public regarding the present coin shortage. Many persons believe that Ceylon coins have been withdrawn from circulation by the Currency Commissioners so that the metal in them may be available for war purposes. Others think that Ceylon coins have been exported by the Currency Commissioners to India. All these ideas are totally incorrect. In connection with the new Currency system which was adopted last year Indian coins were returned to India, but not a single Ceylon coin has been withdrawn from circulation or sent out of the country.

It is alleged that members of the public have taken large quantities of coin to India. The Currency Commissioners have done what they can to ascertain the facts and believe that very little coin has left the country.

The present shortage is due to (a) increased demand for subsidiary currency, (b) hoarding, and (c) melting of copper coins in view of the scarcity of raw copper caused by the war. Both hoarding and melting of coins is illegal and will be severely punished if discovered.

The figures regarding Ceylon's coinage will be of considerable interest. They are as follows:—

Coin in the Hands of the Public

Denomination 50 cent coins at 30th September, 41, 8,575,400; Issued 1,000,000, Withdrawn nil, Now with Public 9,575,400; Denomination 25 cent coins at 30th September 41, 8,958,200, Issued 1,200,000, Withdrawn nil, now with Public 10,158,200; Denomination 10 cent coins at 30th September, 41, 17,263,000, Issued 2,000,000, Withdrawn nil, Now with Public 19,263,000; Denomination 5 cent coins at 30th September, 41, 14,664,000, Issued 6,000,000, Withdrawn nil, Now with Public 20,664,000; Denomination 1 cent coins at 30th September, 41, 63,244,200, Issued 6,715,925, Withdrawn nil, Now with Public 69,960,125; Denomination ½ cent coins at 30th September, 41, 30,139,400, Issued 3,510,000, Withdrawn nil, Now with Public 33,649,400; Denomination Total at 30th September 41, 142,844,200, Issued Total 20,425,925, Withdrawn Total nil, Now with Public Total 168,270,125.

There are thus with the public 27 coins worth Rs. 1.85 for each man, woman and child in the Island. This quantity would be sufficient for all purposes if it were not for the selfish action of some members of the public in hoarding and melting down coins.

The hoarding of silver and nickel coins has compelled the Currency Commissioners to issue subsidiary notes of which Rs. 22,804,000 worth Rs. 4,322,000 are now in circulation.

As silver currency has almost disappeared in most part of the Island, it is intended to demonetize it in due course. A commencement will be made shortly

Continued on page 4

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reduced Rice Ration

Sir,—The news that from next week there is to be a further reduction in the rice ration allowed to us is very depressing indeed, and we are unable to anticipate what further reductions and consequent hardships are going to be inflicted on us by Mr. Corea's Food Control Department.

When the rice rationing scheme was introduced and for a start we were allowed only two measures of rice a week, there were lots of complaints about the inadequacy of the quantity allowed, and it was then strongly rumoured that the authorities contemplated increasing the ration by at least half a measure. But our hopes were belied and the authorities cleverly told us that we could get as much wheat flour and Atta flour as we liked, and reduced our rice ration by half a measure instead of increasing it by the same quantity as was expected! Now we are informed that we are to have another 33½ p. c. cut in our rice rations! How are we (ordinary individuals) going to exist on 1 measure of rice a week, and what will be our plight if some weeks hence a further cut is imposed on us by our Food Control Department? Have we to thank Messrs Corea and Kantawala for this sad plight?

In spite of the fact that the Indian Government was willing to give us 30,000 tons of rice a month, we are said to be unable to bring into Ceylon even half the quantity allowed by the Indian Government. Who are those who have bungled and due to whose inefficiency and incompetence has the whole country (over 6 million people) got to suffer like this? Why cannot the Food Control Authorities issue the required permits to rice traders in Jaffna, without any restrictions, who are willing to import all the rice we need, via the Northern Ports, and supply the needs of not only Jaffna but the whole of Ceylon?

It looks as if the sins of a few individuals have cost untold suffering and avoidable hardships and starvation to a goodly portion of our 6 million population. Atta flour is being sold by one of the Bhai firms in Jaffna at 25 cts. a lb and the poor man cannot certainly afford to pay this exorbitant price.

Yours etc.

Jaffna, R. WHAYA INDRA.
30th July 1942

RAILWAY APATHY!

Sir,—Allow me a little space in your valuable paper to raise the question of inconveniences of all kinds caused to railway passengers at the Maruthanamadam Railway Halt.

It is rather surprising that passengers entraining at an important halting place like this, serving as it does, an equally important area, consisting of five High Schools, two big Hospitals and two important religious institutions, should not be given adequate platform accommodation, a separate ladies waiting room, facilities for transport of goods etc. Further no attempts have been made to provide lighting facilities at nights thus causing great inconvenience to passengers who have to detain at an inadequate platform.

One day while returning by train late at night I stepped on to a platform which was not there and suffered a few cuts and bruises.

Surely the railway authorities when they established this railway Halting Place at Maruthanamadam must have sincerely felt the need to do so, but I wish to deplore their lack of foresight in not providing adequately the above facilities, which have become a crying need of this area.

Numerous complaints have already been made to the authorities concerned on the above subject and the latter have, as usual, turned a deaf ear to all of them.

Verily the wheels of railway administration do turn more slowly than even their train services throughout the island.

Uduvil, Yours truly,
26.7.42. V. C. CHANMUGAM.

JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL CRISIS

Sir,—I understand that seven members of the Jaffna Urban Council who had passed and confirmed the resolution removing Mr. R. Sivagurunathan from his office as Chairman and who had enthroned Mr. V. Suppiah in his place, have again twice requisitioned Mr. Sivagurunathan in his capacity as Chairman of the Urban Council to convene a special meeting of the Council to consider a resolution removing him once again from the office of Chairman.

These attempts to remove Mr. R. Sivagurunathan from his Office as Chairman are proceeding from January 1942.

Are these gentlemen who represent their respective Wards in the Urban Council doing their duty by their rate payers, or are they satisfying their personal jealousies and ambitions to serve their own selfish ends?

By their present requisitions these leaders of the obstructionist group have either misunderstood the law or wilfully misinterpreted the law to suit their own purpose. When will this farce enacted by these members come to an end or when will sanity return to these members?

Yours faithfully,

N. RAMACHANDRAN

Vannarponnai West,
Jaffna, July 29, 1942.

GOVERNMENT AND THE FOOD POSITION

MEETING AT KOPAY

Under the auspices of the Local Assistance Committee, Kopaya public meeting was held on the 22nd of July with Adigar Naganathan, the President of the Committee, in the Chair. Mr. T. R. Sinnathamby, A. G. A. (E) explained to the people the present food conditions and how the Government is making every effort to meet the situation. Dr. C. Thirunavukarasu, M. O. E., Jaffna, spoke on the food value of the different foods that are available and how it can be adjusted to the present conditions. Mr. Shanmugaratnam, Principal, Kopay Training College, advised the people to meet the present shortage cheerfully, and encouraged them to produce more, and to use as many substitutes as possible in place of rice. Mr. R. S. Edwards on behalf of the public, thanked the speakers for the able way they had handled the subjects and particularly the A. G. A. for clearing the misunderstanding among the common folk regarding the responsibility of the Government for the present situation and also for pointing out how 7000 bags of rice a week are imported for Jaffna District alone, besides what is being produced locally. (Cor)

CEYLON COINAGE

Continued from page 3

with the 50 cent coin. After the date of demonetization, coins will not be accepted by the Currency Commissioners. Such coins will be worth only their value as metal, which is a small fraction of the face value. Persons who have hoarded silver coins would therefore do well in their own interest to put them back into circulation without delay.

In order to reduce the temptation to melt copper coins endeavours are being made to secure a stock of bar copper for sale to small industries which use that metal.

A new batch of one cent coins is now being struck, each coin being half the weight of the old coin. These coins will be of the same value for Currency purposes as the old full weight coins. They will probably be put into circulation during September, 1942.

Enquiries have been made as to the possibility of producing one cent coins in a material which will be of little or no value if melted down.

The Currency Commissioners are doing all they can to overcome the coin shortage. It is the duty of every good citizen to report to the Secretary to the Currency Board, General Treasury, Colombo or to the Police, any case of hoarding or melting down of coin which comes to his notice.

The unpatriotic action of persons who have hoarded or melted down coins cannot be too strongly condemned. It has caused grave inconvenience to the whole population of the country: it has meant considerable extra expense to Government; it steps had not been taken promptly to make fresh forms of Currency available retail distribution might have come to a standstill and it might have become impossible for the average citizen even to buy his food.

Coin hoarders and melters are helping Ceylon's enemies.

DANGERS OF WAR

It is essential that we should all correctly understand the dangers of the War and the magnitude of the problems it presents to us in order that we may prepare ourselves adequately beforehand to meet them as they come, said Mr. K. S. Arulandhi, Divisional Inspector of School, Western Division, and Acting Assistant Director of Education, in a broadcast talk in Tamil.

On account of the economic interdependence of countries, no country in the world today is free from the horrors of War, not even one of the non-belligerent countries. Ceylon has to depend for the most part on other countries even for the two essentials of living, food and clothing. Further, she is also at War. Consequently the dangers and problems she has to face are many and difficult. The suffering and misery caused by famine and starvation are to be dreaded far more than the enemy's bombs.

There is yet another grave danger. The damage that fear and shock cause to our minds is very serious indeed. Even mental disorders may be caused. We should, therefore, know to protect ourselves and our children from the disastrous effects of fear and shock on the mind.

AIR POWER—OUR KEY TO VICTORY

[Condensed from the Boston Globe by Strategicus—pen name of an army officer distinguished as a military critic]

The single most important fact of the war to date is that sea power no longer depends on the battleship. Air power is sea power.

If we recognize this fact and act upon it, we have in our own hands the key to winning the war, for we are the one people who can muster overwhelming air power.

One short month of war in the Pacific witnessed a destruction of war vessels on a scale never before equalled in all naval history. More capital ships were sunk than at Jutland, the greatest sea battle of modern times. And this was all done by planes.

Probably a fifth of all the battleships afloat in the world have been put out of action—from the air. Nothing so portentous has occurred in naval warfare since the ironclad *Merrimac* steamed out into Hampton Roads on March 8, 1862, to sink the wooden frigates *Cumberland* and *Congress*.

The German conquest of Norway in 1940 was effected by an inferior naval power in the face of the strongest fleet in the world. Under the protection of her superior air force Germany succeeded in transporting thousands of troops across the North Sea.

Planes Versus Battleships

On November 12 of the same year British torpedo planes sank or disabled three Italian battleships and two cruisers at Taranto. On January 10, 1941, German and Italian planes sank the British cruiser *Southampton* in the eastern Mediterranean and damaged the aircraft carrier *Illustrious* and the battleship *Malaya*. On May 27 the *Bismarck* was so severely disabled by British torpedo planes that she finally succumbed to surface craft.

And since the events at Pearl Harbour and Malaya, the whole military world knows that the superiority of the combat plane over the battleship is now beyond dispute.

The battleship can perform its mission only if protected by its own air force. Indeed, the entire British criticism of the Malaysian battle centres upon the failure of the Singapore air force to protect the *Prince of Wales* and the *Repulse*. The fact that the air arm was blamed for the loss, and not the ships themselves, is the best evidence of the shift of naval power from the battleship to the plane.

What should be the reaction to this revolution in sea power? Should we be downhearted? Just the contrary. Japan, by her very success in the use of air power, has played into our hands. For air power is our meat. The mechanical genius of the United Nations can be matched by no other race, least of all by the Japanese. And mechanical ability is the keystone of air power. Our plane designers can hold their own with the best in any foreign country. American mass-production factories know no equal in the world.

With the huge production potentialities, the American air

Continued on page 5

BRITISH ATTITUDE TOWARD INDIA

Continued from page 1

their all into the struggle against the common enemies of mankind."

Miss. Eleanor Rathbone (Independent) asked: "Does Mr. Amery mean that however badly the Congress Party may behave during the war to impede our war effort all the Cripps proposals will still be open to them with the dominant position which that would give them in India?"

In a general reply, Mr. Amery said: "The broad intentions of the British Government remain the same irrespective of the immediate conduct of the Congress Party."

Mr. Sorensen (Labour) asked if the announcement that the Indian Communist Party was now legally recognised had been accompanied by the release of all Communist prisoners and whether the Party would now be able to issue periodicals and newspapers.

Mr. Amery: "The Government of India and the Provincial Governments have already released a number of individuals associated with the Communist Party of India who desire to assist the war effort and will continue to deal with each case on its merits, including those members of the Communist Party who, as such, have been convicted by the criminal courts of offences not involving violence. The ban on the Party's weekly and monthly publications has been removed."

Mr. Sorensen then asked if there was any truth in the rumour that the "Daily Worker" was to be published in India.

Serious apprehension exists among the European community in India following the gallant but abortive attempt of Sir Stafford Cripps to secure an agreement among Indians," declared Lord Craigmyle in a statement during a debate in the House of Lords today, regarding the future of Europeans in India. After emphasising British work for India's progress, Lord Craigmyle said: "In the Cripps conversations, no question of safeguards to the conditions of fair treatment of British interests were allowed to intrude. Europeans in India should be given the same rights as other minorities from the danger of discrimination. We have the choice of continuing the effort to buy appeasement in India by abandoning the rights and interests of our own people or trying to lay the foundations of India's future on a broad equity embracing everybody, even men of our own race."

UNIVERSITY CREST

MOTION IN STATE COUNCIL

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M.S.C., has given notice to the State Council of a motion regarding the University Crest. The motion is as follows:-

"This council expresses its disapproval of the proposed Crest for the University of Ceylon as being sectional in design and otherwise inappropriate to a seat of learning and request the Chancellor to substitute a Crest representative of the country, as a whole, and symbolic of its various cultures and indicative of the University's potentialities and mission."

I give notice further that I shall move the Suspension of relevant standing orders to permit of the above motion being moved or disposed of."

WHY THE WORLD GOES TO WAR.

Continued from page 1

is to be found in all ethical systems, and the goal of moral law is the evolution of man in intelligence and nobility, to be effected by co-operating with nature in its ruthless elimination of the less fit. Such evolution is possible only in group life which presents opportunities of testing its own evolved types by rivalry and conflict with those of another group, and thereby establishing new values. National rivalry leading to international wars has achieved the good work of evolution, for it is by the survival of victorious groups through selflessness, self-sacrifice and co-operation that new human values are established. But, it must not be understood that the purpose of evolution has always been achieved or served by war, for the process of evolution has worked at different stages by different means. Evolution without war or 'non-violent evolution' is possible provided a high degree of intelligence and discernment is present, but so long as men have a combination of vigour and unforeseeing stupidity, evolution must proceed with the most prodigal physical suffering as it does in the animal world. War, then, is, at present, the only method of competition which nations and men are capable of enthusiastic understanding and by which alone a nobler and worthier type can evolve. To say, then, that the methods of India are morally superior to the methods of Germany at the present time, is to forget the dying bird in the admiration of its plumage. It would, certainly, be good if more men are intelligent and farseeing than are at present, who would compete within the circle of love and moral persuasion and inaugurate a new system of values, without bloodshed and human misery. But the course

of human destiny seems to be otherwise, and it is better, at any rate, for those who have not risen to that high level, to compete through war rather than not to compete at all.

The welfare of a community depends intimately upon the correctness of its moral laws and the zeal with which the community follows them. And the value of religion to society is that it has welded societies in a resistance to internal or external disruptive forces which exceeds in lasting power any attained by irreligious societies. Religion has nursed culture with such jealousy that the infant grew up into truth, beauty and goodness. But religious decay brought in racial suicide and extinction. If the conserving power of religion is so indispensable to the preservation of the community, so much so is the conserving power of war to the life and protection of morality and the great values. The great civilisations whose decayed debris one sees today are the flowers that blossomed in nations whose political and moral structure were founded on the basis of war. And when in the pride and pomp of victory, they relaxed into a life of sloth and luxury, failing to preserve in their lives the stern virtues by which they arose, they fell victims to the irony of fate, or—may it be said—of racial destiny, that found them wanting and worthless, and denied them the blessing of war that alone could have kept them alive and prosperous, until their virtues turned into vice, without value, they perished, victims to gaudal onslaughts.

But the moral destiny of nations is not so discernible as that of the individual, because discovering it is denied to the common run of men and is possible alone to the elect of mankind who are from time to time burnt at the stake, crucified or kept interned. Nevertheless, the inexorable law of evolution fulfils itself with a force and majesty that is caught by all great artistic renderings of man's life like the Greek plays or Shakespeare's

AIR POWER—OUR KEY TO VICTORY

fleet should outnumber Japan's by the summer of 1943. True, numerical superiority alone will not be enough, for Japan possesses geographical advantages. She has, so to speak, a hundred safely anchored "unsinkable aircraft carriers" in the western Pacific—the Caroline and Marianas Islands lying between Hawaii and the Philippines. These air bases, rather than her battle fleet, have given Japan domination in Asiatic waters. And we have few aircraft carriers to throw against the Japs' hundred unsinkable airfields.

Retribution Coming

America and Britain's retention of Australia and India as bases, will someday soon enable our unrivalled air potentialities to be brought to bear against the enemy. From these areas we shall eventually drive northward through the air to the Philippines, to Formosa, to the heart of the Japs' empire and give them a taste of Pearl Harbour in their own backyard.

Admiral Mahan preached that victory surely accrued to the nation which maintained domination of the seas. This doctrine is just as true today as it was when it was written in 1890. To Mahan, of course, the instruments of sea power were battleships and cruisers. Today, after Pearl Harbour, the instruments of sea power are torpedo planes, bombers, and fighter planes. Henceforth these will be the basic weapons of all naval forces. Battleships, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines will exist only to assist and supplement them.

Macbeth. If moral codes are rules of spiritual hygiene to be cultivated in the interests of intenser living, then wars are with the present human limitations, the potions that must purge the race of ills to make the best out of it. And the newer man will continue to say "In war I am lifted to a higher plane and I feel the heroic ecstacy that is the heritage of the brave. Even in mortal agony, I breathe through the nostrils of the eternal hero."

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ORDER NISI

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

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 183/PT

In the matter of the estate and effects
of the late Meenadehipillai wife
of Kanthapper Kanagasabai of
Karaveddy West. Deceased.

Kanthapper Kanagasabai of Kara-
veddy West Petitioner

- Minors {
- 1 Kanagasabai Nadarajah of Karaveddy West
 - 2 Kanagammah daughter of Kanagasabai of do
 - 3 Manonmany daughter of Kanagasabai of do
 - 4 Kanagasabai Rajaratnam of do
 - 5 Kanapathiar Alvappillai of do

Respondents.
1st-4th respondents are
minors by their guardian-
ad-litem the 5th respond-
ent.

This matter coming on for disposal
before L. W. de Silva Additional
District Judge Jaffna on the 24th day
of July 1942 in the presence of
Messrs Kandaiya and Mailvaganam
Proctors on the part of the petitioner
and the affidavit of the petitioner
having been read.

It is ordered that the 5th respon-
dent be appointed guardian ad-litem
over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and fourth
minor respondents and the petitioner
be declared administrator of the es-
tate of his wife the late Meenadehi-
pillai and that Letters of Adminis-
tration be issued to him accordingly
unless the respondents or any other
person shall on or before the 20th
day of August 1942 show cause to
the satisfaction of this court to the
contrary.

This 24th day of July 1942

Sgd. L. W. de Silva,
Additional District Judge.

O. 43. 3 & 6-8-42.

ORDER NISI

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

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 181/P. T.

In the matter of the Last Will and
Testament of the late V. K.
Murugupillai Rajalingam of
Puloly West Deceased.

Rajalingam Sivasubramaniam of
Puloly West Petitioner.

Vs.

Chellamma widow of Rajalingam
of Do

Rajalingam Seevaratnam of Do
Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal
before L. W. de Silva Esquire addi-
tional District Judge Jaffna on the
20th day of July 1942 in the presence
of Messrs Kandaiya and Mailvaganam
Proctors on the part of the petitioner
and the petition and the affidavit of
the petitioner and the affidavit of
the witnesses to the Last Will and of
the notary having been read.

It is ordered that the 1st respond-
ent be appointed guardian ad-litem
over the minor the 2nd respondent
for the purpose of representing and
defending him in the above testamen-
tary proceedings that the petitioner be
declared entitled to take out Probate
as the Executor appointed by the said
Last Will and that Probate be issued
to him accordingly unless the respon-
dents or any other person shall ap-
pear before this Court on or before
the 14th day of August 1942 and
show sufficient cause to the satisfac-
tion of this court to the contrary.

This 20th day of July 1942

Sgd. L. W. de Silva,
Additional District Judge

O. 44 3 & 6-8-42)

**ORDER NISI TO HAVE WILL
PROVED**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

Testamentary No. 1153

In the Matter of the Last Will and
Testament of Velu Kandappu
late of Vaddukoddai West

Sinnappillai widow of Velu Kandap-
pu of Vaddukoddai West. Deceased.
And Petitioner.

- 1 Velu Pillayanar of Vaddukoddai West
- 2 Nagamuttu widow of Velu Krid-
nar of Araly North
- 3 Kridnar Nellinathan
- 4 Kridnar Rajeswariamma
- 5 Kridnar Thangaledchumyamma
and
- 6 Kridnar Sithamparanathan, the
3rd, 4th, 5th and the 6th Respond-
ents are all minors of Araly
North appearing by their Guar-
dian-ad Litem the 2nd Respondent
Respondents.

This matter coming up for disposal
before G. Crossette Thambyah Es-
quire District Judge on the 9th day
of July 1942 in the presence of Mr.
S. Kandiah Proctor on the part of the
Petitioner and the affidavits of the
Petitioner having been read;

It is ordered that the 2nd Res-
pondent abovenamed be and she is
hereby appointed Guardian-ad-Litem
over the minor 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th
Respondents abovenamed for the pur-
pose of these Testamentary proceed-
ings; that the Will of Velu Kandappu
the abovenamed deceased dated the
9th day of October 1941 and now
deposited in this Court be and the
same is hereby declared proved and
that the said Petitioner is the Exe-
cutrix named in the said Will and
that she is entitled to have probate
of the same issued to her accordingly
unless the Respondents shall on or
before the 14th day of August 1942
show sufficient cause to the satisfac-
tion of this Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 2nd
Respondent abovenamed should pro-
duce the Minor 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th
Respondents before this Court at 10
O'clock in the forenoon on the 14th
day of August 1942.

This 9th day of July 1942

Sgd. G. C. Thambyah,
District Judge.
(O. 42- 30-7 & 3-8-42.)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1152

In the matter of the estate of the
late Sivakamupillai wife of
Vairamuttu Kandiah of Chankana-
nai West, Jaffna who died at
Matale. Deceased.
Vairamuttu Kandiah of Chankana-
nai West, Jaffna Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Kanagambikai daughter of
Vairamuttu Kandiah of do
 2. Palaniappan Sathasivam of do
Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the
above-named petitioner coming on
for disposal before G. C. Thambyah,
Esqr District Judge, Jaffna on the
18th day of June 1942 in the presence
of Mr. V. Nagalingam, Proctor for
petitioner and the affidavit and peti-
tion of the said petitioner having
been read; it is ordered that the
above-named 2nd respondent be ap-
pointed guardian-ad-litem over the
minor the 1st respondent, and that
letters of administration to the es-
tate of the said deceased be granted
to the petitioner unless the said re-
spondents shall appear before this
court on the 3rd day of August 1942
and show cause to the satisfaction of
this Court to the contrary.

This 4th day of July 1942.

Sgd. G. C. Thambyah,
District Judge.

Drawn by: Sgd V. Nagalingam
Proctor for Petitioner.

(O 41. 30-7 & 3-8-42)

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