

# THE Hindu Organ.

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## NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

### 1,500,000 People Homeless In Germany

About 1,500,000 people are homeless in Germany as a result of R. A. F. raids, according to reports received in New York from Berne.

### Asst Civil Defence Commissioner

The Governor has appointed Mr. R. H. Wickramasinghe, Assistant Government Agent, Kurunegala, to be Assistant Civil Defence Commissioner with effect from the 14th instant.

### 1,500 Preparations from Wheat

There were about 1,500 exhibits of preparations from wheat at a food exhibition held at Dharmadutha College, Badulla, under the auspices of the Upper Uva Agricultural, Industrial and Health Committee.

### Prisoners to Build Aerodrome

Some eleven thousand prisoners of war are set to work by the Japanese to build an airfield near Hong Kong, says a Tokyo report quoted by the German Radio. It is stated that the airfield will be one of the biggest in East Asia.

### Governor's Term Extended

His Majesty the King has been pleased to extend the term of appointment of Sir Andrew Caldecott, G. C. M. G., O. B. E., as Governor of Ceylon. Having been appointed in 1937, Sir Andrew would in normal times have completed his term of office this Autumn.

### Photographs of Enemy Occupied Countries

The Naval, Military and Air authorities are urgently in need of: photographs, postcards and panoramic views depicting landscapes, rivers, roads, beaches, installations, towns, villages, population, etc., in Burma, Malaya, Sumatra and Siam. The General public is requested to forward copies of any photographs containing details as already mentioned, addressed to the General Officer Commanding (G. S. I.) Command Headquarters, where they will be gratefully acknowledged. Information as to the locality, date taken, etc., of the photographs should be written on the back.

## TRACING THE FAR-EASTERN WAR

### HERITAGE OF A CENTURY-OLD IMPERIALISTIC STRUGGLE

(BY NATHANIEL PEFFER)

IT is a commonplace that wars are not caused by the events that immediately precede them. It may even be said that they are irrevocably fixed long before they break out or at least that after a certain stage has been arrived at it is no longer possible to prevent war; it is possible only to postpone war. This is plainly how it was between Japan and the United States. What is open to controversy is the precise time at which the stage was reached when war became inescapable. And on this question there has already been considerable controversy. It began, indeed, before the war began.

### Why Japan "Exploded"

It can be confidently predicted now that one of the theses that will be laid down with considerable vigour is that Japan was driven to outburst by the pressure laid upon it by the Western Powers; the refusal to let it expand on the Asiatic continent and the tariffs, quotas and other barriers simultaneously imposed to restrict Japan's foreign trade. Japan, being pent, thus exploded. This sort of thing has the ring of deep historical profundity and political reality: it is hollow nevertheless. And it is dangerous, because, being easy, it leads away from the truth about the Far East, which is complex and of tougher fibre. If the tragedy of the Far East were as simple as that, there would probably have been no tragedy.

In the first place, there was no real pressure on Japan until long after it had begun breaking out of its proper bounds—proper bounds nationally, geographically, politically. What Japan has been attempting to do in the past ten years, with the result that it plunged a large part of the world into war, it began doing as early as 1915, at the time of the Twenty-one Demands—of not even twenty years earlier. There were no artificial restrictions on Japan then.

In the second place, there were few, if any, restrictions on

Japan's trade in 1931, when it invaded Manchuria. There were few, if any, when it sought to extend its sway from Manchuria into North China. In all these years when the most ebullient Japanese militarists were talking of Japan's life-line in Manchuria, none let himself go far enough to stretch that line into North China.

### Pressure from Within

Trace the curve of Japan's exports from 1930 to 1935. The curve of no other country's trade figures rises so sharply in the same year. The economic pressure that was laid on Japan in the years before 1941, however questionable it might be in the larger social view and as measured against the ideal of an inter-dependent world, had results under which other countries would have deemed themselves fortunate. From the economic point of view, in fact Japan's lot in these years was enviable.

If Japan burst forth because of uncontainable pressure, the pressure was generated from within, generated by a force more impalpable than economic and therefore more difficult to control. And if in bursting forth it spread warfare throughout the eastern hemisphere, that was because the area into which it burst was already strewn with inflammables. There was, thus, Japan as the igniting agent and there was the explosive setting—the Far East itself.

### No Genuine Need

With respect to Japan it is no longer necessary to cite data and advance arguments to show that no genuine and irresistible need sent it off on imperialistic rampages. Just in the period when it made its climatic raids on Eastern Asia the need was least exigent. By the very nature of the earth Japan's real economic necessities could be met in the Far East, without political penetration. If Japan could compete successfully in the markets of East Africa and North Africa with European exporters, then obviously none

## JUDICIAL POSTS FOR PROCTORS

### REQUEST BY JAFFNA ASSOCIATION

At the largely attended annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Proctors' Association held on the 8th instant, the wide experience gained by Proctors in the routine work of Courts and in constant contact with clients was stressed besides other qualifications by Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam, the Secretary, in moving a resolution requesting the Legal Secretary to reserve one-third at least of the available judicial posts for Proctors.

It was also resolved to reiterate the urgent need for amending the Schedule of Costs of Proctors and Notaries' fees. The Schedule of Proctor's costs was an antiquated one. While men in the other walks of life and professions had marched with the times, Proctors had in such matters slept over their rights.

Mr. V. S. Karthigesu moved that the qualifying Examination of Proctors and Proctor Students to practise as Notaries in the vernacular should be conducted by the Council of Legal Education. It was decided to forward this request to the authorities.

Mr. E. Murgesampillai was elected President of the Association and Messrs R. R. Nalliah and T. Kumaraswamy, Vice-Presidents. Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam was re-elected Secretary and Mr. C. C. Somasegaram, Treasurer of the Association.

At the end of the meeting the Secretary announced that over one half of their quota to the Law Society had already been collected and requested others to pay up without delay. The meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

of the western countries could compete successfully with it in its own region. Although barriers were raised against it in India, the Netherlands East Indies and the Philippines, Japan was still selling more in these countries than it had before, enough to make it immune from the unemployment that was plaguing western nations, at the same time. And even those barriers were

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### MR. CHURCHILL ON INDIA

FEW WOULD BE SURPRISED at the tone and contents of the Prime Minister's speech on India. Mr. Winston Churchill, in spite of his great qualities as a leader, never pretended to be a statesman. His speech is the most unstatesmanlike pronouncement in recent times on the subject of India. We are not concerned here merely with his declaration that the proposals put forward by Sir Stafford Cripps "must be taken as representing the settled policy of the British Crown and Parliament," though the assumption of pontifical authority by the British Parliament in regard to the fundamental rights of another country and people furnishes no complete answer to the grave questions raised by recent events in India. It is the Prime Minister's repeated assertions, contained in the speech, about the character and aims of the Indian National Congress, that require, in the interests of the British people themselves, something more purposeful than a mere denial. As we have said more than once in these columns, the Congress is not a revolutionary body and revolution is certainly not its aim. The recent disturbances are no more evidence of the aims of the Congress than Mr. Churchill's latest speech is a faithful reflection of the aims and purposes of the best minds among the British people. If the Congress were a revolutionary body, if its sole object was the achievement of India's independence by violence, if it ever contemplated making itself the tool of England's enemies, surely its programme would have been radically different. If Mr. Churchill will only read Hindu history he will find that violence has its place in the civilisation of India. Mr. Gandhi's non-violence is only a phase of Hindu thought. The British Prime Minister and his colleague, Mr. Amery, would perhaps have understood the Congress better if it, had not, in obedience to Mr. Gandhi's behests, laid undue stress on the ideal of non-violence. Unfortunately for India, the domination of the Congress by the apostles of non-violence has not made the Indian case quite clear to other nations.

The Prime Minister's contention that the Congress does not represent India or even the Hindus does not solve the problem for anybody. The Congress is far more represen-

tative of India than the British Parliament or the British Government itself. To talk about the ninety million Moslems and the fifty million untouchables, and, to bring in the Princes as a last argument against the representative character of the Congress, is only a tiresome repetition of arguments which, in the light of recent events, it would not be wise to use even to prop up a desperate case. In this respect the title deeds of the Congress are superior to anything so far available, and the latest tirade of the British Premier only confirms the suspicion that, though the Congress was undoubtedly wrong in voting for mass disobedience at the present moment, it was not far wrong when it refused to hear Mr. Churchill and his friends on a question of fundamental human rights.

### NOTES & COMMENTS

#### Food Regulations

THE new regulations regarding sale of paddy and rice are the natural corollary to the emergence of the Government as the sole purchaser of these articles. Under these regulations sales of more than five bushels of country paddy or two-and-a-half bushels of country rice are prohibited in self-supporting areas without a permit from the Government Agent. Transport of these commodities is also subjected to certain restrictions, but producers who wish to take their grain to some place in the same revenue district for purposes of storage will not be prevented from doing so. It will be remembered that at the time rationing and control were introduced, we expressed the opinion in these columns that some sort of restriction on the normal movement of the farmer's produce would be essential if the object of the new system—namely, the fair and equitable distribution of food grains among the people—was to be achieved. Difficulties are bound to be caused by these restrictions, but many of these difficulties can be avoided if the officials and the producers take a sensible view of their rights and obligations. It is as much the business of the official to avoid red tape and treat the producer with all reasonable consideration as it is that of the latter to be strictly honest in complying with the rules that have been enacted, after all, for the good of the people.

#### Mr. Senanayake and Profiteering

AS we expected, Mr. Senanayake has lost no time in coming to grips with the food problem in a practical manner. "By departmental orders" he said recently, "I have issued instructions that the purchase price of paddy should be Rs. 3.25 per bushel and of kurakkan Rs. 4 per bushel at the buying

centre. These prices should satisfy producers and it is not proposed to change them hereafter". Taking the cost of production as the basis, one cannot certainly say that the price is unfair to the producer. It is true that the cost of production has increased owing to war conditions, but the price is nevertheless reasonable. The farmer should resist the temptation to get rich quick. He can and ought to insist on prices being stabilised, but he is not entitled to ask for more. Even if he follows the example of Oliver Twist and asks for more, Mr. Senanayake is not going to increase the price, and in this the Minister will have the support of all decent-minded landowners.

#### Intensive Cultivation

IN an article appearing in the "Hindu" of Madras a writer mentions intensive cultivation as one of the most practical methods for increasing food production. Some months ago the same suggestion was made by us in these columns. The yield of paddy in Ceylon is notoriously poor. This has been ascribed to various causes, chief among them being the inability or reluctance of most cultivators to manure their lands. Jaffna is, of course, an exception. The Jaffna cultivator is a great believer in manuring, and his partiality for organic manures is in accord with the considered views of agricultural chemists. The Jaffna cultivator, however, becomes helpless when he finds himself far away from his traditional sources of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid. Palmyrah leaves, sweepings from compounds, and, above all things, the art of extracting phosphates from lean cattle by tethering them on the field—these cannot be transported to the spacious lands under the Karachehi Irrigation Scheme. Substitutes have to be found, and the writer in the "Hindu" tells us what they are. Undoubtedly, the most important substitute in South India is the oil-cake, as the principal source of nitrogen. The Department of Agriculture ought to popularise this form of manure and make it better understood throughout the country. Today the problem of manuring is no longer a matter of academic interest.

#### Bombay Investigation

THE acting Auditor General who went to Bombay to investigate matters connected with the purchase of foodstuffs for Ceylon has returned. We understand that he will make his report to His Excellency the Governor shortly. It is to be hoped that there will be no delay in publishing his report which is expected to throw much light on the activities of the island's Trade Commissioner in India. We would remind the Government that the public has a right to know what Mr. Kanagaratnam has to say about this matter.

#### Complaint Against Jaffna Police

THE Acting Home Minister, Mr. A. Mahadeva, has acted with commendable promptness in calling for a report from the Inspector-General of Police on the allegations made by a barber against the Assistant Superintendent of Police, an Inspector, and some constables of the Jaffna Police. The allegations are serious, and, in view of all that has been said about the use of violence by members of the Police force, a full and impartial investigation is necessary. We look to the Government Agent, as the head of the civil administration in the province, to see that an earnest attempt is made to find out the truth. We are not assuming the complaint of the barber to be true, but, before it is rejected, reasonable people have to be satisfied that there is absolutely nothing in it. The fact is curious that society would find itself in difficulties without the Police. But when the Police overstep the limits of the law, the same society is, as a rule, anxious, for obvious reasons, to secure something more than mere lip-service on the part of the Police to the law of the land. This is natural. The salt must never lose its savour.

#### Mr. Churchill's Triumph

THE collapse of the promised debate in the House of Commons on Mr. Churchill's speech affords fresh evidence of the Prime Minister's commanding position in the country. The speech dealt with the progress of the war in different parts of the world. Mr. Churchill hardly missed anything—not even the Solomon Islands battle. His speech was full of his usual robust optimism. Every operation referred to in the speech was but a step towards victory. That was the impression he gave the House. Even when he reported Stalin's blunt demand for a second front, he did so with the air of a man who was mentioning a strong point in his favour. There is no doubt that the Prime Minister stands high in the esteem of the people and Parliament. His responsibility is, therefore, far greater than that of one called upon, in normal times, to guide the destinies of a people.

#### A Gesture to the Press

A happy gesture to the Press comes from Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer who lately resigned his post as Minister of Information in the Government of India. He told the Editors that he was not, as Dewan of Travancore, going to impose any harassing restrictions on newspapers as has been done in British India under the Defence rules, but he wanted them to realise, at the same time, their duty in regard to the publication of news. One wonders whether Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer's brief experience as Minister of Information had anything to do with the advice he gave the Editors.



## PROPOSAL FOR ALL-PARTIES' MEETING

### Dr. Mukherjee Meets Dr. Ambedkar

New Delhi, Sept. 3.

Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, who should have returned to Calcutta immediately after the meeting of the Hindu Mahasabha Working Committee, has postponed his departure for two reasons. In the first place, Mr. Fazlul Huq is anxious to see that efforts for a general settlement commence without further delay and may visit Delhi in the course of the next few days. Secondly, Dr. Mukherjee is awaiting a reply from the Viceroy which must indicate either willingness on the part of the authorities to facilitate a settlement or obstinate refusal to do anything that would alter the *status quo*.

Clearly so far as the Executive Council is concerned there are two points of view. One is a growing sense of disillusionment, one might even say resentment, that because a decision was taken in general terms that civil disobedience should not be allowed to start, the Home Department should coolly take the view that all measures in pursuance of that are entirely its own affair. The other view is "The Government of India are fighting an internal war, one does not parley with the enemy while fighting is still going on, and any suggestion of negotiation with the Congress leaders might be regarded as a sign of weakness. We must prove by vigorous measures that defiance does not pay." Between these two sets of opinions there is no possibility of reconciliation one Councillor having gone so far as to threaten resignation in the event of a rapprochement with the Congress.

Dr. Mukherjee has been sounding opinion in Delhi—such opinion as exists outside official circles—to see whether, in spite of the lack of official backing, some effort might be made to evolve a generally acceptable settlement.

It is clear that the League Working Committee's latest resolution has not found approval even among prominent Leaguers and many appeals are being made to Mr. Jinnah to establish contact with Gandhiji.

It is believed that Mr. Rajagopalachari has been requested to mediate between the Congress and the League and efforts are being made to invite him to Delhi next week when Mr. Jinnah also will be here.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mukherjee hopes to visit Lahore, where he will meet Sir Sikandar, and Amritsar for the purpose of ascertaining Sikh opinion.

Yesterday, Dr. Mukherjee and other Mahasabha leaders had a two-hour talk with Dr. Ambedkar. Though the details of the conversation are being kept a secret, the results are described as extremely satisfactory.

Rapidly, the idea is taking shape of a small All-Parties Conference to synchronise with the meeting of the National Defence Council. Mr. Allah Bux and Mr. Fazlul Huq are both expected to attend the meeting. Sir Sikandar from Lahore, Master Tara Singh on behalf of the Sikhs, one or two Christian leaders like Sir

## RESTRICTION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

### MR. G. G. PONNAMBALAM OPPOSES NEW REGULATION

**S**PEAKING on the motion in the State Council, regarding the "Restriction of Public Meetings Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M. S. C. said:

I want to know, in the elementary analysis, what is the difference between this infringement on our right to hold a public meeting in this country which is so closely associated with the United Nations in the furtherance of the war effort and the prohibition of public meetings by the oppressed peoples in Nazi Europe? I want to know that. I have been waiting all this time to see whether any hon. member would address his mind or address his remarks to that point. When we say that Ceylon is ranged on the side of the United Nations in this war effort is the public effort to be synonymous with the war effort of Layton and Caldecott and their brown counterparts in the front benches. I want to know that. Or is it a war effort in which the people of Ceylon are closely to be associated? I ask that question. It is no use to indulge in soft-soap talk. I was very sadly disappointed when the hon. the Chief Secretary indulged in soft-soap pleading about the curtailment of civil liberty in a time of war. If, as the hon. Chief Secretary says, the vast majority of the people are behind the war effort, are loyal to a fault, are one in assisting in the furtherance of the war effort, I ask you is it not a contradiction in terms of the war effort? I ask you is it not a contradiction in terms to prevent a whole category of persons, the vast population in 3 or 4 provinces including the metropolis—from holding meetings? Can you honestly expect a people to be behind the Government if they cannot get up in an open public meeting and condemn the action of the Government? Can you get intelligent reason, convinced support, for the war effort? I am concerned with that. You cannot, and that is precisely the difference between some of the nations that are concerned. What is the use of our telling the people that we are concerned in putting down Nazism, in maintaining fundamental principles, when, in the prosecution of the war, in the furtherance of the war effort, we are indulging in the very thing, the negation of which we witness throughout the whole of Nazi trodden Europe?

#### A Lesson

Mr. Deputy Chairman, if in this 3 years the people of the world have learnt one lesson it is this, that if this war is to be won it must be won by a total effort, not by Governmental machinery, not by a junta of the people, not by a coterie or a clique, but by the united effort and voice of the humblest being on a particular side. And you are not going to have it if this is the treatment you are going to mete out; you will be bound to get the support of the very people you want

Maharaj Singh, and possibly Sir E. B. Sapru and Mr. Jayakar, and representatives of the commercial community, will form an excellent nucleus. If Mr. Rajagopalachari, Dr. Ambedkar and Mr. Jinnah also should attend, the conference would be complete—barring of course Gandhiji and the Congress leaders.

support from who, in the last resort, are to be allowed to hold public meetings. Do you then really achieve your object?

I get on to the next point. In the whole of France, in the whole of the occupied countries, meeting are completely banned. Did it prevent on the 14th of July on the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille, people wearing the tri-colour coming into the streets of Paris and demonstrating against the Nazi Government? Did the iron heel of Nazism prevent disaffection by prohibiting, by obliterating external and public manifestations of it? Mr. Chairman, in the whole of Europe, Germany has driven underground open hostility to Nazism. What happens? It manifests itself in sabotage! Is that what the authorities, the powers-that-be, in this country welcome here? The absence of public meetings but organized or unorganized sabotage with the consequent fall in the rate of production.

#### Unintelligent Attitude

Can you, Mr. Chairman, compel the worker? In the last resort what does this war depend upon? Upon production, upon the rate of production, upon an all-out production. Well, if it depends on production it is going to depend upon the last man, who is the producer, upon the last man who is the labourer, the workman. When you prevent a workman from voicing his dissatisfaction regarding wages, regarding the conditions of work in a particular factory, is it going to prevent him from throwing some sand into the machinery, is it going to prevent him doing less work than the amount to be done in the allotted time? That is precisely what is happening—we know it—in the last three years.

For anybody to come and advocate the suppression of fundamental liberties more particularly the right of public meeting, is a completely unintelligent attitude to the whole question. You can prevent public meetings. I have not the slightest doubt about it. Would you prevent them in the dark round corners, meeting together and saying, "how shall we thwart these fellows? How shall we achieve our object in our own way?"

#### Dangerous Analogy

I heard falling from the lips of the Hon. the Chief Secretary the words, "dislocation of labour in the essential services." I thought we had advanced from that type of thought, that we had really reached the stage when the very best way of getting the highest and the best in labour was by encouraging them to come together and to give expression to their views.

Mr. Chairman, here again, I see a most dangerous analogy between the proposed means of the maintenance of essential services in this country and the Nazi rule for the maintenance of labour in factories because I believe it is one of the fundamental rules of the German labour front that in the last resort factory legislation and rules and general welfare should be decided by the owners of the factory, by the capitalists in industry. What we now propose to do is not to maintain our essential services, by

## STRICTER GRAIN CONTROL

### Two Months' Reserve As House Limit

A stricter control than before of stocks of paddy, rice, kurakkan and every other species of grain is made possible by the latest Defence regulations promulgated last Friday.

No person shall—according to these regulations which are called the Defence (Purchase of food-stuffs) Regulations—in any self-supporting area sell more than two-and-half bushels of country rice or five bushels of paddy to any person except an authorised person, without a permit from a Government Agent. No person is permitted also to transport these commodities from one place to another except under a permit.

Exceptions are, however, made in the following cases:

the transport of any country paddy by or on behalf of the producer of that paddy from the field where the paddy has been grown to the threshing-floor or from the threshing-floor to a bala or other place situated in the same revenue district as that field and ordinarily used by such producer for the purposes of the storage of paddy.

the transport of "head loads" by or on behalf of a person for the use of that person a "head load" being deemed to be such quantity as can ordinarily be carried by any one person at any one time.

the transport of country paddy or country rice by any person for or on behalf of the Government of Ceylon.

The regulations also prevent any person from purchasing these articles of food if he is in possession of a reserve sufficient for two months' requirements for himself and the members of his household and other persons for whom he is required by any law of agreement or custom to provide such articles of food in his capacity as an employer or otherwise.

the edicts and the convenience of those who are earning profits from those very labourers. I can even understand if there was complete nationalisation for some of these industries serving the war effort, if there was, I venture to think, that even under our present regime there would be no attempt to prevent public meetings, but Mr. Chairman, this is what it comes to. I now propose to put before you the next question, and is apart from the question of war effort, the question of the fundamental liberties of the people.

#### In England

Mr. Chairman if under the shadow of Trafalgar Square, today, tomorrow or the day after, a public meeting can be held to criticise the established Government in England, the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, to criticise the present prosecution of the war as inefficient and as ineffective, and if the people and the Government of the country will not merely not prevent it but heed these demonstrations and public meetings, I want to know what is the position in this country if we are prevented from holding public meetings? What if what—that question—at my hon. Friend the Acting

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# SOME NOTES ON THE BHAGAVAT GITA

(BY A SCIENCE GRADUATE)

## Burden of the Song

There is an impression abroad, particularly in the Tamil country, that the Bhagavat Gita is an Ekanavada treatise. And we have sometimes heard it remarked that our approving references to its teachings are not in accord with our views on the doctrine of the absolute oneness of God and the world of sentient and insentient beings. Opinions may differ as to the occasion on which Sri Krishnan is alleged to have delivered his sermon to Arjuna, but the burden of his message delivered to mankind through the channel of his warrior disciple is unexceptionable as far as we can see. Action without attachment, the central theme of the Gita, is practically the same as the Irai Pani Nitral (இறைபணி நிதல்), dedication of one's actions to God, the second proposition of the tenth Sutra of the Siva Gnana Bodham. All truth is one, as we have often stated, whether it appears in the Siva Gnana Bodham or in the Bhagavat Gita or, for the matter of that, in the Christian Bible, or in any other Book. Provided the truth is properly understood, it is unnecessary to emphasise the differences in the vehicles of expression or mode of language used to give expression to the same. The accidents may vary, and have necessarily to vary according to the differences in the time, the place, the clime, the people to be reached, &c., but it is the essentials that we should primarily look into.

## Three 'Purushas' or Entities

Whatever else the Gita may teach, it certainly does not preach the absolute oneness of God and man or God and matter or God and the passions, &c. Students of the Saiva Siddhantam will remember the emphatic and unequivocal statement of Umapathi Devan that the object of all the Shastras, the Agamas and the Vedas is to enlighten us regarding Pati (God), Pasu (soul) and Pasam (bondage), பதி கன அசைமே தம் பாவபிணம் கருத்துப் பதி பசு பாசம் தெரித்தல். That the teachings of the Gita form no exception to this rule will be apparent to any student who makes a careful study of it. The superficial reader may see contradictions in it, as indeed do superficial readers of other shastras too, but the discriminating student who dives heart and soul into the mysteries therein taught and unravelled will see nothing but harmony throughout. When for instance Sri Krishnan says in one place "many births have been left behind by me and by you, Oh! Arjuna" (chapter IV, verse 5) and in another place "this ignorant world knows me not as the birthless and deathless" (VII, 25), it is only the ignorant and the perverse that will gloat over their discovery thinking that they have caught a Tartar and say that the blessed Lord makes self contradictory statements in the Gita. Every word and every phrase and every clause and every sentence and every passage should be understood and interpreted according to its context as we have often stated, and we should not jump to hasty conclusions in our anxiety to vilify saints and writers whose views appear unpalatable to us. In the first quotation above, Sri Krishnan clearly refers to himself, an ordinary soul (—an ordinary Pasu, in Siddhantic

parlance—), the mortal man Prince Krishnan, the cousin and comrade of Arjuna, while in the second the reference is to the Guna who had identified himself with God through Sobambhavana and was able to shew the Visvarupam of the Lord in himself to his disciple and was to be regarded by the disciple as no other than God Himself, even as in a later age Arulandi Devan regarded his Guna as no other than God Himself who came down in human garb concealing His upper Eye and jet-black Throat (கண்ணுதலும் கண்டகண்மயும் கர்த்தருளினி).

There is frequent mention in the Gita of Isvaran, Isan, Mahesvaran, Paramesvaran, Khetri, Brahman, Paramatma, Parama Purushan, Purushottaman, &c., the reference clearly being to God, the Pati of the Saiva Siddhantam. Ajnacam (unwisdom), Avidya, Karman, Prakriti, Kshetram, &c., refer to Pasam; while Jivan, Purushan Kutastan Kshetragnat &c., refer to Pasu (soul). The word Atma occurs very frequently without any prefix as indeed it does in the Upanishads and other Shastras too, and it has to be understood either as Jivatma (soul) or Paramatma (God) according to the context. The word Purushan generally denotes the soul (Pasu), but it sometimes refers to the Parama Purushan or God and even to Prakriti or matter (Pasam). Thus there are three Purushas expressly referred to as three distinct entities or categories in Chapter XV:

There are two Purushas in this world, the destructible and the indestructible. The destructible is all things (Sarvabhutani), the indestructible is called the Kutasthan (verse 16).

The Parama Purushan is verily another, declared as Paramatma, who pervades and sustains the three worlds, the indestructible Isvaran (verse 17).

As I transcend the destructible and am higher than even the indestructible, in the world and in the Vedas I am proclaimed Purushottaman (verse 18).

Briefly put, these verses mean that there are three Purushas: (1) the body-Purushan or matter which is destructible, (2) the embodied Purushan (Kutasthan) or soul which is indestructible, and (3) the all-pervading and all-sustaining Purushan, the Antaryami or God, variously styled as Isvaran, Paramatma, Parama-Purushan, Purushottaman, &c., who is also indestructible. Pure Siddhantam! is it not?

## The Destructible Purushan (or Prakriti)

Students not well acquainted with Siddhanta literature may remark that the use of the word Purushan to denote man or God is understandable, but ask how this word which ordinarily means a vitile person possessed of intelligence can be taken as meaning the body, which is inert, insentient matter. If they would only look up the table of *tatwas*, the elemental (or essential) principles of matter in its higher or subtler states of existence as postulated in the Siddhanta Philosophy (—the Ekanavada School has also got a similar table, but it differs considerably from that of the Saivas,—) they would find that the 25th of the 36 *tatwas* is named Purushan. This Purushan is generally described as Pancha-Kanchukan or the five-coated, as being clothed with the five

## CATTLE FOR SALE

Tenders are invited for the purchase of the undermentioned cows belonging to the Jaffna Hindu College.

- One spotted Cape Cow and Calf.
- One red Cape Cow and Calf.
- One young spotted Cape Cow (not-calved)
- One Country Cow and Calf

Tenders should state the price of each cow separately. The cows can be seen at the Jaffna Hindu College dairy. Any further particulars wanted can be obtained from the Boarding Master or the Honorary Treasurer, Jaffna Hindu College.

Sealed tenders endorsed on the envelope "Tender for the purchase of Cows" will be received by the Honorary Secretary, Jaffna Hindu College, up till noon of 20th September 1942.

The Board does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender.

T. MUTTUSAMIPILLAI,  
Hon. Secretary,

J.H.C. Board of Directors.

(Mis. 107. 7 & 14 9-42)

vestures of (1) Kalam (or time), the change producer, (2) Niyati (நியதி, order), the regulator, (3) Kalai (கலை), the dispeller (of the soul's stupor) which starts the soul's powers of activity (இயிபாசத்தி) after its long passivity due to conjunction with AnavaMalam, (4) Viddhai (விததை, literally wisdom) which rouses the soul's intelligence (ஞானசத்தி) and (5) Ragam (அராகம், willer) which rouses its volitional powers (இச்சைசத்தி). This Purushan (—the word is generally parsed as of the masculine gender—) is sometimes identified with his consort Prakriti (or Moola Prakriti) the mother of the three Gunas, Satvam (or harmony), Rajatam (or activity) and Tamassam (or dullness), of Buddhi, the faculty of reasoning and the lower *tatwas* ending with Prithivi (earth). This Prakriti is often referred to as Aviyaktam or unmanifested, the three Gunas being present therein in a Sukshma (or subtle) state or (being equipoised as the Sankhyas say). It is this Prakriti-Purushan that is referred to in the above-quoted verses of the Gita as the destructible Purushan. Another way of meeting the objection would be to say that the word Purushan is used here in the sense of Padartham or entity as in the word Tri-Padarthas.

(To be continued)

## RESTRICTION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Continued from page 3

Home Minister is this: Can you imagine this—a member of the Board of Ministers is to be the final arbiter as to whether a public meeting is to be fit and proper or not? That is what it really comes to. Supposing there is a meeting to be held against this very sacrosanct body, the Board of Ministers, what is there to prevent one of their members saying, "Oh no, it is too bad. We ought not to allow you to hold a meeting because this will impede the war effort. We being the people who are the spearhead of the war effort in this country?" Where do we end, Mr. Chairman? Is this a future protection of the theory of the divine rule, not of kings in this case but of Ministers? What is the position?

(To be continued)

## DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL DEFENCE

### AUXILIARY FIRE SERVICE, JAFFNA

Applications are invited for the following temporary posts in the Auxiliary Fire Service, Jaffna:—

- 2 Section Fire Officers.
- 4 Leading Firemen.

Applicants must have satisfactory educational qualifications and be physically fit. Selected candidates must be prepared to undergo a month's training in Colombo. Salary Rs. 125/ per mensem for Section Fire Officers and Rs. 2/50 per diem for Leading Firemen. During the period of training, only an allowance of Rs. 2/ per diem will be given. Applications giving age and educational qualifications supported by two recent testimonials should reach me not later than September 20, 1942.

O. E. GOONETILLEKE,  
Civil Defence Commissioner,  
Colombo, 5th September, 1942.  
(G. 25. 14 & 17-9-42.)

## THE JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL NOTICE

Tenders are invited for the supply of stores and materials required for the Works Department and Health Department such as metal, gravel, Paliaru sand, baskets conservancy carts etc. during the year 1942.

Tenders should reach this office not later than 12 noon on Tuesday the 22nd September 1942, should be marked on the top of the Cover "Tender for Supply of Stores 1942" and should be addressed to the Chairman, Urban Council, Jaffna.

Tender forms and other information can be obtained from the office.

R. SIVAGURUNATHAN,  
Chairman, U. C.

Office of the Urban Council,  
Jaffna, Sept. 4, 1942.

(Mis. 111. 14-9-42.)

## THE JAFFNA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ALUMNI DAY

Saturday, 19th September 1942

### PROGRAMME

- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 7-00 a.m. Tennis                 | 3-00 p.m. Annual General Meeting |
| 9-30 a.m. Morning Tea            | 5-00 p.m. Principal's Tea        |
| 11-00 a.m. Thanks-giving Service | 5-45 p.m. Foot Ball              |
| 1-00 p.m. College Lunch          | 7-00 p.m. Concert                |
|                                  | 8-30 p.m. Annual Dinner.         |

Why not become a Life-Member?

Please remit your dues to Mr. E. J. Jeyarajah, Chundikuli.

J. F. PONNAMBALAM,  
Hon. Secretary, J.C.A.A.

(Mis. 114. 14 & 17-9-42.)



## DIVISIONAL REVENUE OFFICERS

### 19 NEW APPOINTMENTS

A Press Communique issued by the Department of the Deputy Chief Secretary, on Wednesday, notified that the following candidates have been selected for appointment as Probationers in the scheme of Divisional Revenue Officers in the administrative areas under which they are listed on the results of the examination held in March, 1942:—

**Low-Country Sinhalese:** Messrs. D. V. L. Jayatunga, E. L. P. Mendis, A. Rajakaruna, A. A. Witanachchi and L. P. Witanachchi.

**Kandyan Sinhalese:** Messrs. R. D. D. W. M. R. A. W. R. W. Alawattagama, T. M. W. Banda, J. D. Bandaranayake, A. J. Herat, K. A. Karaliyadde, W. B. Kumaragama, M. B. Samarakoon and W. Tillekeratne.

**Tamil:** Messrs. K. Gunaratnam, A. Rajadurai, T. Samuel, X. M. Sellathambu, S. Srinivasan and M. A. M. Yoofoof.

All these appointments will be subject to the passing of a medical examination.

### "A UNILATERAL DECISION"

The "Hindu" writes:—

The Ceylon "Daily News" just received shows that, as many apprehended, the qualified lifting by the Government of India of the ban on emigration was not done in consultation with, nor much less at the instance of, the Government of Ceylon. Mr. D. S. Senanayake, the Acting Leader of the State Council, said, in reply to a question, put to him in the Council, that the Ceylon Government were not aware, until the news appeared in the papers, of any intention of the Indian Government to lift the ban. "But since we saw it in the papers", Mr. Senanayake added, "the Governor made enquiries and we found that it is the intention of the Indian Government to lift the ban as far as unskilled labour now in Ceylon being permitted to leave Ceylon and come back here again. We had no agreement with regard to that till we saw it in the papers". The suggestion here is that if Indians in the island chose to take advantage of the India Government's decision, there was no guarantee that they would be allowed by the Ceylon Government to return to the island. The Acting Leader of the House significantly observed: "With regard to this matter you will see that action has been taken by the Indian Government without our consent and there may be certain problems that may be created thereby, and if any such problems are created here we may have to take steps to tackle those problems." In view of this statement it is highly important that the Government of India should clear the mystery surrounding the matter. If the Ceylon Government were not a party to it, was the Governor informed? Or have the Government of India secured any assurance from the Colonial Office in regard to the guarantee to Indians visiting this country that they will be given all facilities to return to their original places in the island? If they have no assurance from the Ceylon Government, is it right for them to encourage the Indians to return to India for a temporary stay?

## MUD HOUSES

The "Hindu" writes:—

An interesting experiment in house-building which, if successful, is bound to attract widespread attention in this country and in others, is now being undertaken in the United States of America. The demand for "cheap but sturdy, easily-built homes" for defence workers has grown considerably and is growing, but owing to the various controls and restrictions imposed on account of the war and the priorities system connected with them, a lot of materials essential for house-building in the orthodox style have become unavailable. America has therefore turned to the good earth for material with which to construct homes. Eleven units are now being constructed by a new process called "rammed earth" process. The method is the easy one of packing mud in moulds, hardening it, then turning it out in building blocks or solid one-piece walls. All one needs to build according to this process is, we are told, "soil of the proper proportions of gravel, sand and clay plus a controlled percentage of cement for the 'rammed earth,' or, multi-fied asphalt for the earth blocks, and a fixed ratio of water." The materials, we gather, can be mixed by the hoe-and-box system or in a regular cement mixer. "The real building of the rammed earth structure," says a writer in *The Montreal Star*, "involves packing and mixture in wooden or metal forms with hand tampers or pneumatic hammer, layer by layer, until you have a solid wall of the desired height with openings left for windows and doors. Then the forms are removed and the shell of your house is ready as soon as it dries." The use of earth blocks is an alternative method. These blocks, we are told, "are mixed until gooey—like mud pies—poured into frames to set, removed to dry or 'cure', and put together with mortar just like ordinary bricks. Only they're a lot bigger—4 x 12 x 16 inches." The new method is claimed to defeat the hottest, rainiest, windiest, or snowiest northern climate because adding a percentage of cement or asphalt to the basic

## NOTICE

Applications are invited for the post of Manager, Jaffna Co-operative Stores Ltd., Grand Bazaar, Jaffna. Applicants should be between the ages of 30 and 50 and should have business experience. Salary Rs. 120—10—200. Security Rs. 20,000/- in immovable property. For further particulars apply to the Managing Director. Applications should be addressed to the Secretary, Jaffna Co-operative Stores Ltd., Jaffna on or before the 25th September, 1942.

S. COOMARASWAMY  
Secretary  
Jaffna Co-operative Stores Ltd.

earth mixture makes the structure weather-proof.

It may be mentioned that there is little that is new in the above process. What Uncle Sam has done is to revert to one of man's oldest building methods. The departure, such as there is of it, consists in the application to it of modern engineering knowledge, practice and mechanical appliances. Most village houses in India are mud houses, but so long as the walls are protected from dampness, their capacity to bear loads and stand stress and strain has been found to be admirable. More recently the experience of China under the Japanese blitz has established the advantages of mud buildings. They were found to be so strong and capable of withstanding air-raids more successfully than houses built of reputedly more durable material that there was a proposal in Malaya that the Government should examine the Chinese practice and adapt it to conditions in that country. The Chinese method, as was explained in Malaya early last year, is exactly the same as that described in *The Montreal Star* with this difference that in China chunnam or mortar is used in the place of cement. People with experience of Chinese methods were of the opinion that houses with mud walls would prove to be as strong, durable and comfortable as those built of any other material, while from the point of view of cost and speed, the Chinese buildings were infinitely superior. One hopes that Indian building contractors will study these developments and secure their advantages to the poorer classes in this country.

## WANTED

Clerk, S. S. C. or Matric qualification, under 25. Apply with particulars to Manager, Twine Factory, Kokuvil, before 19th September 1942.

(Mis. 112. 14-9-42.)

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1126

In the matter of the estate of the late Velauthar Subramaniam Kanagasabai of Tellippalai East Deceased.

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Surasvathy daughter of V. S. Kanagasabai of do
2. Kandiah Balasubramaniam of Vannarponnai Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 23rd day of March 1942 in the presence of Mr. K. E. Thamby Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner.

It is ordered that the abovenamed petitioner be declared entitled to letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that the same be issued to her accordingly and that the abovenamed 2nd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the abovenamed 1st respondent to represent her in this action unless the abovenamed respondents or any other person shall on or before the 6th day of May 1942 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 23rd day of March 1942  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge

- 6-5-42, Order Nisi extended for 8-6-42  
C. C.  
D. J.  
8-6-42, Order Nisi extended for 27-7-42  
G. C. T.  
D. J.  
27-7-42, Order Nisi extended for 17-8-42  
G. C. T.  
D. J.  
17-8-42, Order Nisi extended for 18-9-42  
G. C. T.  
D. J.  
(O. 4. 14 & 17-9-42)

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## TRACING THE FAR-EASTERN WAR

Continued from page 1

subject to negotiation and relaxation.

### Japan's Explanation

Japan's economic need as an explanation of aggression is an explanation after the fact. The aggressiveness springs from something deeper—the character and outlooks of the ruling class, the military caste, and the submissiveness of the Japanese nation. Had Japan been four times as prosperous, its militarists would have conceived an even more grandiose destiny and have been even more importunate in seeking its realization. And they would have had the means to try it sooner. There is Japanese militarism and there is Japan's genuine economic need; the two have little relation. Japanese militarism and the absolutism that gave it free rein made for Japanese expansionism, and Japanese expansionism brought on war.

Equally important, however, was the fact that there was an arena in which Japanese militarism could take free rein. And this was not laid out by Stimson or Lancashire textile competitors protecting the Indian market or British Imperial Preference or even Roosevelt's freezing orders and embargoes. It was laid out decades before, even generations before. Its dimensions are on a grander scale, the scale of nineteenth century world-wide imperialism. In that sense they are co-terminous with the limit of nineteenth century history.

### Natural Field for Action

What I am trying to say is that the previous century had given Japanese militarism a natural field for action. This extended from the frozen north of the Asiatic continent to the equator. The centre, geographically and politically was China. Siberia and Mongolia were on the margin at one end, Malaya, French Indo-China, the Netherlands Indies, the Philippines and Thailand on the margin at the other. They were auxiliary to China. As China went they would eventually follow. In that sense the Japanese militarists were sound in concentrating on China as they did, while leaving the colonial possessions in the South Pacific to some contingency that would create opportunity—an opportunity such as the European war. In that sense it was Palmerston and Salisbury who forced the Japanese adventurers off their little islands, rather than Stimson and Hull.

The present war in the Far East began perhaps as long ago as 1842, certainly no more recently than 1898, when the scramble for concessions in China set in. The climax began in 1931 with the Japanese invasion of Manchuria and reached its height in 1937 with the Japanese invasion of China proper. The rest is logical conclusion and corollary. Japan's role is that of latest contender for conqueror's honours in China.

In that sense, only in that sense, was Japan's course determined outside itself. When China became a prize of empire, the present war was predestined—or some world war for control of China was predestined. It was

not fore-ordained that Japan should participate. That was Japan's own tragic stupidity and miscalculation. As a matter of fact if Japan had long ago ranged itself on the side of China against western nations, as the exponent of independence for Far Eastern people and as a rival for mastery over China, there might not have had to be a war. Or, if there had been one, it would have been one in which China and Japan were allies. In that event Japan would have had genuine leadership in Eastern Asia, not the hostility and suspicion of all its neighbours and their unnatural allegiance to western Powers against an Asiatic country.

The present war is the heritage of the imperialistic struggle in the Far East, a struggle that had its beginning a hundred years ago. The struggle has now been resolved into one of the world against Japan. But it has taken a new form in that China is now no longer a passive agent. It is no longer just a prize to be awarded to a champion. If then, the world can subdue Japan, China can thereafter become a political entity in its own right. The imperialistic struggle would be ended, not by one contender emerging supreme but by the elimination of anything to struggle for. In other words, if Japan can be prevented from conquering China, and China becomes strong enough to make any other Powers hesitate to attempt conquest, there will be guarantee against war in the Far East, perhaps the only effective guarantee.

### ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA (held at Point Pedro Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 178P.T.)

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Parupatham wife of Vaithilingam of Karaveddi North

Deceased.

K. Murugar Vaithilingam of Karaveddi North

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Vaithilingam Sivasubramaniam,
2. Vaithilingam Kanagarajah,
3. Sinnappillai widow of Kandavanam all of Karaveddi North.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before L. W. de Silva, Esquire Additional District Judge, Jaffna on the 9th day of July 1942, in the presence of Mr. M. Esurapadham, Prosecutor on the part of the Petitioner and on reading the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner.

It is ordered that the 3rd Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-ilem over the minors the 1st and 2nd Respondents for the purpose of representing and defending them in the Testamentary proceedings in this case, that the Petitioner as husband of the deceased be declared entitled to take out Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased and that Letters of Administration thereto be issued to the Petitioner accordingly unless the Respondents or any other person interested therein shall appear before this Court on or before the 30th day of July 1942, and shew sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 15th day of July 1942

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

30-7-1942.

Extended and reissued for 17-9-42.

Sgd. L. W. de Silva,

A. D. J.

(O. 51, 14 & 17-9-42.)

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HOSPITAL ROAD, JAFFNA.

AGENT.

(Mis. 15. 27-4-42--26-4-43.)

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[Y. 115. 18-8-42--17-11-42.]

Wariyapola, N. W. P.

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