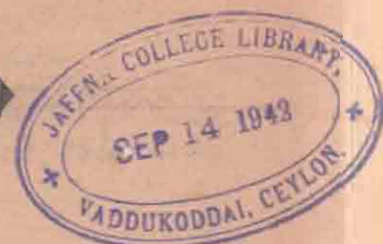


THE Hindu Organ.

Editor:
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Preparing Eatables From Wheat

Demonstrations in the preparation of eatables from wheat and wheat flour will be given at various places all over the Island, and the necessary staff for the purpose is being trained.

Two-in-Rickshaw Rides

Legislation is to be introduced shortly to prohibit two adults going in the same rickshaw. A decision to this effect was arrived at by the Executive Committee of Local Administration at a meeting held on Wednesday.

Textile Controller Appointed

Mr. S.H. Wadia, Excise Commissioner, has been appointed Textile Controller, to control the price of textiles. Mr. T. V. Saravanamuttu, Deputy Excise Commissioner, will act as Excise Commissioner until a permanent officer is appointed.

Northern Criminal Sessions

Mr. Justice Wijeyewardene will continue from today the Northern Criminal Sessions, which were opened on July 10 by Mr. Justice Kenneman. It is expected that the Sessions will last till the third week of September.

Free Medical Service in Britain

Britain's 31,000 doctors will shortly be asked to ballot on a new scheme, under which all voluntary and Municipal hospitals, with a few specialised exceptions, would be taken over by the State and free medical service be given to all irrespective of income limits.

Japs And Andamans

The Japanese claim that they are developing the Andaman Islands, in the Indian Ocean. A Port Blair despatch to the Domei news agency reports the arrival of a large number of Japanese to help in exploiting the island's resources. They contemplate the adoption of Japanese as the official language.

THE JAPANESE—WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE THEY?

THEIR IDEA OF ASIA FOR THE ASIATICS

BY WILLIAM EMPSON,

(Onetime Lecturer at Tokyo University and at the Peking National University.)

PRIME Minister Churchill in his speech to Congress uttered these words: 'What kind of people do they think we are?' What kind of people do we think they are? Who are these Japanese? Are they a separate race? Where do they come from? Are their peculiar customs unique and what is their origin? How do they react to foreigners and to foreign habits? What do they really mean by Asia for the Asiatics? Could they really be the leaders of East Asia?

The answer to the first question is that the Japanese are no more a separate race than the English; they both live on the island beyond the continent, so the different waves of immigration can't get any further, they all mix there.

I think that's an important point, because the idea that the nations are fixed races does a lot of harm. A national tradition is a very real and slow thing, but if we say that the present opinions of the Germans and the Japanese are due to inherent racial qualities we have no hope of any decent arrangement with them after their present rulers have been defeated. It took a great deal of political murder in Japan, as it did in Germany, to get the jingoes into power. And one of the chief things that made the Japanese feel isolated from the rest of the world, so that they became one of the gangster nations, was the American Isolation Act of 1924, and it reminded them of the refusal by President Wilson to state their racial equality at the Versailles Conference. The Axis powers are always talking about races, for their own ends, and that's a good reason for supposing it's mostly nonsense.

Descended from Gods

Of course officially the Japanese say they are descended from gods, making a sharp contrast with the rest of us, who are descended from monkeys. But Japanese anthropologists cheerfully admit a Chinese and a

Mongol and a South Sea island wave of immigration. Then there's the Hairy Ainu in the north, who certainly intermarried with the Japanese, and the Hairy Ainu is supposed to be Caucasian like ourselves. The beautiful girl of the Utamaro woodcut has a long narrow face with a curled nose, a fine Jewish type, and she only really occurs among the Japanese aristocracy; and that element might come from Arab traders in the South Seas. In fact it's a very complete mixture of race, though of course, that doesn't prevent the Japanese from despising all the nations they're allied to.

They vary a good deal to look at, you know. Most of them really are short and a bit bandy-legged, but I think that comes from the way they sit down; if they are brought up on chairs and given food with more fat in it than Japanese food has, their legs get quite normal. And the famous teeth of the cartoons really do occur, but that's a very curious business; you hardly find it all except among town office-workers. A Tokyo tram will be full of these teeth, and very ugly they are, but you never see a farmer in the country with teeth like that. The same thing happens in England, actually, but it seems to apply more to women. Nowadays most English well-to-do young girls are made to wear elaborate plates to push their teeth back again. But in the poorer classes in England, where nobody bothers to make the little girls wear plates, it seems they don't need them. Very little is known about teeth anyway, but they're much more affected by your state of mind than you think, and my own guess is that the rat teeth of the cartoon Japanese are produced by the condition of their nerves.

Customs

Then as to the Japanese customs, which seem now to

LABOURERS VISITING INDIA

OBSTACLES TO BE REMOVED

The prohibition imposed by the Government of India on the emigration of unskilled labour to Ceylon will continue to operate as heretofore in regard to labour not already in Ceylon.

The prohibition will be removed, however, so far as it affects labourers now in Ceylon.

This information is contained in a communique of the Government of India issued by the Department of the Deputy Chief Secretary, Colombo.

A similar announcement will be made in India.

The Communique

The following is the Government of India Communique:—

'The Government of India have decided to relax with effect from the 1st September, 1942, their prohibition of the emigration of unskilled labourers to Ceylon so far as it affects labourers now in Ceylon. The effect of the ban on such labourers has been that, since its imposition three years ago, they have been prevented from paying their normal visits to India, for social and domestic purposes, for fear of not being allowed to return to their employment in Ceylon.

'The uncertainty about employment in Ceylon which was the reason for the ban being imposed cannot be considered to subsist in war time, when practically all Indian labour in Ceylon is employed on work essential to the war effort.

No Justification for Obstacles

'The Government of India are therefore of opinion that there is no justification for continuing to place any obstacles in the way of labourers wishing to pay their normal visits to India. The prohibition will continue to operate as heretofore in regard to labour not already in Ceylon.

'Estate labourers who obtain leave to visit India should get their identity certificate endorsed with the date of their arrival by the Protector of Emigrants at Mandapam or Tuticorin. Non-estate labourers who obtain leave should obtain identity certificates from the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon before leaving and get them similarly endorsed on arrival in India.'

Continued on page 5.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 1942.

A QUESTION OF LABELS

LABELS ARE AS VITAL IN transport as they are in politics. One would not dream of sending, say, one's trunk by the railway without a label. In the first place, the conscientious railway officer, always alive to the convenience and comfort of the public, would not commit the indiscretion of accepting a trunk without a label. If the ignorant passenger knows nothing of labels, there is at least the porter who will tell him all about it and who will, for a consideration, affix the much-needed means of identification to the offending piece of luggage. It is not suggested that a label is invariably effective as a guarantee against loss. In spite of the label, articles have been known to disappear mysteriously, in which event the passenger has to console himself with the reflection that everything possible had been done. In politics too the label is not so much an article of faith as a convenient means of identification. Ceylon is justly proud of her unlimited capacity for imitation. The Ceylonese have tried to imitate almost everything. They have not been blind to the virtues of the label in politics. They have, therefore, annexed it, under the impression that it is as great a mark of distinction as, for instance, the latest fashion in top-hats or frocks. The fact that Ceylon is a small country, in fact too small for a multiplicity of labels, has not troubled them at all, with the result that every faction flaunts its own label. The Ceylon Congress has proved its attachment to its own label by publicly expelling a gentleman who had financed its activities. Mr. Bandaranaike's Sinhala Maha Sabha is, we take it, equally attached to its own label, though this highly patriotic body has not, so far as we know, had an opportunity of demonstrating its attachment in a suitable manner. But, then, the times are bad. Flag-waving and label-sticking are pastimes which do not fit in with the excitement of war, dire and immediate.

In India too the question of labels is receiving a good deal of attention. A correspondent, writing to the "Indian Social Reformer", wants to know to which of the three schools the "Reformer" belongs—the Tilak School, the Gandhi School, or the School of Revolutionary Thought? There must have been some measure of provocation for the correspondent's question, though, in some cases, the questioner is as crooked a little thing as the mark that denotes his vocation. The "Reformer" has politely refused to lay claim to any particular label and informed the correspondent that it does not belong to any of the three schools. There is wisdom in the "Reformer's" answer. It does not take long to stick a label but to take it off is not so easy. Besides, the fact must be admitted that there are people who do not care for labels. The world is so wide and life is so large that the man who wishes to know both has no need of labels. Sometimes, the little things—we mean the labels—are a source of great inconvenience and misunderstanding. It is certainly much better to stick to your own job, whatever it may be, and look at the world of labels from a convenient distance.

NOTES & COMMENTS

The Art of Correspondence

Correspondence is, of course, an art. That it is a difficult art is shown by the correspondence which appears elsewhere and which we have decided to publish after considerable hesitation. One of the letters is with reference to a letter that appeared in the "Hindu Organ" some time ago on the subject of Local Assistance Committees. On the last publication of a letter on this subject, we decided, for very good reasons, not to publish any further letters on the same subject. We do not, as a rule, grudge our correspondents a little space in the columns of this paper for the expression of their views. But when correspondence tends to develop into an acrimonious dispute resting on nothing better than personal feeling, then it must be stopped. We publish the letter in question for no other reason than that our correspondent seems to be very anxious to have it published. We are not at all convinced that letters on these lines will help the work of the Local Assistance Committees to any extent. In the interests of the public and the correspondents themselves, we must decline to publish any further letters in the same strain. If it is intended to help the work

of the Assistance Committees, then the letters should avoid all personalities where these are entirely irrelevant to the matter under discussion. This is one of the elementary rules of debate. It is always possible to discuss a matter without calling the other fellow names which may or may not be deserved.

Ceylon and the War

TWO recent announcements in the "Government Gazette" serve to show that the war is very much with us. One provides for the amendment of Regulation 10 of the Defence (Miscellaneous) Regulations by the addition of a new paragraph enabling courts to inflict corporal punishment on persons found guilty of interfering with or intercepting telegraphic and telephone communications. The other imposes certain restrictions on the holding of public meetings or processions. Hereafter, in certain specified parts of the island, no person may take part in any public meeting or procession which is not previously authorised by the Minister for Home Affairs. So far the people of Ceylon have merely looked at the war with a certain amount of mild curiosity. Except in the matter of rationing, they have not felt the full impact of the war on so many things, big as well as small, which they had always taken for granted. The right of public meeting is one of them. Now that closer control is needed in the interests of defence, many of these things may have to go.

Indian Labour

THE earlier announcement made in the Ceylon press about the decision of the Indian Government in regard to Indian labour in Ceylon seems to be incorrect in certain respects. According to a Government of India communique, the decision only affects labourers now in Ceylon. The effect of the ban imposed by the Indian Government has been to prevent Indian labourers now residing in Ceylon from paying their normal visits to India. This disability, which should never have been created, is now removed by the Indian Government which states that the prohibition that has hitherto been in force "will continue to operate as heretofore in regard to labour not already in Ceylon." This means that Indian labourers who had returned to India and were prevented by the official ban from returning to Ceylon will continue to be held up in their native country. Now that the Ministers know what the Indian Government has actually done, they may congratulate themselves on the fact that the

Indian Government has done nothing to offend their susceptibilities. Let them reflect however on what all this means in connection with the campaign for producing more food. We are told that about 1000 cows are going to be imported from India. Those members of the State Council who suffer from an anti-Indian complex might as well make up their minds to do without Indian cows. The whole attitude of a certain section of the State Council and the Board of Ministers towards the question of Indian immigration is unreasonable and ridiculous. What this country wants is food and more food. As we have repeatedly urged in these columns Indian labour is badly needed to open up more land and there can be no question of any competition between imported agricultural labour and local labour. Under these circumstances, the least the Ministers can do is to try and come to an understanding with the Government of India with regard to the emigration of Indian agricultural labourers to Ceylon. The interests of Ceylon in this respect can be safeguarded without offending the susceptibilities of Indians. If, however, our food production can be appreciably increased without importing Indian labour, the Ministers ought to say so definitely and they should submit themselves to judgment according to the results. It is the duty of the public too, regardless of considerations of race or creed, to consider any such undertaking by the Ministers with the utmost care and impartiality. While no Ceylonese, be he Tamil or Singhalese, would desire to flood the island with cheap agricultural labour while labour of the same quality is available locally, no one in his senses, knowing the grim facts of the present position in regard to food, would sympathise with people who are not deterred even by the prospect of starvation from airing their dislike of the Indian immigrant. The question is not one of satisfying the amour propre of India; the real question is one of producing more food in our own country. State Councillors ought to remember this important fact.

Blind Leaders of the Blind

THE Political Correspondent of the "Ceylon Daily News" is able to assure his readers as follows: "The fact is that the decision of the Government of India to lift the ban partially has nothing to do with the question of the supply of foodstuffs for Ceylon." A great discovery, no doubt, but then why send Sir Ewen Jayatilake at this time of life all the way to beg for more rice when the Indian Government is only waiting to be asked to give us all the food needed?

SOVIET OFFENSIVE CONTINUES

8 More Cities Occupied By Soviet Troops

London, Friday.

Violent street fighting is still going on in the suburbs of Rzhev and in the outskirts of Sychevka, about 20 miles south of Rzhev. If the Russians capture Sychevka, they will cut the railway linking Rzhev with the other German strong-hold at Vyazma and both points will then be in great danger of being out-flanked.

Driven back from Zubstov, the Germans are now trying to fortify themselves in new lines on the east side of the town where they have concentrated much artillery.

Big air reinforcements have been brought up and are heavily bombing the advancing Soviet infantry, though the Soviet losses in this respect are reported to be negligible.

Soviet offensive operations in some sectors of the western front continue, with obstinate battles for German strong points. After nearly three weeks of Soviet advance, the German resistance is now increasing and tank, artillery and plane reserves have been brought up.

Eight more fortified and inhabited localities were occupied by the Soviet troops on the central front, said the Moscow radio today. All the German counter attacks were repelled. The Germans lost 13 tanks, ten anti aircraft guns and other war material.

In the Kietskaya region, the Germans are still unable to regain the initiative despite numerous fierce counter-attacks.

For the first time here, the Germans yesterday introduced cavalry into battle making a flank attack against a Soviet infantry unit, but the German cavalry were in turn out-flanked by Soviet tanks who put the cavalry to flight after killing 500. An attempted break-through to the east by the Germans in another sector of the Kietskaya region was frustrated by a flank blow which cut off a group of German tanks and motorised infantry. Fighting for the latter's complete destruction is now going on.

INDO-CEYLON "AGREEMENT"

REPORT NOT CORRECT

A Press Communique issued on Wednesday by the Department of the Deputy Chief Secretary, states:

The Government of India have seen a Press report purporting to announce that an agreement has been reached between the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon on certain questions affecting Indian immigration into Ceylon. This report has been issued without any authority. It is not correct and does not represent the position reached between the two Governments.

FOOD CONTROL

IN CHARGE OF MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE

The Government motion for the transfer of the subject of Food Control and Control of Food Prices from the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce to the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands was adopted by the State Council by 27 votes to 17 (Mr. G. S. Corea declining to vote.)

THE WAR AND AFTER BLIND WORSHIP OF THE STATE

By
A. Arulambalam

What is going to happen to humanity and to the world at the conclusion of this war? For how many long and weary years will this massacre of the innocents continue? Will there be a peace which would be lasting and which would satisfy the just feelings and aspirations of the warring nations? These are some of the pertinent questions that arise in the minds of all thinking people who cherish peace and freedom dearly. And the answer to these and like questions depends greatly on the extent to which people of all countries are prepared to change their outlook on the aim and purpose of life. It also depends much on the will of the so-called statesmen and leaders of the world.

Causes of War

The last great war was according to its advocates a war fought to end all war and many believed that there would be everlasting peace and plenty at its conclusion. But a great unrest prevailed ever since the termination of that war, and to the bitter disillusionment of mankind the present war has swept across the entire face of the world. It may be of some importance if we could find out and analyse the chief causes of war before terms of peace are discussed.

Time was when great battles were fought in the name of religion. But the causes of modern wars largely hinge on economic questions and the craving for easy and luxurious living on the part of some people at the cost of others. It may also be said that racial hatred arising from wrong and fantastic notions of superiority and the pernicious and vicious desire of the so-called "superior" nations to rule over the so-called "backward" people has contributed in no small measure to eternal conflicts. So, if there should be peace and harmony on earth the equality of man should be readily recognised, liberty must not be isolated and exploitation should cease forthwith. If this is done one nation will not impose economic barriers on others or try to dominate them.

Materialistic Outlook of Man

Although the solution to end all war appears to be very simple the possibility of having a lasting peace is very remote. As matters stand at present, though cool reason reveals to man the equality of one and all, there appears to be no inducement for man to be fair. To modern man his daily life and comforts are everything. To him there is nothing beyond death. He has forgotten his creator and therefore he is answerable to none except to his own creation, the state; and that necessarily implies in this life alone. If he commits murder or the worst of sins and escapes detection and punishment in this world, he feels that there is an end of the matter. In practice the religion and outlook of modern man is neither Hinduism nor Buddhism nor Christianity nor Islam nor any other faith, but what may be called materialism. If he can live comfortably and satisfy his senses irrespective of the means by which such comforts are acquired he is happy and content. To satisfy his senses which eternally prompt him to vain pursuits man loses his reason. Modern man has become such a slave to the dictates

of his senses that he leads a highly artificial life and his actions are sometimes worse than those of beasts.

Aim and Purpose of Life

So, the necessity for man to change, or rather truly appreciate, the aim and purpose of life becomes imperative. The golden rules of life should be to honour the creator, live and let live. In order to bring about this change in the outlook on life the foundation, and, in fact the whole superstructure of modern education, requires a radical change. Today too much importance is attached to the training of the young mind to hanker after material profits. The change should take place in favour of spiritual development; then we shall have a better understanding of the creator and the true nature of our being. The education which is imparted, especially to the young, should be able to extirpate the evil of wrong thinking which is the root cause of all trouble. The young should be taught to be fair and to be kind, and if kind thoughts are instilled in tender minds from childhood to boyhood and from boyhood to manhood there is bound to be a better and happier world. And to help youth in this great and noble path the good example of leaders and statesmen is essential. The world no more requires "diplomats" and "empire builders". Humanity requires "friends" of people who will share their joys and sorrows and who would steer them clear of all whirlpools of avarice, greed, jealousy and hatred and who would unite mankind by the silken cord of love.

Vision of a New World

If our statesmen really want peace let them abandon all hopes of rebuilding their ruined cities with the wealth of their newly acquired territories or the spoils of war. Let them readily recognise the equality of man and permit each and every country to live as free and independent people without putting forward illogical arguments about the lack of political advancement or the incompetence to manage one's own affairs and keep others politically and economically in bondage. Let those countries which have power and wealth give to others the twin blessings of freedom from fear and freedom from want. To discuss peace terms or the plans for the future let leaders and statesmen not meet in battleships or abandoned army coaches under the canopy of fighter planes with the inspiration of good old Bacchus, but let them meet in Divine presence in a Church or Temple in all solemnity and sincerity. If these could be done the vision of the brave new world would almost immediately be realised, otherwise the law of the jungle will prevail.

FIRST VICTORY VOLUNTEER CENTRE IN THE NORTH

A Victory Volunteer Centre has been organised by the Manipal Parish Social Service League. A reading room and meeting centre for the purpose has been established at the Manipal Village Committee Office since Friday the 21st instant. Journals and other literature have been forwarded by the Information Department, which will fix the date for the formal opening ceremony later.

INDIAN CENTRAL LEGISLATURE

Special Session Summoned

New Delhi, Aug. 23.

For the first time in its history, the Central Legislature is expected to hold a special session when the political situation in the country will be discussed. It is understood that it will be a brief session beginning on Wednesday, September 16, and lasting about a week.

Assembly circles assume that the decision to call the session is in response to the demand reflected in Sardar Sant Singh's letter urging that members of both Houses should be given an opportunity to record their views and votes on the situation and hear a fresh and detailed exposition of the Government's policy. Pleasure is expressed in the same circles at this recognition of the Central Legislature's status as the representative all-India forum.

It is not known whether the regular Autumn session scheduled to begin on October 25 will be abandoned.

THE CONGRESS DEMAND

GANDHI AND VICEROY EXCHANGE LETTERS

New Delhi, Aug. 21.

It is understood that there was an exchange of letters between Mahatma Gandhi and the Viceroy immediately after the A.I.C.C. passed its resolution on August 5 in Bombay and the Government of India issued a resolution of the Viceroy's Executive Council on it.

The subject matter of the correspondence is believed to relate to some statements made in the Viceroy's Council resolution which the Mahatma is reported to have disputed. He received a reply expressing disagreement with his contentions.

PROTEST AGAINST SENDING PADDY TO CEYLON

Demonstration at Arantangi Station

Thiruvavur, Aug. 22.

Report is to hand that a mob of about 2,000 collected yesterday at Arantangi Railway Station and staged a demonstration against goods waggons with rice or paddy being attached to a passenger train due to leave the station, on the ground that the economic condition was serious in this country also. The passenger train left without the waggons being attached. (Hindu Cor.)

14 CALCUTTA PAPERS CLOSE DOWN

Calcutta, Aug. 21.

In pursuance of the decision arrived at a meeting of their proprietors and editors on August 17, the nationalist newspapers of Calcutta—both English and Vernacular—numbering 14, have suspended publication from to-day for an indefinite period as a protest against the increasing and humiliating restrictions imposed by the Central and Provincial Government.

SETTLEMENT IN INDIA

HINDU MAHASABHA'S ATTITUDE

New Delhi, Aug. 20.

No settlement between the British Government, the Congress and the Muslim League which ignored the All-India Hindu Mahasabha would be acceptable to the Hindus, observed Mr. V. D. Savarkar, the retiring President of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha, in a statement to the United Press. He said that the notion that the Congress represented the Hindus was misleading.

Mr. Savarkar went on to detail five points which, he urged, must be conceded if India's fullest co-operation for the war effort was to be secured. A declaration of the independence of India should be made immediately by Parliament. During the war the Central Executive Council should be Indianised. Its decisions should be binding on the Viceroy except in military and strategic matters. Military forces should be fully Indianised. Executive Councils should be set up in the Provinces and finally after the cessation of hostilities a conference should be called to frame a national constitution for India. The merit of these suggestions, added Mr. Savarkar, was in the fact they lay more or less within the scope of Sir Stafford Cripps' scheme but at the same time eliminated controversial issues.

APPOINTMENT OF MINOR HEADMEN

PERMANENT RESIDENCE AS QUALIFICATION

The Executive Committee of Home Affairs is of opinion that every effort should be made, in appointing minor headmen, to select candidates with the qualification of permanent residence in the division concerned.

Detailed instructions have been given to revenue officers in a circular issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the qualifications which should be required for appointing minor headmen.

In certain cases, however, the revenue officers, instead of appointing a man resident in the division in which there is a vacancy, appoint a man from an adjoining division on the ground that the latter had superior qualifications. Practice to be discontinued.

It is now proposed that this practice should be discontinued and that candidates resident in the areas in which they are to work should be appointed when they have the bare qualifications necessary instead of looking for men with superior qualifications from outside the areas concerned.

The Executive Committee of Home Affairs has been asked to consider the question of issuing a new circular on the subject to revenue officers.

Nailur Kandaswamy Temple Annual High Festival—1942

Public is hereby notified that traffic will be diverted from the sections of the Point Pedro Road and Old Store Road adjoining the above temple, along Wyman Road, Navanthurai Road and Mallur Cross Road No. 1, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily from August 26th to September 11th, 1942 on account of the above temple festival.

S. G. DE ZEYSA.

Asst. Supdt. of Police, N. P.

Police Office,

Jaffna, 25th August, 1942
(G. 23. 27 & 31-8-42.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A. R. P. IN JAFFNA

Sir,—I am writing this in the hope that you will give publicity to this complaint and be instrumental in remedying the deplorable state of affairs.

In Jaffna the present A. R. P. organisation with a network of part-time officials leaves much to be desired. I went to the A. R. P. office in Jaffna to interview the Controller only to learn that he was out of Jaffna District. I understood that last week both he and his deputy were out of the District. The A. R. P. Controller—a Divisional Inspector of Schools—is, I gather, a part time officer from this month. His deputy is a teacher in a school 8 miles away from Jaffna. The assistant is a junior Sub-Inspector of Schools.

The public will be very anxious to learn whether the A. R. P. Controller has completed the task of making Jaffna District and the Islands well protected against the debacle of an air raid. True it is that the last enemy raid on Ceylon was about four months ago. Does it therefore impress itself on the A. R. P. Controller that the situation has eased spelling relaxation on his part? Or is it because his hands were idling for want of A. R. P. work that he scrambled to his former office desk to find some work to do? It is a tragedy that government servants maintained at public expense and with additional war allowances do not study problems in their proper perspective. The entire face of the International situation is changing rapidly. India only about 24 miles away from the tip of Jaffna Peninsula is in a state of turmoil. The blood-thirsty Japs may consider the opportunity as golden to raid India and Ceylon. In these circumstances an A. R. P. Controller ordinarily should rack his brains for the present period of full as one suggesting the highest sacrifice and strain to test his organisation and keep the wheels of his machinery oiled and greased. The fault lies with us in that these three top officials in command are not full time men. Even the various Head wardens and Sectional wardens in the District without hesitation endorse my remarks. When the responsibility for Air Raid protection becomes the half-hearted task of three part time officials then inevitably it deteriorates to the disconcerting position of none of them knowing what is happening. Each will expect the other to attend to the job. Too many cooks spoil the soup. This entails wastage of time and money. Co-ordination is simply a process by which maximum results could be secured with minimum effort. It is not existing now. The itching desire to do too many trades leaves lack in the end master of none. The present A. R. P. Controller has been training himself in this sphere of public work for the last 7 or 8 months. To his credit it must be said that he has succeeded in some measure in instructing the people how to behave in an air raid. This he has achieved by addressing public meetings and holding demonstrations. But the last effort in the matter is still to be made. The A. R. P. Controller should be released by the powers-that-be for full time work to perfect the existing system as each day passes and not rest in the belief that what has now been arranged cannot be improved.

It is painfully obvious to everyone in Jaffna including the A. R. P. personnel that the existing ar-

range is incomplete and inadequate. Lot of spade work remains to be done. This requires a full time man who could devote his undivided attention and energies to this elusive mistress—the A. R. P. Further the need for a full time Controller is also discernible in the tide of events rumbling in India and near about Australia. When an emergency arises the present arrangement may snap and no one single officer could be responsible.

I hope the Civil Defence Commissioner will go into the matter not in a routine manner by calling for reports and perusing office files but by sending out a Senior Officer to go round Jaffna, village by village, to see at first hand the work that has been done. Reports obtained otherwise might be eloquent and glamorous but not consistent with facts.

Yours truly,

R. SHIVAPATHASUNDRAM
Point Pedro,
24-8-42.

MR. SUNDRAMOORTHY'S VERDICT ON L. A. C's.

Sir,—A letter on "Local Assistance Committees" appeared in the "Hindu Organ" of the 30th July, and Pro Bono Publico, the author of the letter, stated the qualifications which a member of these committees should possess and appealed to the public of this place to elect as members of these committees only those who are fit and worthy. "Pro Bono Publico" did not refer to any particular Committee or any particular member, nor did he cast any aspersion on any individual even by implication. In spite of this fact, Mr. K. Sree Sundaramoorthy, the Secretary of the Tellippalai Local Assistance Committee, has stated in his letter, published in the "Hindu Organ" of the 24th inst. that he knows intimately almost all the Chairmen, Secretaries and members of all the 47 Local Assistance Committees in Jaffna and that they are all worthy and honourable men. I hope that Mr. K. Sree S. has made his statement after due consideration unlike "Pro Bono Publico" whom he charges with incapacity for due consideration. But he has cleverly stated that he knows thoroughly almost all and not all the committees. Therefore what "Pro Bono Publico" stated in his letter may perhaps apply to the one or two committees which have not been watched or examined by Mr. K. Sree S. Mr. K. Sree S. should certainly be congratulated on his super human power which enables him to certify to the honour and worth of such a large number of members of so many societies. But the spirit with which he has endeavoured to minimise the importance of the statements made in his letter by the well meaning "Pro Bono Publico" is very much to be regretted. It is strange and unfortunate that the one or two societies which need reform have not come under the purview of Mr. K. Sree S. who has had an opportunity of knowing almost all the 47 committees. He wants "Pro Bono Publico" to give a concrete instance, and has unwittingly done this service for him by slowly letting the cat out of the bag. When a person criticises vehemently those who use liquor before an audience of all sorts of persons, if one or two in the assembly give vent to their indignation, one can easily make one's inference. There is no point, sir, in closing the correspondence on this importance subject, in view of the

CLIMAX OF WAR APPROACHING

MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE OF MOSCOW TALKS

Moscow, August, 19.

Mr. Churchill, M. Stalin and Mr. Harriman are reported to have formulated a plan for meeting the full brunt of Hitler's colossal striking power in the next two months, when the British officials frankly expect the war to reach the greatest climax. Reliable informants report that Mr. Churchill has obtained from M. Stalin the fullest details of Russia's present desperate military position. They presume that M. Stalin has put forth in the strongest terms his reasons for Russia's outspoken demands for an immediate second front. Mr. Churchill is reported to have explained the reasons why he has not yet launched the second front.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of great military and political tension.

Competent military experts are still sceptical that the Allies can invade the continent in the next few months on a scale big enough to ensure a genuine second front and force the Germans to drain some of their strength from the Russian front.

General Wavell's presence at Moscow has stirred considerable speculation on the role the Middle East and India may play in the future operations. Observers recall General Wavell's prediction in November that the Caucasus and Iran might well become the main theatres of war this year, if and when the Germans strike for oil.

There is a widespread belief that the conferees also considered the important question of the co-ordination of global military strategy among the Allies as well as the question of forming some sort of a Supreme or Central Command for co-ordination of military effort and a general war direction. (Hindu Cor)

fact that 'Pro Bono Publico' and Mr. K. Sree S. have given expression to their candid opinion in regard to L. A. C's, and some others may be inclined to make their own contribution in the interest of the public. It is only then that these societies will have the feeling that there are persons watching their activities and do substantial work. If persons cannot communicate their views to the press themselves, they can at least get this service done for them by some others.

Yours etc.

S. SANGARAPILLAI.

TRANSPORT OF SHEEP AND GOATS

Sir,—Sheep and goats are being transported out of the Jaffna district in large quantities for slaughtering. If this is allowed there will be no sheep or goats for agricultural purposes.

Unless it is possible to import cattle from India without any restrictions the transport of sheep and goats out of Jaffna should be prohibited.

Yours etc.,

"AGRICULTURIST"

AIR RAID SERVICES

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT'S ARRANGEMENTS

Dr S. F. Chellappah, Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, described the air raid arrangements made by his Department, in a broadcast talk last week from Colombo.

"An inquiry office was established" he said "after the last raid where information was available to relations and friends of casualties in the wards. Now a special building has been constructed as an inquiry Office at the main entrances and it will shortly be put into commission.

"There is also nearing completion a gas clearing station where in the event of a gas attack gas casualties would be cleansed before admission to the Wards.

Accommodation is provided for about 50 medical students each night in a nearby rented bungalow so that in the event of an emergency at night the services will be available.

In addition to the facilities at the General Hospital those at the Dental Institute, Lying-in-Home and Lady Havelock Hospital are also made use of. The Senior Medical Officer in charge of A.R.P. work in hospitals will divert from time to time casualties to each of these institutions.

At one time it was thought that casualty clearing hospitals would be needed in Colombo South and Colombo North. With the experience gained in the last raid and in the conditions prevailing in Colombo it would appear better to concentrate our work in the existing institutions. Nevertheless there are arrangements for a casualty clearing station in the North if the need arose.

In any emergency, Military hospitals will assist in dealing with civil cases and civil hospitals will assist in dealing with military cases.

We have made arrangements to transfer casualties after they have been dealt with and when they could be transported to out-station hospitals at Eboliyagoda, Karawenella and Watupiti where accommodation in temporary wards for over 500 cases have been provided. In Colombo we have specially set apart 250 beds for casualties. As more casualties come in the earlier attended ones will be transferred out of Colombo.

We have similar provision made at hospitals at Galle, Trincomalee, Kandy and Jaffna and to a lesser degree at other hospitals along the sea coast.

At Trincomalee we have a complete organisation to deal with casualties. To render further assistance we have a surgical unit stationed at Anuradhapura consisting of a Surgeon, Anaesthetist, House Officer, Theatre nurse and theatre attendants chiefly for assisting at Trincomalee but available for service around Anuradhapura to the North, South and East of it. Casualties will be evacuated from Trincomalee to Kantalar.

ANTI-PROFITEERING SOCIETY AT PUNGUDUTIVU

In response to a request made by the Government, an anti-profiteering society was formed at a meeting of the residents of Pungudutivu held in the Young Men's Reading Room on 24th August 1942 at 4.30 p.m. (Cor.)

Anuradhapura and Kurunegala according to the nature of their injuries.

At all the main hospitals blood transfusion services have been provided. In Colombo the surgeons have been organised into surgical units and arrangements are made for them to work in relays. In the event of additional surgical assistance being required in any other part of the Island one or more of these Units can be sent out immediately. A number of doctors in private practice in Colombo are included in these Units.

We are also increasing the accommodation temporarily in a number of outstation hospitals.

A New Sign

A new sign is being painted on Civil Hospitals. The military hospitals are entitled to the red cross but the civilian hospitals are not. To make it known to the enemy that it is a civil hospital the sign now used is a red square within a white square.

As each day passes our arrangements are being made more and more perfect.

Other Forms of Assistance

Turning to the other directions in which the Department is assisting in the war effort one might mention the control of Malaria. There is a constant watch kept on this disease and during the last few years the incidence of it has been low. With the presence of troops the Department's activity has been extended to provide the necessary protection for the members of the Fighting Services. While in camp areas the services do their own work in some instances; in other instances and in civil areas in the immediate vicinity of the camps, the work is being done by departmental officers. In this way the civil population benefits. We are also assisting in giving instruction to various members of the fighting service in the malaria problems in Ceylon, in advising in constructional works and selection of camp sites and in providing material for purposes of propaganda among the troops.

In the field of nutrition much advice has been given by the Division of Nutrition to various authorities both Military and Civil in regard to the maintenance of adequate nutrition with the available food in the country and a watch

ORDER ABSOLUTE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA, held at Point Pedro Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 182 PT In the matter of the Last-Will and Testament of the late Nagappan Vinasithamby of Thumpalai, Point Pedro.

Vinasithamby Sivaramalingam of Thumpalai Point Pedro. Petitioner. This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Jaffna on the 17th day of July 1942, in the presence of Mr. M. Esurapadham Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the Last-Will of the above-named deceased dated the 7th day of October 1934, and attested by V. Senathirajasingam Notary Public, under No. 2510 and now deposited in this Court and the affidavit of the Petitioner and of the attesting Notary and the witnesses hereto.

It is ordered that the said Last-Will be and the same is hereby declared proved.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner be and is hereby declared the Executor of the said Last-Will and that as such he is entitled to obtain probate thereof, and that Probate thereof be accordingly issued to the Petitioner.

This 31st day of July 1942

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

is being maintained to determine any deterioration in the nutrition of civil population in the present crisis.

In A. R. P. work the casualty services is in the hand of the Medical Officers of Health and Field Medical Officers are functioning as A. R. P. Controllers.

Outbreaks of bowel diseases such as Dysentery, typhoid, cholera are a constant menace to the population as well as to the troops. A good deal can be done by the people suffering from these conditions or their friends and relations by promptly notifying the authorities who will take necessary steps to prevent their spread. They could themselves prevent spread if they would take the trouble always to use a latrine, boil their drinking water and see that all refuse is either burnt or buried so that no opportunities would be afforded for breeding of flies. Protective inoculation against typhoid and cholera are available free to anyone who will ask for it from the nearest Government Medical Officer. We have tried to sanitize areas

THE JAPANESE—WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE THEY?

Continued from page 1

put them so much apart from everybody else, the truth is that it's very difficult to name anything that was actually invented on the island. The wooden houses on stilts, the fondness for water and so on, and especially the head-hunting which the samurai were so fond of, come from the South Seas. The kimono was a Chinese fashion of the T'ang dynasty, that is from 600-900 A. D., but if you take that off a Japanese, man or woman, what you find underneath are Malayan clothes. When the Japanese borrow a fashion they stick to it. They were open to Chinese influence in Middle T'ang—and they still use the fashions of that period; the kimono, the little separate tables for eating on, the brand of rice wine. The habit of using chairs came into China in late T'ang; so it was touch and go whether the Japanese got the chair or not. But they were no longer open to Chinese influence in late T'ang; they had had their period of borrowing and now they were fixed again.

Then you were asking about Japanese reflexes. I expect you mean about how they smile to show they're unhappy and hiss to show they're polite and all the rest of it. I think this is much more a matter of training than heredity; there's nothing racial about it. My own brother does the hissing, I notice; he's a retired colonel, and I daresay he's never met a Japanese. It isn't the origin of it that's important; what matters is that a thing like that

Continued on page 6

around military camps but the non-availability of cement has held up the work temporarily.

I should not forget to mention special effort made by the Departmental Sports Club in collecting funds for the Government War Purposes Fund. They were able to contribute a sum of Rs. 36,000.

I have tried to sketch very briefly what the Department is doing to meet the problems arising out of the situation created by Ceylon at War.

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THE JAPANESE—WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE THEY?

Continued from page 5

can come to symbolise a whole tradition and political set-up, so that you can't alter one without the other.

Loyalty to Overlord

We have all heard a good deal, though it is old fashioned talk now, about the high ideals of the Japanese samurai and how they would carry loyalty to their lords to any extreme what you like. The trouble about this is that in virtue of this one loyalty to his overlord the man was forced and expected to break every other conceivable loyalty. No man or woman could ever trust him for a moment except his overlord; that was his duty. There is no secret about this; it is the famous samurai tradition which we have spent so much ink in praising. The Japanese who goes abroad no doubt does not fully accept that tradition, but it is his tradition, and it does not encourage friendship with outsiders. And then, secondly, he probably believes, and anyway he dare not publicly deny at home, that he is a member of a divinely superior race with a world mission which must not be insulted. Also even between two Japanese, personal relations tend to be a bit blank. I remember the great linguist Okakura saying an odd thing, apropos of nothing, as Japanese confidences do come; he said to me: 'It's one of our great difficulties that we have no colloquial Japanese; we can't talk to each other as equals, as the English do, there is always a formal relationship implied in the grammar.' So again I don't think the curious stiffness which the world has noticed in the Japanese can be regarded as a racial or inherent character; it's a very direct result of their recent history and their political set-up.

We in England and America tend to think of the clever little Japs as wonderfully quick at their tricks. This is not an impression that anybody would get from living in Japan. It is truer to say that a single Japanese faced with a quick decision is quite helpless. He must have time; and it seems that, even if he cannot share the responsibility, he must have another Japanese to talk it over with. The taxi-drivers in Tokyo used to take another man around with them in the front seat to make up their minds with; the other man didn't know the way any more than the actual driver did, but as long as there were two of them they could think about it. And of course all important Japanese committees are liable to arrive at decisions that hardly anybody wants, because of their problems of seniority. In the Japanese system the senior man speaks first, and isn't disagreed with directly, and it takes a good deal of puzzling to find out who is senior, what with the conflicting claims of age, birth, rank and party affiliation. All that takes further time.

It is no use underrating the enemy, but this leads to a practical bit of advice. What the Japanese cannot stand is surprise, especially a surprise that forces a subordinate to make unexpected decisions. The Chinese tactics are extremely powerful against the Japanese mind, be-

cause they continually give the Japanese subordinate a problem which his superiors had not foreseen. So what we must plan for is surprise.

Passion for Suicide

It strikes me that rather too much has been made of the Japanese passion for suicide, especially in war. They have, it is quite true, a line of sentimentality about suicide, very much as the Germans used to have. Their actual suicide figures are not much higher than anybody else's, but they like to think about it.

There was a large test of the legend of Japanese military suicide in 1938, when the Japanese aviators went on for eight months trying to break the Hongkong-Canton and Canton-Hankow railways, and for all that time it only needed one or two aviators vowed to suicide to ram the bridges by a direct crash carrying explosive. The Japanese are very brave fighters, and nobody is going to blame them for not arranging a suicide stunt in this case. But we need not work up a story about how the Japanese are much braver than our own people because they are so suicidal. They don't commit suicide, traditionally, as an operation of war but out of despair.

It would be a foolish thing to try to work up general hatred of the Japanese and all their works; they are not at all going to kill themselves after this war, and what we have to aim at is a working relationship between the peoples of this planet. The Japanese have many graces and virtues, especially when they're back at home. Unfortunately they have taken it into their heads to be the rulers of a great Asiatic empire. Now that's the last thing they're any good at. They are extremely insular—they find it very hard even to understand outsiders; their contempt for the peoples they want to rule is as harsh even as the racial hatred of the Germans; their perpetual anxiety for their dignity makes them liable to be brutal rulers; they have no political plans to offer except the theory that the Japanese are descended from the gods, and their idea of colonisation in Korea, where they could work it out in peace, has been simply to try to 'assimilate' the Koreans, that is, to prevent the teaching of Korean language and history, and to impose the very peculiar Japanese customs and written language. Now in any picture of a better world the south of Asia is one of the great obstacles, from its present state of politics, economics, education and everything else. That is getting better, and one of the few hopeful things about the present set-up is that the mere necessary resistance to Japan is likely to get hold of all this area they will reverse the whole development, they will hold down these peoples and make them a running sore in the planet, an obstacle to all future plans for general betterment. The final and definite defeat of the Japanese, defeat recognised as such by themselves, is an absolute prior necessity if the great hopes for a peaceful and progressing world, and a free and responsible Asia as an essential part of that world, are not to go down in misery and chaos.

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