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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Chiang Kai-Shek In Moscow?

The Axis radio station on Friday mentioned "rumours" that General Chiang Kai-shek has arrived in Moscow. There is no confirmation of this in London.

Home Minister's Delhi Mission

Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Minister of Home Affairs and Leader of the State Council, who has been delegated by the Board of Ministers to go on a Mission to New Delhi, will leave Colombo on Thursday or Friday.

Changes In Food Control

Important changes in the scheme of food control, it is learned, have been recommended by the Civil Defence Commissioner who was recently appointed to administer all matters connected with the Island's food supply.

Felling Of Trees Controlled

A Gazette Extraordinary issued last Monday prohibits the felling of trees on any land in Ceylon, other than Crown land, unless authorised by a licence. This Order is made by the Governor under the Defence (Miscellaneous) Regulations. The Minister of Agriculture and Lands is empowered to grant licences authorising the felling of trees if he is opinion that such an action is necessary for securing the efficient prosecution of the war or for maintaining essential services.

Pannai Ferry

A sum of Rs 5,500 has been voted by special warrant by Government for the running of the Pannai ferry service from the date of the recent disaster until the end of the current financial year. After the disaster the renters of the ferry service intimated to the Government Agent, Northern Province, that they were unable to run the service and the Government Agent had no alternative to taking it over. The ferry service is now being run by the Government Agent with the assistance of the Public Works Department and the sub-collector of Customs, Jaffna, until permanent arrangements are made.

TAKE THE PLUNGE, BRITAIN!

TRUST INDIA AS PART OF WAR EFFORT

(BY G. S. ARUNDALE)

BRITAIN reminds me of a somewhat diffident swimmer or bather who stands on a diving board wondering if he dare take the plunge into the pool beneath. The water may be unpleasantly cold, and he is not an expert diver. So he hesitates, gazing wonderingly down into the depths beneath him. His cautious friends advise him against the plunge, though some of his more boisterous companions would give him a push, and of this he is not a little nervous, looking behind him every now and then lest he be taken unawares.

Britain has for years been afraid to take the plunge with regard to India. India has always been one of those countries mainly in the East, which has been under her tutelage, and in the name of "tutelage" she has always functioned 'de haut en bas', as a superior who must be ponderously mindful of the interests of a country which cannot take care of itself, and has indeed been entrusted by Providence to Britain to bring up in a civilized manner—Providence having curiously forgotten that India was civilized long, long before Britain was even put into swaddling clothes. But Providence seems to have these lapses from time to time, and the countries she farms out have to bear the consequences.

But these days of war are times for plungetaking. They are times for the taking of risks whereby alone opportunities may be seized. If in the war itself more risks had been more victorious than it has so far been. It is regrettable that Britain is somewhat afraid of taking risks. She hates to be hustled or lussed in any way. She likes to be slow and sure, and sometimes she thinks that the slower she is the surer she is bound to be.

So, in her early Victorian fashion she bustles along and primly goes on her self-satisfied way.

A plunge would be most un-early-Victorian. And yet the time is plunge-time. The longer she hesitates the more

she will be out-of-date, until she will become a back number with nothing into which to plunge, which will indeed be disastrous.

Of course, it is quite understood that plunge-taking is hardly an exercise befitting a comparatively elderly person such as Britain. All allowances must be made for a further expression of her age-old hesitancy, especially when those whom she has sent out to fulfil her tutelage eventually return home to tell her that India would certainly go to pieces, and be a prey for ravening wolves (which we may now call the Japanese since we are at war with them), but for the tutelage and its administrators—themselves.

Britain must surely trust to the 'men on the spot' especially since she cannot be 'on the spot' herself, and when these men come off the spot she must trust them to tell her how she must behave and what she is to do. All this has gone on very well during the good old days of India's speechlessness. But India is becoming articulate, albeit in a confused medley of tongues. And from a comfortable armchair in the Pavilion of Placidity Britain has been gradually compelled to move forward and upwards to a high diving-board, there to shiver and hesitate as she looks down into the pool beneath, and to long for those "Good Old Days" when there was no pool into which to plunge.

But there is a pool today—the Pool of New Adventure. And either Britain plunges into it, or she will cease even to have an armchair in the Pavilion of Placidity.

Now Britain, come along! You have had many adventures in your time, and it is never too late to plunge, even for an elderly lady like yourself.

Do not wait to be pushed from behind. You would make a most undignified and laughable descent, to say the very least.

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MAHATMA GANDHI & OTHER LEADERS ARRESTED

GANDHI'S STATEMENT

Bombay, Aug. 9.

Mr. Gandhi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Congress President, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and other members of the Congress Working Committee were arrested early this morning. Miss Slade (Mira Ben), Mahadev Desai, Mr. Gandhi's Secretary, nearly 20 local Congress Leaders were also arrested.

No warrant was issued for the arrest of Mrs. Gandhi, but the Police told her that she could accompany her husband if she chose to do so. She however decided not to accompany Mr. Gandhi.

A special train conveying Mr. Gandhi, the members of the Congress Working Committee and the other arrested leaders left Victoria Terminus Railway Station at 7.20 a.m. local time, presumably for Poona.

The Government of India yesterday (Saturday) empowered Provincial Governments to supersede the local authority for such a period as they think necessary, if the local authority employed its funds, offices, members or servants in activities prejudicial to the defence of British India, the public safety, maintenance of public order, the efficient prosecution of the war and maintenance of supply and services essential to the life of the community, states a New Delhi message. This action is evidently aimed at preventing the local authorities from helping the Congress movement.

"No Hatred for the British"

Mr. Gandhi in the course of a statement said: "This is my claim at which many people may laugh, but all the same I say this is true. At a time when I am about to launch the biggest fight in my life there can be no hatred for the British in my heart. The thought that because they are in difficulties I should give them a push is totally absent from my mind. It has never been there. It may be that in a moment of anger they might do things which might provoke you. Nevertheless you should not resort

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Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1942.

A TRAGIC SITUATION

THE RATIFICATION OF THE "Quit India" resolution by the All-India Congress Committee and the refusal of the Government of India to negotiate with the Congress on the basis of this resolution rendered a clash between the two inevitable. It must be said of the Government that it could not have stood by and allowed the Congress to launch the mass disobedience movement without jeopardising the safety of the country and the cause of the United Nations. Not even Mahatma Gandhi could have expected this "non-violent" movement to produce anything but a crop of the most violent consequences. The other day Mr. Amery recited a catalogue of what the Congress intended to achieve by passing the resolution—the fomenting of strikes in industry, commerce, administration, law courts, schools and colleges, the interruption of traffic and public utilities services, the cutting of telegraph and telephone wires and the picketing of troops and recruiting stations. In fairness to Mr. Amery it must be said that his recital is free from exaggeration, for, nothing less would have sufficed to enable the Congress to vindicate its position. Not even the most ardent believer in non-violence could have expected anything else. In the situation in which India finds herself today the inevitable consequences of such a course of action as that threatened by the Congress would have meant the abandonment of India herself to the Japanese. Neither the Congress nor anybody else outside the Government is in a position to defend the country against invasion. Even the Government would find it difficult to defend the country without effective British and American help.

We are not, however, as firmly convinced as Mr. Amery that the action taken by the Government has saved India and the United Nations from grave disaster. It is as yet too early for Mr. Amery to congratulate himself on the efficacy of the measures that have been, and are still being, taken for the maintenance of law and order. On this vital point Mr. Amery himself has doubts. "There may be a certain measure of trouble", he says, "but it is too early to speak with any assurance. But I believe it will not be trouble which cannot be dealt with by the Government of India through

the Police and Courts". When we remember that Mr. Amery and those of his way of thinking have not in the past distinguished themselves as prophets, it is not easy to accept as correct his estimate of the consequences that are likely to follow the action of the Congress. If the times were normal, if there were no enemy at the gates, if there were no divisions in the country itself, it would be possible to say that the putting out of action of a few malcontents would help the defence of India. But today the situation is different—fundamentally different from anything within the range of Mr. Amery's experience. It is a situation at once new and perilous which calls for the most effective co-operation by the people in the defence of their native country. The possibility of such co-operation as a result of Police measures and prosecutions in Courts of law is too remote and unlikely to appeal to anybody except, perhaps, Mr. Amery, who has apparently forgotten all that has happened in Malaya and Burma. We can only say we are surprised at Mr. Amery's simplicity and we certainly do not share his conviction that the Indian National Congress is not supported by the people at large. It is true that Indian leaders outside the Congress have recognised the folly of the course taken by the Congress, but it is also true that they cannot take the place of the Congress. Even Mr. Rajagopalachariar is finding it difficult to persuade South India to refuse its support to the Congress programme. This was only to be expected, because Congress is the one recognised body that has identified itself with the cause of Indian freedom; because it is the only body that carries with it the prestige of Indians like the late Mr. Tilak or Sir Surendranath Bannerjee. If the attitude of the Congress is a misfortune from the point of view of national defence, the manner in which it has chosen to discharge its duties to the public is, by reason of the unique position it has held in Indian public life, the worst tragedy that could have befallen India at the present juncture, and the irony of it all is in the fact that, while the one man whom the Congress sought to have removed from office as the greatest living obstacle to Indian progress is free to tell the world his own estimate of the present and the future, the Congress has forfeited its freedom and stands proscribed as the enemy of its own people. If, therefore, Mr. Amery thinks that moderate Indians like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru can take the place of the Congress, he is likely to have a rude awakening. It is not an exaggeration to say that Mr. Amery is not a persona grata with any section of Indian opinion and

the position of even the Liberals will be that, if they dislike the impractical policies of the Congress, they dislike far more the men who are considered by the British public to be indispensable to the management of Indian affairs, and they must revolt, in their hearts, against the proposition that in order to save India it was necessary to incarcerate her best men. To say that repression was inevitable and would be the first duty of any Government, British or Indian, does not conclude the matter at all. Why had repression become necessary? What made the Congress so firm in its intransigence? These are questions which British statesmen will do well to ask themselves, not merely in the interests of India, but in the interests of their own people; for it is not a light thing that a body of men owing its origin and inspiration to British and American ideals of freedom should have made up its mind at a time like this that there was no other course left but to challenge the very status of the Government that refused to accede to its demands. We may condemn the unwisdom of these demands. We have condemned them in these columns as ill-timed and impractical, but it is impossible for any Indian to agree with Mr. Amery that he has saved England and the United Nations. In the handling of the situation created by the Congress resolution, the Government of India and the India Office have displayed a spirit of political partisanship which is by no means an innovation even in British politics. The incident of the famous Zinovieff letter was staged with all its accompaniments when the Congress offices were raided and incomplete summaries of the proceedings of the Congress Committee were seized and published to the world as evidence of the utter hopelessness of negotiating with the Congress. Mr. Gandhi was represented as a Quisling in the making who was only waiting for an opportunity to negotiate with Japan. Even the American press, utterly oblivious of its own past attitude in the matter and of the international setting in which America herself plunged into her war of independence, has become furious over the alleged intentions of the Congress. All this is, however, misleading and beside the point. What British and American publicists have failed to realise is the truth that India cannot be saved in spite of herself, and if the Congress owes it to itself to take up a position consistent with its responsibilities, the burden is no less heavy on the Governments and people of Britain and America to refuse to commit themselves to policies that are not in accord with that truth.

NOTES & COMMENTS

The Ceylon University Crest

GENERALLY a university is not named after a country. The ordinary practice is to name a University after the town or county wherein it is situated. The Ceylon University is perhaps the only university of its kind which goes by the name of the country. It is argued that Ceylon cannot afford to have more than one university for the present. So, perhaps, the authorities thought it fit that the one and only university we have should be named after Ceylon. There is nothing radically wrong about this. But does the crest of the Ceylon University—a lion holding aloft a lighted torch—represent the country as a whole? We are of opinion that the emblem in the crest is rather one-sided and even parochial. This university which is named after Ceylon should also as far as possible be representative of Ceylon as a whole. It is not too late to have the emblem in the crest altered to satisfy the just feelings of all the peoples in the country and to make it truly representative of the culture of Ceylon.

A. R. P. In Jaffna

IT is the wish of all that their fair island should be spared aerial bombardment. The people of Jaffna hope that this arid peninsula will not be an aerial target. Anyhow, precautions have been taken to meet any situation that may arise in the event of an air attack. The Governor at the inspection of an A. R. P. organisation in the South declared that the three letters stood for "Always Ready People." We are glad that the Jaffna A. R. P. organisation has done much useful work in the sphere of civil defence. But much more remains to be done. The people have to be educated and we think that this can be best done by having more A. R. P. classes and demonstrations. In the South a steady and continuous programme is being carried out. We trust that the Government will extend full facilities to the Jaffna A. R. P. organisation to make it really a body of "Always Ready People"—ready to meet any contingency.

JAFFNA CHAIRMAN RESIGNS

COUNCIL DEADLOCK ENDS

The Chairman of the Jaffna Urban Council, Mr. R. Sivagurunather, it is learnt, has sent in his resignation to the Commissioner of Local Government, to take effect from September 15th.

The deadlock of the Council has, therefore, ended and it is believed the Council will function effectively from tomorrow when a full agenda will be gone through.

BRITAIN'S DUTY BY INDIA

Metropolitan's Appeal

Calcutta, July 31.

Dr. Foss Westcott, the Metropolitan of India, surveying the present crisis in India in the course of an interview with the "Hindu" representative, said:

I have read this morning with profound regret the utterance of the Secretary of State for India regarding the present political situation. I deplored the resolution passed by the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress, because it departed from the principle of conference to settle disputes between men of goodwill and adopted the threat of coercive action to enforce their views upon those with whom they had a controversy. Is it the method of peace to answer threats of coercion with similar threats? Among determined men, that way leads to war and the danger has arisen that two great nations will be engaged in a struggle which will exceed in bitterness and agony anything that has gone before. Is it too late to avert a disaster whose consequences on the wider conflict which is at present being waged cannot but be of the gravest character? Is the meaning of the Cross which we, as Christians, claim to follow to be lost upon us and the way of redemption through sacrifice to be disregarded? I recall a critical situation eighteen years ago when religious fanaticism had led to great riots in many places in North India and the danger of civil war rose above the Indian horizon. But at that time a great Indian leader, by his personal sacrifice and urgent call to prayer, brought the warring parties together in a conference, where under the guidance of the spirit of God, hatred and antagonism were overcome by mutual understanding and goodwill and reconciliation was achieved. My appeal is to that great body of my fellow countrymen who, heirs of national freedom themselves, believe that this is the rightful possession of every nation on reaching maturity.

Britain, through a century and more, has been building up a great nation from diverse elements of India's vast population. The time has come to place the coping stone upon this noble edifice and surely it should be laid in the cement of mutual goodwill and fellowship.

When honest disputes arise between men of goodwill, recourse is had to arbitration. An independent mind, free from inherited prejudices, is better able to see where a just solution lies. Is such a course impossible in the present crisis? We have sought and found trusted Allies to co-operate in the struggle for world freedom which, unaided, we could hardly hope to have achieved. Is it not the path of wisdom to seek similar assistance in no less a grave situation?

BLOODSHED OVER RICE SMUGGLING

The Madras Police have received information from India to the effect that an Indian Inspector and three others have been killed in Indian waters in the course of a struggle when a catamaran of Valvettiturai, conveying bags of smuggled rice and other articles from India, attempted to evade seizure. On receipt of the information Mr. S. G. de Zoysa, Assistant Superintendent of Police, motored to Valvettiturai and succeeded in tracing the catamaran which, it is alleged, bore blood stains and marks.

CAN WOMEN SAVE THE WORLD?

MAN'S FAILURE AS MANAGER OF WORLD AFFAIRS

BY SIVAKUMARI

Why not let them try? They couldn't do any worse than the men have done. And may be, they could clean up the mess we're in today and usher in A Bright New World.

SHOULD women take over the world, is a question well worth the discussion. Many thinking people feel that a change like this, is not only highly desirable but also necessary. Because for many centuries, ever since the age of recorded history, man has been running the World. They exerted their maximum effort in this staggering task but everywhere we turn today, we see only added proofs of hopeless muddle and chaos. This is not because men are not fine people, capable of the greatest flights of efficiency. They would be outstanding in their place but that place is not government. Men can do a great many astounding, remarkable wonders with their great output of creative power but obviously under the present system, they are working on the wrong track and hence much of their frustration.

Man's Province

Let the men go on inventing marvels, from controlling the sun to regulating the weather, to exploring the labyrinth of man's mind. Already, they have succeeded in harnessing the forces of Nature, bridging time and space. They have won undying renown by their noble works of Art. The strength of a Parthenon, the Beauty of Plato's Dialogues, or Shakespeare's Hamlet, the appeal of Goethe's Faust or Ibsen's Brand, the charm of Washington's personality and the crystal cut majesty of the Taj Mahal remain as time's symbols of man's dominion over Earth. And in all these fields, their achievement will continue to be mightier and yet mightier. Only in the business of running the world have they failed.

In what way can women take over the World? Through the ages has come down the belief that the woman's place is the home. While man's problem is his relationship to the universe, the woman's is her relationship to man. But the World Wars and the Women's forward movements have contributed much to dispel this fallacy. With greater opportunities for self-expression, Indian women have vindicated their worth and every great stride of hers has minimised her sense of inferiority complex.

Today, when the need for masculine strength is no more felt in governing a country, when war has become the main occupation of man, women can safely accomplish the general house keeping of government. The maternal urge can flower into an ideal of public responsibility as is accomplished by the great public women of India.

Woman's Place in Government

The popular governments of many of the advanced countries have been so much carried away

with ideologies, creeds and abstractions, that they have become estranged from ordinary human interests. This neglect can be remedied, if women take over the cleansing of the Augean stables. Since women became enfranchised, not only public health, maternity and child welfare have received more attention but also the forces of destruction which man has heaped up, have received their powerful set-back. So, it is evident that the emphasis can shift in the social and political fields with the increasing influence of women in these spheres. With the opportunity of governing people will come her vital urge to increase the amenities for public health, educational opportunity and family welfare. Just as many women prove themselves to be good mothers in the home, so also, they will make politically good mothers of their countries—making wise laws and seeing that they are observed, not creating wars but maintaining Peace and tackling the knotty problem of establishing international relations.

Man's Game

War has always been man's game, his loved game. The fighting male has a wonderful way of organising the forces of destruction and in this exciting gamble, they have disregarded the welfare of humanity whereas by reason of her biological and evolutionary history, woman has been the chief source of the active idealism of the world. If only women take over the world—even the present world with its bleeding sores where men have proved themselves great failures and expensive luxuries—their deeper and appealing traits of sympathy, creative idealism, intuitive judgment will find a free expression in the construction of society, and the inherent values of her heart and mind can be diverted from the home to the society.

If women were put in charge of the World, there would never be another war. Men know what war costs the world in man-power and money. Women alone realise what it costs the world in Life. At the sacrifice of infinite skill, time and care, they rear the children who compose the fighting services of the World. Women's basic interests could never bring themselves to approve barbaric destruction of such precious human lives. On the other hand they will divert the energy of man to promoting social welfare and international amity.

This idea may seem preposterous: To allow the women—the so called Weaker Sex—to build the BRIGHT NEW WORLD! But there seems to be irrefutable data that the future development of the World, if vested in the hands of women—is secure. With the hand of woman at the wheel, the earth which seems to spinning at a destructive speed and the leaders of mankind who are on the verge of insanity, can be saved and there will be the dawn of a Happy Golden Age. The hand that rocks the cradle can surely save this sick World. So why not let it try?

FIRST TO STOP THE JAPANESE

Allies Will Surmount Difficulties

We hear from time to time of of rumours likely to cause alarm and despondency. Personally I have heard less of them in recent months. And though there are those given to expressing fears at every setback, the general behaviour of the people of this Island certainly does not give an indication of dejection, said Dr. R. L. Spittel in the course of a broadcast talk.

That is rightly so, as we shall see if we look back on the trend of events in the war.

It was the Nazi boast that the effete democracies would vanish before the "New Order" like the mists of dawn; that her panzers would bowl over opposing armies like nine-pins; that her planes would sweep the skies; that her U boats would strangle the economic life of Britain, and bring Germany's inveterate foe to its knees.

While we of the Empire felt the foundation of earth rock beneath us, some prominent Frenchman declared that England's neck would be "wrung like a chicken's in a week"—to which Mr. Churchill was afterwards able to retort "some chicken..... some neck."

Baffled in his attacks on England by day, Hitler loosed his fury by night, meaning to do to week or two to Warsaw, and in a day or two to Rotterdam. Night after night London blazed, as Hamburg and Dusseldorf blaze today. Again there seemed no hope. But out of that funeral pyre, Phoenixlike, rose the indomitable fortitude of England.

On: by one Hitler played out his secret weapons; E boats, dive bombers, electric mines (so easily de Grouched).

Repuses, reverses, these there were in plenty in those days, said Gandhi then: "Even if Britain is to die, she will die hard and heroically. We may hear of reverses but we shall not hear of demoralization."

The British Empire rode these storms unaided and alone.

Frustrated, Hitler turned against Russia, and thus performed the miracle of throwing the demure democracies into the Soviet's Arms.

When we watched the hosts of Russia reel and retreat under the German onslaught, we wondered by what miracle Britain had survived. When we saw Russia recover and hit back we realized the solidarity of the Soviet; the genius of generals picked out of the masses, the flaming patriotism of a people freed from entrenched privileges.

Then in December 1941, Japan struck like a bolt from the blue. America was caught unawares—and so was Britain. What could equal the dismay of Pearl Harbor and the sinking of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse within a day or two of each other.

But Japan's entry on the one side brought America on the other. And we felt that whatever the catastrophes of the moment the final issue was certain—with

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MAHATMA GANDHI ANSWERS QUESTIONS

CONGRESS ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE WAR

Bombay, Aug 7.

"I NEVER, even in my most unguarded moment, expressed the opinion that Japan and Germany would win the war," declared Mr. Gandhi in the course of a Press interview.

Mr. Gandhi said: 'Congress is not an illegal organisation. It is acknowledged to be the oldest representative national organisation. Its representatives have under the partial autonomy given by the Government of India Act, successfully administered seven large Provinces in India and, so far as I am aware, without a single exception the Governors of those Provinces have nothing but praise for the considerable administrative talent and devotion to duty shown by the Ministers who were Congress representatives.'

"Such an organization deserves to say the least, better treatment than what the Government has accorded it. They might have had the courtesy of referring the document to the All-India Congress Committee and hearing what the Committee had to say before making public use of it. The reading of the notes, unauthenticated though they are, will not make any difference at least in India, to the prestige which Congress enjoys. There is nothing in it of which any member has any cause to be ashamed. I do not know what should be the journalistic attitude to such use of documents seized in the manner I have shown and sprung upon the public at a most critical time both for the Government and the people, but I leave it to the profession to judge for itself."

Answers to Question

The following were questions put to Mr. Gandhi and his answers to them: "The whole inference from Pandit Nehru's statements in the documents is that your belief is that Japan and Germany will win the war. Does that represent your considered opinion?"

Mr. Gandhi's reply to this question was: "After this full and frank explanation I hardly think I need answer your question. I wholly agree with the opinion expressed by him, that, however is his own reaction to the draft resolution sent to the Working Committee, as the language in that draft shows, it had many 'i's' to be dotted and 't's' to be crossed and it was sent through Miraben to whom I explained the implications of the draft. I said to her or friends of the Working Committee who happened to be in Sevagram, to whom I explained the draft, that there was an omission, deliberate, from the draft as to the foreign policy of the Congress and, therefore, any reference to China and Russia, for as I had said to them I derived my inspiration and knowledge from Panditji about foreign matters, of which he had been a deep student; therefore, I said he could fill in that part in the resolution. But, I may add I never, even in my most unguarded moment, expressed the opinion that Japan and Germany would win the war. Not only that, I have often expressed the opinion

that they cannot win the war, if only Great Britain will once and for all shed her imperialism.

Distinction Between Fascism and Imperialism

"The suppressed races of the earth will never see the fine distinction that Panditji, and following him I, can see, and make between Fascism and Imperialism, the difference if any, discerned by the man in the street will be not one of kind but only of degree, and therefore I pleaded and shall plead, even as I am fighting with all the earnestness I can command that Britain will shed that taint or that her great ally America will make her do so and then be sure of victory, no matter how prolonged the struggle and what cost it requires. To say the least, then the Allied powers will earn the blessings of the dumb but countless millions, apart from the gain in men and material that the free association of these peoples will bring to the Allied nations, I would count their blessings to be of far higher value than every other consideration."

"I have therefore nothing to withdraw, nothing to be ashamed about the draft I had the privilege of sending to the Working Committee."

Second Question

Question by Mr. Nehru states that according to your plans after the British withdrawal India would possibly negotiate with Japan and even, allow her a large measure of civil control of military bases in India and a right of passage of her troops.

Replying Mr. Gandhi said: 'I can only say that you put it, because I regret to have to say that you have not studied my writings in the "Harijan" before the draft was written, and after having such confidence for which many of my friends say I have no warrant—in the efficacy of the weapon of non violent non co-operation, with all its implications, which I have presented to the nation. I maintain that I could not be guilty of harbouring any such thought that you have attributed to me. Panditji explained quite clearly what could be his own meaning and interpretation of my draft. I add, by way of emphasis, that I had purposely incorporated the sentence about negotiations with Japan, and if ultimately it was dropped, I have associated myself with its deletion. I did so out of my regard for my co-workers—not because I was uncertain as to what I meant to do.'

"It is the essence of the use of the weapon that you will always give your opponent the opportunity of doing the right thing and if India became an independent nation tomorrow, and I was a witness to that grand phenomenon, I would certainly advise and plead with the provisional government to send me—old as I am—to Japan and I would plead with her in the first instance to free China, her great neighbour from the menace that Japan has become and to tell her that if she does not do this elementary justice, she will have to count upon the stubborn resistance of millions,

who had at long last found themselves in the possession of a thing which every nation prizes before everything else, that gentle notice—or entreaty it should be called—because that entreaty will not be backed at least tomorrow with any military show, because I will not dangle before Japan the show that will still be made by the Allied powers whose operations will still go on in India with the free consent of India become free—will carry with it the power implied in the use of that matchless moral weapon of non-violent non-co-operation, and I am sure I will make the appeal, not without hope of success, that that was the meaning of the sentence the use of which at the present juncture is intended to bring discredit upon my devoted head. I shall take the discredit and so much the better if I can take India's freedom also with it."

Nehru on Government Communique

Bombay, Aug. 5.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has issued the following statement:—

"I have just seen for the first time the Government's communique issuing certain documents obtained during a Police raid on the All-India Congress Committee Office."

"It is astonishing to what a pass the Government of India has been reduced when it has to adopt these tactics. Normally such tactics require no answer but as there is likely to be misapprehension I wish to clear up some matters."

"It is not our custom to keep detailed minutes of the Working Committee's meetings. Only the final decisions are recorded. On this occasion the Assistant Secretary took brief notes unofficially and apparently for his own record. These notes are very brief and disjointed and represent several days' prolonged debate, during which I must have spoken on various occasions for two or three hours."

"Only a few sentences have been taken down. Torn from their context they often give a wrong impression. None of us had a chance of seeing these notes or revising them. The record is very unsatisfactory and incomplete and hence often incorrect."

"At our discussions Mahatma Gandhi was not present. We had to consider every aspect of the question fully and to weigh the implications of the words and phrases in the draft resolutions."

"If Gandhiji had been there much of this discussion might have been avoided as he could have explained to us his attitude more fully. Thus, when the question of British withdrawal from India was considered I pointed out that if the armed forces were suddenly withdrawn the Japanese might well advance and invade the country without hindrance. This obvious difficulty was removed when Gandhiji later explained that the British and other armed forces might remain to prevent aggression."

"He has further stated that if the war really became one for freedom for all peoples then victory would assuredly come to the United Nations."

"The reference to the negotiations with Japan is also incorrect and entirely torn from their context. Gandhiji always sends notice to his adversary before coming into conflict. He would thus have called upon Japan not only to keep away from India but to withdraw from China etc."

"In any event he was determined to resist every aggressor in India and he advised our people to do even to the point of death. They were never to submit."

"It is absurd to say that any of us envisaged any arrangements with Japan, giving her a right of passage etc. What I said was that Japan would want this but we could never agree. Our whole policy has all along been based on the uttermost resistance to aggression."

Working Committee Meets

The general political situation in the country and the reactions to the Congress Working Committee's Wardha resolution both in India and abroad, were considered at this morning's meeting of the Working Committee. Mr. Gandhi addressed the Committee for 90 minutes, giving his views on the reactions to the Wardha resolution, both official and non-official, in India as well as abroad.

GRAND DANCE, SONG AND MUSIC RECITAL
ST. ELMO OBEYESEKERE
IMPRESSARIO
PRESENTS

SHANTI KUMAR

AND HIS TROUPE OF TALENTED
MALE AND FEMALE INDIAN,
HINDU CLASSICAL DANCERS,
VOCALISTS AND MUSICIANS

FEATURING KULAPAKIA RANEE
[MISS TIRZAH FRY]

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN JAFFNA

After His Successful Tour In India

Under the Distinguished Patronage of

6.30 Show: Justice A. E. KEUNEMAN, K.C., M.A., LL.B.
AND Mrs. KEUNEMAN
9.30 Show: G. CROSETTE THAMBYAH, Esq.,
DISTRICT JUDGE, JAFFNA.

TOWN HALL, JAFFNA

On Saturday 15th Aug. 1942

at 6.30 p. m. and 9.30 p. m.

(Tis 100-15-8-42)

VALIGAMAM EAST SHOW

MESSAGES FROM MINISTERS

Puttur, Monday.

The active co-operation of teachers and schools was mainly responsible for the success of the Valikamam East Agri-Horticultural, Industrial, Health, Art and Food Show held at Puttur last week. The show, the first of its kind organized in the Northern Province, was judged by independent critics as the best in the Health Week celebrations here, reflecting a great deal of organisation on the part of Mr. T. Kathira Velu, the Joint Secretary.

Dr. S. F. Chellappah, O.B.E. the D.M. & S.S., opened the show while Mr. L. E. H. Schokman spoke on "Cottage Industries" and Dr. S. C. Thurairajah on "Rural Sanitation: Mudaliyar N. Thanipillai and Adigar A. Naganather also spoke.

Dr. S. Subramaniam declared the show open on the second day, when Mr. C. Charavanapavan spoke on "Food Utilisation and Diet", Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam on "A. R. P." and Mr. J. T. Sadasiva Iyer on "Adult Education".

Mr. K. S. Arulnandhy, Assistant Director of Education, declared the show open on the third day. Mr. M. Prasad, G. A. Northern Province, presided over the public meeting at which Dr. (Miss.) E. M. Thillayampalam spoke on "Female Education"; Dr. (Miss.) Resecca Kshi on "Mother and Infants" and Mr. C. Ragunathan on "Co-operative Effort in Rural Reconstruction". The prizes were distributed by Mrs. S. Natesan. The School Concert was held under the patronage of Lady R. L. Ramanathan.

MESSAGES

The following messages were received by the Convener of the Publicity Committee of the Valikamam East Agricultural Industrial, Health and Food Show:—

"I am glad to learn that the Village Committees of the area have rendered every assistance in connection with the Valikamam East Agri-Horticultural-Industrial-Health and Food Show. I have always been of the opinion that in dealing with the important subject of rural reconstruction Village Committees can and should play a very important part. A glance at the powers conferred on these bodies by the Village Committees Ordinance—improvement of communications, control of markets and fairs, water, health and sanitation, agriculture and industry—shows that they embrace almost every matter that comes within the purview of rural reconstruction. There is the added advantage that these powers are vested in representatives of the area chosen by the people of the area, representatives, who can be presumed to be well acquainted with the particular needs of the place. The co-operation therefore of the Village Committees of Valikamam East in organizing the show is a welcome sign, and I trust will be one that will prove a stimulus to the rural reconstruction work in the area in the future."

S. W. R. D. BANDARANAIKE

"I am very glad to have the opportunity of sending you a message on the occasion of your Agri-

horticultural, industrial and health show.

As requested I shall confine myself to the question of rural sanitation. A proper system of rural sanitation cannot be conceived of apart from the use of latrines built according to approved hygienic standards. It has long been the endeavour of the Department of Medical and Sanitary services to teach the people in rural areas the value of such a system of sanitation. These efforts have unfortunately been impeded by a stubborn conservatism which has been suspicious of change and reluctant to discard old habits. The Department's propaganda and its efforts are prompted by a desire to promote the health of the people and not to challenge their institutions. I appeal to you to co-operate with the Department's officers by adopting their advice and following their instructions. In this way you will create a healthier and happier community.

I wish your show success.

Geo. E. de SILVA,
Minister for Health.

"I wish all success to your Agri-Horticultural Food Show and hope it will greatly stimulate increased production of foodstuffs which is a matter of vital importance at this juncture.—Home Minister, Colombo, 28th July 1942." (B, Telegraph)

"We are today working towards a regeneration of our villagers through rural development. These exhibitions serve to bring home to the people in a simple but forcible form what has been done and what can be done to improve the agriculture, horticulture, industries and health of the countryside. In their own way they form an integral part of our scheme. The organisers must be congratulated on their initiative and for having made this Exhibition possible. I sincerely hope that everyone who attends this exhibition will take back with him the knowledge that much is being done and much will be done towards this social regeneration. I send my best wishes for the success of the Exhibition."

G. C. S. Corea

Minister for Labour, Industry and Commerce.

FIRST TO STOP THE JAPANESE

Continued from page 3

Britain, Russia, America, China, three quarters of the human race, banded together on the side of freedom.

Then, on Easter Sunday while our churches sang with anthems, suddenly dramatically we realized that war was at our very doors.

We heard the thunder of the guns as their shells ploughed the skies, we saw the victim. We had a taste of war, and the effect of a brief single raid on human morale and our economic life. How great was the danger we then escaped we can realize when we remember that the number of planes that wrought havoc in Pearl Harbour was no more than 60 as compared with the 75 that raided Colombo. Watchful of the issue there stood at sea 5 aircraft-carriers escorted by a fleet of battleships, cruisers and destroyers. We were ready for those planes not a day too soon.

Ceylon proved to be the first part of the British Empire to stop the Japanese.

And now this Island, embattled to its very core, bristles with guns and zooms with planes, and men of many lands are here.

Looking back then on the panorama of this war, we have a vision of seemingly insurmountable situations overcome, of cool courage and endurance in crisis, of rallies after retreats, of riposte to every surprise stroke of the enemy. We should have learnt that events apparently overwhelming at the time of occurrence, pale into perspective when they are spent. It is not the spectacular blitzkrieg that necessarily counts, but the dogged courage of kind nations that may yield ground but never lose heart. With that vision of the past before us, why should we dither at every set-back-like anxious relatives flustered at every rise of a patient's temperature; while the doctor keeps his head? Why try to teach, Timoshenko and An chinech their jobs.

However grave the peril of the moment let us remain assured that the Allied Nations will surmount them as surely as the sun will rise out of the dark unsettled horizon.

RATNAPURA SAIVA PARIPALANA MAHA SABHA

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the above Sabha held on Sunday the 2nd August, 1942 at the premises of the Sabha at Warakatota road, Ratnapura, under the Chairmanship of its President Mr. A. K. Alvapillai, the following resolutions were passed:

That representations should be made to Government and the Authorities concerned to make facilities for Hindu Religious worship and vegetarian diet for the benefit of

(a) the Hindus serving in His Majesty's Forces in the Island

(b) the Hindu Students of the University of Ceylon.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1144

In the matter of the estate of the late Thillaiammah wife of Appakudiy Sangarapillai of Inuvil

Deceased.

Aramugam Velanthar of Inuvil

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Sangarapillai Selvavinayagam
2. Sinnappu Eliathamby
3. Appakudiy Sangarapillai all of Inuvil

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 28th day of May 1942 in the presence of Mr. T. Kumaraswamy Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian ad item over the abovenamed 1st respondent for the purpose of representing him in this case and that the petitioner be declared entitled to letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that the same be issued to him accordingly unless the abovenamed respondents or any other person shall on or before the 3rd day of July 1942 appear before this Court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 2nd day of June 1942

Sgd. G. O. Thambiah,
District Judge.

Order Nisi extended to 20.8.42

Id. G. O. T.

D. C. J.

(O. 45, 13 & 17.8.42)

QUALITY-JEWELS

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JEWELLERS
OF
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ARE NOW IN JAFFNA
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GET YOUR JEWELS
MADE TO YOUR TASTE,
IN THE BEST STYLE,
WORKMANSHIP &
FINISH

Charges Moderate.



TAKE THE PLUNGE, BRITAIN!

Continued from page 1

To say the very most, you would become a figure on fun and ridicule as you splashed about in the Pool of New Adventure treading the water aimlessly and spluttering all kinds of entirely irrelevant obiter dicta.

Plunge into the Pool of New Adventure with a fine clean dive, and you will be applauded to the echo, to say nothing of the new lease of life which you will immediately proceed to enjoy as you contact the sparkling waters of Renewal.

It is only a question of trusting India and of demonstrating that trust with irrevocable gestures. You are not heeded by the various Freedom parties in India because there is everywhere an uneasy feeling that you do not trust India and that you have the absolutely unjustifiable conviction that India cannot do without you.

India cannot do without you for the moment. But the sooner she can do without you "in the right way" the sooner will neither of you be able to do without the other.

You must trust India as part of your war effort. We are perpetually being asked to contribute to this, that, and the other War Fund. It is our turn to ask you to contribute your trust in India, and let it be a lavish contribution. If you will take this plunge, and forget whether or not India can do without you, then you will find that the whole attitude of India becomes miraculously changed, and you yourself will acquire the necessary influence, born of trust, to help to weld India into an indissoluble whole. The disgruntled vivisectionists will sink into insignificance, and the whole world, and especially the Axis Powers, will be presaged with the over-whelmingly heartening (in the case of Axis—disheartening) sight of a united India and of an Indo-British comradeship intent on inflicting upon the powers of evil a finally crushing defeat.

Take the plunge, Britain. Do not stand hesitating on the diving board. Do not be afraid. Take the risk so that you may seize the opportunity.

MAHATMA GANDHI AND OTHER LEADERS ARRESTED

Continued from page 1

to violence and put non-violence to shame. When such a thing happens, you can take it you will not find me alive. Wherever I may be their blood will be on your head.

"If you don't understand this it would be better if you reject this resolution. It will rebound to your credit. How can I blame you for things which you may not be able to grasp? There is one principle in the fight which you must adopt. Never believe—I have never believed—that the British are going to fail. I don't consider them a nation of cowards. I know that before they accept defeat every soul in Britain will be sacrificed. They may be defeated and they may leave

GUARDING SECRET INFORMATION

RESPONSIBILITY OF BUSINESS FIRMS AND INSTITUTIONS

Many commercial firms and civil organisations which have business dealings with the Defence Services naturally come into possession of information which would be of value to the enemy.

While most business houses have realised the secret nature of this information and have treated it as such, evidence has come to hand that others have unwittingly passed it on to third parties. It is, therefore, stressed that all information regarding the Services reaching the hands of firms should be closely guarded and suitable measures taken to ensure that it is not divulged to unauthorised persons. The maximum security is especially essential when such information is conveyed through the post and every advantage should be taken of the safeguards provided by the postal authorities for such purposes.

An example of information valuable to the enemy which would come into possession of such firms would be a list of units stationed in a single district and it is information of this type, among others, that should be closely guarded.

(Press Communique)

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 10

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sellammah wife of Sabapathippillai Kanapathippillai of Changavai in Jaffna

Deceased

1. Ramalingam Sabapathippillai and wife
2. Thaiyalumustu both of Changavai in Jaffna

Petitioners.

Vs.

Sithamparanachchy widow of Ponampalam Karuvattamby of Changavai in Jaffna

Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. C. Thambyah Esquire District Judge of Jaffna on the 18th day of July 1942 in the presence of Mr. T. Sangarappillai proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioners having been read: It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be issued to the petitioners: Unless the respondent or any other persons shall appear before this court on the 15th day of August 1942 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 18th day of July 1942

Sgd. G. C. Thambyah,
District Judge.

Drawn by
Sgd. T. Sangarappillai,
Proctor for Petitioners.
(G. 41 C & 13-8-22)

you just as they left the people of Burma, Malaya and other places with the idea of recapturing lost ground when they can. That may be their military strategy, but supposing they leave us, what happens to us? In that case Japan will come here. The coming in of Japan will mean the end of China and perhaps Russia too. In these matters Pandit Nehru is my guru. I don't want to be the instrument of Russia's defeat nor China's. If that happens I would hate myself."

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(Y. 164. A. 21-11-41-20-11-42.) (T's) Shroff.

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He will be there

FROM 1st to 15th EVERY MONTH

COMMUNICATIONS DURING OTHER DAYS TO:-

TAMBARAWA ESTATE
Wariyapola, N. W. P.

[Y. 115. 18-5-42-17-8-42.]