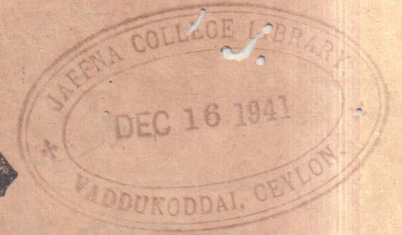


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A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

Arumuga Navalar Day

"GURU Poojah" in honour of Arumuga Navalar, the Tamil Reformer and Scholar, was celebrated at Colombo yesterday under the auspices of the Vivekananda Society.



Governor to Address Council

It is understood that the Governor will address the State Council on the situation arising from the outbreak of hostilities with Japan, so far as it concerns Ceylon. As the present recess of the State Council extends till January 27, a special meeting of the Council will be summoned for this week.



Jaffna Hindu Maha Sabha

The Proceedings of the Executive Committee of this Sabha began at 7 p. m. on Sunday the 7th inst. with Mr. Nagiah in the chair. The chief item of the day was a lecture by Mr. N. Thambiah of the Agricultural Department, on "How to Develop the Economical Position of Jaffna." The second item was the division of the Executive Committee into three Sub-Committees. The first had to deal with the religious activities of the Sabha, the second with the Economic, and the third with the Social and Political. Each Committee was advised to prepare the plan of work for the ensuing year and submit it to the Executive Committee within a fortnight.



Puttur Literary Union

The inaugural meeting of the Puttur Literary Union was held on December 8, at the Rural Centre Building with Mr. K. Balasunderam as chairman pro-tem. Mr. N. Sivagnanam stressed the need for a literary union. Messrs. Sivaguru, Thamotherampillai, Kanagasabai and Selladurai also spoke. The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—President; Mr. A. K. Muttucumar; Vice-Presidents:—Messrs. K. Sivaguru and S. Thamotherampillai; Secretary Mr. N. Sivagnanam; Asst. Secretary: Mr. Selladurai; Treasurer: Mr. Sathasivam; Committee members: Messrs. Kanagasabai, Rayar, Arulanantham, Chelvaretnam, Sadasivam and Velupillai.

JAPAN'S NEW BATTLESHIPS AT LEAST FIVE

ALL DETAILS OF BUILDING KEPT SECRET

GREAT secrecy surrounds the design and building schedule of the latest Japanese warships but so far as is known in official circles in London, Japan has, in addition to ten older battleships launched between 1912 and 1920, at least five new battleships under construction.

A second salient feature of the Japanese navy is the construction of four powerful armoured ships of which practically nothing is known.

The new battleships have a speed of 30 knots, nine guns of 16 inch calibre and a displacement of 35,000 to 40,000 tons. They are comparable to the six North Carolina class that are being produced by the U. S. A. but not with the six of the Iowa class which are in every respect more substantial, although the armament is said to be the same—nine 16 inch guns.

More Armoured ships

Further four armoured ships which are in commission, or at any rate near completion, are said to be of 12,000 tons and 15,000 tons with a speed of 30 knots and mounting 6 guns of 12 inch calibre. The Kadokuru was launched in September, 1939, the Kasine in January, 1940, and the Nachijo in April, 1940.

Details given above suggest that they are improved pocket battleships useful as commerce

raiders since they would be superior to the most powerful cruisers at present possessed by Britain and the United States.

It may be that the new Alaska class large cruisers projected by the U. S. A. are intended as an answer to these ships.

Battleships Re-constructed

The older battleships have been reconstructed at least once. The first pair—the Maguto and the Mutu—are of 32,700 tons mounting eight guns of 16 inch calibre and a speed of 24 knots. Though in no way comparable to the Rodney and Nelson they are superior to the older British battleships and compare favourably with the U. S. Maryland, Colorado and West Virginia.

Next came the Ise and Hyuga of 30,000 tons and a speed of 23 knots with 12 guns of 14 inch calibre. These might be considered a match for the Maryland, Colorado and the West Virginia. The Huse and Yamasiro are similar type ships with similar armaments. The Kongo and the Kirisima are of 29,300 tons with a reported speed of 26 knots and an armament of 8 guns of 14 inch calibre. The Kongo and the Kirisima were till recently classed as seagoing training ships but this would not prevent them being recommissioned for war purposes. In fact they are reported to be in hand for re-armament.

INDIA AND EVENTS IN THE FAR EAST

PANDIT NEHRU SAYS SHE MUST DEFEND HERSELF

Lucknow, Dec. 9.

"I shall be sorry if Russia loses though I do not entertain that fear", said Pandit Nehru at a Press Conference today.

Pandit Nehru made a passing reference to the latest developments in the Far East and said that a new curtain had been rung down and no one knew what would follow. The war may even spread to India.

Referring to India Pandit

Nehru said: "We have between us many differences of opinion, some of which are vital yet I think so far as the Indians are concerned, to whatever group they belong, one thing should be common and that is the freedom of India.

"It should be possible for all of us to accept this common basis for the present and cooperate together to that end,

Continued on page 5

COUNCIL TO MEET ON WEDNESDAY

FORMATION OF WAR CABINET SUGGESTED

It is understood that the emergency meeting of the State Council necessitated by the outbreak of hostilities with Japan will be summoned for Wednesday.

On Thursday it was proposed that the emergency meeting of the State Council should take place on Tuesday. At Friday's meeting of the Board of Ministers it was decided that it should be summoned for the following day in view of the fact that sufficient notice could not be given of the meeting if it was to be held on Tuesday.

The State Council will be asked to approve an "on account" vote of Rs. 20 million to enable the Ministers to meet any extraordinary expenditure arising from the war.

This proposal was approved by the Board of Ministers.

It is proposed that the money should be obtained—

- (1) by the reduction of votes included in the Budget for the present financial year;
- (2) from loan funds and
- (3) from available surpluses.

The Executive Committees, except those of Labour, Industry and Commerce, which had met the previous day, and Communications and Works, the members of which had signified its approval of the Ministerial proposals by telegraph, met and agreed to the delegation of their powers to the Ministers and the introduction of the "on account" vote in the State Council.

War Cabinet

The Executive Committees of Home Affairs, Local Administration, Health and Labour, Industry and Commerce, while approving of these two proposals, had made a suggestion that a War Council or War Cabinet should be constituted and should include two private members of the State Council.



RAMAKRISHNA SAIVA
VIDYASALAI, KOKUVIL

The annual prize-giving of this school will take place on the 15th instant at 5-15 p. m. under the patronage of Lieut Col. R. Patrick, Deputy Director of Education.



Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1941

JAPAN'S NAVAL STRATEGY

THE GRIM REALISM THAT underlies the naval strategy of Japan is becoming more and more apparent. She aims at nothing less than the hegemony of the Pacific which, she expects, will give her all that she wants in the Indian Ocean. It was for this purpose that she launched her treacherous onslaught on the American Naval Base at Pearl Harbour, the islands that link up the ocean route between Hawaii and the Philippines, the Philippines themselves, and the Malayan Peninsula, including Singapore. She has occupied Midway Island and Guam, and though Wake Island was reported to have been occupied, the latest cables indicate that the American garrison there is still resisting. Japanese occupation of these islands will deprive the American Navy of its necessary fuelling stations on its way to the Far East. Japan's object in attacking the Philippines is the same. The distance between Formosa, an important Japanese Naval and Air base, and Luzon, the northern island in which Manila is situated, is short enough to make the idea of another Japanese Air base in Luzon attractive to the Japanese Navy. With Luzon in the hands of the Japanese, the Japanese Air Force will be able to secure the route to Singapore. A good deal, therefore, depends on how long the Philippines and Malaya will be able to resist the enemy. If this resistance is prolonged, it will give the Americans time to round up the Japanese Navy in the Pacific and sweep the South Seas clear of the enemy. Japanese naval strategy is now directed towards preventing the American Navy from dominating the Pacific. Will Japan be able to achieve this object? The presence of Colonel Knox, the American Secretary for the Navy, at Honolulu is an indication of the importance America attaches to the situation in the Pacific. The cessation of the Japanese attacks on the Hawaiian Islands means that the Japanese Navy is no longer free to attack the American bases there. With her great resources, the United States is more than a match for Japan, and it would be surprising indeed if the American Government did not take timely and effective steps to secure naval supremacy in the Pacific. Apart

from the other interests involved in this struggle, the safety of the American Pacific Coast would be imperilled if America lost her naval ascendancy in this part of the globe. The eleventh hour arrangements that are being made for the protection of the Western seaboard of the United States and Canada sufficiently demonstrate the dangers of such a situation.

As long, however, as Japan is allowed to retain the initial advantages that have accrued to her from her sudden attack, the fact has to be faced that the Japanese Navy will for some time be able to go about the seas practically unchallenged. This explains the ability of the Japanese to maintain a continuous flow of reinforcements to the invading forces in the various theatres of war. In Malaya and the Philippines an increase in the number and strength of the invaders is apparent. Britain has no doubt sufficient man-power and equipment to continue indefinitely to resist the enemy in Malaya, but the availability of her man-power and equipment in itself depends on the command of the seas. The sea route from India and Ceylon has to be kept open and it may be as well to expect Japan to try and prevent this. The Japanese are adepts in the art of coining new names for their enterprises. According to the Japanese Board of Information, the war against the United States, Britain and China is now to be called the "War of Greater East Asia", but this does not mean, according to the announcer, that the theatre of war will be confined to Greater East Asia. In fact, no such thing is possible for the simple reason that the natural thing for the Japanese to do in the face of constant British reinforcements from India and elsewhere would be put a stop to them if they could, just as the Allied Navies would find it the most obvious thing to do if they could concentrate in sufficient strength to cut off Japanese reinforcements and supplies to the Philippines and Malaya. It is all a question of sea power and it depends for its answer on the naval situation in the Pacific, which is again vitally affected by British and American commitments in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. The problem would be easier to solve if Britain could maintain her Far Eastern Fleet at the required strength. From this vital point of view the loss of the "Prince of Wales" and the "Repulse" was a grave misfortune, but we feel confident that the Far Eastern Fleet will be adequately reinforced in the near future, and that every attempt will be made to contest Japan's naval position in the Pacific and in the South Seas, and thereby eliminate a danger to the British Empire which is more real than Germany's spectacular victories in Russia, which, by the way are not likely to last long.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Red Cross Fund for Malaya

IT is to be hoped that the public meeting to be held at the Hindu English School, Vaddukoddai, today will be followed by others throughout Jaffna, and that a handsome fund will be raised to aid Red Cross work in Malaya. The moment is opportune for such a gift and it is but fitting that the Tamils of North who have benefitted greatly by Malaya should be the first to make a generous contribution towards the fund. Malaya is bearing the brunt of the Japanese onslaught. The enemy has effected landings on the eastern coast. He appears to be in possession of Kota Bahru aerodrome. The latest cables indicate an attempt on his part to penetrate through Kedah from Thailand on the north. Singapore and Penang are being subjected to severe bombing. It is now that help is needed.

Ceylonese in Malaya

A good deal of anxiety prevails in Jaffna regarding Ceylonese women and children in Malaya. It is impossible to say whether the Government is in a position to accede to the request made at the public meeting held on Saturday that arrangements should be made to enable women and children to return to Ceylon. We have to remember that once hostilities have started it is somewhat risky to transport people across the seas. On the other hand, there is every reason to believe that the Malayan Government itself has made arrangements to evacuate women and children from areas liable to be attacked, and we have no doubt that these arrangements will be carried out. It should be noted that when some months ago Ceylonese women were advised to leave Malaya they refused to leave their husbands at this juncture. Their reluctance is natural but at the same time it is easy to understand the anxiety of the people at home. We trust that, if it is possible, arrangements will be made to enable women and children to leave if they wish to do so.

A War Cabinet?

WE understand that a suggestion has been made by the various Executive Committees that, in view of the outbreak of war between Japan and Britain, a War Council or Cabinet should be formed in Ceylon. The State Council is going to meet on Wednesday. The Council will be asked to approve an "on account" vote of twenty million rupees for war expenditure. The formation of a War Council or Cabinet would enable the Government to co-ordinate its activities and prevent overlapping and waste. The situation is one that calls for rapid as well as correct decisions, which have to be arrived at in the light of the latest information available regarding developments in the theatre of war. It would be a mistake to suppose that the invasion of Malaya is not a matter of immediate concern to Ceylon. On the contrary, the defence of Malaya is a vital and indispensable factor in the defence of Ceylon, and it is this consideration that must determine and shape the attitude of the Government of this country towards the fighting there. We trust that the State Council, which has been hitherto somewhat slow to realise the actualities of the present situation, will not hesitate to give the Ministers ample authority to give Malaya whatever assistance the situation demands. Malaya needs for her defence more men, money and ships. Britain and America can and will provide the ships but it is up to India and Ceylon to provide the rest. Grudging, half-hearted contributions will not satisfy the needs of the moment. We must give willingly and give as much as we can.

TOPICS OF THE DAY

By
T. Kathiravellu

United Lanka?

WITH the exception of Lt. Col J. L. Kotalawela, our homogeneous ministry (minus the sick Health Minister) voted against Mr. Samarakody's motion: three homogeneous representatives, Messrs. Ponnambalam, Mahadeva and Sri Pathmanathan, were absent at the voting for reasons explained in a "Ramanathan" editorial. As Spotlight remarks in the "Kesari", the motion, if passed, would be tantamount to a vote of censure on the "Seven Just Men." But the obvious course would have been for the five Sinhalese Ministers to have permitted the passage of the motion, even if it were ostentatiously to placate the recurrent demand by the minorities for a composite ministry, when an election at the present juncture would entail considerable expense and a deterioration of war-mindedness (now that the war is a world war closer to our shores). This composite Ministry would have paved the way for a United Lanka front to await the Royal Commission and to readjust deteriorating politics. As matters stand, to counteract and reorientate the views of the homogeneous Ministry, the minorities have to make separate demands (a thoroughly unsatisfactory though unavoidable state of affairs). Perhaps one of the best matters which Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam could attend to would be the organisation of an All-Lanka Minorities Conference, days ahead of the proposed Commission.

Proportional Representation

I agree with Mr. S. A. Nathan when he emphasises that we have passed that stage of "communal representation pure and simple with direct British control of internal machinery of government." What should be aimed at is "responsible self-rule of the elective Parliamentary type." In spite of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam's arguments, I am not just now convinced that balanced representation is the best "demand" at this stage of our political evolution. Perhaps he has several cards up his sleeve; if so, I for one am agog with curiosity to be initiated into his plans. Balanced representation appears on the surface to synchronise with the "power" politics of today, when nations vie to secure a balance of power at all costs. Should the minorities be insistent on Mr. Ponnambalam's demand for balanced representation, I am painfully reminded of the parable of the monkey and the two cats. Mr. A. ThiragaRajah's suggestion is to claim proportional representation (as distinct from balanced representation) and by this a more composite State Council is possible. This type of representation would, I venture, depend on the population basis.

Parties and the Like

THE Sinhalese are jolly good company in Malaya and no doubt as good here. A tour round Ceylon's suburban areas has convinced me that the average Sinhalese in the villages and out of the reach of politicians is far from being communal-minded. To those who think in terms of the country and the nation, I suggest the early introduction of the party system into Lanka's practical politics.

PRICE CONTROL IN JAFFNA AT ONCE

We understand reliably that the Food Controller has fixed maximum prices for rice and sugar to come into force almost immediately. We further understand that the prices fixed for rice will be lower than Colombo prices and the price for sugar slightly higher than Colombo prices.

TWO BATTLESHIPS SUNK

Britain's Losses In Far East

London, Dec. 10

AN Admiralty communique states: "The Board of Admiralty regrets to announce that a report has been received from Singapore that H. M. S. Prince of Wales, (Captain J. C. Leach) flying the flag of Admiral Sir Tom Philips and H. M. S. Repulse (Captain W. G. Tennant) have been sunk whilst carrying out operations against the Japanese attack on Malaya. No details are yet available, except those contained in a Japanese official communique which claims that both ships were sunk by air attack."

MR. CHURCHILL'S STATEMENT

Announcing the loss of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse, Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons today said: "I have bad news for the House which I thought I should impart to them at the earliest moment. A report has been received from Singapore that the British battleships Prince of Wales and Repulse have been sunk whilst carrying out operations against the Japanese attack on Malaya. No details are yet available except those contained in a Japanese official communique, which claims that both ships were sunk by air attack."

Mr. Churchill continued: "I shall take the occasion on the next sitting day to make a short statement on the general war situation which has from many points of view, both favourable and adverse, undergone important changes in the last few days."

Authoritative comment is that the sinking of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse is a "very serious loss." No other official comment has hitherto been forthcoming.

The Prince of Wales is a sister-ship to the King George V and her service with the Navy was first made known this year. She was about 35,000 tons and was claimed as being the last word in design, with many elaborate secret weapons. She carried fourteen inch guns mounted in three turrets. They could fire more shells in less time and with greater accuracy than ever before. She was heavily armoured, a thickness of sixteen inches of steel on the hull being quoted. Her speed was given as about thirty knots.

The Repulse was a battle-cruiser of the Renown class of 32,000 tons displacement, built in 1915 and retired in 1932-1936. She carried a complement of about 1,200 men and besides an armament of six fifteen-inch guns, a number of aircraft were carried. Her speed was given as twenty-nine knots.

INTERCEPTED THE BISMARCK

The Prince of Wales participated in the opening phase of the Bismarck action. Together with the Hood she intercepted the Bismarck and the Prince Eugen. The Hood was sunk in this action and the Prince of Wales received slight damage.

It was the Prince of Wales that took Mr. Churchill for the famous meeting with Mr. Roosevelt at which the Atlantic Charter was drawn up. Previously in over two years of war Britain lost only one battleship — the Royal Oak — and one battle-cruiser, the Hood.

SITUATION IN MALAYA AND HONG KONG

JAPANESE PLANES APPROACH AUSTRALIA

Singapore, Friday.

THERE is a momentary lull in the Japanese attacks on the Malayan beaches which may possibly be due to their waiting for further troops while their bombers raid Malayan aerodromes.

Indian troops, supported by the Royal Air Force, have borne the brunt of the fighting in Kelantan, on the east coast, where substantial Japanese forces, backed by strong naval and air support have been constantly attempting landings with reinforcements from Singora, in Thailand, writes an Indian army observer from Malaya.

Indian troops were specially involved in the first clash and were heavily plastered by warships from short range. The initial penetration by superior Japanese forces was beaten back by a prompt counter attack in which men from the Northwest Frontier of India were prominent. The enemy was cleared out of the entire area occupied. But by retiring behind rivers into the thick scrub, he was enabled to hold a tiny coastal strip. After that, Japanese reinforcements arrived in waves, the transports being kept out of range and probably based on islands well off the coast, while troops rushed in motor boats, barges and lighters with strong covering air and sea bombardments.

The surrender of Thailand on the evening of December 8th has enabled the enemy air force, which previously operated from carriers, to occupy advanced air-fields, and during the night of December 8-9, by heavy infiltration and flanking moves, the area was again extended at a cost, however, of severe enemy losses. Baluchis, Hyderabadis and troops from the Punjab and Bombay were also engaged in the coastal fighting.

In the northwest frontier area. Indian motorised troops carried out a successful reconnaissance into enemy-occupied Thai territory, contacting a force, including armoured vehicles. They inflicted considerable casualties on the enemy and destroyed an important position. Further south, Gharwalis and Sikh troops smashed a minor enemy attempt to land on the coast near Kuantan.

First-hand reports of the fighting at Kota Bahru show that the first Japanese attack was defeated and of about 2,000 Japanese landed barely 200 escaped. Then came overwhelming forces from Singora, across the Thailand border, and the British had to retreat. All reports agree that Malaya needs more fighting planes.

UNDER CONTROL

The land fighting in Malaya now appears to be well under control. After the initial confusion caused by the suddenness of the Japanese landings in Northern Malaya and the infiltration of Japanese troops from every direction between the British lines, our troops have now reorganised themselves thoroughly and have effectively prevented any further Japanese advance. Many units and individuals who were cut off by the sudden Japanese infiltration have succeeded in rejoining the main British forces bringing their equipment with them. They either

fought their way through the swampy creeks and jungle.

The latest check reveals that our casualties have been much lighter than might have been expected, while our loss of equipment has been very small. The way in which our forces succeeded in slipping through the Japanese positions in small units or individually indicates the type of fighting that has been going on in North Malaya. Presumably, the same sort of man-for-man groping in jungle is now going on in the Kuantan area, in Central Malaya.

The Japanese succeeded in landing here two days ago and, although they apparently have not received reinforcements, we cannot claim that we have completely "mopped them up" yet. However, as long as no more are able to land, it should only be a question of time until all the Japanese here have been effectively dealt with.

In the Kedah area, in the north-west extremity of Malaya, our forces have the initiative. They are constantly sending out patrols to test the Japanese on the defensive across the frontier.

THE BIG QUESTION

The big question now is: "Can the Japanese land more men on the Malayan coast and can they push more down from Thailand through the breach they have made in our land frontier in the Kota Bahru area? Whatever is the final answer it may be assumed that, for the next few days at any rate, the Japanese will have to reorganise their forces and get their supply routes working effectively from Thailand. It is possible that the lull may be prolonged with the Japanese holding their present vantage point in the Kota Bahru area while they await the results of the Philippines battle before sending further troops here or attempting any general advance into Malaya. During this period of waiting, the Japanese will presumably concentrate on continuing their efforts to obtain mastery of the air over Malaya with raids on aerodromes and attacks on Malaya's principal cities.

Yesterday's raid on Penang was undoubtedly in the nature of a blitz raid. Very few details are as yet available, but it is known that damage to civilian property was extensive and the casualties comparatively heavy. It may be expected that similar raids will be attempted soon on other cities, both in efforts to divert our supply aircraft and to test our defences and to draw out-numbered groups of fighters into the air for punishment and damage to morale.

However, the Japanese are not having it all their own way in the air over Malaya. Their losses to date may not have been spectacular but they have been losing machines regularly. True, they have gained much for the losses they have sustained in planes, but there is a limit to the number of planes they can continue losing so far from their main sources.

SITUATION UNCHANGED

It is officially stated that the general situation in Malaya and Hong Kong has not changed during the past 12 hours.

It is announced that additional

PRECAUTIONS IN COLOMBO

Army Takes Over Buildings

Notice has been served, it is learned, on a large number of Clubs in Colombo, intimating that from Friday morning their premises vested in the Military.

In addition to the Clubs, the Municipality and a few private owners have been notified that certain places belonging to them have also been handed over to the Military.

The Clubs which have so far been notified to this effect are the Ceylon Turf Club, the Colombo Garden Club, the Royal Colombo Golf Club, the Sinhalese Sports Club, the Lawn Club, the Ladies' Golf Club, the Victoria Golf Club, the Mercantile Cricket Club, the Notts Cricket Club and the Bloomfield Cricket Club and the Wesley College Cricket Club.

The whole of Victoria Park and Campbell Park have also been taken.

It is learned that these clubs have been informed that they can carry on their activities until their premises are actually needed by the Military. It is further understood that in the next few days more land will be vested in the Military.

The General Officer Commanding Troop, Major-General Inskip, realises, it was stated at Military Headquarters yesterday the degree of inconvenience which will be caused by this measure and desires to thank the executive of all the Clubs for the ready co-operation extended by them in the matter.

minefields have been laid in the approaches to the Straits of Singapore and on the Malayan and British North Borneo coasts.

It is authoritatively learned in London that the British are withdrawing from their advance position before Hong Kong.

Drawin had Australia's first air raid warning last night, says a Sydney message.

Japanese planes were sighted 300 miles north of Darwin, but did not come over the town. The siren sounded at 10.45 p.m. and the all clear at 1.32 a.m.

A communique issued in Singapore last night stated:

"Penang was heavily bombed this morning. In Northern Malaya there has been little to report during the past 24 hours. In the Kedah area our troops are in contact with the enemy near the frontier with Thailand where local patrol encounters took place.

"In the Kuantan area our troops still hold the original frontier"

PENANG BOMBED HEAVILY

In North-East Malaya enemy activity is being confined to patrols. Reports that the enemy have landed at Kuala Trengganu and Dungun are unconfirmed. In the Kedah frontier area the enemy has been infiltrating forward and our forces have withdrawn to pre-arranged posts. Some fairly heavy air attacks have been made on Penang, but have caused no military damage.

BURMA BOMBED

A communique issued by the Burmese Department of Civil Defence states that a little before 4 p.m. yesterday a number of enemy planes made a bombing attack on an area in the Tenasserim Division. The raiders made off quickly, causing only slight damage. The raiders machine-gunned the area. There had been seven casualties.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE EUROPEAN ATTITUDE

Sir,—Your editorial in last Thursday's issue is timely, but your attempt to defend the rank and file of the European community is hardly satisfactory. The recent revolt among a few Europeans is a belated attempt to grouse at the Excess Profit Tax. The signatories are all representatives of Mercantile firms and this protest against the action of their representatives is at best a storm in a teacup. But the attitude of the Europeans towards the Minorities has been always to the detriment of the other minorities. The Europeans, as the ruling community, need no safeguards and it never pays them to side the minorities on vital questions. This has been all the more marked since the Donoughmore Constitution. There has been a consistent partiality on the part of the European community towards the Sinhalese, in spite of the occasional outbursts of the President of the European Association. The European community was to a great extent responsible for the All-Sinhalese Board of Ministers. The election of Mr. Goonesinghe as Mayor of Colombo was entirely due to the then President of the European Association Mr. Kerr. The attitude of the European bloc in the Reforms Debate was conspicuous. In vain did the Minorities hope for the Europeans casting their votes with them. Again, when a deputation of the Minorities waited on H. E. the Governor on the question of constitutional reforms, Mr. Kerr as the accredited leader of the European Community in the Island, would not take an active part but only hold a watching brief. There are many more instances where the minorities have been betrayed by the Europeans. Therefore it is natural for a good many Tamils to view with suspicion the policy of our representatives when they attempt to play into the hands of the Europeans by opposing all reforms. On the other hand the Tamils and the Sinhalese have many things in common which should unite both communities to their mutual advantage. Therefore, Sir, it is time our "leaders" did a bit of stock-taking and reconsider their attitude towards national questions.

Yours etc.,
Ceylon Tamil.
Jaffna,
6-12-41.

A VICIOUS PRINCIPLE

Sir,—The acceptance of Mr. Razik's motion regarding the reservation of one in every three appointments for Muslims in the Public Service is ominous and militates against an efficient Public Service. Now one can reasonably expect the Kandyans, Burghers and other communities clamouring for such reservations for themselves. Where do the Tamils (who are represented more in the Public Service than their numbers warrant) stand? Their position in the next ten years would be precarious. Perhaps they may be forced to reap the harvest of their fifty-fifty cry, thanks so much to our State Councilors, the Jaffna Associa-

HEALTH EXHIBITION AT THUMPALAI

A Health Exhibition was opened by Dr. W. G. Wickramasinghe, the Asst. Director of Sanitary Services at Sivapragasa Vidiyasalai Thumpalai on Monday the 8th December at 4-30 p. m.

Dr. Wickramasinghe in the company of Dr. S. C. Thurairajah, Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent Jaffna, and Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, N. D. was received by Messrs. P. Nadesan, V. Sithamparapillai Mr. E. Arulampalam (Organisers) and the leading residents of the Town and taken in procession with a display of Koladdam and Music specially arranged for the occasion. At the entrance to the School they were garlanded and a photo was taken.

Shortly after the opening of the Health Exhibition a public meeting was held presided over by Mr. M. Prasad, Gov. Agent Jaffna. Others accommodated on the platform were Dr. W. G. Wickremasinghe, Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam and Dr. S. C. Thurairajah.

Mr. Prasad in his opening remarks said that he knew Dr. W. G. Wickremasinghe as an enthusiastic Medical Officer of Health and today he has succeeded Dr. Chellappah as Asst. Director of Sanitary Services. He congratulated him on his appointment and thanked him for having in spite of his crowded programme come to distant Point Pedro to open the Health Exhibition.

Dr. Wickremasinghe speaking next thanked the Govt. Agent for the kind words spoken about him and the residents of the area for the great honour done to him of being asked to declare the exhibition open. He arrived in Jaffna

tion, our weeklies and our bi-weeklies. Sir, will you please wield your powerful pen against this vicious principle of proportionate representation in the Public Service, which is the bane of India, from creeping into Ceylon?

Your's truly,
T. RAJAH

Jaffna
[We agree that the principle in question is vicious, but what has the fifty-fifty demand got to do with it?
ED. H. O.]

only in the morning and he was very happy to see the amount of co-operation existing in Jaffna between the health officers and the public. He was glad to see that Jaffna is progressing rapidly in all branches of public health activities and they are lucky to have an enthusiastic M. O. H. like Dr. Thurairajah and Mr. Nadesan, Sanitary Asst.

What struck him most about the Exhibition was that most of the posters and slogans, and other models were locally made and that was proof of the great interest the schools took in health matters. He specially congratulated the schools and express the hope that this exhibition would be a prelude to do real health constructive work in the area. He made special mention of the co-operation extended by Mr. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, N. D. in carrying out systematic health work in schools.

Mr. Vethavanam, speaking next said that Health education should play an important part in the curriculum of education today as the child of today is the citizen of tomorrow. He appealed to the teachers to take special interest in training the children in good habits and to raise the standard of health work in schools. He said that on the health of the school child depends the health of the nation. He congratulated the Sanitary Assistant and the Schools for having got up this excellent exhibition.

Dr. Thurairajah speaking next quoted the five golden rules in rural sanitation for the prevention of disease and maintenance of good health. He advised the gathering to put up sanitary types latrines and to boil the drinking water.

At the close of the lecture Mr. P. Nadesan, proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Wickremasinghe and to the Lecturers. He said that Dr. Wickremasinghe's presence that evening will serve an effective stimulus for the teachers to take special interest in school health work. He thanked the G. A. for having come all the way from Jaffna to preside at that opening. (Cor.)

WELLAWATTE TAMILS STAGE "CHANDRAHARI"

AN APPRECIATION

By
E. Vairavanathan

Harischandra has become proverbial for speaking the truth. With a metathesis of the name, Sambanda Mudaliyar produced Chandrahari, a burlesque of much interest. On last Saturday, the Wellawatte Tamil Recreation and Dramatic Club staged it at the St. Peter's College Hall. Chandrahari never speaks the truth. Mr. K. Chornalingam, who played the role, was fine everywhere, keeping the audience in hysterics whenever he appeared on the stage.

Sishtavasi, the next important role, was well done by another veteran, Mr. M. S. Thiruvilangam. That little boy, Katnanathan, who played Thasadevan contributed much to the success of the drama. His singing was good and his acting no less. It was a pity to see him hits introduced into the play.

Mr. K. Sivagnanam acted the ideal Mathisanthurai proving to everyone what heights of histrionic talent he is capable of attaining if given the right type of role. Mr. K. Perambalam was a real Esanadchetran. He is capable of still greater things and I have a notion that he will give us yet some more brilliant and histrionic portrayals in the plays to follow.

Mr. R. C. Theivendram as Minister gave a competent performance; but it would have been better if he had tied the bands of Esanadchetran at the back and with a stretched shawl rather than with a folded one. The dance of Mr. S. Veeragathipillai was splendid; but the lighting arrangements were far from satisfactory. The very same actor had perhaps the best make-up when he appeared again as Kandahali and did his part with easy competence.

Mr. Ratnaswamy, who played the part of the Ashram girl, has all the requirements of a female character. His voice and looks are feminine. His singing was the best in the drama. It is hoped that such a fine actor would be given better roles in future. The host of supporting actors in the drama did their parts with easy competence. The make up was crude, especially so in the case of Mithiravasu and Kandahalan. Their false beards and wigs showed them out. On the whole the play was a success and it was definitely better than their previous play "Harischandra."

The non-existence of a Play-Director was noticeable when the Ashram girls who were supposed to be creations of Sistavasi, a Hindu of Hindus, put over their first song, a recent film hit, the subject matter of which was worshipping Lord Buddha. It was again noticeable when Kandahalan, had the emblem of a Vaishnavite on his forehead while his wife Kandahali had the very good make-up of a devoted Saivaite woman.

The audience missed one of the Club's veterans in Dr. S. K. Chiniah. For a burlesque of this kind, it will be no exaggeration to say, the comic Doctor would have been very suitable.

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Jaffna.

(Y. 21 B. 11-8-40—10-8-41.)

(M)

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION

JAFFNA HINDU COLLEGE PASS LIST

The following candidates have passed the London Matriculation Examination held in June 1941:—

T. Ambalavanar, W. Gnanandan, S. Canthapillai, A. Jaakan, M. Kanapathipillai, E. Kandiah, K. Kasipillai, M. R. Kumarasamy S. Sellathurai, V. Sinniah, K. Thalaya-singam, V. Valliammah, C. Yogan-ratnam, R. Nadarajah, R. Nadarasa, K. Parameshwaram and M. Saravanamuttu.

GENERAL CLERICAL SERVICE

The following students of the Jaffna Hindu College have been selected for appointment in the General Clerical Service:—

K. M. Thyakarajah, S. Sittampalam, M. Sukirthalingam, V. Nagenthiram, P. Rajadurai, T. Somasekaram and R. Thuraiappah.

JAPAN THE 'COMMON ENEMY'

Washington, Dec. 13.

Characterising Japan as the 'common enemy' the Soviet Ambassador M. Litvinoff, told a press conference on Saturday that 'complete understanding existed or 'will be arrived at' between the various powers opposing any aggression.

HAS GUAM FALLEN?

Washington, Saturday.

The U. S. Navy announces that it is unable to communicate with Guam by either radio or cable and it is added that the capture of the island by the Japanese is probable.

STATE COUNCIL MEETING

A proclamation gazetted on Saturday night states that H. E. the Governor has summoned a meeting of the State Council for Wednesday at 2. 30 p. m.

PERSONAL

Mr. Sam T. Solomons, President, of the Point Pedro Maha Jana Sabha and of the Vadamaratchy Co-operative Union, is away at Mysore, South India, and has cancelled his engagements for two months from the 15th of December 1941.

NOTICE

The Executive Committee of the Saiva Paripalana Sabhai has appointed Messrs. S. Pasupathy Chettiar, Hony Treasurer and A. Arulampalam Proctor S. C., to tour Colombo, Kandy and other towns as from the 15th instant to enlist new subscribers to the "Hindu Organ" and the "Inthusanathanam" and to collect arrears of subscription.

It is hoped that our constituents and well-wishers will give them all possible help.

S. ADCHALINGAM
Hindu Organ Office Manager.
8.12.41.

CEYLONESE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

(From a Correspondent)

With a vegetarian dinner and a toast in fruit cocktails the new Ceylonese Association of India has been ceremonially recognised. A delightful evening was spent on Saturday, November 29th by the Ceylonese residents of Bombay, who were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. V. S. C. Singham at dinner at Purohit's hotel. Seventy guests assembled to celebrate the forming of the Ceylonese Association of India, of which Mr. Singham is the president.

Dr. K. J. Rustomjee in proposing the toast of Ceylon said that the association had been born of the travail that Ceylon had gone through during the past few years. He would describe Ceylon as the land of his adoption—should he say salvation? She was free from communal tangles unlike India. But this naughty little daughter of Mother India not satisfied with emulating her in all good things had copied her in adopting parochial politics too—and who could blame her? He wished the Association well—that child that had been safely delivered by the skilful midwifery of "Dr. Singham."

Mr. J. L. Silva giving the toast of the Ceylonese Association denied the charge that Ceylonese were anti-Indian. They were not anti anything; perhaps only antediluvian, in that they were intensely pro Ceylonese. They were very tolerant and prepared to be generous but like the artist's daughter, had to draw the line somewhere.

Mr. A. B. A. Mediwaka proposed the toast of "the Land We Live In", said that India had absorbed and culturally dominated every invader in the past—Greeks, Scythians, Huns and Moghuls. She would once again rise in glory, when she granted decent human rights to all within India and without. A Ceylonese-Indian contradiction was an absurdity since the Ceylonese was a hundred percent Indian. Both Ceylon and India could achieve greatness only by realising that each needed the other.

Mr. Louis Wiratunga in proposing the toast of the Host and Hostess paid a tribute to Mr. V. S. C. Singham's abilities as an organiser. He recalled the days when Mr. Singham, an ardent politician in the Young Lanka League, left politics for business when he found that politics were not clean. He described Mr. Singham as the pioneer of Ceylo-

nese solidarity in India and in the Far East.

Mr. Singham in reply, thanked Mr. Wiratunga and the other speakers. He appealed to the Indian to show the generosity in outlook of a Nehru or a Dr. Rustomjee. While denying the alleged aggression against Indians he asserted that some Indians in Ceylon ill-treated Indian labour more than any Ceylonese would ever do. With good-will on both sides, however, the problem of Indo-Ceylon relations could be solved. He looked forward to the day when both India and Ceylon would take their proper places in the "United States of India". In conclusion he paid a tribute to "Ceylon House" for the good work done in promoting trade in India.

Among those present were Mr. A. B. A. Mediwaka, Mr. and Mrs. David Pieris, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kantawala, Mrs. M. H. Kantawala, Miss. M. Kantawala and Mr. M. Kantawala, Mr. and Mrs. A. Selvaratnam and Miss Selvaratnam, Mr. and Mrs. H. Dirckze, Mrs. K. Jeyaratnam, Dr. K. Rustomjee, Messrs. L. L. Silva, L. Wiratunga, T. Mylvaganam, D. A. Kuruppu, Molamure, B. R. P. Goonewardena and Bhagwandas Paramanand.

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It is particularly good for people with misty and clouded vision, long and short sight etc. For the hale, this oil will preserve their eyes from eye troubles. It keeps the head and the brain cool. It also acts as a sedative to the over-strung nerves. It is very beneficial in cases of nasal catarrh and neuralgia in the head.

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[Q. 115. 23-10-41—22-1-42.]

INDIA AND EVENTS IN THE FAR EAST

Continued from page 1

keeping if necessary, all our differences for the future, working together in spite of other differences and thus helping to resolve these very differences."

Gandhi's Leadership

Referring to Mr. Gandhi's leadership Pandit Nehru said that Gandhiji's leadership had been brilliant. He stood firm as a rock on certain fundamental principles and had not allowed himself to be diverted by smaller happenings.

Referring to the Congress position vis-a-vis the war Pandit Nehru said the Congress position was fully stated in the declaration of September 13, 1939, and subsequently added to by the resolutions passed by the A. I. C. C.

It remains till it is modified, its modification must necessarily depend on many factors. For instance, if it were made clear by the British Government that they would accept that position completely, not just for the Congress but India and give effect to it, that in itself would be a major international event changing the whole character of the world.

Many Drawbacks

The many drawbacks and obstacles towards giving support to the Allied cause would then be removed. How India would give practical effect to its undoubted moral support to that cause would then be a matter for full consideration. It will have to be decided by the representatives of India. The immediate objective for India would necessarily be to defend herself.

Concluding, Pandit Nehru advised students to think for themselves and not be carried away by slogans.

NOTICE

For sale three blocks of valuable lands near Jaffna Railway Station. 25 Lachchams fully planted with various fruit and coconut trees with house adjoining the Bungalow of Medical Officer of Health.

2½ Lachchams with building opposite the Railway Bungalows, Stanley Road.

4½ Lachchams planted with Coconut trees at the junction of the Old Store Road.

APPLY: G. JOSEPH,
C. G. R.
Parakaduwa.

(Mis. 152. 15-12-41)

RED CROSS FUND FOR MALAYA

A public meeting of the residents of Vaddukodai and the neighbouring villages will be held today at 5 p.m. at the Hindu English School at Vaddukodai to explain the situation in Malaya and appoint a representative Committee to take steps to inaugurate a Red Cross Fund for Malaya.

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