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NO. 69.

THE RELIGION OF NON-RELIGION

Buddhism and Vedanta

"THAT THOU ART—THAT IS THE LIVING PULSATING FORCE AND FULFILMENT OF BUDDHIST YOGA"

By Bhikku Vajrabuddhi

THE present man refuses to be bound to any creed, or drilled by a priestly caste. His is the mountain-view commanding wider prospects than his fellow-beings in the misten-shrouded lowlands can command. He can raise himself above the traditions and prejudices of age and place, circumstances and birth; he sees, more clearly and in a truer perspective, the tankled web of men and things. His comprehensive vision embraces the world.

Sometimes, however, one is inclined to doubt the value of an effacing uniformity. The danger is that in cutting oneself off from one particular tradition, one turns away from all traditions and drifts into that anchorless condition so characteristic of many "moderns." If a man is to study all religions and embraces none, he may in his mind construct an abstract ideal out of the best of all but that does not help him much. It is the same as bloodless cosmopolitanism.

Variation Sign of Life

In point of fact, while all things in this world of form are essentially one, they are unique in their outward appearance. The uniqueness of the individuality must be preserved as something infinitely precious and as absolutely necessary for the perfection of the whole. As we see the universal Sanatana Dharma, it is a fellowship in which every one has full scope for the flowering of his own distinctive individuality. Variation and colour are the signs of life, and only through agreeing to differ can the closest unity be attained. Differences are included within the Reality which transcends them and in which we can commune with one another. The basic conception

of this "Unity in diversity," of the reciprocal need of the whole for the part and of the part for the whole is in accord with the fundamental principle of the universe, and is in fact the very keynote of Indian culture and thought.

Asia Mother of all Religions

It is a special Divine Ordinance, so to say, that Asia is the mother of all world-religions from probably the dawn of history. It has fallen to the lucky lot of Mother India, by a unique providential dispensation, to produce the greatest number of spiritual giants. Lately it was Sri Ramakrishna who aimed at an all-sided perfection and realised the eternal truth. Thus he could preach with authority the religion of not any particular creed so boldly. He did not preach any faith, but only gave the energy necessary for sustaining one's own faith. He had the highest respect for the personality of each individual, and refrained from enslaving others. The originality of his method of teaching lay in enabling his disciples to realize his self by their own efforts, on their own path, sincerely and zealously. His dynamic message of love and strength is to us a logical deduction from the Advaita of Vedanta.

Nirguna Brahman and Sunya

The golden thread of the creative Vedic idealism not only runs as a common basis of Hindu and Buddhist culture but also of the whole Asiatic thought. All these are imbedded and harmonized in the catholic and synthetic bosom of Vedanta.

In the list of Indian Buddhist Patriarchs Asvaghosha and Nagarjuna are counted as the greatest and had a profound

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TREE TAX SYSTEM

View of a Temperance Worker

By the Rev. J. S. Mather

BEFORE the right of Local Option was given, we had in Jaffna 108 Toddy Taverns and 26 Arrack Taverns. But all these taverns without one single exception were closed within six years after local option came into force, and in the Polls, the percentage of votes in favour of closing taverns in most cases was 90 to 98 per cent. Not in one case was the victory for Temperance caused by a narrow margin. Public opinion in Jaffna was very strongly and overwhelmingly in support of the movement to close taverns and make Jaffna dry. I can say from first hand knowledge—because I happened to be at the time the General Secretary of the Jaffna Central Temperance League which organised the campaign—that the whole country was with us in this work, and everybody engaged in it as if they were doing a religious and sacred duty.

Sir Ambalavanar Kanagasabai whom I approached one day for advice and guidance on some problem connected with this work said these words, "I tell you as a Hindu, that I consider that the merit (punyam) gained by closing one tavern is equal to the merit of building ten 'chathirams'." To a Hindu, building a chathiram is a most meritorious and noble deed, believed to cancel thousands of sins one had committed in the past. When we started the campaign to close taverns, this was not only Sir Ambalavanar's opinion and belief, but it was the general feeling everywhere because people saw with their own eyes that taverns were plague spots which ruined thousands of homes and devastated the whole District.

So, we decided to get rid of taverns, and we were successful with the co-operation of the people, both the masses and the leaders. The whole campaign cost a large sum of money, and some of our workers spent all the money they had.

Now, after all the taverns were closed, we were given the

Tree-tax system, whereby there were to be no taverns but instead, people who wanted toddy were allowed to have it on the payment of a tax for each tree that was tapped. The result has been first of all that we have today over 3,000 taverns, instead of the 108 we had under the old system. The Excise Department calls these 3,000 places, "Sheds," not "taverns." There is at present foolish quibbling on labels. To us it makes no difference whether the place where toddy was sold was called "tavern" or "shed." The old taverns too were "sheds"—thatched, roof standing on 4 or more wooden posts, a place where toddy was sold publicly.

These 3,000 sheds are plague spots. Besides they are more ruinous and harmful, in that the old taverns had several restrictions which the present sheds do not have. For instance, the taverns had fixed hours for sale of toddy. I believe it was 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. But these sheds sell toddy all the twenty-four hours. Again under the old system, no tavern was allowed to exist near a school or a place of worship. But now these sheds are distributed all over the District regardless of proximity to school or temple. For instance, under the old system, there was one toddy tavern in Chenniar Street, about a quarter of a mile away from the mission School run by my Church. Today, we have about 50 'sheds' within a radius of half a mile from my school, and of these 50, ten are in Chennia Street itself, and one is just opposite my school, and it is not a small school, but has over 200 children between the ages of five and thirteen.

People go to the Pictures for the 9 p.m. show, and when they get back home after midnight, they find toddy available everywhere. Often toddy is seen kept in bottles in road side to tempt innocent passers-by. The Law does not prohibit it.

There is another side which

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OUR COLOMBO LETTER

SIR BARON'S IMPENDING RESIGNATION

Its Implications

(From our own Correspondent)

ONE cannot help feeling, in the light of the recent happenings in the State Council, how unmanly it is of Sir Baron to resign his office and bow before the official opposition, against which his colleagues, for whatever reasons, had pledged to offer unyielding resistance. Sir Baron showed unmistakable signs of acquiescence in their conduct and no one present in the Council could have failed to observe the grateful approbation with which he listened to their laudatory speeches. The Member for Avissawella humbly addressed him as "venerable sir" and the Member for Naramalla went so far as to utter that now classic threat of martyrdom. Almost every supporter of that motion indulged in mock-heroics of that nature and they cannot but now feel that all their efforts on behalf of Sir Baron have been rendered a mockery and they themselves the laughing-stock of all people. It is but natural that these mistaken enthusiasts greatly resent Sir Baron's intention to resign. They had thought that Sir Baron had no other option but to take up a firm and uncompromising stand in what they thought was for him a desperate struggle for political existence. The Samasamajists saw in this new agitation the heroic beginnings of a genuine anti-imperialist movement and the Maha Sabha nationalists found the present an opportune and strategic moment for the capture of political power. To them the unexpected has happened. Mr. Senanayake, acknowledged adept in the art of political manoeuvring evidently feels that underlying all this sudden enthusiasm for Sir Baron from his erstwhile political opponents is the sinister attempt to eliminate him from the political horizon where he had for so long been in the ascendant. It looks as if he has been able to persuade Sir Baron that persistence on his part might ultimately mean the helpless transfer of power from their own group, for even the leaders of the Maha Sabha will not make the mistake of expecting plebian support for members of that group in the future. And Mr. Bandaranaike has made no secret of his desire to precipitate a major crisis and force a general election and should such an eventuality occur it would only prove that he was neither impatient nor over-confident.

The "Daily News" which has been wholeheartedly backing Sir Baron in this matter gave indications of a change of front when a few days back it sought to emphasize that there was no crisis in mind and that the shortsightedness of the troublesome agitators would cost the country a severe setback in the matter of constitutional progress. The Wijewardene Press oftener than not reflects the views of the Minister of Agriculture and its new stand on this question only seems to confirm that judge-

ment. In the course of a leading article in today's issue it once again utters the warning and prattles of democratic traditions and wholesome conventions. When the State Council passed that motion the other day condemning the report, it committed itself to ensure that what it considered was right shall be done. It was on the tacit understanding that Sir Baron would maintain the position that he was right and that the officer who had made such serious counter-charges against him should be removed from office. His intention to resign means that he retracts from that position. The conduct of Sir Baron and not of those who seek to pass a vote of censure on the Board amounts to "tomfoolery."

Meanwhile it is unlikely that the new Order-in-Council embodying the reforms will be introduced until this squabble is over. The President of the European Association the other day observed 'I feel that those concerned will be very well advised if they defer the pronouncement of such reforms until the present situation has been cleared up in full.'

INDIA AND THE GERMAN PRESS

The angry rejoinder of Berlin's *Nachtausgabe* to criticism in India of anti-semitism in Germany, provokes two lines of thought. The first is as it affects India. The writer is apparently serious in saying that there are quite a lot of interesting things about Indians which he could unearth. He must be an ingenious man because Indians have been feeling for some time now that everything had been brought to the surface by American and English writers in the past—very thing to the discredit of Indians. The missionary many years ago told the world of our many moral and religious failings and told us of Western sublimity. British administrators, either in after-dinner speeches or in autobiographies, gave a mine of information of our litigious nature and our proneness to bear false witness. More recently, tourist-writers have told their tale of sex and squabbles. What little of sanity was left to the average Indian was taken away by the Indian politician who roundly abused him as an invertebrate. The treatment of untouchables was for long a sore spot with Hindus but constant attack on this weakness by Huttison Sankh Sangh propagandists, has devoted a protective cover. India in fact was so well played as a snare of iniquity in American and British writings that a good deal of tourist traffic was diverted this way. Americans might feel self-conscious at mention of negro lynching; British may blanch at the thought of Palestine; but these

Tree Tax System

(Continued from page 1)

I may also mention. In Jaffna there is today scarcity of indigenous labour, which has indirectly hit rather seriously our farms and agricultural activities. The men who did this work for us for the past many decades, have found in toddy tapping a most lucrative trade. They earn, it is said, one to two rupees per day, and that only doing two hours work in the morning and two hours in the evening. The results are firstly, labour is scarce for work in the farms. People who invested their moneys in Paranthan and opened up the jungles, now find that the people on whom they counted for labour were now engaged in toddy-tapping which gave them better return, and labour can be had only if they paid rates which their business could not bear.

Secondly there is today large immigration producing its usual problem and difficulties.

There is yet another fact which we should take into our consideration in discussing this question. After the introduction of tree-tax system, we find that not only there is more toddy-drinking but the new system has made even women and children drink toddy. Formerly "respectable" people did not go to taverns for fear of losing their respectability. Because they had to go to the tavern, they refrained from taking toddy. But today even women and children are able to get their "pila" of toddy, privately in their own compounds or in that of their neighbour. Advocates of toddy may say that it was a good thing. But there are other considerations which cannot be ignored:—

(1) First the fact that those who begin with toddy, do not end with toddy. Almost every case that has come under our observation is that very soon, toddy is found by the consumer to be not strong enough, and that he should drink something stronger and more intoxicating.

(2) Secondly, toddy on paper is different from the toddy that is sold to the people. Pure toddy is not ordinarily sold anywhere. What one is able to buy anywhere is usually the toddy which contains alcohol to a degree which is harmful for man.

(3) To us in Jaffna, both Hindu and others, toddy is a stuff forbidden by Religion. There-

are the sensitive nations, the peoples who have long lived in a tradition of righteousness. If *Nachtausgabe* has a new high spot to hit in "exposing" India, we do not ask it to stay its hand. Truth will out even if the German press is friendly enough to us to keep it out of their pages. So far as the direct threat is concerned, therefore, we have nothing to fear. It is absurd how very to argue that we need take no more notice of German imitation than Britain and France have done in the past. Indians can, with as much effect as Britons or Frenchmen, apparently, hurt German national sentiment. But we have not the means at hand as the British and the French have, of throwing over a Czechoslovakia, to appease the angry totalitarian nations.

(Social Reformer)

Religion In Schools

Sir Baron's Observations

Sir Baron Jayatilaka presiding at the prize-giving of the Alethea School, Wellawatte, on Saturday, emphasised the importance of religion in education. He said that the School must be congratulated on several points. He congratulated them on the growth of the School from 8 at the beginning to 256 children today. He also congratulated them on their methods of teaching which, he said, were unique.

Sir Baron also congratulated them on being independent of the Education Department and in having an existence of their own untrammelled by Code regulations.

Referring to the teaching of religion in the School, Sir Baron said it was the correct thing. It was "his or her religion" that should be taught, as was done there, and not the religion of those who conducted an institution.

He would emphasise that denominational schools were a necessity. As a Buddhist, he would wish every Buddhist child to be brought up in a Buddhist atmosphere. He would concede the same right to every other religion, but he would not concede the same right to those denominational schools which were "windmills of conversion."

Sectarianism which insisted upon converting people of other faiths was not to be applauded.

Sir Baron next referred to the incidence of crime, and said that it was a shame Ceylon was getting a very bad name. A sound moral training given under the influence of religion was essential for the good conduct of all.

'International Institution'

In conclusion, Sir Baron said that the Alethea School was an international institution, and added that if some of "our politicians" visited that School, they could learn good lessons regarding the necessity of co-operation and unity among communities.

fore, we have reason to plead that toddy be removed from our doors.

Today we have in Jaffna a number of Temperance workers and others who seeing what Tree-tax system had done, want the old tavern system back. In our Conferences, it was suggested and we weighed all sides carefully, and came to the unanimous conclusion that our ideal was total prohibition, and we cannot under any circumstances lower the flag. We believe that in Jaffna, total prohibition will be a success, if Government did its part honestly and faithfully. We know how the Congress Government in South India is following up the decision to close all taverns in Salem District, providing employment for those thrown out of work by closing liquor trade etc.

The problem of Temperance is one of such vast dimensions that it could be effectively controlled only by the whole-hearted co-operation of Government with Temperance people; and Government should be prepared to sacrifice revenue, this blood money, and help our people against this enemy of Drink, and not allow the public exchequer to be polluted with it, seeing that Drink is forbidden by the great religions of our land, and has been the ruin of thousands of lives in the past.

(Observer.)

THE CONSPIRACY OF MUNICH

Its Implications

NEW ALIGNMENT OF POWERS

By I. C.
(Special to the "Hindu Organ.")

THE Munich Pact has created a new world situation of extreme gravity. This pact is the most important political document of the Post-war era. It has created a new alignment of world powers. It has dealt a crushing blow to the Versailles League of Nations and the status quo it tried to maintain. It has given the death blow to the system of collective security built around the League of Nations and supported by Locarno, Kellogg and similar non-aggression pacts. The Munich Pact, in short, is a turning point in history.

Every turning point works around a corner. Czechoslovakia has been the corner on which this unholy Alliance has been raised. Chamberlain's final betrayal of civilization to barbarism—the sell out of democratic Czechoslovakia—will rank with those acts of history like the calling of the barbarians by the later Roman Emperors. Chamberlain and his henchman pursue their pro-fascist policy recklessly, even to the manifest risk of their own peoples and states and to the consternation of many of their diplomatic and military experts. With the consciousness of the doom of their decaying regime now staggering into new economic crisis, with the knowledge of the rising anger of their peoples and their democratic demand for a system of collective security for peace which would in fact stem the expansion of aggressive fascism and thus lead to its downfall, they begin to see the only way out from their dilemmas in the gambler's throw to unloose the brigand hordes of fascism over Europe as the last means to break the united front of the peoples, stave off the advent of socialism and hold the masses in subjection. With anxious care, with cajolery and conciliation and concessions they look hopefully to the bloodthirsty hordes of Hitler and Mussolini to smash the citadel of socialism. They forget that when the barbarians were called in to their aid by those later Roman Emperors, it was the barbarians who destroyed the Empire.

The Munich Pact, the new "Holy Alliance" of European Reaction is directed above all against the international working class—the workers and peasants of all countries—and against the entire socialist movement. The Munich Pact is the climax of a policy which European capitalist reactionaries initiated in 1917 against Soviet Russia, when the communists captured power. It was as a result of this policy that white Interventionist armies threw Russia into disorder in 1918—1920. It was this same policy which dictated the political, economic, and diplomatic boycott of Soviet Russia by the entire capitalist world. The capitalist statesmen of Europe and the world thought that socialism could not succeed; that it was utterly impracticable. For a long time, they let Russia alone thinking that

it would collapse owing to its own inherent weakness, and the practical impossibility of socialism. But, of course, they did not hesitate to take steps to hasten what they imagined was the process of bringing socialism to its knees. They refused to trade with Soviet Russia. They refused to sell food to the socialist country. They organized sabotage. They spread lying stories of the "horrors" in the Soviet Union. The early struggles of the Soviet Republics, the famine of 1921—22 (the result of the capitalist economic boycott), the earlier breakdown in the socialist economic system, the sabotage of the kulaks since 1928 against the new collective farms and the subsequent liquidation of that class in the years following 1932, the internal troubles which resulted in the trials of 1936, all these gave hope and consolation to a capitalist reactionaries in their fond dream of the impending downfall of Soviet Russia. Despite all this, socialism has proved a success in the U.S.S.R. Over 170 million people of 150 different nationalities live in over 60 different autonomous republics which combine to form the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.). Socialized Industry is a tremendous success with great achievements to its credit. Socialized agriculture has given the world the Collective Farm. The capitalist statesmen of the world have recently awakened to the stabilization of socialism in Soviet Russia. The testimony of many capitalist writers who have visited the Soviet Union in recent years has convinced them that socialism has made the U.S.S.R. very powerful. Moreover, the success of the Russian experiment has made the masses in their own countries restive and militant. The treatment of national minorities and different racial groups by the Soviet power has given the liberationist struggles of colonial peoples a new complexion. All over the world the colonial peoples are rising. The triumph of socialism in the U.S.S.R. is a menace to the very existence of capitalism in Europe.

The capitalist statesmen of Europe have now replied. The Munich Pact has been signed. It has strengthened the band of the Fascist dictators and Fascism. It is a challenge to the growing internationalist socialist movement. The Munich Pact has officially appointed the Fascist aggressors as the watch dogs of a decadent capitalism.

Fascism is capitalism at bay. It is capitalism stripped naked. The iron hand grasping profits and squeezing labour is without its glove. All the frills and embroidery which an 18th century liberalism gave a rising capitalism have been torn away. Fascism openly exults in exploitation; the exploitation of the masses; the exploitation of other races. It frequently demands colonies for economic exploitation. It makes

(Continued on Page 6.)

SIDE LIGHTS AND LIGHT SIDES

(By Squint Eye)

WRITING about Mahatma Gandhi a Nazi paper has written, "What would the Indians say if we began to concern ourselves with Indian affairs? Quite a lot of interesting things could be unearthed not only about the British but about the Indians."

Quite likely the Indians would say that quite a lot of things now in Germany should be unearthed under.

Perhaps the Nazi paper had the Mahenjo Daro excavation in mind!

A thousand Chinese troops were killed as the result of the Japanese cleanup campaign to the south of Canton, according to the Japanese press.

Thousands of Japanese hope to live as a result of the dumping of Japanese rubbish in Canton and other occupied places.

The Premier of Madras having said in connection with the Temple Entry legislation that the country was going backwards, a protagonist of the depressed classes twists him with the comment that, "like a passenger in a moving train who thought objects around him were moving, the Premier thought the country was moving backwards while it was really he that was doing so."

The Madras Premier is too clever not to know that by the above analogy, if he was moving backwards the country was moving forward, and if the country was moving backwards he was getting forward.

This relativity business is really confusing. That reminds me of the slight confusion in the statement I made in a recent paragraph relating to travelling above the stratosphere. I seem to have said there that one goes up, say, in London at six in the morning, waits for Singapore to turn up in the daily revolution and one comes down about mid-day. It really ought to have been the other way about, I mean the going up must be in Singapore and coming down in London. And, of course, one comes down in London hoping to have lunch but will see Londoners at morning tea, too. Now, if there can be confusion worse confounded tell me.

"It may be that fresh melodies, more powerfully expressing the life and message of the new age, may be discovered to enrich Indian music, away and beyond the present beaten track, if fresh ventures are attempted and researches conducted" observed Pandit Rajnath Kuanzu in an address at the Agra College Music Conference.

"I find it difficult," the Pandit said "to subscribe to the conservative belief that the Indian melodies known so far are the last word on the subject."

This search after freshness opens up great possibilities in other arts and sciences. Suppose we started with arithmetic and profounded the theory that two and two make five, if not more

would not life be more interesting all round? And so with grammar, and other subjects. The thing seems so alluring that Pandits might straightway set about modernising things. We are too much conservative now!

Marshal Goering, in a speech, said, "The proud ship is a symbol of German strength. Commerce must be protected. The seas are open only to the strong."

But British, French, American and other people pray that the seas will open up for these "strong" people of Nazidom.

Six hundred barbers of Calcutta have found that the cause of their economic backwardness is in the safety razor, the product of the soulless West, and they appeal to the people to give up the safeties and get back to cut-throats.

I can give them a slogan, which they could cry out in their processions, "In Safety lies your Danger."

"DODGE.....the Safe Car," says a heading in the papers.

As a rule I dodge the dangerous-looking car, and I generally come home safe.

Now that reminds me. A Missionary propaganda car used to have written on the front the words, "Thou shalt be born again," in addition to other uplifting messages on the body.

Considering the speed at which sometimes it used to be driven through crowded streets, I thought the front slogan was a warning to pedestrians.

For the first time in the history of the Kodaikanal Club, bridge lovers were thrilled at an extraordinary occurrence which, according to exponents of mathematical probability, may not recur for another million years.

Mr. E. R. Logan and Miss A. D. Baker, playing auction bridge, annexed 472 points in the first rubber while their opponents, Miss Grimes and Mrs. Kelly, scored the very same number of points in the second rubber which was completed by a strange coincidence in exactly as many games and deals as the first.

Now that it has gone, let me wait for the next turn, for a friend with a head for figures tells me that the next return will be 895,497 years hence.

Do you want to know how hard Income Tax can be? Listen to the story of a Jullundur (Punjab) trader who owing to poverty and starvation worked on an invention by which the body could exist without food, but had failed. But he has now taken to disposing of old members of the family and stopping further additions.

A concentrated hypodermic made from the extracts of plants is said to be in use in the Yale Institute of Human Relations, as a drug which banished fear, reduces worries and fatigue.

This stuff may be put into use among some of our politicians and public men.

House to Let or for Sale

All that piece of land situated at Vannarponnai West, Jaffna adjoining Vaitheswaravithalalayam and close to Jaffna Hindu College called 'Mullaikkaddaiyadi' and Pantrikodduvalavu in extent 11 Lms. V. C. and 3 1/2 Kls. with stone built house consists of 5 Rooms, 1 Hall, Kitchen and well and plantations 25 Coconut trees, 4 Jack trees, 3 bearing Mango trees etc. and bounded on the East by the property belonging to Vanni Vaitheswaran Kovil and others, North by Navalar Road, on the West by the property of Soranamma wife of Nalliah and on the South by property belonging to the Somavara Inn.

For further particulars apply to Mr. M. Kathiravelu, Proctor S. C., Vaddukodai.

(Mis 226 15-12 to 22-12-38)

NOTICE

Steamer Tickets to Penang and Singapore

THIS is to inform the public that we can supply Deck and other class Tickets to Penang and Singapore and other ports at Colombo cost.

For further particulars and date of sailings please apply to

S VEERAGATHIPILLAI & SONS.
Grand Bazaar, Jaffna.

(Mis. 227. 15-12-38.)

Saivaparipalana Sabhai.

The Annual General Meeting of the Saivaparipalana Sabhai will be held on Saturday the 17th instant at the Jaffna Hindu College hall at 4 p.m.



Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1938

MR. EDEN ON MILITARISM

MR. ANTHONY EDEN, THE distinguished ex-Foreign Minister of Britain, is on a goodwill mission to America as the unofficial ambassador to that great democracy. The visit falls at a most opportune moment. Never before in history has democracy fallen into such greater discredit as since the tame surrender at Munich. The challenge from militarism has since been growing and the pious hopes built on Munich have, even on the admission of British Ministers, faded even before they were entertained. Subsequent developments have plainly shown that the megalomania of the dictators can be checked only by a military defeat. They are in no mood for conciliation and compromise and will accept peace only on their own terms. The relationship between the totalitarian states and the democracies has, if anything, only become more strained. The intensified Jewish pogrom, the violent diatribes in the German press against Britain, the

Italian demand for Tunis, the unrest at Memel, the question of German colonies, are all symptoms of a further crisis developing in the near future, unless the democracies are able to show an effective military preparedness to accept the challenge of militarism or are content to let themselves down as before at Munich. Only an impressive rearmament and determination will effectively call off the bluff of the dictators when it is made. There is a growing volume of dissatisfaction in Britain and France at the way in which the Government has truckled down to military bluff. In England men like Churchill, ANTHONY EDEN and DUFF COOPER are trying to form a national party in opposition to MR. CHAMBERLAIN. The strike in France is also evidence of the opposition to the policy of M. DALADIER.

Dark as is the outlook for democracy, there is no reason for despair. The British Commonwealth has vast resources in man-power, money and war material. What is now wanting is their effective and speedy organisation. In the great moments of history, as MR. EDEN has pointed out in New York, the British character has shown a determination and doggedness which have often brought victory against fearful odds. England is fully alive to the danger and is fast pushing on the pace of rearmament. There are signs of an intense military preparation in America too. That great democracy whose record is more free from the taint of exploitation than that of any other modern state is breaking away from her policy of splendid isolation and is bent on playing her part in an international crisis should develop. The speeches of Mr. CORDELL HULL, the American Foreign Secretary, and President ROOSEVELT point to such an attitude. France herself is a great nation which has played a great part in history and cannot be regarded as a spent force. The triumph of M. DALADIER shows the determination of the French people to close up their ranks and present a united front to the enemy.

The warm reception given to MR. EDEN in New York is also a further evidence of the interest of America in the cause of freedom and democracy. MR. EDEN is there on a goodwill mission, to enlist the active sympathy of the U.S.A. and to awaken her people to a lively sense of the peril from militarism. The real issue before the world today is, as MR. EDEN has put it, whether militarism is to triumph or whether democracy with all it stands for is to survive. Unless the democracies act with concentrated energy and determination, they will have to go under. There is no reason to fear that the challenge of militarism will be met adequately by the democracies.

Volunteer Patrol

We published in our last issue a letter in which the writer levelled certain charges against volunteers engaged on patrol as a defensive measure against crime in Jaffna. We feel we should comment on the letter in justice to those young men who have braved wind and weather in a spirit of service to the people. The fact must be admitted that Volunteer Patrol has, in a tangible measure, succeeded in combating burglars whose criminal activities have, of late, struck terror into the hearts of peace-loving citizens. The smart arrest of certain notorious characters and the consequent decline in thefts and robberies bear convincing testimony to the worth and work of these volunteers. It may be that, in particular areas, some of them have overstepped reasonable limits in their youthful vigour and in their infectious enthusiasm for the cause. Surely that is no reason why one should attempt to decry their noble and unselfish work. That men of light and leading in every locality should guide and control these youths in a spirit of sympathy and understanding, is what is needed to check their natural aberrations. We would appeal to the volunteers to do nothing that is calculated to alienate the good-will and confidence of the people whose interests they serve. Enlightened citizens in areas where volunteers are engaged on patrol should realise at the same time that it is their duty to harness the enthusiasm and patriotism of the youth in the service of the people. That self-help is perhaps the most potent means of combating the menace of crime in Jaffna, is a lesson our countrymen would do well to learn.

Jaffna Oriental Studies Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Oriental Studies Society will be held at the Vaideswari Vidyalaya on Saturday the 24th instant at 4-30 p.m. Members are kindly requested to make it a point to attend this meeting as two previous meetings were postponed for want of a quorum.

Opening of a Port at Tondaiman Ar

We understand that the report of the recent survey of the Tondaiman Ar area by the Survey Vessel H. M. S. "Stork" has been forwarded by the Minister of Communications and works to Mr. V. Subbiah of Tondaiman Ar.

Priests see Minister of Education

Anxiety Over Denominational Schools

Further protests against the proposed Education Bill were lodged before Standing Committee "A" of the State Council. A deputation, led by the Ven. F. L. Beven, the Archdeacon of Colombo, urged the appointment of a Commission on education, which, they stated, had been referred to at length in their memorandum already submitted to the State Council.

The other members of the deputation were the Rev. Fr. M. J. Le Gog, the Rev. A. S. Beatty and the Rev. S. G. Mendis.

The deputation pointed out that in providing for unity of control there should be provision for diversity of types of schools.

Neutrality

They also asked for statutory recognition of assisted denominational schools as having a definite place in the national system of education.

They were not in favour of individual members of local education authorities or sub-Committees being given the powers and status of public servants, as proposed in the Bill.

"We are in favour of absolute neutrality being observed in Government schools," they said, "and do not think that teachers in Government schools should be authorised to teach religion. Only authorised teachers of religion should be so permitted."

They further suggested that all matters under Section 32 shall be referred to the newly constituted Board of Education for their consideration and advice.

CHIANG KAI-SHEK CHALLENGED

Japanese Troops "Itching for Action"

Tokyo, Dec. 12.

A Challenge to Chiang Kai-shek to fight a final decisive battle on the South China plain has been delivered by Lieut-Gen. Andoh, the Japanese Supreme Commander in South China, according to a report from Canton.

Andoh states that he has 300,000 crack troops itching for action, and invites Chiang Kai-shek to lead a million troops against them to battle and end hostilities.

Recapture of Waichow Claimed

London, Dec. 12.

The recapture of Waichow is claimed by the Chinese in an official despatch received by the Chinese Embassy.

It is further claimed that the Chinese are in hot pursuit of the Japanese who are withdrawing to Peking.

PREMIER DEFENDS HIS FOREIGN POLICY

No Cause for Pessimism

DEPLORES GERMAN PRESS ATTACK

AT the Foreign Press Association dinner on Tuesday Mr. Chamberlain made a weighty speech in which he defended his Foreign Policy. Referring to the Munich Agreement, the Premier said, "We should rather remember what the alternative was which Munich averted, namely an attempt to effect a revision of the Versailles Treaty by force, instead of by discussion."

DEPLORING the present tone of the German Press, which in one case had not scrupled to pour out vituperation upon the most respected of our statesmen, the ex-Prime Minister, Lord Baldwin, and in few cases showed any sign or desire to understand our point of view, Mr. Chamberlain said that he nevertheless was convinced that the British and German people never wished to go to war again.

ANSWERING the charge that because he advocated coming to an understanding with the dictator countries he must therefore favour a system of Naziism or Fascism, Mr. Chamberlain said, "Complete subordination of individual independence to something which was called The State, but which really only meant those who for the time being rule the State, would be insupportable in this country because it runs counter to all our most fundamental conceptions of the framework of human society."

"But I fully recognise that those ideas are not held universally, and it seems to me neither useful nor desirable to criticise others because they prefer systems which would not suit us, but do suit them," he added.

"History has taught us that no form of Government ever remains the same... We should be careful not to shut ourselves off from any country on account of a system which in time may well undergo such modifications as to render it very different from what it is today."

Coming Rome Visit

Referring to the coming visit of himself and Lord Halifax to Rome, Mr. Chamberlain said that they would discuss with the head of the Italian Government and his Ministers all matters of common interest and concern.

"Speculation as to who will be the winner or loser of these talks was not the spirit in which we propose to undertake our journey."

"Rather it is our hope that we might find an atmosphere in which it will be possible, by personal interchange of thought, better to understand each other's point of view, and by establishing greater mutual confidence to co-operate one day or another in further steps towards a general sense of a state of security."

Concerning British Military preparations, the Prime Minister said that they did not in the least indicate that we were war-minded. But we were bound to fill up the deficiencies in our Defences.

We had obligations, not only at home but to those for whom we were responsible in the British Empire and to our Allies.

"Our preparations have now proceeded far enough for us to say with confidence that we are in a position to fulfil those obligations."

Defence of Habitual Criminals

Bar Council's View

The Bar Council of Ceylon have resolved that it is unprofessional conduct for Counsel to refuse to undertake the defence of an accused person merely on the ground that he is charged with an offence of a type which is said to be prevalent in a particular locality.

This is the sequel to a resolution recently passed by a conference of Social Workers in Jaffna, appealing to members of the Bar not to appear for habitual criminals charged with theft and robbery.

The Bar Council have resolved as follows:—

A Solemn Obligation

(a) That members of the Bar are under a solemn obligation to undertake the defence of any person charged with an offence in the Courts in which they profess to practise at a proper professional fee unless there are special circumstances which justify their refusal to accept a particular brief;

(b) that it is the right and privilege of every person charged with any offence to engage the services of Counsel to defend him and that it would be regarded as unprofessional conduct for Counsel to refuse to undertake the defence of an accused person merely on the ground that he is charged with an offence of a type which is said to be prevalent in a particular locality.

Ceylon National Congress

Agenda For Next Sessions

AMONG the resolutions on the agenda for the annual sessions of the Ceylon National Congress, to be held in Panadura, on Saturday, are the following:—

"That the Ceylon National Congress demands full responsible government for Ceylon, and urges the immediate reform of the constitution in the following respects:—Removal of the officers of State; abolition of the Executive Committee system of Government; adoption of the British Parliamentary system in the selection of Ministers with full Cabinet responsibility; the appointment of an independent Public Services Commission; the increase of the elected territorial seats from 50 to 60."

"That in establishing colonies, Government should provide irrigation and road facilities, clear and prepare the land for cultivation, build suitable houses for occupation, supply the necessary cattle, planting material and agricultural implements, provide medical facilities and give monetary assistance for the first six months."

"That the Ceylon National Congress is of opinion that protection should be afforded to producers of foodstuffs, by the fixing of prices, the imposing of quotas and the regulation of tariffs."

"That in the opinion of this Congress more vigorous measures should be taken for the extension and strengthening of local self-government."

"That the Ceylon National Congress demands that farther steps should be taken to curtail immigration."

HEADMAN SYSTEM

'Intermediate'

Headmen Retained

By a majority vote the State Council has passed a supplementary estimate of Rs. 233,525 for the payment of allowances to "intermediate" headmen for January 1 to September 30, 1939.

House for Sale

House and premises in extent 4 1/2 Lms. V. C. situated at Main Street, Chundikulli adjoining St. John's College, Jaffna, with plantations, viz. 25 bearing coconut trees, 4 bearing mango trees, limes, oranges etc. The house consists of 2 Rooms, 1 Hall, 1 dining room, Store room, Kitchen and a Bath room.

For further particulars apply to Mr. T. Araminayagam, Proctor, 1st Cross Street, Jaffna. (Mis. 220. 8--15-12-38.)

MINISTERS NOT TO RESIGN

CRISIS NOT ANTICIPATED

MAHA SABHA MEMBERS' DECISION

Colombo, Dec. 14.

THE Ministers met informally last night at the residence of Sir Baron Jayatilaka to consider the political situation.

It is understood that the proposal that all the Ministers should resign their portfolios in the event of the resignation of Sir Baron Jayatilaka was not countenanced.

Agreement

The members of the Sinhala Maha Sabha conferred on the same subject early yesterday afternoon in one of the Committee rooms of the Council Chamber.

After a discussion lasting about an hour, it is learned, the members of the Sabha came to the conclusion that it would be unwise to take any action that would precipitate a crisis.

They, therefore, do not favour the proposal that the Board of Ministers should resign in a body.

THE JAFFNA U. D. C.

Lighting of Kankasanturai Road

At the last meeting of the Council Mr. S. Patanjali moved for the following information.

Why the lights that were in existence before the replacement of the lines took place have not as yet been refitted and how long even such important roads as Kankasanturai Road are to continue in darkness.

The Chairman who agreed to issue a statement has furnished the following information.

23 bracket lamps were recovered from the old lines when they were replaced with new lines. These brackets are suitable for the old type of 29' poles and cannot be fitted on the new lines.

5 of the 23 brackets have been fitted on the following extensions carried out with recovered materials: Kachcheri—Nallur Road Extension 2, Old Store Road Extension 2, Mohideen Balli Olungai 1, the balance 18 brackets are in the Stores.

Street light brackets to fit 32' poles have been ordered and Messrs Brown & Co. Ltd. have promised to despatch as much as possible of these from stock and the balance will be executed on arrival of their new stock.

Important roads such as Kankasanturai road will be taken up on the arrival of the first lot of fittings.

Mr. Patanjali said he will submit a rejoinder to this later.

Sir Baron Unwell

Sir Baron Jayatilaka was absent from the State Council yesterday. It is understood that he has been advised by his doctors to rest for a day or two.

Reforms Dispatch In Ceylon?

Ministers Hesitate to Act Precipitately

Colombo Tuesday 13,

ALL the ministers met last night at Sir Baron Jayatilaka's bungalow, "Treleaven", Union Place, Colombo, to arrive at a final decision regarding the Banks issue.

But no reply having been received from the Governor to their letter of Saturday, reiterating the demand for the removal of Mr. Banks from the office of Inspector-General of Police, they addressed a further communication to the Governor requesting a reply before 1 p.m. today.

They will meet again tonight, and their final decision will be made known officially before Council breaks up for Christmas vacation at the end of the week, when Sir Baron will make an announcement in Council.

Sir Baron will resign from the Leadership of the Council and the Ministership of Home Affairs.

From reliable sources I gather that there is no doubt about that, but the difficulty is what attitude his ministerial colleagues should adopt in the matter.

The advisability of taking any particular step by the entire body of Ministers will be discussed tonight.

All the Ministers are anxious to take a stay that would be consistent with their honour and which at the same time would not jeopardise the public interest.

Reform Issue

The impending constitutional reforms loom large in their deliberations.

Information from reliable sources in England discloses the fact that the despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, containing tentative reform proposals, should already have reached the Governor, and that a real advance will be made in the political progress of the country when finally the proposed changes become a fait accompli. Some even say that a form of Government akin to Dominion Status is in store for Ceylon.

Ministers are not likely, therefore, to jeopardise the grant of such a sweeping instalment of reforms by ill-considered action on their part. Yet there is a strong body of opinion, both in the State Council and outside, that there is no alternative for the Ministers but to resign from the Board, crowning the series of blunders they have made.

No Purpose

The question is asked on all sides why the reform proposals, together with the despatches, are not published early.

If, as is rumoured, the Ministers resign in a body on the Banks issue, and steps are taken to see that the Executive Committees in charge of various departments to do function, the Governor will have no alternative but to declare a state of emergency and take over the administration of the country into his hands in terms of Article 49 of the State Council Order in-Council.

This means the suspension of the present constitution. Naturally, therefore, if this is the possibility the publication of the reforms despatches at this moment would serve no useful purpose. (Times.)

Ex - Kaiser Pillories Nazi Germany

"Led By Liars And Fanatics"

London.

FOR the first time since Herr Hitler's accession to power, the ex-Kaiser has expressed his personal views of the Fuehrer, says the correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" in New York.

In an interview at Doorn, published in the magazine "Ken," the ex-Kaiser is reported to have said:—

"Of our Germany, which was a nation of poets, musicians artists and soldiers, Hitler has made a nation of hysterics and hermits, engulfed in a mob and led by a thousand liars or fanatics.

"He is sincere without doubt, but why should he be human? He is a man alone, without a family, children or God. He builds legions but not a nation.

"Over there, the ex-Kaiser added, pointing across Holland towards the Reich, "an all-swallowing State, disdainful of human dignities and the ancient culture of our race sets itself up in place of everything else and the man who alone incorporates in himself this whole State has neither a God to honour nor a dynasty to conserve nor a past to consult.

"For a few months I was inclined to believe in National Socialism as a necessary fever. But the wisest and most outstanding Germans who were associated with it for a time he has got rid of or even killed—von Papen, Schleicher, Neurath even Blomberg.

"He has nothing left, but a bunch of shirted gangsters."

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

(Held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 81/P.T.
In the matter of the estate of the late Kanapathiar Subramaniam Arambapillai of Puloly West

Deceased.
M. Subramaniam Kandaiya of Puloly West

Vs. Petitioner.

Parupatham wife of Kandaiya of Puloly West

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of the above-named Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Kanapathiar Subramaniam Arambapillai coming on for disposal before C. E. A. Samarakkody Esquire Additional District Judge, on the 29th day of October 1938 in the presence of Mr. M. Easurapadham Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 29th day of October 1938 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the son-in-law of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 17th day of November 1938 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 29th day of October 1938,
Sgd. S. Rodrigo,
Addl. District Judge.

1-12-38

Extended and reissued for service Re'ble 22-12-38.

Sgd. S. Rodrigo,
A. D. J.

(O 75 15 & 19-12-38)

THE CONSPIRACY OF MUNICH

(Continued from page 3)

no claim to develop the natives culturally. Fascism does not grumble that colonies are a "White man's Burden" but it demands colonies so that white men (Aryan and otherwise) could live in comfort. Fascist power lies in its arms. The philosophy of Fascism is war. Fascists are fighters (and therefore cannon fodder). They are barbarian hordes willing to slaughter and massacre Jews or anyone else for their own profit. Capitalism in its death throes stands exposed in the Fascist regime. It is the avowed enemy of the international socialist movement.

The capitalists of Britain and France have always supported Hitler and Mussolini. The city of London advanced millions of pounds to Hitler to build his Nazi Germany at a low 9% interest. The capitalist cliques who hold all the real power in England and France have done everything possible to strengthen Fascism. It is therefore that they acquiesced in the Rape of Abyssinia, the invasion of Spain, the destruction of Austria and the Conquest of China. And this they did against the storm of protests from the democratic peoples of France and England. The capitalist reactionaries in Western European democracies realize that if Fascism fails in Germany and Italy, Central Europe will turn socialist and thereafter the whole of Europe. To avert this calamity they are prepared to go to any length to prop up the bankrupt fascist governments. They grant them many concessions and dangle the grain fields and oil fields of Soviet Union before their greedy eyes, hoping that they would attack the Soviet Union and thereby cause a breach in the international socialist movement.

The democratic peoples of France and England do not like the bombing of Abyssinians, Spaniards and Chinese; they are indignant that the independence of Austria and such countries has been violated. But they remain passive. Why? The Government has "fooled" them into acquiescence. The people fear war. They detest war above everything else. This fear has been exploited by the ruling cliques in England and France to help them to strengthen the hand of Fascism. It is made out that if any step is taken against the expansionist ambitions of the Fascists, there will be world war. At every turn the cunning capitalist class of Britain and France has cheated the peoples by "threatening" war. It was said that Mussolini would start a world war if Britain helped the Abyssinians. It was said that if the Fascists were not given a free hand in Spain there would be a world war. So was it about China and Austria. And now it is Czecho-Slovakia. The ruling class has developed the technique of creating "war scare" to compel democratic Britons and Frenchmen to acquiesce in the strengthening of the Fascists. The truth, however, is the opposite. If the democratic countries took a firm stand, the Fascist countries would crumble. This is the last thing the rulers of Britain and France want.

The last remnant of the Post war collective security in Europe was Czecho-slovakia with her pacts with

France and the Soviet Union. This had to be blasted. It is through Czecho-slovakia that Hitler could march towards the U. S. S. R. The U. S. S. R. had also to be isolated from France. Again the people of France and England had to be duped. A "War Scare" far greater than any ever before enacted was worked up to cover the dirty work at Munich; to hide the massacre of an innocent Czecho-slovakia. Let us trace this process in brief.

(To be Continued.)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 623.
In the matter of the estate of the late Ampalavanar Ponniah of Vadukoddai East, Jaffna who died at Kuala Lumpur in the F.M.S.

Deceased.

Annaladchumy widow of Ampalavanar Ponniah of Vadukoddai East

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Ponniah Sattiaselan of do
2. Velauther Ampalavanar of do

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esqr. District Judge, Jaffna on the 15th day of July 1938 in the presence of Mr. V. Nagalingam, Proctor for petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the said petitioner having been read; it is ordered that the above-named 2nd respondent be appointed guardian ad-litem over the minor the 1st respondent and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased be granted to the petitioner unless the said respondents shall appear before this court on the 12th day of October 1938 and show cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 2nd day of September 1938.

Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,
District Judge.

Extended to 22-12-38.
(O. 73 15 & 19-12-38)

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JAFFNA

(held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 82/PT.
In the matter of the estate of the late Parupathippillai widow of Chittampalam Arumugam of Karavetty North

Deceased.

Arumugam Chittampalam of Karavetty North

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Arumugam Velautham of Karavetty West
2. Arumugam Chinniah of do

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before S. Rodrigo Esquire, Additional District Judge on the 10th day of November 1938 in the presence of Mr. K. Muttukumaru Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the Petition and affidavit of the Petitioner having been read.

It is hereby ordered, that the Petitioner be and is hereby declared entitled to take out letters of administration to the above estate as the son of the deceased and that letters of administration be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents abovenamed or any other persons appear and show cause to the contrary on or before the 22nd day of December 1938.

The 11th day of November 1938.

Sgd. S. Rodrigo,
Addl. District Judge.

(O. 74. 15 & 19-12-38.)

(O. 71. 12 & 15-12-38)

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[Y. 160. 29-9-38 to 28-9-39.]

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