

# THE Hindu Organ.

The Only Newspaper in Ceylon for the Hindus

Editor:  
A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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## NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR

### Civil Service Examination

It is understood that negotiations are taking place with the Indian Federal Public Service Commission for the holding of an examination in Ceylon about June next year for the admission of candidates to the Ceylon Civil Service.

It is learned that in all probability there will be no fewer than seven vacancies in the Ceylon Civil Service to be filled about the middle of next year.

### War Loan

A War Loan is likely to be raised early next year for the purpose of meeting expenditure which may be necessitated by the War. An Ordinance for the purpose of enabling the raising of the loan will probably be introduced at the next session of the State Council. The amount to be raised, it is learned, will probably be in the neighbourhood of fifty million rupees.

### House Rents

Action is to be taken by the Government to check profiteering in house-rents. The movement of families from the coastal areas to houses inland has led to widespread profiteering in house rents in urban and rural areas. Houses in these areas are at such a premium that in many cases house rents had been raised by about a hundred per cent and in other cases the rents in advance for three or more months have to be deposited before the house is given to a tenant.

### Preservation of Ancient City

Mr. Clifford Holliday, the town planning expert, and Mr. Oliver Weerasinghe, Local Government Town Planner, are examining the plans for the preservation of the Ancient City before drawing up the final scheme. The Civic Survey and assessment of the buildings in Anuradhapura have been completed. A deputation of Buddhists had a consultation with Mr. Holliday and Mr. Weerasinghe in regard to the preservation of the Ancient City and they provided Mr. Holliday with certain information pertaining to the religious considerations involved.

## GOVERNOR ADDRESSES THE STATE COUNCIL

### MINORITY MEMBERS FOR DEFENCE COMMITTEE

THE speaker (Sir W. Duraiswamy) presided when the State Council met at 2.30 p. m. on Wednesday last.

The Speaker announced that His Excellency the Governor desired to address the House.

The Governor then entered the Chamber preceded by the Speaker and delivered the following address, which was broadcast:—

Gentlemen; the last time that I stood here was two days after our declaration of war on Germany. I said then that it might be, and I prayed that it would be, that we in Ceylon would remain outside the zone of actual warfare. That possibility and that prayer still stand; but Japan's surprise attack on America and ourselves in the Far East, and its initial successes, have made it imperative that we prepare ourselves for emergency.

I am not come this afternoon to indulge in rhetoric about the cause for which we fight or our determination to see it through to victory. These are things that lie too near the heart for words: I leave them to the eloquence of our War Fund and War Loan subscription lists. May our reaction to Japan's perfidy and aggression be worthily manifest in the results of Colombo's Tank Week.

#### "FATAL" DELAYS

I am here rather to explain that delays fatal to efficient organization of our defences and war services would inevitably arise if normal administrative machinery were not adjusted to present abnormal conditions. In ordinary times all expenditure is detailed and provided in the annual Budgets.

If the need for unbudgeted expenditure arises full details are supplied to the Executive Committee concerned and a resolution for supplementary provision is, with the approval of the Board of Ministers, moved in this Council with the opportunity for unlimited discussion.

That procedure is most salutary in respect of ordinary expenditure; in respect of which there is, of course, no question of any alteration. In regard to

defence and war expenditure, however, it is essential not to make public and thereby give away to the enemy, our weak spots or our problems and dispositions of defence.

It is imperative moreover to make weak points strong with a minimum of delay. When, in short, there is paramount necessity for secrecy and extreme expedition ordinary procedure inevitably requires adjustment.

By passing the block vote for twenty million rupees which stands on your Orders of the Day you will effectively and constitutionally make this necessary adjustment. Allocations and itemizations of the vote will be made as occasion demands by the Board of Ministers, which will have the advice of the Local Defence Committee.

That Committee meets under my presidency and its personnel, which in certain other respects is under revision, includes the Ministers for Home Affairs, Agriculture and Lands, Local Administration, and Communications and Works.

#### ADDITIONS TO COMMITTEE

I appreciate and welcome a natural desire on the part of all sections of the people to be associated in the fullest degree practicable with the war counsels of the Island. I, therefore, propose to nominate four minority members of this Council to be additional members of the Local Defence Committee.

In announcing this I must make one thing quite clear; the four additional members will be my nominees and can in no sense be regarded as representatives answerable to the communities to which they belong.

The transactions of the Committee are and must remain rigidly secret, and there can be no giving of information by anybody on the Committee to anybody outside it except by order or express sanction of the Committee.

Equally cogent with the necessity to keep war counsels secret is the necessity to keep

Continued on page 5

## THREE QUALITIES OF THE TAMILS

### "WONDERFUL FOUNDATION" FOR EDUCATIONISTS

THAT they endeavoured at St. Patrick's to build on what must be considered a splendid natural foundation stated the Very Revd. Fr. T. M. F. Long, O. M. I., Rector of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, in the course of his report read at the annual prize-giving of the College on Wednesday evening.

Mr. R. Patrick, Deputy Director of Education, presided.

Fr. Long said that the year under review had been a year of steady, systematic work whose dominant features were the steadily growing share the boys took in the running of the school, and the increasing emphasis placed on handicraft.

Referring to the natural qualities that distinguish the Tamil, Fr. Long said that there were three such dominant qualities. Firstly, loyalty. The Jaffna man was loyal and this loyalty had guaranteed his survival so far in spite of his soil and the grinding poverty he had at times to face.

His second great quality is his power of sustained, systematic work. The power of work brings out the best in him when it is qualified with a note of asceticism, for he is by nature somewhat contemptuous of creature comforts.

Thirdly, he has got a burning sense of justice which must be scrupulously honoured. This passionate feeling for justice he shares with races like the Irish and the Jews, perhaps for the same historical causes.

"These three qualities supply a wonderful foundation for the conscientious educator to build upon. Honour his sense of justice and fairplay, foster his loyalty and let him apply his wonderful powers of work and you have the ideal student so soon to turn into the mature citizen, unshakable in his essential loyalties, the backbone of the State"

### POPE MURDER CASE

R. Veerasamy and I. P. Velaitan, the first and second accused were found guilty of the murder of Mr. C. A. G. Pope, Superintendent of Stellenberg Estate, by an unanimous verdict of the Jury and sentenced to death by Mr. Justice Soerfsz at the Colombo Assizes.





## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1941

### THE DEFENCE COMMITTEE

WE WELCOME HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor's decision to nominate four minority members of the State Council as additional members of the Defence Committee, which already includes the Ministers for Home Affairs, Agriculture and Lands, Local Administration, and Communications and Works. The functions of the Committee are purely advisory, the idea being that the Board of Ministers should be assisted by the Committee in the allocation of the funds already voted for expenditure on the war. The Governor's decision was no doubt prompted by His Excellency's desire that all sections of the people of Ceylon should be associated in the deliberations connected with defence. In announcing his decision His Excellency has only voiced widespread public feeling that, at least for the duration of this war, the need for a united front against the common enemy is paramount, and that the best and the most effective method of securing this unity among all sections of the people is to make the Defence Committee fully representative of Ceylon. But for the Governor's timely announcement, it seemed inevitable that the communal tendencies which asserted themselves in the formation of the Board of Ministers would again affect the personnel of the Defence Committee. Ceylon had a foretaste of what was coming when the Ministers and their supporters, with the exception of Mr. Kotelawala, combined to defeat Mr. Samarakoddy's motion by a majority of two votes. It cannot be said, therefore, that the State Council and the Ministers did not have the opportunity of making one statesmanlike gesture to remove the distrust and suspicion with which the minority communities have been viewing the attitude and conduct of the Ministerial party towards the war. The State Council refused to avail itself of the opportunity provided by Mr. Samarakoddy's motion, and it was left to His Excellency the Governor to ensure that the defence of the island shall not be utilised as a pretext by the extremists in the State Council to achieve their own ends. The discussion that followed the Governor's speech is certainly instructive; it clearly establishes the inability of the Ministerial majority in the Council to rise above the communal level and

think in terms of the new dangers that threaten the island. It is not the part of true patriotism to exclude the representatives of large sections of the population from their rightful participation in the knowledge of these dangers and the steps taken to meet them. The attempts made by some of the speakers on the occasion of the Governor's speech to stir up racial feeling are deplorable in themselves, but the insinuation made by the Ministerial press that the Governor's proposal in regard to the Defence Committee is only the thin end of the "fifty-fifty" wedge is highly discreditable. It shows the exceedingly petty outlook that has marred the political life of this island for nearly a decade, and the total lack of repentance on the part of the culprits who were responsible for it, and who would not even now hesitate to give the whole question of Ceylon's defence a communal complexion.

The defence of Ceylon is a matter of vital importance to all sections of the people, and this being the case, we are unable to see how, in the interests of common decency, the State Council could have been allowed to continue on its present course. In every part of the world, under the impact of a cruel and destructive war, people are closing their ranks and trying to face the future calmly and unitedly. It is up to every one of us to do this, without reviving old quarrels, and without trying to steal a march over our opponents, and it is for the State Council to set the example. Unfortunately, however, the Council is neither repentant nor reasonable. Its political views have not been affected by recent events. But for the Governor's intervention these views would have determined the composition of the Defence Committee. Under these circumstances it is easy to understand the criticism directed against the Governor in the columns of the Ministerial Press. There was no need, we are told, for the Governor to have emphasised that the four nominees to the Defence Committee would be minority members, because, forsooth we are such ardent believers in the principle of territorial representation that we simply refuse to look at anything with a communal touch about it. The political Correspondent of the "Daily News" is terrified, not by the immediate dangers to be apprehended from the possible extension of the war to the Indian Ocean, but by the great danger involved in making concessions to the communal spirit. "Far from there being a truce", he says, "there are still strong undercurrents of communalism. They are, it is generally believed, responsible to a large extent for the Governor's proposal to have a fifty-fifty Local Defence Committee". The confession is interesting, but it is belated and the remedy is certainly not the policy of communal or racial exclusiveness which has been the bane of the Ministerial party but an earnest attempt to rally all the communities of the island to the task of defending themselves against aggression. This the State Council has refused to do, leaving it to the Governor to take the necessary action which has forestalled any move to provide for the defence of the island on strictly communal lines.

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

### Fighting in Malaya

THE Japanese seem to have succeeded in entering Perak which is one of the federated Malay States and lies immediately to the south of Kedah. Unlike Kedah, Perak is well provided with roads, and this has its advantages for defence as well as offence. The most important towns in Perak are Taiping and Ipoh. The latter is the centre of the mining industry and is the second largest town in the Federated Malay States, the capital and the biggest town or city being Kuala Lumpur. The enemy will not be able to occupy Kuala Lumpur without occupying Ipoh, and it is certain that from their new positions the British forces will put up a tough fight to halt the Japanese advance. Already there is a lull in the activities of the invaders. This may be due to the need for rest and reinforcements, but a much needed opportunity has been given to the defenders to reorganise their resistance. We have not the slightest doubt that any lull in the Japanese attack will be utilised to the fullest extent to prevent a further advance. The Japanese objective is Singapore. The whole world is alive to the real significance of the move. If Singapore is lost, the defence of the Indian Ocean will be difficult and Japan's supremacy in the South Seas will go practically unchallenged. It is easy, therefore, to understand the recent declaration of the Governor of the Straits Settlements that Singapore must be defended at all costs. Judging from the cables to hand, it is clear that the Japanese have been able to concentrate a numerically superior army on the invasion of Malaya, and a stronger Air Force than what is available to the defence forces. We feel confident that this disparity will be removed in the immediate future.

### The Naval Situation

AS we have pointed out in these columns, the naval situation in the Pacific provides the key to what is going on in the Far East, and this itself is mainly the result of British pre-occupations nearer home. It must be remembered that the British Navy has heavy commitments in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. It would be a mistake to suppose that the danger of invasion is past. When the Japanese attack in the Far East was discussed, Hitler and the Japanese must have recognised the importance of keeping the British fleet engaged nearer home. The best way of doing this would be an attempt at invasion and one need not be surprised if the enemy makes his first, and, we have no doubt, his last attempt in this direction in the near future. As long as the danger of the invasion is still there, it is not likely that any attempt to send an armada to the Far East will find favour with the Admiralty. The task, therefore, of keeping the Pacific and the sea lanes to Singapore clear of the enemy must necessarily fall to the American Fleet. The American public has been surprised by the treacherous attack on Honolulu and the Philippines, and the revelations that will be made by the Committee of Inquiry appointed by the President will show the Americans where they stand in regard to the control of the Pacific. In one sense, these initial reverses must have done the United States a great service by pointing to Americans where the path of safety lies; it lies undoubtedly in making the American Navy supreme at sea. There is no other course open.

### Food Production & Labour

THE statement has been made in certain quarters that the campaign for the cultivation of more food during the present emergency is handicapped by scarcity of labour. If this is so, the Ministers will do well to face the facts instead of making Ceylon the victim of their consistency.

## TOPICS OF THE DAY

(BY T. KATHIRAVELLU)

### The Party System

IN spite of obvious drawbacks, the party system has a great future in Ceylon. The Conservatives could gather round the banner of the communalists while a Socialist Party could unite the varied elements at present subscribing to elementary ideas of socialism. Trade Unionism deserves a helping hand and labour should become part and parcel of the Trade Unionist movement. Labour needs careful leadership in the twentieth century: it has immense possibilities in post-war reconstruction. The National Congress needs rehauling and the Jaffna Youth Congress (a band of socialists) could be of use in encouraging the readjustment. The National Congress could become either the greatest torch or a serious obstacle to political progress if it ceases to be static. Just to keep things humming, Mr. Bandaranaike may organise a "Lanka First Group". To balance this, the detained Sama Samajists may be released at an opportune time if the war effort could benefit (vide India).

### A Dream Ministry

I had a dream. I dreamt that the following were elected ministers after a general election in 1943: Home Affairs: Lt-Col. J. L. Kotelawala; Labour, Industry and Commerce: Mr. G. C. S. Corea or Mr. Peri Sunderam; Agriculture: Mr. D. S. Senanayake; Education: Mr. C. Suntharalingam; Communications and Works: Sir Macean Markar; Local Administration: Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike or Mr. W. Dahanayake; Health: Dr. R. Siravanamuttu. The new Speaker was Sir Don Baron Jayatilaka and (if Sir Baron reached the age limit!) Sir James Obeyesekere or Sir Gerard Wijekoon. The Deputy Speaker was either Mr. T. B. Jayah or Mr. Geo Wille and the Deputy Chairman of Committees, Mr. Pieter Keuneman. Whether this heterogeneous Ministry would produce the "unanimous attitude" of the 1941 Board of Ministers was a matter of conjecture but, certainly, the composite Ministry satisfied all elements. The Europeans, too, could find a place in the scheme of things if prominent men of the calibre of Sir John Tarbat were their representatives. Before this, the attitude of the 1941 European State Councillors in connection with the Excess Profits Tax had been rectified. But it was all a dream!

### To "Spectator"

"SPECTATOR" should know that teachers differ, experts differ and inspectors differ. Notes of lessons should not only be prepared daily but could, with better results all round, be prepared weekly and in advance before Monday. Only a prepared teacher gets results. Some teachers are born, others made. The writing of notes is not a waste of time and energy. There are many farces enacted daily in Ceylon but the writing of notes is not one of them! "Spectator" could get on to more urgent educational notes.

### Paradoxical

MR. P. Ragupathy writes that the third great difficulty the Hindu Board has to face is the opposition offered to its progress by Hindu Members of the State Council. This is a serious allegation, somewhat paradoxical in nature but extremely thought-provoking! Perhaps some of our Hindu M. S. Cs. could refute this statement.

### Today's Hint

"THE Holy Terror", a novel by the world-famed scientist and journalist, H. G. Wells, is strongly recommended by the "Lanka First Group" as a Bible for politicians, fossilized and otherwise. Today, as Mr. Pieter Keuneman says, our politicians must answer criticism if they are to continue to retain the confidence of their electorates.



# JAPANESE TROOPS LAND IN HONG KONG

London, Dec. 19.

THE Japanese have effected a considerable landing at Hong Kong. Heavy fighting is going on and the position is serious, it is stated authoritatively in London today (Friday). It is added that there is a comparatively small garrison in Hong Kong and a very considerable area to defend. The defence forces of Hong Kong are partly Canadian. There is no information regarding the Japanese claim to have landed at three different points.

The claim to have occupied half of Hong Kong Island was broadcast by the Tokyo radio this morning, quoting the Domei News Agency. The announcer said that Japanese forces had landed at three points on the island at 8 p. m. on Thursday and within two and a half hours occupied Jardine's Hill. It is claimed that guns in many positions had been silenced and that resistance was continuing locally.

## LANDING AT THREE POINTS CLAIMED

The Domei Agency message adds that the landings were made under fierce bombardment by Japanese artillery from Kowloon. Japanese army and navy forces landed under enemy fire at three points in the north-eastern part of Hong Kong and also in the Western section of the island. It is claimed that this morning (Friday) the Rising Sun flags were seen flying high at the landing points. Japanese forces are rapidly carrying out operations in all parts of Hong Kong.

The latest information at 2 p. m. G.M.T. was that the garrison was still holding part of Hong Kong.

The Colonial Office announced on Friday afternoon that it had been in telegraphic communication with Sir Mark Young, Governor of Hongkong, this morning (Friday).

## PENANG GARRISON EVACUATED

Penang has been evacuated. The Penang garrison was safely withdrawn. As far as is known the civil population remains.

It is authoritatively stated that following the reorganisation of the Imperial line south of the River Krian the "military importance of Penang island has lessened." It is understood that all military personnel and equipment has now been successfully withdrawn from the Island. Penang is now completely deserted of Europeans with the exception of two British doctors, who insisted on remaining behind in order to tend the wounded from the recent air raids and do their best to prevent the possible spread of epidemics.

## DANGER TO RUBBER SUPPLIES

The danger arising from the Japanese advance in Malaya and the East Indies to British and American rubber supplies was raised in the Commons today by Commander King Hall pointing out that eighty-six per cent. of the world's raw rubber came from those areas. He suggested establishing factories for the manufacture of synthetic rubber in Britain or in the United States. Mr. Harold MacMillan, Parlia-

## Penang Evacuated By British Troops

mentary Secretary to the Ministry of Supply, declared that "Government are fully alive to the necessity of adjusting the supply and consumption of rubber by the extended use of substitutes and other means. The method suggested will not be lost sight of."

## NEW LINE OF DEFENCE

London, Dec. 19.

Our troops in Malaya who as announced today have taken up a line southwards of the Sungei Krian were able to withdraw some miles through the Province of Wellesley from their last line along the River Muda unopposed, it is revealed in Singapore tonight, writes Reuter's Special Correspondent in Singapore. This was due to a most successful rear-guard action yesterday in which we prevented the enemy from forcing the Perakaka bridge, the easternmost of two possible bridges across the Muda. During this action the enemy lost many dead.

The next Japanese objective on the mainland may now be Ipoh, the heart of Malaya's tin industry, and their aeroplanes were active over this area today. A combined push is expected across the Sungei Krian, supported by a parallel push from Grik where fighting is mentioned in this morning's communique. There is no information yet concerning Japanese activities as regards Penang—whether they intend to try to invest the island now, or whether they intend to push on direct to Ipoh first, leaving Penang on their flank and in the rear to be cleaned up later.

The news that Catalina flying-boats are operating as far afield as the neighbourhood of Saigon, revealed in tonight's Singapore communique, is the first information concerning the offensive activities of the R. A. F. since the statement a week ago that our planes attacked the enemy at Singora in Thailand. It is assumed however that this lack of information is a deliberate matter of policy in order not to reveal details to the enemy and that actually our bomber force in Malaya is being used widely, not only to reconnoitre but also to blast enemy bases and lines of communication.

There is no news today of the position in Borneo. Initial Japanese landings at Sarawak and Brunei appear to have been small affairs, presumably designed mainly to capture the oil fields if they were intact. It is possible however that the Japanese will in due course extend their occupation to North Borneo establishing themselves in the airfields there and occupying the whole of the harbour on Labuan Island. There is no confirmation of the rumour that there has been a Japanese landing at Sandakan in British North Borneo.

Another big convoy of Indian troops with full equipment has arrived in Rangoon. The reinforce-

ments comprise some of the best fighting units from the North-West Frontier to Madras. They will considerably strengthen the existing defences of Burma. All necessary motor and animal transport arrived aboard an earlier convoy. The well chosen and well trained troops made a splendid sight as they disembarked. They are entraining for various war stations.

## JAPANESE AIR ACTIVITY ROUND IPOH

Yesterday evening's Singapore communique states; "No enemy activity was reported today either in the Kedah or in the Kelantan front. Japanese air activity was confined to the area around Ipoh."

"It is now learned that prior to yesterday's withdrawal from the River Muda, a strong attack was launched by the enemy in an endeavour to capture the Perkaka bridge. This was repulsed, the enemy being driven back across the river, leaving behind many dead. The subsequent withdrawal was carried out unopposed."

"This morning an R. A. F. Catalina flying-boat, while on reconnaissance 250 miles south-south-west of Saigon, encountered an enemy twin-engined bomber. In the ensuing engagement, which lasted fifteen minutes, our aircraft outmanoeuvred the enemy and inflicted such damage that it broke off the attack and was last seen with smoke pouring from one engine."

## NEW BRITISH LINE

Continuing their withdrawal and reorganisation southward from North-West Malaya British troops, have now established themselves south of the Sungei (river) Krian according to today's noon communique from Singapore. This means that we have had to leave the Province of Wellesley for the time being to the Japanese and Penang is cut off entirely from contact with the mainland. Whether Japanese will attempt to take Penang by a direct assault across the few miles of water separating it from the Province of Wellesley, or whether they will push on and leave isolated in their rear, time alone will show.

It was hoped for a while that British troops would be able to make a stand in the Muda River to the north of the Province of Wellesley where official communiques for the past two days have said that fighting was in progress. This river offered the first line with any semblance of a natural defensive position, but it was not much of a line. The Muda River is not more than a hundred yards wide, it is not very deep and it had a gradually sloping bank and a clear stretch of agricultural country around it. British troops presumably found it impossible to hold the enemy's mechanised forces there, and what little destruction of bridges could be effected was probably rendered useless by the

speed with which the Japanese were able to throw temporary bridges across.

## JAPANESE TROOPS POURING INTO MALAYA

The Japanese threat to Singapore and Penang is growing, says the "Daily Mail," while Japanese troops are pouring into Malaya on the railway, which links Bangkok and Singora. "Why is it not being bombed?" asks the newspaper.

The British Government are still awaiting "full information" regarding the relations between Japan and Thailand. "It is to be hoped that the fate of Singapore is not to depend upon Thai 'neutrality.' The move into Portuguese Timor stands in welcome contrast to this leaden-footed procedure."

Three resthouses attached to a Buddhist monastery and part of the monastery itself were destroyed in the recent Japanese air raids on Tavoy, a town in the Tennasserim Division of South Burma, it is learned in Rangoon. The first civilian casualties in the same area, it is officially stated, were caused by Japanese bombs falling on religious ground.

A statement from the civil defence authorities says that a town in the Tennasserim Division had an air raid warning lasting forty-six minutes yesterday. There is no report of any bombs being dropped.

Army Headquarters, Burma, issued the following communique at 6 p. m. today: One of our patrols on the Tennasserim border exchanged shots with a frontier post. There is nothing further to report."

## KOKUVIL HINDU COLLEGE PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION

Former students are cordially invited to the inaugural meeting of the Past Pupils' Association and Lunch on Sunday, December 28, in the College Hall. Proceedings commence 9-45 a. m.

M. KARTHEGASU  
(Principal)

(Mis. 159, 22-12-41)

## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, JAFFNA

Next term begins on the 7th of January 1942.

Admission of New Boys on the 5th and 6th of January 1942.

**Thompson Scholarship:** Consisting of free tuition, tenable for two years for entry into Form I. Candidates must be under 12 years of age.

**Crossette Scholarship:** Consisting of free tuition tenable for two years for entry into form VI. B. Candidates must be under 15 years of age.

The examination for the above Scholarships will be held at College at 9 a. m. on Monday the 5th of January 1942. Applications for admission should reach the Principal on or before Wednesday 31st December 1941.

Further particulars from the Principal.

(Mis. 153, 18 & 22-12-41).



## CEYLON TAMILS' KALAVIRTHY SANGAM, KUALA LUMPUR

(From A Correspondent)

The beautiful new building of the above Sangam at Jalan Utara, Imbi Road, Kuala Lumpur, was declared open at 5 p. m. on 22nd, November 1941 by Mr. R. N. Thamby Thurai, M. B. E. On arrival Mr. Thamby Thurai was garlanded by Mr. S. Selvadurai, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Sangam, while Miss Kamaladevi Rasiah presented a bouquet to Mrs. Thamby Thurai. To the accompaniment of Oriental music the party repaired to the front lawn of the building where a group photograph was taken.

Before handing over the key for the opening of the building Mr. M. Kanagasabai (Medical Department, Selangor) President of the Sangam, thanked the very large number of members and well-wishers present, for their lively interest and response to the invitation and Mr. Thamby Thurai then proceeded formally to declare the building open.

Mr. and Mrs. Thamby Thurai were accommodated on the platform which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion. Others seated on the platform were the President, Mr. M. Kanagasabai, Dr. & Mrs. A. Visuvalingam, Mr. & Mrs. S. Kanagaratnam, Dr. A. E. Duraiswamy, Mr. K. Shanmugam, Captain R. V. Karakandan, Mr. V. S. Ponnampalam and Mr. S. Kandiah.

Tea and light refreshments were then served while pupils of the Music Class sang welcome songs specially composed for the occasion which roused rounds of applause from the audience.

After tea Mr. Thamby Thurai was invited by the President to address the assembled guests. Mr. Thamby Thurai rising amidst prolonged ovation thanked the Sangam for the honour accorded him in having been invited to declare the new building open. The building, he said, was sure to serve as a lasting monument of the untiring efforts of the Committee of the Sangam and would also redound to the pride and glory of the Ceylon Tamils resident in the State. He was pleased and proud to recollect that the idea of a new and permanent premises for the Sangam was taking shape during the years when he was President. It was his fond desire that all Ceylon Tamils resident in Kuala Lumpur should come forward and contribute their mite so as to improve the financial position of the Sangam, which was meeting the needs of the community by extending its activities in many directions and in particular by promoting the study of the mother tongue by the Tamil children.

Then a report of the activities of the Sangam since its inception in 1929 (originally known as Chums Amateur Dramatic Association) was read by the Hon. General Secretary Mr. A. Kandiah (Accounts Dept. P. W. D.) and aroused much interest among the audience.

Dr. A. Visuvalingam (Ophthalmic Specialist, Selangor), Mr. K. Shanmugam (Asst. Post Master, Kuala Lumpur), Mr. T. Sivaprakasam (Urban Co-operative Officer), and Mr. S. Kanagaratnam (Senior Master Methodist Boys' School) also spoke on the occasion urging those present to lend their

support to the Sangam and make it a fully representative institution of the Ceylon Tamils resident in Selangor. Special mention was made of the valuable and praiseworthy service of Mr. R. N. Thamby Thurai M. B. E. who was kind enough to make authorities consider favourably the representation made by the Sangam to start a Primary Tamil School in the new premises. Mr. Kanagaratnam's appeal was very touching and served to stir much enthusiasm among the audience and also induce the Committee of the Sangam redouble their efforts to promote the activities receiving the full support of the community at all times.

The President expressed the sincere thanks of the Sangam to all those present on this very unique occasion and all who have been kind enough to make donations to put up the new building which has cost them a very large sum. The function came to a close at 8-30 p.m.

### ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1078  
Sithamparanathar Thamotharampillai  
of Varanyiyatalai

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Thamotharampillai Sithamparanathar.
2. Thamotharampillai Muttucumar.
3. Thamotharampillai Mappanapillai.
4. Thamotharampillai Mylvaganam.
5. Thamotharampillai Valliammaipillai.
6. Thamotharampillai Ambihai Minors. All of Varanyiyatalai.
7. Kandiah Nadarajah of Karanavai North. (Guardian of the above minors.) Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before Mr. C. Coomaraswamy Esqr. District Judge, Jaffna, on the 16th day of October 1941 (a) for the appointment of a Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th respondents abovenamed who are all minors (b) for a declaration entitling the petitioner to administer the estate of the late Theivanaipillai wife of Thamotharampillai of Varanyiyatalai and to have letters of administration issued to him accordingly, and upon reading the petition and affidavit from which it appears that the 7th respondent abovenamed is a fit and proper person to be appointed guardian over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th respondents abovenamed and that the petitioner abovenamed as husband of the said Theivanaipillai deceased is entitled and claims to have letters of administration issued to him.

It is hereby ordered and declared that (a) The 7th respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th respondents abovenamed for the purpose of this action. (b) The petitioner as husband of the deceased is entitled to administer and that letters of administration to the estate of the late Theivanaipillai wife of Thamotharampillai of Varanyiyatalai do issue to him accordingly unless the respondents shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on or before the 26th day of November 1941.

Given under my hand

This 16th day of October 1941

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,

District Judge.

Order Nisi extended for 26-1-1942.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,

District Judge.

The above is a true copy of the Order Nisi filed in 1078 Testy D. C. Jaffna.

C. RasaRatnam,

Proctor for Petitioner.

(O. 55. 22 & 25-12-41.)

## CHANDRAHARI—A TAMIL BURLESQUE

By "Sivam"

FOR the first time in Ceylon a hilarious burlesque in Tamil was put on the stage by the amateur dramatists of the Wellawatte Tamil Club last Saturday night at the Peter's College Hall. Incidentally, this is the first of its type in Tamil dramaturgy written by that veteran playwright Rao Bahadur P. Sambanda Mudaliyar of Madras, parodying the theme, nature and the characters of the famous story of Harischandra. In that classical legend the hero is a virtuous monarch who never uttered a falsehood even at the cost of his kingdom, his wife and only son. But the hero in this burlesque, Chandrahari, is a superlative liar who utters not a single truth put under the most trying circumstances. Various devices and tests to make him tell a truth by a great Rishi were all blown to the winds by that artful dodger. Finally the Rishi admits his defeat and surrenders half the virtue of his age-long penance which ennobles the villainous king to lead a pious and chaste life.

The Wellawatte Amateurs had, in my opinion, never before presented such an all-round cast of dramatic talent as we witnessed last Saturday night in this superb piece of ironical comedy. Mr. K. Chornalingam, that masterly character actor who has held the stage for more than 30 years with ease, fitted creditably well in the role of the hero, Chandrahari. His stylisation of royal intrigue, perjury and duplicity deserve much praise, though I would not say that he has broken his record characterisation of Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice". Mr. Thiruvilangam as Sishtavasi, the Rishi, acquitted himself in his own inimitable style. Clownish Eesanakshatran and Asathyakeerthi, the 'yes sir' minister of Chandrahari, provided plenty of fun which kept the audience roaring with laughter.

The female characters were all selected and their dresses and make-up were admirable. Mr. Sivagnanam who played the part of Mathisantharai though possesses a fine form lacks in suppleness and vocal adaptability. But there is plenty of scope in Mr. Ratnasamy who acted for the hermit girl. Also the nautch dance by Mr. Veeragathypillai deserves mention for its technical distinction. My specially reserved admiration is for that little boy actor Master Ramanathan as Thasathevan whose splendid singing thrilled the audience and drew spontaneous applause and repeated encores. Gifted with a silvery voice and a flair for skilful modulations—a Thyagaraja Bagavathar in miniature—this little boy is full of promise.

On the whole, the performance

proved unreservedly a successful entertainment. With a bit of pruning in the crematorium scene which tends to be tedious with conjoined songs, I may say that a repeat performance either in Colombo or Kandy and another at Jaffna would be very much desired. I understand that the Wellawatte Tamils are striving to acquire some land to put up their own building for recreation and dramatic activities. It is certainly a very desirable venture and with sincere and relentlessly working men like their president Mr. K. Kanagaratnam at the helm of affairs we believe that time is not distant for the fulfilment of their object.

Colombo, 9-12-41.

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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 overstrung nerves. It is very beneficial in cases of nasal catarrh and neuralgia in the head.

(N. B. This oil is guaranteed to aid the growth of the hair.)

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[Q. 115. 23-10-41-22-1-42.]

### NOTICE

The Executive Committee of the Saiva Paripalana Sabha 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 "Inthusanatham" 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.

### SALE OF TODDY RENTS 1941—42 VAVUNIYA DISTRICT

NOTICE is hereby given that the Assistant Government Agent, Vavuniya, will receive sealed tenders for the purchase, subject to Toddy Rent Sale Conditions published in Government Gazette No. 8606 of April 26, 1940, and General Conditions applicable to all Excise Licences published in Government Gazette No. 8368 of May 11, 1938 of the exclusive privilege of selling fermented toddy by retail in the undermentioned taverns during the period of March 1, 1942 to September 30, 1942.

2. For further particulars see Government Gazette No. 8833 of December 19, 1941.

3. The conditions of sale and any other required information can be obtained at the Vavuniya Kachcheri.

The Kachcheri,

Vavuniya, December 15, 1941.

CARLTON S. COREA,  
Assistant Government Agent.

LIST OF TAVERNS REFERRED TO:-				
No.	Divisions	Local Area	Date and time of closing of tenders.	Place.
2	Maritime Pattus	Valayanmadam	January 13, 1942—10-30 a. m.	Mullaitivu
6	-do-	Alampil	-do- 10-40 a. m.	Residency,
9	Vavuniya North	Kurisuddakulam	-do- 10-50 a. m.	
10	-do-	Kanagarayankulam	-do- 11-00 a. m.	

[G. 32, 22-12-41.]



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## THE LANGUAGE-RACE TANGLE

Sir.—The comfortable theory about the complexity of language and race being the insurmountable obstacle on the path of freedom for any section of mankind looks rather vague and baseless. Some of us trot out this theory in order to meddle with our legitimate aspirations to vindicate the common human honour. However, it is natural for intelligent beings to exert to develop by degrees the much vaunted freedom of man—the freedom to move and act in one's own native land, which any self-respecting human being will not honourably deny himself as well as others irrespective of religion or language, colour or race. Anyone who speaks or acts against this legitimate heritage of man is an enemy of God and man. Even insects are endowed with ability to manage their own affairs. What of man? Language is only a smoke screen which even an infant could master in two year's time when the opportunity is presented.

The potentialities of human tolerance and growth are very great. When we find a man in distress we don't interrogate as to his religion, race or language; we are simply forced to rush in to his aid though we can only extend our sympathy if direct help is impossible. Human sympathy is of the nature of divinity. Why did the compassionate Buddha rush in and offer his neck to ward off the fatal stroke on an innocent lamb that was deprived of its freedom to live and move on God's earth. Those that speak of impediments on the road to one's freedom are those who are devoid of human feeling. They are hypocrites of coarse stuff.

Some say India is a big country with diverse languages and races and therefore there the minority question should perforce be the most troublesome. The same formula in miniature they comfortably apply to Ceylon. Well, whether or not this insoluble problem is at the root of the bestowal of freedom, what about the whole of Europe minus Russia? This Europe is indeed the India of the West in many respects. There people lead their own lives and are free and happy. Some may say there are periodical wars, which pest may spread in India as often as in Europe. Human nature manages as a rule to accommodate these unavoidable accidents, tumults, turmoils and war; but the problem that confronts Europe need not become singular in India or Ceylon, though the latter is too small to be divided. Yet, with all these imagined impediments India was great, Ceylon too was great, in wealth and wisdom, so much so that the ancient prosperous nations of the earth admired us.

Even in ancient times, Ceylon, which had several "Kodies" of inhabitants many times the present population, possessed with a fabulous wealth of agriculture, industry and commerce, remained a peaceful entity prior to the exploits of Duttugemunu. The North, which was King's Country, was pre-eminently prosperous and possessed the chief city of government from time immemorial. There were governors and deputies all over Lanka as the population of 80 Kodies of inhabitants (according to Mahavamsha) was pledged to aid the King in the performance of his righteous task. It will not be out

of place to mention that prior to Duttugemunu all the Kings successively were Tamils.

Tamil was, and is the common term, for race, language and religion and when Mahavamsha calls Ellala and others as Damila we can't understand what it meant. After Duttugemunu Lanka was rent in twain into Buddhists and Sivites, though Sivaism in India and Ceylon was highly flavoured with Lord Buddha's thought and the sage himself was honoured as God incarnate. This much was not enough for the schism known as Buddhism and people prepared themselves for destruction and devastation against the Lord Buddha's compassionate precepts. We hear one Chandrabanu from Java, probably a prince of the Pandyan dynasty, claimed the throne of Lanka and when he reached Lanka he was not favoured and he fled to S. India. There is much to delve here. He would not have come to Lanka if there was not a call as a legitimate claimant. No sane man will venture into a foreign country even as a mendicant, much less as a claimant to the throne. Here it is amply evident that Tamil Pandya princes were favoured in regard to the throne of Lanka provided they were of a prescribed school of religious thought. If race was counted, a Javanese would not have ventured to establish the mysterious claim to the throne of Lanka.

We can be perfectly sure as the names indicate that the kings who ruled over Lanka prior to Duttugemunu were all Sivites from times immemorial and invariably they were all of Pandyan kinship from S. India. I shall quote those names for reference. Vijaya wed a Pandyan princess before recognition as King of Lanka. Now comes Panduvasudeva, Abhaya, Pandu Kabhaya, Mutasiva, Devanampiya Tissa Uttiya, Mahasiva, Suratissa, (Sena and Guttika) Asela and Elara. Of these Sena and Guttika were known as usurpers, for usurpers they were, because the first term means a general and the second means the head of the department of revenue. In Tamil "Sena" is general and "Guttimai" means the legitimate due and "Guttakai" means rent, tax or revenue. Two usurpers ruling a country in union is incredible. Hence they might have conducted the government till the arrival of Asela or they might have been put to death by Asela as history wishes to say. Their positions might have terminated but not their persons, for pre Duttugemunu periods were periods of wealth and righteousness, the golden age. The Phoenician Sanehoniathan of the 5th century B. C. and others speak of North Ceylon as possessing abundance of gold, pearl and gems. Post-Duttugemunu periods were periods of gradual decay and decline all over the world. It was here murders and war were rampant. The compassionate doctrines of Lord Buddha were turned into doctrines of carnage and destruction of the righteous order from times immemorial.

The efforts of certain historians and commentators to circumscribe civilisation within Buddhist and Christian eras look untensble. Periods of peace and prosperity require no commemoration in annals, only periods of war and calamity are the

## GOVERNOR ADDRESSES THE STATE COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

the public as fully informed as possible of the current situation. They have a right to know what they may expect of Government and what Government expects of them.

I propose, therefore, to devote the remainder of this address which I understand is being broadcast, to a brief review of the present position.

## MILITARY DEFENCE

It must by now be generally known that the military defence of the Island has been confined by the Imperial Government to General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief, India. Under him our troops and defences are in the control of the General Officer Commanding, Ceylon.

All who have had contact with Major General Ioskip will appreciate and admire the grip and energy with which he is tackling the many problems with which he found himself confronted. We all welcome his arrival, and we will back him all we can.

It will be realised of course that, now that we come under the general command of the Commander-in-Chief, India, there is a ready source of speedy and effectual reinforcement.

We no longer stand militarily alone. As soon as reinforcements are in the Commander-in-Chief's judgment advisable we shall find them here; and will, I am sure, give them a hearty welcome.

This Council and the administration in general have many critics. I will forestall criticisms to the effect that the Ceylon Government is to blame for inadequacies and deficiencies of defence by saying that this Council has voted all the provision, and that Government Departments have rendered all the services, heretofore asked of them by the Military authorities.

Inadequacies and deficiencies are ascribable to two causes; to inability to obtain supplies which while we were so far away from active hostilities were more urgently required for fighting fronts; and to the fact that our greater danger of attack today demands a greater degree of defence.

theme of so-called historical works. Thus Buddhism (not Lord Buddha) that came to supplant Brahminism (not Sivaism) was worse than the disease.

Now if Lanka wishes to progress on the road to salvation her people should learn to trust one another and work unitedly for the common cause of freedom and prosperity. There must be an atmosphere of calm and confidence. To raise one's voice is a sign of weakness mentally and morally. It is lamentable to think of the Councillors and Ministers taking delight in playing the nasty communal game in the Council Chamber. Even ordinary people are loath to practise it in their daily dealings when they come across men of all kinds and races. Religion, language, colour or race never rules in our minds. Why can't this rule govern us all in the affairs of our common motherland, ever dishonoured by our own conduct and intrigues.

Your's Sincerely  
Mullaitivu, C. VELUPILLAI  
5-12-41

sive preparation than hitherto.

Before I leave the subject of defence expenditure I should mention that an overhaul is necessary (and the Secretary of State has agreed that it should be made) of the system of distributing the cost of defence between the Imperial and local Governments.

The allocation is at present done under an old Ordinance of 1898. When that statute was passed we had not yet raised the extensive local forces, military and naval, that figure expensively in our budgets today.

The question requires therefore careful re-examination in the light of conditions now obtaining, and the Board of Ministers await a promised communication on the subject from the Secretary of State.

## THE BLACKOUT

I now pass to the blackout. This has been represented in some quarters as vexatious and unnecessary. Such representations are based on a far more comfortable appraisal of the situation than I consider sane or safe.

It is true that we may not be liable to the weight and continuity of shore-based aerial attack.

It is true too that the undertaking by the enemy of any additional large expeditionary enterprise at this juncture seems improbable.

Nevertheless attacks by or from enemy ocean craft on our harbours, shipping, trade, stores and communications seem not in the least unlikely.

The idea that it would be safe to wait for a raid and then at a moment's notice extinguish all lights is quite fallacious.

The lights would have afforded direction to the raiders before ever they were switched out. Any warning that we might get would probably be a matter of minutes only.

It is absolutely necessary that we accustom ourselves for the duration of the Eastern conflict to the same conditions of blackout as have obtained in many other parts of the Commonwealth for the past two and a quarter years.

Now that I have explained the reason for this necessity I have no doubt that we shall put up with the inconvenience with the same spirit of co-operation and good humour as that with which it is being endured elsewhere.

## AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

If there are raids, there will in-

Continued on page 6

## AUCTION SALE

13720 D. C. J.

Porter David Chinniah Kopay  
South Vs. Plaintiff.  
Kanagasabai Vallipuram of Nunavil  
East as representative of the estate  
of Vallipuram Kanagasabai and wife  
Kunchammah of Chavakachcheri

Defendants.

All that piece of land called Kom-maddiaddai, and Chempanvalavu, in extent 28½ lms. V. C. situated at Chavakachcheri and bounded on the East and North by lane, West by the property of Murugasu Kandiah, South by the property of Chellammah wife of Kumarasamy together with palmyrahs, coconut trees, and other plantations, house and well.

In terms of the Commission issued to me by the District Court of Jaffna, in Case No. 13720, D. C. J., I shall sell the above property by public auction on Tuesday the 20th January 1942 at about 4 p.m. at the spot.

N. KANDIAH,  
Commissioner.

(Mis. 158. 22-12-41)



## GOVERNOR ADDRESSES THE STATE COUNCIL

Continued from page 5

evitably be casualties and damage. I pass on therefore, to our Air Raid Precautionary measures. The water table over most of Colombo is so high that trench or tunnel refuges are impossible.

Nor have we the metal with which to reinforce surface shelters. Experience has proved that an unreinforced surface shelter is likely to be a death-trap. So we must manage to do without public refuges or shelters, and make sure that everybody knows the instructions as to what to do in an air raid that have been clearly and simply stated in the trilingual pamphlets distributed last week.

The foundations of our A. R. P. organisation were well and truly laid by Major Bradley. His successor, Dr. D. M. de Silva who made a special study of the subject in England, is at the moment in India seeing what is being done there.

Our Air Wardens number some seven hundred and the Volunteer Fire Brigade has three officers and forty-eight men. Both these units are to be immediately increased.

At ten Municipal Dispensaries and at the Police Training School we have First Aid Posts staffed by the Red Cross, St. John's and volunteers who include a number of private practitioners. Rescue squads are in process of organisation.

Arrangements are in train for the Municipality to take over general charge of all this A. R. P. work in Colombo; and at Dr. De Silva's suggestion we have telegraphed to India for additional fire-fighting equipment and hope to obtain an early inspectional visit from an expert of the Indian Government.

Already in some of the larger business houses employees are being trained in fire-fighting and First Aid. That is an example to be followed. I may add that at Queen's House tubs of sand, buckets of water and other things necessary to deal with incendiary bombs are ready on the roof and in the passages.

Householders and occupants of offices should see that their premises are similarly equipped. Air Wardens in each area are anxious to help and advise in all such preparations.

### EVACUATION

No amount of preparation can of course prevent loss of life, limb and property by high explosive. Some people therefore, I am told, are discussing evacuation.

There is nothing in the present position that would justify any general measure of compulsory evacuation and none is in contemplation. As regards voluntary evacuation, those who have up-country places to go to should use their judgment as to sending their families thither or, if they have no job in Colombo, going there themselves.

Although the danger in most parts of Colombo is probably less than in many so called safe areas in Britain nevertheless a degree of danger definitely does exist. If, therefore, anybody whose work does not require him or her to live in or near Colombo decides to go Up-country, nobody should question or criticise a perfectly rational decision.

In certain eventualities organized

evacuation might perhaps become advisable in certain localities. The Colombo Municipality is, therefore, taking a census in which citizens are divided into three categories: those who must live in Colombo; those who could be spared and have places in the country to which they could go; and those for whom evacuation, if it became desirable, would need to be arranged.

The taking of this census need alarm or disturb nobody; on the contrary it should create confidence that if anything should in the future be done in the nature of evacuation it would be done efficiently on the basis of ascertained data.

I confirm at this point what you may have read in a newspaper yesterday. Should there ever be an enemy landing on our shores the duty of the civilian population in the affected and adjacent areas is to remain calmly in their homes, in order to leave roads and lanes for the sole and unobstructed use of the military.

This is most important and influential people should use their influence quietly and wisely to make it known.

Possible interruption of Colombo's water supply has not been left unenvisaged; a number of wells are being sunk, cisterns erected and auxiliary pipe supplies provided.

### FOOD SUPPLY

The Island's food supply is for the time being satisfactory. A run upon rice shops and granaries after the first news of Japan's aggression did not encroach upon our full reserve. The position nevertheless requires, and will receive, meticulous watching from day to day.

It is hoped to raise our reserve stock of rice to two months' normal consumption instead of six weeks, and to distribute its storage as far as possible throughout the Island. If there should be any major interference with our supplies from Burma rationing will be imposed immediately. The scheme and the machinery for its operation are ready.

The most pressing necessity however that confronts us is that of increasing home production of food. The feeling of satiation and distention that follows a meal of rice is no index of dietetic value. The health of the people stands not to suffer but greatly to benefit, from a substitution of vegetables and other cereals for a large portion of the rice they at present consume.

The required substitutes can be, grown locally. It is the prime duty of every owner or occupier of land to plant as much of food crops as he can, and to start doing so at once. Nor is such planting to be left entirely to people's sense of duty.

The Minister for Agriculture has already informed me that powers of compulsion should be taken and I have told him that I am ready to enact such regulations as may lie within my authority.

He has already despatched to India an emissary for the purchase of all necessary seed. I consider a very substantial increase in home grown food to be dictated not merely by the present emergency but by long-term economic and nutritional policy.

We must get away from the twin fallacies that a good meal is just another expression for much rice,

and that imports of rice can be replaced solely by home-grown paddy. If we succeed in this Lanka will have derived permanent benefit from her temporary necessity.

### INTERNAL SECURITY

I need say nothing about internal security except this; that arrangements commonly classified under that expression will be incorporated in a much wider scheme of organisation for the implementation of war measures throughout the Island.

It is clear that in each area there must be a correlation of special activities and a central supervision. Details of the proposed organisation have not yet been submitted to me but the scheme is in preparation and will be pressed to a speedy finality.

As regards petrol we have two months' normal stocks in hand. There is no means of knowing when we may count on replenishment, and our chief sources of supply may become subject to interference. I am informed that the recent (second) cut in the ration has been followed by countless applications for special treatment.

A more justifiable reaction would have lain in preparedness for the still further reductions which the requirement of defence and other essential services will render inevitable.

That concludes my review of a situation which affords no ground for alarm or despondency, but

which requires that we all pull our weight and all pull together.

### FRONT-LINE ROLE

I do not imply that there has been no team work so far; by and large I feel that we have not acquitted ourselves too badly.

Till now, however, the clouds of war have not been close enough to prevent the village pump from casting a perhaps occasionally rather too dominant shadow across the local arena. As I speak many sons of Lanka, whether in uniform with the fighting forces or in civil jobs in Northern Malaya, are in the thick of the world conflict.

It is up to us here in their homeland to make ourselves fit and ready to play also a front line role, if events should so require of us; and ever to ensure that domestic conditions are such as to enable us to supply to the full and without delay or interruption the essential demands for tea, rubber, plumbago and Port facilities.

If we should fail in any of these things, we shall have let down the cause of the Democracies. But we are not going to fail. The situation demands of us three things: unity of mind, brevity of speech and speed of action. The country looks today to this Council to give a lead in these three directions. I am confident, Gentlemen, that it does not look in vain.

The Governor then made the V sign and left the Chamber, preceded by the Speaker.

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(Y. 21 B. 11-8-40—10-8-41.)

(M)